

Just for clarification: In my presentations I am using YHVH (Yahuah) instead of LORD, which is a title and not a name and I am using Yahusha instead of Jesus, which is not a translation but a transliteration and really has no meaning, neither in Hebrew nor in English! YHVH (Yahuah) and Yahusha are the actual original names and the true nature and character of them.

The Slippery
Slope Of
Assimilation





What is assimilation?

The general definition of assimilation is the process of two different things coming together to blend and, in some cases, create a new thing all together. However, that is a very simplistic understanding of the process itself as there are many different types of assimilation.









Here are some examples!



http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-assimilation.html

Color assimilation - This is perhaps one of the easiest models that demonstrates assimilation. If you mix a small amount of the color red with a large amount of blue, the red is assimilated into the larger mix.

Cultural assimilation - Cultural assimilation happens when two cultures or groups of people influence one another.

Linguistic assimilation - This type of assimilation often occurs when two neighboring groups of people or territories influence one another's' way of speaking.

Physiological assimilation - Physiological assimilation refers to the conversion of ingested nutrients into energy that fuels the body as a greater whole.

Statistical assimilation - Assimilation in a statistical capacity refers to the gathering data over time to in order obtain a clearer picture of that which is being studied.

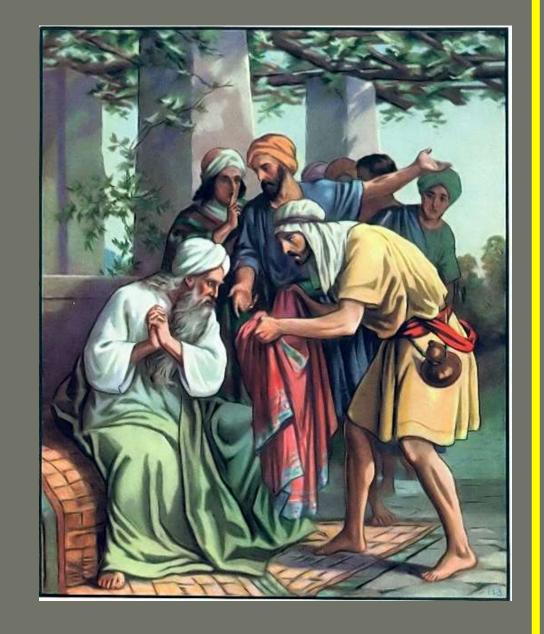
Religious assimilation - A perfect example of religious assimilation is the assimilation of Pagan customs and ceremonies into Christianity. When Christianity became the predominate religion, they took Pagan holy days such as Yule and the Spring Equinox, or Ostara, and claimed them as Christmas and Easter. They adopted traditions such as the decorating of fir trees at Christmas and the use of symbols of fertility at Easter such as Easter eggs.

Another example of religious assimilation would be that of the Romans and Greeks. When Rome conquered Greece, they adopted their Elohims; Zeus, ruler of the Elohims, became Jupiter, Poseidon, Elohim of the sea, became Neptune, Hades became Pluto, and the list goes on.

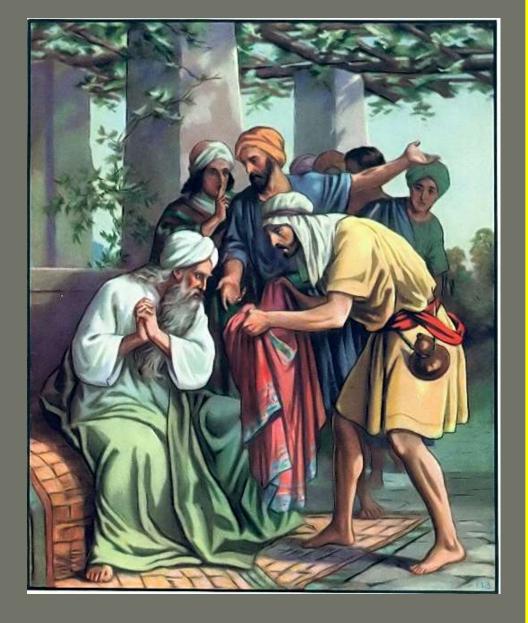




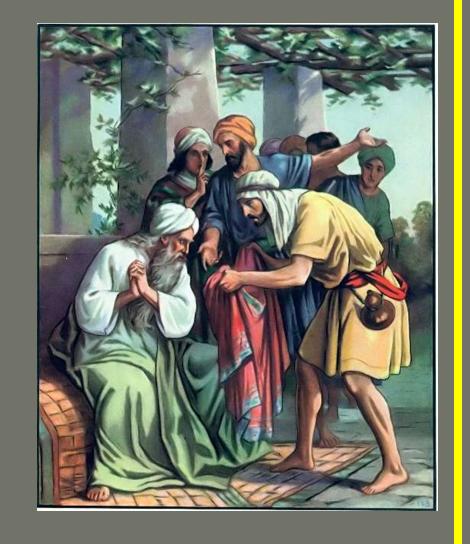
Scripture tells us about Jacobs ongoing travels with his family, and about a series of actions that seem to indicate that assimilation to the thoughts, practices, cultures, and peoples that surrounded them was starting to take effect. Despite Jacobs best efforts many in his family were becoming influenced by the ways and practices of the world that surrounded them as they passed through them.



A few major symptoms presented themselves to Jacob alerting him to the fact that there was a major problem in his house, and as the Elohimly patriarch that he was, he immediately took drastic steps to correct the problem.



When we meditate on this story, there is much we can learn and apply to our own lives when it comes to living a holy life unto the Elohim of Yisra'el, and how we can avoid the assimilation that can slowly take place over time in ways we don't readily notice, as we begin to conform to the practices and cultures of the peoples that surround us. Whether we recognize it or not, often we take a conscience or subconscious attitude that if everyone around us is doing it, and if it has general acceptance in our society, that is must be alright for us as well. Is that good reasoning?



Wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it.

Right is right even if only you are doing it.

Or, sometimes we may feel that because our wicked culture is everywhere we go and we see it everywhere, in the people, on TV, and in the movie theaters, on the web, and is woven into the culture of the country and the people that are all around us, and because we see that it is so pervasive, that we may let our guard down, or maybe even feel like resistance is futile and that we cannot prevail or escape it. But, that is exactly what the enemy hopes for. He wants to wear you down so much, and intimidate you so much that you give up, or at least wear you down to the point where you just don't fight any more.

But, we should never give up this fight! Through Yahusha The Messiah we have been given the tools and the power to resist, to fight it, and to prevail. But, until Yeshua returns it will be a constant battle, and one that we can win for ourselves, for our children, and for our community. But, it is a battle that we



we will loose if we don't actively resist the dark forces in the heavenly realm that are controlling the masses to engage in the constant attempt to gain access to us so that they may influence, change, assimilate and subdue us unto their worldly and wicked ways. Therefore, we should be most careful to guard our heart.

Proverbs (Mishlei) 4:23 - CJB cautions us with the following words, "Above everything else, guard your heart; for it is the source of life's consequences". It has been stated that assimilation amongst the Jewish people has served to further accomplish that which Hitler set out to do, the eradication of the Jewish nation and identity. I believe this saying is equally true for all believers in Yahusha The Messiah.



As I had mentioned in the beginning, the word "assimilate" can mean to absorb, incorporate, integrate, to become similar, or even identical. Cultural assimilation is the process by which a person or a group's language or culture come to resemble those of another group usually do to some social motivator. Now, when the people of Israel, Yahuah's people, do this it is detrimental, but when the Nations of the world look at Israel, its Elohim, and its ways and wants to be like them...assimilation is a good thing for them.



Speaking of the Torah and the ways that Adonai instilled in the people of Israel, Deuteronomy (Devarim) 4:6-8 states, "Therefore, observe them; and follow them; for then all peoples will see you as having wisdom and understanding. When they hear of all these laws, they will say, 'This great nation is surely a wise and understanding people.' For what great nation is there that has Elohim as close to them as Yahuah our Elohim is, whenever we call on him? What great nation is there that has laws and rulings as just as this entire Torah which I am setting before you today?"

Indeed, Israel's mission was and our mission today is to be a light unto the nations, and to be a nation of priests (cohenim) representing Yahuah, and teaching the Nations His ways. Our job is to assimilate the nations into the commonwealth of Israel (believers), as spoken of in Ephesians 2.



While we do this we are to maintain who we are, and not compromise our ways as the nations come in. Because some will come in and not feel comfortable or not like the culture and ways of Israel, they will attempt to assimilate believers unto their foreign ways, instead of the other way around. We probably all have seen this first hand on many occasions. This aspect of assimilation that is a negative thing for believers is described using the word "syncretism", which is the combining of different (often seemingly contradictory) beliefs, and is often used to describe the merger of several originally discrete traditions, religions, or theologies.





Often, this type of assimilation begins in <u>seemingly innocent ways</u> as unbelievers spend time with us and pressure us to make little changes here and there and over the years, or even in a much shorter amount of time, we find ourselves looking like the world, instead of us changing the world. Sometimes we think that if we look like the world we will change it somehow...but, that is not how it works. <u>In almost every instance we are the ones changing</u>, and the world remains as it is, or even becomes more



corrupt. Because of this we have to be cautious about the time we spend with those in this world who do not share our faith and convictions, and through various social motivators are actively seeking to make us more and more look and act like them.

In Genesis (*Bereshit*) 34:1 we have an indication that Dinah the daughter of Leah was starting to go down this road. It states there (KJV): "And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land." Sometimes it being translated as she going out

"to visit" the local girls is more literally translated "to **see"** the local girls. The context in which this word is used suggests that that she was doing more than simply sight seeing and looking at the people of the land. When it says she went out "to see the local girls", it is being used as an idiom to communicate she was developing a relationship and friendship covenant with them. She began to desire them. The saying communicates something different than just being acquaintances.

That must have been a concern to Jacob and possibly he quite possibly wasn't in agreement with it. This is just conjecture, but the beginning of Genesis 34:1 says, "And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob..." Why does the text not say "Dinah the daughter of Jacob",

Instead of "Dinah the daughter of Leah?" It has been proposed that Dinah was attributed to Leah, and not Jacob, because Dina's action was influenced by Leah, and not by Jacob. You know how it is, when someone's child does something bad or something questionable, sometimes people will joke about the child being their spouse's, instead of theirs and say something like; "Don't look at me, he's not my child".

In any case, when trying to protect our family from assimilating to the unElohimly Cultures of the world, both mother and father should be on the same page, and should take ownership for the righteousness of their children, otherwise it may turn out to be a loosing battle for our children.

The local girls that Dinah went out to see where children of idolaters, and idolaters themselves. Genesis 34:2 tells us that the people were of the "Hivites", who were idolaters. The scriptures share much about developing friendships and relationships with those who do not serve the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

2Corinthians 6:14-15 states 9CJB), "Do not yoke yourselves together in a team with unbelievers. For how can righteousness and lawlessness be partners? What fellowship does light have with darkness? What harmony can there be between the Messiah and Baal? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?"

1. Corinthians 15:33 states, "Don't be fooled. Bad company ruins good **character."** Ephesians 5:6-7 says, "Let no one deceive you with empty talk; for it is because of these things that YAH's judgment is coming on those who disobey him. So don't become partners with them!"

Unequally yoked!



Likewise, the Torah warns us about coming into covenant with people, whether it be a covenant of friendship, who don't obey Elohim and His commands. Exodus (Shemot) 34:12 says, "Be careful not to make a covenant with the people living in the land where you are going, so that they won't become a snare within your own borders".

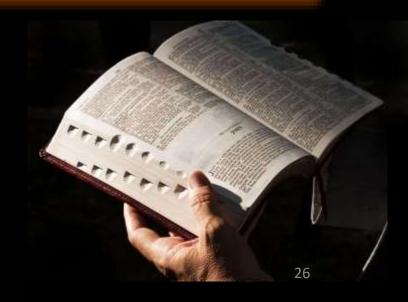


Something about the people of the land that lived around Dina attracted her. Sometimes, whether it be the culture, the customs, the people, their music, their clothing, etc., for whatever reason we become attracted to the ways and the things of those in the world (who don't serve YHVH), and we

find ourselves associating with them more and more.

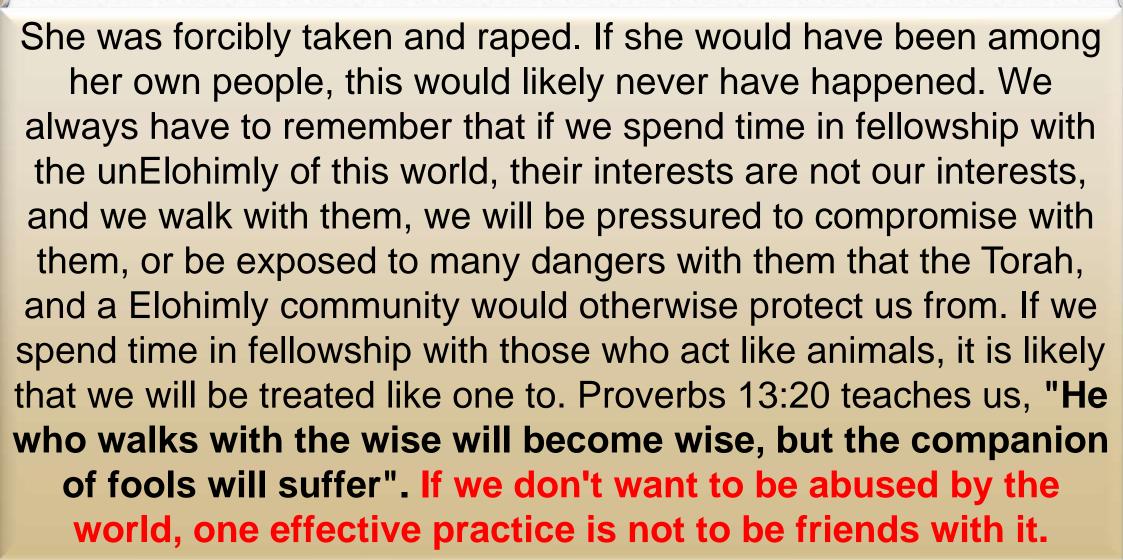
But Proverbs 24:1 tells us, "Don't be envious of evil people, and don't desire to be with them". 1. John 2:15-17 says, "Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him, because all that which is in the world: the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and its lust. But the one doing the will of Elohim abides forever".

We shouldn't presume that while we are making friendships with the world that we can also be friends with Elohim. James 4:4 (CJB) says, "You unfaithful wives! Don't you know that loving the world is hating Elohim? Whoever chooses to be the world's friend makes himself Elohim's enemy!"



Dinah's foolish decision to become friends with idolaters and with those not serving her Elohim, and to hang out among them led to terrible consequences. For it states in Genesis 34:2, "And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her."





Sometimes we may actually believe that those in the world who don't serve our Elohim <u>have our best interest in mind</u>. <u>But, we shouldn't be fooled</u>. The Torah has something to teach us about this. After, the incident in question occurred the people seemed like they wanted to make a covenant with Yisra'el, that they presented to be to their benefit. Genesis 34:8-10

"And Hamor communed with them, saying,
The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your
daughter: I pray you give her him to wife. 9.
And make ye marriages with us, and give your
daughters unto us, and take our daughters
unto you. 10. And ye shall dwell with us: and
the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye
therein, and get you possessions therein."



But, to sell this idea to his people, what does he turn around and say to them? Genesis 34:20-23 (KJV) says, "And Hamor and Shechem his son came unto the gate of their city, and communed with the men of their city, saying, 21. These men are peaceable with us; therefore let them dwell in the land, and trade therein; for the land, behold, it is large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters.

.... 22. Only herein will the men consent unto us for to dwell with us, to be one people, if every male among us be circumcised, as they are circumcised. 23. Shall not their cattle and their substance and every beast of theirs be ours? only let us consent unto them, and they will dwell with us."



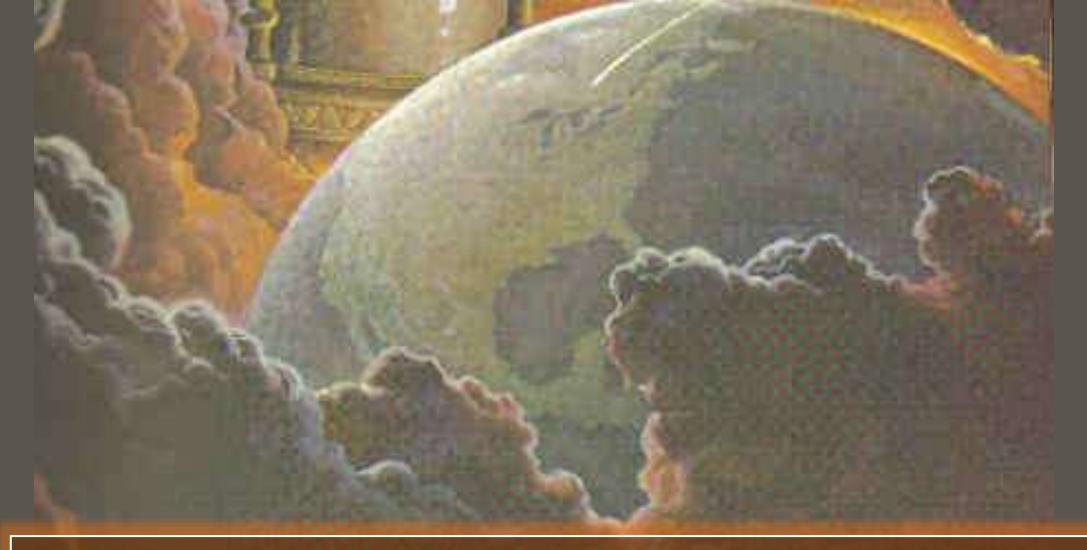




Although Hamor told Jacob that they would have freedom in the land and that it would be to their benefit because "the land will be available to you - you'll live, do business and acquire possessions here" what Hamor and Shechem said to their people was an entirely different thing of their true motivation. They said "Won't their cattle, their possessions and all their animals be ours?"







The world doesn't want to help us, it wants to use us and abuse us. We shouldn't have any delusions about that.

Of Elohimless people the scriptures say the following in 2.

Peter 2:18-19 (CEV): "They brag out loud about their stupid nonsense. And by being vulgar and crude, they trap people who have barely escaped from living the wrong kind of life.

19 They promise freedom to everyone. But they are merely slaves of filthy living, because people are slaves of whatever controls them."

Other than Dinah and her actions, we also see that Jacob's sons were beginning to act in ways that was not according to righteousness. For when they found out about what happened to Dinah, although they would have been justified in seeking justice in this case, they pursued that justice through unrighteous means. Genesis 34:13 (CEV) says, "Jacob's sons wanted to get even with Shechem and his father because of what had happened to their sister."

They essentially communicated to them that if they would get circumcised, that everything would be kosher and that they would become one people. But they used the holy covenant of circumcision, in a deceptive way as a means to destroy their enemies. This was a profaning of the covenant, as this was a sign meant to signify someone who had been set apart to the Elohim of Israel, and to an abundant life of Torah (instruction). But, instead this covenant sign was wielded as a weapon to bring death.

Jacob, the one being led by Yahuah's Spirit was very grieved by such an action, for they were using the Torah unlawfully. Perhaps this was do to how his sons saw the people of the lands use their laws and covenants in unlawful ways. Likewise, we must be careful to not associate with those who use



the "Law", or in Hebrew, the "Torah" in unlawful ways, otherwise it will be twisted into an instrument of death, and we may be influenced to do likewise. A literal version of 1Timothy 1:8 (CLB) teaches us, "And we know that the Torah (instructions) is good, if anyone uses it lawfully".

Another red flag in this story indicating Jacob's great concern for the moral decline of his family due to the surrounding people is found in Genesis 35:2. A literal version states, "And Jacob said to his house, and to all those with him, 'Put away the strange Elohims in your midst, and purify yourselves, and change your clothing".





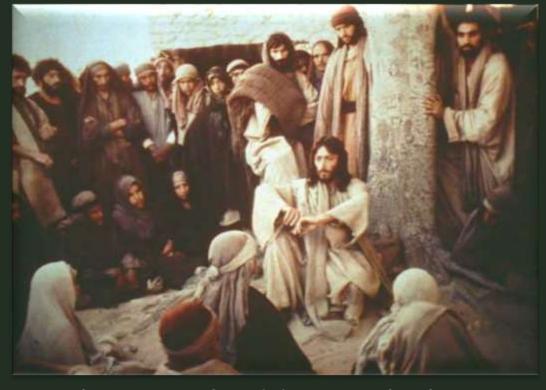


Apparently, his household, and those with him, had taken on the strange Elohims of the Elohimless people around them. Whether we realize it or not, when we make covenants of friendship with those who don't serve YHVH, we often begin to take on their strange Elohims. And, they don't have to be wooden, stone, or metal idols to be considered strange Elohims. Today often it is the Elohim of drugs, the Elohim of sexual immorality, and/or pornography, the Elohim of money, the Elohim of anger, the Elohim of selfishness, and the Elohim of false theology that their friends are into. There are many other false Elohims and mighty influences that are too numerous to list here, but you get the point.



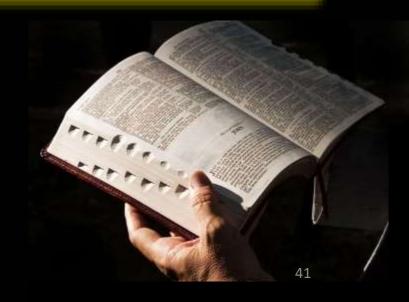


But, one may say, "But, Yahusha (aka Jesus) hung out and spent time with sinners". What we have to understand about Yahusha spending time with sinners was that he did this for the purpose of teaching them the truth and leading them to repentance.



It was not to spend time in fellowship, or to become buddies with them. Yahusha was very clear about who he considered to be his friends and family. In John 15:14 he said, "You are my friends, if you do what I command you".

And, in Matthew (Mattityahu) 12:50 he says, "Whoever does what my Father in heaven wants, that person is my brother and sister and mother." When we are given an opportunity to witness to someone who is not a believer, and we go to spend a significant amount of time with them, we have to be very cautious in doing so.



Jude (Yehudah) 1:23 states, "But save others with fear, snatching them out of the fire, hating even the garment being stained from the flesh". We shouldn't allow ourselves to be placed into situations or an environment where we could be compromised. Instead, we should invite them into a safe and Elohimly environment where we can give them the message of the Good News.



Another interesting note that we find literally in the text is that they were not only instructed to get rid of their foreign Elohims, but they were also commanded to "change your clothes". Sometimes the effect that these false Elohims have had on our lives are so pervasive that they become even reflective in the clothing that we wear. Believe it or not, what someone wears can often tell you a little about what has crept into one's heart.

Worldly Clothing versus





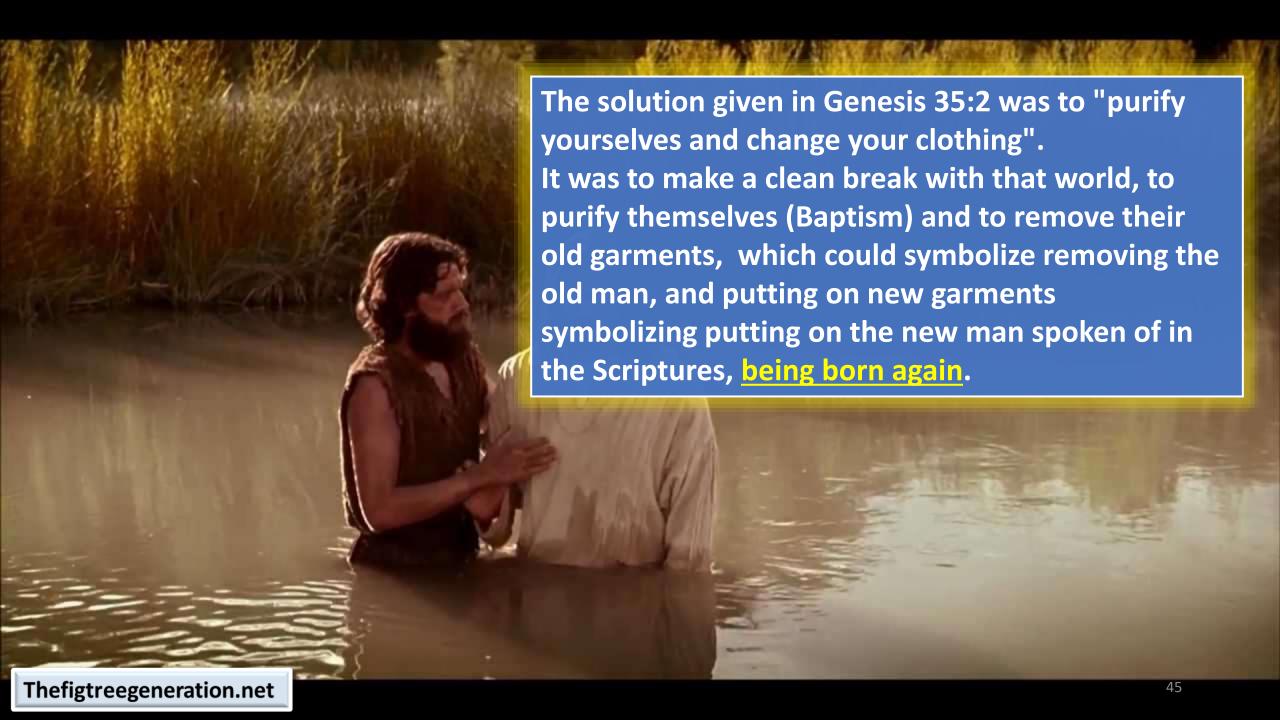




In the case of Jacob's household and those with him, it is surmised that their clothing as well as their jewelry were somehow connected to idolatry. The clothing may have contained specific type of patterns, weaving, or even images that were somehow connected to the worship of foreign Elohims. Whatever the case, we have to be cautious about putting ourselves in these type of environments because wickedness clings to us in ways we often don't understand.







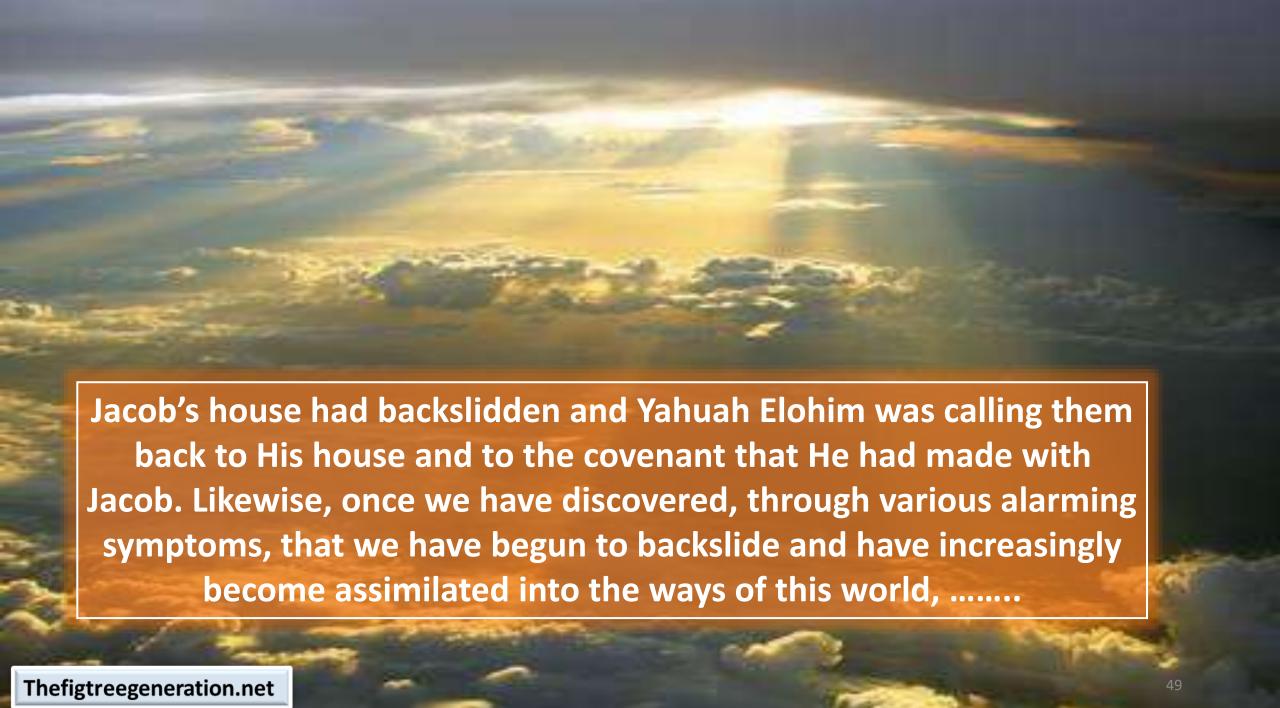
In Ephesians 4:17-24 Paul (Sha'ul) – (CJB) intimates this beautifully. He says, "Therefore I say this - indeed, in union with the Lord I insist on it: do not live any longer as the pagans live, with their sterile ways of thinking. Their intelligence has been shrouded in darkness, and they are estranged from the life of Elohim, because of the ignorance in them, which in turn comes from resisting Elohim's will. They have lost all feeling, so they have abandoned themselves to sensuality, practicing any kind of impurity and always greedy for more. ...

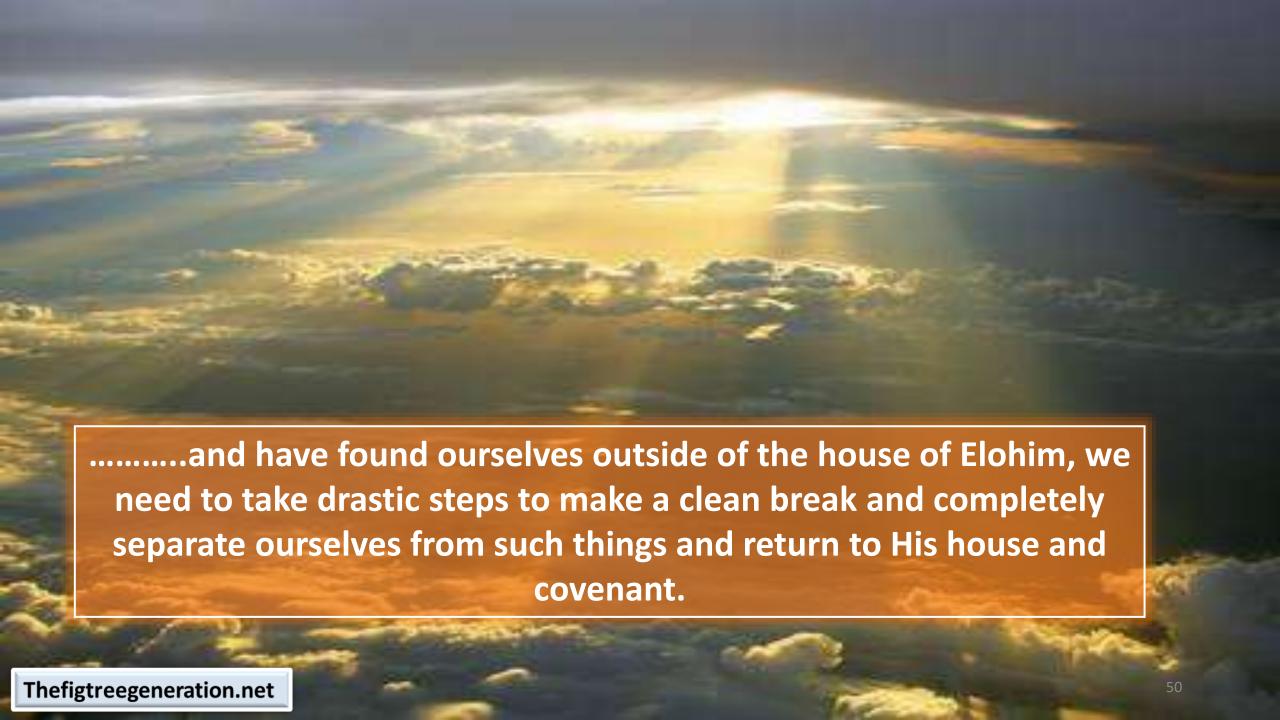
.....But this is not the lesson you learned from the Messiah! If you really listened to him and were instructed about him, then you learned that since what is in Yahusha is truth, then, so far as your former way of life is concerned, you must strip off your old nature, because your old nature is thoroughly rotted by its deceptive desires; and you must let your spirits and minds keep being renewed, and clothe yourselves with the new nature created to be Elohimly, which expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the t

The solution given by Elohim also included removing themselves from the source of ungodliness that was assimilating them. Genesis 35:1 states (KJV), "And Elohim said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto Elohim, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother." This is a powerful statement YHVH made to Jacob and his



As we read back in Genesis 28:13-19, Bethel was the place that Yahuah's covenant was confirmed with Jacob. The Hebrew name "Beit-El" means "The House Of Elohim". Elohim called him to return there.





That was then, **But what** About today Christianity?



Have you ever wondered why Christians do what they do for church every Sunday morning? Why they keep the first day of the week instead of the 7th day as Scripture teaches. Why do people "dress up" for church? Why does the pastor preach a sermon each week? Why are there pews, steeples, choirs, and seminaries?



Are these the results of assimilation to the world?



Very early in the history of Christianity, paganism was assimilated by the Church of Rome to form a false apostate church, clearly identified as the Harlot of Revelation 17. Elohim tells his people to come out of this false religious system:



It states in Revelation 18:4 "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues."

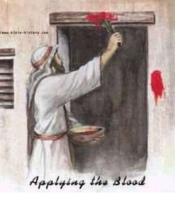
Remember this is a voice from Heaven!

The Protestant Reformation was a response to the call of Yahuah to separate from the Apostate Church of Rome. Even though Protestant churches separated from Rome, rejecting Papal authority, the Roman Catholic priesthood, and a ritualistic, works-based system of salvation, other aspects of Roman Catholicism that had its origins in paganism remained.





One of these aspects relates to the true Biblical Holy Days, the Appointed Times of Yahuah, that provide the prophetic framework and timetable for Elohim's master plan of redemption: the true Biblical Sabbath (not Sunday); the true Passover (not Easter); Feast of Unleavened Bread; the true **Pentecost** (Shavuot) – (not Pentecost as observed by Christianity today, which does not follow the Biblical Calendar); Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah); Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur); and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).







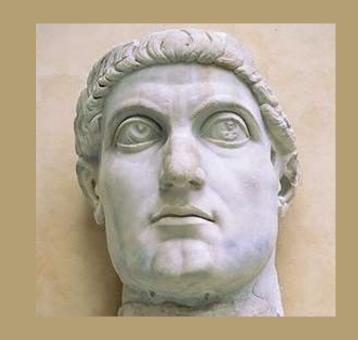




One of Satan's greatest accomplishments was the removal of Yahuah's Holy Days and replacement with pagan holidays. Christians have been deceived into following pagan holidays and thinking they are Biblical. As a result, Satan has greatly obscured the truth about Elohim's prophetic pattern, framework, and timetable and robbed believers of much more fully understand His master plan of redemption and the beauty and precision of how it has been and continues to be fulfilled. Yahuah's entire prophetic calendar has been stolen away from believers.



The man used by Satan to accomplish the removal of Yahuah's Appointed Times was the Roman Emperor Constantine, an avowed sun-Elohim worshipper, fulfilling Daniel's prophecy in chapter 7:25 regarding the person who desire to changed Elohim's Appointed Times and commandments!

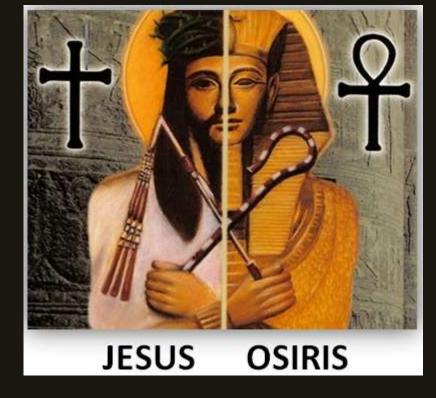


In the 300s, the Roman Emperor Constantine established the Church of Rome, uniting pagans and Christians into one church, a false system that corrupted Biblical truth by its assimilation of paganism. Throughout the centuries, more and more unbiblical traditions, doctrines, rituals, etc. have been added. Wherever the Church of Rome has spread, it has allowed the absorption of native pagan beliefs and practices, rather than teach pure Biblical truth and separation from paganism.

Yahuah ordained the Biblical Sabbath and Biblical Holy Days as a sign for his chosen people. The purpose of His Appointed Times is to point to His Messiah, Yahusha. The prophetic pictures, patterns, and timetable of Elohim's plan of redemption for humanity are revealed by the Biblical Holy Days and provide solid irrefutable proof that Yahusha is the Messiah promised.



The word of Elohim is clear that paganism is <u>not</u> to be mixed with Biblical truth. Believers need to separate from the paganism of Christianity and return to the solid Biblical (Hebraic) roots of their faith.



This includes learning about and understand the prophetic picture of the Holy Days that Yahuah ordained. We need to take into our hearts and minds the truth of what these prophetic days teach us.



The importance is in learning what the Biblical Holy Days and Sabbath teach us about the coming of the Messiah: the first time, and His future return. They teach us Yahuah's plan of redemption for humankind through the Messiah. They point to the one, true Messiah in every prophetic detail. They teach us the proper form of worship, how to live our lives in accordance with His will, and to understand the prophetic events which are leading up to His second Coming!

When we talk about assimilation we need to consider the practice of believers marrying unbelievers, meaning they are unequally yoked! They fail to raise their children in the way of their faith and simply fade away from what Scripture teaches. They abandon their strive for holiness and being in agreement with their Creator and Savior!

As a result, they assimilate to the influence of the world rather then working on sanctification from worldly influence. Believers marrying nonbelievers failing to adopt Elohimly principles in the home such as raising their kids in the way of YHVH.



When believers marry unbelievers, husbands are fading away from the command to love and honor their wives as Yahusha loved his bride. Being head of the household no longer means washing your wife with the word of Elohim to present her as a pure and holy bride, rather it means abusing her spiritually, mentally and physically to get her to submit to his so-called authority.



Because of **uniting** with the world many churches today seem more like a house of entertainment then a pillar and **foundation of truth.** If the church is the house of Elohim then why is it that His words are so scarce among many prominent pastors who give their weekly sermons which are filled with jokes and sathes then a reverence for Yahuah's word! Many Churches are adopting this term assimilation by engaging in worldly entertainment. And you wonder why so many Christian marriages are failing if we don't know how to conduct ourselves in Elohim's household, which is the assembly of the living Elohim. What makes us think we will be able to conduct ourselves in our own households?

Do we need a revival? It must begin in the household of Yahuah! Instead we have churches assimilating more and more to the conformity of this world, which in turn causes more Christian households to assimilate as well. However, if believers would strive to rid themselves from assimilation and conformity to this world then perhaps Christian America would look a bit different putting off the filthy rages of sin and putting on the full armor of Yahusha!





The moral roads on which we travel are slippery.

Our individual and collective actions inevitably affect others, ourselves, and our institutions. They shape the people we become and the kind of world we inhabit. They increase or decrease the likelihood, however slight, that certain futures will occur. Sometimes those consequences are positive, a giant leap for moral mankind. Other times they are detrimental or morally regressive. We should not try to avoid slippery terrain. That is not an option. Rather we should seek to understand and successfully navigate it.

Let's beware of the Slippery
Slope of Assimilation with the world!



1. John 2: 15-17 (KJV) "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 abideth forever."



Let's be reminded that Satan's strategy hasn't changed during the past 6,000 years. He is still out to destroy you, to destroy your family, destroy your faith and separate you from the Life giver Yahusha Ha Mashiach. If you are His follower, you are in a fierce war. In fact, you're in a life and death battle for your faith, for Satan is determined to shipwreck and destroy the faith of all of Yahuah's elect. And the stronger your faith, the greater will be his attack against you. As Yahusha stated in John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Therefore, "Cast not away ... your confidence (in Yahusha Ha Mashiach), which hath great recompense of reward" Hebrews 10:5





