

BIBLE BASICS
ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS

“The Reason for the Hope that is in us”

***Written based on God’s Set-apart Word
King James version of the Bible used along with the
ISR Scriptures version for a comparative study***

Copyright © 2015 by Dawn Hagedorn

Published March 30, 2015

All rights reserved. This book or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher except for the use of brief quotations in a book review or scholarly journal.

First Printing: 2015

ISBN 978-1-329-01687-3

Book 1

1. Who is God? Who is man? Who is woman?
2. What is the Bible about & how do I read it?
3. Who is Satan?
4. Who is Jesus & what is God's Holy Spirit?
5. What is Sin?
6. What happens when we die?
7. What is faith?

1. Who is God? Who is man? Who is woman?

God (Hebrew ‘Elohim’) is our Creator, Father, and the Giver of strength and all things good! In the original Hebrew scriptures His Name is ‘yod hey vav hey’ or YHWH which means essentially ‘He Is’ because HE IS everything we need! The very first sentence in the Bible Genesis 1:1 tells us, ***“In the beginning Elohim (God) created the heavens and the earth”***. That simple sentence lets us know just how powerful Elohim (God) is and to Whom everything belongs! No wonder His enemies would have us believe everything just happened with a big bang that didn’t require a creator...

The book of Genesis goes on to say: Elohim (God) created the light and air. He separated the day from the night and the water from the land. He made the grass, trees and all the plants. He made the stars, the sun, the moon and the seasons. He made the fish, the birds and all the animals. Then He even made the very first man and first woman out of the dust of the earth!

Genesis 1:26 tells us *“Elohim (God) said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’”*. Elohim like the word God is a generic title that can apply to anything or anyone that is worshipped by man. However we are told in Genesis 2:4 just who the true Elohim and Creator of everything is, *“These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the YHWH Elohim made the earth and the heavens..”*

Genesis 2:7 goes on to say YHWH *“breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being”*. Man is YHWH’s creation brought to life when he received the breath of YHWH! How exciting to know that the Creator of everything, created us in His own image and even took the time to give us His very breath! He could have just said “breath” or “let them be” the way He created everything else, but YHWH the Creator of the universe actually breathed life into us!

In Genesis 2:18 YHWH said, *“It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him”*. In Genesis 2:21 *“YHWH (the LORD) caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam (the first man He had just breathed life into) and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.”* The next verse says, *“Then the rib which YHWH Elohim (the LORD God) had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.”* Adam then said, *“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.”* Adam and Eve were the names of the first man and woman created by God.

So in the first 3 chapters of the Bible we find out YHWH is the Creator of EVERYTHING, and we, men and women, are also His creations! But why did He create us? As you begin to read through the Bible you will see that He wants an intimate relationship with individual people. That means with you and me! Not only are we His creation, He calls us His children. Psalm 68:5 says Yah (short for YHWH) is *“A father of the fatherless...”* Malachi 2:10 says *“Have we not all one Father? Hath not one Elohim (God) created us?”* Matthew 23:9 says, *“Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.”*

To clarify things Numbers 23:19 says, *“Elohim (God) is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”* This verse tells us Elohim (God) is not a man, He can not lie, and He always does what He says He will do! But how do we know what He says? By reading His Love letter to us, the Bible! In the Bible we can find out what He expects from us and all of the things He promises to give us and do for us. Through His written word we can even know what the future holds.

How awesome to know that the Creator of EVERYTHING wants a personal relationship, as heavenly Father to child, with each one of us! As you study the Bible you will find out just how much YHWH loves you and wants the best for you! There is real power and knowledge to be found in the Word of God, the Bible. May YHWH bless each one of you as you begin to learn more about His Word!

2. What is the Bible about & how do I read it?

The Bible is Elohim's (God's) written word to all mankind! It was written through many different people over thousands of years. Each person was divinely inspired by our Creator to write what they wrote. In some instances they wrote down history. In other instances they wrote down 'prophecy' (the events that Elohim (God) showed or told them would happen in the future). Still in other parts of the Bible, He gives us His law or guidelines for how we should live.

As we grow as believers and children of the Most High Elohim (God) and study the Bible, we realize these rules were created by Elohim (God) for our own good. He really does have our best interests in mind, just as good parents want what is best for their children as they grow. Children don't always understand why parents make restrictive rules that seem to take all their fun away. In the same way we, as YHWH's children, will not always realize the purpose of His rules until we 'grow up' in our relationship with Him.

One of the most important beings we will learn about in the Bible is YHWH's (our LORD God's) Son Jesus (YHWshua or Y'shua in Hebrew) and how He was sent to earth by YHWH (LORD God) to live among us as a man for a little while. When Y'shua (Jesus) was here, He told us all about what YHWH Elohim (God) expects from us and how much He loves us. Y'shua (Jesus) lived a perfect life, which means even though He was tempted to do bad things He never did anything wrong. I'll tell you more about Y'shua (Jesus) in Part 4 of this booklet.

Okay, now let's explore the Bible which is made up of two parts, the 'Old' and 'New' Testaments. 'Testament' could also be translated as Covenant. Even though the first part of the Bible is labeled 'Old' Testament, the instructions it contains are still very relevant to our lives today. The writings contained therein are just chronologically 'older' than the 'New Testament' (Covenant) writings. The Bible is one continuous book. These first writings recount the history of creation, the world, and the Israelite people (YHWH's (God's)

chosen people). It also records YHWH's (God's) instructions to His people and those who would choose to join themselves to Israel becoming part of His family. Though today 'Israel' is a geopolitical nation in the Middle East, 'Israel' here refers to ALL of the physical and spiritual descendants of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob (Jacob was renamed 'Israel' by YHWH hence His physical descendants are Israelites).

The 'Old Testament' or first writings, originally written in Hebrew, instruct us on how we should behave as well as many messages from YHWH about what would take place in the future, known as prophecies. Many of these prophecies have already happened and are now documented history. However there are also many prophecies that have not yet been fulfilled and/or dual prophecies that also speak of things yet to come.

The second and newest part of the Bible, labeled the 'New' Testament, could be more accurately called the 'apostolic' writings. These writings were written in the first century, shortly after the resurrection of Y'shua (Jesus), by first century believers or apostles. Many of these apostles were eyewitnesses to Y'shua's (Jesus') life, death, burial, and resurrection. They recorded much of what they saw and experienced as well as many of the things that Y'shua (Jesus) taught and did. As in the first writings, there are many prophecies contained in the New Testament. Many of them confirm and help us better understand Old Testament prophecies which are yet to be fulfilled. Through them YHWH tells us what we can expect the future to bring.

YHWH wants us to know that He is in control no matter what happens. He knows the end from the beginning! He does not want His children to be afraid in the bad times but instead wants us to know that good times will follow for those that love Him and His Son Y'shua (Jesus).

For easy reference, the entire Bible is divided into a total of 66 Books, 38 of them in the Old Testament (first writings) and 27 in the New Testament (apostolic writings). Each of these "Books" is divided into different "chapters" just like a regular book today.

Then each chapter is further divided into “verses”. This makes it easy to locate exactly where different messages are located in the Bible.

A verse’s location in the Bible is usually written with the name of the Book first followed by the Chapter number where it is located in that book. Then there is a semi-colon (;) followed by the verse number(s). You will note that I’ve referred to several specific verses in this manner in Part 1 of this book.

So let’s practice finding one to make sure you understand how this works. Let’s look up one of the most important verses in the Bible, John 3:16. You would find this verse by turning to the Book of “John” located in the New Testament. You can find exactly what page each Book begins on by looking in the “Table of Contents” in the very front of the Bible just like a regular book. Then once you turn to the Book of “John”, you find where chapter 3 starts. When you get to chapter 3, look for the little numbers found at the beginning of many of the sentences. Find the number 16. Okay what does that “verse” say?

It says *“For (Elohim) God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* KJV (Different translations may vary slightly in wording.). Just think about what this verse says for a minute. Our Creator loves us, His creation, so much that He sent His only “begotten” (meaning Y’shua (Jesus) is actually part of God) Son to come ‘in person’ to the earth to live with us and teach us! Then Y’shua (Jesus) actually physically died for us, in our place, so that we could be resurrected after we die and live forever in His Kingdom (new heaven and new earth)! More about that later, just keep this verse in mind.

That, in a nutshell, is how you read the Bible. Now that you know how to find and/or label different specific verses in the Bible, I’ll tell you a little about what each book in the Bible has to say. The first 5 Books in the Old Testament (first writings) are traditionally designated as the Books or Laws of Moses known as the ‘Torah’ in Hebrew. These 5 Books are also called the Pentateuch or Torah in

the Jewish Bible. They contain YHWH's teachings, instructions, laws, right rulings, and a history of the earth and His people. There are many helpful websites online that describe each book in more detail than I will go into here. One of those helpful sites is; www.holybible.com/resources/KJV_DFND/summary.htm

The next 12 Books, Joshua through Esther, are referred to as the 'historical' books, giving a history of the Israelite people. Then there are the 4 Books of Job through the Song of Solomon. These are the poetical Books giving praise to YHWH Elohim (God) and practical recommendations or wisdom on how people should live their lives with faith in our Creator's Goodness.

The last 16 Books of the Old Testament (first writings) were written by the Prophets of Elohim (God). The first 5, Isaiah through Daniel, are considered the 'major prophets' and the last 12, Hosea through Malachi, are considered the 'minor prophets'. Again these books were written to tell the Israelite people and all who would join themselves to Israel through faith in Y'shua (Jesus) about the future. The main message contained in them on many occasions is to tell YHWH's people to repent (teshuva in Hebrew) or turn from their sins back to His ways.

Okay, on to the New Testament (apostolic writings). The first 4 Books, Matthew through John, are known as the "Gospels", and give us an overview of Y'shua's (Jesus') birth, life, teachings, death, burial, and resurrection as recounted by the apostles who walked and lived with Him during His ministry. You will notice in most Bibles much of the New Testament, especially these first 4 Books, are written in red. The red text denotes what Y'shua (Jesus) actually spoke while He was on the earth teaching us.

The next Book called 'Acts' is a history of what Y'shua's (Jesus') apostles (His closest followers) did beginning about 40 days after He was resurrected. It tells how Y'shua's (Jesus') followers did many miracles through the power of YHWH's Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit in order to spread the words, teachings, and promises of Y'shua (Jesus).

The next 19 books, Romans through Jude, are known as the Doctrinal Books or the Epistles. They were mostly written as letters from the Apostles to the early assemblies of believers in Y'shua as Messiah (the Anointed One from Elohim). They wrote these letters to encourage and help believers and assemblies (churches) to understand the message of repentance, restoration, salvation and everlasting life. They explained how these could only come through belief in Y'shua (Jesus) as the Son of Elohim (God) and His undeserved but voluntary death for payment of our sins (trespasses against Elohim's (God's) rules).

The final Book in the New Testament (apostolic writings) and entire Bible is the Book of Revelation also known as the Revelation of Y'shua HaMashiach (Jesus the Anointed or Christ). This Book was written by John, one of Y'shua's (Jesus') closest apostles. John was taken by Elohim's (God's) Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit up into heaven to see and write down the events which would take place as part of 'The Day of the LORD' or 'The Day of YHWH'. This 'day' is still to come. This is when His (YHWH's) will shall be 'done on earth as it is in heaven'. This will be a time of trial and judgment for those who will not repent of breaking His laws and instead reject His Son.

The message that John received in this Revelation was meant to speak not only to the different historic churches (assemblies) specified in this writing, but also to all future believers and end-time assemblies (churches). Much of Revelation tells us about future events with regards to the time of YHWH's judgment against evil, disobedience and pagan or idol worship. Many people believe much of Revelation will take place very soon.

If you have not asked Y'shua (Jesus) to be your Lord (Master/King) and Savior, or you are a very new believer in Y'shua (Jesus), reading the book of Revelation, before learning more about your salvation and the love YHWH has for His people, may be very scary. I recommend that you begin reading the bible from the very beginning, Genesis, as each successive book builds on the one before it.

Once you have grown in understanding of Elohim's (God's) Word and you are confident in Y'shua's (Jesus') Love for you and His ability to save and protect you, then the book of Revelation isn't scary. It is actually very interesting and very reassuring. In it we find that awesome times are ahead! In Revelation you will learn how Y'shua (Jesus) gets rid of all of the evil, pain, death, sorrow, and everything bad from off the face of the earth! Then we, all of YHWH Elohim's (God's) children who choose to follow and love the Creator and His Son, will live forever in a new heaven and perfect new earth! No more sorrow, death, tears or anything bad! How exciting! I pray that YHWH will bless you with knowledge of Him, wisdom, and understanding as you read and study His Word.

NOTES:

3. *Who is Satan?*

You've probably all heard of "the devil", but is he real or just something for the science fiction channel? Well, like just about everything else in life, we can look to Elohim's (God's) Word, the Bible, to find the answer.

Satan or the 'adversary', and his demons are very real according to the Bible. Read Revelation 12:9, Job 1:7, Matthew 4:10, and Luke 22:3. I could go on, but I think once you read these you will see that the Bible confirms the existence of Satan as the enemy of Elohim and mankind. It documents how he works against people, trying to get each one of us to follow him instead of our Creator and Father in Heaven.

Isaiah 14:12-15 tells us how the adversary wants to be exalted above YHWH Elohim (God) and how he is thrown out of heaven because of this unforgivable attitude. Revelation 12:10 then tells us he is our "*accuser*" and accuses us to our heavenly Father "*day and night*" of being sinful (breaking Elohim's rules) and unworthy of life. This same verse also tells us that in the end he is cast down (or defeated) by YHWH and His Son Y'shua (Jesus) (again you'll learn more about Y'shua (Jesus) in Part 4). In Part 5 of this book you will learn how this adversary deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden causing sin and death to enter into the Creator's previously perfect world.

Even Y'shua (Jesus), himself, was tempted by the adversary for 40 days in the wilderness when He was physically on earth. However Y'shua overcame him without sinning by the power of YHWH Elohim's (God's) Word (read Matthew 4:1-11). Y'shua repeatedly answered and overcame temptation by responding 'it is written' and then quoting the scriptures or first writings (Old Testament writings).

The good news is that once you ask Y'shua (Jesus) to be your Master/King (Lord) and Savior, the adversary has no power over you or your life unless you allow him to through 'unbelief' or willful sin and disobedience. As a 'reborn' child of the Most High Elohim (God), you then belong to Him through the precious blood

shed voluntarily by Y'shua. You are in covenant with the Creator of heaven and earth! All of Elohim's (God's) promises belong to you and He does not break His promises!

A powerful verse to remember during times of trial or persecution is 1John 4:4: "*Ye are of Elohim (God), little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.*" "He that is in you" is YHWH's (God's) Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit once you are 'born again' through repentance of sin and acceptance of Y'shua as Master and King. The "he that is in the world" is the adversary and his demons.

Where did the adversary come from? Ezekiel 28:12-19 and Revelation 12:9 tell us that he was once a beautiful angel in heaven with YHWH Elohim (God) and the other angels. He tried to set himself above the throne of YHWH Elohim (God) and so was cast down out of heaven. We are told other angels followed him in rebellion against the Creator and were also cast out of heaven with him.

WARNING: Witchcraft, 'new age' religions, and the occult are not a game and should NEVER be experimented with! The Bible tells us that demon/devil possession of people is VERY REAL! Matthew 4:24, Matthew 8:16, 28 & 33, Matthew 9:32-33, Matthew 11:18, Matthew 12:22, Matthew 15:22, and Matthew 17:18 are just a few of the verses that confirm this. The word "*demon*" or "*devils*" occurs 32 times in the New Testament. If you have already experimented with any of these see Part 4 of this booklet to be released from the grasp of the adversary.

4. Who is Jesus & what is God's Holy Spirit?

In Matthew 3:17 God tells us who Y'shua (Jesus) is; *“And lo a voice from Heaven saying, this is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”*. And again in the verse we looked up earlier, John 3:16 says; *“for Elohim (God) so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*

The first chapter of Matthew tells us how Y'shua (Jesus) was born of the virgin Mary. He did not have a physical earthly father. His Father was YHWH Elohim (God) in Heaven who caused Mary to be pregnant without needing an earthly father. Y'shua (Jesus) was Elohim's (God's) Word revealed on earth 'in the flesh' (John 1) to live as a man so that He would face all of the trials and temptations that we face as human beings. He overcame them all without sinning or doing anything wrong.

In the “Gospels” or first four books of the New Testament (apostolic writings) you can learn about the life of Y'shua (Jesus) -- His teachings, His undeserved but voluntary death on the cross or stake, His physical bodily resurrection (being raised from the dead back to life), and His physical ascension into heaven where He is currently at *“the right hand of the Father”*.

Y'shua (Jesus) lived a sin free life (He didn't break any of YHWH's rules or laws) while healing many sick, crippled, blind, and demon possessed people. He even brought dead people back to life! The religious leaders of the time didn't want to believe that Y'shua (Jesus) was the promised Jewish (from the tribe of Judah one of the son's of Jacob/Israel) Messiah that was prophesied about in the Old Testament (first writings). Many of these religious leaders were sinful and afraid they would lose their power and authority over the people. Still others who didn't recognize Him as the promised Messiah were looking instead for a military leader who would physically fight the Roman government in war.

Many of these religious leaders acquired their positions (i.e. priesthood, Sanhedrin, etc.) via methods contrary to the Torah

(God's laws). Some may not have even been Jews. Then, instead of believing in, repenting, obeying and celebrating His long awaited arrival, these leaders, chose to have Him executed as a common criminal even though the Roman rulers/court could not find Him guilty of doing anything wrong.

Beginning in Matthew 26:57 you can read how the religious leaders captured Y'shua (Jesus) and gave Him over to the Romans to be "crucified" (hung on a stake or cross to die). Y'shua (Jesus) could have called on legions of angels (Matt 26:53) to save Him. However, He didn't do this because He knew that in order to defeat the adversary and save us from eternal death He had to live a spotless sin-free life and then voluntarily be put to death in our place. Y'shua's (Jesus') life and death are foretold in many "prophecies" in the Old Testament (first writings).

Think about that for a minute...this is REAL Love! Y'shua (Jesus) was real flesh and blood with feelings and physical pain just like us. His death wasn't peaceful and it wasn't pretty... He suffered greatly and He did it willingly for each and every one of us. Y'shua (Jesus) was the Creator's only begotten Son. He was actually part of YHWH Elohim (God), sent from 'His Right Hand', 'His Word made Flesh', to come and live with us as a human being. YHWH Elohim (God) gave His only begotten Son Who willingly died in agony in our place! Parents will understand the sacrifice that must have taken. Imagine for a minute, do you love anyone enough to give up your first born, only child (or for that matter, any child) to be beaten, tortured and put to death for them in their place?

Just think how much our Creator loves us, that He would send His only begotten Son (Part of Himself, His Right Hand, His Word made flesh) to take on our sin and our punishment in our place! That is REAL LOVE that we, as humans, probably cannot even comprehend. Many of us would likely offer ourselves and our lives to save our children or maybe even others. But how many (if any) of us would offer our children in place of someone else. That IS what our Creator did. He sent Y'shua (Jesus) who willingly came to die in our (for each one of us individually) place so that we could "*have life and have it more abundantly*"! John 10:10

Then on the third day after He was dead and buried, in the ultimate victory over Satan, sin, and death by the power of YHWH El Shaddai (God All Mighty), Y'shua (Jesus) physically arose from the dead back to physical life! Starting in Matthew 28, you can read about this. His grave was found empty and hundreds of people saw, spoke with, and even touched Him after he arose from the dead!

Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51, and Acts 1:9-11 tell us that after visiting with and being seen by a multitude of His followers for 40 days, many of them watched Y'shua (Jesus) physically ascend or rise up from the Mount of Olives through the clouds and into Heaven. He is now seated at the right hand of YHWH Elohim (God) until He comes back to earth and the Mount of Olives in the same manner as He left. This time he will be coming as Judge and conquering King to rule and reign with true justice from Jerusalem for 1000 years! (Rev. 20:4)

Before Y'shua (Jesus) rose to Heaven He explained the purpose of His death and resurrection. He promised that when He was physically ascended to Heaven, Elohim's (God's) Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit would be sent to comfort, teach, and give His followers power over sin and the adversary (Luke 24:46-49 and Acts 1:8).

There are many verses in the Bible which tell us about the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit. 2 Timothy 1:14 says that the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit dwells (lives) in us (born again believers). 1 Corinthians 6:19 tells us that our bodies are the temple of the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit. Jude 1:20 says that we should pray to God in the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit. In John 14:26 Y'shua (Jesus) Himself tells us *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."*

Why do we need Y'shua (Jesus), His forgiveness, and the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit? Romans 3:23 tells us, *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"*. Then Romans 5:12 tells us, *"Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have*

sinned". You will learn more about Elohim's (God's) laws and man's sin in Part 5 of this book.

How can you receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life and the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit? First, you need to pray and ask Y'shua (Jesus) to be your Master/King and Savior. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins (things you have done wrong, YHWH's rules you have broken) and to lead and guide you the rest of your life. Ask Him to show you His will for your life through the Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit and then to help you live it for His glory and not for yourself. Then believe in your heart that Y'shua (Jesus) can and has done these things for you. Then as Y'shua Himself said many times, "*go and sin no more*", "*obey all that I have commanded*".

The word 'shema' in Hebrew means not only to hear but also to obey. If you truly believe YHWH and His Son Y'shua you will do your best obey all that they commanded or instructed according to His Word found in the Bible. Once you choose Y'shua as Master/King you will become a covenant child of YHWH Elohim Most High (God), justified (forgiven and saved to everlasting life) by the Blood and Power of Y'shua HaMashiach (Jesus Christ).

If you want to be born again into the family of YHWH, you need only to pray to our Father in the Name of Y'shua (Jesus), (John 16:23). Tell Him you want to be His child and you want Y'shua as your Master/King. Ask Him to forgive your sins and send His Set-apart Spirit to live in you and help you not to sin anymore but instead to follow His will and rules. If you've done this and sincerely meant it, congratulations! You have been "born again" into the eternal, spiritual family of Israel, YHWH Elohim's (God's) family!

Y'shua (Jesus) talks about being "born again" in John 3:3 where He says, "*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of Elohim (God).*" Once you believe, repent and pray in the Name of Y'shua you have entered into covenant with the Creator of Heaven and Earth! Just remember while He promises blessings for those in covenant with Him who obey, He also says we are choosing curses if we don't do our best to obey,

Duet. 30:19. He chastises His sons whom He loves. Pro 3:12 & Heb 12:6

YHWH tells us what His Kingdom is like in Revelation 21:4, *“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”* How awesome is that?! I pray that every one of you who read this book ask Y’shua (Jesus) to be your Master/King and Savior if you haven’t already.

As a “born again” child of Elohim (God) you can then ask Him to guide you, and help you follow His perfect plan for your life. To help you make the right choices and turn away from sin. Luke 11:13 tells us, *“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”*

We learned about the adversary and his demons in Part 3 of this book. The good news for those of you who may have already experimented with the occult and/or witchcraft is that Y’shua (Jesus) will forgive you and deliver you even from this. Once you have asked for forgiveness and deliverance from all your sins you need to make a conscious effort to turn away from and reject all of your former sins completely. Turn instead to the Word and Will of YHWH through Y’shua (Jesus). He died for us so that we could live for Him. Where Y’shua (Jesus) and the Father’s Holy Spirit live the adversary CAN NOT live and has no power!

Regardless of what your sins were, once you have earnestly prayed to our Creator & Father in the name of Y’shua (Jesus) and are truly committed to turning from a life of sin you will be freed from the power of sin and the adversary! That isn’t to say that you will not still be tempted back into a life of sin and that you will never “mess up”. However as a born again child of the Most High Elohim (God) with Y’shua (Jesus) as your Master/King and Savior and His Word as your weapon, you have already defeated the adversary and you are part of YHWH’s family!

You also have the power through Y'shua (Jesus) and His Holy (Set-Apart) Spirit to continually defeat the enemy's every attack! If you truly believe what His Word says (asking for the faith and guidance of His Set-Apart Spirit to understand it, believe it, and live it) you will truly live a joy-filled life with no worry of what the future holds!

In Matthew 6:25-34, Y'shua (Jesus) says, *"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **But seek first the kingdom of Elohim (God) and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you...**"*

Of course this isn't saying that you shouldn't work hard to provide for yourself and family. It is simply saying "do what you can do, seeking first to do the will of Elohim (God), and then don't worry about anything. **OUR FATHER LOVES YOU AND HE IS IN CONTROL!**"

Our Father wants a relationship with His children. Repentance of sin is ongoing. When you make mistakes or start to drift away from the His will simply 't'shuva' in Hebrew or 'turn back' to Him and His instruction. Ask for forgiveness and the strength not to make the same mistakes again. Be happy, knowing that in the end the adversary **IS ALREADY DEFEATED!**

5. *What is Sin?*

We talked a little about sin earlier and especially how to be forgiven of sin, but what exactly is sin? What does God consider to be sin? Sin is defined on dictionary.com as; -1. A transgression of divine law (or breaking a divine law): *the sin of Adam* & -2. Any act regarded as such a transgression (breaking of the law), esp., a willful or deliberate violation of some religious or moral principle.

#1 mentions the sin of Adam. Adam & Eve were the first man and woman created by our Creator (see part 1). He had one rule for them to follow. They were told not to eat fruit from one of the trees in the world's first garden or they would die. Satan was jealous of the YHWH's authority and His creation of man so he tried to get Adam and Eve to break this one rule by basically calling Elohim (God) a liar and convincing them that they would NOT die if they ate of it but instead would become like Elohim (God).

Since our Father didn't want to create man and woman as robots, forced to love Him and follow His rules without free will to choose between Him and the adversary, He let them make their own decisions. The adversary's plan worked and they decided to eat that fruit. This act of disobedience was actually a manifestation of unbelief. They didn't believe the Creator but instead believed the adversary.

When they disobeyed and ate the forbidden fruit that was the very first sin. From that day forward the adversary and the curse of death had gained a hold in the world and the world was no longer the perfect place our Father had created. Now, a whole new set of rules was needed to help people live in this 'fallen' world because the enemy would continually try to deceive and destroy people. Adam and Eve by their decision to obey the enemy had made him their ruler and the temporary ruler of this fallen world.

That is where the "Ten Commandments" and other instructions in the Bible come in. YHWH gave the Ten Commandments (or ten Words) to Moses to give to the Israelite people so they would know the right way to live peacefully with one another and the proper way

to ‘love’ our Creator. Ten rules don’t sound so hard to follow do they? But because we are imperfect and Adam and Eve’s sin was passed down to us, everyone who has ever lived has broken at least one of these laws (except of course Y’shua (Jesus)).

Mat 4:3-11 tells us when Y’shua (Jesus) was tempted in the wilderness by the adversary for 40 days, He answered every one of those temptations by saying ‘it is written’ and then quoting the written scriptures of YHWH’s Word as recorded by Moses & the Prophets. Everything He needed to defeat sin and the enemy was contained in these first writings (Old Testament). Remember the apostolic writings (New Testament) were not even written yet!

Sin is defined by the breaking of or disobedience to Elohim’s (God’s) rules or laws. The ten foremost commandments (or Words) given by YHWH through Moses to His people (Exodus 20) are the following;

1. ***“You shall have no other elohim (gods) before Me”*** (Don’t make up and worship fake gods or put anything before obedience to the one true Elohim (God).)
2. ***“You shall not make any carved image (idol) or likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth”*** (Don’t make carved idols, charms, or images of created beings into objects of worship or have faith in them to help you. Do not pray to them or make them representative of the Creator.)
3. ***“You shall not take the name of the YHWH your Elohim (LORD God) in vain”*** (Don’t take His Name or profess His Name and then bring it to nothing by not honoring or obeying Him.)
4. ***“Remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy, six days you shall work and the seventh day you shall rest”***. (It is well known and professed by the entire Christian world that Sunday is the first day of the week. So then Saturday is the seventh day of the week.)

This is a very important covenant day to YHWH. He designated this day as Holy or Set-Apart at the very creation (Gen 2:1-3) by

resting on this day from all His work of creating everything. Here, in one of His top four commands where He tells us how to honor and obey Him, He tells us to identify with Him or profess Him as our Creator and Ruler, by resting on the very same day each week that He rested, the seventh day.

This is a special day when He wants to meet with us and our families, a day of rest from work, set-apart to spend time with our Creator in His Word. This is a great time to teach His Word to our children! Let's take a look at the Sabbath Day of rest in relation to our Creator's plan of salvation and restoration. The plan of salvation is pictured in the Exodus story of Elohim (God) leading the children of Israel (Jacob) out of slavery in Egypt. You can read all about it in the book of Exodus in the Old Testament. Let's take a look at this salvation picture:

- a. Redemption: When Moses was getting ready to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt (redeeming them from slavery) the first thing YHWH told Moses to have them do was to put the blood of a lamb on the doorposts of their homes. This was a foreshadow of spiritually putting the Blood of Y'shua on the doorposts of our hearts when we are redeemed by His voluntary sacrifice as a lamb without spot or blemish.
- b. Baptism: The next thing YHWH had the children do once they left Egypt (after they were redeemed by the blood) was to pass through the Red Sea which was a foreshadow of following Y'shua in baptism (Mikvah in Hebrew). Baptism or immersion in water is symbolic of dying to sin and being reborn as an adopted child of the Most High Elohim.
- c. Obedience: Next on the list and the first thing YHWH expected His children to obey or observe once they were redeemed by the blood and born again out of the water was to obey the Sabbath. Yep, that's right, #3 on their journey to the promised land (which is a foreshadow of our spiritual journey of sanctification with the destination of His eternal Kingdom) was to honor the Sabbath or seventh day

rest from all work. You can read more about this in Exodus chapters 15-16.

- d. YHWH's promise in return for obedience: In Exodus 15:26 YHWH promises that if His children diligently obey His voice, do what is right in His eyes, listen to His commands, and guard (obey) His laws then He would bring none of the diseases of Egypt upon them. He says, *'I am YHWH who heals you'*! Right after making that promise what does He do?
- e. Testing: In Exodus 15:4 He tells Moses He will rain manna or bread from heaven for His children to eat. They are instructed to gather a portion of this manna every day in order to try (test) them to see whether they will walk in His Torah (laws) or not. What part of the Torah or His law was this supposed to be testing them on? We are told specifically in Exodus 16:21-30 He is testing their obedience in observing the Sabbath or seventh day of rest! To see if they would refrain from gathering manna on the seventh day as He commands them. Obedience to the Sabbath and refraining from gathering food on the seventh day would take faith. Faith that He would indeed provide for them even when they weren't allowed to gather food. He told them they would have enough from the sixth day to last until the day after the Sabbath when they could again work or gather. Some of them did not trust and obey the Sabbath so in verse 28 YHWH asks how long the children will refuse to obey His commands and His Torah (laws). He was not happy with their disobedience to His Sabbath day of rest. He did not provide manna on the seventh day when they went out looking for it. Likewise, He will not bless the work that we do for physical or personal gain when we do it on His Sabbath.

Is the Sabbath for believers today? Unfortunately today's Christian 'churches', for the most part, do not obey this command or many others as the popular mantra

in churches today is that ‘the law was done away with, nailed to the cross’.

The only law the Bible indicates as being ‘done away with’ for born again believers is *the ‘law of sin and death’*. Through Adam all have sinned and so we all deserve eternal death, but through the righteousness of Y’shua we can be redeemed to newness of life as restored children of the Most High Elohim (God). Now the law of eternal death for us is done away with as long as we stay in Him through repentance and turn from a life of continual sin to one of obedience to all that He instructed.

Instead of the Sabbath or seventh day of rest, churches today teach that the Sabbath was changed by Jesus to the first day of the week or Sunday. However this ‘change’ is never even mentioned in the bible. Actually the Catholic ‘Church’ claims they had the authority to change it to the first day of the week (which has historically been the pagan ‘venerable day of the sun’ in sun god worship). They openly admit changing it. Even so church goers, who claim Sunday is the Sabbath, might go to church services on Sundays but they still don’t completely refrain from work or doing their own pleasures that day as we are commanded to on the Sabbath.

What are the consequences of ignoring His laws as ‘done away with’ and especially the fourth commandment? It is sad that we (modern Christians) don’t take His laws or this covenant day seriously since YHWH himself promises healing from the diseases of Egypt if we do honor them/it! Is this perhaps why there is so much sickness and so little true healing in today’s churches? Possibly so, as this is what is indicated in His Word. Sickness may be allowed into the churches because we (modern churches) don’t teach that we should obey all that He instructs us but instead completely ignore the

Sabbath (and other instructions) which includes a covenant promise of healing. He promises to heal us IF we obey Him and repent of our trespasses of His laws turning back to obedience. Once we are born again we need to obey our Father just like children need to obey their earthly parents.

Is honoring the Sabbath and other laws trying to gain salvation by works??? Absolutely NOT! We cannot be forgiven or born again without the Blood of Y'shua. Our works or obedience by itself can never save us. We can never be good enough to earn salvation. (Titus 3:5, Eph 2:9 and many others). As a matter of fact we are not even able to obey His commands without His enabling Set-Apart Spirit which we receive once we are born again through the Blood of Y'shua. BUT once we are born again into this covenant it is our responsibility to obey all that He commanded even though we are unable to do it perfectly like Y'shua did.

Can we be justified without works being result of our faith??? Absolutely NOT! We are clearly told *'faith without works is dead.'* & *'by works a man is justified and not by faith only.'* Read James 2:19-24. In other words, as with the Israelites who were tested by Elohim to see whether or not they would refrain from gathering manna on the Sabbath, YHWH will test our faith. By obedience during these tests our faith will be confirmed. Likewise by disobedience we will be shown faithless. As His children we are to try our best to obey the spirit (point or goal) of the law as led by His Spirit. We need to have good works and repent of sin when we fail. The spirit of the Sabbath is setting aside the seventh day of the week for Him and trusting that our needs will still be met even if we don't work or do our own thing on His day. He needs to be put first in our lives.

Can believers, born again children, be cursed for disobedience??? Yes. He promises us blessings and

healing for obedience and faith but on the flip side He also promises us cursings or chastisements (removal of those blessings or healings) if we choose not to obey and honor His instructions or laws (Torah). See Deut. 30:19.

As with the children who were redeemed out of bondage in Egypt by putting the blood of a lamb on their doorposts, our redemption by the Blood of Y'shua should be followed by obedience to 'symbolically pass though the Red Sea from death to life' in baptism or mikvah. Next we should begin to show our faith or belief in His promise of provision by honoring the seventh day Sabbath of rest which is on Saturday. When our Father's children honor Him on the same day, the historic seventh day, we are starting down a path to becoming 'one' people or family in Him as Y'shua prayed in John 17:11.

Okay, now for the rest of His 'top ten':

5. ***"Honor your father and your mother"*** (Obedience to this command has the promise of a long life!)
6. ***"You shall not murder"***
7. ***"You shall not commit adultery"*** (Do not have sex with anyone other than your spouse.)
8. ***"You shall not steal"***
9. ***"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"*** (Don't lie about anyone.)
10. ***"You shall not covet your neighbors belongings"*** (Don't be jealous of or wish you had what God has given someone else or what someone else has achieved.)

Breaking any of these rules is the basis of what YHWH (God) considers to be sin. Y'shua (Jesus) summed them all up into only two commands. This is what He told those asking Him which was the greatest command in Matthew 22:37-40.

#1 - *"Thou shalt love YHWH your Elohim (the Lord thy God) with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."*
and

#2 - *"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."*

Then He told them, “*On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets*”. Our Creator doesn’t just leave how to obey these top two commands open to interpretation for everyone to do what is right in their own eyes. No, that is what the ’ten commandments or words’ above are all about. The first four summarize for us HOW to love YHWH and what He expects from those that love Him. The last six summarize HOW to love our neighbor as ourselves or HOW YHWH expects us to treat other people. The rest of His instructions in the first writings and apostolic writings further expand on these ten with more detail into the character of YHWH and the behavior He expects from those who want to be part of His family/kingdom.

Unfortunately, all people have inherited Adam’s sin nature and it is impossible for us to behave perfectly with perfect motives and without making mistakes. Romans 3:10 says, “*There is none righteous, no, not one*”; and again Romans 3:23-24 says, “*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of Elohim (God), being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Y’shua HaMashiach (Christ Jesus)*”

The good news is that Y’shua (Jesus) was sent to earth to forgive us for breaking these rules and falling short of His righteousness. Some people ask “why do we need to ask for forgiveness? If He really loved us, He would just forgive us anyway since He knows we aren’t perfect...” Our Creator created people to have a relationship with Him. He wants to be our Father and wants to give us good things. He Loves us and wants to forgive us, but He also wants us to love Him back and acknowledge Him and His authority as our Creator and the Giver of all good things.

YHWH is righteous and Holy (Set-Apart) and He cannot be in the presence of sin. Therefore without the forgiveness of sin through the willing death of Y’shua (Jesus) on our behalf we could never be in His presence or in His kingdom. By the sin of Adam which was passed down and manifest in all mankind, we were separated from our Creator and His kingdom. Through the righteousness of Y’shua we can receive restoration to a right standing before our Creator but we are told we need to repent and turn back to His ways.

Sin is not only a wrong action, but it can be a wrong or prideful attitude as well. Some people refuse to humble themselves before the Creator. They don't want to admit that there is a higher authority than man or they just don't want to live by the Creator's rules because they are afraid it will ruin all their fun. This of course is basically the same lie used to convince Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. In Gen 3:4-5 the enemy told them they would not surely die but instead could themselves become as gods (elohim).

The prideful attitude of desiring to be as Elohim (God), and not believing what the Creator Himself said, was the true sin. Eating the forbidden fruit was just the manifestation or result of the sin of pride and unbelief. The forbidden fruit was just the test. Likewise, being told specifically to refrain from gathering manna on the Sabbath was the test. The sin was not trusting or believing that YHWH would provide for them on a day that He told them not to gather or work. Belief or unbelief, faith or faithlessness is always manifested through what we do or how we behave.

So then, in the same way, all of our Father's specific commands of how to live, what days or celebrations to observe, or how treat our neighbor are just a test. The true sin is our attitude of rebellion, faithlessness, or unbelief in His promises, who He says He is, or what He says He will do. These sins or heart conditions will manifest themselves in what we do or don't do, which days we do or do not observe, and how we treat others.

In John 10:10 Y'shua (Jesus) tells us, "*The thief (being Satan) does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have [it] more abundantly.*" By turning Adam away from faith and obedience in the Creator the adversary caused all creation to fall and man to be kicked out of the Garden of Eden which represents the kingdom or family of YHWH. He stole their peace and blessing.

Y'shau came to restore us back to abundant life and His kingdom. As with Adam and Eve, weather we truly believe our Creator or the enemy will be made apparent by our works or actions. What we do

and how we behave is the fruit or proof of whom we really believe and what or whom we truly have faith in.

Because our Father and Creator loves us He has provided a way for us to obtain His forgiveness and be restored to a right relationship with Him. As learned earlier, He sent Y'shua to die in our place, to take the punishment that we deserve as humans fallen from favor through sin. All that we have to do is humble ourselves before Him, pray to accept Y'shua as our Master/King, and confess our wrong doings and wrong attitudes to Him.

The promise of everlasting life is for all of us. Go ahead, ask Him to forgive you and restore you, to help you to give up your sins and live your life for His glory, doing His will and believing all that He has said and promised. It's that easy, and then you can live a guilt free life, confident in your future as one of His children!

Forgiveness and sanctification is an ongoing process. As long as we are alive on this earth in this fleshly fallen body, we will make mistakes. The important thing is to tell our Father about our mistakes so that He can forgive us through the redemption of Y'shua. Our Father and Creator wants to have a personal relationship with us through His Son but when we sin and don't ask for forgiveness or 'fess' up, our sin separates us from Him, His promises, and His blessings.

When you are in a close, intimate relationship with your Heavenly Father, you will be blessed beyond what you ever thought was possible! He promises blessings, do we believe Him? He really does know what is best for us and what will make us happy. After all He created us! In Romans 8:28 we are told, "*... all things work together for good to them that love Elohim (God), to them who are the called according to [his] purpose.*" I pray that you all seek His forgiveness through His Son Y'shua (Jesus).

6. *What happens when we die?*

Some people think that you are just put in a hole when you die and it's over, end of story. Our Creator assures us in the Bible, this is not the case. When YHWH “breathed life” into the first man’s nostrils, He created our eternal (forever, without end) beings.

We are given a glimpse of what happens when we die in Matthew 25:46 when Y’shua (Jesus) tells us, *“And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”* There is life after earthly death. Everyone will continue on in one of two places, the place of eternal life or the place of everlasting punishment. Again in Romans 6:23 we are told through Paul (a disciple of Y’shua (Jesus), *“For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of Elohim (God) [is] eternal life through Y’shua HaMashiach (Jesus Christ) our Master (Lord).”*

The KJV of the bible actually uses the word “hell” 54 times. For example Psalm 9:17 says *“The wicked shall be turned into hell, And all the nations that forget Elohim (God)...”* Hell (translated from hades or g’henna in Hebrew) is a very real place in spite of what most occult religions and even some contemporary “Christians” may preach. Hell was not created for people though. It was created for the adversary and his demons.

Those who choose not to accept our Father’s gift through Y’shua (Jesus) are in essence choosing to follow the adversary over the Creator (again our actions manifest from whom and/or what we believe or trust in) and will share in the enemy’s everlasting punishment. In Matthew 12:30 Y’shua (Jesus) tells us, *“He that is not with me is against me;”* There is no “middle ground” with YHWH.

In Luke 16:19-31 Y’shua (Jesus) tells us the story of a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. This story not only tells us how the rich man had no mercy on the poor dying beggar and what the consequence for his lack of love (not loving our neighbor as ourself) was, but it clearly gives us a picture of what happens after we die.

This eternal place for the adversary and those who reject YHWH and His plan of salvation/restoration in Y'shua (Jesus) is referred to four times in Revelation as the *"lake of fire"* and seven times as *"the bottomless pit"*. Throughout the bible it is referred to numerous times as just *"the pit"*. In contrast eternal life for those saved by favor through faith in Y'shua (Jesus) is described this way in Revelation 21:4, *"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."*

In John 4:2 Y'shua (Jesus) tells us, *"In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."* Isaiah 11:6-8 prophecies about what eternal life in Elohim's (God's) kingdom will be like; *"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp (poisonous snake), and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' (venomous serpent of old) den."* These verses tell us all animals and man will live together in peace with no death and no killing!

The good news is that YHWH Elohim (God) wants us to choose to follow His Son Y'shua (Jesus) and have eternal life! He took our deserved punishment upon Himself, but then rose from the grave in the ultimate defeat of sin and death. Once we accept this gift we need to ask for His Spirit to live within us, guide us, and help us to have faith in His promises, to believe He is who He say He is and to know and DO the Father's will. Matthew 7:21 spoken by Y'shua (Jesus) Himself makes this very clear. He says, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."*

If there is any doubt left that we need to manifest the fruit of true faith through obedience, the next two verses should help lay that doubt to rest. In Matthew 7:22-23, again Y'shua's (Jesus') Himself

says, *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (lawlessness or Torahlessness).”*

I pray that you accept the offer of salvation and redemption given to us through Y’shua. When you do, it is important that you share your newfound faith with other true followers of Y’shua. Don’t keep your salvation a secret. Share your joy and your victory over sin and death with others! In Matthew 10:33 Y’shua (Jesus) says, *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”*

Be careful though who you tell first so that someone of unbelief doesn’t try to steal your joy or faith from you. Matthew 7:6 tells us, *“Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.”*

Not sure of who to share your faith with first? Don’t know any true believers? On page 43 I will list some very good ministries who have a strong online presence and even offer FREE teachings that you can download or livestream from the internet and watch at home. Please call some of the phone numbers provided and I’m sure whomever answers would be happy to speak with you, encourage you, and pray with and for you.

If you are unable to even call them at this time (and even if you can, this is for everyone), your Father knows everything and knows what you have need of. He knows how to encourage you, strengthen you and can even send someone to you for encouragement if need be. Just seek Him out in prayer. Tell Him all of your hurts, your loneliness, your sorrows, your doubts and fears. He will not let you down. He loves the downtrodden and humble. They are precious in His sight. He wants us to come to Him as little children. Trust Him with all of our heart for all of our needs.

Psalms 72:11-15 says, “... **For He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in His sight.** And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; and daily shall he be praised.”

Psalms 9:17-18 says, “**The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget Elohim (God). For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.**”

Psalms 12:3 says, “**YHWH (the LORD) shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith YHWH (the LORD); I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.**”

Psalms 40:16 says, “**Let all those that see Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: let such as love Thy salvation say continually, YHWH (the LORD) be magnified. But I am poor and needy; yet YHWH (the Lord) thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my Elohim (God).**

Isa 40:29 “**He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.**”

NOTES:

7. What is faith?

In Christian theology faith is defined as “the trust in God and in His promises as made through Christ and the Scriptures by which humans are justified or saved.” (From dictionary.com) True faith has two parts; the first believes Elohim (God) is who He says He is and the second believes He will do what He says He will. The most difficult part of faith is believing in things promised by our Creator which are yet still unseen and unproven. Such as believing He will bless us for doing what He tells us in His Word and believing that He has heard our prayers even when we don't see the evidence or immediate results that we expected or hoped for.

True, unwavering faith is very hard sometimes because the adversary is always there accusing us and telling us that we aren't worthy of Elohim's (God's) favor, forgiveness or blessings because we are such bad people. This WAS true BEFORE we repented of our sins and accepted Y'shua (Jesus) as our Savior and Master/King. As we learned earlier, through Y'shua (Jesus) we are made worthy before our Father in Heaven. When we confess our sins and ask forgiveness, He wipes the slate clean and sees us clothed in Y'shua's (Jesus') righteousness or goodness.

The enemy will also tell us in the form of doubts in our minds that our Father has more important things to do than hear our measly problems. He will try to convince us that there are limits on what YHWH is able or willing to do for us even when we seek to obey Him completely. He will try to convince us that we can never keep our Creator's commands good enough to garner His favor or blessings. This of course is a twisted truth. When we are covered with the righteousness of Y'shua and seek to obey His commands and follow His will for our lives the best we can, then His promises of blessings are for us. This is not because we have earned them but because we are justified and adopted through faith in Y'shua.

If YHWH is able to create everything He has created how can there be limits on what He is able to do with what He has created? Our Father in heaven is very concerned with every part of our lives and wants us to come to Him in prayer with our problems as well as our

thanksgivings and praise. As we learned earlier, He tells us He is our Heavenly Father, a perfect Father. He wants to guide us, as all good earthly fathers want to guide and help their children overcome problems and difficulties?

Having true faith doesn't mean you can't try to find answers to questions you have about history or information found in the Bible. Many scientists and archeologists are doing just that and are actually helping to prove the historical accuracy of many "stories" in the Bible. However we will always have some questions about the Bible and about our Creator that will remain a mystery until we are with Him in His kingdom and He reveals more of His mysteries to us. This is also where faith comes in. Our Father doesn't tell us everything right now because He wants us to live by faith in Him as well as knowledge of the things He chooses to reveal to us.

Where does true and lasting faith come from? Our Father tells us it comes from Him and without a personal relationship through Y'shua (Jesus) we cannot have a lasting faith. It sounds like I'm talking in circles doesn't it? It takes faith to believe in Elohim (God) but Elohim (God) is the one who gives us faith. How can this work? He knows our hearts and He will give each one of us enough faith to search for answers and be drawn to Him through Y'shua (Jesus). When this happens though, it is totally up to us to either accept Him or reject Him. He also gives us free will to make our own decisions.

In Romans 12:3, Paul warns us not to think too highly of ourselves or to be "self righteous" thinking that we are good and faithful on our own when he warns, *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think [of himself] more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as **Elohim (God) hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**"*

Once we accept Y'shua (Jesus), He will give us a desire to know more about Him and His Father the Creator. We then need to ask Him to send His Holy (Set Apart) Spirit to guide and teach us through His Word. We should also ask for faith to remember, believe, and live what we study in the Bible. Even the apostles (12 closest followers who knew Y'shua (Jesus) personally) looked to

Y'shua for faith. In Luke 7:5, "*the apostles said unto the Master (Lord), Increase our faith.*" Our Father then increases our faith as we also diligently study His Word. In Romans 10:17 Paul tells us, "*So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the Word of Elohim (God).*"

Matthew 17:20 says, "*for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.*" Wow, that is quite a statement! A mustard seed is very little, so Y'shua (Jesus) is saying that all we need is very little faith but that if we are in Him and our faith is in Him to do His will and not our own, nothing is impossible for us.

So then if we, as born again believers are unsuccessful at what we are trying to accomplish in our lives there are only two possible reasons why. We either know in our heart that what we are trying to accomplish is not our Father's will for us, or we do not believe by faith that we are able to accomplish all things but only through faith in the Father and His Son. In either case we try to do or overcome things in our own power without our Father's help.

We need to realize the reason for our failures and go to our Father in prayer in the name of Y'shua, asking Him to reveal His plan for us. We need to ask for faith to accomplish the goals or overcome the trials He has put before us. Matthew 21:22 tells us, "*And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*" What a promise!

I pray that our Creator and Father in heaven has written this book through me and that only His message, that glorifies Him and gives hope to you, comes through on these pages. I pray that nothing of me is in it only the message that He has for you. By faith, I believe that the contents of this booklet will encourage you to seek His will for your life. I pray that He will draw you closer to Him in a personal relationship through His Son. I also pray that through reading this booklet Elohim (God) will inspire you to study His Word in the Bible so that you will continue to grow in faith through

His Word and the guidance of His Holy Set-Apart Spirit. I pray all of this in the name of Y'shua. Amen.

NOTES:

RECOMMENDED MINISTRIES:

(All with free online teachings, many of which are downloadable! Most have youtube or vimeo pages.)

Pastor Mark Biltz & El Shaddai Ministries –

www.elshaddaiministries.us Phone (235)862-8010

119 Ministries –

www.119ministries.com

Hebrew Nation Radio –

www.hebrewnationonline.com Phone (503)316-1220

Jim Staley & Passion for Truth Ministries –

www.passionfortruth.com Phone (888)9002425

Monte Judah & Lion and Lamb Ministries –

www.lionlamb.net Phone (405)447-4429

Eddie Chumney & Hebraic Heritage Ministries –

www.hebroots.com

Various Teachers at Hebraic Roots Network –

www.hebraicrootsnetwork.com (live streaming)

www.hrondemand.com (archived teachings)

Richard Rives & Too Long in the Sun –

www.toolong.com Phone (931)293-4745

Bible Study Aids (research in original languages)

www.blueletterbible.org (free online program)

www.scripture4all.org (free program download)

www.e-sword.net (free program download)

You may order more of these books by going online to-
www.lulu.com and typing “Bible Basics Answers to Tough Questions” into the “search” box at the top of the page. Then click “search”.

Or

Go directly to this booklet’s Lulu page by typing the following into your internet address bar –

<http://www.lulu.com/content/1912162>

From there you can either download a FREE online copy or you can order additional hard copies.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The writer of this book makes only a very small amount of money when you order additional hard copies from this website. This helps us to pass out and make available 100s of free copies ourselves through our personal ministry (We are not an organized ministry at all, no 501c3 or any other licensing. We are just trying to make YHWH’s Word available to anyone who will listen). The more copies you order at a time the less per book the publisher charges!

If you are unable to order online and/or are unable to purchase a copy for any reason, please send a letter to

Bible Basics
PO Box 577
Twin Bridges, MT 59754

with your contact information and that you would like a booklet or more booklets. You can also call us at (406)684-5181 or Email gowest@3rivers.net

Copy Right 2008, 2015
All rights reserved