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# RESTORATION TIMES

*Yahweh's Reign Is Coming to Earth*



# RESTORATION TIMES

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Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of the early New Testament Assembly.

This publication is made possible through the tithes and offerings of those who desire to see the truth of Scripture restored in our day.

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**COVER:**  
Depicting the future reign of Yahweh on earth.

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# Yahweh's Reign Is Coming to Earth!

by Alan Mansager



**T**o have the opportunity to inherit the Kingdom is an incredible prospect and the very reason man was given life on this planet.

What if Yahshua didn't come to start a new faith, as many teach and believe? What if His purpose was to create a spiritual awakening and renewal within His listeners that would open the way for a life in a future Kingdom that would never end? Well, this is precisely what His purpose was.

Through His sacrifice all people have access to the Kingdom. But it doesn't come without personal effort and sacrifice. We must be found worthy of such a reward by following His teachings, Luke 20:35, 2Peter 1:10.

## Qualified to Reign

A new president picks people to head various cabinets and agencies who have the right qualifications, the right desire for the position, and who share the same purpose and goals as the president. He wants those with all the right stuff to work with him.

That is exactly what Yahshua is doing now. Selecting those who are fit for kingdom rulership who have his mind and heart. It's an ongoing process.

In Revelation 21:27 John writes about the Holy City, New Jerusalem. Here He speaks of those who will not be in it: "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

Paul in 1Corinthians 6:9-10 is more specific about behavior that keeps one out of the Kingdom: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of Yahweh? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of Yahweh."

That passage dynamites the notion that obedience is just useless works of righteousness. If such works don't matter for the Kingdom, then why do BAD works keep one out of it?

## Miracle of Immersion

But all is not lost if you find yourself under condemnation. Note 1Corinthians 6:11: "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Master Yahshua, and by the Spirit of our Elohim."

There are two words to note here, "washed" and "spirit." Your sins are washed away in baptismal waters. Then you are justified in Yahshua's Name through the power of His Spirit by the laying on of hands after baptism.

Yahshua's fundamental message has been ignored. He taught repentance (Matt. 4:17), baptism (Mark 16:16), and salvation through obedience, as he said in Matthew 19:17: "If you will enter into life, keep the commandments."

His teachings varied little from what is presented as core doctrine in the Old Testament.

Obedience is the same message Ezekiel gave in 18:30-32: "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith Yahweh Elohim. Repent, and turn

yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby you have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith Yahweh Elohim: wherefore turn yourselves, and live.”

### **The Grand Plan**

But Yahshua went further. As the world’s greatest prophet, He went beyond just being saved and gave us a peek at Yahweh’s great plan so that we could know what the future of salvation is about and live for it.

The thrust of what Yahshua taught was the coming of Yahweh’s kingdom to this earth. He was sent to prepare the way. And that is why His followers were often called people of the way.

Yahweh will overthrow the forces of evil and re-establish an Edenic paradise here once again, to be ruled by his own Son assisted by His saints. That is also what is called the Gospel of the Kingdom or better—the Evangel or the Good News.

This Kingdom message was at the heart of everything Yahshua did and taught. He taught about the Kingdom no fewer than 123 times in the New Testament. Yet we hear almost nothing about the Kingdom in modern messages.

And that speaks as to why for thousands of years the masses have been clueless about what the goal of the righteous is—where they will go and what they will do once they are resurrected, spirit beings. The vast majority have historically never been taught the truth about the afterlife and why they were put on this planet.

### **Clouds, Harps, Angel Wings...?**

For 2,000 years churches have fed a silly scenario of a heavenly reward involving angel wings, harps and misty clouds as the goal of the saved. Most people have no concept concerning salvation’s purpose and goals, even though the design is detailed throughout the entire

New Testament.

In His model prayer Yahshua confirmed that the Kingdom would come to earth and that Yahweh’s plan will finally be accomplished on this earth without the inhibiting effects of sin.

Luke 12:32 is the goal of the righteous in a nutshell. “Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

Read about the parameters of the Kingdom in Daniel 7:27: “And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.”

A kingdom consists of a king, subjects, domain, and laws. Yahweh’s Kingdom is awarded his followers. It is not something we already possess as part of a “church.”

David, a future monarch in that Kingdom, wrote in Psalm 37:29: “The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.”

The same promise is in Revelation 5:10: “And hast made us unto our Elohim kings and priests: [a priestly kingdom] and we shall reign on the earth.”

### **Earthly Ambitions Fleeting**

Yahshua said in John 17:16 that His people are not of this present world, even as He was not. They do not conform to it, it is not their goal to be successful in worldly terms.

Politics is not their religion, they are not comfortable living in this world of sin. Yahweh’s Word tells us that the world is controlled by haSatan, who is always opposed to what Yahweh’s people seek and strive for. He thrills at throwing a constant barrage of stumbling blocks in the walk of the believer.

Those who spend all their time pursuing their own wants are wasting their

precious gift of life. Yahshua said in Luke 12:30, “For all these things do the nations of the world seek after...” All of which are temporary and go away at death.

When your life is over, others will wonder, “What kind of person was he or she?” That’s what matters. And that is also what we will be judged by. What kind of life did we lead? What was in our heart, deep down inside? And did we manifest that faith by our actions? Was the Word our guide and were we faithful to it?

Yahshua admonished in Luke 12:31: “But rather seek first the kingdom of Elohim; and all these [material] things shall be added unto you.” He’ll make sure you have your needs met if you prove worthy.

The prosperity doctrine is a sham. Nowhere are we promised riches if we follow the Word, let alone false teachings. Yahshua said in Luke 12:15, “Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.” If you find yourself blessed with wealth, halleluYah. Go do good with it.

The Kingdom is the believer’s passion. It is what we live and die for. It’s all that really matters in this short life because the everlasting Kingdom is next.

### **The Coming King and Judge**

A righteous King is soon coming to establish His realm. And it takes an overwhelming desire to be with our King. We need assurance that what we do today will be judged worthy of that Kingdom.

Colossians 1:10 encourages us “to walk worthy of Yahweh unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of Elohim.”

With that goal, we conform to His will, meaning to live a life of obedience. Revelation 22:14-15 says, “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to



the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”

With a desire to be in the Kingdom we must learn of and live in His ways and statutes now, which will soon govern His entire Kingdom and not just His people.

Because of the Kingdom we learn of His Sabbath and Holy Days—each of which teaches volumes about Yahweh and His plan of salvation when all of these days will be observed regularly and everlastingly throughout the universe. See Isaiah 66:23; Ezekiel chapters 45-46; and Zechariah 14.

The Apostle Paul expresses how critical the Feasts are in Acts 18:21 and 1 Corinthians 5:8.

### **Yahshua Our Righteous Pattern**

Because of His Kingdom message we must learn to think like, act like, live like, and be like Yahshua if we want a part with Him.

A society without standards becomes the wild West.

For those ignorant of the sacred plan of the Bible, their goal is all about themselves and living for all the gusto. They lack any clue as to why they were given the gift of life.

Yahshua showed that life now is about the Kingdom.

Yahshua prayed in Matthew 6:10: “Thy Kingdom come, **THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH** as it is in heaven.” This is the objective Yahshua always kept before Him. There is no greater purpose than to prepare the earth to be Yahweh’s ultimate throne and central seat of power in the universe.

In Luke 4:43 when the multitude wanted Yahshua to stay in Capernaum and teach he said: “I must preach the kingdom of Elohim to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.”

### **The Purpose for Everlasting Life**

For centuries many have misused Paul

to justify moving away from Yahshua’s Kingdom message, and focusing only on Yahshua’s death and resurrection and how it supposedly stood Yahweh’s covenant with Israel completely on its head in the New Testament.

They eviscerate Yahshua’s purpose for coming when they discard His kingdom message. Sure, Yahshua’s death and resurrection made salvation available to all to have salvation if found worthy. But He didn’t stop there. He explained the point and purpose of everlasting life.



### **Missing: the Rest of the Story**

Abraham was given a glimpse of the Evangel of the Kingdom in Galatians 3:8: “And the scripture, foreseeing that Elohim would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel [Evangel] unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Yahshua; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

That is where most minds glaze over because no one has ever brought to their attention the most important message of the Bible. Traditional teaching doesn’t include the rest of the story.

Salvation is not endless lounging around in paradise. Yahshua said my Father works and I work. That work

will no doubt be shared with the faithful who obey Him in this life.

We can only imagine that such work will be completely satisfying, as furthering Yahweh’s Kingdom will be the objective. Peter wrote that even the angels desire to look into the future for the saints, 1Peter 1:12.

“And now at last this Good News has been plainly announced to all of us. ...and is all so strange and wonderful that even the angels in heaven would give a great deal to know more about it” (*Living Bible*); “...the very angels long to get a glimpse of this” (*James Moffatt*); “...truths into which even angels long to look” (*Twentieth Century New Testament*).

### **The Universe Awaits Yahweh**

Yahweh creates nothing in vain. Look out into the vast universe with all the trillions of planets waiting for the next phase in Yahweh’s plan.

Astronomers say there are a million earth-like planets having their own suns able to support life. Do you sense a plan here?

Yahweh is awesome. Traveling at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second), to traverse just our Milky Way Galaxy would take 200,000 years. Yahweh can do it in an instant, just by thought. Imagine that there are millions of other galaxies in the infinite universe of the same or larger size.

Yahweh starts small and goes big. As insignificant this earth is compared to billions of other planets, He has plans to make earth the capital of His Kingdom when He comes to set up His throne and rule here from Jerusalem.

Revelation 21 confirms what many Old Testament prophecies say—that ultimately Yahweh the Father will descend to the earth and dwell here. Once this earth has been cleansed of its sin, when the law is in place everywhere, and everyone is living according to it, then Yahweh Himself will come.

Revelation 21:1 says: “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed

away;...And I John saw the holy city new Jerusalem, coming down from Elohim out of heaven...And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of Elohim is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and Elohim Himself shall be with them, and be their Elohim.”

The throne of the Messiah and ultimately Yahweh the Father will relocate from somewhere in the northern heavens to Earth.

We are in training to be a key part in His kingdom rulership. It's the reason we live a life of obedience. In order to teach and administer His laws in a future righteous kingdom we must first have proved we can live by and honor those laws ourselves now.

We must prove worthy and those who don't will be discarded as unworthy, Paul said. They will not enter the Kingdom. Yahweh won't have unrepentant people who despise His laws serving Him in His pure and righteous rulership.

It all boils down to a plan, which Yahshua called the Evangel. Many define the Gospel using only the first part of 1Corinthians 15, the resurrection chapter. Then they stop after verse 4, His own resurrection, and don't give the rest of the plan.

But Paul continues on in the chapter about the Evangel, explaining that Yahshua will subdue all worldly authorities and powers and turn rulership of the earth over to His father, Read 1Corinthians 15:23-26:

“But every man in his own order: Yahshua the firstfruits; afterward they that are Messiah's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to Elohim, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.”

Kingdom rulership is the key aspect left out in discussions about the Gospel or Evangel. Without a purpose and goal you have little reason to prepare for

much of anything.

The Gospel message heard almost exclusively today is to get people through the pearly gates and then leave them lounging around in heaven doing nothing for eternity. What's the point of the resurrection if it all ends at the point of entry?

Millions have repeated the Savior's Model prayer (avoid vain repetition), “Thy Kingdom come...” and don't even understand what that means or why the Kingdom is coming.

Our purpose and goal is to learn about living and reigning in Yahshua's kingdom that will come to earth. His law will go out of Zion to all the earth. Isaiah 2:3 further reveals Kingdom activities.

“And many people shall go and say Come, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways,



## *What's the point of the resurrection if it all ends at the point of entry?*

and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.”

Here is the key to the coming Kingdom. Yahweh's ways will be taught and obeyed when the law goes forth from Jerusalem.

Yahweh's people are practicing lawyers who not only are studying the laws that will be the constitution of that Kingdom, but they are also putting them into practice now.

How does observing His commands prepare us for the rulership of Yahshua here on earth?

Psalm 19:7-11 explains what the law

does to and for us:

“The law of Yahweh is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of Yahweh is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of Yahweh are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of Yahweh is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of Yahweh is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of Yahweh are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

Yahweh's laws serve as both a warning and a blessing when kept.

Biblical law converts the soul, and enlightens the mind. That is why great understanding have all those who love his law and why those who don't just grope around in spiritual darkness.

Millions are clueless when it comes to what the Bible is about because they have not been taught the fundamentals that are found throughout the Word.

And if they happen to stumble upon a pearl of enlightenment that would bring them in line with the Word, the blind guides just explain it way.

About obedience? They'll say —

“That's Old Testament...”

“That's works righteousness...”

“That's bondage”

“We're under grace...”

“You're a legalist...”

Take your pick of any one of these tired old bromides whose real purpose is to reign in a person from successfully bridging the traditional gap of error and seeing that obedience and faith go hand in hand for a purpose.

Why can't the religious establishment ever break free from darkness and teach what Yahshua Himself taught? “A good understanding have all they that do his commandments.”

If you want a good understanding of the eternal, future Kingdom, obey Yahweh and He will give it to you.

That's His promise.



# Today's Calendar Has Biblical *Connections*

by Alan Mansager

Being it's the start of a secular new year we will take a look at how days, months, times, and years are determined in the worldly calendar. And we will see how the modern secular calendar is linked to the biblical calendar, from which it was derived in many ways.

One of those links is the name of the first day of the month in the Roman calendar, called *Kalendae*. The word *kalendae* is related to the verb *calare*, which means "to call out." This refers to the "calling" of the new moon as it was first seen.

Israel blew the trumpet at the first new moon sighting, which confirmed the first day of the month.

Yahweh is adamant that we worship on the right days. He spends whole chapters defining when to observe the Feasts, Sabbath, Passover, the new moons. If it is important to Him that we observe the proper time for His days, it obviously is important for right worship.

## Forgotten Calendar Facts

- Did you know that your wall calendar with its secular holidays and red-numbered Sundays was created by a Catholic pope (Gregory)?

- Did you realize that the early American colonists as well as Great Britain from which they came, observed New Year's Day in the biblical March-April, not January 1?

- Were you aware that today's calendar was a revision when the old Julian calendar became 10 days out of sync with the seasons? In order to bring the date for the celebration of Easter back to the time of year in which it was celebrated by the early church, Pope Gregory simply erased 10 days from the calendar, giving the world the secular calendar used today.

Time alters perceptions when it comes to history and doctrine. Someone once said, "It's always about timing. If it's too soon, no one understands. If it's too late, everything is forgotten." In its own way the calendar presents such a challenge.

Besides the biblical, seven day-week, even the months of our secular calendar reveal a biblical origin. You see the undeniable historical imprint of biblical influence in the development of the secular calendar. Just look at their names:

September—*Septem* is Latin for seven; October, *Octo* is Latin for eight (an octopus has 8 arms), November,

*novem* from the Latin means 9, December, from Latin meaning 10. ("*Deca*-decade" is 10 years).

By nomenclature alone, January should be the 11th month and February the 12th month of the year. They should not be the first and second month of a new year.

In the biblical calendar March (March-April) starts the new yearly cycle. March was also the first month in the old Roman calendar. This is where the original 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th months got their placement in the year.

## See-sawing of the Calendar

Emperor Julius Caesar changed the calendar from the start of the year in March to January, and he also disregarded the new moons in his Julian calendar. These changes survive in today's Gregorian calendar.

Ever wonder why February is shorter than all the other months, and has a leap day? It was an idea Julius Caesar got from the Egyptians. Being the last month of their calendar, the Romans made February a catch-all month. It normally has 28 days rather than the usual 30 or 31, except when an extra day was added every four years to

even things up, as it did last February 2024.

Those who would not accept the new calendar with its January new year, but held to the old calendar based on the Bible, which begins the year in March-April, were called April fools.

Although most Catholic countries adopted the Gregorian calendar almost immediately, it was only gradually accepted among Protestant countries. The British, for example, did not adopt the reformed calendar until 1752, 170 years later. Until then, the British Empire — and their American colonies — still celebrated the new year in late March or early April. Do you suppose the Colonists knew something about the biblical calendar?

Most today are factually challenged. Another observation says, “If you didn’t know history, you didn’t know anything. You were a leaf that didn’t know it was part of a tree.”

And so it is that when we at YRM teach the scriptural faith that was once delivered, skeptics, unstudied in the Word, along with their closed minds, say we teach our own private doctrines — when in fact biblical teachings don’t fit their traditional error.

### **Babylonian Sun Celebration**

So let’s delve into the calendar proper and do some myth-busting. Prepare to widen your vistas and maybe experience a few shocks along the way.

New Year’s Day and Christmas have more in common than just being a week apart. The celebration of the New Year is directly related to the celebration of the same winter solstice that Christmas honors at the end of December. Whether Christmas or New Year’s, it all goes back to sun worship.

“But I don’t get involved in all the partying and celebrating on New Year’s Eve,” some might say, “I just like to wish others a happy New Year.” The problem is that it is NOT the new year as Yahweh established it.

Today’s New Year’s is anything but new.

The earliest recorded festivities celebrating a new year’s go back some 4,000 years to ancient Babylon.

Babylon is the nexus of most western heathenism; Babylon is the big mother of false worship. Its apostasies have driven the world’s religions and cultures since time immemorial. No wonder Yahweh calls it “Babylon the Great.”

Revelation 17:5 condemns it: “And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” A mother gives birth—that is what Babylon does, it gives its evils birth throughout the world.

“Mystery” here refers to knowledge given by special revelation. It is Yahweh who enlightens His people to the Truth versus the deceptions that shackle the world. Most are blinded by the light because Yahweh is calling only a little flock out of darkness — they are the firstfruits to be the firstborn among many to come.

As for annual timing, the Babylonians went by the first new moon following the vernal equinox, the day in late March having an equal amount of sunlight and darkness.

They also kept a pagan religious festival called Akitu, a celebration marking the sowing of barley in autumn and the cutting of barley in spring. In Babylonian religion it was dedicated to Marduk’s victory over Tiamat.

In contrast, the Egyptians started their new year on Sept. 11. The Phoenician new year began at the autumnal equinox, around September 21. The Greek new year was to begin with the first sighting of the new moon after the summer solstice.

These culture’s began the new year in the autumn, which likely influenced Judaism’s new year to begin in September or October, the seventh month called Rosh Hashana. How do you start a new year on the seventh month? The biblical new year is Abib 1, the first month that comes in springtime.

The secular year for Judaism starts in the fall.

Rome is the latest culture to influence today’s popular worship. The early Roman calendar consisted of 10 months and 304 days. As in the Bible, most Roman months were simply numbered, not named.

The month of January did not even exist until around 700 B.C.E., when the second emperor of Rome, Tiberius Caesar Augustus, added the months of January and February. The first time the new year was celebrated on January 1st was in Rome in 153 B.C.E.

New year’s day was moved from March to January for the following reasons:

1. To honor of the two-faced deity Janus
2. It was when the highest officials in the Roman republic began their one-year tenure.

### **January—Sacrifice to a God**

January comes from Janus, the Roman deity of beginnings. He had two faces allowing him to look back at the past and forward into the future. The Romans celebrated by offering sacrifices to Janus, exchanging gifts with one another, decorating their homes with laurel branches and attending raucous parties.

All of this celebratory folderol didn’t sit well with medieval Europe. Christian leaders temporarily replaced January 1 as the first of the year with the March date. March 25 was the date of the church’s Feast of the Annunciation, allegedly when the angel announces that Mary is to be pregnant with Yahshua.

In 1582 Pope Gregory 13th flipped the new year back to January 1, with the justification that it was the date of Yahshua’s circumcision.

The church was really good at justifying pagan observances by melding them with biblical events, real or imagined. The big problem is that, like Xmas, there was no biblical sanction for such engineering. In fact, there

are warnings at both ends of the Bible against adding to or removing from the Word, Deuteronomy 4:2; Revelation Revelation 22:18.

Keep in mind that the Christian Church calendar and doctrine was a work in progress. It was not a seamless transition from Old to New testament as it should have been.

The church went its own way, hammering out its own doctrines through controversy, infighting, even death. And it took 1,900 years and 21 ecumenical councils of bishops to do it, with the first council held in 325 CE and the last in 1965.

Look at the flip-flopping and infighting over Sabbath and Sunday keeping for 300 years after the apostles. Why not just do what the Bible commanded and as Yahshua did Himself—keep the seventh day holy? Rule by committee is filled with minefields.

But there were also prejudices in play and enemies with which to joust. This tells us one thing: the Roman church was not interested in *sola scriptura* or “Scriptures Alone.” It was interested in blazing its own trail, and that included avoiding anything “Jewish.” That included making the Scriptures subservient to the Roman church, not vice-versa.

### **So Long, Lunar Year**

In designing his Julian calendar, Julius Caesar enlisted the aid of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer, who advised him to do away with the lunar cycle entirely and follow the solar year, as the Egyptians did.

Shortly before his assassination in 44 BCE, Caesar changed the name of the month Quintilis (fifth month) to Julius (July) after himself. Later, the month of Sextilis (sixth month) was renamed Augustus (August) after his successor.

But problems persisted. Caesar and Sosigenes failed to calculate the correct value for the solar year as 365.242199 days, not 365.25 days. And

so an 11-minute-a-year error was born, which added 10 days by the mid-15th century.

The Roman church became aware of this problem, with Easter sliding further from the vernal equinox. And so in the 1570s Pope Gregory commissioned Jesuit astronomer Christopher Clavius to come up with a new calendar. In 1582, the Gregorian calendar was implemented, omitting 10 days for that year. Eleven days had been simply skipped as part of the implementation of the Gregorian calendar.

Some British did not react kindly when an act of Parliament advanced this calendar by 11 days overnight. Many thought it was a Catholic plot and demanded that the government “give us back our 11 days.”

Some have used this change of the Gregorian calendar to question the Sabbath as the seventh day. But the weekly sequence of days never changed. Only the numbering of dates.

### **Resolved to Change?**

“What are your New Year’s resolutions?” people ask you this time of year.

The practice of making resolutions for the new year is thought to have first caught on among the ancient Babylonians, who made promises in order to earn the favor of the gods and start the year off on the right foot.

The Romans began each year by making promises to the January god Janus.

In the Medieval era, the knights took the “peacock vow” at the end of the Christmas season each year to reaffirm their commitment to chivalry.

At watchnight services, many Christians prepare for the year ahead by praying and making resolutions. Some sources say that the first New Year’s festivals were held in ancient Mesopotamia.

All of these customs – from drinking and partying to noisemakers and fireworks – have been handed

down through history in one form or another by various pagan cultures and civilizations.

In medieval Europe, however, the celebrations accompanying the New Year were considered pagan and unchristian-like, and in 567 CE the Council of Tours in 755 abolished January 1st as the beginning of the year, replacing it with Easter and days carrying more religious significance.

Not to be dissuaded, the church held to the date of January 1st by giving it biblical spin to become known as the Feast of the Circumcision, considered to be the eighth day of Yahshua’s life counting from December 25th and following the Bible’s circumcision eight days after birth, on which the child is formally given his or her name.

We understand that the right calendar is essential.

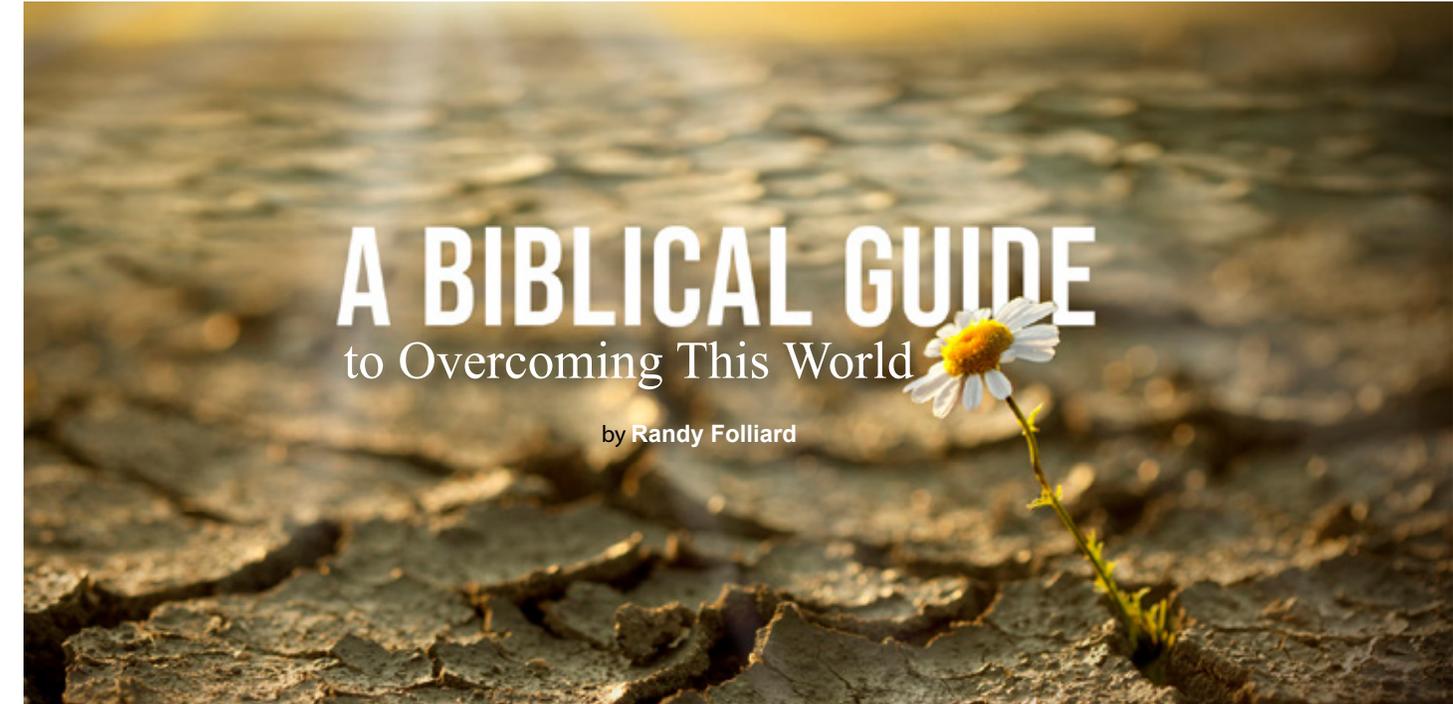
### **Proper Calendar and True Worship**

Without an accurate biblical calendar, Yahweh’s people would be unable to obey Him. Yahweh told His called-out ones they were to assemble at certain times of the year to observe His Feast days, and He did not mention “April” or “October” or any of our other Gregorian calendar months.

He used words like “the tenth day of the first month” and “the first day of the seventh month” to pin down Feast day observances (*moedim* in Hebrew). He says, “But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbears to keep the Passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of Yahweh in his appointed time, that man shall bear his sin” (Num. 9:13).

Yahweh instructs us to observe all His feast days at precise times. In Leviticus 23:4 He tells us, “These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.” At the commanded time. Never does He say that His commands are only for Israel or for Jews. Nowhere do we find a true

*(please turn to p. 15)*



# A BIBLICAL GUIDE to Overcoming This World

by Randy Folliard

One of the most important callings we have as believers is to overcome the world. Throughout Scripture we see the theme that we are called to live holy lives that are set apart for the glorification of our Father in heaven.

Here we provide you with some motivation and a few tools for achieving this goal. It's not easy, but it is achievable so long as we're willing to commit to the One we worship.

## Leading with Courage

Let's begin with a passage that speaks about the need for courage. In Joshua 1:3-8, we find Yahweh encouraging Joshua.

"As I said unto Moses, from the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware

unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

We find here the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua. Moses is now dead, and Joshua is Israel's leader. As such, Yahweh promises Joshua that as He was with Moses, so He would also be with him. Yahweh also promised Joshua that no man would be able to stand against him.

Joshua was instructed to be strong and of good courage so that he would be able to divide the land as an inheritance for the people of Israel.

For a moment, think about the mission Joshua is being given. Yahweh promised this land to Israel, but it was being occupied by nations stronger

and greater than Israel. Yahweh knew that strength and courage would be an absolute must for Israel to conquer these nations.

There's a lesson to be found here for us. Even though Yahweh promised this land to Israel they still had to participate in that promise by conquering these nations. Some have the mindset that Yahweh does it all for us, but this often is NOT what we find in Scripture. Sometimes His blessings require some action and participation from us. Maybe He's going to bless us with a successful career, but we must still achieve the required education and pursue the blessing.

Yahweh also told Joshua to observe all that He commanded him. Obedience to Yahweh is crucial. Yahweh's Word provides the blueprint for all that is right and true. When we follow His Word, we're blessed, but when we rebel against His Word, we're cursed.

Again, Joshua was told to be strong, to be courageous, and to obey Yahweh's Word. This formula that Yahweh gave to Joshua is just as relevant for us today. As we know, this world is only becoming more corrupt and antagonistic toward anything that

resembles biblical truth and morality. If we're going to overcome this world, we must be strong, courageous, and obedient to Yahweh's Word.

### **Choose the Straight Path**

Living in obedience to Yahweh's Word is NOT easy or always comfortable; Yahshua addresses the narrow way in Matthew 7:13-14. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." We see here through Yahshua that living for Yahweh is not always easy; the truth is straight and narrow. But how do most people view the Bible and the life of a believer?

Many view it as something easy and broad. For most, the specifics don't matter, and Yahweh's commandments are certainly not needed. The majority today is convinced that our Father in heaven is simply going to accept anything and everything. The fact is, we find a very different message in His Word. Yahshua says that the truth is straight and narrow, meaning that Yahweh is not all-accepting.

Yahweh wants us to follow Him as He has written in His Word. We can choose to ignore Him, but we must realize there are consequences to our decisions. We can take the broad road that leads to destruction, or we can take the narrow way that leads to life everlasting. Understand that the Bible doesn't promise an easy road, but for those who are faithful it does provide a great promise in the end—the destination is worth the journey.

### **Only One Way!**

When it comes to Yahweh's Word, we need to realize that there's only one right way and that's His way. We find this admonishment in Proverbs 14:12. "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." (NIV)

We find many examples of this in the world today. For instance, some may say...it doesn't matter what name we use or what day we worship on. Or it doesn't matter if we're a homosexual or transgender—Yahweh accepts everybody. But as we find in this passage, even though it may seem right to man, the end is death.

It doesn't matter what we believe; the only thing that matters is what Yahweh says in His Word. And it's not for us to re-interpret or oppose what He's already established as truth. If He says that we're to do something, we're to do it. If He defines something as sin, we're to avoid it. We're not to be like rebellious children, thinking we know best. This means that we must live a holy life even though we live in an unholy world.

### **Forsaking All for Messiah**

In Mark 8:34 we find our Savior saying that we must be willing to deny ourselves to be found worthy of Him. "And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his stake, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the evangel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The word "deny" in this passage means "...to deny utterly or to disown." We must be willing to disown ourselves to be found worthy of Yahweh's calling. Now this doesn't mean we're to disregard our families and life's other responsibilities, but it does mean that we place the Word of our Father first

within our lives. This includes keeping His Sabbaths, Feast days, and His other commandments. Yahweh is looking for a people who are going to follow Him and forsake this world.

### **Making a Separation**

In 2Corinthians 6:14, Paul speaks about making a separation. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Messiah with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of Elohim with idols? for ye are the temple of the living Elohim; as Elohim hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith Yahweh, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith Yahweh Almighty."

Paul tells us not to be unequally yoked. In other words we must make a separation when it comes to the worship of our Father in heaven. Paul asks here what fellowship righteousness has with unrighteousness or what communion light has with darkness or what concord Messiah has with Belial.

Understand that in each of these cases we find a contrast between the holy and the unholy. Spiritually speaking, why is it important that we make this distinction? As Paul says, we are the temple of Yahweh and as such we have a responsibility to ensure this temple remains clean. This includes keeping both spiritual and physical impurities out.

Spiritual impurities might include false beliefs like Sunday worship, Easter, and Christmas—all of which are absent from Yahweh's Word. Physical impurities might include fornication,

adultery, homosexuality, and other abuses of the body.

As believers we're told to keep our temples clean from that which would defile. A blessing for doing this is that Yahweh will dwell and walk in us and be our Mighty One; we in turn will be His people. What a wonderful blessing we find here. No matter what the cost, it's worth it!

Another way of viewing this passage is not quenching Yahweh's Spirit. This is how Yahweh dwells within us; it is through His Holy Spirit, which represents His power. When we keep our temples clean, His Spirit flows in us. But when we willfully sin, we quench or stifle that Spirit.

In verse 17, which is a quotation from Isaiah 52:11, Paul says, "...come out from among them and be you separate." We must make a separation or distinction between us and the world; we must be willing to live a holy or righteous life according to His Word. It's important to realize that while we live in the world, we must not live like the world.

In verse 18 we find that if we live according to Yahweh's Word, we're going to be called sons and daughters of His. There's not a greater promise than the one we find right here; this is what we should all be striving to achieve.

### **Not Sharing in Other's Sins**

Paul gives other pertinent instructions in 1Tim. 5:21-22. "I charge thee before Elohim, and the Master Yahshua Messiah, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality. Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure."

Several lessons here are key. The first deals with partiality. This word comes from the Greek *prosklisis* and refers to favoritism. As Yahweh's people we refrain from showing favoritism or bias, including based on someone's social status or wealth.

Everyone has the potential to succumb to this type of bias if they're not careful. Yahweh's blessings are not based on status or wealth. There's a reason Yahshua said it was easier for a camel to go through an eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom. It can be done, but it's not easy.

Paul also tells young Timothy not to lay hands quickly on any man, speaking about the ordination of ministers. In my 20-plus years in the ministry, I've seen this one mistake divide and cause issues within many assemblies. The fact is, some men should never be ordained; this does not make them bad men, it simply means they are not qualified in some way.

This goes back to the theme of this message and that is making a separation. Those ordained to the office of the ministry must not compromise the standards in Yahweh's Word.

The last lesson we learn is not to share in the sins of others. This is the basis of what it means to be a believer. Our calling is to be holy because the One we worship is holy. This is why it's so important that we overcome this world. It includes accepting sins like abortion and homosexuality. Just because man may be okay with something doesn't make it right with Yahweh. We must make a separation and live according to Yahweh's Word, not according to the "values" of this world.

### **Avoiding Disobedience**

In Leviticus 10:1-2 we find the account of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, who broke Yahweh's command by offering strange fire. "And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before Yahweh, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from Yahweh, and devoured them, and they died before Yahweh."

Yahweh's lethal response shows how seriously He takes deviation from commanded worship. They were

instructed to make a separation between the holy and the common, but they showed dishonor and as a result, both men died. When it comes to His worship, we must do it His way.

We today have this same obligation. Do we participate in activities of which Yahweh would not approve? For example, do we watch programs on TV or visit websites or blogs having material that Yahweh denounces? Do we involve ourselves in the sins of this world?

We're called to be holy and because of this we must show a difference in how we live. If Nadab and Abihu would've taken this lesson to heart, they would never have been consumed by fire and could have continued serving as priests. We should never follow the example of these two men by becoming complacent or ignoring the commands of our Father in Heaven.

### **Solomon's Example**

One of the great dichotomies and contradictions in Scripture is Solomon's life. While this man was blessed with incredible wisdom and for a time even followed Yahweh faithfully, in the end we know that he fell short.

Solomon's path of demise is recorded in 1Kings 11:1-13: "But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which Yahweh said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their mighty ones: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other mighty ones: and his heart was not perfect with Yahweh his Elohim, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the elohim of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the

Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of Yahweh, and went not fully after Yahweh, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their mighty ones.

“And Yahweh was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from Yahweh Elohim of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other mighty ones: but he kept not that which Yahweh commanded. Wherefore Yahweh said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father’s sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant’s sake, and for Jerusalem’s sake which I have chosen.”

Solomon was blessed with incredible wisdom. When he took the throne, He was humble and followed Yahweh, but over time he married many foreign women. He had 700 wives and 300 concubines.

Solomon’s devotion to Yahweh was impacted because his actions compromised his integrity. We see that his heart was not perfect with Yahweh and even worse, Scripture shows that he adopted the worship of his pagan wives -- he went after Ashtoreth the deity of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites, as well as other pagan idols.

Not only did Solomon accept this detestable worship but was likely guilty

himself of committing idolatry. Now think about this: he was blessed by Yahweh with incredible wisdom and yet he was still led astray by being unequally yoked.

As believers, if we succumb to the sins of this world, we too will fall short. As Solomon was led astray by his many wives, we too can easily go awry if we partake in the sins of this world.

Solomon’s wayward life shows the long-lasting impact of sin. The long-term consequence of Solomon’s sin was that the nation of Israel was torn apart during the reign of his son, Rehoboam. Because of Yahweh’s love for David, Rehoboam



was able to retain the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, but the remaining tribes went to a corrupt man named Jeroboam.

Jeroboam also did evil in Yahweh’s eyes and so did every other king in the Northern Kingdom after him. So you see, Solomon’s sin not only affected him but also the entire nation of Israel for multiple generations.

Many don’t realize how their sins affect others. A father’s sin of adultery not only affects himself but also his wife and children. The fact is, good people suffer all the time from the sins of others.

### Self-Examination

We should always be examining our lives and asking:

- Are we living according to Yahweh’s standards?
- Are we living in the sins of this world, afraid to make a break with it?
- Are we making a separation with the world?
- Are we striving to be holy, as Yahweh is holy? Or are we accepting the sins of others?
- Are we compromising what we know to be right?

When we compromise Yahweh’s Word, bad things happen. Our nation is in such a mess because we’ve rejected our Father in heaven. In recent years we’ve normalized sins such as homosexuality and transgenderism. Many today can’t even tell the difference between a man and a woman.

Even though this nation is in decline, as believers we can still live holy lives and overcome this wicked world. It’s not easy—living a holy life in this world today means that some hard stands must be taken for what is scripturally right. Whether it’s fornication, adultery, homosexuality, or a complete disregard for Yahweh’s Word, we cannot accept sin. Just because man declares something to be morally okay doesn’t make it so.

The degradation of morality we’ve seen in our culture over the last 50 years is stunning. Why are many in the churches changing their views on homosexuality? It’s simple – it’s being normalized by our culture and the church is afraid of being labeled as “homomorphic” and losing members if they take a hard stand against sin.

As believers, we cannot be afraid to take a hard stand. Yahshua and the apostles took hard stands on many issues – we must follow their example. I encourage all to do the very best to overcome and not succumb to the sins of the world. As we see in the eighteenth chapter of Revelation, we must come out of this world if we’re going to be found worthy of Yahweh’s calling and promises. 🙏

**Q** *In determining the Feast days, I notice you do not follow the present Jewish calendar but instead predict the new moon and then confirm it visually each month. Is there something I'm missing?*

**A** The world's secular calendar is a solar calendar, based on the 365 1/4 days it takes the earth to make a complete revolution around the sun (solar year). The lunar year is 354 1/2 days, or 11 days shorter.

Despite its basis in the word moon, the month ("moonth") of the secular calendar does not follow the waning and waxing of the moon. The thin crescent appears every 29 or 30 days, and the first visible sighting of this rebuilding phase is known as the "new moon" or the first day of the month.

The world's Gregorian calendar ignores new moons, and divides the year into 12 periods, calling them months. Its days begin at midnight, but scripturally days begin and end with sunset. The calendar in the Bible is based upon the circle of the moon about the earth, adjusted seasonally by the earth's movement about the sun.

The biblical calendar begins in the spring, near the time of the vernal equinox, and is based on the locus of Jerusalem where green heads of barley will be available at the time of the Passover season. This was the custom during the time of the Messiah with empirical sightings of the new moon.

After the destruction of the Temple, the Sanhedrin could no longer meet to verify new moon sightings and sanctify the new month. In the year 359 CE, Hillel II published the present calculated Jewish Calendar.

We do not use the present Jewish calendar for several reasons:

- It begins the year in the fall in the seventh month of Tishri instead of spring. Yahweh clearly tells us in Exodus 12:2 of the spring month of Abib, "This month (moon) shall be unto you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you."
- A month is determined by the calculation of the conjunction of the moon (invisible to the eye). The conjunction of the second day of the month determines the rest of the months of the year by adding 29 days, 12 hours thereafter. No observation is used.
- The present Jewish calendar has a series of *dehioth* (postponement rules) that are nowhere found in the Bible. They are intended for expediency. For example, the day of Atonement (fasting) cannot precede or follow the weekly Sabbath. Also, Trumpets shall not occur on a Sabbath. Passover as well can fall only on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Sabbath.

Arthur Spier's book, *The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar*, makes this note in explaining the postponements: "In more than 60 percent of all years Rosh Hashanah [Trumpets] does not occur on any of the *Molad* [conjunction]



but is postponed according to one of the *Dehioth*. Therefore the *Dehioth* [postponements] are actually not the exceptions to the rule but the rule."

Yahweh did not give this calendar to Moses, and there is no record that it was used in Yahshua's time.

In Scripture moon spotters would search the western skies at sunset every 29 or 30 days seeking the thin crescent just above the horizon. The Sanhedrin would verify the new moon day upon examination of the witnesses by the blowing of trumpets.

Furthermore, should a follower of Yahshua be isolated and not have access to fellowship, he would still be responsible for keeping Yahweh's Holy Days and would be able to determine them for himself if required.

We strive to keep the Feast Days as given in the Bible and kept by the Savior. The Jewish Calendar was revealed to the world in the 4th century and is a masterpiece of mathematical and astronomical calculation. However, it is the work of man.

Having the year begin in the fall at Trumpets and postponing various Feast Days is nowhere sanctioned in the Bible.

**Q** *Can you provide any Hebrew manuscript from anywhere that has "Yahshua" for the pronunciation of our Savior? I haven't found a single one.*

**A** Actually hundreds of such manuscripts exist. Any Masoretic manuscript speaking of the Son of Nun has Yahshua. Take the Book of Joshua chapter one, for instance. The Hebrew for the Savior is the same as the Hebrew for Joshua. Here is the Hebrew for Joshua: *יְהוֹשׁוּעַ*. Notice the first two letters *yod* and *he* with the vowel point *shewa* under the *yod*. This pronounces "Yah."

You may be saying, "Wait a minute, the *shewa* is a short 'e' sound." That is incorrect when applied to Masoretic Hebrew. The *shewa* in ancient Tiberian (Masoretic) Hebrew has a short "ah" sound as in the word *amuse*. We can deduce this in various ways, mainly that a *hataf patah* replaces a *shewa* mobile when the consonant is not a guttural. We confirmed this with professor Steven Fassberg of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. See [yrm.org/Shewa](http://yrm.org/Shewa).

**Q** *In Isaiah 9 is a prophetic description of Yahshua the Messiah. There He is called "The everlasting Father." In John 14:9 Yahshua says he that has seen me has seen the Father. Doesn't this prove that Yahshua is Yahweh the Father?*

**A** Yahshua's identity has been debated for millennia. Yahshua as the Father was a "oneness" teaching of

Sabellius in the third century. A few of the 21 Roman Church councils took up the issue early on.

In Isaiah 9 the term “everlasting Father” is the Hebrew “*abiy-‘ad*” and literally means Father of Eternity.

As we find in the footnote on 9:6 in the **Restoration Study Bible**, “The Jews understood the term ‘father’ in a variety of ways, including: as a literal father, a grandfather, a ruler or an instructor. Because the context seems to refer to the Messiah, perhaps this would be better rendered ‘everlasting ruler’ or ‘instructor,’ Isa. 11:1-5; Mic. 4:1-2).”

When taken out of context, John 14:9 makes it appear that Yahshua is the Father. Is this what Philip was suggesting in verse 8 when he asked Yahshua to “show us the Father”? In verse 10 Yahshua explains that the nature of the Father that Yahshua personifies, as well as the words that Yahshua speaks, express the Father. Theirs is the same purpose and goal, as when Paul and Apollos were said to be “one” in 1Cor. 3:8.

Distinctions between Father and Son are shown in John 14:12, where Yahshua says He goes to the Father; in verse 16 He prays to the Father. In verse 21 Yahshua said that the person who loves me shall be loved of my Father.

The New Testament is filled with such proofs that the Father and Son are two different personalities, two distinct Beings and not two-in-one.

Yahshua used the expression “my Father’s” 35 times, showing that he was not the Father. In Matthew it occurs 17 times. Many other passages show that the Son is not the Father, which is intuitive as well as scriptural.

Following are 10 more proofs that the Son is not the Father nor can He be:

- Yahshua said no man has seen the Father, John 5:37; 6:46, but they certainly saw the Son.
- Yahshua died, Revelation 1:18; the Father cannot die, 1Timothy 6:16
- Only the Father is good, Mark 10:18
- Only the Father has immortality, Revelation 1:18
- Only the Father knows the day and hour of Yahshua’s return, Matthew 24:36
- Yahshua was begotten by the Father, not by Himself, Hebrews 1:5
- Yahshua did not pray to Himself, John 17
- Yahshua did not forsake Himself, Matthew 27:46
- Yahshua did not raise Himself, on the contrary, the Father raised Him, Acts 2:24, 30, 32
- Yahshua does not sit on His own right hand, Matthew 22:44
- Yahweh is eternal; Yahshua was created, John 5:26; Revelation 3:14



## Calendar

(continued from p. 9)

believer in the New Testament keeping Xmas, New Year’s, Easter or Sunday.

But we find all over the Bible believers and Yahshua Himself keeping the commanded Feasts of Yahweh. And what’s more, all will be keeping these same days in the coming Kingdom.

Yahweh never tells us to observe holidays of our own making and at the times man chooses. True Worship means keeping Yahweh’s times as He commands, and if we don’t, sin lies at the door.

## Biblical Calendar Uncomplicates Synchronization

From Exodus 12:2 we learn that the month of Abib, which encompasses Passover, starts the biblical new year: “This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.”

There is no need to add days or months or incorporate leap years to make the biblical calendar synchronize with the seasons. Just look for the greening barley grain each spring and you have Abib, the month of “green ears” of grain and the beginning month in the biblical year.

While the world celebrates its new year with trumped-up revelry and resolutions that won’t be kept, Yahweh’s year begins with personal redemption through the Passover.

What better way to celebrate the true new year than with genuine, spiritual reform that comes at a time of year when Yahweh deals with our sins through the redemptive act of Yahshua the Messiah?

If you want to know more on the subject of New Year’s, see the online study called, “The Two Faces of New Years.” Just type in [yrm.org/two-faces-new-years/](http://yrm.org/two-faces-new-years/)

It begins: “Caesar’s idol was named Janus, from which we get our month January. The emperor thought his deity would be the suitable portal to the new year, as one of his faces looked forward to a new year, the other backward.

“That’s the sanitized version of New Year’s. The messy and convoluted history of the January 1 New Year’s observance reveals chronological confusion amid political intrigue, race hatred, and fuzzy math—all in an attempt to improve upon the biblical calendar as inspired by our Creator.”

It’s a quick and enjoyable read. ✓

Read past issues of **Restoration Times** magazine at: [yrm.org/restoration-times-archive](http://yrm.org/restoration-times-archive)

Watch years of past **Discover the Truth** episodes at: [yrm.org/dtt](http://yrm.org/dtt)

# Meeting Hall Expansion Progress (Phase 2)

**Construction update...** We are working hard installing electrical, plumbing, and final framing before the sheetrock installation begins. Commercial glass is also in the process of installation. The goal is to have the sanctuary usable by the Feast of Tabernacles. This last push will be expensive. We appreciate the donations and your ongoing financial gifts to help us finish this massive project. When completed, this meeting hall will be a game changer that will help us reach many more with innovative teachings and worship that is not possible with our current facilities.

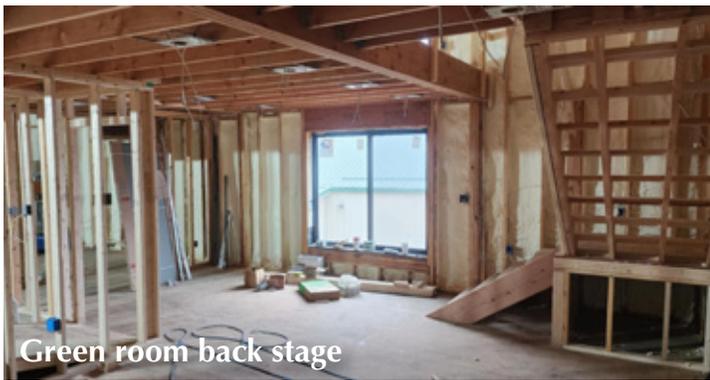
[www.yrm.org/buildingfund](http://www.yrm.org/buildingfund) or mail a tax deductible gift to **YRM, PO Box 463, Holts Summit, MO 65043**



View from new stage to existing building



Future sanctuary



Green room back stage



Basement windows



# בִּבְלִי HEBREW WORD לֶשׁוֹן

# שָׁנָה

שׁ נ ה

## Shaneh Shah-neh

Composition: Shin, qamets,  
nun, Seghol, heh.

The Hebrew word **Shaneh** (H8141)  
(Root Shanah= repeat) is a feminine  
noun and its usage primarily  
denotes a "year" in the context of  
time.

Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930  
**years**, and then he died.

Genesis 5:5

## Outreach Program's Current Partners

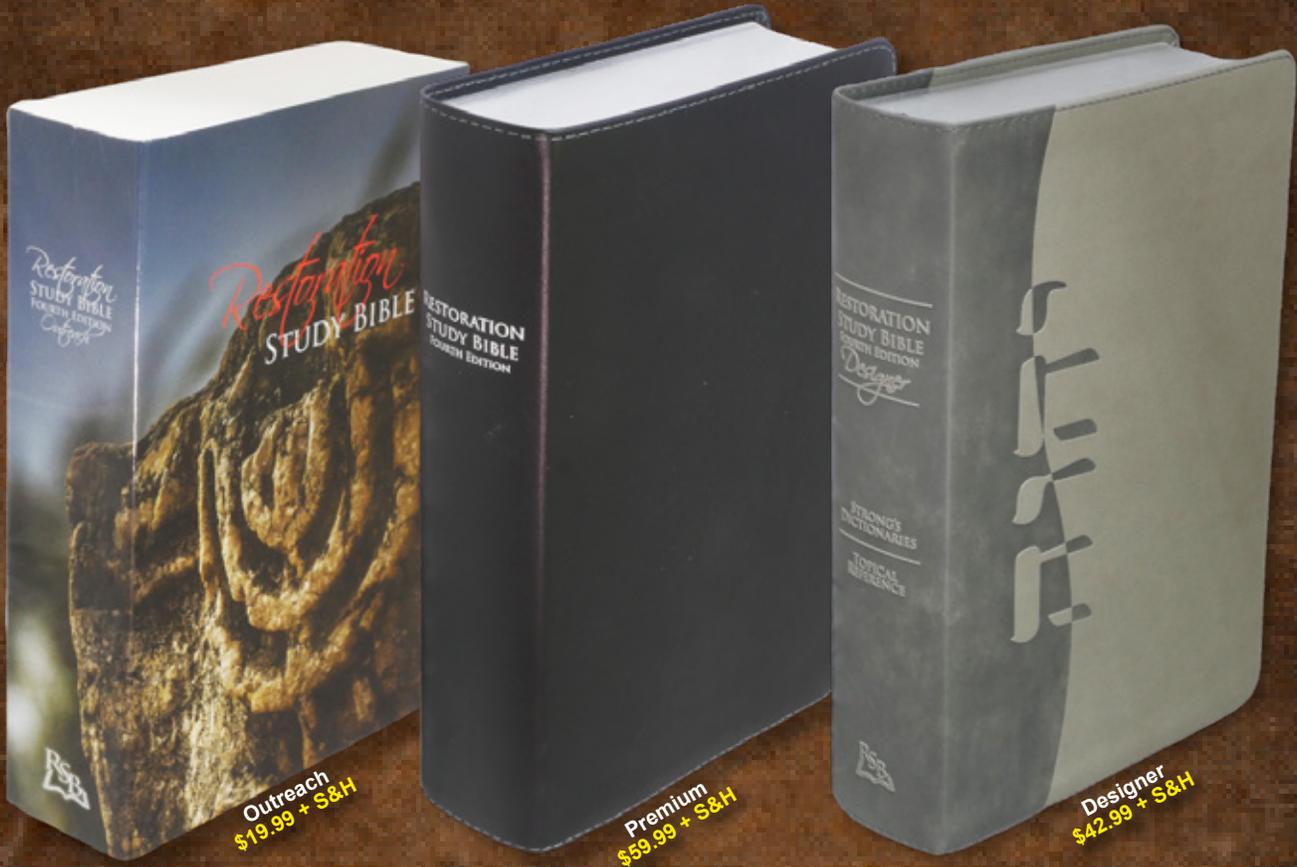
We recognize our outreach partners for their outstanding dedication to the Truth in their efforts to fulfill the Great Commission. If you are interested in becoming an outreach partner to help us spread the Truth, visit: <http://www.yrm.org/outreach> or call us at (573) 896-1000 during normal office hours (M-F, 8:00 am- 4:00 pm.) We will explain how you can join this group committed to spreading the Good News!

Sarah Hostkoetter  
David Nesta  
Steve Twillegar  
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4th Edition



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*Eldertorial*

## One Harmonious Book

**Sooner or later**, everyone who holds to the Truth will find himself or herself explaining to a stranger why their beliefs differ from those of generic churchianity.

The most obvious for Yahweh's Restoration Ministry are our Scripture-based tenets and practices that most of mainstream religion abandoned long ago. True Worship also involves throwing out all the traditions that aren't clearly provable from or based in Scripture. We follow Jude 3, meaning that we have gone back to the faith once given to the patriarchs and apostles.

The core of True Worship is the understanding that nearly all of the fundamentals of the Old Covenant underlie the New Covenant as well. The Old Testament harmonizes beautifully with the New. True Worship accepts ALL the Bible. The New testament doesn't cancel out the Old. Its sacrifices for sin have been refocused on Yahshua instead of animal blood. The law hasn't been abolished in the New, but was given a righteous example to follow when Yahshua obeyed it perfectly.

This means we cannot take the Jewish stand that rejects Yahshua and the New Testament, or the church view that the Old Testament with its laws was replaced with love and grace in the New. Both testaments reveal only one plan of salvation for mankind, 2Timothy 3:16.

We adhere to the perfect law Almighty Yahweh gave as an ordinance "forever." We follow Yahshua who magnified that law in His teachings, and in His life He obeyed

it flawlessly.

Having been given this enlightenment that unlocks foundational truth, you realize how foolish is the notion that if you have love you don't need to obey. (That's like saying if you are human you don't need a human body.) Obedience to law is what makes love possible!

A True Worshiper sees no contradiction in what Paul wrote in Romans 13:8: "He that loves another has fulfilled [conformed to] the law." Or in what John wrote in 2John 6: "And this is love, that we walk after His commandments." Or in what Yahshua said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments," John 14:15.

If every criminal could miraculously have perfect love, all criminals would suddenly become law abiding. Why? Because "love works no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law," Romans 13:10.

Between the two testaments in the Restoration Study Bible is a one-page "Remarkable Harmony of the Testaments." It includes such facts as grace is an Old Testament concept; spiritual circumcision exists in the Old Testament as well as in the New; that Israelites made up the original "church"; that Yahshua the Messiah is found in the Old Testament, as are salvation and the Holy Spirit.

Similarly, the biblical truth from this side of Golgotha reveals that the Feast days and Sabbath clearly are still in effect in the New Testament and will be observed in the Millennium; that institutions like baptism

have their roots in the Old Testament; that animal sacrifices will once again be established for some, and that an Elijah message will proclaim Yahweh's Name in our day.

Those who try to make a separation—as if there were some great wall running between the Old and New testaments—are derailed in their understanding from the very beginning. No wonder they have such a difficult time explaining so many passages that contradict their beliefs.

If you think that contained in one Bible are two fundamentally opposite teachings of works versus grace and faith versus obedience, then you can't know True Worship. You can't possibly know why the Savior of men was obedient to every biblical law and why He admonished us to be the same.

The Bible is one beautifully harmonious book "that is able to make you wise unto salvation," Paul told the young Timothy. True Worship expresses that fact, which is true from Genesis 1. 

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"You have changed my life from being an atheist to a Messianic Believer in Yahshua Messiah and his Father Yahweh." – Tyler C.

"Thank you so much for all the biblical truth. I have been studying truth since 1984 and I cannot prove you wrong. Keep up the great work." – Ralph J.

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