### **BIBLE BASICS**

# IF GOD CAN HEAL HIS PEOPLE, WHY IS THE CHURCH SO SICK?

"The Reason for the Hope that is in us"

Written based on Elohim's Set-apart Word
King James Version of the Bible used along with the
ISR Scriptures version for a comparative study

"Truly my soul silently waits for Elohim; from Him comes my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation. He is my defense. I shall not be shaken..."
Psalm 62:1-2 NKJV

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First Printing: 2015

ISBN 978-1-329-57955-2

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Introduction: *Who* is our Healer?

- 1. Y'shua (Jesus) healed many...without a doctor's help.
- 2. Thou Art Made Whole, Sin No More...
- 3. Healing from the Beginning.
- 4. What covenant? What is covenant?
- 5. Why was healing a significant part of Y'shua's (Jesus') ministry?
- 6. What commandments should we obey once we come into Covenant with our Creator through His Son Y'shua (Jesus)?
- 7. Fear Not!
- 8. Is the 'Church' immersed in pagan practices? Do we eat what our Creator says not to?
- 9. Now what?

In Closing: The Reason for the hope that is in us!

### INTRODUCTION: WHO IS OUR HEALER?

Nehemiah 9:5 KJV - "Then the <u>Levites (the priests were Levites) ...</u> said, Stand up [and] <u>bless the LORD (YHWH)</u> your God for ever and ever: and <u>blessed be thy glorious name</u>, which is exalted above all blessing and praise."

Revelation 1:5-6 "And from Jesus (Y'shua) Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Let us praise our Father in heaven, our God (Elohim in Hebrew), who reveals His Name to us as YHWH or 'yod-hey-waw-hey' in the original Hebrew. In order to do this, we need to know who it is we are supposed to be praising and who it is that we are asking for healing.

Sadly, we have inherited lies because our 'fathers inherited lies':

Jeremiah 16:19-21, "O LORD (YHWH), my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit. Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods? Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is The LORD (YHWH in Hebrew)."

One such lie is changing the eternal name of our Father, 'yod-hey-waw-hey' (YHWH) in the original Hebrew, to simply 'the LORD' not only in this verse but also in over 6000 more passages in the Old Testament alone! Rather than addressing the God or Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Jesus (Y'shua) by the Name He says should 'be known' and glorified we have continued the tradition of just doing away with His Name and replacing it with the generic title 'the LORD'.

The correct pronunciation of His Name was hidden long ago as there are no written vowels in ancient Hebrew. In what appears to have been an attempt to prevent His name from being desecrated, misused or 'taken in vain' (3rd commandment), Jewish religious leaders outlawed the pronunciation of His Name except by the High Priest once per year during Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). We don't know the exact pronunciation of the vowels but we do know the consonants, therefore we can make educated guesses as to the correct pronunciation -i.e. Yahweh or Yahoweh or Yahowah. These efforts to avoid having His name taken in vain have in essence caused His name to come to nothing and become virtually unknown by those who claim to know Him.

Logically we can figure out God's Name is not 'the LORD'. The LORD' is a phase or a title of what He is. This title is used in place of the original Hebrew 'yod-hey-waw-hey' (YHWH) in the English scriptures. By replacing His Name with a generic title we are missing much of the intimacy and personal interaction conveyed by YHWH in His Word. Most importantly we are not properly 'praising His Name in all the nations' (Psalms 57:9, 108:3, 117:1 and others).

Isaiah 12:1-6 with His Name restored reads as follows: "And in that day you shall say, "I thank You הוה" (these are the Hebrew letters yod-hey-waw-hey or YHWH), though You were enraged with me, Your displeasure has turned back, and You have comforted me. "See, Él (God) is my deliverance, I trust and am not afraid. For Yah, הוה" is my strength and my song; and He has become my deliverance." And you shall draw water with joy from the fountains of deliverance. And in that day you shall say, "Praise הוה", call upon His Name; make known His deeds among the peoples, make mention that His Name is exalted. "Sing to הוה", For He has done excellently; this is known in all the earth. "Cry aloud and shout, O inhabitant of Tsiyon, for great is the Setapart One of Yisra'ël in your midst!""

Perhaps, Hebrews 2:12 possibly referring to Isaiah 12:1-6 above: "<u>I</u> shall announce Your Name to My brothers, in the midst of the

congregation <u>I shall sing praise to You</u>." (See also: Psalms 22:22, Psalms 45:17, John 17:6 & 26)

(These verses above with His Name restored are from ISR's (Institute for Scripture Research) version called simply "The Scriptures".)

Why is the topic of His Name being discussed in a book on healing? What difference does it make since we don't really know how to correctly pronounce it anyway? Do a phrase-search in your favorite bible program for the phrase *T am the LORD*'. This phrase in the original Hebrew actually says "*T, YHWH*". You will see that YHWH Himself **proclaims His Name as YHWH 164** times!!

(Don't have a favorite program? You will find a list of suggested programs at the back of this book that are free online and/or can be downloaded, for free, for use offline as well).

What is the meaning behind His self-declared Hebrew Name? It comes from a root word meaning to exist, always, be, come to pass, become and specifically implies self-existent or could mean 'HE IS' which is the same as when He told Moses I AM except in the third person. He just IS! HE IS everything and all that we need! The title LORD on the other hand, just means the boss but His actual Name promises, and means, so much more!

Interestingly in ancient Hebrew pictograph letters (precursors to Modern Hebrew letter forms) the yod is a hand, the hey is an open door implying revealed and the waw is a connector or nail. His self-proclaimed name, yod-hey-waw-hey, in ancient pictographs such as Abraham would have used would infer "hand, revealed, nail, revealed"! No wonder when doubting Thomas sees Jesus' (Y'shua's) nail scarred hands in John 20:28 he said, "My LORD (possibly YHWH if it were originally in Hebrew?) my God (Elohim)"!

The study of the Name of YHWH is a book in itself, so please do a more extensive study on your own. He has a Name that we are told is *above all*! (Nehemiah 9:5). He has many titles and attributes by which He is identified throughout scripture but only one Name by which He declares Himself. We do know that His Name is spelled 'yod-hey-waw-hey' in Hebrew.

This book will use the English consonant equivalents 'YHWH' for His Name and let you fill in the vowels with your preferred pronunciation. Some day He will restore to us 'a pure language' as we are told in Zephaniah 3:9: "For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD (YHWH), to serve him with one consent." Let us start calling upon and glorifying HIS NAME now as best we can!

Likewise, Jesus wasn't our Messiah's Hebrew name. Jesus is an English rendering of a Greek translation of His Name. Jesus was Jewish from the tribe of Judah as prophesied in the Old Testament and confirmed in the gospels. He was not born of Hellenist or Greek parents, but from practicing and obedient Jewish parents who had Him circumcised on the eighth day after birth. He would have had a Jewish/Hebrew name.

If you do a study on Jesus' name, you will find that it was likely very close to the Old Testament name Joshua which in Hebrew was *Yahoshua*. Joshua's Greek translated name can be found in the 'Septuagint' which is a Greek Translation of the Hebrew Old Testament that was translated into Greek by Jewish sages BEFORE the time of Jesus (Y'shua). In this Greek rendering of the Old Testament the name Joshua (Hebrew Yahoshua) is translated to the same Greek name that is used for Jesus in the New Testament!

The last part of the Hebrew name Yahoshua, 'shua' means salvation or deliver. A yod, hey, and waw (YHW, the first three letters of our Father's name) in front of 'shua', to form the name Yahoshua, literally in Hebrew would mean YHWH saves/delivers or YHWH's salvation! Jesus (Y'shua) IS our salvation sent from the Father, YHWH, and the only name by which men can be saved. Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved". Also consider John

5:43 where Jesus (Y'shua) tells us, "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive." From a Hebrew perspective where all names have meaning we can see the Father's Name in Y'shua's name... He truly did come in the Father's Name and not His own.

Y'shua's Name DOES glorify the Father's Name! He can only save in the Name of His Father hence Y'shua's name, 'YHW saves'! Another witness to consider is that Joshua (Yahoshua) of the Old Testament led YHWH's people into the Promised Land. This is a prophetic picture of Y'shua leading YHWH's people into His Kingdom at the 'end of days'. Furthermore, Moses and Joshua are prophetic pictures of Y'shua's first and second comings... Through Moses YHWH redeemed his people from slavery in Egypt and led them through a time of sanctification in the wilderness - Y'shua at His first coming redeemed YHWH's people from slavery to sin and has been leading us through a time of sanctification ever since... Then after 40 years of sanctification in the wilderness Joshua led YHWH's people into the Promised Land - Y'shua at His second coming will lead YHWH's redeemed and sanctified people into YHWH's kingdom and reign for 1000 years!

Again, we don't know for sure which pronunciation for Jesus' Hebrew Name is correct (Yeshua, Yahoshua, Yahooshua). This book will utilize the abbreviated form 'Y'shua' and again let you fill in which ever pronunciation you are comfortable with after your own personal study.

Acts 2:21 "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of Y'shua (YHWH's salvation) shall be saved." Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name Y'shua (YHWH's salvation) shall be saved." When asked, all scholars will tell you Jesus was not our Messiah's name and 'the LORD' is not the Father's name. Does it matter what Name, if any, we call upon? He desires and deserves His Name to be glorified in all the earth!

This book also replaces the title God with Elohim. Elohim is the Hebrew word in the Old Testament that has been translated to the English title God when referring to our Most High God and Creator YHWH. Little 'g' god will still be used when speaking of the multitude of false gods within our society today.

# 1. Y'SHUA HEALED MANY... WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S HELP.

Y'shua healed MANY people during His ministry! So did His disciples, both before and after His crucifixion and resurrection! We are told in scripture His Word is our 'helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit' (Ephesians 6:17) and through His Word, He is our shield (Psalms 119:14 & Proverbs 30:5) against all enemies and trials including sickness and disease!

Sickness and disease are attacks by the enemy which can only be administered with YHWH's permission as we read in the book of Job. Just as Satan was allowed to test Job he was also allowed to tempt or try Y'shua in the wilderness. It then stands to reason that he would also be allowed to tempt or test us as well. How did Y'shua overcome the testing of the enemy in the wilderness? He repeatedly stated 'it is written' (see Matthew 4) and quoted the Word of YHWH as written in the Old Testament (the only scriptures written at that time). The enemy also used scripture repeatedly twisting it out of context and/or using it in a way that would contradict or disregard other parts of YHWH's Word. He was trying to tempt Y'shua to use scripture for His own purposes and glory and not for the Father's. It is therefore very important that we study and know all of scripture (His Word) in both the Old & New Testaments in context from beginning to end and refer to it often in our daily walk.

Y'shua has promised to send the Holy or Set-apart Spirit to His followers who will then "bring to remembrance all that He said" (John 14:26). Can He bring to our 'remembrance' something that we have not read and studied in context at least once? Once we join YHWH's Covenant people through Y'shua then we belong to Him and the enemy has no place in us! Please turn to the following scriptures regarding Y'shua's many healings and read the entire passage in context.

(Note: It is important to have as accurate a translation as possible. Pray for discernment in finding a good bible translation that is as word for word from the

original texts as possible with as little of the translator's 'commentary' added into the translation as possible. Also refer to the original Greek/Hebrew words behind the translation when prompted by the Spirit that something doesn't make sense in context or seems to contradict the Word elsewhere. His Word itself, not someone else's opinion of it, should speak to us personally through the teaching of His Holy Set-apart Spirit. This book utilizes the KJV but with the Names restored.)

Matthew 4:24 "And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them."

Matthew 8:13 "And Y'shua said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and <u>as</u> thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour."

Take notice that Y'shua's healings were immediate and did not require the help of a doctor or prescription drug. So were the disciples' healings. They did not refer the sick person to a doctor or pharmacy.

Matthew 8:16 "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and <u>he cast out the spirits with his Word</u>, and healed all that were sick:"

Matthew 9:20-22 "And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem (probably tzitzit - will talk more of this in a future chapter) of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Y'shua turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour."

Here is another scripture where others were healed by touching Y'shua's tzitzit: Matthew 14:35-36 "And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; And besought him that they might only touch

the hem of his garment: and <u>as many as touched were made</u> <u>perfectly whole</u>."

Matthew 12:15 'But when Y'shua knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and <u>he healed them all'</u>

Matthew 12:22 "Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and <u>he healed him</u>, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw."

Matthew 14:14 "And Y'shua went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and <u>he healed their sick</u>."

Matthew 15:30 "And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Y'shua's feet; and he healed them:"

Matthew 19:2 "And great multitudes followed him; and <u>he healed them</u> there."

Matthew 21:14 "And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them."

Mark 1:34 "And <u>he healed many that were sick of divers</u> <u>diseases</u>, and cast out many devils"

Mark 3:10 'For <u>he had healed many</u>; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues."

Luke 4:40 "Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and <u>he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.</u>"

Luke 5:15 "But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear (probably Hebrew 'shema' means not only 'hear' but also 'obey'), and to be healed by him of their infirmities."

Luke 6:17 "And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which <u>came to hear</u> (shema) him, and to be healed of their diseases;"

Luke 6:18 "And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and <u>they were</u> <u>healed</u>."

Luke 6:19 "And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all."

Luke 8:47 "And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how **she was healed immediately**."

Luk\_9:11 "And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God (Elohim), and <u>healed</u> them that had need of healing."

Luke 9:42 "And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Y'shua rebuked the unclean spirit, and <u>healed the child</u>, and delivered him again to his father."

Luke 14:4 "And they held their peace. And he took him, and <u>healed him</u>, and let him go;"

Luke 17:15 "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God (Elohim),"

Luke 22:51 "And Y'shua answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and <u>healed him</u>."

John 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Y'shua did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen." Y'shua healed so many during His

ministry on this earth that they couldn't all be recorded! He undoubtedly had the power to heal. He even had the power to share that power with His disciples as we can see in the following scriptures.

Matthew 10:1 "And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, <u>he</u> gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease."

Matthew 10:8 "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Mark 6:12-13 "And they (the disciples when Y'shua sent them out while He was still with them) went out, and <u>preached that men</u> should repent. And they cast out many devils, <u>and anointed with oil</u> many that were sick, and healed them."

There was one sick youth who was possessed by an unclean spirit which the disciples could not cast out or heal. Why? That is the same question that the disciples had.

Mark 9:28 "And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting. Keep this verse in mind for later."

Then after Y'shua was resurrected and ascended to the right hand of the Father, the disciples were filled with the Power of the Holy Set-apart Spirit in order to fulfill the great commission of spreading the Good News of the Kingdom and YHWH's salvation, 'Y'shua', to all of the earth! They were again given power to heal.

Acts 3:6-9 "Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ (Y'shua Ha'Mashiach or Y'shua the Messiah) of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple,

walking, and leaping, and praising Elohim". "And all the people saw him walking and praising Elohim."

It was for YHWH's glory and the glory of His Son that the disciples were given the power to heal and they were very careful to give all of the glory to Him!

Acts 5:16 "There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one."

Acts 8:7 "For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed."

Acts 14:9-10 "The same heard <u>Paul</u> speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and <u>perceiving that he had faith to be healed</u>, Said with a loud voice, <u>Stand upright on thy feet</u>. And he leaped and walked."

Acts 28:8-9 "And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and <u>prayed</u>, and laid his <u>hands on him</u>, and healed him. So when this was done, <u>others</u> also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:"

We have firsthand records of the healings that both Y'shua and His disciples performed during the first century. That was then, what about now? We know He CAN heal us but WILL He heal us? Please keep reading.

In Mark 16:17-18 we are told, "... these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

## In Summary – What have we seen in scripture so far?

- 1. Y'shua had the power to heal many and even raise people from the dead.
- 2. Y'shua's healings were immediate and didn't need a doctor's assistance.
- 3. Y'shua gave His power to heal to the disciples both while He was physically with them as well as after His ascension.
- 4. There is an unequivocal promise made in Mark for protection and healing! Do we believe it? These signs only follow those who believe. Ask for faith and remind YHWH of this promise.

## 2. "THOU ART MADE WHOLE, SIN NO MORE..."

In John 5:14 this is what Y'shua Himself told the paralytic man after He healed Him. Since Y'shua "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb 13:8) wouldn't this also be His instruction to us today? "Afterward Y'shua findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." Once we enter into covenant with our Creator through Y'shua His Son it is our responsibility to 'obey all that He commands' (Deu 12:28).

It is the contention of this book that Y'shua still very much wants to heal His people today! YHWH wants us to seek Him for His healing and glorify His Name today. Not unlike ancient Israel, many 'believers' today have left Him and His Covenant. We are the ones who have broken, or do not have faith in, His Covenant promises including the promise of healing. We have fallen into idolatry and don't even know it because many church teachings have strayed so far from the truth. We have indeed *inherited lies* (Jeremiah 16:19) and our shepherds have *led us astray* (Jeremiah 50:6). Have we sought out shepherds who would tickle our *itching ears* (2 Timothy 4:3) with pleasant messages, things that we want to hear instead of what we need to hear? One such lie - 'the law (of the Old Testament) is done away with, nailed to the cross with Jesus...'

Many in the churches have stopped personally searching the scriptures for truth and instead have taken "pleasure in unrighteousness" and therefore He has allowed us to "believe a lie" (2Thesolonians 2:11-12). In this same passage it says unrighteousness comes because His people "loved not the truth". What is this 'truth' that we don't love which leads to our unrighteousness? 1 John 2:4 says "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." The truth is that we should love, not do away with, His commandments or instructions (Torah in the Hebrew) as King David, a man after Elohim's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14), did (read Psalms 119!). Some may tell you 1 John above is speaking of Y'shua's commandments and not the commandments in the Old Testament... Hmmm, let's examine in context whose

commandments they are that the liar, according to scripture, does not love nor keep.

'His' commandments... are they Y'shua's commandments or the commandments of YHWH as given in the Old Testament? For that matter would Y'shua's commandments differ from those given by YHWH in the Old Testament? Consider: Y'shua *IS* the *Word of YHWH made flesh* (John 1) and Y'shua Himself told us He spoke *only the Words that the Father gave Him* in John 12:49-50, "*For I have not spoken of myself*; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." They are one in the same. Y'shua is the Word of YHWH made flesh and Y'shua Himself told us He says nothing that the Father doesn't give Him to say.

Did YHWH change His mind about what He wanted His people to obey and give Y'shua different commandments or instructions to put in the New Testament? Consider Malachi 3:6 "For I am YHWH, I change not..." and also Hebrews 13:8 which tells us, "Y'shua the Messiah (YHWH's salvation) is the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever..." We are told in Revelation 13:8 that the "Lamb was slain from the foundations of the earth". YHWH's ultimate plan for His people has been the same from the very beginning. He "declares the end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10). The commandments of YHWH & Y'shua, and the promised blessings for obeying those commandments, would therefore be the same and would not have changed from the Old Testament to the New.

To truly understand the New Testament and Y'shua's ministry we need to go back and read the Old Testament from the beginning first. We need to interpret the New Testament in context of the Old knowing that it would not contradict what was told to us from the beginning. The *scriptures* that the *good Berean's* were searching daily to see if the things that Paul said were true in Acts 17 were the scriptures of the Old Testament. YHWH's instructions and prophecies as recorded through Moses and the Old Testament

prophets were the only scriptures the Bereans and other first century believers had.

The Apostles' writings now known as the New Testament were not yet available. The disciples' teachings would not have been accepted by the first century believers if they contradicted the scriptures of the Old Testament. In fact, anyone proclaiming 'another god' (a god that contradicted, said or taught something different than what YHWH had already said) would have been rejected by any good Berean as Deuteronomy 13 tells us.

Y'shua taught, and lived out in fullness, the commandments of YHWH as contained in the Old Testament not something new or different. He didn't do away with or replace any of them as He Himself tells us in Matthew 5:17-19 "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil". Y'shua lived out completely and fulfilled the requirement in the law that death is the mandated punishment for sin. Y'shua who did not sin, willingly took our sins upon Himself and died in our place so we could have eternal life and be healed. Also in this passage Y'shua goes on to say, "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Heaven and earth are still here, and not ALL is fulfilled, therefore nothing can have passed from the law according to Y'shua's own Words.

The 'new commandment' Y'shua gave His disciples was to 'love one another as He loved them' (John 13:34). This 'new' commandment simply sums up and gives an example of how to obey all of the other commandments which tell us how to treat fellow human beings. Y'shua explains this in Mat 22:39-40 "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." This new commandment didn't replace anything. It is simply a command summarizing, by example, the many commandments that already

existed which instruct us how we should love and treat our fellow human beings.

Lev 19:18 "Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am YHWH." And Lev 19:34 "But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am YHWH your Elohim." This command to love your neighbor as yourself already existed. The only thing 'new' was to follow Y'shua's example on what obeying these commands should look like.

Y'shua not only came to redeem us but also came to show us what true obedience looked like. When we accept YHWH's covenant of salvation and healing offered through Y'shua it is our responsibility to obey His rules that He commands His people to obey.

Y'shua told the paralytic "sin no more". 1 John 3:4 explains what sin is. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." These laws are contained in the Old Testament and confirmed and lived out for our example by Y'shua in the New Testament. According to the New Testament or Apostolic Writings, forgiveness of sins (which can come only through Y'shua) and true repentance (turning from sin to obedience) can be a prerequisite to true and lasting healing.

John 5:14 "Afterward Y'shua findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee."

Luke 5:20-25 "And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee... Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying Elohim." This passage highlights the need for the sick man's sins to be forgiven by Y'shua

before he could be healed to get up and walk. It also shows us that the real goal and result of healing should be YHWH's glorification.

Commentary: It is the author's personal opinion based upon scripture that our Elohim and Creator does not need any help from a doctor to heal His people of sickness or protect them from disease. He also should not have to share the glory due Him with 'modern medicine'. Modern medicine can have a limited but vital place in our lives. Good medical care sought out through prayer can ease suffering during a sickness and lessen symptoms and pain of injuries while speeding up recovery from broken bones, accidents, etc. However, true healing and disease prevention can come only from the Father through His Son.

Believers should be careful not worship at the altar of modern medicine. Once we have been 'born again' through Y'shua and begin walking a path of obedience to all of His Word as best we can, we may have no need for modern medicine at all!

Meanwhile as we learn, grow and are sanctified through His Word, we should prayerfully discern any medicines or treatments which might be recommended to us through a doctor or our society. Should we partake of modern medicine's treatments or drugs that overtly break or go against the Word of YHWH? Please earnestly and prayerfully consider 'medical' treatments such as vaccines and/or psychotropic drugs before partaking of them. Do they go directly against the Word of YHWH? Do some honest investigating. Many, if not all, vaccines contain 'unclean' (and downright poisonous) ingredients such as aborted fetal cells, 'unclean' (according to our Creator in Lev. 11 and Deut. 14) animal cells, mercury and formaldehyde to name only a few disgusting ingredients!

Should these chemicals and foreign human and animal tissue cells and DNA ever be taken into our bodies in any form for any reason? Remember our body is the Temple of the Living Elohim! 2Corinthians 6:16 "...ye are the temple of the living Elohim; as Elohim

hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them..." Do we dare ask the Creator of everything to live in an 'unclean' temple which we willfully fill with poisons and tissue from unclean animals? This scripture is written in the context of following idols as well as not even touching that which is unclean. What is an idol after all? Isn't an idol anything that we put before or set up as equal to, or more important than, YHWH? Anything that we believe or trust in besides YHWH?

The very next verses in this passage (verses 17-18) go on to tell us if we come out and separate ourselves from idols and that which YHWH says is unclean He will receive us and be a Father to us and we will be His Children! We are told clearly in scripture (Lev. 11 and Deut. 14) what He considers clean for consumption into our bodies and what is not! Is our Father obligated to heal us if we continually and willfully put into our bodies that which He has specifically told us not to consume? Wasn't the first sin in the Garden eating something that we were told was not to be eaten?

Thank YHWH, He is merciful above all and faithful to forgive us through faith in His Son Y'shua! It is the contention of this book that He can (and truly wants to) heal us even of the results of past poisons which we ourselves have allowed into our bodies and the bodies of our loved ones! We need only to ask in the Name of Y'shua, repent (confess sins, turn away from being rule breakers to obedience) and believe!

To find out more about what our Creator says is and is not food for His people please study Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. The most obvious animal that most professing Christians today eat is pig. Scientific studies have proven how toxic pork can be to the human body. Additionally, pig has the closest DNA to humans of any animal which may be conducive to viruses and diseases being able to 'jump the species barrier'. Ever heard of swine flu? Is it possible that some or many of the end time plagues could come through animals that our Father calls unclean to infect the human population that consumes them as food? Just some 'food for thought' here as you study.

What about Peter's vision in Acts 10? Didn't God tell him in a vision that all unclean animals were now clean? Actually no. Peter even states the meaning of his vision to be that Jews were no longer to consider Gentiles which YHWH had made clean through faith in Y'shua and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, as unclean. Under Jewish Rabbinic law even a Gentile who had accepted YHWH as their Elohim and had chosen to obey His laws as contained in the Torah could not be considered clean and therefore Jews could not eat with them or even enter their homes.

Peter specifically said that the meaning behind his dream was not to call any man which YHWH had cleansed unclean. Though Gentiles were considered unclean from birth because they ate unclean foods and were not circumcised etc., Peter was being told that Y'shua could cleanse them. Once they came to faith in Y'shua they were cleansed by YHWH through His Son as evidenced by the filling of the Holy Set-apart Spirit of Elohim! They were no longer to be called unclean.

Once these Gentiles became cleansed and filled with the Holy Setapart Spirit do you suppose in context of the rest of YHWH's Word they would have continued doing and eating what had originally made them unclean? Would the believing Gentiles of the time have been instructed that it was fine for them to go on eating unclean things and sinning? Was it now okay for Peter and the disciples to become as the Gentiles were, to start eating unclean animals and disregarding much of the instructions of YHWH? Did Peter go out and slaughter a pig to grill up some pork chops for John and the rest of the gang? Did they have an easter ham that next Passover? Hardly...

To the contrary scripture tells us that once we are cleansed we are to walk in His commands and instructions to the best of our ability continually repenting and turning from sin each time we become aware that sin or disobedience has entered our lives. We are to set ourselves apart from the world and live as Y'shua lived.

History records the fact that first and second century believers did not eat pork and still honored the seventh day Sabbath. Study Constantine's 'Christianity'. During the time of his rule in the third century A.D. when Constantine made his version of Christianity the state religion, believers who honored the Sabbath and ate clean began to be severely persecuted for doing so. They were called 'Judaizers' and ordered to eat pig and work on the Sabbath Day by the 'church'. They were ordered to set Sunday apart instead. Passover with a lamb became easter with a ham in honor of ancient Mithraism or sun god worship which Constantine combined with 'Christianity' to form his new state religion.

This new form of 'Christianity' welcomed pagans who didn't want to give up their traditions which YHWH had said in His Word were abomination to Him. Now however, the 'church' claimed all of these things were fine. It was okay to mix and mingle paganism into the worship of YHWH. 'Jesus' did away with all those old laws and now we just needed to accept everyone as they were without expecting them to give up anything they didn't want to. They just renamed all those old abominations to 'Christianize' them. Sadly, our fathers who inherited lies passed them down to us. It is time for us to repent, to 'shuv' or turn back from sin to obedience to all of the Word of YHWH.

There are other scriptures in the New Testament that some teachers will use to declare that we can now eat whatever we want but rather than dispute them here, please study them prayerfully for yourself and in context with everything that YHWH said throughout His entire Word. 119 Ministries has a good teaching on what YHWH says in His Word about what should and should not be eaten which you can watch for free at <a href="https://www.testeverything.net">www.testeverything.net</a>.

Y'shua and the Apostles did NOT eat that which YHWH calls unclean! This is evidenced by the very same scripture in Acts 10 regarding Peter's vision. When Peter was first trying to understand his vision he kept saying "not so YHWH I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean". If Y'shua had truly wanted to change the dietary laws wouldn't He have done so while He was with the disciples? However, at the time of his vision

which was well after Y'shua's resurrection Peter still had never even considered eating anything unclean. Why would we want to eat what YHWH says is not to be eaten by His people when there are plenty of other delicious and nutritious foods that can be eaten?

Once we are in covenant with our Father through Y'shua we need to go to our Father in prayer asking Him to show us the sins, actions or items in our lives that we need to repent of, stop and/or remove which may be causing sickness or preventing our healing. To finish up this chapter let's look at some other reasons why YHWH's chosen people could not be healed back in the first century for clues as to why we may not be healed today.

Mark 6:5-6 "And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief." We see here that in spite of the unbelief in that town as a whole, He could still heal a FEW of the sick. Only a FEW were healed however, not like the "many" that were healed in places where He did find faith.

In another scripture we see a woman who is a gentile, (meaning she was not part of Israel for whom Y'shua was sent) humbling herself before Him admitting that she was not deserving of His healing for her daughter. She believed in His great mercy none the less and her daughter was healed. Matthew 15:24-28 "But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Y'shua answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour." We would do well to likewise acknowledge the fact that we stand before a Holy and Set-apart Elohim unworthy of receiving anything if it weren't for His great mercy.

Mark 5:35-42 is another example of faith being needed for healing and even the resurrection of the dead. "... Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? As soon as Y'shua heard the word that

was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, **Be not afraid, only believe**. And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly. And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? The damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him (Peter, James and John), and entereth in where the damsel was lying."

Y'shua only allowed those with faith into the room of a girl who had been pronounced dead so that He could raise her back to life. He only allowed the father, mother, Peter, James and John into the room where the deceased girl was lying. He made the unbelievers that were mocking Him stay outside. Then "he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment."

Thus far we have seen through scripture that forgiveness, repentance, obedience and faith are prerequisites for true and lasting healing from the Father through Y'shua. Not only should we repent and have faith ourselves but it is also a good idea to surround ourselves with repentant believers especially when we need healing.

James 5:14-16 "Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord (YHWH or Y'shua YHWH's Salvation): And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and YHWH shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

The above verse in James is a wonderful blueprint and summary of what we as believers should do when there are any sick among us.

Who did Y'shua take into the little girl's room with Him when He raised her from the dead? The parents of course, but also Peter, James and John. If there were any, besides Y'shua Himself, who would have been considered 'elders of the church' at that time, it would have been these three disciples who were the closest in relationship to Y'shua. They were not perfect but they were zealous and their close relationship to Y'shua made them righteous.

Likewise, the 'elders' of our congregations should be those with the closest relationship to Y'shua. Those that teach, speak and live according to the whole Word of Elohim, humble and quick to repent when faced with their own sins. Whether you have access to a righteous congregation with righteous elders or not, the elder or authority of every home should be the husband/father according to YHWH's design of the family.

Fathers should pray healing and blessings over their family daily. If any become sick the father should anoint them with oil and prayer. Mothers should join the fathers (as the father and mother where both present in the scripture above) in prayer for healing over their children. If a righteous congregation can be found the righteous elders should also join the parents in prayer and anointing over their children if any become sick.

The scriptural hierarchy of a congregation is also a study in itself. Suffice it to say as we are told above, "the prayer of a righteous man availeth much"! If there is no father in the home and you don't have access to a congregation that believes and teaches the entire Word of Elohim seek out prayer from some of the teachers in the congregations/ministries listed at the end of this book. Do as 2Timothy 2:15 instructs us, "Study to shew thyself approved unto Elohim, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." You become that first righteous person in your family or congregation. You pray fervently for your own healing and the healing of others in your sphere of influence giving all of the Glory to Elohim. You instruct others, by example, in the path of righteousness with all humbleness and love!

As we prayerfully inspect our lives for hidden sins that could be hindering our healing or causing sickness let's consider the very next verse, 2Timothy 2:16. "But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness."

Evil or wicked speech is warned against throughout the Old Testament as well. In the Hebrew Scriptures evil speech is Lashon (tongue) H'rah (the evil) or 'the evil tongue'. There are many passages in scripture that warn against evil speech.

Psalms 34:11-17 "Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of YHWH. What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of YHWH are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of YHWH is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry, and YHWH heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

In this passage evil speech is lumped right in with unrighteousness and is considered 'doing' evil. YHWH is against those doing evil including evil speech but delivers the righteous from all of their troubles which would include sickness. So evil speech can certainly hinder our healing.

It can even cause sickness and disease as we see in the story of Miriam the sister of Moses. Numbers 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman... (They were 'badmouthing' Moses because he had done something they didn't approve of according to their own standards...marrying the Ethiopian woman was not against any of the commands of YHWH so let's see what happened then).

Numbers 12:10 "... <u>behold, Miriam became leprous,</u> white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous." (Then Aaron sought the righteous elder Moses who then prayed for Miriam's healing even though he was the object of her evil speech)

Numbers 12:11-15 "... And Moses cried unto YHWH, saying, Heal her now, O Elohim, I beseech thee." (YHWH instructed Miriam to be put outside the camp for seven days as a lesson and then He healed her) "And YHWH said unto Moses ... let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again." (The entire camp waited until Miriam was healed before they could move forward on their journey.)

Y'shua and the disciples also condemned evil speech. James 3:8-10 "But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we Elohim, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of Elohim. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be."

1Peter 3:8-10 "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:"

We are instructed to have compassion on one another, to be courteous. We are told not to return evil for evil. This passage makes it obvious this would include not returning evil speech for evil speech. Moses did not speak evil back to Aaron or Mariam but instead asked for their forgiveness and Miriam's healing. Instead he responded with a blessing and prayer for healing. Shouldn't we do likewise?

Y'shua instructs us to do the same. Matthew 5:44 "... Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you," and Luke 6:28 "Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you." What did Y'shua do even when suffering on the cross after being lied about, mocked and unjustly condemned to death? Instead of

speaking evil back and cursing them He prayed for their forgiveness just like Moses did for Miriam.

We would be wise to head the warning given to us by Y'shua in Matthew 12:36-37 "...every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

A friend suggested the following verse was also speaking to this issue. Ecclesiastes 10:20 "Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter." This verse seems to issue warning that even what you think in your own mind or what you say in the privacy of your own bedroom with your spouse can adversely affect you or another person. Words are powerful and so are thoughts! We are told to "take every thought captive to obedience" in 2Corinthians 10:5.

King Solomon in the wisdom given to him by YHWH warns us in Proverbs 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

Deuteronomy 30:19 instructs us, "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:" **EVERY** WORD WE CHOOSE TO SPEAK TO, OR ABOUT, SOMEONE ELSE IS A CHOICE. WE NEED TO CHOOSE WISELY. REMEMBER WORDS BEGIN TO FORM IN OUR THOUGHTS.

This is not to say we should not speak the truth of YHWH's Word to others because we might offend them. We should ONLY speak the truth of YHWH's Word and be careful not to speak according to our own standards of what we feel someone else should or shouldn't be doing. Our words should edify, bless, buildup, heal, encourage, correct (according to YHWH's Word) and encourage.

They should not defame, tear down, curse, discourage or falsely accuse.

Fasting is another course of action to consider that may help our petitions of healing to be heard on high is mentioned in Mark 9:28. The disciples discovered that some unclean spirits/sicknesses not only need faith to be cleansed or healed but also much prayer and fasting: "And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him (the unclean spirit) out? And He said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting."

This is not the only place in scripture where prayer and fasting preceded the answering of prayers. In Esther 4:16-17 Esther tells Modecai to "Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him."

In the story of Esther during the Babylonian exile of the Jews, Esther the Persian queen (her Jewish identity had been hidden) had to go before the king in order to plea for the lives of her people the Jews still in exile. Going before the king unsummoned even for the queen, was grounds for death by law in ancient Persia. Unless the king granted her pardon she would have to be put to death. This was a serious matter. Undoubtedly prayer went along with the fasting that she and all of the Jews did prior to her going before the king. She was successful. The king granted her pardon and her request to save her people while also hanging the persons responsible for the attempted genocide of the Jewish people.

Then in Daniel 10:3 we are told, 'In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled...." Daniel 10:12-14 then tells us about the answer Daniel received after fasting and praying twenty-one days, "Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set

thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy Elohim, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days."

Here again the story of Daniel takes place during the Babylonian captivity of the Jews for their idolatry. He was seeking an answer from YHWH as to what was to become of his people. Was their punishment to continue or would their kingdom be restored? He had also been repenting on behalf of the sins of his nation and their fathers. When Daniel sought YHWH with repentance, prayer and fasting he is told that from the first day he had set his heart to understand and began to chasten (humble, pray, fast and repent) himself before Elohim his words were heard and the messenger came to give him understanding as he had requested! There is power in repentance especially when accompanied by prayer and fasting or denying our fleshly desires so that our spiritual petitions may be heard on high.

You may remember that Y'shua's disciples didn't fast right? Let's look closer at Matthew 9:15 when He was asked why His disciples did not fast: "... Y'shua said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast."

Y'shua expected that after He was no longer physically with us on earth, we would then fast. Fasting is a study in itself and a great follow-up to this one. Prayer and fasting for healing were prescribed to the disciples by Y'shua Himself. It is an act of humbling ourselves before our mighty and awesome Creator as a sign acknowledging that we are unable to do anything without Him and His mercy.

In Summary – What have we learned so far from scripture that can hinder our healing and/or even cause sickness or disease?

- Willful (on purpose) unrepentant disobedience to, and/or discarding any of, YHWH's Words/Commands/Instructions.
- 2. Ignoring His dietary laws and putting substances which YHWH calls unclean into our bodies in any form.
- 3. Unbelief not believing ALL that He says. Belief or unbelief will be evident by what we do (our fruit), whether we obey or not.
- 4. Evil Speech.

What are covenant believers instructed to do that can enable, speed up, or are prescribed for our healing?

- 1. Obey all that He commanded.
- 2. Have faith.
- 3. Prayers and anointing by righteous elders.
- 4. Prayers accompanied by Fasting.
- 5. Forgiving and speaking blessings over others.

### 3. HEALING FROM THE BEGINNING

In Numbers 21 starting in verse 5 we see yet another example of how evil speech (lashon h'rah) can cause sickness and death. ... "the people spake against Elohim, and against Moses...And YHWH sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died."

Then reading through verse 9 we also see how repentance and petition in prayer by the righteous elder Moses followed by the people's obedience (to look upon the fiery serpent) led to healing from this sickness brought on by evil speech. "...the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against YHWH, and against thee; pray unto YHWH, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And YHWH said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived."

Y'shua compared Himself and His death on the cross to this serpent of brass in the wilderness in John 3:14 "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up". The people sinned in the wilderness and death was sent among them. However, when they repented of the sin and obeyed what YHWH told them to do (even though in the physical what they were told to do made very little sense) they were healed! There were three components which led to this healing - 1. Confess ('we have sinned') 2. Obey (look upon the brass serpent on the pole) and 3. Believe (that YHWH would keep His Word that they would be healed when they did what He told them to). The ones that did not believe likely would not have even looked upon the serpent for healing as it would have seemed foolish, unrealistic or impossible without some sort of doctor or remedy...

This prophetic picture is still very relevant for us today. The serpent, which has always represented sin, was lifted up on the pole

for the people to look upon. Y'shua being sinless, took the world's sin upon Himself (He became sin for us - 2Corithians 5:21 "For <u>he</u> <u>hath made him to be sin for us</u>, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of Elohim in him"). Then just as the serpent, a representation of sin, was lifted up on the pole for all to look upon so was Y'shua lifted up on a pole. Just as the people in the wilderness admitted and repented of their sin ('we have sinned'), believed and obeyed (looked upon the serpent), we need to admit and repent of our sins, look to Y'shua (who became sin for us on the pole) and believe that He will heal us!

1Peter 2:24-25 tells us of Y'shua's suffering on the cross, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd..."

As Y'shua and the New Testament writers often did, Peter here is quoting Old Testament scriptures to make his point. Isaiah 53:5-6 is a prophecy about Y'shua and tells us "...he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and YHWH hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Here again, Y'shua's death for our sins (straying as sheep from His commands), coupled with our returning to Him as our Shepherd, is linked with healing. This truth is confirmed in both the Old and New Testaments. The Word has not changed.

Obedience to, and observance of, YHWH's Torah (laws, commandments and right rulings) is the evidence or fruit of whether or not we are truly in Covenant with our Father and Creator through His Son Y'shua. Let's expand on a couple of verses previously touched on which link obedience and healing together in both the Old & New Testaments.

Matthew 9:20-22 "And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his

garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Y'shua turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour."

Matthew 14:35-36 "And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole."

These passages specifically speak of being healed by touching the hem of His garment. Why just the hem? What was so significant about His hem or edge of His garment? Is it to let us know these sick people barely touched His clothing and were healed? Do we have to touch His clothing to be healed? OR is there possibly more to the specificity of touching His hem? As with most scripture when considered from an ancient Hebrew perspective in light of the entire bible including the Old Testament there likely IS more.

In Numbers 15:37-41 "And YHWH spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they <u>make them fringes (tzitzit in Hebrew) in the borders of their garments</u> throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of YHWH, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your Elohim. I am YHWH your Elohim, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your Elohim: I am YHWH your Elohim." This instruction is repeated in Deuteronomy 22:12 as well.

All Israel is told to put blue fringes on the borders (edges, hems?) of their garments to remind them of the Torah (commands or instructions of YHWH). Y'shua as a Torah observant Jew would have had these tzitzit on the edges (hems) of His garments. Remember Y'shua also was the Word of YHWH made flesh.

John 1:1-3 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. The same was in the beginning with Elohim. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made...". John 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

Y'shua was and is the Word or Instruction of YHWH made flesh. He was and is all of the commands and teachings of YHWH lived out in the flesh to show us how to do them perfectly. He was and is an example to us! We are told in 1 John 2:6 "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" and 1 John 3:3 "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

In context touching Y'shua's (the Word of Elohim made flesh) hem (edge, or border, complete with tzitzit representing the commands of YHWH) and subsequently being healed makes complete sense. Healing comes through the remembrance of, faith in, and obedience to Y'shua Who represents ALL of YHWH's Word. This Word includes His commands and laws which the tzitzit was to bring to remembrance!

In Isaiah 4:1 we see that "... <u>in that day seven women shall take hold of one man,</u> saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." Could these seven women be representative of the seven churches or assemblies spoken of in Revelation 1-3 grabbing hold of Y'shua's tzitzit or returning to His commands or Torah in the end of days during great tribulation? Possibly.

Are you beginning to see that the 'Old' Testament isn't 'Old' or replaced by the 'New' Testament? This so-called 'Old' Testament is still extremely relevant for us today! The 'New' Testament needs to be understood in context of everything that the 'Old' Testament had already told us. The 'New' Testament is simply a continuation of, expansion on, and witness to what was written before it. The latter half of the book does not replace the first half but instead

confirms and renews its promises. Hence, this book will refer to the Old Testament as the *First Writings*' and the New Testament as the 'Apostolic Writings'.

Paul, a favorite Apostle of the church, in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10 tells us that everything that happened to the Israelites in the wilderness was for our example. Shouldn't we then take a closer look at exactly what did happen and what they were told in the First Writings and especially the first five books written by Moses (Genesis thru Deuteronomy)? We should certainly search these scriptures and seek discernment from our Heavenly Father through His Spirit regarding how these scriptures apply to us today.

Deuteronomy 7:11-12, 15 "Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them. Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that YHWH thy Elohim shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers:" ... (He lists several blessings here which He promises His people for their obedience but this last one is what this book is focused on) "... YHWH will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee."

Wow! What a promise! Thank you Father! Perhaps, it would behoove us all to take another look at the entire book of Deuteronomy to see just what these commands, rulings and statutes are that we are instructed to obey and observe. We will go into more detail and look closer at some of those in Chapter 6.

We have another similar promise in Exodus 15:26 "And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of YHWH thy Elohim, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am YHWH that healeth thee." Then in Exodus 16 immediately after His promise at the end of Exodus 15 YHWH

goes on to test their obedience of the Sabbath by giving them manna to gather six days but refrain from gathering on the seventh.

As any good Father would do, He reinforces the lesson with a negative outcome. When some of them disobediently went out to gather manna on the seventh day they found none. Their efforts to provide food for their families in direct disobedience to YHWH by working/gathering on the Sabbath day were not blessed. So how should we apply this lesson from so long ago to our lives today? Let's look at the Exodus story as a prophetic picture of the redemption of YHWH's people throughout history and especially as it relates to our redemption through Y'shua.

- 1. Redemption of the firstborn and redemption from slavery/sin: The Children of Israel were commanded to put the blood of the Passover Lamb on the doorposts of their house. As many of us correctly learned in 'church' this is a prophetic picture of our redemption through Y'shua by spiritually applying the Blood of Y'shua to the doorposts of our hearts. Just as Israel's redemption of their firstborn children was dependent upon their application of the blood of the Passover lamb to their doorposts, so also is our redemption dependent upon our acceptance of Y'shua's willing sacrifice of Himself on our behalf as the ultimate Passover Lamb of Elohim. In essence we need to apply His Blood to our hearts.
- 2. Faith in that redemption as witnessed through obedience: Next the Children of Israel had to have faith and be obedient in passing through the walled up Red Sea to escape from the advancing Egyptian army. Symbolically this was their baptism when they passed through the water and were reborn on the other side of the Red Sea as the Nation of Israel, the chosen Nation of YHWH. They died to slavery when the Egyptian army was drowned in the water. This is a prophetic picture of our need to follow Y'shua in Baptism or Mikvah representing our death to the slavery of sin and rebirth as a child of the Most High Elohim adopted into the Chosen Family of YHWH! We are reborn into His Kingdom!

3. Sanctification on the way to the 'Promised-Land': Next the reborn children of Israel began their journey to the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. On this journey they would learn to obey the commands of Elohim and have faith in His deliverance. They would also face His judgement or chastisement for unbelief, disobedience and faithlessness.

Consider, shortly after their 'baptism' through the Red Sea, even before receiving the ten-commandments at Mount Sinai, the Children of Israel were commanded to refrain from working on the Sabbath. They were then immediately tested by YHWH to 'see whether or not they would obey His laws'. We are told by Paul in 1Corinthians 10 that 'everything which happened to them in the wilderness is given to us for an example'. Shouldn't we then likewise, after redemption and baptism, begin obeying His Sabbaths and Feasts as soon as we begin our sanctifying journey to the Promised Land of His Kingdom at the end of this age?

Remember just before He tried them for the Sabbath He promised healing and health if they would obey Him! So then obedience to the Sabbath is also a great place for us to start our journey to healing. Many of Y'shua's healings as recorded in the Apostolic Writings also took place on the Sabbath Day, probably for a very good reason.

We now see that YHWH promises blessing, healing and good health if we repent of sins and obey His commands but what about if we choose NOT to obey Him? Deuteronomy 28:58-60 "If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, YHWH THY ELOHIM; Then YHWH will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance. Moreover, he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee."

Most people don't realize just how many passages there are regarding healing in the First Writings or Old Testament (which we are discovering is actually not "Old" at all but very relevant for us today.) 2 Kings Chapter 1 has a very interesting story regarding a king of Samaria (in the Northern Kingdom of Israel) seeking counsel and/or a diagnosis from someone other than the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as to whether or not he would be healed. In 2Kings 1:2-4 this king told his servants to "enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease. But the angel of YHWH said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it because there is not an Elohim in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron?

Now therefore thus saith YHWH, Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die."

Shouldn't we then also consider the question that the King of Samaria was asked by YHWH...? Is it because we have no Elohim who is able to heal us, or answer us as to whether or not we will be healed, that we need to go to a secular doctor for advice and/or healing? A doctor who is likely an unbeliever, possibly even an atheist? Should we, who belong to, and are in covenant with, the Creator of heaven and earth, trust in an insurance company to provide the means by which we think we might be healed according to their ruling of what is an acceptable treatment and what is not?'

These are tough questions that each of us needs to prayerfully consider on our faces before our Heavenly Father. If we have our doubts in His sovereignty over sickness, disease, and healing we need to do what Y'shua's disciples did in Luke 17:5. We need to ask Him to increase our faith. We need to remember Psalms 118:8-9 "It is better to trust in YHWH than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in YHWH than to put confidence in princes."

As a second witness consider Asa (King of Judah –Southern Kingdom) and his death of disease as well in 2Chronicles 16:12-13 "And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to YHWH, but to the physicians. And Asa slept with his fathers, and

<u>died</u> in the one and fortieth year of his reign." Wow, can it be made any clearer than this? Who should we as children of the Most High Elohim look to for our healing -YHWH or physicians?

Consider both of these kings. The king of Samaria was a rebellious king and did not walk in the ways of YHWH. Perhaps it is because he knew he was transgressing YHWH's laws and did not want to repent or obey that he sought counsel from another 'god'. Being an Israelite king he likely would have understood that YHWH's promises of healing were only to obedient servants, not rebellious ones. The result was death. Then consider King Asa. While he was obedient in tearing down *most* of the false idols in Judea and we are told his heart was perfect, we see that he had very little faith in YHWH. He did not seek YHWH for victory in war nor did he seek YHWH for healing but instead *'looked to the physicians'*. The result of this faithlessness was also death.

Is our society following in the footsteps of these kings? It seems many today believe the enemy's lies and false promises of temporary healing without obedience to YHWH. Then there are many others who try to follow *most* of our Creator's instructions but fail to seek YHWH for their healing and instead look to the physicians as King Asa did. A little later in this book we will contrast these two kings who died from their sicknesses to King Hezekiah whom YHWH healed. Perhaps these kings when considered together are a parable of the struggles we all face with regard to obedience, faith, healing and good health.

Because our society has programmed us to believe otherwise, it is a fearful thing to let go of secular wisdom and believe solely and entirely in the wisdom, guidance, provision, and healing of our Creator. It can be downright scary. YHWH and Y'shua knew that society and the enemy would make life and death, healing and disease scary. We will take a closer look at what YHWH has to say about fear in Chapter 7. He has quite a lot to say about it.

In summary – How do the Old Testament First Writings about healing relate to us today?

- 1. Y'shua became sin for us and was lifted up for our healing.
- Touching Y'shua's hem (tzitzits which represent remembering the commands of YWHW) was enough to heal sickness.
- 3. Healing and health are promised to YHWH's people from the beginning IF they will obey His commands/instructions.
- 4. Curses (removal of blessings and protection) are promised for disobedience.
- 5. The promises made in the OT First Writings are still valid for everyone who will repent through Y'shua and follow Him in obedience.
- 6. The Israelites' redemption by the blood of a lamb, death to sin/baptism in the Red Sea, rebirth on the other side as the Chosen Nation of YHWH and testing/sanctification/chastisement in the wilderness was a picture for us.
- 7. We are redeemed by the shed blood of Y'shua, baptized in water representing our death to sin and rebirth into the family of Israel as a child of YHWH, sanctified through obedience, tested and chastised for disobedience during our journey to His kingdom at the end of this age.
- 8. The promises of healing and blessing given in the wilderness for obedience are the same promises we can claim and need to have faith in today as reborn children of our Creator. On the flipside so are the promised curses for disobedience.

### 4. WHAT COVENANT? WHAT IS COVENANT?

We have seen based upon scripture that iniquity or sin (transgression of His laws/commands/instructions) can lead to sickness, disease and death. Y'shua voluntarily died to take the punishment (sickness, disease and eternal death) that results from this sin upon Himself on the cross or stake for those that will look upon Him for forgiveness and healing. By accepting YHWH's salvation offered through Y'shua (YHWH's salvation) we are actually coming into Covenant relationship with the Creator of Heaven and Earth!

But what is a covenant? Covenant or 'brith' in Hebrew is mentioned over 290 times in the Old Testament or First Writings alone. It is defined in Strong's as a 'compact or league in the sense of cutting' because in ancient times an animal sacrifice or offering was made to 'seal the deal' so to speak. The animal that was sacrificed as witness to the covenant was the 'covenanted one'.

The first mention of 'covenant' in the bible is Gen 6:18 "But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee." The sacrifice to seal this covenant with Noah and his sons actually took place after they got off the ark in Gen 9:16 "And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between Elohim and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth." Noah then built an altar and sacrificed the 'clean' animals to seal the covenant. (Yes they knew what YHWH considered to be 'clean' even before Mt. Sinai and Leviticus but more on that later.) That particular covenant was made with all of Noah's descendants and the entire earth and still stands today.

Fast forward to Abram. People throughout the earth had again become corrupted by the worship of pagan gods including Abram's father who Jewish history records as actually selling pagan idols. We are told in Genesis Chapter 11 that Abram's father took his family and left 'Ur of the Chaldees' (possibly part of Nimrods' Kingdom) and headed for Canaan but stopped and dwelt for the

rest of his life in Haran which must not have been in the final destination of Canaan. We can see in Genesis 12:1-4 that Abram took his family and made the rest of the journey without his father in obedience to YHWH. "Now YHWH had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as YHWH had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran."

This is the first mention of a promise by YHWH to Abram. Abram obeyed YHWH and left his father's house in Haran therefore YHWH would keep His promise to Abram and would further expand on it with every act of obedience and faith that Abram would exhibit each time YHWH tested him. We need to follow the life of Abram and see this promise unfold to understand the promises we have inherited today having been redeemed and sealed through our Messiah Y'shua.

After this promise we see Abram prospering and being protected by the hand of YHWH through famines and trials. We also see Abram 'mess up' a few times along the way but YHWH never abandoned him or his family. We see that Abram is a man of hospitality and fair dealings. YHWH keeps promising Abram an inheritance but Sarah his wife was barren. One day Abram asks the obvious question in Genesis 15:2-3 "And Abram said, YHWH Elohim, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir." One of Abram's servants would inherit what YHWH had blessed him with because Abram had no children. We see YHWH's answer in Genesis 15:4-6 "And, behold, the Word of YHWH came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to

## number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. <u>And he believed</u> in YHWH; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

The next time we see the word 'covenant' in the bible, after the covenant with Noah, is in Genesis 15:18 "In the same day YHWH made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:" At the time of this covenant to Abram he still had no children. Let's take a quick look at ancient covenants. In a regular covenant between two people both parties of the covenant or promise would pass between the cut pieces of an animal after it was slaughtered. This represented an oath that if either of the parties to the covenant ever broke it the other could do to them what was done to the animal.

In the covenant of Genesis 15 YHWH puts Abram in a deep sleep and only YHWH 'passed between the pieces' meaning that it was a one-way promise. YHWH would keep this promise regardless of what Abram and his descendants did. This promise to have this large chunk of land was an irrevocable covenant by YHWH to Abram and His descendants. Think about that in light of today's headlines... the land from the Nile River in Egypt to the Euphrates River over in Iraq belongs to the descendants of Abram forever. Let's keep following this covenant through Abram's life as it gets more specific each time it is mentioned.

According to the covenant above, all of Abram's seed would be blessed. YHWH goes into more detail on the promises of the covenant with Abram when He renames him Abraham. YHWH commands him as a sign of his acceptance and faith in this covenant to circumcise all of his males in Genesis 17. In this expanded covenant promise YHWH specifies that Ishmael (Abram's son through Hagar, Sarah's slave girl whom Sarah gave to Abram as a wife because she thought she would not be able to give him that promised son herself) would be a great nation. However, YHWH informs Abraham that the promise would not come through Ishmael but instead Abraham would have another son through his barren and aged wife Sarah that would receive His covenant, an 'everlasting covenant'. Genesis 17:19-21 "And Elohim said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name

Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year."

So then Ishmael received a promise to be a great nation but a more specific covenant, which YHWH referred to as an 'everlasting covenant' was promised to come through Isaac the son of Abraham through Sarah not Hagar. The first 'everlasting covenant' made to Noah was to all flesh on the earth including animals. This 'everlasting covenant' was made specifically with Isaac and his descendants. Let's follow this 'everlasting' or lasting forever covenant and watch as it unfolds and is built upon through His Word.

In summary Isaac is born to Sarah just as YHWH promised. Then when Isaac is over 30 years of age we read in Genesis 22:1-2 ... "that Elohim did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of." If you do a closer inspection of scripture you will see that Isaac was not a boy as portrayed in popular movies and Sunday school stories but was actually a grown man who could have easily refused and resisted his elderly father up on Mt Moriah. Instead Isaac was an obedient son and willing sacrifice. The offering of Isaac of course was a picture of Y'shua, YHWH's only begotten Son, being an obedient son and willing sacrifice for the sins of the world.

Most of you know the story, when Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac our Father stopped him and instead provided a ram caught in a thicket. Abraham's obedience and faith in His promise is what YHWH was testing. Abraham believed that even if he sacrificed his son Isaac, YHWH was able to raise him from the grave and still give him the promised heirs through Isaac. So then in Genesis 22:16 YHWH reaffirms His promise to Abraham through Isaac

"...By myself have I sworn, saith YHWH, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."

Let's follow this seed. Isaac takes Rebecca for his wife and she bore him two sons Esau and Jacob. Meanwhile YHWH reaffirms AGAIN that the promise to Abraham would also be to Isaac both in physical blessings of this life and the promise of future blessing through his seed as well. Genesis 26:12-14 "Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and YHWH blessed him. And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until **he became very great**: For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him..." Genesis 26:24-25 "And YHWH appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the Elohim of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake." In acceptance of, and faith in, this promise Isaac made a covenant sacrifice in Genesis 26:25 "And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of YHWH, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well."

Isaac and Rebecca have twin sons, Esau and Jacob. In Genesis 27-28 we read about how Jacob bought and tricked Esau out of the first born birthright because Esau valued this birthright so little. Jacob then left his family to find a wife. Esau had set his heart to kill his brother once he realized what making an oath giving up his birthright meant. Jacob went through a long hard trial himself reaping the deception he himself had sowed. His future father-in-law tricked him into marrying his first born daughter when Jacob wanted his second born. Jacob ended up marrying them both.

Again YHWH reaffirms His promise to Abraham but this time through Jacob as well naming him the heir through which this promise would come. He first renames Jacob 'Israel' in Genesis 32 and then reaffirms both the new name and the promised covenant

in Genesis 35:9-15 "And Elohim appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. And Elohim said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And Elohim said unto him, I am El Shaddai (Elohim Almighty): be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. And Elohim went up from him in the place where he talked with him. And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon. And Jacob called the name of the place where Elohim spake with him, Bethel."

Jacob now "Israel" has a total of twelve sons through his now four wives (sisters Leah and Rachel and their two handmaids which they also gave to Jacob as wives when they were unable to bear themselves). Leah bore his first four sons -Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah. Then barren Rachel gave her handmaid Bilhah to Jacob to bare him sons for her. Bilhah bore his fifth and sixth sons Dan and Naphtali. Leah stopped bearing for a while herself so she gave her handmaid Zilpah to Jacob to bear more sons for her. Zilpah bore Jacob's seventh and eighth sons Gad and Asher. Then YHWH reopened Leah's womb and she bore Jacob's ninth and tenth sons Issachar and Zebulun. Then finally Rachel's womb was opened and she herself bore Jacob's eleventh and twelfth sons Joseph and Benjamin. Jacob renamed Israel by YHWH had a total of twelve sons whose descendants became the twelve tribes of Israel their father.

All of the promises of YHWH through this everlasting covenant made to Abraham and reaffirmed to Isaac and Jacob (Israel) were to be passed down through these twelve tribes. After Jacob's death these twelve tribes became slaves in Egypt and were under a heavy burden. Exodus 2:24 tells us "And Elohim heard their groaning, and Elohim remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob." This is when YHWH then redeemed them from this slavery through His servant Moses who led them through the wilderness (a picture of their sanctification) on the way to their promised land.

YHWH's servant Joshua then led them into the Promised Land where they became the nation of Israel.

While the everlasting covenant and promise of the kingdom and inheritance of the land and many, many other promises were made to all of the descendants of Israel, a very specific part of the everlasting covenant was promised to come through the tribe of Judah. This part of the everlasting covenant orchestrated by YHWH from the very beginning of creation and the fall of Adam for the salvation of the world was eventually revealed to come through the tribe of Judah (the Jews) and more specifically through the line of King David. Here are a few scriptures that spell this out.

In the blessing given to Judah by his father Jacob (Israel) just before his death in Genesis 49:10 we see that "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." King David came through the line of the tribe of Judah (Jews) as we see in 1 Chronicles Chapter 2. King David's throne is promised to last forever by YHWH as spoken through His prophet Nathan in 2Samual 7:16-17 "And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever. According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David." This truth is witnessed in numerous other scriptures, one of which is Psalms 89:3-4 "I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah... And Psalms 89:28-29 "My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven."

This covenant with King David is also an everlasting covenant that will not be broken as we can see in Jeremiah 33:20-21 & 25-26 "Thus saith YHWH; **IF** ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; **THEN** may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests,

my ministers... Thus saith YHWH; <u>IF</u> my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; <u>THEN</u> will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them."

Obviously, neither the covenant of day and night nor the laws of the heavens have been broken or cast away by YHWH. So this promise to the seed of Jacob and to David has also not been broken or cast away! Consider the following passage of Isaiah 11:1-2. Isaiah the prophet who lived long after King David had passed away, was prophesying here about our Messiah Y'shua who would come through King David whose father was Jesse; "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of YHWH shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of YHWH".

Read Matthew Chapter 1 which recounts the lineage through which these covenant promises were passed beginning with Abraham and passing through Isaac, Jacob, Judah and King David down to Y'shua our Messiah. These promises are then passed on through Y'shua to those that are His, given to Him by His Father our Creator. Then read what Paul tells us in Romans 11.

In Romans Chapter 11 Paul explains to us how the seed of Abraham has blessed all of the nations of the earth through Y'shua as YHWH promised Abraham way back in Genesis 22:18 "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice." Paul points out that anyone (Jew or Gentile - natural branch or wild branch) who repents of sin (breaking of our Creator's rules) and accepts Y'shua as Master and Savior through faith in the redemption of His sacrificial blood and His resurrection will be grafted (adopted) into (or in the case of the cut off natural branches; back into) the tree of Israel (YHWH's family or chosen people). The root of this tree of Israel goes all the way back to the promises made to Abraham! Those promises are now our promises as well, once we are grafted in or adopted as His children, through His Son! We are now made eligible to partake of all of His

covenant promises made to and through His people going all the way back to Abraham including the promise of healing!

Take care though, just as the promises of blessing for obedience now belong to us, so also do the promises of cursing or chastisement for disobedience. We are warned by Paul in Hebrews 10:26-29 "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of Elohim, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"

In other words, be very careful! We should not take our forgiveness for granted and continue willfully breaking the rules of our Creator assuming that He will continue to forgive us of intentional sins once we know better. According to Paul this would be in essence trampling the Son of Elohim under foot and counting His blood as not set-apart but instead as profane or common. There is no more sacrifice for this willful sin once we know better and understand the truth. This should shake us to our core and make us take YHWH's rules for His kingdom a little more seriously. Take heart though, our Father is very merciful and longsuffering and doesn't want any to perish. He loves us and would much rather bless us! He will gladly shower us with His promised blessings when we repent, obey and glorify Him and His Son!

This 'grafting in' or adoption into Israel or the family of YHWH is not a new concept in the Apostolic Writings (New Testament). One of my favorite stories in the First Writings (Old Testament) is the story of Ruth. She was a Moabitess who joined Israel, married her 'kinsman redeemer' Boaz (a picture of Y'shua as our bridegroom/kinsman redeemer) and became the grandmother of King David! She was not an Israelite in fact she was a Moabite from Moab. The Moabites are the children of the incestuous relationship between Lot and his daughters. They are also the ones

who conspired with Balaam to curse the children of Israel when they were about to enter the Promised Land. Deuteronomy 23:3-4 "An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of YHWH; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of YHWH for ever: Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee."

However, we see in Ruth 1:16 that in faith she declares to her mother-in-law Naomi, an Israelite, after her husband, Naomi's son, had died while they were living in Moab, "... thy people shall be my people, and thy Elohim my Elohim". She accompanied Naomi on the long journey back to Israel from Moab and then not only married Boaz, a kinsman redeemer, but was also blessed by YHWH in that she became the grandmother of King David! Yes, she was even in the line from which Y'shua descended, the line of the promise. Her declaration of faith needs to be our declaration of faith in Y'shua (YHWH's Salvation).

We can join YHWH's kingdom as part of His chosen people Israel, His children! When we accept the redemption of Y'shua and turn from our disobedience and dismissal of His commands to obedience, we bring Him honor and glory that He deserves. As His children we can know then that all of the promises made to His people Israel in the entire bible are for us as well as those who were alive at the time the promises were made.

Deuteronomy 29:9-15 "Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do. Ye stand this day all of you before YHWH your Elohim... That thou shouldest enter into covenant with YHWH your Elohim, and into his oath, which YHWH your Elohim maketh with thee this day: That he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and that he may be unto thee an Elohim, as he hath said unto thee, and as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath; But with him that standeth here with us this day before YHWH our Elohim, and also with him that is not here with us this day?"

The previous chapter Deuteronomy 28 had outlined the blessings for obedience contrasted to the judgements for disobedience that would be applied to those accepting His Covenant. The rest of Deuteronomy 29 finishes by outlining again the promised judgements for disobedience. When we join His people in His Kingdom we are agreeing to abide by the rules of His Kingdom and Covenant. He offers this Covenant to all who would accept it in faith and obedience. YHWH has sealed His promises and redeemed us from sin back to a right relationship with Himself through Y'shua's voluntary and redeeming death. Once accepting this redemption, we can then be partakers of ALL of His promises which are many and wonderful... including the promise of healing!

Please read the book of Deuteronomy for your selves before moving forward. Deuteronomy outlines all of our Creator's rules, commands and right rulings for His people. Please keep in mind that some of them, as they relate to the priesthood or temple, are not able to be properly obeyed today because - 1) we are not in the land but are instead in exile because of our forefathers' disobedience; and 2) there is not a physical temple anointed by YHWH or a Levitical priesthood in place today either. Y'shua is our High Priest in the Heavens sitting at the right hand of our Father! However, we should still obey all that we are able to obey and honor the days that our Creator and Father set-apart to Himself as special meetings or celebrations. We can learn and understand the spirit or purpose behind all of His laws which teach us how to worship and honor Him and how to treat and love one another.

Keep in mind 'Christians' have <u>not</u> replaced Israel through Y'shua as some 'churches' may claim or teach. Instead, as we have just learned through scripture we can be joined to the people of Israel, YHWH's chosen people, and their promises from YHWH through Y'shua. Before you can understand much of what Paul teaches in his epistles you need to understand who Israel is and who the Jews are.

Just in case this is still not completely clear here is a quick recap. The people of Israel are the physical descendants of Jacob (renamed Israel by YHWH) through his twelve sons whose descendants

became the 'twelve tribes of Israel'. The Jews are the descendants of ONE of those twelve tribes or sons which was Judah. The root and fatness of Israel that Paul is talking about in Romans 11 would be the promises and complete Torah or Word as given to Abraham, his son Isaac, Isaac's son Jacob who was renamed Israel, Moses and the prophets in the First Writings or Old Testament. All of the wonderful promises we are heirs to were made to and/or through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the twelve tribes of Israel.

It is this family that anyone from the nations in the entire world can be 'grafted' into or adopted into through Y'shua's willing sacrifice on the cross or stake. This grafting in or adoption means we are in Covenant relationship with the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and of course Y'shua. Y'shua was from the tribe of Judah, hence He was not only a Jew but also an Israelite. All Jews are Israelites but not all Israelites are Jews. This Covenant which we can join through Y'shua comes with rules of conduct which those who accept the Covenant are expected to obey. Obedience to the laws of YHWH's kingdom maintains order in the kingdom/family and honors the King/Father who then blesses His obedient children. Disobedience brings chaos and dishonors the King/Father and brings judgement and/or the removal of the promised blessings.

In summary – What did we learn from scripture about covenant and how it relates to healing in this chapter?

- 1. Covenant is a promise or contract made between at least two parties.
- 2. Being reborn as a child of YHWH through faith in Y'shua is entering into a covenant or a promise with our Creator.
- The Covenant which our Creator made with His chosen people began with an unconditional covenant with Abraham that through his son Isaac all nations would be blessed.
- 4. This Covenant of blessing then was promised to pass through Isaac's son Jacob down through the tribe of Judah which of course was our Messiah Y'shua.
- 5. Many of YHWH's other covenant promises of blessing including healing are conditional and were made to and through His chosen people the descendants of Israel (Jacob) and his 12 sons or tribes.
- 6. Like Ruth who declared "your people will be my people and your Elohim will be my Elohim", anyone who wants to be part of YHWH's chosen and blessed people can join the family of Israel by being reborn through faith in Y'shua.

### 5. WHY WAS HEALING A SIGNIFICANT PART OF Y'SHUA'S MINISTRY?

Now that we hopefully understand what covenant is and that Y'shua came to restore or make new YHWH's Covenant with His people let us consider why it was (and still is) important for Y'shua to heal His people. For the answer to this question we need to consider - Who was Y'shua healing during His earthly ministry? Gentiles (the nations)? Or Israelites (the descendants of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob)?' Unlike Paul Y'shua did not minister or teach in the nations surrounding Israel, the Pagan Gentile lands, but only in the area still inhabited primarily by the Jewish or Israelite people. People who still recognized themselves as the covenant or chosen people of YHWH.

What did Y'shua Himself say when a Canaanite woman asked Him to heal her daughter? Matthew 15:24 "he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." We are specifically told she was not an Israelite and He was only sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. However, she believed in and appealed to His great mercy. He did heal her daughter but also made it clear that this was not his primary goal or ministry. In Matthew 10:5-8 He commissioned His twelve apostles to do likewise:

"These twelve Y'shua sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go <u>not</u> into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: <u>But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel</u>. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Y'shua and His disciples healed MANY people as we saw in Chapter 1 of this book. Why were so many of YHWH's chosen people sick and demon possessed? The nation of Israel had fallen away and served other gods as they were warned against in the covenant summarized in Deuteronomy 28. They were promised blessings and healing for obedience to YHWH but likewise were also promised curses and chastisements including sickness for

disobedience. That the nation of Israel had broken their covenant with YHWH was evident in many ways including the fact that so many of His people were sick and demon possessed.

Y'shua was sent to restore the covenant which the Israelites had broken. His ministry and what He did were evidence of who He was. YHWH's people were not supposed to be sick. They were supposed to be blessed according to the covenant promises of Deuteronomy 28:1-13. Instead they were living under the curses of the rest of Deuteronomy 28. They were sick and in need of a healer.

Y'shua came to restore the promised blessings to those who would believe individually and He would have restored them to the nation of Israel as a whole if they (as a nation) would have turned back to Him. Many Israelites or Jews did believe individually but the nation as a whole did not. Many individuals were healed as evidence of just who Y'shua was and why He was sent by the Father – to restore or make new the covenant. Y'shua Himself cited His works (which included healings) as evidence of who He was when John the Baptist's followers were sent by John the Baptist to verify that He was the one who was sent by YHWH:

Mat 11:2-5 "Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Y'shua answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them."

Because of sin, beginning with Adam, we all (including the children of Israel who also broke their subsequent covenant) deserve judgement. Only YHWH has the power and authority to restore mankind as well as the covenant which Israel had broken. He restored His covenant with Israel by providing His own salvation through Y'shua's ministry, crucifixion and resurrection. Y'shua (YHWH's salvation) allows His people, as well as anyone who

would join themselves to His people through Y'shua (see Romans 11), to be reborn into a fresh new covenant with Him. A second chance if you will for His people Israel, as well as an open invitation to all the nations, to be cleansed, healed and able to partake of His promised blessings for those that are His in covenant!

In Summary – Why did Y'shua find so many of YHWH's people sick and demon possessed when He came and why did He heal them?

- 1. Y'shua, a circumcised Jew from the tribe of Judah, was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.
- Y'shua found many sick and demon possessed people among the Israelites because they were no longer under the blessings promised in Deuteronomy 28 but instead were living under the curses also promised there and elsewhere in His Word.
- 3. The Jews or Israelites as a nation had repeatedly throughout history transgressed the instructions of YHWH. They had followed after foreign gods and mixed pagan worship with the worship of YHWH which they had specifically been warned against.
- 4. Y'shua, YHWH's salvation and the Word of YHWH made flesh, was sent to restore or make new the covenant of YHWH with His people. Being able to heal His people, or in essence reverse the curses of Deuteronomy 28, was evidence of just who Yeshua was (and still is) and what He came to do.

# 6. WHAT COMMANDMENTS OR INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD WE OBEY ONCE WE COME INTO COVENANT WITH OUR CREATOR THROUGH HIS SON Y'SHUA?

In review remember Matthew 5:16-19, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

- 1- Y'shua did not come to destroy (do away with) the law, He came to fulfil it. He fulfilled the requirement of the law that the penalty of sin is death. We've all sinned or broken Elohim's laws so we all deserve eternal death. He, being sinless and following the law perfectly, voluntarily became sin for us and voluntarily died in our place fulfilling the death requirement of the law.
- 2- Not one jot or tittle (the smallest parts of the Hebrew letters in which the law was written) shall pass from the law until all is fulfilled and heaven and earth pass away. Heaven and earth are still here and there are many prophetic events such as Y'shua's second coming and 1000-year reign which have not yet been fulfilled.
- 3- Whoever breaks even the least important of His commands will be least in the Kingdom of heaven and whoever obeys will be greatest. So there are definitely blessings for keeping his Torah (commands, instructions and right rulings) and teaching others to do so as well. Even though we cannot keep the commands perfectly enough to 'earn' salvation that doesn't mean we just throw them all out or pick and choose which ones we want to obey.

His commands (or instructions) are still His rules for His kingdom and His people. They instruct us on how YHWH wants us to love Him and also how He expects us to love each other which are the two greatest commands according to Y'shua Himself. He doesn't leave anything to guesswork. The purpose of all of the laws (commands or instructions) given to us in the Old Testament or First Writings (when coupled with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit for guidance in a personal relationship with our Father through His Son Y'shua) is to glorify and honor our Father and to treat our fellow human beings justly and compassionately according to His standards.

Matthew 22:37-40 "Y'shua said unto him, Thou shalt love YHWH they Elohim with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

If you truly obey those two commands, you will obey all of the Torah (His instructions or commands as given through Moses and the prophets) because they are a summary of all of them. The 'law and the prophets' simply go into more detail of what obeying these two laws look like according to YHWH's standards. Let's take a look at what are known as the 'Ten Commandments'. These are the ten main instructions given by YHWH to Moses on tablets of stone at Mount Sinai. They are found first in Exodus and are reiterated also in Deuteronomy 5:6-21. The first five explain HOW to 'love YHWH' and the last five specify HOW to 'love your neighbor' according to YHWH's standards.

#1- 'I am YHWH thy Elohim, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other god before me."

#2- "Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I YHWH thy Elohim am a jealous Elohim, visiting the iniquity of the

fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

- #3- "Thou shalt not take the name of YHWH thy Elohim in vain: for YHWH will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."
- #4- "Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as YHWH thy Elohim hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of YHWH thy Elohim: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that YHWH thy Elohim brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore YHWH thy Elohim commanded thee to keep the Sabbath day."
- #5- "Honour thy father and thy mother, as YHWH thy Elohim hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which YHWH thy Elohim giveth thee."
- #6- "Thou shalt not kill."
- #7- "Neither shalt thou commit adultery."
- #8- "Neither shalt thou steal."
- #9- "Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour."
- #10- "Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's."

We should do our best to obey all of YHWH's instructions/commands that apply to us. In the KJV Deu 30:11 tells us His commands are not hidden from us but the Hebrew

word translated as hidden here actually could be interpreted as hard or difficult according to the Strong's. His commands are not too hard or difficult for us to obey. One of the above 'top ten' that we all can and should obey, but many do not obey (either because they choose not to or simply don't realize they should), would be number four.

The commandment to keep the seventh day Sabbath was commanded even before it was written on the tablets of stone at Mount Sinai. As a matter of fact, YHWH sanctified the seventh day right after creation. Genesis 2:2-3 "And on the seventh day Elohim ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which Elohim created and made." He wants us to observe and set it apart just as He did after creation as a sign or covenant that we acknowledge Him as our Elohim and Creator of everything!

The Sabbath might at first seem inconvenient but it certainly is not impossible. Many people (including the author) who have begun setting apart and honoring the seventh day Sabbath will testify that the Sabbath is actually a delight and a blessing! Our heavenly Father is not a hard taskmaster. To the contrary He commands us to take a day off. As Y'shua said His "yoke is light". He knows we need rest and time to read His Word and teach it to our children undisturbed by the cares of this world so that we can be refreshed as we head into a new week!

Most Christian leaders will tell you that the Sabbath was changed to Sunday the first day of the week. The original Hebrew word "Shabbat" actually means intermission. In other words, it is a pause between the end of one week and the beginning of another. The word Sabbath first appears in the aforementioned Exodus 16:26 "Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none." Here He specifically names the seventh day a Sabbath or intermission before the week begins again. So then how can the Sabbath, i.e. intermission between the sixth

and first days, be changed to the first day of the week or Sunday? Where is the scripture that states that this day has changed?

Some might argue that we don't really know which day is the seventh day... We know Sunday is the first day of the week because it is also the day Christians celebrate the resurrection and we know Y'shua arose on the first day of the week. So then according to Christian doctrine itself as well as overwhelming historical writings confirming Sunday as the first day of the week, we know that Saturday is indeed the seventh day of the week. Almost no one disputes this fact.

When you ask most Christian leaders WHO changed the Sabbath to Sunday, they will usually tell you the disciples in the New Testament worshipped or studied together on the first day of the week. So what if they did? They went from house to house breaking bread probably on many different days. They were even said to have "all in common". They shared everything and were together a lot. That doesn't mean they stopped honoring the seventh day as the setapart Sabbath or that Y'shua changed the Sabbath to Sunday.

To the contrary, there are many scriptures documenting the fact that the disciples including Paul still went to the synagogues on the Sabbath where Jews were gathered together with gentiles who also believed in the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. If you look in the original Greek at the phrase 'first day of the week' in Acts 20:7 ("And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight") you will see that the Greek word 'sabbaton' is translated as 'week'. However, in other passages in the New Testament this same Greek word is also translated as Sabbath... Additionally, there is no Greek word for 'day' in this verse which is why the word day here is italicized in most bibles. 'Day' has been added in the English. The literal translation straight from Greek to English without any words added or changed then would be 'first Sabbath' or 'one Sabbath'. Let's take a look:

Acts 20:7 "And upon <u>the</u> (G3588 ho,he,to -can be the, <u>this</u>, that, one, he, she, it, etc.) <u>first</u> (Strong's G3391 mee-ah is <u>one</u> or first) <del>day</del> (no Greek word here for day) of <u>the</u> (G3588 ho,he,to -can be <u>the</u>, this, that, one, he, she, it, etc.) <u>week</u> (G4521 sabbaton is the <u>Sabbath</u> a day of weekly repose and/or by extension the interval between two Sabbaths), when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

Since the above passage is a popular verse used to say the Sabbath was changed to the first day of the week let's look at what it could actually be saying based on a word for word translation from the Greek directly to English:

# And upon this one the Sabbath when the disciples came together to break bread...

The 'clincher' which suggests this is a more correct translation of this passage comes from understanding the biblical feasts and Hebraic roots of them. Let's look at this verse in context of the verse just before it. Acts 20:6 says, "And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days."

Starting the day following the first Sabbath after Passover, which is during the days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, YHWH's people are commanded in Leviticus 23 and elsewhere to "count seven complete Sabbaths to the day after the seventh Sabbath" or the fiftieth day after the Feast of First Fruits. This fiftieth day or day after the seventh Sabbath is the feast of Shavuot or Pentecost. The phrase "this one the Sabbath" following the Feast of Unleavened Bread could be speaking of one of these seven Sabbaths which they were commanded to count leading up to Shavuot (Pentecost). For more information on the biblical feasts which YHWH says are 'My feasts' you can read Leviticus 23.

Therefore, Acts 20:7 and other similar verses, by far **do not prove** the Sabbath was ever changed by the disciples or Y'shua, all of which honored the seventh day Sabbath as you can read in many

New Testament scriptures. In reality, honoring the seventh day Sabbath was outlawed by the Catholic Church and changed to Sunday the first day of the week. Catholic writings even admit to this change and Catholic doctrine claims that they have the authority to change this and any other scriptures that the Pope deems as needing to be changed. Catholicism claims the Pope is the 'Vicar of Christ', Jesus' representative on earth through the succession of Peter and that the Catholic Church is the only true and universal church with all authority over scripture and God's word…

It is the contention of this book that the Catholic Church and their Pope cannot override what YHWH says in His Word as given through Moses let alone what our Savior, Y'shua, the Word of Elohim made flesh, taught and practiced. Y'shua obeyed the fourth commandment by observing the seventh day Sabbath and so did His disciples. So then if we seek to walk as He walked we should honor the seventh day Sabbath also. 1John 2:6 He *that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.* 

Here are just a few more verses that show us our need, even our mandate, to keep the commandments of YHWH... Y'shua said in John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments." And in John 15:10 He also said, "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love."

In the verses above Y'shua (the Word of Elohim made flesh) was quoting the Word of YHWH from the Torah (law or instruction) in the First Writings as He often did. As we can see in the following verses from the First Writings YHWH's message has always been that those who love Him will keep His commands. Exodus 20:6 "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments." And also Deuteronomy 5:10 "And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

So then how can we say that we love Him with all our hearts, souls, and might (the first greatest commandment according to Y'shua in Mark 12:30 and others) if we don't keep His commandments and instead teach that they are done away with, changed and/or nailed to the cross?

The fact that Y'shua tells us if we love Him we will keep His commands should be enough motivation by itself for us to do so. However, YHWH loves us so much that He also promises healing to His people who obey all that He commands. Only three days after bringing His people through the Red Sea on their journey to the Promised Land YHWH makes the following promise in Exodus 15:26. "And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the YHWH thy Elohim, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am YHWH that healeth thee."

This promise is followed up just a few verses later with the first test He gives them to see whether or not they will obey His commandments. More specifically He checks to see if they will honor or set apart His Sabbath. He sends them manna to eat but commands them to only gather it for six days but on the seventh day or Sabbath day they were not to go out to gather it. They were to rest on the Sabbath.

Exodus 16:4-5 "Then said YHWH unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Exodus 16:21-28 "And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted. And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This is that which YHWH hath said, Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath unto YHWH: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the

morning. And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a Sabbath unto YHWH: to day ye shall not find it in the field. Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none. And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. And YHWH said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?"

Based upon the scriptures presented thus far it is the argument of this book that IF we are 'born again', joined to His people through His Son Y'shua AND choose to obey His commands then all of His promises including the promise of healing and good health are for us today. They apply to His children, His chosen people throughout all of history just as they applied to His people in the days of Moses and in the days of Y'shua!

Here are just a couple of verses in the Apostolic Writings that specify that before we can be healed we need to confess our sins and repent of them. James\_5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." And 1Peter 2:24 "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

We need to come to a realization of what we have done, that we have dishonored our Creator with our disobedience. We need to fall on our faces before our King and Savior Y'shua, confess our sins and ask for forgiveness. We can ask for His help by the indwelling of His Holy Set-apart Spirit to start down a path of obedience which leads to a true and lasting healing. We need to turn from our life of disobedience to a life of obedience and righteousness. This obedience will in turn honor and glorify our Father and His Son as Ruler and Creator! We must then continue our study of His Word starting at the beginning of the book so that we will understand the end of it in context!

BEWARE OF SOME OF THE ARGUMENTS OF CHURCH LEADERS AGAINST OBEYING ALL OF THE 'OLD TESTAMENT' COMMANDS TODAY... Opponents of obeying the commandments and/or laws of YHWH will often ask a believer in obeying the commands, 'so do you think we should stone rebellious sons as commanded in Duet 21?' Good question. This question actually makes a good case for reading the entire bible in context from the beginning. When understood in context, commands or right rulings such as this one, have guidelines which must be followed. 'Parents' are NOT told to stone their rebellious son themselves. Parents, AFTER trying everything they can to change their son's rebellious behavior to no avail, are then to bring him to the gate of the city before the elders for judgement. (This command is obviously speaking of adult sons since the verse says 'drunkards' and even in the Exodus the boys under 20 years of age were not held accountable for the rebellion in the wilderness.)

Only then, once having been judged by the elders, are they to be stoned by the elders not the parents. Since these were adult sons it stands to reason that before being stoned the rebellious sons would likely have left their parents' house and Israel altogether. However, if they didn't then these elders were essentially the judges of the city appointed because of their righteousness and wisdom. These elders would not take to stoning a rebellious son lightly. In essence the rebellious sons would have a trial and then, only if convicted, would they be stoned but not by the parents. We do not have biblically appointed righteous elders to stand in judgement at the city gates today. Obviously then this command cannot be properly administered today.

Many other such commands likewise cannot be properly administered and/or do not even apply to us because we are not in the land and there is no temple, temple priesthood, Sanhedrin or elders to judge according to the Torah in such matters. HOWEVER, the Spirit of this and other such laws CAN be obeyed. Rebellious children should not go unpunished. They should be taught from the time they are little that rebellion against righteous parental authority and biblical precepts is not acceptable behavior. Often when they are not taught these things at home

they end up standing before the unrighteous judges of our secular law system who will then judge them according to a man-made set of standards instead. Some then even face death, not by stoning but by lethal injection or electrocution. Others simply get locked up like animals in prisons (which are run for a profit) with other unrighteous and rebellious sons to learn to become even more unrighteous and/or down right evil. Which is the better option, the biblical one or our secular one?

In summary – What commandments/instructions should we obey once we are in Covenant with our Creator as His child?

- 1. Love YHWH with all your heart, soul and strength.
- 2. Love your neighbor as yourself.
- 3. Basically 'all of them' which we are able to obey today. All of the commands/instructions contained throughout His entire Word instruct us HOW to obey the two greatest commands.
- 4. Keeping the seventh day Sabbath was the first command the Israelites were tested on after being redeemed from slavery.
- 5. By keeping the Sabbath, we are glorifying YHWH as our Creator.
- 6. We are promised blessings & healing when we keep all of His commands/instructions.

#### 7. FEAR NOT!

Remember we are in a covenant with the Creator of everything through His Son Y'shua, His Salvation, His Word made flesh, and He does not lie. YHWH keeps His promises and He is merciful above all! He wants to heal His people, both because He loves us and also to cause His Name to be glorified in all the earth!

Because our society has programmed us to believe otherwise, it is a fearful thing to let go of secular wisdom and believe solely and entirely in the wisdom, guidance, provision, and healing of our Creator. It can be downright scary. YHWH and Y'shua knew that society and the enemy would make life and death, healing and disease scary. What does He say about fear? He has quite a lot to say about it:

Genesis 15:1 "After these things the Word of YHWH came unto Abram in a vision, saying, <u>Fear not</u>, Abram: <u>I am thy shield</u>, and thy exceeding great reward."

Genesis 26:24 "And YHWH appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the Elohim of Abraham thy father: <u>fear not, for I am with thee</u>, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake."

Exodus 14:13 "And Moses said unto the people, <u>Fear ye not</u>, stand still, and see the salvation of YHWH, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever."

Deuteronomy 1:21 "Behold, YHWH thy Elohim hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as YHWH Elohim of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 31:6 'Be strong and of a good courage, <u>fear not, nor be</u> <u>afraid</u> of them: for YHWH thy Elohim, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

Deuteronomy 31:8 "And YHWH, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed."

Joshua\_10:25 "And Joshua said unto them, <u>Fear not</u>, nor be dismayed, <u>be</u> <u>strong and of good courage</u>: for thus shall YHWH do to all your enemies against whom ye fight."

2Kings 6:16 "And he answered, <u>Fear not</u>: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them."

2Chronicles 20:17 "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of YHWH with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: <u>fear not</u>, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for YHWH will be with you."

Job 11:14-15, 19 "If iniquity be in thine hand, put it far away, and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles. For then shalt thou lift up thy face without spot; yea, thou shalt be stedfast, and shalt not fear... Also thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid;"

Psalms 27:1-4 "... YHWH is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? YHWH is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident. What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

Psalms 56:4 'In Elohim I will praise his Word, in Elohim I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me."

Psalms 118:6 "YHWH is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"

Isaiah 35:3-4 "Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, <u>Be strong, fear not:</u> behold, your Elohim will come with vengeance, even Elohim with a recompence; he will come and save you."

Isaiah 41:13 "For I YHWH thy Elohim will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

Lamentations 3:57 "Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: thou saidst, **Fear not.**"

Matthew 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Luke 8:50 "But when Y'shua heard it, he answered him, saying, <u>Fear not</u>: believe only, and she shall be made whole."

Romans 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

2Timothy 1:7 "For Elohim hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (So then who must the spirit of fear come from? The enemy.)

Hebrews 13:6 "So that we may boldly say, YHWH is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

1John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

The exact phrase 'fear not' appears in over 60 verses! We are even warned in Rev\_21:8 'But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with

<u>fire and brimstone: which is the second death."</u> Now that is something to be afraid of! Perhaps this is where the old saying "There's nothing to fear but fear itself" comes from.

Fear is something we all face and have to overcome. Fear is actually evidence of unbelief in the promises of YHWH. If we repent and are reborn through faith in Y'shua as a child of the Most High Elohim and truly understand and believe all of His promises made to His obedient children we will have nothing to fear. Throughout scripture we are admonished to fear nothing or no one except YHWH. The fear of YHWH as seen in the reborn life of one of His children should be manifest in reverence and awe rather than a scared kind of fear.

Psalms 118:4 "Let them now that <u>fear YHWH</u> say, that **his mercy** endureth for ever."

Deuteronomy 6:2 "That thou mightest <u>fear YHWH thy Elohim, to</u> <u>keep all his statutes and his commandments,</u> which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and <u>that thy days may be prolonged.</u> RIGHT HERE IS A PROMISE OF HEALING AND HEALTH ALL SUMMED UP FOR US!"

Deuteronomy 6:13 "Thou shalt <u>fear YHWH thy Elohim</u>, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name."

Deuteronomy 6:24 "And YHWH commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear YHWH our Elohim, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day."

Deuteronomy 10:12 "And now, Israel, what doth YHWH thy Elohim require of thee, but to <u>fear YHWH thy Elohim</u>, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve YHWH thy Elohim with all thy heart and with all thy soul,"

Deuteronomy 10:20 "Thou shalt fear YHWH thy Elohim; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave, and swear by his name."

Ecclesiastes 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: <u>Fear</u> <u>Elohim</u>, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Revelation 14:7 "Saying with a loud voice, <u>Fear Elohim</u>, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

The last two verses pretty much sum them all up. Fear YHWH, keep His commandments and give glory to HIM! Blessed be His Name! Praise YHWH and His Son Y'shua and choose to serve and fear Him only!

We should daily be crying out Jeremiah 17:14 "Heal me, O YHWH, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise."

Psalms 42:11 and 43:5 both declare, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in Elohim: for <u>I</u> shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my Elohim."

The following is another interesting passage of repentance and forgiveness in the First Writings or Old Testament even before Y'shua. YHWH's people have just demanded that He give them a king like all the other nations. When they realized what a mistake that was and how sinful it was to want to trust in a man rather than YHWH as their king they repented to Samuel and asked him to pray for them that they would not die for this sin. Samuel tells them not to fear but instead move forward fearing and serving YHWH with all of their hearts to avoid any further sin. He tells them YHWH will not forsake them for His name's sake and reminds them of the great things He has already done for them. But Samuel also warns that, if after this forgiveness they still do wickedly, they would be consumed!

1Samuel 12:19-25 "And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto YHWH thy Elohim, that we die not: for we have added unto all

our sins this evil, to ask us a king. And Samuel said unto the people, <u>Fear not</u>: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following YHWH, but serve YHWH with all your heart; And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain. For <u>YHWH will not forsake his people for his great name's sake</u>: because it hath pleased YHWH to make you his people. Moreover, as for me, Elohim forbid that I should sin against YHWH in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way: Only <u>fear YHWH</u>, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you. <u>But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed</u>, both ye and your king."

All throughout scripture we see the great mercy and forgiveness of YHWH toward His people who repent and turn from sin! Likewise, we also see the punishment of those who continue in unrepentant sin and disobedience. Repentance followed by obedience is a choice and our Father is longsuffering as we see in 2Peter 3:9 "YHWH is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." However, His righteous judgement does eventually come to those who continue in sinfulness and unrepentance.

Luke 13:5 "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Again YHWH is the only one we should fear. This fear, awe and reverence coupled with faith in His great mercies should lead us to repentance in Y'shua and obedience to His commands. All of them, which are summed up by Y'shua in the two greatest – Love YHWH with all your heart, soul and mind and love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:37-40)

The top ten commandments given at Mount Sinai that we listed earlier tell us exactly how to obey these two great commands (the first five pertain to loving YHWH and the last five pertain to loving our neighbor). The rest of the Torah or instructions contained in the whole Word of YHWH further explain acceptable behavior with real life examples and rulings.

Here are a few more verses which speak of the 'fear of YHWH' rather than man. The fear of YHWH brings blessing, the fear of anything else shows unbelief and brings judgment.

Deuteronomy 31:12 "Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear YHWH your Elohim, and observe to do all the words of this law:"

Joshua 4:24 "That all the people of the earth might know the hand of YHWH, that it is mighty: that ye might fear YHWH your Elohim for ever."

Psalms 33:8 'Let all the earth <u>fear YHWH</u>: let all the inhabitants of the world **stand in awe of him.**"

Psalms 34:9 "O <u>fear YHWH</u>, ye his saints: for <u>there is no want to</u> <u>them that fear him.</u>"

Psalms 115:11 "Ye that <u>fear YHWH</u>, trust in YHWH: he is their help and their shield."

Psalms 115:13 'He will bless them that <u>fear YHWH</u>, both small and great."

Psalms 118:4 "Let them now that <u>fear YHWH</u> say, that <u>his</u> <u>mercy endureth for ever</u>."

Proverbs 3:7 "Be not wise in thine own eyes: <u>fear YHWH</u>, and <u>depart</u> <u>from evil."</u>

For those that fear YHWH and depart from evil (lawlessness and disobedience) His mercies endure forever. He forgives all their iniquities and heals their diseases! He heals their broken hearts and binds up their wounds!

Psalms 103:3 "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who <u>healeth all</u> <u>thy diseases</u>;"

Psalms 147:3 "He healeth the broken in heart, and <u>bindeth up</u> their wounds."

We need to call upon YHWH in our distress with a sincere and repentant heart that is willing to turn from sin to obedience and He will answer us.

Psalms 118:5 "I called upon YHWH in distress: YHWH answered me, and set me in a large place

Before we can truly repent and be healed we need to realize our sin and that our fathers inherited lies which they then passed down to us." Jeremiah 16:19 "O YHWH, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit."

Our fathers have been serving a false god (many false gods) that is no god at all. These gods say that the law is done away with, we only need to obey the parts of the bible that the church leaders say are still relevant. We are told we don't need to honor the Sabbath or seventh day rest. To the contrary we have proven through scripture that all of these things are false. Are there any other lies we have inherited? Yes, but it will take a separate chapter to talk about our pagan worship practices that are so rampant in the church and especially American 'Christianity' which we are exporting across the globe.

In Summary – What does YHWH's Word say about fear?

1. Fear not! Fear of sickness, disease, death or anything other than our Creator is a sin because it is the fruit of unbelief in the power, promises and truth of YHWH's Word.

2. Fear only YHWH! This is a reverent and respectful awe that we should have for our Heavenly Father as Creator and King of everything and author of our salvation!

# 8. IS THE CHURCH IMMERSED IN PAGAN PRACTICES? DO WE EAT WHAT OUR CREATOR SAYS NOT TOO?

Paganism and lawlessness have infiltrated and nearly taken over 'Christianity'. We have inherited pagan practices and false forms of worship in violation of the first commandment. Are we really loving Him with all of our heart, soul and might when we do not worship Him the way, and on the days that He instructs us too? Our fathers inherited lies and passed them down to us. Along with the lie that the Sabbath is not important are similar lies such as the biblical feast days contained in the bible are 'Jewish festivals' and are not for believers in Y'shua.

Instead of honoring these biblical feasts or Holy Set-apart days that YHWH says are 'MY Feasts' in Leviticus 23:2 (not Jewish feasts) we have inherited pagan holidays such as easter (named after the pagan goddess Ishtar) and christmas (the ancient pagan celebration of the sun god's birthday). The church/state of Constantine simply 'Christianized' and renamed many popular pagan celebrations then served them up as being in honor of Jesus while at the same time outlawing the seventh day Sabbath and biblical feast days. Anyone who would continue the practice of honoring the feast days and Sabbaths were labeled as 'Judaizers' and were then punished severely.

The church would no longer observe the feasts of Passover (the time when Y'shua was crucified), Unleavened Bread and First Fruits (the time during which Y'shua was in the grave and then resurrected) and Shavuot (Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the first Jewish believers after the resurrection) as Y'shua and His disciples did. Instead they would celebrate easter with bunnies, eggs, and an easter ham. They would celebrate the time leading up to Pentecost with forty days of 'lent' the way the pagans previously worshipped Ishtar and Tammuz.

Additionally, while Y'shua was likely born during the biblical Fall Feasts there is nothing in the bible to indicate that celebrating His birthday was commanded or practiced by Y'shua or His disciples.

However, the Fall Feasts of Yom Teruah (Feast of Trumpets), Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), and Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) were observed by Y'shua and His disciples.

Just as the four Spring Feasts were prophetic pictures that were fulfilled to the day at Y'shua's first coming, the Fall Feasts are likewise prophetic of and will likely be fulfilled to the day of His second coming. Yom Teruah is a Day of Warning or Shouting ten days before Yom Kippur the Day of Atonement or Judgement which is five days before Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles when Y'shua will rule and reign from Jerusalem for a thousand years!

For more information on the biblical feasts please study Leviticus Chapter 23. The study of the biblical feasts and paganism in today's church is an in depth study of its own which has been covered very well by others such as 119 Ministries in their DVD "Sunburned" which you can watch on their website <a href="www.119ministries.com">www.119ministries.com</a> or YouTube.com and/or download from Vimeo.com for free. Mark Biltz of El Shaddai Ministries can also be found online and offers a wonderful set of DVD teachings on the biblical feasts.

What about the 'food' that we eat? Is it really now okay to ignore all of YHWH's dietary laws of the First Writings and eat things we are warned not to eat such as pigs and shellfish? Are GMOs (genetically modified organisms) okay to eat since the FDA says they are safe? Perhaps our diets are one of the direct causes of the rampant sickness in the church. How can we expect YHWH to heal us if we are purposefully putting things into our bodies that He warns us not to? He specifically tells us what His people can and cannot eat in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14.

Then regarding GMOs (genetically modified organisms), He tells us in Deuteronomy 22:9 "Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled." The word diverse here means mingled or totally different. That could adequately describe GMO seeds, basically grape seeds that are not grape seeds because they have been mingled with something totally different than a grape seed. The spirit of this law

would apply to all seeds would it not? If it's not okay to mix grape seeds would it then be okay to mix other seeds? This is YHWH's creation, who are we to mess with its genetic makeup and mix different plants, species and animals together? GMOs are corrupted or 'defiled' and should not be food period!

Once we come to the knowledge of the truth and the lies that we have inherited we have a difficult choice to make. This choice will likely divide many of our families and churches. Will we choose the truth or continue in a lie? Will we repent and turn back to our Father and His ways or stay the course of the world and mainstream Christianity? Will we choose our families, our churches and our beloved traditions or will we choose Him, our Creator and His Son whose name never was 'Jesus'? The right choice, while it will bring division, will also bring blessings and healing, faith and joy, revelation and understanding, and peace and fulfillment in our walk with Him and in our Spiritual Beings!

Let us remember what Y'shua Himself said in Luke 12:51 "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division" and then in Matthew 10:34 "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword", and in Matthew 10:37-38 "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

Was this falling away of the early church into pagan worship a surprise to our Father or His Son Y'shua? No, the good news is that YHWH knew this would happen. Nothing takes Him by surprise. He tells us many times through many of the prophets in the First Writings and especially in the book of Hosea that this would happen. He also tells us that after these things in the latter days we would realize we have inherited lies and would seek and return to YHWH and His goodness!

Hosea 3:5 "<u>Afterward</u> shall the children of Israel return, and seek YHWH their Elohim, and David their king; and shall fear YHWH and his goodness in the latter days."

Many believe these days are here! As the popular song declares, "These are the days of Elijah"! This song is based on Matthew 17:11 "And Y'shua answered and said unto them, Elias (Elijah) truly shall first come, and restore all things" and Malachi 4:5 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of YHWH". Are these the 'Days of Elijah'? These are the days when truth and understanding are beginning to be restored to YHWH's people. Will we accept it? What was Elijah's message?

1Kings 18:21 "And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, <u>How long halt ye between two opinions? If YHWH be Elohim, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.</u> And the people answered him not a word."

We have the same choice today that Elijah presented to YHWH's people of his day when paganism and false worship were also rampant. As we see in the verse above at first the people didn't answer Elijah. They waited until the sign of fire fell from heaven and consumed Elijah's offering. We are told that in the last days a wicked generation will seek a sign and one will not be given. Luke 11:29 "And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it..." We are also told that in the last days the anti-messiah will cause fire to fall from heaven deceiving many. Revelation 13:13-14 "And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast..." Will we answer Elijah's question now or seek and wait for a sign which could very well be the deception of the anti-messiah's fire?

We should not wait but should answer now. Our answer needs to be the same as Joshua's answer and the answer of the people of his day when he posed the same question. Joshua 24:14-16 "Now therefore fear YHWH, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and <u>put away</u>

the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye YHWH. And if it seem evil unto you to serve YHWH, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve YHWH. And the people answered and said, Elohim forbid that we should forsake YHWH, to serve other gods;

The message is the same from the beginning of Genesis to the end of Revelation. YHWH tells us that He does not change. His same message is just repeated over and over under different circumstances in different generations. The message and its results will never change. His promises to His people are forever. *Malachi* 3:6 "For I am YHWH, <u>I change not</u>..." Hebrews 13:8 "<u>Y'shua</u> (Yah's Salvation) our Messiah is <u>the same yesterday</u>, and to day, and for ever."

There is not one god in the Old Testament (who was judgmental, mean, and without mercy with a set of standards that could not possibly be followed by men) and then a different more merciful god (without any rules except what the church tells us and a different set of holy days to observe) in the New Testament as modern Christian leaders would have us to believe. This is deception at its finest and YHWH's people have been blinded in part to many of the truths in the bible for centuries.

However, during the 21st century this deception has reached a crescendo. There were actually laws in place from the founding of our nation up through the mid-1800s that outlawed the celebration of christmas. As recently as the early to mid-1900's the 'blue laws' closing all places of business on Sundays in honor of the Sabbath were still valid in many of the states. True, Sunday was the wrong day but at least they recognized that one day of the week was supposed to be set aside without commerce or work. For the most part Christians today don't even acknowledge this at all. Aside from attending church for an hour or two on Sunday morning (if nothing else comes up) Sunday is just another day.

Now let's answer the question in the title of this book. "If God can heal his people, why is the church so sick?" Hopefully, based upon the scriptures presented throughout this book you now have your answer. The church has taught people that they need to 'be saved' and that Jesus saves. 'Believers' then profess belief in the Son of God whose name never was 'Jesus' and who never taught that the laws or commands of the Old Testament were done away with. They have unknowingly entered into a covenant that they don't even understand. They are never taught the full implications of disobedience verses obedience once the covenant is entered into. Many are told you only need to believe in God and Jesus as the Son of God to keep from going to hell. What does the New Testament or Apostolic Writings have say about that?

James 2:19-22 "Thou believest that there is one Elohim; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect and the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed Elohim, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of Elohim. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise, also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

What are the works James is talking about? Works of obedience to the Word of YHWH. He clearly tells us in His Word from beginning to end what works or behaviors are pleasing to Him and what works or behaviors are not pleasing to Him. What days He has set apart to be honored as well as how He desires to be worshipped. He has left very little open to guesswork. We just need to apply the examples He has given us in His Word to our lives today. Read 1 Corinthians Chapter 10.

Many in the church today are not even told God has an actual name by which He refers to Himself and says numerous times throughout scripture that He wants glorified in all the earth. The majority of YHWH's promises to His people are "IF-THEN" promises. IF we make certain choices and behave the way He says to behave or repent and turn from sin when we mess up THEN He will do all of the things and give us all of the blessings He promises to do and give to those that love Him as witnessed through their obedience. In John 14:15 Y'shua says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." As we have seen these promises include healing. Repentance and obedience are conditions of healing throughout scripture and especially lasting healing and lifelong health.

In Summary – What are some major ways today's believers are disobeying YHWH's commands?

- 1. Paganism is rampant in the church and in 'Christian' traditions breaking the first and fourth commandments.
- 2. We've inherited lies from our fathers.
- 3. We don't honor or set-apart the days YHWH declares as His days.
- 4. We eat and put into our bodies (temples) that which YHWH commands His people not to.
- 5. We are taught the laws/commands are done away with and all we need is faith, but faith without works is dead according to scripture.

#### 9. NOW WHAT?

Hopefully many of you may now, or soon will, be to the point where you can say "I believe in and I accept Y'shua's forgiveness and offer of salvation, I repent, I ask forgiveness, I turn from paganism to HIS feasts and His Sabbaths, I don't eat what YHWH calls unclean and I avoid GMOs to the best of my ability, now what? You might be frustrated thinking the more I learn about GMO's, the possibility of chemtrails, and the toxic pollutants that are dumped into our oceans, water tables and food supply the more unattainable good health seems to be. How can we possibly avoid all of the deadly toxins we come into contact with daily, many of which are either beyond our control or are unknown by us? The answer is, we can't. We can only do what we can do.

When our Father makes us aware of a toxin, food or GMO that we should avoid, that of course is what we should do to the best of our ability. Revelation 18:4 "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye he not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." However, we should not stress over the fact that we don't know about them all and we can't avoid everything no matter how hard we try. This is where faith in our Father's promises should kick in and 'take up the slack'. He knows we are 'in Egypt' right now and are surrounded by deadly and unclean things.

Remember, He was able to prevent the plagues He put on Pharaoh and the Egyptians before the first Exodus from affecting or harming His people who also lived in part of Egypt. Likewise, He is also able to prevent us from succumbing to, and becoming sick or diseased from the plagues that are coming upon the world in our time. When we do our part YHWH is quite able to protect us from plagues of disease from GMOs, past vaccines we may have unwittingly received, chemtrails, and toxic pollutants.

Hopefully none of us condone the intentional actions that lead to our exposure to all of these toxic and deadly substances. We should also (as much as humanly possible) withdraw our consent to having policy makers who are immoral and ungodly from being <u>our</u> representatives. As much as possible we should withdraw our monetary support from immoral and ungodly companies who poison people with toxic substances that should not be introduced into our food supply. We should instead support and purchase from organic companies and local natural producers that are doing the best they can to provide real untainted foods and/or grow as much of our own food as possible. This takes intentional effort and more time but the benefits to our family, our bodies (temples), and YHWH's honor are worth the effort. It won't happen overnight and it is an ongoing process but one worth consciously pursuing.

As with everything in life our Father wants us to seek Him. Where our efforts are not enough and where our ability or strength fails or runs out He wants us to trust Him to show Himself strong where we are weak and our abilities are insufficient. 2Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of YHWH run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." We then can and should give Him the glory for all of the wondrous results we were not able to attain through our own efforts! Noah was obedient in building the ark but it took YHWH to seal him in and protect him and his family through the storm. So should it be with all of us in these days.

Have you ever wondered why many of the great people of Elohim throughout scripture reminded YHWH of His promises? Moses reminded YHWH of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Israel in Exodus 32:13 when the Children of Israel sinned yet again and YHWH said He was going to destroy them. Moses speaking to YHWH said, "Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever." Then again in Deuteronomy 9:27 Moses reminded YHWH, "Remember thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin:" Is our Elohim so forgetful that He needs us to remind Him of His promises? No! We would have no hope at all if that were the case. To the contrary, perhaps He likes for us

to remind Him of His promises because He wants to hear from us that WE remember them and more importantly WE believe and trust in Him to keep His promises.

We looked at two Israelite kings earlier who died of their diseases/illnesses because they did not seek YHWH for healing. Now let's consider the story of King Hezekiah who was a righteous king in 2 Kings 20:3-7. 'In those days was Hezekiah sick unto <u>death</u>. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith YHWH, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto YHWH, saying, I beseech thee, O YHWH, REMEMBER now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the Word of YHWH came to him, saying, Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith YHWH, the Elohim of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of YHWH. And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered."

- 1- Hezekiah a righteous king became sick and a prophet of YHWH professed death over him.
- 2- Instead of seeking the counsel of other gods or physicians, King Hezekiah <u>immediately</u> turned to YHWH in prayer and reminded Him that he had been an obedient servant. By reminding YHWH of his own obedience King Hezekiah was in essence calling upon the promises of healing made by YHWH to those who are in covenant with Him and obedient to His instructions or Torah.
- 3- YHWH then sent His prophet back to Hezekiah with a diagnosis of healing and a longer life as well as a message of victory over his enemies and deliverance for his city.

- 4- The prophet was given a natural remedy to speed healing (something that had to be done in faith).
- 5- King Hezekiah recovered completely and lived!

Nehemiah a prophet of Elohim who returned after the Babylonian exile to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple prayed the following prayer of repentance during which he also reminded YHWH of His promises in Nehemiah 1:7-11 "We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses. Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there. Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. O YHWH, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

Perhaps we also should pray prayers of true repentance and faith with the inclusion of His actual Word. We should include His promises in our prayers asking for remembrance of His promises of redemption and healing to those who love Him and keep His commands. His Word is powerful, WE need to read and remember it always. It is our sword and our shield, our only defense against our enemies including sickness and disease.

Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of Elohim"

Hebrews 4:12 "For the Word of Elohim is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing

asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Psalms 119:114 "Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy Word."

Proverbs 30:5 "Every Word of Elohim is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."

King David requested of YHWH in Psalms 25:6 "Remember, O YHWH, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old." YHWH has always been merciful, loving and kind. But He is also our righteous judge who deserves respect and obedience. In His great mercy He wants to heal His people. He would rather heal than judge but the choice is ours to make. He gave us free will to choose who we will serve.

At the dedication of the first temple in Jerusalem King Solomon (King David's son) prayed the following prophetic prayer asking YHWH to remember the mercies of King David when YHWH's people will repent from afar after they have been scattered for disobedience. Is this prayer speaking to us today?

2Chronicles 6:36-42 "If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near; Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly; If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name: Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee. Now, my Elohim, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that

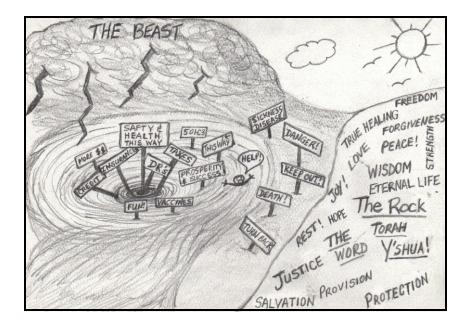
is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O YHWH Elohim, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O YHWH Elohim, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. **Q** YHWH Elohim, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant."

It is well established in scripture that great men of Elohim often reminded YHWH of His promises to His people. They had faith that YHWH would always keep His promises and they were never disappointed. That is the faith that we need. We need to speak out and pray the promises of YHWH in faith. To remind Him of His promises to our spiritual fathers and to claim those promises in faith as our own promises because we are also His children, reborn into His family through the willing sacrifice of Y'shua! We belong to Him, to Y'shua. We do not belong to the enemy. We have been redeemed by the precious blood of Y'shua. It is time to live like YHWH's children with full assurance that His promises are true and are still relevant to us today.

Once we are redeemed and belong to our King Y'shua and His Father the enemy has no control, power or hold over us unless we let him through disobedience, unbelief and/or fear. However, we are told that our Father does allow us to be tested from time to time to see if we will indeed obey as well as to cleanse and sanctify us. His testing is always temporary just as it was in Job's case. With that testing He also promises to provide an escape and not test us beyond what He knows we are able to bear. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

The enemy and our society will lie to us and tell us we cannot be healed without the help of modern medicine, drugs, vaccines, insurance and doctors. If we watch television (which we also need to seriously pray about and remove from our homes all except that which is acceptable to a set-apart and righteous Elohim) we are bombarded daily with drug ads telling us we are sick and that we will have a better life if we ask our doctors about using this drug or that drug.

We are bullied and scared into vaccinating our children with who knows what, some of which are actually manufactured utilizing aborted fetal cells and all of which contain dangerous toxins at the very least. Fear drives the entire modern medical system. We, as children of the Most High Elohim, are commanded to fear not. When we *'fear not'* they have no power or control over us and they know that. This is why they market in fear and false promises of a better life.



DISCLAIMER - TAKE NOTE: As stated previously in this book, modern medicine can have a limited place in our lives especially when prayerfully considered before YHWH. While we are in a time of repentance and learning, or infancy in our faith, modern medicine can certainly help to make us more comfortable, heal injuries, ease symptoms and even help us recover a bit more quickly from some illnesses. If you are currently on prescription medications and under a doctor's care this book is certainly NOT RECOMMENDING that you quit the drugs and/or your doctor's care 'cold turkey'. Instead, perhaps you should also visit a naturopath who is a redeemed believer along with lots of prayer for guidance and witnesses from our heavenly Father as to His will for you and your healing. The author is not a physician nor

is this book attempting to give any medical advice. The purpose of this book is to present the Words of our Creator as they pertain to healing and health for your serious consideration. Your walk with our Savior will vary. We are called into a 'personal relationship' with Y'shua and are told to "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" in Philippians 2:12.

That said, here in the United States we are now even being forced to purchase so-called 'health' insurance by a government bureaucracy that passes laws denying us the right to know what GMO's are actually in the foods we eat. This is the same government bureaucracy that licenses, as being safe for food, not only GMOs but also other known toxins such as aspartame, nitrates, high fructose corn syrup, and even mandates fluoride be put in our drinking water and our children be vaccinated with neurotoxins. This same bureaucracy is now promising to 'insure' your health if you can't afford to buy health 'insurance' yourself.

These are all great policies if you are one of the big pharmaceutical, insurance, or corporate Agra companies. Our so-called 'representatives' have even instituted laws and trust funds which indemnify 'too big to fail' pharma companies from all liability when (not if) their vaccines damage or kill children. Please research the National Vaccine Injury Fund which is a governmentally established fund that indemnifies the big pharma companies against vaccine injury liability by compensating vaccine injured families with tax payer funds in lieu of lawsuits against vaccine manufacturers. The truth is not hard to find online. You should also read the warnings contained on the vaccine inserts themselves.



The logo on the US Dollar claims 'In God We Trust'... what god? We as a nation certainly do not trust in the Elohim of the bible. We

have made our government our god. We trust them to protect us, heal us, and provide for all of our needs. If we lose our job, we expect unemployment insurance to kick in. If we are hurt, we expect disability insurance to kick in. If we squander our money, don't want to work or are otherwise unable to make enough to feed ourselves or our children we expect to receive food stamps to purchase our GMO foods. If we get sick from the legalized environmental toxins our government licenses, the GMO foods we eat and the vaccines they give us to 'prevent disease' we expect our health insurance to kick in to pay for pharmaceutical drugs to make us feel better while masking the real problem and causing other worse side effects.

In all of this the last thing we think of, or want to do as a society, is fall on our faces before our mighty and merciful Creator, repent of our sins, and trust in Him to heal us, to lead us, and to provide for all of our needs as He promises to those that love Him.

Instead, it seems as a society that we would much rather trust in man's government. A government bureaucracy which creates more problems than it can ever solve and has become corrupted by greed and power. A government which teaches our children, through mandated education, that there is no god besides man and the governments which he creates. A government that blasphemes our Creator by teaching children that they were not created in the image of Elohim but instead evolved from apes which evolved in turn from even 'lower life forms'.

Should we as believers even allow our children to be educated in these public indoctrination centers which have in essence become temples to another god staffed predominantly by atheists who are now even mandated to call evil good and good evil? Again, please prayerfully study this out for yourselves.

One last point to ponder when considering whom you will trust for your healing, modern medicine or YHWH our Elohim who created us. What is the logo for the American Medical Association? Is it not a serpent wrapped around a pole? Where did that come from?





Isn't it suspiciously close to the brass serpent Moses was told to hold up on a pole for the people of Israel to look upon when they were bitten by the plague of snakes that were sent among them when they sinned? Have you ever thought about that? Aren't we told in John 3:14 that this serpent on the pole was a picture of Y'shua who would be lifted up so that whosoever believes in Him would have eternal life? The brass serpent on the pole in the wilderness represented the people's sin and Y'shua became sin for us and was likewise lifted up.

What is the enemy trying to tell us? Is not the ultimate goal of modern medicine and science to make it possible for people (certain people, *their* chosen ones?) to live longer and now with genetic modification and transhumanism to live forever (eternally)? The enemy promises this to his chosen ones or those who would trust in and follow him, no obedience to YHWH necessary...

We learned earlier how King Hezekiah was a righteous king who honored and obeyed YHWH. When he became sick and death was pronounced over him he immediately sought YHWH in prayer reminding Him that he had been an obedient servant. YHWH changed King Hezekiah's prognosis to that of complete recovery and a longer life! However, did you know that King Hezekiah also tore down and destroyed the brass serpent that Moses had been told to lift up in the wilderness for Israel's healing?

Par for the course Israel ended up turning the brass serpent into an idol which they erected on the Mount of Olives. They began worshipping and trusting in this serpent on a pole instead of YHWH who was the true source of their healing. King Hezekiah was not 'perfect' and he did end up making some unwise decisions that had grave consequences for Israel and his own children. However, he was obedient to YHWH. He tore down all of the

pagan worship places in Judea and sought YHWH alone for his healing. YHWH of course honored His promises and healed King Hezekiah. Let us further consider the life of King Hezekiah and the brazen serpent Israel began to worship. Is this perhaps a parable we can apply to our own modern day brazen serpent?

2Kings 18:1-4 "... Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign... And he did that which was right in the sight of YHWH, according to all that David his father did. He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan. He trusted in YHWH Elohim of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him. For he clave to YHWH, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which YHWH commanded Moses.

We all will have to make the choice sooner or later. Will we choose to have faith in the healing serpent of modern medicine whose religion is science and god is the enemy of our souls? Or will we tear down that brazen serpent as King Hezekiah did and instead choose Y'shua who willingly took our sins upon Himself and was lifted up to die on the cross or stake in our place for our redemption and our healing?

In the end the enemy will show no mercy while we are assured in Psalms 103:17-18 and throughout the Word of YHWH that "...the mercy of YHWH is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

Now is the time to "... <u>choose you this day whom ye will serve</u>; whether the gods which your fathers served .... or the gods .... in whose land ye dwell: but <u>as for me and my house</u>, we will serve YHWH. Joshua 24:15.

In Summary – Once we are redeemed, reborn and learning obedience what do we do now?

- 1. "Choose this day whom you will serve."
- 2. Study regularly and remember all of the Word of Elohim from beginning to end in context.
- 3. Profess His Word and promises of healing made to His people who obey Him over yourself and your family.
- 4. Have faith and speak life and blessings over everyone you know. Let no evil speech that tears down or curses another come from your lips.
- 5. When faced with an illness or symptoms re-read YHWH's promises and remind Him of them so that He knows you remember and believe them.
- 6. Seek righteous elders for prayer and anointing.
- 7. Trust YHWH and His Son Y'shua with all your heart and 'fear not' the enemy.
- 8. Do what you can do to avoid everything YHWH says should not be eaten or ingested by His people. Pay attention to ingredients and learn what kinds of 'foods' contain pig (i.e. most everything with 'gelatin' is made from pig such as gelatin deserts, vitamin capsule shells, regular marshmallows and even some cheeses). This information is readily available online.
- 9. Avoid GMOs by purchasing GMO free certified or organic foods. This likely won't completely protect you from GMOs but we can only do what we can do and leave the rest to our Creator who can heal and protect us.

- 10. Seek YHWH for wisdom through His Holy Spirit and prayer in the name of His Son Y'shua for all healing and healthcare decisions.
- 11. Prayerfully and diligently study all modern healthcare procedures, medicines, vaccines, etc. before submitting yourself or loved ones to any of them.
- 12. Find a naturopath physician who is a believer for any healthcare advice you may need.

#### CLOSING: THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT IS IN US.

We need to be very careful not to think we 'deserve' healing because of what we have done or because we are so righteous. For example, the belief that now because we 'follow Torah' we are righteous so we deserve YHWH's healing is all wrong. This is a prideful attitude and not a repentant one. This would be relying on our own righteousness to save or heal us. We are told many times throughout scripture that we cannot rely on our own works or righteousness to save us (or for that matter to heal us).

Because of our previous sins, lawlessness (Torahlessness) and the sins and lawlessness of our fathers we deserve the promised curses which include eternal death, sickness and disease. This is why we need our savior Y'shua our Messiah! We are all condemned without Him. We are all sick and dying without Him. That is why we need to die to our old sinful selves and be reborn in Him, reborn to a life of righteous living! Not reborn to continue in sin thinking that the laws which teach us what sin is have been done away with. What should be 'done away with' when we are reborn is our UNrighteous and lawLESS living in blatant disregard of what YHWH says is, and is not, acceptable in His Word for His people.

Titus 3:3-8 "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another (broke Torah, in other words didn't live as Torah instructs us to). But after that the kindness and love of Elohim our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost (Holy Set-Apart Spirit); Which he shed on us abundantly through Y'shua our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in Elohim might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men."

Make no mistake, as we are told in the above scripture as well as many others, we cannot earn our own salvation and healing through righteous living. Salvation and healing come only through His mercy. We must first be born again TO righteous living, THROUGH His blood which was shed for us in our place as payment for our wickedness and that of our fathers. Without Y'shua's willing sacrifice and suffering there can be no rebirth, healing or righteousness. We first need to realize and confess our sins and the sins of our fathers. We need to confess that we deserve sickness, suffering and death for what we have done and then we need to ask for His mercy, to be reborn through His Spirit and according to His promises to a life of righteousness and obedience. Here is another passage in witness to this truth.

Ephesians 4:17-32 "This I say therefore, and testify in YHWH, that <u>ye</u> henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of Elohim through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness (all are taught against in Torah). But ye have not so learned Messiah; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Y'shua (the Word of Yah made flesh for our example): That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after Elohim is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour (also taught in Torah): for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, (again we are warned against an evil tongue) but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace (or be beneficial) unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy (set-apart) Spirit of Elohim, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and

anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, (again warned about lashon h'rah the evil tongue) be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as Elohim for Messiah's sake hath forgiven you." (All these things are taught in the Torah or laws and commands of YHWH contained in the 'Old' Testament!)

We are expected to behave as YHWH instructs His people to behave in His Word <u>because</u> we are saved and redeemed into His Kingdom not the other way around. We are not redeemed into His Kingdom because we obey or are righteous on our own. Again we can only enter His Kingdom through Y'shua who is the door to YHWH's sheepfold or Kingdom. In John 10:9 Y'shua said, "<u>I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."</u> Then again in John 14:6-7 "<u>Y'shua saith</u> unto him, <u>I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.</u> If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

Like ancient Israel our redemption starts with the sacrifice of the Lamb, His perfect Lamb Y'shua. We must accept His offer of redemption and then be baptized in water, just as ancient Israel passed through the Red Sea, coming up a new creation and part of His chosen nation. After rebirth, symbolized through baptism, we start on our journey to His Promised Kingdom. A journey of sanctification away from our will to His will according to His laws, commands and right rulings in His Word, all of it. 2Timiothy 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of Elohim, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness". Just as YHWH led them with a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night Y'shua will lead us on our journey with the indwelling of His Holy Set-apart Spirit when we study His written Word and listen to the promptings of His Spirit.

During this process of sanctification on our journey to the Promised Land YHWH in His mercy and love promises healing and good health to us as a bonus! He is merciful and wants to heal us! He wants us to have life and have it more abundantly, but according to His will for our lives. In John 10:10-11 Y'shua tells us, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: <u>I am come that they might have life</u>, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

The enemy of our souls is a thief. He has stolen the truth from us through the lies of those who are not true shepherds. True shepherds for YHWH's people will never teach that any part of His Word or instruction has been done away with. True shepherds will lead His sheep in righteousness as Y'shua was righteous and led in righteousness according to the whole Word of YHWH. He led in Spirit and in Truth or the Spirit of the Truth which is contained in the Torah. Again refer to the verse above - 2Timiothy 3:16 "All scripture is given... for instruction in righteousness".

Our own righteousness can never heal us. We are forgiven and healed only through the righteousness of our Savior Y'shua. However, righteousness and obedience should follow after professing faith in Y'shua (Yah's Salvation). When we die to our sin, selves and our own will and then begin to live for Him, His right rulings and commands, based upon scriptures presented in this book, it is the author's belief that YHWH will be prompted to have mercy on us and will remember His promises to those that are His. One of those promises of blessing to His obedient children is healing!

In Ephesians 6:10-18 as children of the Most High Elohim, we are told how we should fight the enemy, all of our enemies including sickness, and be victorious! "Finally, my brethren, be strong in YHWH, and in the power of his might (not our own strength). Put on the whole armour of Elohim, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of Elohim, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate

of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of Elohim: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

The whole armour of Elohim by which we can stand in the evil days that are coming are truth, righteousness, faith, and salvation. These are our defense against attacks. But are we to just ward off attacks or are we to fight back? The scripture above says we are also to wield the sword of the Spirit as well which is the Word of Elohim.

A sword is for fighting and we are in a battle! We need to confess His Word continually, all of it! After all, truth, righteousness, faith and salvation (our defenses) are contained in His Word. Without all of His Word we have no hope at all. Y'shua is the Word of Elohim made flesh. He lived out this Word as an example to us and He wielded the sword of the Word against the enemy quite often prefacing Old Testament scripture with the phrase "it is written". The enemy had no power back then against this use of the Word of Elohim and still doesn't today.

What will WE do not if but when we have to choose between taking a mark (or in essence swearing obedience and allegiance to a beast system that we are told is coming in the end of days) or going without modern healthcare? What will we do if we can no longer fill our prescriptions for drugs prescribed to 'save our lives' or visit a doctor when we aren't feeling well? What if our prescription or over the counter drugs (pharmakia in the Greek, where we get the modern word pharmacy but is translated in the scriptures to sorceries and witchcraft) are no longer available? Will we be able to trust in YHWH alone for our healing?

Will we seek to save our lives or the lives of our loved ones by trusting in man and his government/health care system? Or will we

be willing to believe YHWH's promises which may mean taking a chance on losing our lives according to the mantra of modern medicine? Modern medicine which is daily professing death and sickness over everyone unless you subscribe to their form of 'healing'. Y'shua says in Luke 9:24 "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

Will we choose obedience to our Father and Creator with complete trust in Him and His ability heal us and/or to raise us up in the last days? Or will we choose to put our faith in man's government, modern medicine and their false promises of a prolonged life no obedience to our Creator necessary? Will we allow the enemy to continue blaspheming our Creator with the lie that we don't need Him or His laws, and that He doesn't even exist? Or will we proclaim His sovereignty over every part of our lives including our health and healthcare? Remember it is this same modern medicine that is venturing further and further into depravity as they sacrifice babies through abortions and offer their body parts up to the god of science in the name of research and 'finding a cure' again with no obedience to YHWH necessary. Who will we choose and shouldn't we make the choice now?

This is a scary scenario that most of us do not want to face. We would rather not think about it right now. We'll just 'cross that bridge when we come to it'... However, this is the time we should be thinking and praying about this very thing. Noah didn't wait for it to start raining before He began building the ark. Now is the time for us to get 'right' with our Creator through His Son. This is the time to start believing and obeying the whole Word of Elohim and stop believing the lies of the enemy. We need to choose this day whom we will believe and serve. Tomorrow when it starts raining may be too late. As a matter of fact, the storm clouds have been forming for a long time and perhaps it has already begun to sprinkle.

What will you choose? Please choose the whole truth now. We need to be on our faces praying before our merciful Elohim in the mighty and merciful Name of Y'shua (Yah's Salvation)! We need to

praise our Father and glorify Him as our 'everything' because 'HE IS' EVERYTHING we need! Halleluiah! In Hebrew 'HalleluYah' (Praise Yah)! Amen.

## In Summary – What brings salvation and healing?

- 1. Salvation comes only through redemption from sin by Y'shua's willing death in our place to be followed by...
- 2. Baptism representing our death to sin and repentance for our disobedience, coming out of the water...
- 3. Reborn as a child of Elohim Most High to follow Y'shua's example of obedience through...
- 4. The indwelling of His enabling Holy Set-apart Spirit and...
- 5. Faith in Y'shua the Word of our Father made flesh and the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).
- 6. Ultimately salvation and healing are available to all of us because of our Father's great mercy, love and favor! The choice is ours to make.

## What brings chastisement and/or can lead to sickness?

- 1. Rejection of Y'shua's offer of salvation and healing.
- Unbelief or faithlessness.
- 3. Unrepentant disobedience including willful disregard of His Sabbaths and Holy Set-apart days in exchange for, or mixed with, pagan worship practices.
- 4. Fear.
- 5. Corrupt communications —lashon h'rah the evil tongue.
- 6. Purposefully eating or taking into our bodies that which we are told not to.

SHALOM & BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL. MAY YHWH EL SHADDAI RICHLY BLESS AND HEAL EACH ONE OF YOU AND ALL OF YOUR FAMILIES!

### **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 –** <u>www.hebrewnationonline.com</u> Phone (503)316-1220

**Monte Judah & Lion and Lamb Ministries –** <u>www.lionlamb.net</u> Phone (405)447-4429

Eddie Chumney & Hebraic Heritage Ministries – www.hebroots.com

Various Teachers at Hebraic Roots Network – <a href="https://www.hebraicrootsnetwork.com">www.hebraicrootsnetwork.com</a> (live streaming) <a href="https://www.hrondemand.com">www.hrondemand.com</a> (archived teachings)

**Richard Rives & Too Long in the Sun –** <u>www.toolong.com</u> Phone (931)293-4745

#### **MORE ADVANCED MINISTRIES:**

Brad Scott & Wild Branch Ministries – www.wildbranch.org

Rico Cortes - wisdomintorah.com

Bill Cloud - billcloud.org

Michael Rood – aroodawakening.tv

Bible Study Aids (research in original languages) -

www.blueletterbible.org (free online program)

www.scripture4all.org (free program download)

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