

My Journey of Life And Learning!

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FOREWORD

This is the story of my life, my journey and that of my immediate family. I never intended to write these things down, but somehow I was driven in my heart to do so. I also wanted to share the lessons I learned. I know that other people have also had unique experiences. Everyone will see things differently and hopefully learn important lessons from them. The things that happened to me were proof that there is a personal GOD (Elohim – a Creator and Savior) in Heaven that is in control that knows every individual and that has a plan for everyone. I realized that this present life is NOT our final destination. My life matters, because I was uniquely designed for a purpose by a merciful and loving Creator. When I look back at my life, I can testify that the Heavenly Father is good and gracious.

I confess that I have made mistakes and made bad decisions, but I am thankful to a Savior who has forgiven me according to 1 John 1:9 where it says, **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

The important part is that we are willing to be guided by the Almighty and seek first His will instead of following ours.

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to all those who seek biblical truth, to those who desire freedom from man-made religion, as well as to those who desire a closer relationship with the Creator Elohim, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

He made Himself known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and to many others and He will make Himself known to you, if you seek Him with all your heart according to Jeremiah 29:13 (**“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”**)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All the honor, glory and praise goes to my Heavenly Father and His Son Yahusha Ha Mashiach, who has protected me during my life in very unusual circumstances from childhood on through many difficult experiences, troubles, hardships, and dangers. Some of those cases I know, but many I do not know in which He held His hands over me. I owe everything to YHVH and Yahusha. For all that I am and all that I ever will be comes from the Father and the Son.

I have come a long way in my spiritual journey as a Christian believer finding the Torah with the Statues and Judgments. I realized that religion or Churchianity cannot save me, but only YHVH, the Great I AM through the shed blood of the Hebrew Messiah Yahusha Ha Mashiach! And my only foundation that I can depend on is the Torah, His instructions that were given to the children of Israel through Moses, His servant, for it states in Psalms 19:7, **“The Torah (instructions) of Yahuah is perfect converting the soul: the testimony of Yahuah is sure, making wise the simple.”** (*The Restoration Study Bible*)

I also want to thank my wife, who always inspired and supported me in all of my studies. The Father truly has given me another jewel after I lost my first wife to breast cancer in 1993, who also was a precious soul.

I know that my three children suffered when they lost their mother and I appreciate their respect during all those years towards me as their father.

Scripture References

Unless otherwise indicated, quotations are taken from the King James Version.

INTRODUCTION

I know that there is controversial material in this book that challenges the conventional wisdom of theologians, pastors, priests, seminaries and Christianity as a whole. It is my desire that the reader will not be upset about some of the content, that may be different from what they have believed, perhaps what they have been raised to believe all their lives. According to the Scripture of 1 Thessalonians 5:21 it is each ones responsibility to prove all things and keep the good.

It is a fact as we read in Jeremiah 16:19 that **“Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, worthless things in which there is no profit.”** English Standard Version

This book will address some of the man-made false teachings that I discovered on my journey and this is intended as a challenge. Don't believe everything I say or hear others say, but prove all things according to 1 Thessalonians 5:21.

Many thanks to Charlene Fortsch, who proof-read the entire book, made several suggestions to clarify some statements I made in this book and for her valuable feedback.

Chapter 1 - The Beginning

I invite you to come along on this journey of mine. What I learned during the journey of my life is that there is a Father in Heaven that is in control of our lives, His Hebrew name is YHVH or YHWH (pronounced as Yahuah) and secondly that this world is not my home, which is actually good news. Why would that be good news? If I understand that I am a stranger here, I will not be tempted, nor interested to put all of my energy, all of my time and all of my efforts to the things of this life, which is temporary and will pass. Job came to this conclusion in Chapter 1:21, **“Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither.”**

Look at Psalms 119:19, **“I feel like a stranger visiting here on earth. I need to know your commands. Don't keep them hidden from me.”** English Revised Standard Version

Then we read in Psalms 103:15-16, **“As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. 16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.”**

Yes, we must work in order to take care of our living expenses and to be able to do good to others. That is our responsibility and we must be good stewards. But this must not be our main occupation and our main goal. It is a privilege to live, because this life has been given to you and me and we decide where to spend eternity! Everlasting life is a long time, because it is life without end. Therefore to receive the crown of life should be our ultimate concern and striving. Most people will not see it this way as they are blinded by the things of this world. When everything goes well very few are alarmed or concerned about what should come afterwards. The attitude of many is “eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die.”

However, when the day of sickness or death arrives, most think a little different and may wonder why they were here in the first place. After they realize what the true purpose is they often mourn for the time they wasted. What is the purpose of my life? Such questions will mostly be asked when death knocks. Some people don't even have the chance to ask such a question, because their life is ended without any warning, maybe through an accident or unexpected heart attack.

The Holy Scriptures give us the following counsel in 1 John 2:15-17, **“Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of Elohim (God) abideth forever.”**

A long time ago “I decided to first seek the kingdom of the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the one who gives me the ability to breath, to think, to walk and to talk!” My parents helped me build a strong foundation in my early child hood, teaching me to pray to the Elohim in heaven. I decided to seek His righteousness and do His bidding. The older I get, the more I am determined to do that. Actually it would be a lot better to take that stand early in life, while one is young having a lot of energy, so there would not be such a waste of time.

It states in Ecclesiastes 12:1, **“Keep your Creator in mind while you are young! In years to come, you will be burdened down with troubles and say, “I don't enjoy life anymore.”**
(Contemporary English Version)

You will notice that I use YHVH, the four Hebrew letters of Yod, Hey, Vav and Hey. I pronounce these as Yahuah, called Tetra-

grammaton, as YeHoVaH and others as YaHUaH, instead of LORD, which is a title - not a name. "The LORD" replaces the Hebrew by tradition. "The LORD" indicates a definite article "the" which does not exist in the Hebrew. Further L O R and D do not in any way represent the Hebrew letters correctly. Sometimes, but more rarely, Adonai / Adon is represented in English as Lord (not all Caps in the KJV) as to mean master or Lord but this can be in reference to both the Creator and also to other "no gods." I also use Yahusha instead of Jesus, which is not a translation but an English transliteration of a Greek mistransliteration of His actual Hebrew name, Yahusha. The name Jesus has no meaning in Hebrew nor in English! YHVH (Yahuah) and Yahusha are the actual original Hebrew names that speak of our Savior's true nature and character. If the Father has a Hebrew name then the Son cannot have a Greek name, because the Father's name is woven into the Son's name (Exodus 23: 21). This topic will be discussed later.

Consider what many people have to go through in their life. They go through much suffering, agony, pain and disappointments. This may be due to sickness, lack of money, hatred from others, family or job problems, wars and natural disasters. All these things are reminders that Life is fragile. The good news is that even pain and sufferings will pass. There are better things in store for those that are redeemed and this is available to everyone living.

Here again we have the promise of Scripture in 1 Corinthians 2:9, **"But as it has been written, "Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, nor have entered into the heart of man what Elohim has prepared for those who love Him."** (*The Scriptures*)

This book about my journey may be one of the most important ones you will ever read. Reading it, you will discover things that you didn't know, things that I didn't know for a long time. This could help you to think of your own life and to help decide your personal eternal destiny while you have the opportunity to do so. The fact is

that we all have been deceived and lied to by Satan, the father of all lies. Of course he uses common people to accomplish his goal. They may be family, friends, religion, churches and governments. This is done often unknowingly for they themselves were deceived also. Often they do not realize that they are Satan's agents. The trouble with being deceived is the deceived party doesn't know they are deceived. How does a person know they are not being deceived?

“Deception is the act of misleading or wrongly informing someone about the true nature of a situation. Imagine going to the doctor for medication to help reduce chronic pain. For months, you take your prescribed medication to later discover that you've been given a placebo, or sugar pill, and were not actually treated for the pain. Chances are you will feel angry and frustrated, due to this deception. You might even feel that your doctor has behaved in an ethically questionable manner.”

<https://study.com/academy/lesson/deception-definition-meaning-quiz.html>

Lies do disguise themselves as truth. Not only is the world around us deceiving us by lies, **but also many religions deceive people by presenting man-made doctrines, teachings and traditions in direct opposition to the written Word of YHVH.** That includes the three monotheistic religions of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. It states in Revelation 16:13, **“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.”** Could these three large monotheistic faiths be the three unclean spirits it is talking about here in Revelation? Islam worships the moon-god, Christianity the Sun-god and Judaism follows both in their worship.

In addition to the three main religions, Satan created many more pagan religions that millions of people practice, believing that they will be ending up in a paradise after death. The amazing discovery

for them one day will be that they had been deceived. They may find out when it is too late. This arch deceiver knows exactly what he is doing and we need to find out what his devices are.

Satan wants your mind - where your thoughts take place - your will (where decisions are being made) your emotions (where your ability to feel compassion for yourself or others is housed). When he has complete control of your mind, your will and your emotions, he is able to destroy you eternally. According to John 10:10 he is out to **“steal, and to kill, and to destroy.”** Don't allow it to happen to you. If you give him just one finger, he will not let go until he gets all of you.

That's why 1 Peter 5:8 warns us, **“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”**

Jeremiah 16:19 says, **“Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and [things] wherein [there is] no profit.”** And the fathers passed the lies on to their children and children's children.

This planet was hijacked in the Garden of Eden by deception; a deception that has been continuing for the past 6,000 years. As we are getting close to the end, the deception increases. This is a fallen world; corruption is accumulative. Evil men get worse and worse. In this world, including in this nation, we are witnessing an aggressive expansion of sin. Time is short and Satan knows it. Scripture says so. It states in Revelation 12:12, **“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.”**

The devil is more aware of the prophetic timetable than are most professed believers. He knows this because he recognizes the prophetic signs! Yes, Satan knows Scripture, and he sees the Biblical signposts of the End Times are occurring at a rapid rate.

The prophetic sign that alarms the devil the most is found in Matthew 24:14, **“This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”** This is one of the most significant signs of Yahusha’s return: He won’t come back until the genuine gospel has gone out to all the nations. The gospel of the Messiah has been perverted during the past 2000 years. Some of these perversions are exposed in this book.

Satan is afraid that people are waking up to his deceptions, but some are being awakened by the preaching of the true gospel. The Scriptures also tell us in Ephesians 6:12 who the real enemy is, **“... we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places].”**

We have been created as empty vessels being filled either with good or evil spirits. There is no neutrality in this area, no neutral ground, our vessels will not remain empty. We have the choice, however, with what spirit we are being filled and who we want to follow. Every person is being controlled by one or the other spirit. You can tell what spirit a person is filled with by what he or she is mainly interested in and what they are feeding on by what they say and what they do. If you find no interest in the contemplation of heavenly things; if you have no interest in seeking biblical truth, no delight in beholding the character of Messiah; no desire to pray, read or study the Word of YHVH, no desire to surround yourself with godly people, then the spirit that dwells in you is bent toward the evil one. That is a serious warning sign and shouldn’t be ignored. **If you notice these signs in yourself, stop and immediately turn around and make changes. Don’t procrastinate.**

This generation needs to be, and is being, warned. It's one thing to know you're going to die, but it's another thing to know where your eternity will be spent. Yahusha will return to bring judgment to the entire world. Be prepared.

When He comes this time, there will be no Bethlehem, no stable, no manger, no infancy, and no carpenter shop. No humble child of Nazareth, no poverty, no dusty roads, no sinners to grieve Him, no false religious leaders to oppose Him, no hellish fiends to attack Him with their demonic power; no soldiers to pound nails into His hands or press a crown of thorns into His head. The next time he comes He will NOT turn the other cheek. No, when He comes this time, He will come as the sovereign of the universe. He will come to establish His kingdom.

This is the promise Yahusha made to His followers in John 14:1-3, **“Let not your heart be troubled. Believe in Elohim, believe also in Me. 2 “In My Father’s house are many staying places. And if not, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I shall come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, you might be too.”** (*The Scriptures*)

If you want to be filled with the Spirit of YHVH right now, you must walk in His Spirit, surround yourself with spiritual books, especially with Scripture, watch wholesome and godly videos, have a close friendship with Scripture believing people, and focus on your Heavenly Father, the Savior Yahusha and on your future heavenly home. Your new spiritual nature will grow strong and take control of your mind and your life.

Now I want to talk about my own life. I was born in Berlin, Germany in the year of 1937. My Father's name was Georg (George). He was born in the year of 1912. By the time he was seven years old, he had lost both of his parents. His father contracted malaria during

WWI while in Africa and his mother passed away shortly after. I don't remember what disease she contracted. His parents were self-employed, they had their own business selling and repairing bicycles and sewing machines.

Since my father had lost both of his parents, he was raised by a distant relative, which he called his uncle and by his grandmother. He had one sister that was raised by another relative. My father's grandmother was a devout Lutheran Christian who taught him much about the Scriptures and encouraged him to be a firm believer in the Elohim, of heaven as there is no safety in anyone or anything else. After 8 years of public school he went through a 3½ year apprenticeship training to become a mechanic. This uncle had a small farm with cows, one horse, pigs, goats, chickens, etc. He was helping in the daily chores taking care of the animals and also the harvest, which was hard physical work.

In 1934 he volunteered for the German armed forces under Hitler and remained with them until October of 1937. Then he had several other jobs until September 1939. When WWII broke out, he was drafted back into the Army. He served as a tank mechanic in an armored division. During that time he met my mother Anna P. in Eberswalde close to Berlin who he married in February of 1938. Out of that marriage, I, their only son, was born.

My mother was also born in the year of 1912 in Eberswalde being one of six children. She was baptized into the Catholic faith. In 1914 WW1 broke out. She was two years old at that time when her father was drafted into the German army. She was with her aunt a lot as her mother was pregnant with another child.

At age three, she lived with foster parents. Her foster parents were very good to her and wanted to adopt her. When the war ended, her father came home and wanted all the kids to come back home. My mother was 8 years old at that time. Times got very bad for her.

She had everything a child could wish while with her foster parents, because they were rich. They owned a grocery store.

On the other hand her physical parents were very poor. They lived in a small apartment with a kitchen used also as the living room and two bedrooms, one for the parents and the other for the six children. When her father came home from the war, he remained unemployed for seven years. He had to take various small jobs in order to survive. Since her father was good at wood carving he made various products to sell. He made kindling and firewood, hammocks and onion nets to get some income to support his large family.

During the summer holidays the family went every day with a little handcart to get wood from the forests for this purpose. Sometimes they had to walk far to the forest where the wood cutters were.

As a child, my mother couldn't understand that these poor people should be her parents, so she ran away from home several times. Her biological father was very strict and stern, and when he found her, he would beat her all the way home. At home she had to sleep on the floor as a penalty and was not allowed to go to bed. These were different times indeed. My mother always wanted to go back to her foster parents, where she had been treated kindly. When she found paper and an envelope, she wrote letters to them. However, she didn't have any stamps, so she put the letter in the mail box without postage and a return address. She never received an answer, so she didn't know if her letters ever arrived there. As a child she suffered a lot because of this, which she carried over into her later life.

Coming back to my personal story, when I was about 1-1½ years old, my parents lived in a small city near Berlin, Germany where they were renting a small house. One day, my mother went to the market place shopping with a neighbor lady and I was at home with

my father. I loved to play outside like all little kids do. Next to that house was a large 50 gallon drum buried in the ground to catch the rain water. And that drum was always covered with a lid. I always was fascinated looking through the crack seeing the sparkling water.

However, on this particular day the landlord forgot to cover this barrel filled with water. Of course, I didn't mind and wanted to touch the water when I suddenly fell right into the barrel head first and started drowning. My father, who was inside the house, suddenly heard water splashing. Not knowing what was going on, he came out just at the time when he saw me coming up from the water in that barrel. He immediately grabbed me and pulled me out of the water, took me by my legs, slapped me on my back while water was running out of my mouth and nose. I believe that YHVH Elohim in His mercy saved my life, otherwise I wouldn't be here today. He had a plan for me, even at that time and He saved me so I could do His biddings, to be a light for Him.

Then a few months later we had moved to the city of Berlin, when I contracted scarlet fever and had to spend 3 months in the hospital. When my father came home on leave from the military, he was able to get me released from that hospital even though I was not well. He then had to take responsibility for me, in case there is a problem. I was very weak and not able to walk at the time, my mother told me later. During that time (WWII) the city of Berlin was continuously bombed, so my mother had to take me almost every night, sometimes 2 or 3 times to the bomb shelter. Four weeks later, after I got out of the hospital a bomb hit that particular hospital and we heard that about 50 children were killed. Again a miracle took place, the Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob protected me. I firmly believe that He had a plan for my life. If our eyes could be opened we would behold unseen angels surrounding His children protecting them and guiding their feet. That should strengthen us

as believers, knowing that He is in control. Trust Him, flee to Him, and give Him our life.

It is wonderful to know that the Heavenly Father is watching over us. Nothing will happen to His children, unless it passes by His throne first. He loves His creation; do we relay that love to HIM? People could be a lot more aware of this and give Him praise and thanks.

Look at the promise in Psalms 91:10-14, **“There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. 12 They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. 13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.”**

During the years from 1937 to 1942 my mother and I went through many hardships and dangers caused by the daily bombardments on the city of Berlin. Spending many nights in bomb shelters, we never knew what would happen next. The situation grew worse by the day as we were fearing for our lives. In addition there were scarcities of food and other items. There was much general uncertainty due to the war.

In the year of 1942 my father obtained a leave from the military, when he arranged for us to move from Berlin to Dambrau in Oberschlesien (Upper-Silesia), which is about 450 km or 300 miles from Berlin. We moved to a farm, which was owned by my father's uncle, where he was raised. It was a great relief for us not to have to fear the nightly bombardments and to be able to live in a comparatively peaceful setting for a while. We had enough food on the farm and life was more enjoyable even though it was only

temporary. Here I entered the first grade of school in the year of 1943.

In the year of 1944 the situation changed in that part of the country and the results of the war became more evident. American and British airplanes by the hundreds, (it seemed like thousands), could be seen day after day in the sky on their bombing missions. Refugees arrived in large numbers by foot, wagons drawn by horses or old tractors coming from the east and heading west, away from the approaching Russian forces. The fire of machine guns and heavy guns were a daily familiar sound. Confusion, fear and shortages became more evident. These occurrences made a deep impression on my young mind. At my age I didn't know what really was going on, but I still can hear the sounds of gun fire over the farm house.

My mother, by faith a Catholic at the time, prayed her rosary for entire nights asking for protection. As a Catholic believer she had been taught to do this. We were never hit by the artillery fire. Again, I call that a divine miracle by the grace and protection of our Father.

One day, in February of 1945 my mother and my uncle's family decided that it is high time to leave the farm and join many other thousands of refugees moving west trying to escape. First my family buried some of their valuables in one of the barns by digging deep holes and covering them back up with dirt. They were hoping to come back in a short while, when they would recover their valuables. However, as we know, it never happened.

The Russians were just a few miles away from us being driven back "on and off" by the German army. It was winter time and much snow had fallen. My uncle had one horse, which pulled a sled loaded with some of our belongings towards Gorlitz in Oberschlesien (Upper-Silesia), which was about 14 km or 9 miles from Dambrau, where we lived. There we stayed with relatives for a few weeks. My

mother and my uncle with his two teen-age daughters managed to go back to their farm a couple of times to feed the animals and to pick up food supplies. The Russians were driven back by the German Army and they held their line. My family took that opportunity to undertake several trips back and forth for several weeks.

However, time ran out at this village and we had to move fast if we didn't want to fall into the hands of the oncoming Russians. We had heard many horrible stories of how the Russians treated German civilians, when they occupied the area. My mother did not want to take a chance to be around at that time. The German military advised us that if we want to leave, we must do it immediately as they were in the process of blowing up the last bridge available to cross the big river nearby. My mother, I and my uncle's two teen-age daughters managed to get on a military train that was waiting at the time at the local train station. This train consisted of box cars loaded with very young military personnel and supplies. They were willing to take some civilians along with just what they could carry. Hitler drafted teenagers and old men as he was desperate at that time, a sure sign that the war was lost for Germany.

Other relatives did not come with us, choosing to stay on the farm. We later learned that they were treated badly by Russian soldiers, their teen-age daughter was raped by several of them; and then she died.

Later we heard that a polish Lieutenant moved into our home we left in Dambrau (Silesia).

The train that we were on moved very slowly. It stopped very often and waited for long periods of time, sometimes for a couple of days due to attacks from the air and other repairs that were needed and also due to shortage of parts etc. Our food supplies came from deserted homes at each stopping place. People had left their homes, fleeing away from the oncoming enemy. One could go into

these deserted homes to find food that was left behind. Many from our train were able to obtain food this way. We were so appreciative as this was the only source of food for us.

On these box cars there were no toilets of course, no water, no food, everything that was needed had to be stolen at various stops. Men, women and children were closely huddled together in these small quarters to find a little comfort and security in such unknown and fearful times.

Chapter 2 – Arriving in Bavaria

How thankful we were when we arrived safely in Bayreuth (Bavaria) after spending about six weeks on this box car train travelling a distance of about 1000 km or 600 miles. Again, we were thankful to YHVH that we made it through. These are times when many people learn to pray, seeking a higher power.

In Bayreuth (Upper Franconia) far away from the Russians, we were evacuated by the Red Cross to live with a family on their farm in Forst close to Bayreuth, which is a little village consisting of eleven farm houses in the Northern Bavarian Forest. In Germany the farm homes are usually close together and the farm land is surrounding the village. This family consisted of the man of the house, his wife and a teen-age daughter. The wife suffered from severe rheumatism and was not able to walk on her own. She had to be transported by her husband to wherever she needed to go.

This was a small family farm with cows, pigs, sheep, goats and chickens. The animals and the people were all living under one roof, divided by a concrete wall in the middle of the building. We were given a small room in their farm house. This was located upstairs, but we shared the kitchen and the living room with that family.

This was actually a good place for me to grow up, playing with the animals and, playing hide and seek with the neighbor children in the big hay barn.

My mother and the two teen-age girls helped on the farm in exchange for room and board. These times were in great contrast to our previous experience and much to our relief under the circumstances. This area was pretty much spared from the effects of the war at this time.

Several weeks after we arrived things changed. We saw more and more airplanes, tanks and other military maneuvers by the American forces close to us. One day we noticed an airplane

circling way up in the sky over the nearby city of Bayreuth, which was about 6 km (4 miles) from our little village. Moments later several bombers flew over this big circle and unloaded their bombs. We took cover on the ground, which was shaking terribly. I still remember all these things very vividly. We saw more and more of this until one day a huge colony of tanks and armored vehicles appeared heading towards the nearby forests.

We were told by German authorities over the radio to display a white flag or piece of white cloth outside our homes as a sign of surrender, when the American troops are coming in.

One day a tank stopped in front of our farm home pointing its gun towards the house. Three soldiers with their rifles drawn, started searching every room for weapons and or soldiers. We were much relieved when they left. They couldn't have found anything like this on our premises, but it was scary. We were very thankful that these were American soldiers as we were assured that American soldiers generally would act humane.

Many soldiers with their army tents camped in the nearby forests for several weeks. I used to go there with some other kids to get candies and chocolate from them, which they shared with us. Even at that time I tried to learn some English words. I remember one time a small one engine plane landed on a field not far from our farm. I went to one of the soldiers trying my English with him by asking him "what time is it?" Of course he told me. I don't remember if I understood it at the time.

One evening, it was dark already, the family was sitting in the living room talking with each other, when suddenly there was a strong knock on the window and we could see only the white part of two eyes looking in. That person was saying something in English we couldn't understand. There were three teenage girls present in this farm house that were terrified at the sight and the sound. They

immediately took off heading for the pig pen to hide themselves. The farmer and I went outside and found a black soldier standing there, dressed in his uniform. At first we couldn't understand, what he wanted as none of us could speak English, but after some time we were able to figure out that he wanted directions to get to the nearest village, which we were glad to give him and he left. We didn't know if that was what he really wanted or if he was looking for something else. We were glad that he left.

During this time, people came from the nearby city begging for food, which was rare, especially in the city. However, on the farms there was enough to eat. Some people had valuables like Jewelry and other things that they wanted to trade in for food like eggs, bread or meat.

After the war ended things slowly seemed to get better, easier and back to normal. Food became more available, stores displayed more merchandise, people were getting more positive and hope returned.

Here in Forst (Bavaria) we lived for about five years. I started going to school again, which had been interrupted for several months. The next school was located about 2 km from this village in Donndorf, the district or County of Eckersdorf (Bavaria). I walked every day 2 km one way with other kids and back home for these 5 years. Later I went to the school in the next village by the name of Eckersdorf, which was about 3 km walk one way. As I mentioned before, I enjoyed the few years living on this farm with all the animals which I could play with.

My father's military unit was on the Russian front until the war ended in 1945, at which time he was captured with others by the Russians in the Czech Republic and sent to a prisoner of war camp deep within Siberia to work in lead mines.

He spent 3½ years in that prison camp under the most difficult circumstances. He suffered an extreme amount during that time due to starvation and hard work; working in lead mines, a 12 hour shift each day. He witnessed much cruelty, pain, torture and agony.

He lived in a barrack with many other prisoners of war and he said that almost every day prisoners that were kept in that barrack died of starvation. Then others that were physically able had to bury the dead bodies in the cold weather and the frozen ground. When spring came, bones of the previous buried men would stick out of the ground and those had to be re-buried. Those that died were always replaced by new prisoners. He always wondered where they came from.

My father was very weak, when he was released on November 20, 1948. When he went to prison his body weight was about 160 pounds and when he was released he only weighed 110 pounds. My father was a firm believer in the Christian God, which he credits to his faithful Lutheran grandmother. She made him memorize various verses from the Scripture and many Psalms, which he liked to recite in German even into his old age. This firm faith helped him to get through the hard life as a prisoner of war and he firmly trusted in his Heavenly Father and made the promise that if he ever got out of that place alive, he would search for a church that is grounded in Scripture. One evening before he went to sleep, he seemed to see a circle of light with the number "365" inserted above the entrance of the barracks where he was living. He recollected hearing a voice referring to that number, saying "after that many days, you will be home." Exactly one year from that day he crossed the border to Germany.

My parents had virtually no contact with each other during the years of his imprisonment. At one time, my mother hadn't heard from my dad for 16 months and didn't know if he was still alive. Finally she received a sign of life again from the prison camp through the Red

Cross. He was allowed to write a postcard with a few words. At least she knew that he was still alive.

When my father was released from prison in 1948, the family was finally united in that small village near Bayreuth (Bavaria) after a separation of many years.

The years following the war were difficult for the people of Germany. Much of the country was destroyed, especially in the cities and many people lost their lives. My mother had a great struggle nursing my father back to health after he came home from prison camp. He couldn't understand why he wasn't allowed to eat what he wanted and the amounts he was craving for. After all, hadn't he been without food long enough? He was starving for food. But allowing him to eat as he pleased in his starved and sick condition would have meant certain death. However, my mother would not give in and he finally regained his health and strength. There was also a difficult readjustment for my parents after a separation of 10 years.

In the meantime the two teenage girls that came with us found their parents that also had escaped to West Germany and moved to where they lived.

Chapter 3 - Moving to Stuttgart

Since my father couldn't find any work in that area, he decided to head for Stuttgart, where his sister with her family lived. He was able to secure a couple of old bicycles and built himself one good one that would work. Since he was a mechanic, he was able to do projects like that. With this transportation he started out in the year of 1950 on a 350 km journey (230 miles) to Stuttgart. He didn't have much money to go by train or other transportation. The bicycle had to do.

Stuttgart was a big city with a population of over one-half-million people. His sister with her family also survived the war. Many of the buildings in their part of the city had been leveled by the bombing attacks of the allies. The apartment house they lived in was also partially damaged. In Stuttgart there was a lot of work available, because of a great rebuilding program going on and things were moving in the right direction. My father did find a job and several months later we followed him.

We were unable to find a place to live in Stuttgart, because part of the city (Stuttgart-West) was levelled during the war. We were fortunate to live for several months with our relatives. My father lived with his sister and her in-laws in their apartment on the third floor, my mother and I lived in the next building with my dad's in-laws on the fifth floor. This was hard for my parents, but we had a place to stay, for which we were thankful.

After much searching we were able to secure one room on the 5th floor of an apartment house to live in. This room had approximately 144 sq. feet (12 foot x 12 foot). Here we lived for two years. In this small area, my father, my mother and I (more or less) existed. At least we had a little more privacy. This room served as our kitchen, living room, dining room and bedroom. The bathroom facilities were shared with two other families. One of those families had 6 children. However, we still were privileged as we did not have to be afraid of

the nightly bombardments and we could see hope that eventually things would improve in time

Many of these memories are still in my mind, which I will never forget. These tight living conditions in one room created many family problems. My father used alcohol in excess at times and there were many discouraging experiences for me, which I wish could be erased from my mind. My father also smoked. So often I had to run down the five floors to get him cigarettes from a cigarette vending machine. This was quite an exercise for me to climb the five floors up and down several times a week.

As my father had promised his Heavenly Father during his time of imprisonment, he began eagerly searching the Scripture and was continuously talking to people about Elohim and His Word, going from one church and from one denomination to another to find something, he felt, would answer some of his long unanswered questions. The Bible and Elohim were continuously on his mind and material for conversation. After all, this Elohim protected him all these years while in prison camp and finally brought him back home to be united with his family, He wanted to know about this Elohim and his Word.

I usually went with my father either to the Lutheran Church, which was a huge stone building on Fire Lake, not far from our living quarters, actually located on the same street. My Father was Lutheran and I was baptized as a baby into the Lutheran Church. Sometimes he went to other independent Lutheran groups with me. I actually was glad to go to these meetings as I had an open heart for Elohim and His word and felt comfortable in these gatherings. My parents taught me to pray and to read the Bible. Sometimes I wasn't too happy about these things, but I obeyed.

Many people lost faith in a Elohim, who they said allowed these terrible wars to take place. However, we must not forget that it is

Satan that is in the business of creating hatred and wars. After all, the Creator has given man a free will to choose as they wish. During good times very few people remember that there is an Elohim and that they should seek him and thank Him for every breath they take. We should take nothing for granted, our life is a gift and what we do with it, is our choice.

Someone wrote, more than sixty years ago, at a time when the world stood on the brink of the Nazi Holocaust. A British preacher named Martyn Lloyd-Jones grappled with this very question of why there are wars. He concluded from his study of the Scripture that “the ultimate cause of war is lust and desire; this restlessness that is part of us as the result of sin.” He went on to say war is the large-scale effect and consequence of the same tendency we see in ourselves to be jealous, or to lie, or to hold a grudge—in other words, our tendency to sin. To put it simply, war is the result of sin. YHVH allows war as a reminder of the horror of sin and a wake-up call to seek forgiveness, justice and peace.

Then on other hand, it is amazing that many other people call upon a Higher Being, when they are in trouble. They had been taught as children about Elohim, but drifted away, because they were influenced by the world around them. When in need, however, they suddenly seem to remember there is a higher power to call upon for comfort and help. As long as everything goes well, they don't seem to care. That is human.

We have the story of ancient Israel. YHVH called Abraham and then the children of Israel to be His witness and to evangelize the world, but they failed in that call most of the time. Do you realize that the history of the children of Israel is full of ups and downs? When everything went well, and they were blessed, they forgot the One from whom all blessings come. When they got into trouble because of their apostasy and disobedience and they were

conquered by their enemies, they cried for help. YHWH being merciful and gracious did rescue them.

Just reading the book of Judges is a small example of the ups and downs of the children of Israel. During a period of about 160 years there were about 12 judges or leaders. We find a cycle in Israel of apostasy, committing spiritual adultery followed by repentance. Let's just read a few verses:

Judges 3:7, **“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of YHWH, and forgot YHWH their Elohim, and served Baalim and the groves.”**

Judges 4:1 **“And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of YHWH, when Ehud was dead.”**

Judges 6:1, **“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of YHWH: and YHWH delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.”**

Judges 10:6, **“And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of YHWH, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook YHWH, and served not him.”**

Judges 13:1, **“And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of YHWH; and YHWH delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.”**

Ask yourself the question: “Doesn't anybody ever learn from history?” We all know this saying: **“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”** That is exactly what has happened in the past and is being repeated by the new generations.

What was the problem with those people in the book of Judges? What is the problem with people today? Whose fault could it be that new generations are continuously repeating the mistakes of their forefathers? Could it be that the parents, the leaders, the elders, the teachers failed to pass on all those important instructions regarding their sacred history?

They are too lax to train their offspring and to impress upon them the seriousness of these things. We have an example in Scripture of Abraham. We read in Genesis 18:19, **“For I (YHVH) know him (Abraham), that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of YHVH, to do justice and judgment; that YHVH may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”**

This is a message to us today. YHVH expects the fathers to be in command of their own family – yes, especially the fathers. To be a dictator? No! To take assertive leadership? Yes! Especially in spiritual things. YHVH knew that Abraham would **“Command his children and his household after him.”** How? We were just reading it in Genesis that they shall keep the way of YHVH and to do justice and judgment.

Children will never learn justice and judgment unless they see it modeled and enforced. This is serious and YHVH will hold every one of us responsible for how we command our children and our household. We need no other authority than His Word. However, we must use our authority wisely, lovingly and prayerfully, while we assertively assume our commands.

I know, I personally have failed to do my duty to pass on this information to the following generations and many will agree of their neglect. Didn't the adults at that time care, or did they also get too lax? Was this the fault of the children, the new generation? Should

the children be blamed for their ignorance? The older generation must take responsibility in some way for their falling away from the Creator. They are their examples. The home is the ideal forum for teaching the gospel of Yahusha Ha Mashiach.

The Scriptures speak of the role of parents, that it is their duty to teach their children about repentance, faith in Messiah and obedience to His word. They will have to give an account about this also someday. Yet, when children are adults, they must make their own decision, which way to follow, the way to eternal life or the way to eternal damnation.

Even though people have failed, the Word speaks of the mercy and compassion of YHVH and does say in Psalms 50:15, “... **call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.**”

Our Elohim is in the business of saving people. He delights in mercy according to Micah 7:18, “**Who is a Elohim like unto thee that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth *in* mercy.**”

However, YHVH would rather see that we come to Him before we get into trouble. He can prevent us from getting into trouble and following Satan, the destroyer.

Our enemy says, “Youth for pleasure, middle age for business, old age for religion.” Scripture says, “Youth, middle age, and old age should be dedicated to your Creator.” In Ecclesiastes 12:1 it says, “**Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, ‘I have no pleasure in them.’**”

But the most important reason to remember YHVH while we are young lies in the fact that people forget that life is fleeting. Life is

vanity that is, quick to come and to go. Youth, and even old age will pass. But all that we do in memory of our Creator, no matter how old we are when we do it, will be remembered by HIM forever according to the verses 13-14 of Ecclesiastes chapter 12. (Also see 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.)

One day on our search for better living quarters, which was almost impossible to find, my parents met some people which at that time we did not know would change our life style completely for the better. One of the people present was a minister of a Sabbath-keeping denomination. After association with those people and taking Bible studies, we decided to join that group and everything from that moment changed rapidly. My parents wanted to follow the Bible and do what would please the Heavenly Father.

This Church promoted the weekly Sabbath and healthful living, which convinced us. My father stopped using alcohol, tobacco and bad language. He was convinced and converted.

Things in my life changed as I had the privilege of associating with other young people that tried to follow the principle of the Holy Scriptures and to worship Him.

As time went on, we did find a nice one-bedroom apartment in a new construction in Stuttgart–Zuffenhausen-Rot with the help of a retired minister. A new life began for my family. This was a big achievement for our family. What a change, finally having a nice place we could call our home after all these years of being moved from one place to another.

I was 13 years old when we moved to Stuttgart where I started and finished the 8th grade of school there. In Germany, the education system is set up quite differently than in the United States, especially at that time. It was decided that I should learn a trade after the successful completion of the 8th grade. At that age one could go to high school to pursue higher education or learn a trade.

My parents recommended that I should go into the field of business administration rather than learning a practical trade like my father did. They felt that would be a better line of work. In order to qualify for an apprentice position in that field I decided to go for one year to a business college, which was a prerequisite to find a good place as an apprentice. I registered in a one-year concentrated business course at a private business school by the name of C. G. Zimmermann in Stuttgart. My parents purchased a portable Olympia typewriter for me, which helped me to be very proficient in typing and the first in class to finish all of my given lessons.

After the successful completion of this one-year course we were able to find a position for me as an apprentice for business administration in a medium size company by the name of Vulkan-Werk Wilhelm Diebold, Stuttgart-Feuerbach. This company manufactured tools and fire extinguishers. The apprenticeship consisted of one day of school per week and four days of practical work in that company for a period of 3½ years.

At this firm I was given the opportunity to acquire a thorough knowledge in every department of their organization like sales, bookkeeping, accounting and all types of office work.

After completing the apprenticeship for the period from October 1, 1952 to April 1, 1956 I was on excused absence to further my education. I wanted to do more than just sit in the office all my life. For this reason I decided to go to the Missionary Seminary in Darmstadt close to Frankfurt/Main. This is a college owned by and operated by the Seventh-Day-Adventist denomination in West Germany. My plans were to study theology and maybe become a minister someday.

I enjoyed the year in that boarding school and made many friends. That was the first time to really be away from home, which was a

new experience. My parents purchased a Moped for me, which made me very independent. I also made my driver's license during that school year. It was quite expensive, but these driver licenses are good for life. During that particular year the school changed the requirement for a degree in theology from four to six years, which I wasn't willing to pursue.

I got acquainted with some young people in the school that planned to pursue their education in the US. I thought that was a clever idea and I continued with that thought and decided to immigrate to the United States to further my education. I was all excited and ready for some adventure, which I truly experienced in the States.

I applied for a quota, which I didn't realize would take more than 16 months to get, but it was worth it to me.

In the meantime, the first year of school ended and rather than just waiting until I receive my visa to immigrate to the USA I went back to work for Vulkan-Werk in their bookkeeping department until such a date my papers were approved.

On February 23, 1959 I left from Stuttgart together with another young man I met at College, via Pan American Airlines to my new adventure in Cleveland, Ohio where my sponsor resided. One had to have a sponsor to immigrate, not like so many today that try to enter illegally, meaning that the Government is to take care of them.

It was a new adventure to say the least. I stayed with friends for a couple weeks that just recently came from Germany also. These people secured a sponsor before I could apply for a visa to enter the country. First it was very difficult for me to find employment in Cleveland in the type of work I was trained. This was partly due to my lack of understanding the English language. Since I was unable to find any position in the first two weeks of job hunting, I was

impatient and decided to head for Washington D.C. upon an invitation from a friend, who resided in Tacoma Park, Maryland. The biggest single handicap in getting settled was again was not being able to speak English well. I did study English in Germany for three years, however, it sounded like a completely different language when I was trying to use it in this country.

My trip via Greyhound bus from Cleveland to Maryland was another experience and very exciting for me to see the country, which was so much different in many respects than Europe. I liked Washington D.C., especially the Government section with the beautiful huge buildings and the Whitehouse, including the different parks. What was strange to me at that time being on the Greyhound bus, was that white people were segregated from the colored people at each stop like the restaurant and the bathrooms. That bothered me.

The first job that was offered me when I arrived in Takoma Park, Maryland was in the Washington Sanatorium and Hospital as a Dishwasher. I didn't need much knowledge of the language in order to do that job. This was a tremendous change from my position in Germany as a bookkeeper and at times very discouraging. However, one has to start somewhere in order to earn some money. At least I had some income. I didn't understand many times what the boss asked me to do. After the lady realized that I really didn't understand what she was saying, she made me repeat every time what she said. I was to make an effort to learn the language.

Since my pay in this bottom-line position naturally was very low, I looked for other work and found a part time job as a box boy in a local super market. I was trying to hold on to two jobs for a while, which got old quick, but it helped me to get on my feet financially to rent an apartment together with a friend and to put food on the table. Renting with a friend, helped to cut the expenses in half. Here

I also purchased my first television set, mainly to learn the language and also for entertainment.

After enjoying the summer months in Takoma Park, Maryland I felt that I must make another change in order to see something else and to get ahead. In August of that year (1959), with my friend Karl Heinz who I met at Columbia Union College, we decided to go west. He just had finished his studies of theology at that University. He owned a 1949 Studebaker. I had about \$200.00 to my name and Karl Heinz didn't have much more. We started out with the idea of settling wherever we liked it and could find suitable work. Of course, at that time gasoline was cheap and \$200.00 went a long way.

We took our time for travelling and saw many interesting places. Our first stop was in Cleveland, Ohio to visit my sponsor and some other friends that we knew from Germany. Here in Cleveland, I decided to leave my TV with friends as they were interested in buying it. However, we did not like it in Cleveland, so we kept on going. We stopped at some friend's home in Minneapolis, Minnesota, but decided to move on. We spent another day sightseeing in Chicago and visited one of our churches. But we didn't like it well enough in Chicago to settle there. The following part of our travel brought us through the state of Iowa where we spent a day with some more German friends in Muscatine, Iowa that we had met in Maryland.

Since we already went this far west, my friend and I decided to keep on going to California. Hopefully we could reach San Francisco and could get settled there. We had heard and read lots about California while still in Germany and were excited to get there and enjoy the warm weather. My friend told me that his father was dreaming about California, when he was young. So, we decided to keep going and to check it out. We wanted to achieve what his father was dreaming of, but never reached it.

We were on the road for about 2½ weeks already. Our money got less and less. Our Studebaker used about one quart of oil for every 100 miles. I believe at that time a quart of oil was 19 Cents. The second half of our trip took us through South Dakota where we enjoyed seeing the Black Hills, especially Mt. Rushmore, then on to the state of Wyoming. We spent a few days in Yellowstone National Park, Colorado and Utah. Finally, our goal seemed to get closer as we came through Nevada and finally California. It seemed like a new world. Everything was so different.

We didn't know anyone in San Francisco and we were hoping to find a German group but to no avail. We learned, however, that there was a German Seventh-day-Adventist church in Los Angeles. After some sightseeing in San Francisco the trip took us south to Los Angeles, which was our final destination. All our money was gone, the car finally gave up and broke down. We tried to stretch our finances as much as we could by sleeping in the car and staying with friends on the road. We bought only food that was extremely necessary and cheap.

Chapter 4 - Arriving in Los Angeles

Arriving in Los Angeles we were broke and immediately looked up the German church of the denomination we were members of. We were able to borrow \$50.00 from the minister and were offered their old school building, which was not being used anymore. There was a kitchen to use until we could get settled. They had many sleeping cots in the school, so we had a place to sleep. This old church property was located right in the middle of Watts, which is a predominately black neighborhood in Los Angeles. This area is still known for the riots that took place in 1965.

I liked Los Angeles, I should say at that time, in 1959. Most of all I liked the climate. I could not believe my eyes to see blue skies day after day without the sight of one single cloud. Smoggy days were very rare at that time. It was like a dream land with palm trees, beautiful flowers, the ocean and the different architecture.

My friend, who by trade was a printer, got a job very quickly. It took me a little longer to find some employment and I had very little money left. We still lived on the school property. Since I didn't have a car, I took the city bus to Los Angeles, looking for a job. The time came when I had only less than a dollar left, so I had to decide one day to buy the bus ticket or to buy some food. So, I decided to buy a sweet roll. I thought, if my parents would only know, they would send me some money. There was no way to contact them, only by writing a letter and I wouldn't have done that as I was ashamed. At that very moment of extreme need, actually the same day, I received a check in the mail for \$100.00 from the people I left my television set with in Dayton, Ohio. That was a lot of money at that time for me and it was completely unexpected. I considered that a miracle. The Heavenly Father knew my need and took care of me.

With the help of some members of the church I secured employment as a messenger boy in the White Memorial Hospital in

Los Angeles, which gave me some new experience in that area as I acquired some new vocabulary.

There wasn't any future in that job, so I kept looking for a better position. Again, through the help of some other church friends, I was offered a job at Foods For Life in Glendale as a box and stocking boy. This was a large health-food store that also had a large bakery and it became a rewarding experience and a new field to be acquainted with. In this place I was encouraged to work as many overtime hours as I liked, which gave me a good start financially.

I rented a single apartment and tried to establish myself. Living in the US one is completely lost and helpless without a means of transportation. Having a job, I was able to purchase my first car, a used 1959 VW Beetle from someone in church. This VW was only 3 months old and all of my belongings at that time fit in that car. This made everything much brighter and I felt more independent and secure. Since I already took driving lessons in Germany and had a German driver license, it was actually easy to get licensed in California.

In a short time I worked as a cashier, running a cash register. I learned to know many people, and improved my knowledge of the language considerably and from that time things looked brighter for me day by day.

I liked my new surroundings very much and decided that I wanted to settle in California. In Los Angeles there was a nice German church with over 100 members, which I joined. I felt like I was home. We had a lot of young people among the members and we were able to spend much time together.

I wrote to my parents and told them about my decision to stay in California. My parents still living in Stuttgart, West Germany,

expressed the desire to join me here as I was their only child. The manager of this health-food store offered to be the sponsor for my parents, for which I was very grateful. After making all the necessary arrangements regarding quota, visa etc., my parents arrived in Los Angeles in July of 1960. This made a big change in my personal plans somewhat but after several adjustments we were able to work things out.

My mother found employment at this same health food store at the snack bar and my father found work as an auto mechanic for Volkswagen in Pasadena.

We rented a small house just a couple of blocks away from the health food store, which was extremely convenient because my mother and I could walk to our job.

Not very long thereafter, my father also got his California driver license and purchased his first car, a used 1956 Ford Thunderbird.

However, things changed a lot when in January of 1961 I received a letter from the U.S. Government Selective Service System to report for active military duty to the U.S. Army. That created a hardship for my parents being in this new world and not being able to communicate in English yet. However, we were hoping that everything would work out.

On February 19, 1961, I reported for active duty which was the beginning of another new and different era of my life. I spent my basic training for two months and advanced training for another two months in Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio), Texas. After basic training as a medic I was assigned to the second Armored Division in Fort Hood, Texas. I was assigned to the 48th medical Battalion in the Supply Department.

During the Berlin crisis under John F. Kennedy, who was the President at that time, the second Armored Division was ordered

to Europe. I went with the Liaison group to Nancy in France and spent over four months on temporary duty in that location.

During my stay in France I had the opportunity to travel sometimes to different places in France and to West Germany. One time I drove a military ambulance to Kaiserslautern, Germany. During this period of time I also met a young lady in Stuttgart, Germany that I married a few years later. My parents had met her before coming to the US and put me in contact with her so I could meet her.

Due to my absence my parents had several difficulties. They were involved in two car accidents, which were not their fault. They were unable to communicate properly and finally got very discouraged. I was able to secure a thirty day leave to help my parents out of their difficulties. I went to court with them, once through a lawyer, and once on our own in a small claims court and we won both cases. This was a serious situation for my parents, as they threatened to take my father's driver's license, unless we could prove that the car accident was not his fault. People will try to take advantage if you can't defend yourself, which is understandable.

However, things were never the same for my father and mother and they needed more assistance to get settled completely. I was able to secure an honorable hardship discharge from the military service a few months before my original term expired.

My time in the U.S. Army helped me to master the English language better. I worked in the office and was able to get back into the type of occupation I was trained for in Germany. When I got back to California, I went to work for the Coca Cola Bottling Company in Los Angeles, which gave me the start back in the civilian life into the field of business administration. That made it necessary for us to move to Gardena, California, where my father also found suitable work.

Los Angeles is a very populated area and it seemed to get worse with the smog and we decided to make another change to move to a less populated area.

I decided to go on a trip to search for a place where we could move. We didn't want to stay in Los Angeles as I said. Since I had the addresses of some German friends that settled in the US in other states, I decided to visit one young family that I was acquainted with from Takoma Park, Maryland that had settled with their in-laws in Denver, Colorado. That was a long drive with my VW from southern California through Arizona and New Mexico to Colorado. I stayed with this couple, who just had their first baby, for a couple of days.

Somehow, I wasn't impressed to stay in Denver and decided to drive back to California through Utah and Nevada and came to a small town, called Lodi, which is located south of Sacramento, California. This was on a Wednesday. I had an address book of all the churches for which I was a member, so I went to the prayer meeting in the Fairmont Church that Wednesday evening. The people were all quite old that attended, but they spoke a German dialect, which impressed me. They were very friendly and one family invited me to stay with them over night. I found out that the lady was a distant relative of the girl that I met while in Germany, which I later married.

I kept in touch with these people and I felt very comfortable in that small city with about 25,000 population at that time. After prayer and other considerations, my parents and I decided to move to northern California. This happened in September of 1963. Many of the people in Lodi spoke German. They were originally farmers coming from Russia and when they retired, they moved from South Dakota and North Dakota to California, mainly because of the warm climate.

During this time a young lady came to our German church in L.A. that was going to a church boarding school in that area. She came from Germany and as I talked with her one day, she told me that she had wealthy relatives in Lodi which were paying for her school. I told her about our desire to move to Lodi, so she gave me the address of those relatives which I contacted later when I drove to Lodi to settle there. This family immediately invited me to stay with them until I would find an apartment. This family also spoke German and came originally from Russia. They owned several convalescent homes in northern California.

Shortly after that I found an apartment. My parents followed a little later. First I accepted several part time positions in Lodi, but one day when answering an advertisement in the Stockton Newspaper, which is about 14 miles south of Lodi, I applied for a position in the office with National Cash Register Company (later renamed NCR Corporation) and was hired in September of 1963 as the assistant to the Administrative Manager. Due to a lack of advancement and lack of opportunity in my opinion, after about two years, I left NCR Corporation and applied for a position with Institutional Warehouses in Stockton, where I was hired immediately.

However, after being with them for several months, I did not like my work at Institutional Warehouses as there was no challenge and the job became boring. So, I was keeping my eyes open for something better. At the same time, the Administrative Manager for NCR Corp contacted me through their Branch Manager to convince me to return to NCR with the possibility of advancement and better pay. I had a good relationship with the District Administrative Manager and we worked well together. NCR was a big company and in May of 1966 I returned to NCR and enjoyed my work very much since.

I kept in contact with Hildegard that I met in Germany while on military duty. We communicated through the mail. It was my desire for her to join me in America, which was hindered because she

could not obtain a visa since she was born in an Eastern Block territory. We tried to get around that problem, so in 1963 she applied for a Canadian visa. She moved to Vancouver B.C. and worked as a nanny for a while. She was unable to get her U.S. visa still because of the circumstances of her birth. Hildegard began a two year stretch of visiting me from Canada and my family in Lodi, California.

Hildegard was born in August of 1942 in Leinefelde, Germany in Prussia to Rudolf and Anna K. She was the eldest of seven children. Her family were refugees due to the circumstances at the close of the war. She and her brother and mother finally settled and she and her brother Sigmund grew up together in a small village in southern Germany.

Hildegard's parents lived in Rumania. Her father was drafted into the military in early 1941 and was killed in the war during 1943. Her mother at the age of 7 had to quit school in order to earn some money as her family was very poor. That is the reason she could neither read nor write.

In 1940, when she was 27 years old, her parents were relocated to Poland, because the Russians had conquered Rumania. The horrors of wars, the hatred between people and especially towards the Jews were clearly presented to Mrs. K. She witnessed one day, when a Russian killed a Jew by beating him with the rifle butt and then the lifeless body was hurled afterwards from the church tower. On the way through the Czech Republic (they didn't have any children yet) the group came through some vineyards. The children picked grapes, which the Czechs noticed. In the evenings the Czechs brought several bowls of berries for the children. However, no one knew that the berries were poisoned and everyone that ate of those berries died during the following night. After arriving in Poland, her parents were billeted in a camp in Frauenaurach and worked on a farm. They lived in the western part of Poland

because Poland was conquered in 1939 by Germany. There they were naturalized.

When the war was ended in 1945, the western part of Poland was conquered by the Russians. Her mother made the decision to flee to Germany with her two little children. She couldn't take much along. Since it was ice-cold, (just after Christmas), she collected all blankets, pillows and linens she possessed in order to wrap these around her children. In addition, she took a 20 liter jug of milk and some groceries with her.

Together with one of the women of the camp, (who also wanted to flee with her children), they made plans and took off in a horse cart. They heard from other refugees that it happens on and off while crossing the river Weichsel that the ice had broken and the horse carts fell into the water and disappeared in the icy depths. However, they made the crossing safely. They avoided driving through cities. At the roadsides there were always people laying which were frozen to death. It was so cold that even the milk in the jug froze. When the children were thirsty, Mrs. Kirchhöfel poured a little milk into their bottles which she pressed against her body to warm. She and the other lady melted some snow for themselves to drink. They had to deal with the food very sparingly as they did not know for how long they would be travelling. They spent every night, like many other refugees, in empty basement holes. In some basements some Polish men were hiding and when women tried to find shelter, they were brutally raped and murdered. However, Mrs. Kirchhöfel was always blessed. She prayed every evening that she may survive. The lady that was fleeing with her, one day froze to death. Her mother could do nothing else, but to leave her at the roadside. She and her two children survived.

After several weeks they finally reached East Germany. Her mother hoped to receive help at that place, but she was only verbally abused. Later, however, they were given a small apartment in Wolfsölden. There was no water, no toilet, no stove and they

received no monetary support. Next to them lived another family, which later immigrated to the United States.

Her mother kept on requesting a bigger apartment but that request was always declined with the reason that she did not work and had no money. Coincidentally her mother met Mr. P., whom she married in 1953. After they were married for 10 years, her husband died in a car accident in 1963.

Now she had to support the children all by herself. She had to work hard. She was glad that she had come to Germany and stayed there. Had she stayed in Rumania and not returned to Germany, she probably would have gone through the same experience as her parents did. Although they managed to escape to Germany, after the war, they went back to Rumania. Their home was gone; they got no work, had nothing to eat and became sick. In the hospital they received a lethal injection from the Russians. Their corpses were thrown into a graveyard and eaten by wolves.

Coming back to my journey. On September 5, 1965 Hildegard and I got married and settled in Lodi. For several months my wife worked at a convalescent home, where also my mother worked, until David, our first child, was born in December of 1966. This was a big change in our lives and gave definitely more meaning to our being together. We were very happy to have him. Our second son, Markus, was born in February 1968, also in Lodi.

Actually, before I got married, living in Lodi I took the initiative to receive my High School Diploma. For this reason I was required to take courses in English, American History and U.S. Government. This diploma I received in June of 1966.

I was also very interested to become a U.S. Citizen for which I applied during that time before I got married. I secured a couple of books from the local library about citizenship and its responsibilities and benefits, which I thoroughly studied. Finally, after a short

examination in Sacramento by an officer of the U.S. Government, I was granted U.S. Citizenship.

The main reason I wanted to become a citizen quickly was that I had to be a US citizen in order for my wife to remain in the States, since she was here on a temporary visa. Otherwise she had to go back to Canada or to Germany after the visa had expired.

In 1967 my parents and my family considered locating some land to settle down in the country. Since the property prices in California were too high for us, we started looking in other States and ended up finding and buying forty acres in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. We were able to purchase 40 acres of forest land for the same price what we would have to pay for one acre in California.

With the help and assistance of NCR Corp, I was able to arrange a transfer to Spokane, Washington, which is about 100 miles south of Bonners Ferry, where we just had purchased the 40 acres of land.

My parents moved to Bonners Ferry, Idaho in 1968. As a start, I moved my family also to Bonners Ferry, into a Mobil home, which we just had purchased, until we could find a home in Spokane. We lived for about 3 months in Bonners Ferry during which time our daughter, Andrea, our third child was born.

After I started working at the NCR Office in Spokane, I purchased a home not far from the office, so I could move the family from Bonners Ferry to Spokane.

While we lived in Spokane, I became interested in real-estate sales to supplement my income. I signed up for a complete real estate course with La Salle Extension University, Chicago, Ill. This comprehensive course included Real Estate Law, Real Estate Management, Property Management and Salesmanship. In 1974 I applied to take the Washington State examination for the Real

Estate Salesperson license, which I passed. Since I had a secure full time job, I decided to try selling Real Estate on a part time basis, which I did for about five years. This helped to improve our financial position. I also bought and sold several homes on my own during this time. In 1970 I bought an old, run down, 70 year old house, which I completely remodeled from scratch and resold it at a profit six months later. However, this remodeling took a lot of time for me to be away from my family as I did most of the remodeling by myself to save money. Today I feel that was not a good idea to stay away so much from the home and let my wife do most of the work with the children.

During the years working in Spokane I furthered my education by going to the City University in the evening to get my Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, which I received in September of 1980. I graduated with a grade of 3.7.

In 1980 we built a new home on our property in Bonners Ferry, Idaho as we wanted to raise the family in a country setting. We moved during that year. Twice a week I commuted for about 3 years from Bonners Ferry to Spokane, Washington still working for NCR. Today I realize that this move was a grave mistake as this put a heavy burden on my wife, which was completely unnecessary. We didn't want to send our children to a public school because of the negative influence of the public schools. Since there was no church school in Bonners Ferry at this time, our children did home-study for one year. That was not easy for my wife who was educated in Germany and was not familiar with the educational system of the US.

After home-schooling we were able to send them to a Christian School in Sandpoint for a couple of years. This was a one-way trip of over 30 miles. People from church took the children to school and brought them back again.

The number one reason for this move into the country was that my wife and I were firm believers in Ellen White and her writings, the proclaimed prophetess of the SDA (Seventh-day Adventist) denomination. She repeatedly warned church members to move out into the country, because of the shortness of time and the coming Sunday law and persecution coming to this country and the world. I, together with my parents, was determined to follow these instructions as I was sure that this was the voice of Elohim. “If that is correct,” I said to myself, “who am I to question Elohim’s prophet?” Since my parents went through a lot of heartache and losing everything in WWII, they were easy prey by such messages and driven by fear and did not want to go through such things again.

I still believe that there are advantages for families to live in a country setting, but it should be closer to your work place and it is not a salvation issue. Father and mothers should be together for the children’s sake.

About 25 years later through my studies I had to discover that such teachings were man-made and Ellen White was a false prophet, just like Joseph Smith of the Mormon Church and many other self-proclaimed prophets of various religious groups. I am a believer and follower of the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and not a member of any church or denomination any longer. The Scripture does warn believers to beware of false prophets and false messiahs in the last days and the danger that the very elect could be deceived.

There is an Elohim in Heaven and the Scripture is His Word, but man has corrupted the teachings and removed important teachings and replaced those with their own ideas. I will focus on this part later in this book.

Chapter 5 – Moving to Anchorage, AK

In the year of 1983 I was promoted by NCR Corporation to Anchorage, Alaska to be the District Administrative Manager for the main office in Anchorage, Alaska and three Branch offices (Juneau, Ketchikan and Fairbanks). We were delighted to receive that promotion, so we could live together as a family. Yet we were still clinging to some of the false teachings of the denomination we were members of (as well as Christianity in general). Many people are in the same boat today and seem to be stuck in various religious systems and teachings to their own demise. However, that is done mostly ignorantly. When studying church history it is shocking to discover that Yahusha, the Hebrew Messiah was NOT a Christian, neither did he start Christianity.

We were able to purchase a two-bedroom apartment in Anchorage. My wife did some day care and took several children in to add to our income. Our children continued their education in the local Christian school. My two boys went to the Auburn SDA Academy in Auburn, Washington and graduated from there. My daughter went for one year to Auburn and finished her last year of high school in Anchorage.

After living for a couple of years in that apartment, which was really too small, we found someone to take it off our hands. This way we were able to purchase a new home with four bedrooms. This space was desperately needed with three teen-age children.

After doing day care for a while, my wife found employment in a sun-tanning-salon called "A Sun-Affair" and worked there until we moved away from Anchorage. This job was a lot easier for her than taking care of other people's children.

I worked in the NCR position as District Manager in Anchorage for over eight years, which I enjoyed very much. When I took over the management of the offices, they were all in disarray, meaning administrative wise as well as the facilities were neglected for

years. All buildings, meaning the main office and the branch offices were in need of repair or modernization. It took about one to two years of hard work and determination to bring the physical buildings as well as the books up to date to suit the standard of the corporation.

There were many challenges in this new position. The corporation did give me the necessary funds that I had requested for remodeling and to make all needed changes. I was later told that after the renovations and changes that the main office building was one of the best looking offices for its size and age in the company.

One summer I hired my daughter to help out during the summer vacation to give her some practical experience in a business environment. She answered the phone and did some other secretarial work.

During the years of 1991 and 1992 the company was taken over by AT&T in a hostile takeover. I was 54 years old at that time and since the district office in Anchorage was to be closed soon, I was offered either to transfer to another city or to retire. I accepted the early retirement since my wife at that time was diagnosed with breast cancer and I wanted to spend all the time possible with her. This was a very difficult time for my family and it was a blessing to be able to spend the next year with my wife.

I must say the NCR Corporation was a very good employer and fair in every way. The Company moved us back to Bonners Ferry in 1992 and we lived in the home that we had built in 1980. We had this home rented out while living in Alaska. One year later, in May of 1993, my wife passed away, which was a hard blow for myself and the children. No one can describe such a loss, even though it should have been expected under the circumstances, but I never gave up hope.

Not long after her passing I was invited by a group of believers to go to Europe to hold some evangelistic meetings as a lay pastor, which I accepted. This helped me to cope with the loss of my wife. I went to Germany, Rumania, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Switzerland for that purpose.

On one of these trips I met my second “wife to be” on a Wednesday night prayer meeting in Berlin, Germany. The first time I met her, I knew she would be a perfect wife for me, even though she didn’t think so at the time. To make a long story short we got married in May of 1996, three years after we met and she joined me in the US two years after that, in the year of 1998.

I know that this decision on my part to re-marry was not wholeheartedly accepted by my family at that time, which is understandable. My new wife was truly a blessing and Heaven sent. She made sacrifices to leave Germany, leaving her job she had for over 20 years and leaving a large city heading for a one horse town with completely different customs. In Germany she had security in many ways and she basically went to the unknown. She believed that the Creator of the universe wanted it so.

I believe that everything that happens to believers must first pass by the throne of the Creator and there is a reason for everything that they at times must go through. We serve a merciful Elohim and everything which takes place in our life happens for a reason. However, we must be willing to put Him first. We may not understand things at the time, but at a later date we may. If not in this life, then in the future life.

Remember that this world is not our home. We are just passing through. Even though we must make a living, yet we always must first seek His kingdom. Everything will pass, sooner or later. We do not know what is tomorrow may bring, but YHVH does.

For that reason, it is a good idea to discover the real purpose of life before it is too late to turn around. I am not talking about your job, your daily responsibilities, or your long-term goals, your career, even though these things all matter and are very important to pursue. I am talking about the real reason you and I exist, the real reason that we were born. Maybe you don't believe that you have a purpose and that your life has any meaning. Maybe you believe that you got here by accident and will leave by an accident, meaning that your life is suspended between two accidents without any purpose. Maybe you believe that you came from monkeys and the world came into existence by a great bang. Some people are taught that and believe it. It takes a lot more faith to believe in evolution than to believe in creation. Remember, Noah was there to see all this happen. The scientists offer up theories like literally nothing exploding and becoming everything but no person that ever lived saw it. This is a faith-based belief led by scientists and atheists. They have their so-called geologic column of dirt but it doesn't exist on the planet. It doesn't matter what your personal belief is. Not believing that you have a purpose won't prevent you from discovering it someday, just as a lack of belief in gravity won't prevent you from tripping.

There is something more beyond this life, no matter if people believe it or not. If you don't believe in the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob or if you don't believe that what we do in this life affects eternity, then I wish to suggest that you are incorrect. This Creator Elohim that created the Heaven and the earth, actually the whole universe, loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life now and for all eternity. There is no compulsion, but there are conditions to receive that eternal life. It is an offer that very few people seem to accept. Most people do reject the Creator and His offer, because they have been lied to and deceived.

There's an old story that goes something like this: referring to a deceased man's last will and testament, someone asked, "How much did he leave?" The answer? ***"All of it!"*** The wise person will

take into account that none of our possessions and material resources will follow us after death, as the Scripture clearly states: “As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, **naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil** that he may carry away in his hand” (Ecclesiastes 5:15). *(English Standard Version)*

The question is being asked in Mark 8:36, “**For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?**” **That is the bottom line!**

This present life will not last and each one of us will grow old and eventually pass. That is the reason Psalms 90:12 tells us, “**Teach us how short our lives are so that we can become wise.**” *(English Revised Version)*

We need to remind ourselves of this fact, which most forget far too soon, because most of us are so absorbed in our jobs and our daily lives. I am glad when I am reminded by people, or have a better understanding through some unforeseen circumstances. I often try to share these lessons with others, but many times when I am sharing this reminder with others, some do not like it. I just don't want any people I know, to come to me some time saying, “you knew all this, why didn't you tell me? Why weren't you more insistent?”

Romans 8:21 says, ALL creation is subject to “**the bondage of DECAY.**” Our world and the things in it are not eternal. It is not permanent. This world is decaying. Our museums are full of decaying parts of this world. They are continual reminders, but still most people don't get it or don't want to get it.

In 1996 I had sold my old place in Bonners Ferry and purchased a smaller home in the town of Bonners Ferry. This was a mistake as I discovered later. I was so used to country living and having more elbow room rather than having such close neighbors. I was able to sell it again and build a new home on my parent's parcel of land.

What a difference. We beautified the new place with many shrubs and bushes, fixed the little house my father had built by adding a kitchen and a bathroom, where my mother lived until she passed away in December of 2009. In the meantime, my Father passed away at the age of 84 in the month of December of 1996.

With the financial help of my wife, we added three garages, one for our 5th wheel trailer and two for the pickup and the garden utilities. My wife Harid took good care of me and of my elderly mother until my mother passed away. She was a blessing. It was not easy for her at times living in another country with another mentality and language, but she stuck with it.

I tried several times to find some part-time employment in Bonners Ferry to improve our financial situation, without avail. For the few jobs that were open, I was told that I was over-qualified. Depending just on the pension I received from the company was difficult at times.

However, the heavenly Father had other plans, which reminded me again that He is in control and knows what is best for us. He is not just focusing on this life, but on eternity. He will come through at the right time. We just must be faithful, patient and trusting.

One day we were asked by the pastor of our local church to manage the local thrift store, which the denomination owned in support for their school. My wife had already volunteered in this store for a while and saw a great need for change in that business. Thrift stores or second hand stores are usually not the most pleasant places to work in because of the smell of second-hand merchandise etc.

We considered this offer as a divine appointment. We accepted that challenge and through trust in Elohim, my wife and I were extremely successful in making this a profitable business to say the

least. We made a lot of changes by washing and ironing all clothing and getting rid of most of the synthetic ones.

Shortly thereafter, while we were on vacation Germany, the building came up for sale, because the previous owner went bankrupt. I made a phone call from Germany and encouraged the denomination to purchase it, which they agreed to. This way we were able to modernize everything.

We changed the lighting fixtures, installed new heating and air conditioning systems because the old ones were about going out. We also replaced most of the display stands. We arranged to have much of our clothing and second hand items come from Spokane almost once a week. That made us very competitive as Bonners Ferry is just a small town with a population of about 2000, so we needed another outside provider for second-hand merchandise.

The store had a very good reputation. We had customers as far as Seattle that told us this was their favored thrift store. We give all the honor to YHVV, who showed us what to do and we were thankful for the people that worked with us. We were also thankful for the church board that gave us the freedom to run the store as it would have been our own. We were able to secure day-old bread as well as sweet rolls in large quantity from Spokane almost on a weekly basis and gave these away to everyone that wanted them. That drew a lot of new customers to the store. While they received these free goodies, they looked around and many bought things from us.

During the 4½ years that we were managing the store, we were able to quadruple the monthly revenue. It helped the School, the employees and the community as we were also able to help some people that were needy or lost everything through a fire.

While living in Bonners Ferry we were always seeking for biblical truth. Even though I taught Sabbath School in church almost every week, served as an elder, was on the school board and preached often, we knew in our inmost heart that something was missing, but we couldn't say what it was at the time.

This is true with any church or denomination. One seems to be continually rehashing the old teachings and doctrines of that particular group and never learning more from Scripture. The question is why would people want to learn more as most everyone believes they have arrived; they are the chosen people and everyone else is wrong anyway? That means most of the denominations are stuck in their old teachings, making no progress.

I am reminded of a saying in the denomination that I was a member of for many years. In one of their books, there was the following advice, which goes something like this: "The truth of God is progressive; it is always onward, going from strength to a greater strength, from light to a greater light. We have every reason to believe that YHVH will send us increased truth, for a great work is yet to be done. In our knowledge of truth, there is first a beginning in our understanding of it, then a progression, then completion; first the blade, then the ear, and after that the full corn in the ear. **Much has been lost because our ministers and people have concluded that we have had all the truth essential for us as a people; but such a conclusion is erroneous and in harmony with the deceptions of Satan; for truth will be constantly unfolding.**" (*Signs of the Times*, March 1890.)

We should agree with that statement, but this particular denomination does not follow such instructions as they have not changed their teachings for over 150 years. This demonstrates they still believe they know it all and have the truth. That applies to

every man-made organization. They are all settled in what they teach and have no need to learn any more.

Again, the heavenly Father is in control. One day, a sister of our local church challenged us by leaving a video with us at the beginning of 2005, talking about the so-called Jewish Feast days, which she wanted me to watch. However, I just put it on my shelf, where it was sitting for over a year, without being watched.

After all, I was way too busy and basically not really interested to watch something like this. I was a member of the church for over 40 years at the time and I was sure I knew that I had all the knowledge of the Scripture available, way ahead of all the other Christian denominations. We strongly believed that we had all the biblical knowledge we need and possessed the key to Heaven.

We were running the local thrift store and as stated busy in church. As I always try to give my best, I overextended myself physically in keeping the store successful besides all the other functions and keeping up our own property. The result was that I broke down one week-end in October of 2005, when we were in Spokane, staying in a hotel after we attended the dedication of my son as an elder in the Spokane Central Adventist Church.

My pulse dropped to below 40 and I passed out in the hotel room. In the morning, before checking out, I was sitting on a chair with my computer on my lap and quoting to my wife 1. Samuel 15:22 where it states: **“Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams.”** I still remember these words. At that very moment, I passed out.

My wife saw me falling over and she thought that I was dead. She started opening the door and window screaming as loud as she could for help, hoping that someone would hear her, but of no avail. She then knelt down in front of me. She cried to YHVH, even

asking Him to take her life and save mine. Then she started shaking me as hard as she could and I came back to life. That was a miracle without question. The Father answers sincere prayers. That is a fact. I am sure many people can agree with that from their own experience.

At the suggestion of my wife, I immediately checked into Providence Hospital, which was just a couple of blocks away from the hotel. I was kept overnight to take various tests, but they didn't find any serious problems, even though their medical alarm went off when my pulse during that night again went below 40 a few times. My wife stayed with my son's family for the night who lived in Spokane at that time.

I was released from the hospital the next morning and we drove back to Bonners Ferry. The same thing happened a couple of times on our way home but not as serious. I felt my pulse rate going down and I had to stop the car for a short period when I felt this. It was obvious that I had over-extended myself. I was purely stressed out and needed rest.

Chapter 6 – The Challenge

Not long after that incident we received a booklet in the mail called "Holy History." I thought that this was a similar title as the DVD that was given me about a year ago, which was still sitting on my shelf. This booklet aroused my interest to watch the video and to read the book. I considered this as a divine hint. I didn't agree with the content at first, as it was talking about the so-called Jewish Feast days, which I was taught by my denomination were done away with at the cross (stake), when the Savior died. These are Jewish, I was told, and are not for Christians. However, I wanted to find out for myself from Scripture and history what happened and see if what I was previously taught, was correct?

So, I started studying this topic, comparing Scripture with Scripture, trying to prove the author, John VanDenburgh, wrong, but with no avail. I was given the various Bible verses by the opponents of the Feast Days, which seem to say on the surface that these feasts were only for Jews and not for anyone else, as they were done away with. I was confronted with Galatians 4, Ephesians 2, Colossians 2 and Acts chapter 15, which were to prove that the feasts are no longer valid. Reading these verses in some translations, they seem to say that. However, after carefully going through these texts, I finally had to give in and submit to Scripture disregarding the doctrines and teachings of man.

I discovered that the seven yearly festivals (Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost, Day of Trumpet, Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles) were not Jewish. The Creator called them "**His feasts!**" You can read this for yourself in Leviticus chapter 23. Actually, the weekly Sabbath is the first one listed as **His** feast. He is the one that invites us to meet with Him every week on the 7th day and in addition seven times a year. These appointed times are to restore us in a closer relationship to our Creator by meeting with Him. The yearly appointed feast days are memorials. They are a sign between YHVH and His people. These are part of His seal.

YHVH's Feast days are not only the original "holidays" of humankind, which inspired the very concept of keeping annual celebrations, but these days are also a part of an ongoing, living law of YHVH specifically given to man. They are not just "Jewish" observances but special days *for all the world to keep*.

The annual feast days are all about Yahusha, the Hebrew Messiah; they portray in detail the seven (7) great events in the plan of Redemption and all have a final fulfillment! These are compacted prophecies about the plan of salvation. They prophesy future events.

Even today Yahusha is inviting His followers to come to His feasts, at His appointed times, just like the weekly Sabbath. He put a special blessing on these gatherings and it is truly a privilege to be invited by the Creator of the universe to meet with Him during these gatherings.

In Revelation 19:9 it states, “...**Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...**” and also blessed are those, who accept the invitation to celebrate His feasts even today, which are dress rehearsals. **Dress rehearsals are practice sessions to prepare for the real thing!** When you are in a play, you have to go through a dress rehearsal so you know what to do, when the real performance takes place.

The Spring Feasts inaugurate our Messiah's redemptive ministry with Passover, which is the Feast of our Redemption. The sacrifice of Yahusha at the Torture Stake as our Paschal Lamb at Passover is the foundation and beginning of Messiah's redemptive ministry. (See 1 Corinthians 5:7.)

For 1,500 years the Jews killed the Passover lamb on Nisan 14, because 1500 years later the real Passover lamb was going to die on his Passover day exactly as had been rehearsed for 1,500

years. The same applies to a musical performance. You have dress rehearsals so everyone knows their place and their notes etc.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread is also a memorial of the Hebrews leaving Egypt! Leaven represents sin which must be removed from our homes and hearts. This is called sanctification. Leaven also represents false teachings; all doctrines and commandments of man.

The Feast of First fruits was an acknowledgment that everything belongs to YHVH and comes from HIM. It is also another part of the plan of salvation that promises the faithful the hope of the resurrection and ascension to eternal life.

Pentecost, also called the **feast of weeks** during the time of wheat harvest, is the memorial of the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai! This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that believers are to send their petitions to YHVH of the harvest "in the time of the latter rain."

The three Fall Feasts of Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles typify the three steps leading to the consummation of Messiah's redemptive ministry: repentance, cleansing, and rejoicing for the final restoration.

The Feast of Trumpets was a warning that announced the approaching Day of Atonement or the Day of Judgment. Trumpets reminded the people to search their hearts and to afflict their souls during the next 10 days. It represents YHVH's last call to repentance!

Atonement involves individual as well as collective purification. It is a day of cleansing from sin, the climax of ten days of repentance, and returning to YHVH. It culminated in the dispatch of the scape goat into the desert, to which the collective sins of Israel had been

previously transferred. The Feast of Tabernacles (the time of the fruit harvest) reminds us of the wanderings through the wilderness, living in tabernacles, remembering this is not our final home.

This feast is celebrated by a full week of rejoicing, dancing, singing and feasting and is called “Season of our Joy”! This feast points to the Second Coming of Messiah, the last ingathering or harvest of His children and the destruction of the wicked as well as trip of the Redeemed to Heaven.

The last Great Day is the eighth (8) day or the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles. The whole feast and especially the eighth day represents a new beginning; It is the first day the redeemed will enter Heaven in order to take part at the wedding supper of the lamb!

There are 70 appointed times every year through which the Creator himself has established to meet with His people!

52 weekly Sabbaths	52
7 Days of Unleavened Bread	7
1 Day at Pentecost	1
1 Day of Trumpets	1
1 Day of Atonement	1
7 Days of Tabernacles	7
1 Day for the 8th Day	1

Clearly the only holidays in Scripture are those kept by Israel and by the Apostles and our Savior as well. All else is man-made and an abomination such as Christmas, Easter, Halloween, Lent, Sunday etc.

Now is a time for all people everywhere to choose to be obedient to what YHVH established for the good of His people. Get in line with the annual Feasts of our Creator and Savior. **Your understanding and blessings will multiply many times over!**

After my thorough studies of YHVH's appointed times I had to confess and I told my wife, the information in that book is correct. I am wrong, our denomination is wrong, Christianity is wrong. So, I translated this book called "Holy History" into German, so my wife could easily read it as well as her sister that lived in Virginia at the time.

In the meantime, we discovered that there were several groups that taught and kept the yearly biblical festivals. One of these groups was started by the late John VanDenberg in Terra Bella, California. Not to long before that we had purchased a 5th Wheel, so my wife and I decided to drive to California to visit these people in the year of 2006 during the Feast of Tabernacles in order to find out what kind of strange people these were. We discovered that these were friendly, honest and normal people that just tried to follow what was written in Scripture. There were some Seventh-day Adventist members that still attended the SDA Church, others were previous members. There were people from the Church of God, 7th Day, some with a Jewish background, believing in the Hebrew Messiah and others. Some were like us that wanted to find out what this is all about.

Coming back from this gathering, we were excited and wanted to know more of what the Scripture has to say about other things that we held as truth by our denomination. Maybe we would find more corrupt teachings that we need to give up. There are over 41,000 denominations, each one claiming to have the only truth. They all have the same Bible, but no unity.

We were reading in Jeremiah 16:19, **"Our fathers have inherited only falsehood, futility, and there is no value in them."** (*The Scriptures*)

The KJV translates this verse as **“Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and *things* wherein *there is* no profit.”**

We started watching other programs on the internet seeking to find more jewels in Scripture. We watched programs by the Messianic Movements, programs like Jim Staley from the Passion for Truth Ministries, Michael Rood of the Rood Awakening, Mark Biltz of El Shaddai Ministries and others. We were hungry for the truth of the Scripture and took the words in 1 Thessalonians 5:21 serious where it says, **“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”** We didn’t agree with everything that was presented by these teachers, but felt it was our duty to prove all things. We discovered that even some of these people were stuck with some traditions and doctrines of man, but they were seeking and we learned something from everyone.

Every professed believer is commanded in 1 John 4:1 to do what? It states, **“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”**

We discovered that our Christian Bibles were corrupted through the many translations or we could say just like some of our food, they were genetically modified. This corruption may have been planned, meaning on purpose or done ignorantly, who knows? One thing is clear, Satan as the arch deceiver is certainly behind any forgery and counterfeits. As an example, we found that our Heavenly Father, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, has a name, which was a surprise to us, a new revelation. His true name is mentioned almost 7,000 times in the Hebrew Scriptures and was removed in today’s Bible and replaced with a title “LORD,” which according to the Oxford dictionary of World Mythology means Baal. That means, we had unknowingly called on Baal. What a shock!

Here is the Oxford Dictionary of World Mythology stating, Baal = Literal meaning “Lord” Ba’al (Biblical Hebrew בעל, pronounced ['baal], usually spelled Baal in English) is a Northwest Semitic title and honorific meaning "master" or "lord" [1] that is used for various gods who were patrons of cities in the Levant and Asia Minor, cognate to Akkadian Bēlu.

The name of the Father, which is a universal name to which every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess – has been marred, changed, confused, and watered down in order to make it common and insignificant.

In Isaiah 42:8 it states, **“I *am* YHVH: that *is* my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.”** Scripture does not say, I am YHVH that is one of my names. No, it states clear and distinct **“that is my name.”**

Since Isaiah 52:6 tells us, **“My people shall know my name,”** we wanted to be part of His people and wanted to know what His name is, so we can call upon His name as we are instructed in Scripture. Under no circumstance do we want to call upon Baal!

In Jeremiah 23:27 talking to the prophets of Israel it says, **“Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, *as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.*”** Isn’t that taking place today, even though unknowingly?

The sacred name is given for the purpose of distinguishing the Creator of the universe from the no-gods. The issue is truth versus man-made religions, called lies.

The Psalmist David said, **“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving-kindness and for thy truth;**

for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name” (Psalms 138:2)

How can I call upon His name and praise His name, if I don't know what His name is? I don't call on a title, which would apply to any idol or no-god.

To make a long story short, the Encyclopedia Britannica states: “**YHVH**, the God of the Israelites, His name being revealed to Moses as four Hebrew CONSONANTS (**YHVH – Yod, Hey, Vav, and Hey**) CALLED THE TETRAGRAMMATON. AFTER THE EXILE (6TH CENTURY BC), and especially from the 3rd century BC on, Jews ceased to use the name YHVH for two reasons. As Judaism became a universal religion through its proselytizing in the Greco-Roman world, the more common noun **Elohim**, meaning “**god**,” tended to replace YHVH (Yahuah) to demonstrate the universal sovereignty of Israel's God over all others. At the same time, the divine name was increasingly regarded **as too sacred to be uttered**; it was thus replaced vocally in the synagogue ritual by the Hebrew word Adonai (“My Lord”), which was translated as Kyrios (“Lord”) in the Septuagint, the Greek version of the Old Testament.

While on the surface these reasons may seem honorable, they are **very unscriptural**. They were (and are) attempts to improve on YHVH's already perfect ways. If YHVH really wanted a substitute, why would He have placed His name there to begin with and that almost 7000 times? Some people pronounce the four Hebrew letters (Yod, Hey, Vav, and Hey) as YaHVeH, some as YeHoVaH and others as YaHUaH.

The bottom line is: No matter what anyone says, there is only “One” Elohim, but there are many confused people! The name of this true Elohim is YHVH. He wants us to know it and use it!

It may come as a surprise to many, but the name “**Jesus**” is far removed from the TRUE NAME of the Hebrew Messiah given to Mary by the Angel Gabriel. Our Messiah is Hebrew and not Greek! Let’s remember who His parents were. Mary’s lineage was from Levi; Joseph’s from Judah. Although, do remember, Joseph was not His true father. That being said, both Mary and Joseph would have spoken Hebrew. Also, the angel Gabriel was not subject to Babylonian corruption through culture and time.

We must emphasize His real Hebrew name, Yahusha, because as we have seen from His father’s name, Hebrew names in the Scriptures mean something. **They are not just letters joined together in a line, they have a DEFINITION. They have very specific meanings.**

Indeed, there are two Messiahs, one is the true Hebrew Messiah, who says that **His Fathers Laws were NEVER abolished**, and the man-made Greek Messiah, called Jesus, who says that the Laws have been abolished at the execution stake and are no longer binding. And almost everyone believes him. Satan created many hundreds of false religions that promote numerous false teachings and millions of unsuspecting people follow.

Let’s consider the following: Yahusha vs Jesus. This is not a play on words. These are two completely different entities and represent completely different teachings and doctrines.



We see the images on the left. The right hand of Jesus, the false Messiah, forms an X by crossing his first two fingers and he forms the C for the Greek letter Sigma by curving his last two fingers making the C shape. This is the hand gesture of the False Messiah as he identifies himself in plain sight making the XS symbol with his hands. Could that be the very symbol John used in Revelation 13? Just a thought

to ponder!

Revelation 13 states, **“And I saw a beast coming out of the sea ...”** The dragon (serpent) gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority.

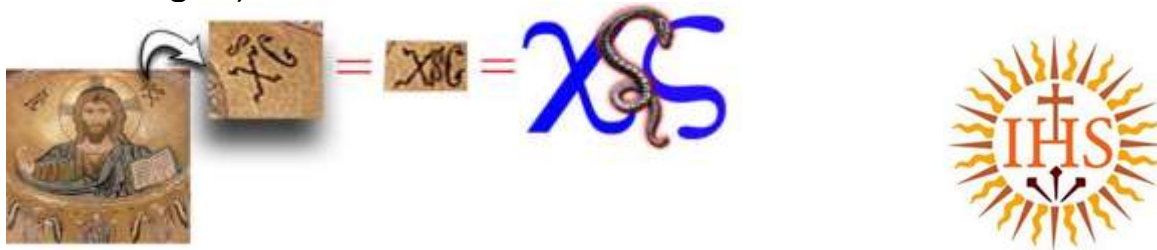
Revelation 13:17 states, **“And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number (#706 – arithmos) of his name.”**



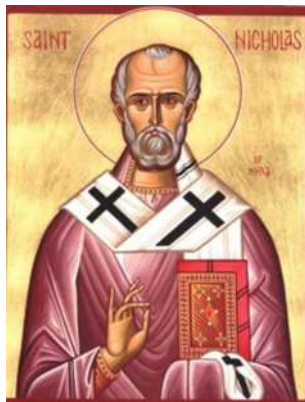
Of course in our English Bibles the number 666 appears, because the three Greek letters Chi-Xi-Sigma represent exactly 666. The chi stands for 600, the Xi for 60 and the Sigma for 6, making a total of 666. The question is, could these three letters also represent a symbol of someone?

The Mother of the Babylonian Churches, the Roman Catholic Church, says that “the “X” or Mark of the cross on our foreheads is our “mark” or sign of their authority.” The X (the cross) is the Mark of the Beast. When one looks at the many oil paintings of Jesus Christ, he is being depicted as making the same cryptic hand gestures as seen in the picture below.

This hand gesture is literally the symbol of the anti-Christ ... XS (depicted as XC as the Sigma was transliterated as a C in the middle ages).



“IC XC” as written in the Hellenistic period is a Christogram, a monogram of “Jesus Christ.” Could the symbol that John saw in addition to the number 666 also be the symbol for the false Messiah in the paintings, on mosaics that adorn cathedrals, on stain glass murals, on buildings and inscriptions the world over?



To any Orthodox or Catholic Christian, the man in these icons, is called “Jesus.” His right hand in icons is usually explained as being raised to give a blessing. The arrangement of the hand is repeated by Orthodox priests when claiming they are blessing others, hence, they hold their right hand in the same way (see photo below). This has a symbolism of its own which has developed over time. However, it has no basis and **NO support in Scripture. It is of sinister origin!**



You will also find this disturbing hand gesture in the false religion of Buddhism.



This false hand gesture is even found in false Sun gods, which the Vatican deceptively claims is "Peter." Nowhere in entire Scripture does it teach that the true Peter did this hand sign/symbol gesture.

The three fingers of their false Messiah, spell out "I" and "X" – and they confess the Tri-unity of their false pagan sungods trinity, God, Son and Holy Spirit. The touching of the finger and thumb of their false messiah "Jesus," spells out "C."



The "IC XC" is a Christogram, a monogram of the false Messiah. "Jesus Christ" when it is written in Greek looks like this: ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ.

If we take the first and last letters of ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ("Jesus") and ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ("Christ") we are left with: ΙΣ ΧΣ.

A line (“titlo”) is often placed over each pair of letters to indicate that it is an abbreviated name. Since we don’t have sigma (“Σ”) in our alphabet, each sigma is converted to a “C”, thereby giving us: “IC XC” So, “IC XC” is a shorthand for writing “Jesus Christ.”

These hand gestures are NOT Scriptural. They point to false gods. When you see a false “Messiah” that the Pope and world are trying to promote, realise it’s a counterfeit Messiah and counterfeit crucifixion, in an attempt by Satan to get the world to accept a pagan sungod instead of the true Messiah. The false and counterfeit “Messiah” is revealed by the sun symbol behind his head, the unbiblical long hair, and by the letters “IC XC” and by the false pagan cross. **Remember, Satan uses these deceptions to lead souls to destruction.**

The Greek JESUS CHRIST IS A FAKE MESSIAH, WHICH IS HARD TO SWALLOW BY CHRISTIANS! It was hard for me. I do believe in the Hebrew Messiah Yahusha who came as a suffering servant 2000 years ago and gave His life on the execution stake, but I don’t believe in the Greek messiah that was introduced by Constantine in the third century.

That simply means that Yahusha Ha Mashiach is NOT Jesus Christ. Jesus is a very poor translation of a Greek mistransliteration. It completely lacks the intended meaning of the Hebrew name meaning “**YHVH saves.**” Every time we use the name “Yahusha”, we proclaim to the whole world that **“YHVH saves!” No such meaning exists in the Grecianized name “Jesus.” So, I asked myself the question, who or what gives me the right to change the name of YHVH’s Son?** In John 5: 43 He said, **“I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.”**

Let's remember the Son carries the Father's name. It clearly states in Exodus 23:21, "... **my name is in Him!**" Therefore, the Father cannot have a Hebrew name and His Son have a Greek name!

The true Hebrew Messiah Yahusha of Nazareth was raised in an observant Hebrew family. He was a Torah observant, tallit wearing, synagogue attending, kosher eating citizen of Galilee, who observed **the weekly Sabbath as well as the seven commanded holy days**. He is from the tribe of Judah!

What about Christianity today?

The truth is, that modern day "Christianity" has very little in common with the "Hebrew Messiah." Constantine introduced the Greek Messiah, a false Messiah, which is being worshipped today by most people! **So, we can see that the name Jesus is an invention of man and a mask for Tammuz.**

The word "Christianity" is not even found in Scripture, neither is there such a religion known from Genesis to Revelation. It is not the religion that Yahusha established. Christianity as a system, (as a whole) is corrupted as Scripture puts it. Could it have over the centuries evolved into the religion of Anti-Messiah, called the synagogue of Satan? Don't be shocked!

"Christian" was a derogatory label placed on the followers of Messiah. The term "Christos" is Greek and had formerly a pagan usage. Some questions: What would a group of Israelites that practice the Torah of Yahusha and follow a Jewish or Hebrew Messiah be doing **with a Greek term** used by pagans as a label for themselves? **Would the Creator's religion have a Greek name?**

What if the people of Antioch, at first, called the disciples of Yahusha "CRETINS," because they considered them idiots?

The one verse most cling to in defense of the term "Christian" is at Acts 11:26, "**And at first in Antioch the taught ones (*the disciples*) were called Kristianous.**" (*This is the order of this sentence in the Greek.*) This sentence doesn't claim that the disciples called themselves this, but were called this "at first." Also, as with the English language, the context determines what is meant.

The word christianos (*Latin Christianus*) was used twice in the Greek text as **a device of scorn**, since in the ancient world it conveyed a much different sense than it does today. The use of the word christianos did not "name" the sect, but it was a derisive, scornful label that meant they were like gullible, dumb beasts, or "cretins." (*From the book Fossilized Customs by Lew White.*)

As early as 200 BCE, there were pagan worshippers of Serapis that called themselves "Christians." So there were people that called themselves Christians on Earth before Yahusha was born, **but these were pagans.** Yahusha's followers were called Natsarim according to Acts 24:5!

So, what great harm is there in abandoning the Greek title "Christos" or "Christ," and using the same Hebrew word Daniel wrote about: **Mashiach**? The word "MESSIAH" is transliterated TWICE in the received Greek writings, in John 1:41 and 4:25 (*it's used twice in Daniel, at 9:25, 26*).

Even the new age cult is awaiting their "Christ;" so why not give them their word back, maybe they'll stop laughing at believers behind their backs for having adopted so much of their philosophy. Give them their "Sun-day" too. Let's return to the Covenant, shall we? The Gentiles from the ends of the Earth will one day acknowledge that their forefathers have inherited nothing but lies. (*From the book Fossilized Customs by Lew White.*)

Today Christianity, being divided into over 41,000 churches, denominations, sects and cults is preaching a false, perverted gospel, but still claiming to have the truth, the key to salvation. Judaism, Islam and every false religion makes the same claim.

Consider the following:

YAHUSHA IS NOT

Southern Baptist
American Baptist
Fundamental Baptist
Independent Baptist
Missionary Baptist
Bible Baptist
Methodist
African Methodist
A.M.E.
United Methodist
United Brethren
Anglican
Catholic Apostolic
Roman Catholic
Eastern Orthodox
Greek Orthodox
Church of England
Christian Episcopal

Lutheran
Wesleyan
Amish
Presbyterian
Mennonite
Church of God
Calvary Chapel
Moravian
Vineyard
Nazarene
Foursquare
Mormon
R.L.D.S.
Star of Truth
Branch Davidian
Unitarian
Hutterite

Pentecostal
Assembly of God
House of Prayer
Jesus Movement
Church of Christ
Evangelical Free
Disciples of Christ
Christian Church
Seventh-Day Adventists
Congregation of Yah
Global Church of God
Harmony of Life
Christian Science
Jehovah's Witness
United Christian Church
Church of God in Christ
Worldwide Church of God

The Hebrew Messiah Yahusha is not a Christian, neither did He start Christianity! Christianity is a man-made religion as we have seen.

The question is this: If Yahusha cannot be considered as a "Christian" by the standards of today, how shall He be classified? Would we have to go back to His genealogy to find out? Let's examine that information first:

Yahusha was:

1. The Son of Mary. Mary's lineage was from the Tribe of Levi, specifically the priesthood of Aaron.

- **Luke 1: 36** And, behold [Mary], thy cousin Elisabeth [from the tribe of Aaron, so Mary also has to be from the Tribe of Aaron], she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. Note: Mary and Elizabeth were cousins showing both women were from the tribe of Aaron.
- **Luke 1: 5** There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: [Zacharias is from the sons of Aaron, as he is a priest, we all know that] and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. [Is it not true that the priests of Aaron had to "marry within" their tribe, BUT the women were free to marry OUTSIDE their tribe (any and all tribes)? ... that is why Elisabeth is also from the tribe of Aaron as her husband is ... Mary has to also be from this tribe of Aaron to be a cousin relative to Elisabeth.]
- **Therefore:** Yahusha is directly linked (through Mary) to the "line of priests" of the Aaronic priesthood.
- **John the Baptist:** was also a priest of Aaron, even though he was not serving in the corrupt sanctuary. He baptized Yahusha – which basically is an anointing into the priesthood. However, Yahusha is a Priest of a Higher Order than the Aaronic Priests – He is a Priest of the Melchizedek Order in the heavenly courts.
- **Summary:** **Yahusha has a right to the priesthood** through His birth as the firstborn and His biological mother, Mary.

2. The step-Son of Joseph: Joseph's lineage was from the Tribe of Judah. Remember, "salvation" and the "scepter" was to spring forth from the Tribe of Judah.

- **Luke 2:4** And **Joseph** also went up from **Galilee**, out of the city of **Nazareth**, into **Judaea**, unto the **city of David**, which is called **Bethlehem**; (because **he was of the house and lineage of [King] David**)
- **Matt 2:6** And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, [**This is proof that Bethlehem is in the land of Judah - but even if Bethlehem is really IN the Tribe of Benjamin, the Tribe of Benjamin was always inside the Tribe of Judah anyway.**] art not the least

among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. [That “Governor” was Yahusha of Galilee, the Son of Mary, of the tribe of Aaron.]

3. Joseph from Tribe of Judah: Luke 3:23-26 also shows Joseph was from the tribe of Judah:

- 23 And Yahusha himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,
- 24 Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi, which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Janna, which was the son of Joseph,
- 25 Which was the son of Mattathias, which was the son of Amos, which was the son of Naum, which was the son of Esli, which was the son of Nagge,
- 26 Which was the son of Maath, which was the son of Mattathias, which was the son of Semei, which was the son of Joseph, which was the son of Juda,
- 27 Which was the son of Joanna, which was the son of Rhesa, which was the son of Zorobabel, which was the son of Salathiel, which was the son of Neri,
- 28 Which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Addi, which was the son of Cosam, which was the son of Elmodam, which was the son of Er,
- 29 Which was the son of Jose, which was the son of Eliezer, which was the son of Jorim, which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi,
- 30 Which was the son of Simeon, which was the son of Juda, which was the son of Joseph, which was the son of Jonan, which was the son of Eliakim,

- 31 Which was the son of Melea, which was the son of Menan, which was the son of Mattatha, which was the son of Nathan, which was the son of David,
- 32 Which was the son of Jesse, which was the son of Obed, which was the son of Booz, which was the son of Salmon, which was the son of Naasson,
- 33 Which was the son of Aminadab, which was the son of Aram, which was the son of Esrom, which was the son of Phares, which was the son of **Juda**,
- 34 Which was the son of Jacob, which was the son of Isaac, which was the son of Abraham, which was the son of Thara, which was the son of Nachor ... [and all the way back to Adam, the son of Yahuah].
- **Summary:** **Yahusha has a right to the “line of kings from Judah”** through His step-father Joseph, going all the way back to King David. He can rightly hold the title as KING of kings. And, He was baptized by John who should have been the rightful High Priest of the Aaronic priesthood. Yahusha was well qualified in every count.

“Salvation is of the Jews” ...: The word “of” is an interesting word to be given some attention. The G1537 definition and meaning is: FROM the area where the JEWS live – in JUDAH.

- ek (ek) or ex (ex); a primary preposition denoting origin (the point whence action or motion proceeds), from, out (of place, time, or cause; literal or figurative; direct or remote):
- **Summary:** **“Salvation is out of the area of where the Jews originate”** ... which is of course Judah, and we know the plan of Salvation happened on Yahusha’s crucifixion day IN Jerusalem.

Indeed, Yahusha is “Salvation” from the Tribe of Judah which gives Him the title of King of kings; He is indeed “Salvation”

from the Tribe of Levi, and a Son of the priestly order of Aaron, earning the title of the highest Melchizedek Priesthood, thus annulling the Aaronic priesthood forever.

Who was Yahusha? An Israelite indeed with lineage from both the tribes of Levi and Judah. But, He was NOT from Judah – He grew up in Galilee, a province about 75 miles north of Judah. Remember:

- **Luke 2:4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth ...
- Yahusha grew up in Nazareth, in Galilee;
- Yahusha chose 11 disciples from Galilee; (Judas was the only disciple from Judah);
- Most of Yahusha's ministry was in Galilee;
- Most of Yahusha's miracles were in Galilee;
- The feeding of the 5000 and 4000 was in Galilee;
- He was the "LIGHT" that came to the dark place of Galilee (Isa 60:1-3; Matt 4:16-17); with a blessing to share Torah truths that had been buried by the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees in Judah – likely through their crafty lawyers.
- Yahusha didn't really spend a lot of time in Judah – this was the place that was always planning to take His life. But when the time was right, He set His face to be in Jerusalem, Judah to lay down His life and fulfill the plan of salvation (Luke 9:51).
- Yahusha's command to His disciples was to meet Him in Galilee after His resurrection; the same command was given by the angels at the open tomb.
- Yahusha was a true Galilean indeed. He was not from Judah, and He was not directly linked to the lineage of the Jews. However, an Israelite indeed!
- Yahusha did not practice Judaism the way we see it today or the way the Pharisees and Sadducees did.
- **Yahusha never intended to start a new religion called Christianity** but rather to call people back to the commands of Moses and the Torah, and the second

- witness in the prophets that upheld these Torah instructions!
- Yahusha himself stated in Matthew 15:24, **"I have only come to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." He came to draw first HIS apostate people, the 10 tribes of Israel (that He calls Gentiles) and then all mankind back to the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, all the way back to HIS Father's Torah, statutes and judgments! He came to call mankind to repentance and to follow His instructions exactly as they were given (Matthew 4:17). Why? So He could bless His people.**

Nevertheless, it is indisputable that a new religion was born out of His teachings and His life. However in the 2nd Century paganism started to slowly creep into the First Century Church right up to our current day.

Let's depart from man's traditions, be they ancient or modern and let's do what YHVH commanded, because out of love to Him and for our own salvation.

Chapter 7 – The Disappointment

I tried to share some of the things we had learned about YHVH's feast days and about His name as an example with other members of the church, but the pastors and the leadership fought it. I am thinking of the words of Yahusha in Luke 11:52 where He said, **“Woe unto you, lawyers! For ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.”**

I was an elder in that denomination for many years and was told, if I want to remain as an Elder, I must promise not to talk to anyone in the congregation about such teachings, even if I am asked, which I declined and there went my position as an Elder. We must stand with Peter's conviction in Acts 5:29, **“We ought to obey YHVH rather than men.”**

As I have mentioned before, the problem is that people are stuck in a box of traditions! Isn't that the story with most Christians? They are stuck or trapped in a religious box! They are servants of their religion, their church, their pastor, instead of being a servant of Yahusha!

People have become so relaxed in the teachings of their forefathers and pastors, in the doctrines and commandments of men, until they do not even dare to investigate other Biblical teachings. **They are boxed into their religion**, and if any truth challenges their belief or what their denomination teaches, they cannot accept it. Their foundations are built on the traditions of man's teachings, rather than on a **“thus saith YHVH.”**

Most people absolutely believe that their religion, and their church has the truth and all other churches are false or lacking in their doctrinal foundation. They actually believe that all other religions or

churches must convert to theirs. These believers may even know the Most High and even hear his voice **as long as He doesn't speak outside of the teachings of their church.**

YHVH help them, if the Holy Spirit tries to teach them something different than what their church teaches. They will not hear the voice of YHVH and they will actually think that it's the Devil speaking to them. **They are stuck in a box of religion or in a box of a church and may not ever be freed from it, because they have made their denomination their god.** There is a perfect image of their religion and their denomination that resides in their mind. This image is an idol, which means they have committed idolatry and don't even know it. Their church may be completely out of order, but it doesn't matter.

They feel it is their duty to serve the denomination or church no matter what, even if the denomination is out of the will of YHVH and is teaching the doctrines and commandments of men. The loyalty **they should have** for the Mashiah (*Messiah*) they only have for their denomination. The Holy Spirit may give them all kinds of warnings and signs, only to be totally ignored. It becomes very evident **their service is to their denomination, because that is their god.**

Many people are so brainwashed by their pastor until they talk more about him, than about Yahusha. They feel their pastor can do no wrong, and if he does, they are the first to defend him, no matter what he has done or believes. He could be a liar or a believer of false teaching, or a perpetuator of carnal behavior, to them it does not matter. They will stick by him and defend him no matter what.

Just imagine, if the Father has other plans that may be different from what your pastor has for you. Who do you follow? The Holy Spirit may be trying to move you in a certain direction, but because it goes against what your pastor said, you can't do it. Or because

you are so dedicated to your pastor, you won't budge. That's because your pastor has become an idol. You are stuck in the box of the pastor, and he is your salvation.

Going back to my story... In the meantime, we were able to have someone publish the "Holy History" book in German, which were mailed out and given away to many people. This was only possible as one individual was impressed during the feast to give us \$2500.00 for that project.

During the years of 2009 to 2015 we were invited several times to fly to Germany for the Spring and Fall Feasts to make several presentations on what we had found in Scripture. Later all of these Power Point presentations were uploaded to YouTube and published in book form. I also made many DVD's on these topics for distribution. There was also a magazine published with this rediscovered truth of Scripture called "Der Freundesbrief" – (The Friend's Letter). The goal was, and is, to provoke as many people as possible to study these things for themselves and to stay away from the doctrines and commandments of man. Why?

I was invited twice by Bible Explorations in Terra Bella, California to make several power point presentations, which were also televised over several Satellites. In addition to that I was invited twice by Lighted Way Ministries in Roseburg, Oregon at their feast gatherings new things we had learned through our studies.

My wife and I had just learned that the Trinity doctrine held by most of the Christian denominations comes directly from paganism. They teach that the Trinity is the union of three divine persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, even though the word Trinity is not mentioned in Scripture. However, the Trinity teaching is not a Christian idea and does not reflect accurately the teaching of the first followers of the Messiah regarding the nature of Elohim. The

formulation “one Elohim\God in three Persons” was not solidly established prior to the 4th century.

During the days of the apostles, the Gospel was taught with accuracy, but after their death, it did not take long for the truth to become eroded with falsehoods. This erosion of Biblical truth grew like a cancer, slow, but sure. Little by little, falsehoods crept in as the Gospel message of Yahusha became more popular.

In an effort to increase the church membership, the church became more and more like a business. Many pagans were brought in and with the pagans came pagan ideas. Rituals began to replace serious Bible study and differences in opinion soon became the basis for growth of various creeds and sects. Over the span of years, man-made rites became time honored tradition.

“Many scholars believe that the Trinity, as taught by Christians, comes from Plato as suggested in the Timaeus, but the Platonic Trinity is itself merely a rearrangement of older trinities dating back to earlier peoples.” *.(Nouveau Dictionnaire Universal, Vol. 2, by M. Lachatre, c.1865, Paris)*

As already mentioned the Trinity does not appear in the Bible, “nor did Yahusha and his followers intend to contradict the Shema in the Old Testament: “Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God is one LORD (YHVH our Elohim is one)” (Deut. 6:4) ... The doctrine developed gradually over several centuries and through many controversies ...By the end of the 4th century the doctrine of the Trinity took substantially the form it has maintained ever since.” *(The New Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 10, Micropedia Ready Reference, c.1976, Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., Chicago)*

The Trinity doctrine is 100% pagan, it is the “hub” of pagan doctrine. Here is what the Catholic Church states by Cardinal Hosius **“We believe in the doctrine of the triune God, because we have**

received it by tradition, though not mentioned at all in Scripture." (Cardinal Hosius, Conf. Catholic Fidei, Chap XXVI.)

We had been baptized by immersion in the name of the unholy Trinity. Since we learned about the errors of the Trinity, we decided to be re-baptized the Biblical way in the name of Yahusha. This spiritual rebirth took place on April 23, 2011 in a flowing river in the State of Oregon. Even though the water was extremely cold we rejoiced to find this truth. Then hands were laid on us to receive the Holy Spirit according to Acts 8:16-17.

The doctrines and traditions of man are an abomination to YHVH. The Savior stated in Matthew 15:8-9 as well as in Isaiah 29:13 **"In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of man!"** "In vain" simply means **"useless"**! Why waste your time then? If we are teaching the doctrines and commandments of man, our worship is in vain. That means such a worship is a farce, it is empty, it is pointless and has absolutely no value, whatsoever! I don't want that kind of worship, because it would be a waste of time! I personally want to worship the Father in Spirit and in truth.

Our Savior said in John 4:24, **"Elohim is Spirit, and those who worship Him need to worship in spirit and truth."** (TS2009)

When presenting these things here, I would like to clarify that it is not my intention nor desire to offend, to judge or to condemn anyone with any of this information, but to humbly present what I have found in Scripture! We all have been deceived by religion. But we must be willing to reason with each other and take Scripture as the final authority.

There are many, who think it really doesn't matter what we believe or do in religion, just as long as we are sincere and follow our

conscience. **However, this philosophy exalts our conscience above the word of YHVH.** This makes our conscience our only guide and ignores what YHVH says in Scripture. This is telling Elohim we are going to worship Him the way we choose and we don't really care, what He has to say. Every man then becomes his own authority, thereby eliminating the authority of YHVH, and HIS Word, called the Torah. This attitude must greatly displease the One who created and redeemed us

Teachings or doctrines are important as long they are Scriptural as we can see in 2 John 1:9, **“Everyone who does not remain true to the teaching of the Messiah, but goes beyond it, does not have God. The person who remains true to the teaching of the Messiah has both the Father and the Son.”**

Many people never stop to ask, is it Scriptural and is this what the Father wants? They believe that just any kind of worship they give will be acceptable to YHVH. The main reason for all the religious division that we see in the world today is that man will not accept YHVH's Word as final authority. The Scripture is considered a historical book but has no authority for us. Man is going to do it his own way, whatever he or she thinks is right. The Scripture, starting in Genesis 1:1 contains our instructions on how to please YHVH and how to receive His blessings in this life and the life in the world to come.

As mentioned, our greatest hindrances to true worship are the teachings, creeds, doctrines and the commandments of man. Therefore, we want to know truth, we want to know the correct teachings of Messiah.

Despite society's constant loud message that it does not matter what one believes, **it does matter** what one believes. That means **“Spirituality” is not enough and “zeal” is not enough.**

We continued studying other doctrines in Christianity and some that were taught by the denomination in which we were members and were shocked at what we found.

Don't forget: The fact that we believe something to be true, because we were taught it from childhood on, does not make it true.

Yahusha told the Samaritan woman in John 4:24, **“YHVH [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [Him] in spirit and in truth.”**

Truth is there, it is available. However, we must dig for it as for a hidden treasure, because it is a matter of eternal salvation. Truth will stand on its own!

Truth-seeking requires an open mind, determination, persistence and humility. A commitment to truth-seeking will take us outside our comfort zone, it may require us to admit things we would rather deny or calling us to difficult decisions and actions, even to the point of losing friends. **Our yearning for truth must exceed our yearning to prove ourselves right.**

Let's think about it. We show up on this planet and look around and wonder who the heck we are and what this world is all about. Learning the truth, finding out why we are here and what our purpose is in being here, **involves a serious search**, a serious desire and personal efforts to find out! We cannot leave this search to other people! This is a personal responsibility.

In today's society we are being bombarded from all sides by a vast number of messages claiming to be the truth, but they are nothing but lies. We are being brainwashed by government, by religion, through education, advertising, television and internet. We are told what to think, what to believe, what to eat and how to dress, what medication to take or what to buy! We must ask questions and don't

believe everything we hear, see and read. We need to prove ALL THINGS as Scripture commands!

And especially we can't trust anything in what we hear, see or read **in matters of religion as we have seen just with these few examples**. We must by all means ask questions for everything any church or denomination presents as truth, and we must require a **"Thus saith YHVH!"**

"STOP searching for the truth." The Torah is THE Truth! Stop looking! There is only "One" truth, which is **"the"** truth, called "Torah"! These are the first five books of Scripture. Everything which is written afterwards must be tested with the first five books.

Here is something to think about: The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, a book written to prove the validity of the New Testament, says: "A study of 150 Greek [manuscripts] of the Gospel of Luke has revealed more than 30,000 different readings... **It is safe to say that there is not one sentence in the New Testament in which the [manuscript] is wholly uniform.**" Other scholars report there are some 200,000 variants in the existing manuscripts of the New Testament, representing about 400 variant readings which cause doubt about textual meaning; 50 of these are of great significance.

On the other hand, the great success of Jewish tradition is the **meticulous transmission** of the Torah text. The Torah has nine spelling variants — with absolutely no effect on the meaning of the words. The Christian Bible (they mean the New Testament) has over 200,000 variants and in 400 instances the variants change the meaning of the text. This comparison demonstrates the remarkable accuracy of the Jewish transmission of Torah. **Carefully guarding the words of the Torah has been a Jewish priority throughout the centuries.**

<http://www.aish.com/h/sh/tat/48969731.html>

Which Scriptures did Paul use in His time, when he states in 2 Timothy 3:16, **“All scripture [is] given by inspiration of Elohim, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”**? Paul used the so-called Old Testament (the TaNaKh), the written Torah of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms!

When Paul was wrongly accused, he answers like this in Acts 24:14, **“... this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law (*G3551 Nomos - Torah*) and in the prophets.”**

Paul believed, taught and lived by Torah!

But Christianity puts the Epistles first and the Torah last. This is backwards, because we have been led to believe that Paul, the writer of the Epistles, taught against Torah, and Yahusha did away with Torah. For this reason, many regard the Torah and the Old Testament as less relevant and authoritative than our New Testament books. But this is backwards and upside down. It is like building the 2nd floor of the house before laying a foundation or building the first floor. It is the wrong priority of Scripture.

We must start at the beginning. Paul tells us that a later covenant cannot contradict an earlier covenant (*see Galatians 3:15-17*). Neither can a later Scripture contradict an earlier one. The correct priority of Scripture starts with the Torah. Torah must be regarded first, because it was given first. To fully understand YHVH's Word, we must read the Gospels and Epistles through the lens of Torah.

The Torah is a way of life. **From birth to death, YHVH's Torah teaches His people how to live a holy, set-apart life.** The Torah covers such areas as community, medicine, diet, health, clothing,

housing, safety, morality, ceremonies, holy days, worship, relationships between family and neighbors and the list is practically endless.

Being without Torah is like a fish being without water. **Religion without Torah leads to paganism, idolatry and to the worship of the golden calf. That is exactly what we have today. Christianity is filled with pagan teachings.**

The Torah is the compass of life. It provides our navigational fix so we know where to go and how to get there. Without the Torah's guidance and direction, we would be lost in the stormy seas of confusion. Without a spiritual guidance system, we flounder about wandering aimlessly through life. Within the Torah lifestyle there is still ample room for spontaneity and freedom of expression.

Here are the words in Psalms 1:1-2, **“Blessed is the man who shall not walk in the counsel of the wrong, And shall not stand in the path of sinners, And shall not sit in the seat of scoffers, but his delight is in the Torah of יהוה, And he meditates in His Torah day and night.”** (*The Scriptures*)

We started doing exactly that and began to look at the things Christianity and our own denomination taught. We discovered Christianity stands for many non-biblical, pagan teachings. Here is a partial list of the Roman Catholic Church as an example:

- 1) Sunday Sacredness (321-364 AD)
- 2) Indulgences (1119 AD)
- 3) Veneration of Mary (715 AD)
- 4) Court of Inquisition (1204 AD)
- 5) Couple Foot washing
- 6) Purgatory (593 AD)
- 7) Celibacy of the Priests (Catholic Church) (1015 AD)
- 8) Monasteries
- 9) Nuns and Monks (348 AD)
- 10) The cross

- 11) Church Steeples
- 12) Holy water (120 AD)
- 13) The Latin Mass (394 AD)
- 14) Corpus Christi Day (1264 AD)
- 15) The Dispensation (1210 AD)
- 16) Confession (1215 AD)
- 17) Coronation of the Pope with the Triple Crown (1311 AD)
- 18) The infallibility of the Pope (1870 AD)
- 19) The worship of images (787 AD)
- 20) The canonization of deceased (973 AD)
- 21) To kiss the feet of the Pope (809 AD)

When we go to the Lutheran denominations we find some additional non-biblical teachings like:

- 1) We are living under grace and not under law
- 2) The Trinity Doctrine
- 3) The 3½ year Ministry of Yahusha
- 4) The Friday Crucifixion and Sunday resurrection
- 5) Christmas and Easter Celebration
- 6) The Biblical Day begins at Sunset say some
- 7) Most claim that the Biblical month starts with the New Moon
- 8) When man dies, the soul goes to hell or heaven
- 9) The monthly communion service instead of the yearly Passover
- 10) Calling on the Greek Jesus instead of the Hebrew Yahusha
- 11) Calling the Creator LORD (Baal) instead of YHVH (Yahuah, Yahuah or YeHoVaH)
- 12) Waiting for a pre-tribulation rapture
- 13) Baby baptism instead of full immersion
- 14) Sunday Sacredness
- 15) The Replacement Theology

Then we could mention some other questionable or false teachings in other churches or denominations. Some teach about a coming Sunday Law, an investigative judgment that started in 1844, and

the lunar Sabbath. Others teach once saved, always saved, a second probation, a temple being built during a 1000 year reign of the Messiah with animal sacrifices, the tithing system of the Levitical system in the Christian churches. Sunday is the new Sabbath for the Christians, The death of Yahusha did away with the Torah, The Torah is only for Jews, Yahusha was born on December 25, Yahusha was resurrected on Easter Sunday, it's OK to celebrate Halloween disguised as a harvest festival; Eating pork and lobster is okay for a Christian, Yahusha only gave two Commandments for Gentiles to follow, there is a spiritual Israel, meaning the Christian church and a physical Israel, the Jews. The church is married to Yahusha, the Jews are married to the Father, and Moses gave us two Torahs, the written Torah and the Oral Torah. Sacrifice is better than obedience, praying without a head-covering is sin, saying the Name of YHVH is sin, drinking alcohol is sin, Seven-year land rests is an outdated religious practice and eating eggs, salt and butter are dangerous habits, and it is a sin to be sick! All these things cannot be proven from Scripture, but are based solely on man's ideas.

We could go on and on. That is confusion - or as Scripture calls it - "Babylon."

Finding this information, I finally came to the conclusion that one cannot be a member of any denomination in regular and good standing and at the same time follow a **"Thus saith YHVH."**

It is impossible. To continue being a member of the present denomination I would be obligated to believe and follow their 28 points of doctrines, even though many contradict plain Scripture. That would also apply to any other of the over 41,000 denominations that exist today.

As an example, it states in Revelation 14:4 speaking about the 144,000, **"These are they which were not defiled with women;**

for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth."

As students of the Scripture we know that when it speaks about women in Revelation it is talking about churches. There is a pure church (assembly) and a Harlot church.

Even using the word church is not a good idea as it comes from the old English or Anglo-Saxon root, namely Circe. It is used in most English versions and was translated from the Greek word ecclesia. This word really means "a call, calling out," a meeting or a gathering. Ecclesia is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew kahal, which means an assembly or a congregation. Tyndale, in his translation, uniformly translated ecclesia as "**congregation**" and only used the word "churches" to translate Acts 19:37 **for heathen temples!**

Circe, is the daughter of the well-known sun-deity Helios. This "Circe" is the identical Old English word for "church," - see any dictionary. It was originally a Greek goddess where her name was written as Kirke. Let us therefore rather use the Scriptural "assembly" or "congregation," and renounce the word that is derived from Circe, the daughter of the sun-deity!

(This is taken from the book "Come out of Her My People" by C.J. Koster.)

What could even be worse from my point of view is the word "Amen" being used in all of the three major religions of Christianity, in Judaism and in Islam. Funk and Wagnall's, Standard College Dictionary, claims that the word "AMEN" refers to the Egyptian mythology, the god of life and procreation, later identified with the sun-god as the supreme deity, and called 'Amen-Ra.'

Smith's Bible Dictionary expresses AMEN as, "an Egyptian divinity ... he was worshipped ... as Amen-Ra, or 'Amen the Sun.'"

I know that the origin of the word of “Amen” is under contention. It does not, says one Elizabeth City State University professor, trace its roots back to the Hebrew people; rather, the word can be traced to pre-dynastic Egypt, in the region of Africa known as the Sudan, to be more specific. **THIS MEANS IT IS NOT OF YHVH AND IS PAGAN!**

Our Savior Yahusha calls himself “**The Amein – am-ane** (in Greek)” in Revelation 3:14. Substituting a title or name of our Savior with the name of the great hidden sky-deity or the great sun-deity of the Egyptians Amen, is inconceivable! The difference is subtle, but it is there. By ending our prayers with “Amen” instead of “Amein,” one could very well ask, have we been misled to invoke the name of the Egyptian Sun-deity at the end of our prayers.

The Scriptural Hebrew word, which means “**so be it, or verily or surely**” is Amein or Aman and not Amen. I recommend everyone do their own research and to be convinced in their own mind.

Would you say that Satan had a hand in all these things? He is definitely the one that caused the renaming of the week days after pagan gods. Instead of the first day of the week towards the Sabbath, the day was called Sunday, in honor of the pagan sun-god. This goes for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Yet YHVH said in Exodus 23:13 to his people, “**And in all [things] that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.**” How far has mankind departed from the original plan that the Creator had in mind?

Chapter 8 – Moving to Coeur d’Alene, ID (Making More Discoveries)

In December of 2009 my mother passed away. My wife and I took care of her for the previous two years. She was almost 98 years old when she passed and felt very comfortable in her little home. In 2013 we decided to downsize as it was becoming more difficult to keep up our home, the guesthouse and the landscaping due to age. A Realtor that we knew stopped by one day asking us if we wanted to sell our home as he had a buyer interested. The home hadn't been listed this year, we had it listed the previous year for a while. We agreed to have him show the home to some people that came from Alaska. After viewing the property, the couple made an offer, we accepted and the home was sold to them. Through the leading of our Heavenly Father we secured the perfect home for us in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. We actually took a trip to Germany after the sale as we planned to settle in Germany, but things did not work out to move to Germany and we considered it a miracle to end up in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. We know that the Father knows what is best for each one of us and we should always submit to His will. Why? Because He knows what is best. Our job is to trust HIM and to seek FIRST His Kingdom and His righteousness.

I continued doing research, producing articles of what we had found in Scripture and uploading many power points in English and German to the internet. As I had mentioned before, it is my desire to encourage people to study for themselves and accept YHVH and walk in His Torah with the commandments, statutes and judgments. There is nothing more important in life that has been given to us, to occupy ourselves with where to spend eternity. Don't believe everything I present, check it out for yourself. There are many ways to do that. Take Scripture as your only foundation, starting in Genesis 1:1. You owe it to yourself.

I do not have all of the answers, no one has, but we need to be willing to reason together and take Scripture, especially the Torah, as our foundation of all doctrines. Most of the translations are corrupt and one may have to get back to the original Hebrew. We will study throughout eternity and will never know it all. There will always be new things to learn and to uncover.

As an example, you may study the love of YHVH for eternity; yet you will never fully comprehend the length and the breadth, the depth and the height of His love in giving His Son to die for the world. Eternity itself can never fully reveal it.

Remember in John 4: 22 the Messiah stated, **“Salvation is of the Jews.”** (I believe this statement as written in our KJV Bibles really gives an incorrect rendering of what is supposed to be understood. In actuality, it should be understood this way: “Salvation through Yahusha comes out of the tribe of Judah.” Why? Because Yahusha means “Salvation” and salvation was secured in the tribe of Judah where the Jews were residing.) But, many will argue with that statement (as it is written), because Jews are seen as a people who rejected Yahusha and crucified Him. They actually gave Him over to the Romans and it was the Gentiles that nailed Him to the stake. Even our Savior told the leadership in John 8:44, **“Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”** They were breaking YHVH’s commandments by their own traditions. This is exactly what is taking place today.

By the high Middle Ages Jews were widely persecuted as barely human “Christ-killers” and “Devils.” Forced to live in all-Jewish ghettos, they were accused of poisoning rivers and wells during times of disease. Some were tortured and executed for supposedly abducting and killing Christian children to drink their blood or to use

it in baking Matzah. Many were forced to convert to Christianity to avoid death, torture, or expulsion.

Take note of what some of the leading Christian leaders of the early church had to say about the Jews:

Justin Martyr (c. AD 160), speaking to a Jew said, "The Scriptures are not yours, but ours."

Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons (c. AD 177), declared, "Jews are disinherited from the grace of God."

Tertullian (AD 160–230) in his treatise "Against the Jews" announced that Elohim had rejected the Jews in favor of the Christians.

Eusebius wrote that the promises of the Hebrew Scriptures were for Christians and not the Jews, and the curses were for the Jews. He argued that the church was the continuation of the Old Testament and thus superseded Judaism. The young church declared itself to be the true Israel, or "Israel according to the Spirit," heir to the divine promises.

St. Jerome (AD 347-407) describes the Jews as "... serpents, wearing the image of Judas, their psalms and prayers are the braying of donkeys."

John Chrysostom (Golden Tongued), the great orator, wrote a series of eight sermons against the Jews. To quote him: "the synagogue is not only a brothel and a theater; it is also a den of robbers and a lodging for wild beasts. No Jew adores God... Jews are inveterate murderers, possessed by the devil, their debauchery and drunkenness gives them the manners of the pig."

Augustine confronted this problem in his "Sermon Against the Jews." He maintained that even though the Jews deserved the

most severe punishment for having “killed our Jesus” but that they have been kept alive by Divine Providence to serve, together with their Scriptures, as witnesses to the truth of Christianity.

Martin Luther (1483–1546) First to set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, Second, I advise that their houses also be razed and destroyed I advise that safe conduct on the highways be abolished completely for the Jews. I advise that...all cash and treasure of silver and gold be taken from them.

So here's the question. **“How could salvation come from the Jews,”** from a people that crucified the Messiah and that were hated by the majority in the past and are still being hated by many in this age? But let's remember maybe those words in John 4:22 really don't mean what they seem to portray.

The entire Scripture that we have today is 99% Jewish or better said Hebrew! According to Hebrews 7:14 it sounds like Yahusha was of Jewish descent, but remember His mother was from the tribe of Levi, and He grew up in Galilee. Yes, it is true, that His step-father, Joseph, was from Bethlehem, which is contained within the borders of Judah. Yahusha has a lineage to the “priesthood” through Mary, and a connection to the “line of kings” through Joseph who was a descendant of David, Jacob, Isaac and Abraham. All of these great patriarchs were Hebrew.

Eleven disciples were Hebrew, all from Galilee except for Judas who was from Judah. Paul and the prophets of the Old and New Testaments were all Hebrews! Even the New Jerusalem is a city with 12 gates named after 12 Hebrew tribes of the children of Israel! You will find this in Revelation 21:12. The 12 foundations have the names of the 12 Hebrew apostles engraved therein (Revelation 21:14).

As far as the 12 gates of New Jerusalem are concerned, one should ask himself the question: why there isn't at least one gate called "Christians?" Or specifically Catholics, Protestants, Seventh-day Adventists, Mormons, Baptists etc.? Have you ever wondered about that? The Creator never made, or will make a covenant with Christianity, at least I haven't found anything in Scripture. However, Scripture tells us that He will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah and with those that are grafted in, which is still future.

Now let's get back to that question on, what does "Salvation is of the Jews" mean? The apostle Paul gives us another answer in Romans 3:3, he stated, **"unto them (the Jews) were committed the oracles of Elohim."** What are these oracles? This simply means the Word, the message, the revelation of YHVH, the gospel of salvation, which was given to the descendants of Abraham, meaning the written Torah given through Moses and the living Torah, Yahusha! He was the living Word according to John 1:1. It states **"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim."** Then verse 14, **"And the Word became flesh and pitched His tent among us, and we saw His esteem, esteem as of an only brought-forth of a father, complete in favor and truth."** (*The Scriptures*)

The Jewish leadership crucified the Messiah through the Roman authorities and the cross (stake) is still an offence and a stumbling block to the majority of Jews (Galatians 5:11 and 1 Corinthians 1:23). But **today** it is the other way around! Most of Christianity rejects the written Torah with the statutes, judgments and commandments – these are an offence and a stumbling block! They claim that these instructions are no longer binding. They are only Jewish! Why is that the case? (By the way: the Jewish people also claim that the Torah's instructions are ONLY for the Jews. No one else is blessed enough to abide by these instructions.)

It is true that Yahusha **condemned** the traditions of the Mishnah (*early Talmud*) and those who taught it (*Scribes and Pharisees*), because the Talmud nullifies the teachings of the written Torah with the statutes and judgments, but on the other hand Yahusha condemns the pagan teachings and traditions of Christianity today.

Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life, only those who are sealed with the written and living Torah (Isaiah 8:16) will enter those gates! The Gentiles (which are the 10 lost tribes of Israel, and pagans, which would all be considered non-Jews), the wild olive branches must be grafted into the good olive tree and become spiritual Israel in order to enter into one of those gates.

The Jewish people received YHVH's instruction manual for living, called the Torah, which is the blueprint to the universe whose wisdom and values have changed the world. Each one of us has the privilege to plumb its endless depths and refine ourselves by wrapping our heads around the source of truth that transcends this world.

YHVH Elohim started with just one man, Abram, later renamed Abraham, who went against the entire polytheistic civilization to make known the only true and living Elohim, the Creator of the universe, the Great I AM! His descendants were charged to change the world, to be a light unto the nations. They were instructed to be partners with YHVH in fixing the world! However, even though they may have failed in many ways, they did preserve the oracles of Elohim, the gospel message. Is that the reason they are hated?

The Jews are hated because YHVH has reached out to humanity through them. The Messiah, the Scriptures, the Ten Commandments, His plan of redemption for mankind; all came through the nation Israel. The world, whether directly or indirectly, hates the Jews for bringing them guilt for their sins. **But it is YHVH Elohim that the world truly hates, and not the Jews of today.**

The world and those that hate the Jews so much, **are driven by Satan**. Israel gave the world a conscience through the instructions YHVH gave them, called the Torah. It was through the tribe of Judah in the nation of Israel that YHVH has given us Yahusha, the Savior of mankind.

YHVH Elohim blessed Abraham and promised to bless the nations of the world through His descendants, i.e., Israel. **Why? Because Abraham obeyed YHVH** (*Gen 22:18*). All nations have been blessed to have the opportunity to be saved through faith in the Jewish Messiah, Yahusha, who is the Son of YHVH. All nations have been blessed to receive the Scriptures. However, as we know the Christian Bible has been corrupted, but we do have the original Hebrew Torah with the statutes, judgments and commandments to compare.

Many traditions and pagan practices crept into Judaism, which YHVH hates and does not accept. Just to highlight a few teachings that Judaism has added, which are not Biblical, like does the Sabbath really begin at evening, at the sunset moment and continue to the next sunset? Does the year really begin at the sight of the new moon after the spring equinox? Do the months begin at the first sliver of the new moon? I just want to give some highlights, but detailed studies are available free of charge if you contact the author of this book.

First, when does the Biblical day start? There are nearly 40 examples in the Scriptures to support every new day begins with dawn twilight. How then did the Jews come to the conclusion that the day begins at sunset? We can read the Torah from cover to cover and find no evidence, that in the times of Moses or Joshua, there was a tradition to hallow the weekly Sabbath from sunset to sunset.

Here is a quote from the book: "Jewish Encyclopedia," page 475.

“Meaning of day: In the Bible, the season of light (*Gen 1:5*), lasting from dawn (literally “the rising of the morning”) to the coming forth of the stars.”

Another quote from the book: “Jewish Festivals: History & Observance,” page 13. **“In order to assure against profanation of the Sabbath the Jews added the late Friday afternoon hours to the Sabbath.”**

From the book: “The New Catholic Encyclopedia,” Volume 11, page 1068. **“... a sacred day of rest on the 7th day (the Sabbath). Days were reckoned from morning to morning ...”**

From the book: “The New Catholic Encyclopedia,” Volume 11, section titled: “Later Jewish Calendar.” **“Following the reign of King Josiah (c. 640-609), and especially after the Babylonian exile, a number of significant and enduring changes occurred in the Israelite calendar showing that their time ... was counted from evening to evening, after the Babylonian fashion ...”**

From Jacob Z. Lauterbach: “Rabbinical Essays” Hebrew Union College Press; Cincinnati, OH (1951). **“There can be no doubt that in pre-exilic times [before the Babylonian captivity], the Israelites reckoned the day from morning to morning. The day began with the dawn and closed with the end of the night following it, i.e., with the last moment before the dawn of the next morning. The very description of the extent of the day in the biblical account of creation as given in Gen 1:5 presupposes such a system of reckoning the day, for it says: ‘And it was evening and it was morning, one day.’ This passage [Gen 1: 5] was misunderstood by the Talmud. It was correctly interpreted by R. Samuel b. Meir (1100-1160) when he remarked: “It does not say that it was night time and it was day time which made one day; but it says ‘it was evening,’**

which means that the period of the day time came to an end and the light disappeared. And when it says ‘it was morning,’ it means that the period of the night time came to an end and the morning dawned. Then one whole day was completed.” ”

The original KJV Wording in Genesis 1:5b reads as follows:
“And the evening and the morning were the first day.”

Let’s note that Scripture does not state that “night (H3915) and morning” constitute a day. **Gen 1:5 simply gives definitions for the four components of each 24 hour “day” by first telling us that “the Light was called Day” [the first 12 hours] and “the darkness was called Night” [the second 12 hours which makes up a full 24 hour period].** Then the last part of Gen 1:5 gives a further set of definitions for two smaller components within the 24 hour cycle. These are called “evening” and “morning” and they are named as **“part of the DAY”** because both the evening and the morning are a **mixture of Light and Night. Any part of the 24 hour DAY that has LIGHT is automatically defined as “belonging” to the “Day Season.”**

There is not one part of Gen 1:5 that tells us the first day of creation began with sunset (especially when there was no sun in the sky commissioned to give light until Day Four). Gen 1:5 simply defines the 4 components of every single 24 hours. At the beginning of creation, everything started with LIGHT ... and that’s exactly when our Creator wants us to begin our days – with LIGHT. This is exactly what the “morning” does! **It begins each new day with “light” – the “twilight” or the “break of day” or “day-break.”**

Remember: the evening and morning are part of the day, (known as the Day Season). Evening and morning can never be aligned with the Night Season. The Night Season is an absence of “light” from the “sun.”

There is no Biblical proof for a “**midnight-to-midnight day**,” (which is totally from Rome), or a “**sunset-to-sunset day**” (which is totally Jewish from Babylon)! There is NOTHING of the sort! All of this is only tradition! Clear Biblical proof demonstrates that a day always begins with the twilight at dawn. Yes, a new day starts with the first dawning light from the sun in the morning! When we wake up in the morning, every morning, we start a new day!

YHWH is a logical Elohim. Let us also use the logic He has given us to understand what has been presented is indeed Biblically accurate & very correct.

- 1) Does it make logical sense for a day to begin at sunset, at a time when man has finished his daily labor?
- 2) Is it logical for a new day to begin at a time when man is exhausted from his daily work?
- 3) Does it make sense for a day to begin at night after the day has died out? The night time is a time for sleep ... not new beginnings!
- 4) Does it make sense for a fresh, new day to begin when mankind, and creation as a whole, goes to sleep? Absolutely not!
- 5) On the other hand, does it not make much more sense that a day begins at dawn for daily new beginnings?
- 6) Does it not make more sense for a day to begin at dawn, when most life forms on this earth awake for a fresh start to a bright, new day? Absolutely!
- 7) ...If you can't figure it out, listen for the birds – because they know! Our Creator has given us another witness in nature. The Birds! They begin to sing with the first light of Dawn, when the Creator's day really begins.

What about the start of the Biblical month and the Biblical year? Most Christians that know anything about the Scriptures, or Jewish beliefs, do know the Jews follow the moon to calculate their Biblical month and the Biblical year. Because of this, most make

the assumption (and believe) the Biblical month and the Biblical year really is based on the moon. Is that what Scripture says or is this also based on man's tradition?

Here is a shocking statement that can be found under website of wikibooks: https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Hebrew_Roots/New_Moon

“There is zero scriptural evidence for sighting new moons to determine the beginning of new months. It is based 100% on teachings within the Talmud.”

Let's remember, the pagans began their days with looking to the sun. They also began their months by looking to the moon. YHVH's calendar commencements do not follow the ways of the pagans by looking to the sun or the moon for calculation of His worship times.

(Do note, not looking to the heavenly bodies to calculate worship statutes is given in two very strong commands from Moses. If his commands were disregarded, the penalty was death by stoning. His commands were very clear – not to look to the sun, moon, stars or any of the heavenly host, lest these be served and worshipped. These commands can be found in Deuteronomy 4:19 and chapter 17:2-4).

There is nothing more offensive to YHVH than the mixing of these profane, idolatrous practices with His sacred worship. We must beware of falling into idolatry while professing to worship our Creator.

Sunday Christians honor their day of worship on “Sunday” – unknowingly giving homage to the “sun god” from ages past. Most Sabbath Keepers honor the beginning of their worship days beginning with the sunset the night before Sabbath, paying homage to the “sun god” from ages past. Most Sabbath Keepers and most Feast Keepers, in addition to honoring sunset, also honor the moon for the Biblical month-and year-start, thus paying homage

to both, the sun-god and the “goddess of the moon,” by looking for the sliver moon. I like to emphasize that this is being done unknowingly, because they have been taught such falsehood from a young age.

Since people turned away from what the Scriptures teach, they have created much confusion, as some claim that the month starts with the first sliver of the moon, others say at the full moon, another group thinks it starts with a conjunction. The truth is that the beginning of a month, or the beginning of the year has absolutely nothing to do with the moon at all.

It is interesting that the Scriptures never mention “**crescent**” or “**sliver**” in regard to sighting the moon in the sky. There is not one place in the original Hebrew Scriptures where YHWH points directly to the moon as an authority over Biblical Time. If a teaching is not found in Scripture, why should it be practiced as if it were there?

One source claims that certain sects developed a procedure that involved the sighting by two witnesses. This is believed to be correct by many today. Today this sect is called the “Karaites.”

The source of the practice looking to the moon is from the Mishna, NOT THE TORAH!

The pre-Islamic moon deity called Allah is symbolized by a crescent moon and star. The origin comes from the Hindu culture and the worship of Shiva. The crescent moon was also venerated in the Egyptian culture with the moon below a solar disc. Because Christianity sprang from Alexandria Egypt, these objects in the sky were also adopted for veneration. (*Emphasis supplied.*)

<http://www.fossilizedcustoms.com/sightedmoonorigins.html>

Islam’s most prominent symbol is the crescent moon, Shiva’s symbol. The pre-Islamic Arabs worshipped 360 sky-deities, one of

which was the “greatest” called “Allah.” Allah is represented by the crescent moon, and was the most favored of all deities by Muhammad’s clan. The 360 deities means that the Kaaba was originally a Hindu shrine dedicated to the worship of the host of heaven.

YHVH is not represented by any kind of symbol. AND ... certainly He is not using the objects seen in the sky to determine His appointed times! We are YHVH’s body. Tradition is like an infection in the body. Once established and untreated, it spreads to infect the whole body. Rather than following tradition, we need the truth of the Scripture!

There is no indication in any Old Testament Scriptures for a lunar month of 28-29.5 days, or 13 months in a year approximately every 3rd year, or seven times in a 19 year cycle.

At creation, the 12 months had 30 days each. The year had 360 days. There are no Torah instructions for beginning any month with any phase of the moon. The change took place during the year 701 BC, which we know as the Hezekiah’s Sundial-event when the shadow on the Sundial went 10 degrees backwards! (See Isaiah 38:7-8.)

The equinox is the “one day” focal point each year that plays a part in marking the last day of YHVH's Biblical year (or the last day of winter in the northern hemisphere). The first day of the New Year will be determined after the equinox is verified by a visual sign.

The moon has absolutely no involvement in the equinox event the way the earth, sun and stars do. Light is also involved in the equinox, of which the moon has nothing to offer.

The change started while Judah was in Babylonian captivity. **Upon return to Jerusalem** (536 BC), Judah was to leave the pagan

ways behind. Did they? The “so called Jews” of today (Orthodox/Messianic etc.) are still gazing at the moon just as Babylon, Egypt and other pagan nations have been practicing for eons of time.

I repeat, if a person researches into **THE HEBREW TEXT**, the words – “**new moon**,” as found in our present “received text” Scriptures, **CANNOT BE FOUND**. The words “**new moon**,” **promoting allegiance given to the moon, simply do not exist in the ORIGINAL Hebrew script**. The words “**NEW MOON**” have been infused into our modern Scriptures. The Masoretic Rabbis saturated their belief patterns into their version of the Scriptures which is where we have received many editions of the Scriptures today.

When using an Englishman’s Concordance, for a search of every verse in the Old Testament using H2320 (chodesh), you will find 283 hits! 20 of those hits use the word “moon.” 263 hits in 225 verses use the word “month.” (Note: In several verses, the word “month” can appear from 2-5 times in one verse.)

In the Strong’s Concordance, when you search for “moon” or “moons” you’ll find 20 listings of H2320. Each one is incorrectly translated as either “moon” or “moons.” **Chodesh** [H2320] should be translated as “new month.” It should **never** be translated as “new moon.”

In the definition of the word “chodesh,” the English word “moon” has been mysteriously included. There is absolutely no evidence of any reference to the word “yareach” (moon) in the Hebrew word “chodesh” ([new] month or renewal).

The Hebrew word “chodesh” simply means “month” (H2320) or “new month/renewal” (from H2318). As mentioned before, there

are 20 instances in Scripture where the word “chodesh” has been erroneously translated into the English language as “new moon”!

- 1) **Whenever the word “chodesh” is translated as “moon” (*instead of month*) it is a gross mistranslation!**
- 2) **Satan has used this gross error to mislead Judaism and Christianity with regards to the Truth about YHWH's calendar and the beginning of His month.**
- 3) **Satan has led people to wrongly focus on the various phases of the moon to determine Yahusha's months and His Feast days!**
- 4) **Because of wrong preconceived ideas based on an allegiance to false religion, physical and spiritual Jews today use a calendar based on pagan premises!**
- 5) **As a result, people are trying to keep Yahusha's Feast days according to pagan reckoning.**
- 6) **By inserting the word “moon” for the translation of the word “chodesh,” Satan has deviously focused the attention onto the moon to calculate the months!**

If the translators would have translated the Hebrew word H2320 as “new month” instead of “new moon” that would have made a difference in understanding the commencement of YHWH's Biblical month today! However, there is no question that it was on purpose by Satan himself working through the leadership in Judaism.

The bottom line is that the Jewish calendar is not Scriptural. The ancient [pagan] Greeks recognized the visible new moon as the beginning of the month when they celebrated the “sickle of the new moon” with offerings and meals. This was also the case with the ancient Babylonians who worshipped the new moon as the goddess Isis, and had her wearing horns, which resembled the new moon.” (*Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, vol. 4, p. 639.)

Let's make one thing clear. That is the Talmud Has NO Authority over "the" Scriptures! We must stick with Scripture and stay away from the doctrines and teachings of man.

Let me remind you again that a very thorough and detailed study on this topic is available, if you contact the author of this book.



- In matters of salvation, we cannot trust any man, church, or denomination!
- There is only one we can trust, that is the Father Yahuwah and His Son Yahusha and their instructions, called Torah!
- BE PART OF HIS SET-APART PEOPLE!

Chapter 9 – Conclusion

Why am I telling you about my life and what I had learned from the Holy Scriptures? I am sure others have experienced much of the same and many even a lot worse things and learned many things. Each life is different. It is my desire for people to be encouraged to know that among a host of false gods and religions, there is only one true Elohim, who is in control. Remember religion is a man-made thing and is not Scriptural. I am interested that each one of us should find this true and living Elohim, who revealed Himself to old Israel as we read in Isaiah 43:10-12, where it states, **“You are My witnesses,” declares יהוה, (YHVH) “And My servant whom I have chosen, so that you know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no Ėl formed, nor after Me there is none. 11 “I, I am יהוה, (YHVH) and besides Me there is no savior. 12 “I, I have declared and saved, and made known, and there was no foreign mighty one among you. And you are My witnesses,” declares יהוה, “that I am Ėl.”** *(The Scriptures)*

I encourage everyone reading these lines to learn the basic lesson that this life is giving to us for only one purpose - to glorify the Creator, the Giver and Sustainer of life and to bring honor to His name.

Genesis 2:7 tells us, **“And יהוה (YHVH) Elohim formed the man out of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils breath of life.”** *(The Scriptures)*

Let's think about that for a moment. He is the one that sustains us by giving us health, strength, clean air, water and food. He makes our hearts pump. We must thank Him for all this. Doing His will pleases HIM and gives us satisfaction and purpose as well as an

entrance into His kingdom. He is the source of life. He is the one that calls the shots.

YHVH is the Boss, He is in charge and He established the rules by which man must abide if he wants to be happy, healthy and holy. YHVH alone must be honored and worshipped.

Look at the words He had the prophet Jeremiah in chapter 7:22-23 write down, **“I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices: 23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.”**

Life is a gift from the Great I AM. You get to open it every day. Don't waste one moment with non-essentials. Live it to the Creator's glory and **seek first His kingdom and righteousness than all the other things will be added unto you.** This is His promise! (*Matthew 6:33*)

Make it the goal, the law, the purpose of your life to seek first the kingdom of YHVH and His righteousness and to honor and to serve Him alone! You will never be sorry! For He Himself stated in 1 Samuel 2:30, **“them that honor me I will honor”** There is a purpose for you to be living, there is a future life to come, and there will be a resurrection and a reward for the good and the bad.

Here is the proof in John 5:28 and 29, **“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”**

This foregoing promise was made by the One that has the power to fulfill all the promises He makes. He is the One that is in control. He is the One that said in Revelation 1:8, **“I am the ‘Aleph’ and the ‘Taw’, Beginning and End,” says יהוה (YHVH) “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”** *(The Scriptures)*

All the false doctrines that I have mentioned in the previous chapters, may be an inconvenient message for some people, but all the man-made doctrines and teachings need to be uncovered and forsaken immediately as they are an abomination and lead people to condemnation.



Inconvenience is something that is “not suited to your comfort, purpose or need. It is a hindrance, causing trouble or difficulty.”

Today as an example we trust the politicians, the physicians and the preachers. We actually sell our freedoms to the politicians, our bodies to the doctors and our souls to ministers of the various churches and denominations. This is the convenient thing to do.

When most people get sick, they immediately go to the doctor - believe whatever he may tell them, and swallow anything he may prescribe. After all, do they not pay him a liberal fee, and is it not his business to understand their physical ailments, and what to prescribe to make them well, without their being troubled with the matter?

Most of us are trusting our physicians so much that we are willing to sign our name on a sheet of paper before a specific treatment, which may say the following: “With these procedures there may be serious infections, including but not limited to Hepatitis and HIV which can lead to organ damage and permanent impairment.

Further transfusion related injuries may result in impairment of lungs, heart, liver, kidneys and the immune system. There may be severe allergic reaction, **potentially fatal**. Then it states: “I understand that no warranty, guarantee, or assurance has been made to me as a specific result, outcome or a cure.” Many people probably don’t read this carefully before they sign, even though they could be signing their death certificate.

Many times, other alternative treatments or natural remedies may be available that may be more promising, but that takes too much time and it is too inconvenient to figure them out and to apply them. Also, prevention should be practiced, but again it is inconvenient, because it may involve changes in our eating habits, and lifestyle, etc.

The Creator has given another piece of advice that is totally ignored by most. It is found in Exodus 15:26, “... **If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of YHVH thy Elohim, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* YHVH that healeth thee.**” Again, that is considered inconvenient. We would rather go our own way and trust in man instead of the Creator.

It is taught and believed that medical doctors have studied various diseases in school, and also through experience and research. So, it is assumed they must know what they are doing. There are some Bible believing doctors out there that do some amazing work with technology and even manmade drugs that are sometimes necessary until we get back on track with right eating, right praying and living.

The same applies even more to our spiritual well-being and our salvation. Many are trusting their salvation to ministers of various

churches. They give their tithes and offerings to pastors for studying the Scripture for them, that they personally need not be troubled? Is it not the business of the spiritual leaders to tell them what they must believe, and to settle all doubtful questions of theology without special investigation on the part of the individual?

It takes time and it is inconvenient to study Scripture for yourself in order to find out what the truth is. YHVH is not pleased that people depend on others for their spiritual life and salvation, for we read in Jeremiah 17:5, “**Cursed [be] the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm...**” and then 2 Timothy 2:15 everyone is admonished to: “**Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**” There is a curse pronounced on those that make flesh their arm.

We are dealing with things that pertain to our salvation. It takes a desire, an interest and then an effort to seek biblical truth. After truth is discovered it requires a drastic step to cut old habits and practices. Most people are reluctant to do that. They have been programmed a certain way from early childhood and it is inconvenient to prove these things and to make changes. The other concern is the fear of losing friends and family.

Joshua challenged his people in chapter 24:15 saying, “**choose you this day whom ye will serve...**” We cannot accept and believe everything we hear or have been taught, but we must do our own research. Take Scripture as one unit starting in Genesis 1:1 through Revelation 22!

Scripture gives us only two options, two absolutes, from which we must choose every day. We either bend ourselves to fit the truth of Scripture, and thus walk in obedience OR we bend the truth of Scripture to fit ourselves and thus walk in disobedience.



Yahusha stated in John 14:15, “**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**”

My love towards Him involves decision and action on my part, to demonstrate that I love Him. Notice the following passage. Here we are being told: “**By this we know that we love the**

children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous” (1 John 5:2-3).

In another place it states: “**And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked”** (1 John 2:3-6).

If I truly *love* Him, **I will stop disobeying** His Word, I will begin to obey Him. After all, “obedience” is the only proof that we love HIM. This means that **I must bend my lifestyle to fit His Words**. But this is in opposition to the fleshly nature and to common religious teaching.

There are some activities that delight our Heavenly Father. Other things, however, the Father considers detestable, and an abomination. He has forgiven me of all my past sins, but He tells me that if I love Him, I must bend my lifestyle to walk in His Law (Torah) with the statutes and judgements. That simply means:

- No more adultery, fornication, sexual impurity;
- No more murder, stealing, idolatry or gossiping.
- No more lying, covetousness, or hatred.

- No more Halloween lanterns, Easter bunnies, or Christmas trees. No more unclean animals to eat, such as bacon, ham, or pork chops.

Are these restrictions, **or** is He setting me free from bondage to these sins?

Let's also remember the words of the prophet Samuel to King Saul in 1 Samuel 15:22-23, **"Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion [is as] the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness [is as] iniquity and idolatry."**

Some people teach that obedience is legalism! That is not true and does not make sense. Did you ever give it thought that if obedience is legalism then our Savior Yahusha was the biggest legalist of all time? He kept every commandment, never sinned once. He said, **"I always do those things that please him"** (John 8:29). **"He was obedient to death"** (Philippians 2:8). He was the only one that ever kept the Torah, that He Himself gave to the children Israel on Mount Horeb, perfectly, obedient in every detail. He expects the same of His followers, for He stated in John 15:14, **"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."**

There is, and always has been, a fundamental, irreconcilable incompatibility between the followers of Yahusha and the world. Their thought is out of harmony with all the world's philosophies. Genuine faith in Messiah entails a denial of every worldly value. Biblical truth contradicts all the world's religions. Scripture truth is therefore antithetical to virtually everything this world admires. These are two different spirits and two different values.

Yahusha told His disciples, **"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the**

world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you" (John 15:18-19).

As we continue to choose to obey His instructions, the Father opens our eyes further, to see and understand from the Scriptures, that Yahusha Messiah is the Word of the Father. This shows clearly that our Messiah, before He was made flesh (John 1:14), also appeared to Abraham (Gen 15:1), and gave all the Commandments to Moses (Numbers 15:31).

We hear in many pulpits that claim that the 'Old' Testament commandments are not a vital part of the 'New' Covenant. These men claim the 'Old' Testament commandments are 'done away with!'

When you read the Scriptures for yourself, you will see in Scripture that it was Messiah Himself, the Word of YHVH, who wrote the Ten Commandments with His own finger, and gave all the commandments including the statutes and judgments to Moses!

Now I must reason, **"If I truly love Yahusha, by keeping *all* of His Commandments, these must include the 'Old' Testament Commandments, with only the changes as outlined in the Book of Hebrews!"**

As you study His Word, you see that He invites all to enter into His Everlasting [New] Covenant with Him, but you and I must choose to come on His terms, and not our own.

I must rest the Seventh day, and observe the Father's Feast days! It is either the King's schedule, and the King's Appointed Times, or my own schedule, from which I must choose.

It is at this point that many will separate you from their company, both family and friends alike. It seems that many have not read the

Scriptures for themselves, but have chosen a much easier and convenient path.

The Messiah, as the Word of YHVH, tells me that *if* I want to avoid committing iniquity, which is disobedience to His Word, I will love to follow His instructions.

As I choose day-by-day not to disobey the Words of Messiah, I find my familiar world is being turned upside down! Only by the Father's grace can I maintain a humble heart to be obedient to His Word!

I discover that evolution is nothing but a myth, an old wife's tale, a disjointed collection of statements void of any logic, hoisted upon those who do not investigate every matter for themselves! Creation is but a subset of a great, master plan of the Creator Himself!

As I began to make changes in life, old friends and family members begin to complain about my new lifestyle. I tell them **my secret — that I have chosen to love Yahusha, the King of kings and the Master of Masters!**

These words are as goodly pearls, diligently sought, and dug from deep within the field, a prophetic of entrance into the Kingdom. They are as pearls cast before the deaf ears of those who choose to remain wallowing in the mire of this world, of those who do not know the identity of the WORD of YHVH.



One by one, the old friends fall away, and I am now being despised and avoided, a castaway from the world. The sorrow and pain begins to grow alongside the loneliness.

Look at the prophet Jeremiah. He was called as a teenager to be a mouthpiece for YHVH and sent to give Judah the last warning before He cast them out of the

land, disseminating the nation and sending them into captivity in the pagan kingdom of Babylon. Jeremiah, was a faithful, God-fearing man, called to tell Judah that, because of their unrepentant sin, YHWH had turned against them and was now prepared to remove them from the land at the hands of a pagan king.

Because of his message he was hated by the priests and prophets (Jeremiah 26:8), by his friends (chapter 20:10), by his family (chapter 32:6-8) and he was even told not to marry (Chapter 16: - 2). He was all alone. So was our Messiah. In the end all His disciples deserted Him and on the Cross (stake) He was surrounded by evildoers and mockers.

At one point in His ministry, which is recorded in John 6, many people left Him because of what He said. Here are His words in the verses 53-54 ... **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 “Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”**

This was a hard saying for those who heard it and He asked His disciples: **“Will ye also go away?”** But Peter spoke up for the other disciples with the words: **“Master, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. 69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.”**

In another place He said in Matthew 10:34-38 ... **“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a man's foes [shall be] they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he**

that taketh not his cross (stake), and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”

Yahusha is cautioning His disciples that His gospel will not cause peace. In fact, it will cause division, even among families, because some will believe and some will not. Father and sons, mothers and daughters, many will disagree about his teachings, and this will lead to contention, and possibly even war. He warns those people that are unwilling to follow Him despite the views of their family are not worthy of Him.

In Matthew 16:24 Yahusha said, **“If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross (stake), and follow me.”**

What a message of inconvenience for people that will make the decision to follow their Creator and Savior and, in that process, sever their relationship with family and friends. That could be discouraging and depressing. However, it will be much more depressing when people will be standing before the judgment seat of Yahusha and hear the words, **“I never knew you, depart from me, ye that are without Torah (ye that work iniquity)”** (Matthew 7:22-23)!

Becoming a follower of the Hebrew Messiah Yahusha Ha Mashiach, will cost you something in this life. Actually, everything will change. You will experience many attacks by Satan, because Yahusha will become the center of your Life. All the people, comforts, and things in your life will become subservient to Him and His will for you. There will be trouble, trial, hardship and inconveniences that will come along with your decision. But it will be worth it according to Scripture:

Mark 10:29-30 ... **“And Yahusha answered and said, Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or**

sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, 30 But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions (*together with persecutions – LEB Bible*); and in the world to come eternal life."

May these words in Revelation 3:10 be spoken to each one of us, **"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."**

Our eternal salvation **IS NOT** connected to the membership of any Christian church, denomination or religion in general. On the contrary such association is most of the time a hindrance to find the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to find the true Messiah Yahusha Ha Mashiach.

It was the case during Messiah's ministry and it is the case today. Look at Matthew 23:13, **"But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in."**

The same is recorded in Luke 11:52 **"Woe to you learned in the Torah, because you took away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered."** (*The Scriptures*)

Notice that it was possible for the spiritual leaders to shut up the kingdom of heaven by their man-made teachings and doctrines. So, would it be possible today that religious leaders are keeping their members out of the kingdom of Heaven, even though they are promising them salvation as long as they are part of their congregation?

Many people that are part of a religious denomination desire eternal life without sickness, stress, sorrows, disappointments and death. But we want, (and must make sure), that this hope is not a false hope, built on false premise - but a hope that someday will come true!

Most people today, no matter what denomination, faith or religion they are part of, believe that their church or religion is the only true group. Remember there are over 41,000 of Christian denominations, all feeling that only they have the true hope that assures one the gift of eternal life.

Here are a few examples:

What does Catholicism teach?

“For it is through Christ’s Catholic Church ALONE, which is the universal help toward salvation, that the fullness of the means of salvation can be obtained.” (*Catholicism the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on Ecumenism*)

“Infallible guidance in interpreting the Bible comes from the church.” (Meaning the Catholic Faith.)

Is this conviction or statement of the Catholic Church based on a “Thus saith Scripture” or is it based on traditions and promises of man?

Mormonism

“This church is the only true and living church on the face of the whole earth.” “There is no salvation outside the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.”

Again the question: is their statement of belief based on a “Thus saith YHVH” or is it based on opinions and teachings of man?

Jehovah's Witness

"We acknowledge as the visible organization of Jehovah on earth the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society." "Outside the true Christian congregation what alternative organization is there? Only Satan's organization ..." (*Watchtower*, April 15, 1939 p. 125 and March 1, 1979 p. 24.)

The Jehovah's Witnesses are convinced that they are the visible organization of YHVH and everyone else is damned, but do they have a "Thus saith YHVH" for their stand or is it wholly based on the opinions of man?

International Church of Christ

"There is one church! There is one God. There is one kingdom of God and this is it!" "We're the last hope the world has." (*Gordon Ferguson, Radical Men, Radical Times Hosea Radical Love of God, Manila World Leadership Conf., Aug. 1994.*)

What about this denomination? What gives them the assurance that they are it? Do they have a "Thus saith the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" or are they basing their conviction on what some people have told them?

Seventh Day Adventists

"Since we keep all Ten Commandments and have Ellen White as our prophet, we Seventh-day Adventists are The Remnant Church!"

Here are some words from Ellen White: "In my books, the truth is stated, barricaded by a 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

(*Adventist Review*, Oct. 1, 1992, p. 23.) "The local (SDA) church becomes the 'port of entry' to the kingdom of God."

(*Adventist Review*, June 2, 1988, p. 9.) "... when we backslide from the church, we also backslide from God."

Here is a statement by Dan O'Fall, a SDA evangelist: "The entire world is deceived today. Truth has been covered up with error. The Protestant churches have accepted the teaching of the antichrist...And so most (non-SDA) church members are in mortal danger, but don't know it. ... the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the world's last hope for rescue ..." (*Adventist Review*, 1994, pp. 16, 18.)

What about the members of the SDA denomination? Does that membership guarantee me eternal life? Do these people have a "Thus saith the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob"? I used to believe it until I came to the conviction that this is not the case!

Was I truly redeemed as I believed for so many years and others still believe to this day or can we speak about a serious deception based wholly on man's promises?

The Philadelphia Church of God

"The "household" is God's Family or true church. It's the family that God rules. This is God's inner circle--His very elect ... we are God's only true representative on this earth." (The Philadelphia Trumpet, p.1 May 1995.)

Living Church of God

"LCOG is the true Church of God which teaches and practices Apostolic Christianity!"

What about these two denominations? What gives them the idea and confidence that they are the only true Church? Do they have a "Thus saith YHVH"?

Cooneyites

"We are not following some way founded in the early 1900's, but it goes clear back to Christ." "Some people say there are other fellowships that can be alright. No, there can't be, because there is

only one body that Jesus had." "People can come to Christ only through us."

Iglesia ni Cristo

"Ours is the Church Christ founded." "Thus, outside the Church of Christ no one can be considered a true believer." (*PASUGO, September/October 1981, p. 9.*)

Here are two more organizations with a strong conviction that salvation can be obtained only by being a member of their group! What is their conviction based on?

Church of God in Christ, Mennonite

"God has made no covenant with any other church."
(*John Holdeman, A History of the Church, p. 20.*)

This is a very strong statement and they are very sincere and confident that they are correct. However, what gives them this assurance? Did YHVH give them this promise or was it given by a man?

Judaism

"Jews believe that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the one and only true God, the Creator of the universe. He entered into a covenant with the ancient Israelites, marking them his Chosen People, giving them a mission to spread the gospel of salvation to the rest of the world."

They obviously possess the truth of salvation! They have the word from Yahusha himself, when he said to the Samaritan woman in John 4:22 "salvation is of the Jews." And Paul states in Romans 3:2 "unto them were committed the oracles of Elohim."

Could these promises be conditional?

The Islam

The Muslims claim that Islam is the only true religion that will guarantee a person eternal life and to enter paradise. The final Prophet of Islam is reported to have said, "Any one who says: There is no God but Allah, and dies holding that (belief) will enter paradise."

In Qur'an 5:3 it states: "This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion."

Qur'an 3:19 "The only religion approved by God is Islam (Submission)."

Then Qur'an 3:85 "If anyone desires a religion other than Islam, never will it be accepted of Him."

In addition, there are hundreds of different pagan religions like Buddhism, Hinduism, Shintoism, Taoism, Druidism, Shamanism, Wicca, Asatru, Neo-paganism, Eclectic paganism, and traditional Native American religions etc. all are claiming to enter into some life after death!

Confusion? We probably agree that most people, which are part of these religions or Christian denominations, are sincere and mean well, but they have been taught error. Not only that, they are so convinced that they are right that they only have the truth that leads to eternal life, that most of them will shun or condemn anyone that does not agree with them, especially when they leave the church.

It has to be obvious that all these 41,000 plus groups and denominations cannot be right, because there can be only one absolute truth, one true hope of eternal life! The question of course

is **“What is the absolute truth, who is correct?” Whose hope of receiving eternal life is genuine?**

Take the Scripture, starting in Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22 and study it. Don't separate it into the Old and New Testament but rather see these divisions as the 1st Witness and the 2nd Witness. This distinction is man-made. They belong together. It is one book. Someone said that in the Book of Revelation alone you will find over 600 verses from the so-called Old Testament. One must ask the question, how can Christianity claim to understand the Book of Revelation if they don't connect these 600 plus verses to the original Scriptures that were used as a reference? The Book of Revelation relies extensively on imagery and allusions from the Tanakh.



**You are very precious in
YHWH's sight!**

Let's rejoice that each one of us matters in the eyes of our merciful and loving Creator, because we were uniquely designed by Him. When I look back at my life, I can testify that the Heavenly Father is good and gracious. In Psalms 139:13 and 16 it says, **“For you created my**

inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.... Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”
(NIV)

Let's remember, before we were born, He had a plan for us according to Jeremiah 29:11, **“I know the plans that I have for you,” ... “plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.”**

“Your birth was no mistake or mishap, and your life is no fluke of nature. Your parents may not have planned you, but YHWH did. He was not at all surprised by your birth. In fact, He

expected it. Long before you were conceived by your parents, you were conceived in the mind of Elohim. He thought of you first. It is not fate, nor chance, nor luck, nor coincidence that you are breathing at this very moment. You are alive because Elohim wanted to create you!"

<https://www.faithgateway.com/you-are-not-an-accident/#.XCAbD1xKiUk>

For what purpose did He create us? Did He need us? His Word says that He created us for His glory in His image that we may reflect His image. That means that you and I are created to glorify the Creator through our words and actions for which someday everyone will have to give an account.

Every individual is allotted a period of time, a gift from YHVH! What we do with that time is our gift to HIM! This life has been given to you and me first to honor and to glorify the One that made us and that sustains us every moment. The other purpose is to prepare for eternity. There is an eternity. We can count on it, because He who is in control said so.

We had no input to be born, to choose our parents, the country, to be rich or poor, but we can choose where to spend eternity, either in a life of bliss or a life of eternal separation. However, very few people take this choice serious, even though this is the opportunity of a life-time!

**I am a stranger here, within a foreign land;
My home is far away, upon a golden strand;
Ambassador to be of realms beyond the sea,
I'm here on business for my King.**

**This is the message that I bring,
A message angels fain would sing:
"Oh, be ye reconciled,"
Thus saith my Master and King,**

"Oh, be ye reconciled to YHVH Elohim."

**This is the King's command: that all men, everywhere,
Repent and turn away from sin's seductive snare;
That all who will obey, with him shall reign for aye,
And that's my business for my King.**

**My home is brighter far than Sharon's rosy plain,
Eternal life and joy throughout its vast domain;
My Sovereign bids me tell how mortals there may dwell,
And that's my business for my King.**

(I changed one word of the original from God to YHVH Elohim).

I would like to make it clear that this book is not intended to be about me or to give honor to myself, but it is about the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who has given me my life, sustained and has protected me and my family through all these years. No one is truly worthy of His Mercy. Therefore, all the honor, glory and praise goes to Him and to His Son Yahusha Ha Mashiach. It is my desire that my family and I with all the redeemed will see Him when He returns in the clouds of Heaven to make an end to misery and death and eventually create a New Heaven and a New Earth where justice and righteousness will reign.

It is important to understand that we are not saved in groups or as a family, therefore, for this to become a reality each one of us, individually, that includes my own family, must choose to accept the Hebrew Messiah Yahusha as their personal Savior, repent of their past sins and walk in all His ways, keeping His commandments, cleaving unto Him, and serving with all their heart and with all their soul.

"He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of Elohim hath not life" (1John 5:12).

I am challenging everyone reading this book
With the words of Joshua in Chapter 24:15,
**“... choose you this day whom ye will serve;
whether the mighty ones which your fathers
served that were on the other side of the flood,
or the mighty ones of the Amorites, in whose
land ye dwell, but as for me and my house, we
will serve YHVH.”** (*Restoration Study Bible*)



I'M AN ISRAELITE FOLLOWING:
The Torah
Blowing the Shofar
Keep the weekly Sabbath and the yearly feasts
Clean Eating, Grafted In
Worship Praising
Awaiting Yahusha Messiah
In Blood Covenant
Ruach Filled, born again
A Scripture Believer from Genesis to Revelation
**I AM NOT A CHRISTIAN OR JEWISH,
I AM A TRUE ISRAELITE; YOU CAN BE ALSO!**

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