

The Torah & The Apostolic Scriptures, part 5b

Obedience to YHVH's Word or to Paganism

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Refer to the last page: "How to Interpret Scripture"

Obedience to YHVH's Word or to Paganism

Your notes:

We cannot follow our Messiah and not follow His Words! Our LORD clearly states,

³“And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

⁴Whoever says, “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him” [1John 2:3-4].

We do not need to prove that the Word of YHVH is true to the world, for the *world does not believe*. But the individual who is an ardent *follower of Yeshua does believe* and has committed himself to His will, God's Word instructs that the follower of Yeshua must commit himself to obeying the Words of God.

However, it has become apparent that through the years that many Christians actually disregard many portions of God's Word. We, as followers of Yeshua would expect that this rejection of His Word would come from outside of Christendom. But, unfortunately, this lawlessness (that is disregard for His Word) is rooted within various Christian groups. While these individuals say they believe in Him yet they actually treat His Word as a smorgasbord of choices. They consider that not observing Shabbat, festivals, etc. are not really “sin”. Paganism permeates Christendom, and, sadly, the majority do not see that there is a problem! Yet the denominational and interdenominational churches are collapsing from lack of members.

The world is in a major change on every level, and no doubt YHVH is shaking and changing His personal body. Individuals are becoming involved in home Bible studies; most are becoming Messianic (Returning to all of YHVH's Word). We see Yeshua is Restoring His Word with Believers who are hungry for His Word.

In the time of Yeshua and the Apostles

In the time of Yeshua and the Apostles, there was no such thing as Catholicism, Protestantism, Calvin theology, contemporary theologies, Dispensationalism, New Israel theology, covenant theology, Dual covenant theology; there was no such thing as churches

or organized religion. However, there was “The Way” which was comprised of Messianic Disciples of Yeshua.

The only Scriptures which existed were the “TaNaKh” that is “The Torah (the first 5 books), Nevim (the Prophets), and The Ketuvim (the Writings)” (TaNaKh is also known as the Old Testament); plus some Jewish oral traditions were in circulation.

Paul’s writings and other Apostolic Writings were not developed until approximately 50 to 90 A.D. These were in circulation to synagogues and home worship groups. They were not Canonized until much later. So, what did “The Way” of the Apostles consider to be Scripture? The TaNaKh and especially the Torah. We know this because Yeshua and the Apostles quoted and taught from the TaNaKh.

Remember, the Apostolic Writings (which were intended to be explanations of the TaNaKh) had not yet been Canonized.

Yeshua tells us plainly that He did not make up His Words.

¹⁹ “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise” [John 5:19].

And again, ¹⁰ “Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works” [John 14:10]

In the above verses, Yeshua reveals His equality with God in works, actions and deeds. He is under submission to the Father and shows that His works are not in violation of God the Father’s will. Yeshua stated that He *could* call upon the Father God for His personal needs; however, had He prioritized His personal needs, the Scriptures would not have been fulfilled. **To Yeshua, fulfilling the Scripture was of greater importance than having His personal needs met.**

⁵³ “Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?”

⁵⁴ “But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?” [Matt 26:53-54]

⁴ “I glorified You on earth, having accomplished the work that You gave me to do” [John 17:4]

Some gentiles in the Church today claim that when Yeshua died on the Cross and stated “It is finished” that at that moment He changed the law (Torah)! This would be impossible, first we know that He does not change (“For I YHVH do not change ...” [Malachi 3:6]; “Yeshua HaMashiach is the same yesterday, today, and forever” [Heb 13:8]).

Why did Yeshua come to earth:

- 1) To teach “the Kingdom of God” from the Torah. Yeshua spoke only what the Father God told Him, contrary to what “you have heard it was said” teachings.
- 2) To fulfill the prophetic Scriptures accurately. The true test of a prophet and/or the Messiah is to fulfill the Scripture accurately.
- 3) To complete His death and resurrection on the Cross as specified by the Father. Yeshua destroyed sin bringing salvation to all who believe!

Yeshua did not come to start a new religion nor to change the “TaNaKh”, for these Words of YHVH were already established in the TaNaKh. There is not a man nor a council which has the power to change Father God’s perfect Word, for it is Holy, it is righteous in every way. In fact, it is so perfect and eternal; no one can add to it nor subtract from it! Even after His resurrection, Yeshua kept His Father’s Word; Yeshua will continue to do so in His second coming and until the end of the age and eternity!

¹⁸ [After Yeshua’s resurrection He said:] “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations (gentiles), baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” [Matt 28:18-20]

Gentiles tend to terminate God’s law and replace it with the Spirit of love? When gentiles claim that the “law of Christ” is different from the “law of God”, this reveals a lack of understanding of Scriptures and confusion of Who is God!

The ultimate of our faith in Yeshua is knowing YHVH.

In the gospel of John, He states, “that I and the Father are one.” [John 10:30]

To know the character of Yeshua/YHVH we must know who He & the Father are. They are perfect, they cannot lie, they cannot change. They don’t make mistakes. They are eternal; they know the beginning from the end. Their laws and ordinances are flawless, for they bring life.

Yeshua and the Father God do not change:

“Yeshua HaMashiach is the same yesterday, today, and forever”
[Heb 13:8]

The fact that He does not change is mentioned in many places throughout Scripture:

“For I YHVH do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed”. [Malachi 3:6] Likewise, our salvation in Yeshua is set (it is stable, eternal) in God’s Word.

“God is not a man that He should lie” [Num 23:19, Heb 6:18]

“Do not add or subtract from the Scripture” [Deut 4:2, Rev 22:18-19]

Yeshua and His words are one, for Yeshua is the Word made flesh.

If we believe Yeshua/YHVH then we must believe His Words! When we do not believe & do not follow YHVH’s Words, we are, in essence, changing Who God is! Therefore, by changing His Words, we have actually made YHVH into another god, He is no longer the YHVH of the Scripture. In essence, we would be worshipping another God.

1 John 2:3-6 - the Apostle John asked, “Do you really know God?”:

³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. [Note: Yeshua perfectly kept the Torah; likewise, we also need to &, thereby, stop sinning.]

Everyone in the world needs to choose sides. There are only two choices:

Messianic Disciples observing YHVH’s Word (Torah) vs. Lawlessness One-World disciples

Since God never changes, and His Words don’t change why did we change Shabbat to Sunday? Why change Passover to Easter? Why change the Torah?

“How to Interpret Scripture”

Three things to always apply when studying Scripture:

1. *Contextually* – study Scripture within the context of the entire Bible.
 2. *Literally* – read Scripture literally – what do the words actually mean.
 3. *Historically* – understand Scripture within its historical/chronological context.
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The character of Yeshua according to His Word:

1. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, & forever,” [Heb 13:8; Malachi 3:6]
 2. “God is not a man that He should lie,” [Num 23:19; Heb 6:18]
 3. Do not add or subtract from the Scriptures, [Deut 4:2; Rev 22:18-19]
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Key Scriptures to Interpret the Bible

Matt 28:18-20 – this is after His resurrection.

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:6-8 – after Yeshua’s resurrection, He spoke to His disciples about the restoration of Israel.

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

John 3:36 – the book of John stated that obedience is key to eternal life:

³⁶Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

1 John 2:3-6 - the Apostle John asked, “Do you really know God?”:

³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. [Note: Yeshua perfectly kept the Torah; likewise, we also need to &, thereby, stop sinning.]

Timeline

Pre-30AD - <i>Rabbinic tradition</i>	30AD – <i>Resurrection / Pentecost</i>	40AD – <i>Peter’s vision & Cornelius (Acts 10)</i>	50AD – <i>Jerusalem Council (Acts 15)</i>	325AD – <i>Council of Nicaea</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oral Law ○ Customs of Moses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outpouring of the Holy Spirit to <u>Jews only</u> who came up to Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 years after Pentecost ○ Outpouring of Holy Spirit on <u>Gentiles only</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 years after Acts 10 ○ Jerusalem Council – discussion about Gentiles’ salvation & circumcision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Under the auspices of Constantine ○ Only Gentile bishops were allowed – Jews could not attend