# The Ministry of Ezra.com

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Torah of YeHoVaH, and to do it, and to teach statutes and judgments in Israel.



"'In the <u>first month</u>, on the fourteenth day of the month, between sundown and complete darkness, comes *Pesach/Passover* for *Yehovah*. On the <u>fifteenth day</u> of the same month is the festival of *matzah* (*unleavened bread*); for **seven days** you are to eat *matzah*. On the <u>first day</u> you are to have a **holy convocation**; don't do any kind of ordinary work. Bring an offering made by fire to *Yehovah* for seven days. On the **seventh day** is a holy convocation; do not do any kind of **ordinary** work."" ~(Lev.23:5-8)~

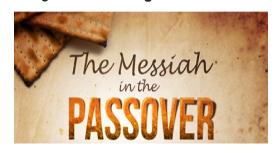
Yehovah said to Moshe, "Tell the people of Israel, 'After you enter the land I am giving you and harvest its ripe crops, you are to bring a sheaf of the **First fruits** of your harvest to the *cohen*. He is to wave the sheaf beforeYehovah, so that you will be accepted; the *cohen (now Yeshua our high priest)* is to **wave** it on the day after the *Sabbath*. On the day that you wave the sheaf, you are to offer a **male lamb** without defect, in its first year, as a burnt offering for Yehovah. ~(Lev.23:9-14)~

"'From the day **after** the day of rest — that is, from the day you bring the sheaf for waving — you are to count **seven full weeks**, until the day after the seventh week; you are to count **fifty days (Pentecost)**; and then you are to present a new grain offering to *Yehovah*. ~(Lev.23:15-16)~

On the same day, you are to call a **holy convocation**; do not do any kind of ordinary work; this is a **permanent (Forever)** regulation through all your **generations**, no matter where you live. ~(Lev.23:21)~

These are the set <u>Feasts</u> of the LORD (Yehovah), even Holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their appointed season.(Leviticus 23:1-4)

As HIS possession, we are to not sit idly by, but rather we are called to stand up for our **King**. There is a time for prayer, and there is a time for taking a stand, being the **salt** and **light** in this fallen



The Dates for the upcoming Feasts

<u>Celebrations</u>

(starting as the sun goes down)

Passover 04/12/2017

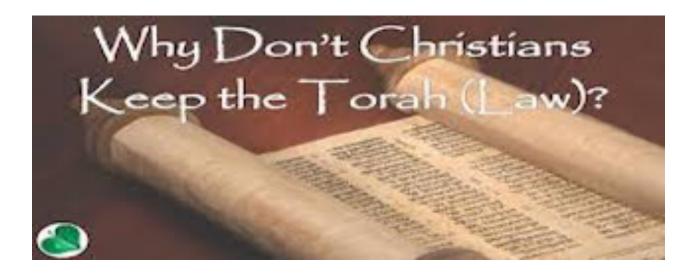
The Feast of Unleavened Bread 04/13/2017 thru 04/19/2017

First Fruits 04/16/2017 - 04/17/2017

Shavuot/Pentecost/Feast of Weeks 06/04/2017

## WHY THE TORAH IS FOR ALL BELIEVERS

The belief of most Christians is that the law (**Torah**) is no longer **applicable** or **required** for those who consider themselves saved by the **blood** of **Yeshua Messiah** (Jesus Christ). But, why? One of the major reasons for this false **belief** is very simply the misunderstanding of words contained in the Bible, simple vocabulary, or conceptual misunderstanding. Another is **context** of scripture but today let's consider the vocabulary point a little closer.

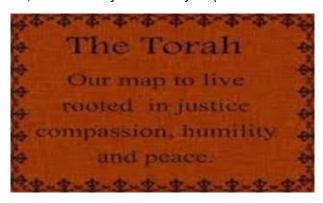


When one spends time in the Christian Church, he or she will hear a variety of concepts and words that are **misunderstand** or vaguely understood. For instance, sin may only be understood as doing "bad stuff", or righteousness as only some unattainable state of being which is fully recognized after being "saved", or "walking in the Spirit" as a mysterious unknown guidance initiated by a **Christianized** Holy Ghost. These examples and others may initially skew ones walk by a degree or two away from the narrow road the believer is required to travel but over time can lead one hopelessly off course. Therefore, when witnessing to others, especially Christians, there should be a diligent effort to define or thoroughly explain the major words or concepts written or discussed to ensure a proper and more complete understanding. For example, Torah is an **unknown** concept to most Christians. Torah means instruction or teaching not just law. The word law has a legalistic connotation to it which conveys a harshness bordering on punishment, a restriction of enjoyment. But the word instruction conveys a sense of **assistance** and learning towards one's growth and education. Hence, the dietary instructions i.e. no pork, when viewed as an instruction is considered knowledge of foods that are helpful for the body not as a restriction on "foods" without rhyme or reason. The instruction is a definition of food for humans. However, the Torah contains laws that govern such things as property laws, payment practices, and sexual behavior.

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To Christians, **sin** includes "**bad stuff**" and **vague** things Yehovah God does not like. They say it's missing a mark, they may or may not know exists. This causes **confusion**. For example, which is a **sin**: the consumption of **beer**, the consumption of a **ham** sandwich, or the consumption of a **shrimp cocktail**. More than likely, beer would be selected but according to the **Torah**, alcohol may be consumed. Good has become **evil** and evil has become **good**? Sin is **defined** in 1 John 3:4, as the **transgression** of the law or **lawlessness**. Lawlessness or anomia (458 e) means without law or **without Torah**. Therefore, Christians who ignore the teaching of the Torah will find themselves in **perpetual sin**, unknowingly. Yeshua (Jesus)

To most Christians, **Righteousness** is automatic through faith and grace. But once again, a true deep yet simple understanding seems to elude them. Righteousness is made through **actions** which simply reflect a Torah based life. So, based on our faith, our behavior should **change** but 1 John 3-6 tells one the problem if it is not. The verses explain that without righteous behavior, Torah based behavior at a minimum, one does not **know** the Father or the Son. Therefore, the Son may not know you (Matthew 7: 22-23).



Finally, **walking in the Spirit** is an unknown quantity to Christians. Most believe walking in the Spirit is **interdimensional** and only **obtained** through **fasting** and **prayer** or praying in **tongues**. Paul, in (Romans 7:14) says that the <u>law is spiritual</u>. Also, (Romans 8:4-7) shows that to walk in the Spirit indeed is to **walk**, not carnally, but spiritually, which is to walk in Torah **obeying** the commandments.

These are only a **few examples** of words and concepts that Christian believers may miss. It is **unfortunate** that they don't understand that the Bible is a **continuous** chain of repetition from **Genesis** to **Revelation**. One would not **watch** a television **series** starting with **season** 4, **episode** 5, and complain of confusion. Most Christians **approach** the **Bible** in this way, breeding **confusion**, **misinterpretation**, and **ignorance**. We all can improve our knowledge of the Word and continue to find ways with the **leading** of the Holy Spirit to better **explain** to our Christian friends what the Bible is actually **teaching**.

source: Phillip Goodwin ~April 2017~



### Covenant or Tanakh (Old Testament)

Do not put <u>Yehovah your God</u> to the **test**, as you tested him at Massah [testing]. Observe diligently the *mitzvot* (**commands**) of Yehovah your God, and his **instructions** and **laws** which he has given you. -Deuteronomy 6:16-17 (CJB)-

Get away from me, all you workers of evil (Lawlessness= Sin)! Psalm 6:9 (8) (CJB)~

For on my holy mountain, the high mountain of Israel,' says *Yehovah Elohim*, 'the whole house of Israel, all of them, will serve me in the land. I will accept them there, and there I will require your contributions, your best gifts and all your consecrated things. I will accept you with your sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you were scattered; and through you I will manifest my holiness in the sight of the nations.

# Renewed Covenant or Brit Hadashah (New Testament)

OFrom that time on, Yeshua (Jesus) began proclaiming, "Turn from your sins (Lawlessness) to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near. ~Matthew 4:17 (CJB)~

"Away with you, Satan!" Yeshua (Jesus) told him, "For the <u>Tanakh (Old Testament)</u> says, 'Worship Yehovah your God, and serve only him.'" ~Matthew 4:10 (CJB)~

Do not <u>yoke</u> yourselves together in a team with unbelievers. For how can <u>righteousness</u> and <u>lawlessness</u> (SIN = WITHOUT TORAH) be partners? What fellowship does <u>light</u> have with <u>darkness</u>? What harmony can there be between the <u>Messiah</u> and B'liya'al (Satan)? What does a <u>believer</u> have in common with an <u>unbeliever</u>? What agreement can there be between the <u>temple</u> of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God — as Yehovah God said,

"I will house myself in them, . . . and I will walk among you. (Jeremiah 31:32 (33)

I will be their God, and they will be my people." Therefore Yehovah says, "'Go out from their midst; separate yourselves; don't even touch what is unclean. (Isaiah 52:11)

Then I myself will receive you. In fact, I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters.' (Ezekiel 20:34-36)

~2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (CJB)~



Scripture in Context

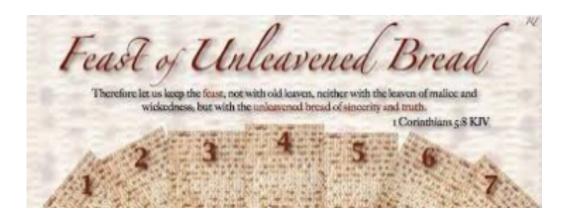
"Some day your child will ask you, 'What is the meaning of the <u>instructions</u>, <u>laws</u> and <u>rulings</u> (Torah) which Yehovah our God has laid down for you?' Then you will tell your child, 'We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, and Yehovah brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand. Yehovah worked great and terrible signs and wonders against Egypt, Pharaoh and all his household, before our very eyes. He brought us out from there in order to bring us to the land he had sworn to our ancestors that he would give us. **Yehovah** ordered us to **observe** all these laws, to fear Yehovah our God, always for our own good, so that he might keep us alive, as we are today. It will be <u>righteousness</u> for us if we are careful to **obey** all these *mitzvot* (commands) before Yehovah our God, just as he ordered us to do."

~Deuteronomy 6:20-25 (CJB)~

# A personal Testimony from a follower of Yeshua Messiah(Jesus Christ)

I have come into this ministry last Passover 2016. At first, I didn't realize that he (Jesus) wanted me in this ministry; because in my mind at that time I felt I just wanted to learn about the Passover, since Yeshua did it. I wanted to learn more about it. After Passover, I was watching the movie called Truth and Tradition and that showed me that Christmas and Easter are not in the Bible. This shocked me but it was the truth. Then I wanted to learn about other things we can celebrate in scripture, and I found out there are 7 Biblical Feasts in total. Also, I learned that Sunday is not the Sabbath. At the time that I was doing Passover I was still going too Sunday church and Tithing of my income. With me being a widow I was dealing with some things that got me angry with the church. But, now I have come along way from that. Also, when I was in the church I loved to study about end times and with learning about the Feast days of Yehovah God it has opened things up in my understanding of the end times. For instance, that Yeshua has to fulfill all of the Feast and he only fulfilled 4 out of 7. The next one that needs to be fulfilled is the Feast of Trumpets. Also, I always wanted to know what the last Trump was and this year I found out. I could go on and on about the things I have learned throughout the past year. It has been an eye opener. This is how I have seen things my first year with the help of The Ministry of Ezra.

S.C. 3/2017



Your boasting is not good. Don't you know the saying, "It takes only a little hametz (SIN) to leaven a whole batch of dough?" Get rid of the old hametz, so that you can be a new batch of dough, because in reality you are unleavened. For our Pesach (Passover) lamb, the Messiah Yeshua, has been sacrificed. So let us celebrate the Passover not with leftover hametz, the hametz of wickedness and evil, but with the matzah of purity and truth.

~ 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (CJB)~

#### Blessings and Shalom

Our members include those who follow Yeshua (Jesus) and live a Biblical Torah Observant Lifestyle. We welcome all believers who are in search of Truth in the scriptures.

For more information about The Ministry of Ezra Biblical Resources and our volunteer-donation program.

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