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RESTORATION TIMES



**WHO IS
THE COMING ANTI MESSIAH?**

Eldertorial
Under the Influence

WARS AND RUMORS
OF WARS?



**HOW TO SPOT
A FALSE PROPHET**

PASSOVER
A TIME FOR SEPARATION

RESTORATION TIMES

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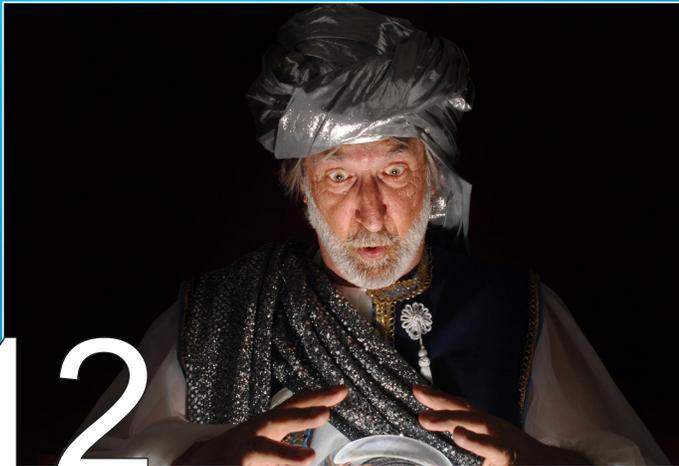


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Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of 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:
Two toy soldiers
standing on a Bible

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Passover

A Time for Separation

by the late Donald R. Mansager

Each Passover is a celebration of the salvation of Israel from Egyptian bondage. It was a time of joy as the slaves were given their freedom and were loaded down with gifts from their former masters. As they separated they started on their way to the Promised Land. What a beautiful picture!

Passover does the same for us spiritually. Just as ancient Israel was spared in the first Passover's slaying of the firstborn, we accept the blood of the Lamb as a sacrifice for our past sins.

In answering the high calling we have in Yahshua the Messiah, we realize we are a type of the firstfruits, and because of the great promises given us, we strive the more to be in that first resurrection.

"Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of Yahweh and of Messiah, and shall reign with him a thousand years" (Rev. 20:6).

With our past sins forgiven, we are determined with Yahweh's help to repent and turn our life around and follow the Savior's example of right living. Israel left Egypt, a sophisticated, worldly, cosmopolitan society, to seek the Promised Land. We also are leaving our old, worldly ways and bad habits behind as we begin our trek toward the

Kingdom. We are careful to make our calling and election sure.

Israel had the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night to guide them. We have Yahweh's promise and His Guidebook in the Old and New testaments to direct us and give us instruction as we go through the facets of life.

We are also given the promise by the Savior that He would never leave us nor forsake us. The Holy Spirit from Yahweh continues to guide and keep us in the narrow way of Truth.

Upon accepting our Savior's sacrifice, our walk will seem at times to be a lonely one. Many obstacles will confront us, and we can expect to be tried. We must have a fervent desire to stop sinning, to stop doing those things for which our Savior died.

He is looking for those who like Abraham obediently left Ur of the Chaldees (Gen. 12:1-3), being uncertain of what was in store for him.

Just as Yahweh so loved the world that He sacrificed His only begotten Son, Abraham also was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac, if need be, thus proving his faith by obedience.

Are we willing to prove our faith through obedience in keeping His Passover?

Many key events fell on the commanded observances. Tradition

has it that Abraham left Ur at the season of the Passover, the same time Israel left Egypt. His faith in Yahweh was tested many times. He was put to the test first to leave his homeland, forsaking his relatives and friends. He then had to live among the Canaanites who were totally absorbed in heathen culture and worship.

Passover at the Start of the Year

The Passover is to be on the 14th of the month of Abib. It comes in the spring when the earth again springs to life in the northern hemisphere. The warming sun brings on green grass, while the fragrance of flowers and budding trees again fills the air. The birds return for the summer and the earth is bursting with renewal.

Abib is the true beginning of the biblical new year with its new growth, as Yahweh intended. January 1, which falls in the dead of winter when snow covers the ground and cold north winds sweep the land, is not the proper time to start a new year. Yahweh said to us through Moses: "This month [Abib] shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you" (Ex. 12:2).

Not only is Abib the beginning of the religious year in Yahweh's calendar, but it also brings us Passover, a renewal of the Covenant that we have made

with Yahweh. When our hearts and minds have been opened to the truth of Yahweh's Word and we understand that we are called and set apart for a special purpose, we have an inner desire to be immersed into the saving Name of Yahshua.

Being baptized into Yahshua's saving Name means that we regret our sins and seek forgiveness of them. When we are baptized into His saving Name, all past sins are washed away, and we stand before Yahweh justified, just as if we had never sinned.

We are now cleansed from our past and can start over in a new life. Once purged of our reprobate past, we determine to walk in a new life of obedience to Yahweh's Commandments. It is this willing obedience to Yahweh's Commandments that sanctifies us and gives us the garments of righteousness.

Make a New Commitment

Passover is Yahweh's call to the new convert to accept the salvation He has made available through His Son Yahshua. We accept His shed blood as the atonement or ransom price for our sins that are past because we accept Yahweh's sacrifice of His Son, the "Lamb that takes away the sins of the world."

"vexdWhom Elohim has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of Elohim" (Rom. 3:25).

Just as ancient Israel left Egypt and headed for the Promised Land, so we make a commitment each year at Passover when we remember the cruel beatings and impalement of our Savior.

We meditate on Yahweh's plan for mankind and realize that one day soon He will send His Son back to this earth to end the madness and corruption that is rampant today. Yahshua will rule with a rod of iron, and will put a stop to wars, hunger, disease, calamities, crime, and murders, and finally bring us peace.

He is calling out a special people who are also seeking real answers to present world problems. Conditions will degenerate and worsen as difficulties grow and intensify.

He wants those who are willing to follow Yahweh's commandments and learn of Him. He calls those who are teachable and of a willing heart to be in the first resurrection: "Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah, and shall reign with Him a thousand years" (Rev. 20:6).



Paul tells us that once we accept Yahshua's Passover sacrifice of His life for our sins that we are to clean up our thinking, have new goals, new attitudes, new aspirations.

Feast of Doctrinal Renewal

The Passover is followed by a special Feast of seven days in which we desist from eating anything leavened, but seek the pure bread of life, the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. We strive to be obedient in physically not eating leavened products, so that we will be more deeply impressed with spiritual truth.

After we have accepted the sacrifice of Yahshua for our sins, we must have a "spring housecleaning" of our doctrines and beliefs, seeking only those truths the Bible teaches. We have a fervent desire to stop sinning and doing things for which our Savior died. This attitude is central to the

Feast that follows the Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Paul tells us that once we accept Yahshua's Passover sacrifice of His life for our sins that we are to clean up our thinking, have new goals, new attitudes, new aspirations. We must leave our old ways and bad habits.

Because we have accepted the sacrifice of the Savior we are to turn from the old "leaven," old teachings, false doctrines, corrupt habits. Now we follow the example of Yahshua and become pure in our thinking, our attitude, and set proper goals for this life.

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, as you are unleavened. For even Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened [bread]of sincerity and truth" (1Cor. 5:7-8).

The Savior Kept the Passover

Passover is the beginning of the seven observances that Yahweh commands. Passover and the following days of Unleavened Bread were observed by the Savior through His childhood and young adult years as well as His three-year ministry.

Because He is the true Passover, which all previous observances pointed to, we would be wise to hold its memorial service just as He instructed His disciples. This includes the footwashing, John chapter 13, and the other Passover accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Just before His death the Savior kept the Passover and did so with His disciples at the right time. He directed them to prepare for the Passover, saying, "I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples," Matthew 26:18. Nowhere do we find the disciples questioning His intentions.

Peter said we are to do what He did, when He did it, 1Peter 2:21. Yahshua kept the Passover the same night of His betrayal, according to Paul,



1Cor. 11:23.

He died on the tree about the time the Jews who were following the Pharisees' teaching were belatedly killing their Passover lambs. They were keeping Passover at the end of the fourteenth (one day late), just as they continue doing in our time.

To this day Rabbinic Jews continue to follow the Pharisees who merged Passover with the days of Unleavened Bread. This is admitted in the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, vol. 13, article: Passover: "The feast of Passover consists of two parts: the Passover ceremony, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Originally, both parts existed separately; but at the beginning of the exile they were combined," p. 169.

Consider what Yahweh says about these special times:

"And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and you shall keep it a feast to Yahweh throughout your generations; you shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever" (Ex. 12:14).

Take special note: it is "this day" which is to be kept for a memorial, not the exact manner of observance. We may not keep it precisely as did the Israelites anciently by sacrificing an animal. But the day itself is to be kept as a memorial. It is to be observed as a feast, a special gathering. It is to be observed forever!

A Perpetual Agreement

Throughout the Book of Leviticus we read of the command, "It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations." These appointed times (which in the Hebrew is *moed*) are to be kept forever by Yahweh's faithful people. These days were given to Israel as a part of the Covenant Yahweh made with them, and were written down as a continual reminder for us.

The New Testament shows that

Yahshua kept the Passover and the Feast days. His disciples kept them. Paul kept them (Acts 18:21) and encouraged the Corinthian converts to observe them: "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, as you are unleavened. For even Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened



[bread] of sincerity and truth" (1Cor. 5:7-8).

Feasts Kept in the Coming Kingdom

Yahshua said that He would keep the Passover anew in the Kingdom, Matthew 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18. The Old Testament prophets tell of the Feasts being held in the Kingdom: "In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, you shall have the passover; a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten" (Ezek. 45:21).

"In the seventh month, in the

fifteenth day of the month, shall he do the like in the feast of the seven days, according to the sin offering, according to the burnt offering, and according to the meat offering, and according to the oil" (Ezek. 45:25).

Isaiah spoke of worship being from Sabbath to Sabbath: "And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, says Yahweh" (Isa. 66:23).

Other Bible verses confirm that the Feasts will be observed in the Kingdom. Yahweh said that His Feasts would be kept by an ordinance forever.

We on this side of Golgatha observe Passover as a memorial of the Savior's having given His life for the sins of the world. Passover is not a Feast day (Hebrew = *chag*, joyous, happy time), but along with the

annual Feasts it will be observed again, but likely with a deeper and new meaning.

They will likely recall the Savior's return to this earth where He will gather the remnant of His flock and bring them to Zion. There He will establish His rulership and rule this earth with a rod of iron, Revelation 2:26-27.

We are being called now to become a priest and teacher in that Kingdom. It is up to us to learn all we can of these *moedim* (appointed times) of Yahweh so that we can help others now in this life as we prepare for our future.

2026

Biblical Feasts

Join us at Holts Summit!

Passover Memorial:
April 1 (evening)

Feast of Unleavened Bread:
April 3-9

Feast of Weeks (Pentecost):
May 24

Feast of Trumpets:
September 13

Day of Atonement:
September 22

Feast of Tabernacles:
September 27 - October 3

Last Great Day:
October 4



Who Is the Coming Antimesiah?

by Randy Folliard

How close are we to the end of the age and the return of Yahshua the Messiah? While this ministry is not one to set times and dates, it's safe to say that many of the signs in the Word are coming to pass.

The Messiah in His Olivet Prophecy warned about an increase in deception, war, natural disasters, and sin. We're witnessing many of these signs in our day and age and we're not alone.

An article in the *Huffington Post* noted that almost half of all Christians believe that Yahshua's Second Coming will occur within the next 40 years.

Yahshua warned in His Olivet Prophecy that He would return when most will not expect. He said watch for the fulfillment of end-time prophecy.

Today's rise of Islam in Europe and the United States will likely play a key part in end-time events. Several striking parallels can be seen comparing the Antimesiah and the final Imam. This article will review seven of them. Before we consider these signs, let's take a brief overview of the Antimesiah and the final Imam.

In addition to the Bible, we will refer here to a book entitled, *God's*

War on Terror: Islam, Prophecy and the Bible, by Walid Shoebat. The author was born to an Islamic father and Christian mother and was raised in an Arab community in Bethlehem.

As a young man he embraced Islam and even considered himself an Islamic terrorist. Like his father, he married a Christian woman who later challenged him to examine Christianity. In 1993 he converted to Christianity. Since then he has devoted much time to the study of biblical prophecy from a Middle Eastern or Islamic standpoint.

The Beast Denies Yahshua

The similarity between the Antimesiah and this Islamic ruler is the rejection of Yahshua the Messiah as the Son of Yahweh. We read in 1John 2:22-23, "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Yahshua is the Messiah? He is antimesiah, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also."

A denier of Yahshua the Messiah is one meaning of Antimesiah. We can view this prophecy as a general rejection of Yahshua's relationship to

His Father and as an actual prophecy referring to the person of the Antimesiah.

We also see that those who deny the Son also deny the Father.

We as believers must recognize the absolute need for maintaining faith in our Savior. This is why this first sign is vitally important; without Yahshua we have no Savior and no redemption from sin.

According to Walid Shoebat, while Islam accepts Yahshua as a prophet, they deny His relationship to the Father. He states, "Doctrinally, Islam and the Antichrist are in perfect agreement because both deny...the Divine Sonship of Christ."

The Islamic Ottoman Empire

The prophetic seventh kingdom succeeding Rome, Revelation 17:10, parallels what exists between the Antimesiah and the final Imam. This article will review seven parallel signs. Before we consider these signs, let's take a brief overview of the Antimesiah and the final Imam.

Bible prophecy indicates that the Antimesiah will come against or in place of the Messiah before Yahshua's

Second Coming, which is the meaning of “anti.” He will rise to power through the workings of Satan to become a worldwide despot and dictator. He will persecute the saints and force everyone to worship him.

According to Islamic belief, the final Imam will be the spiritual and political successor to the prophet Muhammad. He will come at the end of this age to establish Islamic rule and law in this world. This man is also called the al-Mahdi.

Claim Yahshua Will Confirm Islam

Revelation 14:12 defines a saint as one who keeps the commandments of Yahweh and has faith in Yahshua the Messiah. If we neglect either one we disqualify ourselves as believers in the New Testament. This is why this first sign is vitally important; without Yahshua we have no Savior and no redemption from sin.

According to Shoebat, while Islam accepts Yahshua as a prophet, they deny His relationship to the Father. He states, “Doctrinally, Islam and the Antichrist are in perfect agreement because both deny...the Divine Sonship of Christ.”

He goes on to say, “Regarding those who do not convert to Islam, the Qur’an states that will be a witness against them on the Day of Judgment: There is not one of the people of Scripture (Christians and Jews) but will believe in him before his death, and on the Day of Resurrection he will be a witness against them” (*Qur’an* 4:159).

Muslim scholars explain that the phrase “will believe in him before his death” means that Christians and Jews will “confirm that he is alive and has not died and he is not God or the Son of God but His (Allah’s) slave and Messenger, and Isa [Yahshua] will testify against those who had called him the Son of God,” *ibid*, p. 59.

This former Muslim says that according to the Quran Yahshua never

died and that He was not the son of Yahweh. According to Islamic tradition, when Mohammad returns Yahshua also will return to confirm Islam.

Talk about blasphemy and a contradiction of Scripture!

Man of Sin of Mideast Origin

Another parallel between the Antimessiah and the Al-Mahdi is the geographic location from which they will arise. According to Islamic tradition, the 12th Imam will come from the ancient territory of the Ottoman Empire. Bible prophecy indicates that the Man of Sin may also come from this same area.



We have firm support that the Man of Sin will come from one of these areas and not Rome, as so many have believed.

Before we consider this, however, Daniel 8 provides a clue that many miss regarding the place of origin for the Man of Sin. “And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up,” verses 21-23.

This king of Grecia is Alexander the Great, while the four horns symbolize his four generals who inherited his kingdom after his untimely death. As

we note in the *Restoration Study Bible*, those generals and their kingdoms were: “Seleucus (Syria and Babylon), Lysimachus (Asia Minor), Ptolemy (Egypt), and Cassander (Macedonia and Greece)” (note on Daniel 8:8).

The last king holds the key to the Man of Sin or the Antimessiah. What’s intriguing is that the Man of Sin will arise from somewhere in Alexander’s empire.

It’s important to note that this ancient empire never included Rome or northern Europe, but did encompass much of the Middle East, Asia, and Africa.

We have firm support that the Man of Sin will come from one of these areas and not Rome, as so many have believed.

There are two other passages in the Book of Revelation that indicate that this evil man will arise from the Middle East, particularly the Ottoman Empire, which includes Turkey. The first is found in Revelation 13:3: “And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.”

Many believe that this “wound” pertains to the person of the Antimessiah. Is it possible though that it symbolizes something different, from a literal injury to the Man of Sin? According to Revelation 17:9-11, not only is this possible, it’s likely:

“And here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sits. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he comes, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goes into perdition.”

Here John of Patmos sees a Beast (Antimessiah) that sits on seven mountains, symbolizing seven heads. Some claim that these seven mountains represent seven hills of Rome. For

example, the *Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary* states, “As nature shadows forth spiritual realities, so seven-hilled Rome is a representative of the seven-headed world power, of which the dragon is the prince.”

However, it’s more likely that these mountains symbolize seven kingdoms or nations. Here’s why.

Micah 4:1 prophesies that in the millennium Yahweh’s “mountain” will be instituted: “But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of Yahweh shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.”

Mountains in Scripture symbolize kingdoms. Yahweh’s Kingdom coming to earth will be established above all other kingdoms or nations. From Revelation we also see that these seven mountains are connected to seven kings, representing seven kingdoms.

John prophesied that five of these kings had fallen, one was, and one was yet to come. From explanations in Daniel 2 and 8, the fallen kingdoms that ruled the Middle East, Israel

prophesied kingdom “to come.” No other kingdom fits the criteria as does the Islamic Ottoman or Turkish Empire, which is the seventh kingdom, and out of the seventh comes the eighth king, the Antimesiah.

Alexander the Great a Pivotal Figure

What comes to mind when most think of the Roman Empire is the western region, represented by its capital in Rome. The fact is, the Roman Empire had two capitals, one in Rome and the other in Constantinople, which was established by Emperor Constantine in 330 CE. Constantinople would come to overshadow and replace Rome as the capital. Constantinople is now Istanbul, the largest city in Islamic Turkey.

This realm was also known as the Byzantine Empire, which at its peak controlled parts of southeastern Europe, southwestern Asia, the northeast corner of Africa, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Cyprus, Egypt, eastern Libya and Turkey. This empire would exist for 1,000 years until its overthrow by the Ottoman Turks in 1453 CE.

After the defeat of the Byzantine

the Ottoman Empire share a key trait: neither one controlled Rome and both conquered much of the Middle East, which includes today’s Turkey (the ancient territory known as Anatolia). Why exactly is this important?

According to Daniel and Revelation, the Man of Sin will arise from the Mideast and specifically from Alexander the Great’s empire. Alexander conquered what became the eastern leg of the Roman Empire or Turkey, which was later engulfed by the Ottoman Empire.

The 17th chapter of Revelation confirms that the Beast or the Antimesiah is the eighth ruler and is “of the seven” or of the seventh kingdom. In other words, the Antimesiah will come from the prophesied seventh empire.

Shoebat also attests to this likelihood: “...the Empire of the Antichrist will not be a new empire; rather it will be the revival of a previous great empire that will have suffered what the Bible calls a ‘fatal head wound’ (Revelation 13:3). This empire is the Islamic Ottoman Empire that replaced the Roman Empire after the fall of its



Alexander the Great floor mosaic from the House of the Faun in Pompeii.

included, were Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, and Greece. The king that “is” or existed when John received this prophecy was Rome.

Only one other enduring kingdom historically connected to the Middle East was the Ottoman Empire, the

Empire, the Ottoman Empire existed for over 600 years until it was vanquished in 1922. At its peak, this empire controlled Southeast Europe, Western Asia, the Caucasus, North Africa, and the Horn of Africa.

Both Alexander’s kingdom and

remaining eastern section,” *God’s War on Terror*, p. 81.

Another parallel with the Man of Sin and the Mahdi is that they are both prophesied to display great signs and wonders. Yahshua in Matthew 24:24 states, “For there shall arise

false Messiahs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

This is one of the three accounts of Yahshua’s Olivet Prophecy. The two others are in Mark 13 and Luke 21. The word “signs” comes from the Greek *semeion*. **Thayer’s Greek Lexicon** defines this as, “...an unusual occurrence, transcending the common course of nature.” Similarly, the word “wonders” comes from the Greek *teras* and refers to miracles.

Yahshua confirms that the Antimessiah along with the False Prophet will be miraculously empowered to perform impressive miracles that man will not explain through the laws of nature or science. Because of this, the world will follow these men and if possible, they would even deceive the very elect.

The Elect Are Pivotal in Prophecy

The reference to the “elect” is to convey the gravity of this deception; it’s likely they will not be deceived. This is not to say, however, that all those baptized into Yahshua’s Name will be spared.

The reality is, just because we’re baptized into the Messiah’s Name doesn’t make us part of the chosen or the elect. This is something that comes from sincere devotion and a faith second to none that endures to the end.

Where does the Man of Sin receive his power? The answer is in Revelation 13:2: “And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.”

The dragon symbolizes Satan the devil who will be the source of the Antimessiah’s power and authority. This is why his signs and wonders will be beyond the explanation of natural laws or science. The power behind them will be supernatural and demonic.

If this occurs in our lifetime, nothing we have ever seen will prepare

us for what will come from the Beast and his false prophet.

They’ll Do Amazing Things

Scripture states that the false prophet will rain fire from heaven and will give life to a lifeless image, Revelation 13:14-15. The signs and wonders that these apocalyptic figures will show will be beyond explanation or reason. This is why it’s important that we understand the prophecies and know the signs of Yahshua’s Second Coming.

Similar to the Antimessiah, according to Islamic belief, this last successor of Muhammad will also show great signs and wonders: “Allah will give him power over the wind and the rain, and the earth will bring forth its foliage. He will give away wealth profusely, flocks will be in abundance, and the Ummah (Empire of Islam) will be large and honored,” **God’s war on Terror**, p. 83.

Like the Antimessiah, this 12th Imam will be given the ability to perform great signs and wonders and will be able to deceive the world.

They’ll Change Times and Laws

In addition to being able to perform great wonders, both the Bible and Islamic tradition state that these men will think to alter worship and the system of law (induce Sharia laws?).

Daniel in the seventh chapter states this regarding the Man of Sin: “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time,” verse 25.

The word “times” is from the Aramaic *zeman* and refers to seasons or appointed occasions. Similarly, the word “law” derives from the Aramaic *dath* and refers to commandments, edicts, or statutes. In essence, the Antimessiah will seek to institute a whole new system of worship and law. According to the eleventh chapter of

Daniel, this man will not honor the “Elohim of his fathers.” This phrase appears an additional four times in the Hebrew text (2Kings 21:22; 2Chronicles 21:10; 28:25; 33:12) and in all references refers to Yahweh, the Elohim of the Hebrews.

No doubt, part of this worship will include the abomination of desolation and the image to which the False Prophet will give life (see Matthew 24:15 and Revelation 13:15).

Daniel prophesies that he will rule until a time and times and the dividing of time. This phrase refers to the three-and-a-half years of the Great Tribulation and is also found in Revelation 12:14.

According to Yahshua in His Olivet Prophecy, this will be the worst time this earth has ever and will ever see. It’s going to test the faith of Yahweh’s elect like nothing before.

Seven-year Covenant

Another striking parallel we find between the Antimessiah and the 12th Imam is a seven years covenant or peace agreement. Daniel 9:27 says that the Man of Sin will make a seven-year covenant or peace treaty with many nations.

“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for seven weeks and half of seven, then he shall cause the sacrifice and gift offerings to cease, and upon the horns of the altar the abomination of desolation: and the abomination of desolation shall continue until the end of the appointed time; the city shall remain desolate.”

The “seven weeks” represent seven years and refer to the seven-year covenant or treaty that this man will confirm with the nations of this earth. As we see, though, this treaty will be short lived. In the middle of this seven-year treaty the Antimessiah will nullify the covenant and stop the sacrifices and oblations.

As an aside, the reference here to stopping the sacrifices may indicate a previous form of Hebraic worship and

may offer an explanation how believers, even those in the Messiah, could be led astray by this imposter.

When this man brings an end to the agreement he will set up the abomination of desolation, which will stand in the holy place of the temple until the coming of Yahshua the Messiah (Matt. 24:15). At this point, he will force all of mankind to worship him and him alone.

Self-professed Ultimate Deity

According to the Apostle Paul in the second chapter of 2Thessalonians, he will exalt himself above all that is called a mighty one. It reads, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called Elohim, or that is worshiped; so that he as Elohim sitteth in the temple of Elohim, showing himself that he is Elohim," vv. 3-4.

The Man of Sin will become the ultimate dictator and despot over the entire world. No one will be able to openly oppose or defy him. According to Islamic tradition, the final Imam may also form a similar agreement.

"One Islamic tradition places the ascendancy of the Mahdi at the time of a final peace agreement between the Arabs and the Romans ('Romans' should be interpreted here as referring to Christians, or more generally, the West). Although this peace agreement is made with the 'Romans,' it is said to be mediated specifically through a Jew from the priestly lineage of Aaron.

The peace agreement will be made for a period of seven years," *God's War on Terror*, p. 114.

Just as the Man of Sin will make a seven-year agreement, the final Imam may do the same. Interestingly, according to author Shoebat, this treaty will be between the Mahdi and the western world, including Christianity and Judaism. Intriguing also is the mention of a Jew from the priestly line of Aaron, which will help facilitate this agreement.

Such circumstances may provide an explanation as to how an agreement might form between the Jews and Arabs. In recent decades there has been an ever-increasing effort by America and other western nations to form a peace treaty in the Middle East. Most of these attempts have ended in failure or are shortlived. However, both Bible



prophecy and Islamic tradition state that such a scenario will be a reality possibly in the near future.

Ten Sycophantish Kings

Another fascinating parallel with these men is the belief of 10 kings. John of Patmos in the 17th chapter of Revelation provides insight into the purpose of these kings. "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings,

which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast," vv. 12-13.

Notice first here that these 10 kings have not yet received their kingdoms or positions. It says that they will receive power as kings for one hour with the beast. This likely represents the time of the Great Tribulation. What purpose do these 10 kings serve? They will empower and strengthen the Beast. In other words, they will be pawns that the Man of Sin will leverage to strengthen his political power.

Now before we examine the possible identity of these kings, let's consider how this prophecy may correspond to Islamic tradition.

"In 2002 a plan for the reestablishment of the Caliphate was written by... the Guiding Helper Foundation entitled, *The Plan for the Return of the Caliphate*. According to the plan, the Caliph would be assisted in his rule by a ten-member council of "Assistant Caliphs." These assistants, or council members, are similar to ministers in many of today's governments" (*ibid*, p. 91). Just

as Bible prophecy foretells, Islamic tradition states that there will arise 10 leaders or caliphs who will support the Caliph or the last Imam. The similarities here between the Bible and Islamic tradition are quite amazing.

Regarding the 10 kings that Revelation describes in the 17th chapter, Psalm 83:3-8 may very well offer a key to unlock their identity.

"They have taken crafty counsel

against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot.”

Notice here that there are also 10 kings mentioned and that they form a confederacy for the sole purpose of destroying the nation of Israel. Two questions are crucial: 1) is this passage historic or prophetic and 2) do we know the locations of these kingdoms today?

According to many scholars, there is no historical tie to this passage.

The Harper Collins Study Bible states: “There is no particular historical moment with which such a grouping of nations against Israel can be associated.” **The Wycliffe Bible Commentary** agrees, “The occasion cannot be identified with certainty, because at no period in Israel’s history has such a confederation of nations existed.”

Based on this fact, it’s reasonable to conclude that this passage can only be prophetic. While there is some debate, the locations are generally assumed to be the following (this list is derived from the **Restoration Study Bible**):

Edom – Southern Jordan; Ishmaelites – Arabs; Hagarenes – Egypt; Gebal – Lebanon; Ammon – Northern Jordan; Amalek – Sinai Peninsula; Philistines – Gaza Strip; Tyre – Lebanon; Assur – Syria and Iraq; Children of Lot – Jordan

Remarkably, every nation listed in Psalm 83 is located in the Middle East and today are Islamic. Some might say that this is only a coincidence, but the evidence says otherwise.

He Rules by Force

The last parallel is the use of military force or aggression. According to the Bible and Islamic tradition, both the Antimessiah and the final Imam will be men of war. Daniel 7:23 reads, “Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.”

This fourth kingdom represents the Antimessiah and his empire. The Bible states that this kingdom will be different from all others before it. Daniel confirms that this final kingdom will devour the whole world.

It’s a historical fact that no kingdom or empire has ever managed to conquer the entire world. In addition to global rule, this man will also tread down and break this world in pieces.

In addition to Daniel, Revelation also prophesies that this man will rule by war: “And they worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”

We see again that the Antimessiah will receive power from the dragon, representing Satan the devil. The power that this man will possess will be supernatural and demonic.

Notice the last part of this verse, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” This is a rhetorical question confirming that no one will be able to resist or defy the Antimessiah. He will rule over this earth as the ultimate dictator and despot. For three-and-a-half years this man will have complete control and seek to destroy all those who believe in the Bible and in Yahshua the Messiah.

Like the beast of Revelation, Islamic tradition verifies that the Mahdi will also rule by force.

“The Mahdi is portrayed throughout the Islamic tradition as being the military leader of the Islamic ‘world revolution’ that will defeat all the other

religions and political systems” (**God’s War on Terror**, p. 93).

Just as the Antimessiah will rule through aggression and violence, Islamic tradition conveys that the final successor of Muhammad will do the same. He will rule by complete force without regard to human life or continuance.

To review, we find the following seven parallels between the Antimessiah and the final Imam:

- They will both deny Yahshua as the Son of Yahweh.
- They will arise from the Middle East.
- They will show great signs and wonders.
- They will change worship and systems of law.
- They will form a seven-year covenant or peace treaty with many nations.
- They will receive strength and support from ten kings.
- They will both rule by aggression and warfare.

Only time will settle questions surrounding the identity of the Antimessiah and the impact that Islam will have on end-time prophecy. For now, it’s important to have an open mind and consider all possible scenarios.

While the majority of Bible believers are looking to Europe and Rome as the fulfillment of the Man of Sin and this final empire, it’s far more likely that this last kingdom will arise from the Middle East, being that Yahweh always centers prophecy on Israel and its surrounding neighbors.

May we heed Yahshua’s words in Luke 21:36, “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

Human governments will all ultimately fail. But Yahshua’s rule is forever. May we have a part in His true government that is prophesied to come to earth permanently to rule all nations from its capital at Jerusalem. 

The Push for Islamic Law

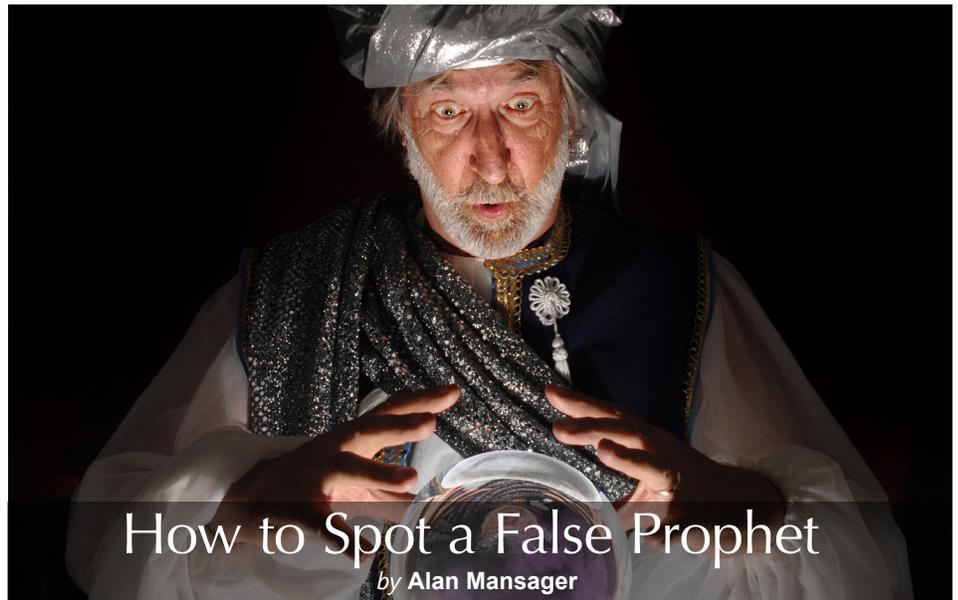
An ongoing effort by many Islamic organizations is to have Sharia law enforced in the United States. The same pattern is seen in European nations with some success.

Like the Man of Sin, the final Imam, will also seek to change times and laws, Daniel 7:25 (Shoebat). “The Mahdi...will attempt to change the law by instituting Islamic Sharia law as far as he is able to do so...

“This activism already exists in every nation of the world. Behind all the masks, they all desire to replace non-Islamic legal systems with Islamic Sharia law and replace every constitution with the constitution of the caliphate” (*ibid*, p. 85).

We are seeing a push for Islamic law today in America. Already an article dated July 29, 2013, in the *Huffington Post* entitled, *Sharia Law in the USA* reported, “North Carolina lawmakers on Wednesday (July 24) approved a bill to prohibit judges from considering ‘foreign laws’ in their decisions, but nearly everyone agrees that ‘foreign laws’ really means Sharia, or Islamic law.”

Seven states have now passed “foreign laws” bills to protect the states’ judicial systems from foreign laws that conflict with the U.S. Constitution, specifically referencing the protection against “Sharia law.”



Yahshua was the greatest prophet to walk the earth. In Matthew 24:11 He warned about the last days, “And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.” With much of the world currently at some level of chaos, many are predicting that the Second Coming of the Messiah is nearer than ever. But who is right? The podcaster? The television evangelist? A prophecy website?

The list of failures in predicting Yahshua’s return over the centuries is legion. It starts with the Jewish Essenes who saw the Jewish uprising against the Romans in 66-70 in Judea as the final end-time battle, which would bring the arrival of the Messiah. Coins were even minted declaring the redemption of Israel.

In 1524 a group of astrologers in London predicted the world would end

by a flood starting in London. Twenty thousand Londoners left their homes and headed for higher ground. One of the more modern flops grabbed worldwide attention when a man claimed 88 reasons why the Messiah would return at the Feast of Trumpets in 1988. He later blamed a miscalculation, claiming it would occur a year later.

A religious broadcaster who owned 40 radio stations wrote two books assuring that Yahshua would return to Palestine in September of 1994. He based his reasoning on mathematics and the biblical holy day calendar.

This man later admitted that he was wrong about the month but that the Messiah could still appear in 1994.

Once a prophecy fails all credibility is shot. The Holy Spirit doesn’t make mistakes. Inspired prophecy has no room for second chances. Yahweh does



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not miscalculate and He certainly does not make mistakes.

Accurate prophecy is a gift of the Holy Spirit and is completely trustworthy. Paul wrote of such gifts in 1Corinthians 12:10, “To another the working of miracles; to another PROPHECY; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of languages; to another the interpretation of languages.”

A fundamental truth is that a true prophet represents Yahweh. His words are not the imagination of his own mind, but come from the highest Source. Therefore, that prophet must and will speak with absolute accuracy.

How Not to Be Deceived

More “prophets” will be stepping forward in the coming years. How can

Therefore, these same tests can be applied to the minister, elder, prophet, teacher—or to anyone claiming to represent Yahweh. Yahweh works only with people who are morally and spiritually upright. This should be obvious.

The prophet Jeremiah wrote in 23:14, “I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none does return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah” (Jer. 23:14).

Can a person who breaks Yahweh’s laws be a genuine representative of the Heavenly Father? Should we give credence to someone who teaches against the law? Should we be

Deuteronomy 18:20-22 warns us that if the prophet speaks in Yahweh’s Name but the prophecy fails, don’t listen any more to that “prophet.” (And if they don’t even speak Yahweh’s Name, run!)

Deuteronomy 13:2-5 reveals that if the prophecy succeeds, but the prophet otherwise teaches false doctrine, then he’s false as well.

Jeremiah 23:30-32 cautions that if the person prophesies his own false dreams, don’t listen to him. But if a prophecy comes to pass and if it causes people to turn from sin, then that prophet may be trusted, Jeremiah 28:9; 23:22.

You Test a Prophet By—

- Looking at his personal integrity.
- Testing what he prophesies or teaches for accuracy and scriptural fidelity.



we know their inspiration? How can we avoid being deceived?

We are told repeatedly in Scripture not to be taken in by false prophets. Would Yahweh warn us not to be misled without providing the means to protect ourselves?

There are ways to test a prophet. In fact, you can double-check him. Before we look at the person’s prophecy, we must look at the prophet himself. Understand that prophesying in Scripture means more than foretelling the future, it also denotes inspired teaching.

persuaded by those who do not keep the true Sabbath or who do not honor Yahweh’s Name but rather deny it?

“Her [false] prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law,” Zephaniah writes in 3:4.

Before we even consider what a self-styled prophet or teacher has to say, we must first look at what he stands for and how he conducts his life.

Scripture also shows how we can test the prophet by his prophecies.

- Investigating whether he otherwise believes, practices, or promotes false doctrine.

- Examining the effectiveness of what he says in converting the sinner.

If we apply these tests every time, we will have far less chance of being duped by a false prophet.

When asked by His disciples when the end would come Yahshua cautioned them not to be deceived, Luke 21:8.

Satan will increase his activities. False prophecies will abound and many will be ensnared. Don’t be one. ✓

Q Please explain 2Corinthians 3:13-16. Isn't the veil symbolic of covering over and hiding the law that Yahshua abolished?

A It's important that you understand that 2Corinthians 3:13-16 is not referring to the entire Law. Yahweh's laws of morality and worship are still valid and required for believers today. Many Bible believers misunderstand this.

While our Savior offered a better sacrifice, our Father and His law code of ethics and morality remain the same, Malachi 3:6. The passage is referring to a change in the covenant ushered in through the Messiah's death and atonement. Just as the Israelites could not see the glory of Moses through the veil, many of the Jews could not see the glory of Yahshua through the blindness or hardness of their hearts. Hebrew 9:1-11 describes this covenant change.

The ritualistic laws of the first covenant pointed to something greater, i.e., to Yahshua the Messiah. Through Yahshua there is now a complete washing away or removal of sin, which the Old Testament through the sacrificial system could never accomplish. As a result, today there is no need for the physical tabernacle (temple) with all its furnishings and practices. We are now the temple of Yahweh, 1Corinthians 3:16.

Q My Catholic friend says that the Pope gets his office and authority from Peter as the "first pope." He also said that the church has authority over the Bible. Is this true?

A The Catholic Church claims its authority regarding papal office derives from Yahshua's statement in Matthew 16:18-19: "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my assembly; and the gates of the grave shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The subject was Peter's confession that Yahshua was the Messiah, the Son of Yahweh, verse 16. It was Peter's acknowledgment on which Yahshua said He would build His Assembly, not on Peter himself. We find a play on words in verse 18 where Peter in the Hebrew is *cepha* (Greek *petros*), both meaning a stone, while Yahshua is the immovable Rock (*petra*, a massive rock) on which the assembly would be founded. Paul confirmed that Yahshua and not Peter is the foundation that no man can lay, 1Corinthians 3:11.

In verse 19 Yahshua said that what you bind on earth will be bound in heaven. Here the tense is future perfect progressive, meaning whatever you bind on earth shall already have been bound in heaven. This assurance was not just for Peter, but He said the same to the other Apostles, Matthew 18:18. Similarly, the authority to forgive an offense was given to all the Apostles, John 20:22-23.



Peter was never considered the head Apostle. Consider the following. At one point Yahshua rebuked Peter, accusing him of being satanically influenced, Mark 8:33. Paul also reprimanded Peter for his prejudice, Galatians 2:11. Peter denied Yahshua three times at Yahshua's inquisition before the High Priest, John 18:17.

When the disciples asked Yahshua which of them will be greatest in the Kingdom, would not they already know that Peter would hold the top spot? Yahshua didn't say, "Well, Peter will be prominent, of course." Instead, He said that those who are humble as children will be greatest.

At another time in Matthew 20:20 the mother of James and John requested for her sons the greatest positions in the Kingdom. If Peter were the chief Apostle, would he not have been given that honor, and wouldn't James and John already know that? Over an issue of doctrine in Acts 15, Paul, Barnabas, and others went to Jerusalem to consult the other Apostles and elders about the question. They didn't run to Peter for a judgment. In fact, it was James, not Peter, who spoke for the others.

How can a church have authority over Scripture when Yahshua in issues of doctrine constantly referred to Scripture and not to a church? See Matthew 19:4; Luke 16:31; John 10:34. Paul did as well. See Acts 17:11; 1Thessalonians 5:21; 2Timothy 3:15-17. In this last passage, Paul said the Scriptures are able to make one perfect (complete). The Word does not need a church to prop it up, neither can a church usurp scriptural authority.

Q Some who resist calling on the personal names Yahweh and Yahshua of the Father and Son, will say it's because these names do not appear in the New Testament English or even in the Greek behind the English. Please explain.

A There is substantial evidence that the New Testament was originally written in Hebrew or Aramaic. That evidence includes Hebraic grammar, idioms, the many Hebrew words left untranslated, and the fact that the writers of the New Testament were Hebrews themselves.

In addition, the Greek texts have abbreviations called *Nomina Sacra* that indicate that the original text had the Sacred Names. The *Restoration Study Bible* note at Matthew 1:22 states, "*Nomina Sacra* meaning 'sacred names' in Latin, was a literary device used to abbreviate several words in early Greek NT manuscripts. Bruce Metzger's book, *Manuscripts of the Greek Bible*, lists 15 examples of these abbreviations from Greek papyri: God, Lord, Jesus, Christ, Son, Spirit, David, cross, Mother, Father, Israel, Savior, Man, Jerusalem, and Heaven. Except for 'mother,' which is not found until the 4th century CE, all other *Nomina Sacra* have been found in Greek manuscripts from the first through third centuries CE. While scholars are still debating the purpose, some propose that this shortening of key words may have been used to replace the Tetragrammaton (see

Ex. 3:15) with the common title *kurios* (typically abbreviated 'KS' with a line above), in Greek Christian manuscripts, as found within this passage.

"This offers a possible explanation as to why Yahweh's Name is missing from the Greek NT. In fact, in those places where the Tetragrammaton should appear, the definite article is missing in front of the *Nomina Sacra*. This conclusion is supported also by German scholar David Trobisch's work, ***The First Edition of The New Testament***, in the instance of a Hebrew or Aramaic New Testament original, this may also explain why the Greek title *theos*, typically (abbreviated 'THS' with a line above), appears in place of the Hebrew Elohim...."

Others may point to Exodus 6:3: "And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of El Shaddai, but by my name Yahweh was I not known to them." They will claim that this passage confirms that Yahweh's Name was not known to the patriarchs and therefore was not important.

However, Scripture verifies that the patriarchs did know and call upon Yahweh's Name. For example, Genesis 12:8 states, "And he [Abram] removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto Yahweh, and called upon the name of Yahweh." See also Genesis 13:4 and 21:33.

The Hebrew of Exodus 6:3 is an idiom that means they did not perceive or understand His Name because they had not yet witnessed what He would accomplish through the power of His Name.

Regardless why some avoid the sacred Names, Scripture clearly supports that the use of Yahweh's Name is very important. For example, Joel 2:32 prophesied, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of Yahweh shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as Yahweh hath said, and in the remnant whom Yahweh shall call." This is also found in Acts 2:21 and Romans 10:13.

Q I have been telling my fellow church members that Yahweh's law is still in effect but they contend that many Scriptures say otherwise. For example, Hebrews 7:12 shows that there has been a change in the law. What do you say and where can I show them their error?

A The change in law as spoken of in Hebrews 7:12 is a change in the priesthood and worship. The ninth chapter of Hebrews says that the changes are connected with the temple and sacrificial worship—no longer available.

Nowhere, however, does the Bible nullify the Sabbath, Feasts, clean foods, and other laws we find in the Old Testament. In fact, we find these laws being observed by the Messiah and the Apostles (Luke 23:56; Acts 13:14; 16:13; 17:2; Matthew 27; Mark 15:33; John 19; Acts 2:1-4; 20:6; 16; John 7). We also find general support for law keeping in the New Testament (Matt. 5:17-20; 19:17; 22:37-40; Mark 10:19; John 14:15; Romans 3:31; 7:1, 12; 13:8-10; 1 Corinthians 7:19; 1John 2:3; 3:4; 5:3; Revelation 12:17; 14:12; 22:14).

Q I need information on tithing. I've always been told to tithe 10% of all my increase. I'm trying to teach others but can't find in the Bible where it says that we are to tithe 10 percent of our money today. All I can find in the Old Testament is that Israel was supposed to tithe from their first fruits, new wine and oil. Where does it say it is for us today, how we are to tithe, and what we are to do with our tithes? If people are worshiping in a home fellowship then what are they to do with their tithe? Can it be spent on Bibles, learning material, etc?

A Malachi 3:8 warns, "Will a man rob Elohim? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." Who wants the accusation of robbing Yahweh taken to their grave?

The 10 percent is derived from the Hebrew word for tithe, *maaser*, and means, "a tenth; especially a tithe" (***Strong's***). To Melchisedec "Abraham gave a tenth part of all he gained," Hebrews 7:2.

The reason the majority of references in the Old Testament equate the tithe to produce or livestock is that this was Israel's monetary system. While it's true that they also had gold and silver, they were an agricultural society. We do find examples where the tithe was something different. In Genesis 14:20 Abraham tithed to Melchizedek of war plunder. Also, in Genesis 28:22 Jacob promised to tithe of all his possessions.

In addition to the Old Testament, tithing is mentioned in the New, in Matthew 23:23 and Hebrews 7:1-6 and is referenced in I Corinthians 9:11. Regarding its use, the tithe is to be put toward official ministry work. Buying religious books for your own library doesn't qualify. Malachi 3:10 directs the tithe to be brought to the storehouse, which is the ministry.



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DITCH SANDBOX BEHAVIOR

by Alan Mansager

Many who read and study Yahweh’s Word, maybe even for decades, put little of it into practice. They have never totally applied the Word to their lives, never obeyed the commands, like to honor the true Sabbath and call on His Name—even though they clearly understood that this is what the Word plainly teaches.

Yahshua gave a lesson about this in Luke 13:25: “When once the master of the house is risen up, and has shut to the door, and you begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Master, Master, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence you are: Then shall you begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence you are; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity.”

Iniquity broadly means wrongfulness in character, life or act.

Why do many never arrive at the nexus where learning impacts doing? Isn’t that the whole purpose for Bible instruction, to change the heart to alter the walk, to produce a spiritually regenerated person? That should be obvious, but millions never make the connection. Or if they do, they are afraid to follow through with the truth because it will affect their lives in significant ways – but that’s the whole point!

A survey by the American Culture and Faith Institute interviewed churches across the nation concerning very basic Bible teachings. “Did Yahshua live a sinless life; and is Satan real or imaginary?” Seventy percent of the churches surveyed failed to line up with the fundamental teachings of the Bible, which leaves only a small fraction of churches in America who actually believe and teach the core lessons of the Word. Only 2% of them said that they teach certain fundamentals from Scripture, like obeying its commands,

while 98% of churches don’t teach applying the Bible to their lives and to live in obedience to it because they might offend their congregations.

This is why this world is in such abysmal straits. There is little respect for, let alone fear of, Yahweh.

Events in the Bible are presented to us in order to guide us. Each time you read Scripture you must ask yourself:

- How does this apply to me?
- How can I follow this in my life?

Seeing the application in the text doesn’t always come easy. It is even more difficult to think through exactly how to live by it. Yet to do so is critical, because that is how we change and grow spiritually.

The vast majority are spectators and not doers. James 1:22 reads, “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” James devotes two chapters to applying the Word.

Take Yahshua’s parables. They are lessons for us. Some are so straightforward that applying them is obvious. The Good Samaritan parable tells me I need to try to help those in serious trouble who come into my influence, no matter who they are.

The Prodigal Son parable teaches forgiveness and putting myself in the other person’s place.

Sometimes the Word itself tells me point blank to use the lesson. For instance, in commenting on Israel of the Old Testament, Paul wrote in 1Cor. 10:11: “Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”

What happened to Israel is for our learning, the lessons specifically are for us living in the last days. Now tell me the Old Testament is not relevant today!

All that Israel did right, and all they did wrong are teaching moments. We are expected to learn from their

Many never get past sandbox behavior. They are calloused, lacking in soft tissue, without love and concern for others.

experiences, even if they did not.

Yahweh does double duty with the Scriptures. Maybe Israel didn't get the lesson back then, but maybe we will. When they disobeyed, or when they ignored Yahweh, they suffered. When they lived by the Word, they prospered. These are fundamental Bible principles.

The Bible is ageless because human nature is changeless.

When we first decided to break with our prior denomination, we took the Sabbath command to heart and made the necessary leap away from Sunday worship. Thousands of others have done the same when the truth became clear.

As James wrote, Yahweh's Word is for obeying and not just for hearing. It's a plain and simple concept, but difficult for most people who don't examine their own hearts.

There are powerful forces working against living the Word, not the least being our own natures. We humans naturally resist it. Doing right takes conscious overcoming of our natural human pulls. Doing wrong comes naturally.

Watch two toddlers in a sandbox for a study in human nature at its most basic. Does one share with his playmate all his toys, or does he accumulate a pile of them all for himself and then selfishly wrest one more out of his companion's hands to leave him crying, while ignoring the pain he caused.

Many adults never get past sandbox behavior. They are calloused, lacking in soft tissue, without love and concern for others but only for themselves. Humans nature is myopic.

The way we choose to walk now will permanently impact our everlasting life. Ask yourself, am I living up to Romans 12:1: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of Elohim, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto Elohim, which is your reasonable service."

Reasonable is related to logic in the Greek – it refers to a thinking mind and not done automatically and thoughtlessly, or out of ritual or compulsion. When we voluntarily go out of our way to help others, it more than blesses them, it changes us inside as well.

We are expected to live the Truth sacrificially. Do you sacrifice for others? Give of your time to help others? Share your resources to help a brother or sister in need? Yahshua said we will be rewarded according to our works, Romans 2:6. 

Biblical Hebrew Word Lesson

פסח

Pesach PEH-sakh

Composition: Pe, sheghol,
samekh, pathach, het

The Hebrew word **Pesach**
(H6453) is a masculine noun
that means: passover.

This is how you are to eat it: with
your cloak tucked into your belt,
your sandals on your feet and your
staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is
Yahweh's **Passover**.

Exodus 12:11

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4th Edition



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ELDERTORIAL

Under the Influence

It's the beginning of a new biblical year. While the world focuses on self-improvement with New Year's resolutions, the Believer examines his and her life in light of Yahshua's Passover sacrifice and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

For most of the worldly nothing about their lives will significantly change. The reason is rooted in wayward motives nourished by a wrong spirit.

However, the Holy Spirit working in the converted person produces a truly transformed heart.

The spirit of the world is selfish, suspicious, envious, and strife-filled. In a carnal atmosphere, an angry reaction to a police action can incite rioting. But it can also generate a hatred that spreads much faster and farther than the ensuing mayhem.

In contrast, compassion and kindness produce a peaceable spirit, James 3:17.

Writing to Corinth, the Apostle Paul tells the True Worshipers, "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of Yahweh" (1Cor. 2:12).

Only Yahweh's Holy Spirit can bring about a true and lasting conversion. Only His Spirit can effect a right transformation in the way one thinks, reacts, and behaves. The Bible emphasizes that the unconverted need a complete changeover in mind, heart, and attitude. In Romans 12:2 Paul writes, "And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of Yahweh."

A person dominated by the Holy Spirit thinks and acts in ways completely

diverse from the worldly minded. He or she possesses the mind of Messiah, with different interests, pursuits, goals, and desires from what attracts an unregenerate society. This individual has a richness, depth, and happiness unfamiliar to the unconverted person. He or she enjoys an inner peace the world cannot understand — one built on complete faith and trust in Yahweh.

One will not achieve this inner change by any human means. "For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh," Paul writes, "and these are contrary the one to the other: so that you cannot do the things that you would" (Gal. 5:17).

The spirit of the world is both mesmerizing and deceptive. Those caught up in the delusive trivia that embraces our culture do not realize the danger they are in. As in the days of Noah, they are consumed by all the activity and pleasures of the moment and are blind to what's ahead.

Nearly all signs are now in place revealing that this age of carnal man is almost at an end. Prophetic evidence for the returning Savior is everywhere, from the perversity of gender manipulation and widespread Sodomizing practices to a false religion, spreading worldwide courtesy of Mideast invaders.

Through Jeremiah, Yahweh warns our age: "Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not: Fear you not me? says Yahweh: will you not tremble at my presence..." Jeremiah 5:21-22.

We who know Yahweh must every day be on guard against becoming absorbed by our culture's spirit. 

"I just want to say thank you for your diligence in your research on the scripture and answering everything in great detail. I have been on a hunt for the truth for a couple years now since I started understanding that the Bible does not describe modern Christianity. I enjoy where you put the truth and what's believed by the world and why it's not the truth. Everything I have read from you guys shows the worldly argument with its twisted scripture and then the truth. I find that you dot all I's and cross all T's when it comes to explaining scripture. I of course still check it with the Bible and I have not found any contradictions. I have decided to follow you guys and you have been a blessing to me in ways you don't understand. I'm praying for your ministry to reach more and more people." -AV

"I and approximately six others are in the process of leaving [our affiliation] due to improper doctrinal teachings/changes and completely denying the use of the correct Names of our Father in heaven, Yahweh and His Son Yahshua. I knew something was wrong earlier, but didn't realize what it was until I was made aware, from these others, that have been intensely researching the issues for some time. That's when I decided to start following YRM and watching your videos and website. It is amazing to me how much more I have learned from YRM and will continue on this path, as this 'awakening' has really had a great effect on me. I feel that I am now on the correct path to salvation and must stay on it. All I can do is pray for all those involved in letting themselves be deceived and hope they, too, have an awakening." -CK

"Prayer is not for informing Yahweh about your life, prayer is including Yahweh in your life."

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