The Covenants of Promise

By - David L. Perry

The Apostle Paul's understanding of Scriptural Grace and Covenant Salvation.

It has been said that "The only thing constant is in this life is change". Even though this thought both overtly and as undercurrent has found its way into the religious arena it remains that YHWH/Yahweh ('God'); 'who changes not' (Mal.3:6) and His Covenant (Psalms 89:34) will remain an indelible constant of this life and of the 'life everlasting'.

Please ... as nicely as I can ... in the fruit of the Spirit, I must tell you, before we go any further, most of us have been 'molly-coddled' in our 'seeker sensitive' churches way too long. So, I am asking you to be a student. Studying like you may have never studied before. Get your King James Bible, a Bible CD or an online Bible like E-Sword or RNKJV at www.eliyah.com. Get; either physically or on-line, a Concordance ... a Dictionary ...an Encyclopedia, etc. Look up what you do not know. Educate and exercise yourself ... no one can 'spoon-feed' that to anyone. The Apostle Paul put it this way;

2Tim.2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto Yahweh, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Heb 5:12 "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of Yahweh; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.13 For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

Please understand that it was the translators that took it upon themselves (no matter how originally, innocently or sincerely) to expunge the Scriptures ... of Torah (Genesis thru Deuteronomy) ... of the entire Old Testament of the vocally spoken, audibly heard Covenant Commandment Name (Ex 20:7) of 'YHWH', usually written "Lord". This plays more heavily into the New Testament than most of us realize. These voweless four consonants ('YHWH') called the 'Tetragrammaton' are most usually thought to be pronounced 'Yahweh'. Explained at some length in the following presentation; these expungements and other liberties have subsequently invaded the entire Bible with this same interpretive 'license'. Therefore; when quoting Scripture this situation is sought to be corrected throughout the application of this book. There are some few questions I will ask you to ponder as back drop of this presentation; The first is; if you were Satan our 'Adversary' (1Peter 5:8) and your chief aim was to devour the whole earth of it inhabitants (us) ... just how would you do that and what tactics would you **not** use? Remembering that Satan's biggest belly laugh is being able to play us against our

own selves ... our own views of what is sacred that include religious codes both legitimate and error, both individually and as a corporate whole.

Chapter One

Let's let King Solomon and Job identify even the conclusion of this book.

Eccl. 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear Yahweh, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For YHWH shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil".

Job 34:4 "Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good."

The Denominated Churches and New Covenant Grace

Being raised in Church up through Sunday School, I have found that once you really take this Bible thing seriously ... that is read and study your Bible and compare what it says to what we are actually doing, it becomes self evident that many times 'Adamant Religious Adherence' is not the same as... is not equal to ... 'Authentic Biblical Observance'. And at that, doing 'Religious Adherence' while calling it 'Biblical Observance' will never make the wrong one 'right'. Chances are you have never heard of and will never learn the core of what is about to be presented in this book in a 'church' (the combined focus of chapters 4 and 5), I certainly never did and it has taken me a long time, most of my life to understand or even care to identify that fact.

Many of the churches today have gotten away from the fire and brimstone messages of the past. These churches wishing to be 'seeker-sensitive' have 'acceptable' psycho-babble messages of wholeness that have replaced the awful mental pictures of sin leading to death, damned in a burning Hell. Virtually gone are the ugly 'unacceptable' messages of blood and crucifixion needed to cover that sin. Many of the modern messages leave the idea that if you accept 'Christ', every thing will be 'alright', even 'prosperous' ... "good news about good things". Blindsiding all that believe this to the reality of what each of the Apostles suffered that actually were with Him ... the Apostles that actually wrote the books of the New Testament; and what the Messiah actually said.

John 15:19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

(Mat. 10:24; Luke 6:40; John 17:14; 1John 4:5)

I am certain there are thousands of people in much the same spot I found myself in, responding in much the same way of blowing off everything religious with all its lies, confusion, twisted half-truths i.e. 'sacred errors' mixed with authentic truth (mixing the profane into the pure); ... not knowing who to turn to, how to unravel, unscramble, or sort it all out. Realizing the 'dead-end' impasse of questioning what's been said, against/by/with those saying it, who will only substantiate ... that is 'self-verify' what you know or suspect can't be true (Titus 1:14).

I didn't darken a church door for over 10 years, not giving all this much thought until I realized the Bible interpreting itself can make sense. Before that time however, it was "not caring" that was the rational decision and closing down to a "God" I truly didn't understand and really didn't trust based on how I'd been treated by "the professing" family, church members, and the deified church clergy, who were all supposed to be there to show and teach me about "God". And all this punctuated with authoritative thunderous Bible thumpings about "the uncompromising Word of God", while most things we have been taught to hold and/or revere as 'sacred' have been (for all their assurances) nonetheless ... compromised. Make no mistake; a compromised message of a compromised gospel has left a compromised church virtually neutralized.

If you really think of it, we are told in our Bibles that Satan seeks to 'devour' those that are his advisories (1Peter 5:8) ... us; if we truly are believers. What most believers do not stop to consider is that we are born into an already in progress 'devour' situation; after all this was written almost 2000 years ago. Instead of doctrine being totally undiluted; causing the 'faithful' to be on unquenchable Fire for YHWH in His authentic Power and Truth; basing our every thought, understanding, concept of self-estimation and self-awareness; we have been 'neutralized'. The message and mission of the 'church' and its respondents have been redirected and nurtured ... rendered largely ineffective by the error and compromise that are the 'standard equipment' fixtures of our basic concepts of what is accepted as 'Christian' and/or 'Church'. This identified more or less correctly by the disenfranchised general populous as either being hypocritical and/or in an ongoing chronic state of mediocrity. And at that; this is what we either deny, justify or in ignorant trust pass on to our own children.

This left me, as one of those 'children' in a surreal world of opposing abstracts, concepts, ideologies, subjections that if not understandable were to be taken on 'faith' (?) – Or more accurately ... the counterfeit of 'religious assumption' that passes for 'Biblical faith'. 'Biblical Faith' has substance - "the Word of YHWH (Yahweh)" (Romans12:17; Hebrews 11:1). It is not pretend, or make-believe, or mindless assumption, blindly supposing any component of worship, praise, or obedient Bible adherence, let alone any

pagan and/or 'vain imagination' counterfeit or dismissed Biblical Truth "religious mix," as genuine.

This 'mixed-message' from our historic and modern 'Clergy Collage' has been communicated to all of us including our parents, grandparents and so on. And as with most being assimilated into my birth family; touching and coloring, further justifying every twisted nuance of every thing that ever really mattered in that house. Then in the course of time that religio-psychology of imprint was then cycled/translated into my own home. When this ... my corner of the world came apart, I was filled with bitterness, rage, confusion, guilt, hurt, sorrow, indifference, leaving me in a stance of believing God's existence but not much beyond, being saved by 'grace', and that with no law turned into "license", limited only by my own sight of right (James 4:11), time, money, opportunity, and imagination, which has left me with the 'sow and reap' consequences that have and still cost me and my family.

This I have given to YHWH, including the decisions and actions I had no wish for, desire for, or control over from infancy on up. Which left me debilitated at all levels ... reacting instead of responding; influencing ... shaping ... including sabotaging relationships and personal decisions. This from the 'age of accountability' well into adulthood, which would equate to the sum total of being deceived by all concerned, including myself (self-deception) not discerning the deception till the damage was already done. Can you relate?

This preceding preamble probably should have been part of the 'Introduction' ... but I don't usually spend a lot of time reading them myself ... and I must assume that you don't either. I would however encourage you if you haven't to do so as others have counseled me that the 'Introduction' should have been a chapter instead.

I would like to pose this observation: If you were Satan; knowing that the only way to win was to confuse and distort the issue; wouldn't you convolute and 'bird's nest' (that is inter-weave confusion), inbreed and splinter all the factors in multiples to confound as completely as you possibly could? For that reason what we need the most of is to purpose ourselves to clarity. I feel an urgency to identify as completely as possible, as is necessary for the limited purposes of this book (for the list is endlessly copious), all the pertinent pieces to this puzzle. When I started going back to church, I wanted to know who was believing what and why.

Some things started to emerge, intersecting at common points, some discoveries were fairly obvious most were not so plainly apparent and I am still learning. I went to a variety of Sunday Churches, Sabbath Churches, Messianic Congregations (Both Israel and Jewish), contacting various Sacred Name Assemblies, and the little home splinter groups thereof plus various other on line contacts. Chapter 1 will be devoted to the identity information of that group that can be distinctively called 'Church'. Chapter 2 will be devoted to the identity information of that group that is distinctively 'Torah Observant'. Both groups (and interested 3rd parties) should have at least some basic working knowledge of the other, both of that which is good and that which is not.

We have all heard different preachers either academically pontificate, eloquently articulate and/or out-right bellow about claiming or standing on the 'promise' or 'promises'; encouraging their audiences to do the same. This sounds authoritatively reassuring, even Biblical, but there are a number of factors that actually distill down to one that must be realized, factored in and acted upon. We must realize that the 'promise' or 'promises', are Biblical 'promise' or 'promises and as such are Biblically dedicated phrases that must be Biblically defined to be properly understood. This has great bearing upon being properly enacted; which in turn has great bearing upon proper expectations.

There are legions that have become embittered at 'God' because they have prayed for this or that, claiming the 'promises' just like the preacher, teacher or friend said; only to blame 'God' when that desired result did not happen. Some to most of these situations have been dyer situations, some with dyer long term to fatal consequences. Do we really have the right to expect a desired result from a misapplied promise, based on a misapplied claim or the volume of that repeated claim? ... Just because we have sent up a heated salvo of urgent prayers? ... Can He? ... Is the Most High able? ... Certainly! Will He? ... Is the Most High obligated? This is Covenant question at the core. Yet the Most High is sovereign, making His rain to fall on the just and the unjust (Mt 5:45).

We must understand that the Biblical 'promises' relate to a specific Biblical 'promise' to a specific Biblical group; having a specific Biblically defined context. That 'context' according to the Apostle Paul at Eph.2:12 has heavily to do with specific covenants, in a specific 'commonwealth' identifying those who accept an Israelite Messiah as in fact themselves becoming an Israelite under that 'commonwealth' specific to spiritual Israel (Rom.2:28-29, Eph.2:19, Rev.21:12-13). In other words these are 'promises' directly related to the Covenant and those that walk in Covenant ... Authentic undiluted Scriptural Covenant. That we; as a church audience whole, are not being taught. That the so-called 'New Testament Church of Jesus Christ' does NOT stress.

Virtually all 'Church' groups that identify themselves as being part of the New Testament Church regardless of Dogma, Persuasion or Denomination do claim and agree it to be that the start of that so-called New Testament Church is forever preserved in Acts Chapter 2. Oddly enough however 99% of these church groups have categorically divested themselves of the knowledge that Pentecost (Acts 2:1) is the Greek cover-up name for the Covenant Commanded Annual Sabbath Feast of 'Shavuot' (See Chapter 3 and continuing) - pronounced 'Shaw - vu - oat'. This 'Church' though mouthing the word 'Pentecost' no doubt sees this Biblically historical Covenant fact as a non-relevant issue to actually observe or fully (let alone) actively or annually remember.

Virtually all these New Testament Churches say that 'the old Feast system ceased with the law at the Cross'. Yet; Acts Chapter 2 is fully after 'the Cross' ... a Giant Red Flag (inconsistency alert) among many! Pentecost ... that is 'Shavuot' coming from the Hebrew word <shabuwa'> meaning 'Weeks', Biblically from Torah (Genesis thru Deuteronomy) is referred to in English as either the 'Feast of Harvest (or Weeks)' (Ex.23:16, 34:22, Lev.23:15-16, Deut. 16:9). Acts 2:1 then unmistakably evidences

YHWH doing exactly what He said He would do (post-crucifixion), directly from the Old Testament - Book of the Covenant (Ex.19:5-24:8 - See Chapter 5) directly from Torah.

Ex.20:24 "... in **all places** where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee." (John 4:19-21)

And this on the Day of "Pentecost" when it had fully come (Acts 2:1) a full '50' Days 'after' the 'cross' ... that is the Crucifixion and Resurrection that supposedly ended it all, doing away with the observance of the Torah Feast system that incased 'Shavuot' clearly recounted as the current New Testament events of Acts 2:1.

Pentecost from the Strong's is defined as:

4005. penthkosth pentekoste, pen-tay-kos-tay' feminine of the ordinal of 4004; fiftieth (2250 being implied) from Passover, i.e. the festival of :--Pentecost.

4004. penthkonta pentekonta, pen-tay'-kon-tah multiplicative of 4002; fifty:--fifty.

4002. pente pente, pen'-teh a primary number; "five":--five.

The initial problem is that there is NO such thing in the Torah as a "festival of/to/for "Pentecost"" bannering/celebrating/focusing on the number '50'. However the 'festival of <qatsiyr> (Harvest) or <shabuwa`> Shavuot (Weeks) was to be calculated from the day of the 'Wave Sheaf' (John 19:31) the day after the Weekly 7th Day Sabbath that fell during the Days of Unleavened Bread (Abib 15-21) NOT Passover Abib 14 as the above Strong's definition would lead you to believe. This counting included 7 Sabbaths plus 1 day insuring 7 full weeks which would then be 50 days (Lev.23:15-16). The 'mowed'- 'appointed time' - Annual Sabbath - Feast/Festival is to be observed/remembered/celebrated ... NOT the calculations or the calculated day number!

This Strong's definition of the 'Original Greek' is less than accurate, and it poorly stands to define YHWH's 'Book of the Covenant' (addressed in chapter 5) contained in Torah Festival. This Strong's definition has only one accurate factor ... '50' ...; 'days' being implied. The 'Greek (lack of) Truth' then covers up the Torah Truth, being that Acts 2:1 when properly understood significantly shows the on-going/continued, 2nd post (after) crucifixion 'Appointed-Time/Feast' observance complete with manifested fulfillment. The 1st being the 'Wave Sheaf' preformed by the risen Messiah Himself (Lev. 23:15- John 19:31) of Firstfruits (1Cor.15:20) thus New Testament proof of current ongoing viability of these, from Torah 'Appointed Times' (Gen.1:14, Ex.23/Lev.23, Acts 2:1, 1Cor.5:7-8). For the argument has always distilled to ... 'Those Feasts, Memorials and Observances (including Sabbath and Annual Sabbaths) are not binding on New Testament Christians because they were done away with at the Cross'...Right?

Isaiah 56:6 "Also the sons of the **stranger**, that join themselves to YHWH, to serve him, and to **love**

the <u>Name</u> of YHWH, to be his servants, everyone that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of **My covenant**;"

There is rich Hebrew significance that has been lost, concerning YHWH's 'Appointed Times'; which picture the entire plan of Salvation from start to finish, that most certainly is yet to be physically and spiritually realized as it is still unfolding (Mat.5:18). There is much to be learned about these Feasts that include "Shavuot". First every single word in Hebrew can be distilled to a 2 or 3 letter 'root' word. "Shavuot" means weeks, the primary 'root' contained in "Shavuot" is "sha" meaning '7'. There are '7' Days in a week; the 7th Day was made (Holy) Set-Apart. There are '7' Sabbaths (plus 1 day-Lev.23:16) to be counted to Shavuot; fully completing '7' weeks in other words fully 7 sevens.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the number '7' is YHWH's number of 'perfection'. We have been taught about "the Sabbath", yet it is the Hebrew 'Shabbat' (pronounced; Sha- bought) that reveals our ignorance of the 'number of perfection' that Yahweh has embedded in that day and at that from Creation. It then is no wonder and should alert us to the awareness (which are many) why the Hebrew Israelites that included the Jews who have either reclaimed or retained their Israelite identity collectively understand and teach that "Sha-vuot" was the Mt. Sinai Day of the giving of the Covenant that contains the 10 Commandments.

The parallels to the Acts 2:1 "day of 'Pentecost' are very compelling. Even if you only bother to do the math without looking at the peripheral evidence that include ... roaring wind ... tongues of fire ... every man hearing, etc. of Acts 2 vs. every man hearing ... descending in fire ... thunders ... lightings, etc. of Ex.19 & 20. The Hebrew slaves left Egypt Abib 15th ... the day after the Death Angel of 'Passover' smote the 1st born in this 1st month of 'Abib' (Ex.12). They arrived at the base of 'Mt. Sinai' "**in** the third month" (Ex 19:1). Even if you only did sloppy math ... 7 weeks from the middle of the 1st month (Abib 15) would put you squarely 'in' the 3rd month. This is compelling evidence that the day of 'Pentecost/ Shavuot' is a very pivotal day.

Not only significant for the start of the New Testament 'church'; "Shavuot" is at the pivotal heart of YHWH's Feast system (Ex.23). "Shavuot" is the 'Back Drop' for the 10 Commandments given within that Book of the Covenant (Ex.19:5-24:8). These 10 Commandments are at the heart of YHWH's plan of Salvation and are 'part and parcel' of the New Covenant ratified in Yahshua's own Blood and mediated on our behalf by this only begotten Son of Yahweh.

If you were Satan and your winning tactic was deception, the significance of 'Shavuot' is one you would certainly want to hide. This book seeks to leave no alternative to the unavoidable conclusion that the 'Feasts' including 'Shavuot' are both everlastingly tied to Creation (Gen.1:14) and the 10 Commandments of Mt. Sinai (Ex.20), the Covenant of Mt. Sinai (Ex.23) and therefore the New Covenant evidenced by many issues including the pivotal significance of the post-crucifix 'Shavuot' event of

Acts 2:1. Further as will be explained; the 'Book of the Covenant' of the Mt Sinai event was a Marriage Covenant ... the Marriage Covenant 'Katubah' (the Betrothal/ Marriage contract) ... proposed and accepted on 'Shavuot'. Consider this telling quote:

"One of the most beautiful images of Shavuot is that of a the marriage between YHWH (the groom) and Yisra'el (the bride). In Exodus 19, when YHWH by the leading of Moshe (Moses) brought the children of Yisra'el to Mount Sinai, YHWH was making a marriage contract, a Ketubah, with Yisra'el. In Exodus 19:8, Yisra'el accepts YHWH's marriage proposal," ...

Ed Chumney¹.... Authour of such books as:

"The Seven Festivals of the Messiah" and "Who is the Bride of Christ".

It is also more than just a passing interest to note that there are those that postulate from the Book of Revelation² a yet future Feast of 'Shavuot' (Pentecost) enthronement of Yahshua as 'King of Kings'.

As will be shown these Annual Sabbaths and Feasts are first and foremost part of the Everlasting Covenant, only secondarily associated with the temporal/prescriptive law. Before we go too much further it must be recognized that we have an ongoing situation that is alive and well, albeit for the most part undetected; directly tied to the original primitive Jewish 'sect' (church) of the Apostles, namely the divesting and devaluing of original knowledge that understood the shared Israelite ties and common ground. There is a wealth of compelling reasons why the Judeo-Christian Church/Religion carries the title 'Judeo-Christian'. But there also are about as many reasons why we have been presented a religious system that for the most part does not retain that knowledge.

Dr. E. William Bean³ of the 'Centre for the Study of Biblical Research' affiliated with the Jerusalem School and the Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation has personally stated to me that ... "Judaism has Jewish hermeneutics while Christianity has Christian hermeneutics but these groups have no common or crossover hermeneutics (interpretive significance)". We have had from just after that 1st century Messianic time to this present date a successive generational pageant of accepted Church Fathers, Old Testament and New Testament scholars, theologians and fiery preachers; accepted as knowledgeable authorities that have actually been dispensing replicated and morphing error based on some very early (post Apostolic age) faulty assumptions, resolves and assertions; that continue to repeat, reproduce, splinter, evolve and worst of all increase in various forms.

Yahweh ('Father God') after all chose a Hebrew people (the Israelites) to reveal Himself through. The Bible is a Hebrew Book of Hebrew Authors of Hebrew Thought of Hebrew Content, revealing a Hebrew/Israelite/Jewish Messiah (Christ) the only begotten Son of the Most High Yahweh/YHWH, who came to Redeem/Save/Gather an 'Ekklesia' - (Called out Ones), commonly referred to as the 'Church'; more properly a 'Set-Apart Priesthood' (Ex.19:6, 1Peter 2:9).

There are a growing number of scholars that will confirm that even though the New Testament is accepted to have been written in Greek, it remains that the thought/idiom/syntax script behind the New Testament is grammatically terrible English,

terrible Greek but perfect Hebrew. In other words the Semitisms and the idiomatic phrases conveyed in Greek script can be of no other source than Hebrew. This fact and others allude to this so-called 'Original Greek' validly being questioned as the copy of a more original Hebrew and/or Aramaic script of which reportedly very few fragments remain but do exist as well as other evidences³. This evidence at the very least should alert us to the possibility of Hebrew thought conveyed/cloaked in Greek verbiage actually being choked out not being fully conveyable, even directly disabled/crippled by that so-called 'Original Greek' verbiage.

As anyone can see; the problem is multi-faceted with the main facet originating in the Greek; and that being accepted as the 'Original Greek'. Being bannered as the authoritative end-all, when it is actually the Greek that many times is poorly laboring to communicate the continuity of a 'Hebrew Covenant Salvation Economy' originally entrusted to and conveyed through the Hebrew text. Another 'Facet' of that same problem being that willful 'Church' divestment of anything deemed Hebrew or Jewish. This cannot be emphasized enough; it remains that it is equally just as Huge of a mistake to embrace everything Hebrew or Jewish just because it is Hebrew or Jewish as it is to refuse/ignore/trash everything Hebrew or Jewish just because it is Hebrew or Jewish. As with all things Biblical ... "Discernment" is the paramount watchword.

Ezekiel 22:26 "Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them."

Not everything the Israelites did with what they had received was correct. The fact of Ezekiel 22:26 is still happening in our churches, synagogues and related religious venues today. Just as then; the difference between the 'Pure' and the *profane* have been breached and inter-mingled. That in no way means that what the Israelites originally had received was not in fact correct.

Ex 31:13 "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify (Ex.19:10) you. 14 Ye shall keep the Sabbath 'therefore'; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to YHWH: whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the

Sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant."

Notice both what Ex. 31:13-16 says and what it does not say: 13 "Verily my Sabbaths ... for it is a sign ... the Sabbath 'therefore' (referring to both categories of Sabbath ... both weekly and annual); for it is holy unto you". Notice how ridiculous it becomes to suppose otherwise: 14 Ye shall keep (just) the (weekly) Sabbath 'therefore', directly related to v:13 (because your already keeping just the weekly Sabbath)? Note: I realize that v:15 uses the example of the 7th Day to instruct the type of rest that we are to rest, but that does not negate the inclusive Hebrew 'Block Logic'* that includes all Sabbath Rest Days ... both Weekly and Annual. There is no question that the quote-unquote "Under the Law Jews" understood exactly that. Alternatively; in the same vein, how wise would it be to suppose that the phrase - 'My Laws' (Gen.26:5) or 'My Law' (Jer.31:33) refers only to one isolated specific lone law just stated over and over?

*(Hebrew "block logic" is the inclusive reasoning of 'this +this +this, etc.' being the inclusive Truth, ... as opposed to Greek "step logic" (if this, then this), which would encourage exclusive reasoning, and thereby foster incorrect Scriptural conclusions, and further thereby reproduced Biblical errors cycled to us through our churches.

Ekklesia is the Greek word commonly translated as 'church'. Ekklesia explored from the Strong's is as follows:

1577 Ekklesia

from a compound of 1537 and a derivative of 2564; **a calling out**, i.e. (concretely) a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation (Jewish synagogue, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both):--assembly, church. 1537. ek

a primary preposition denoting origin (the point whence action or motion proceeds), **from**, **out** (of place, time, or cause; literal or figurative; direct or remote):--after, among, X are, at, betwixt(-yond), by (the means of), exceedingly, (+ abundantly above), for(- th), from (among, forth, up), + grudgingly, + heartily, X heavenly, X hereby, + very highly, in, ...ly, (because, by reason) of, off (from), on, **out among (from**, of), over, since, X thenceforth, through, X unto, X vehemently, with(-out). Often used in composition, with the same general import; often of completion.

2564. kalew

akin to the base of 2753; to "**call**" (properly, aloud, but used in a variety of applications, directly or otherwise):--bid, call (forth), (whose, whose sur-)name (was (called)). 2753. keleuw

from a primary kello (**to urge** on); "**hail**"; **to incite by** word, i.e. order:--bid, (at, give) **command**(-ment).

As it is plain to see, even from the Greek, 'Ekklesia' most properly means; 'The Called Out Ones' ... in Hebrew that same group would be called the 'Kohenim Kadosh' meaning 'The (Holy) Set-Apart Priesthood' in other words, that member body that has been 'called out' by reason of urged Covenant Commandment keeping. This harkens

back to the most notable event this side of Creation before the time of the Messiah ... Mt. Sinai. When YHWH (whether in person or in proxy {Yahshua}) actually came to earth and audibly spoke to the hearing of all present, initiating the giving of the Book of the Covenant (Ex.19:5-24:8) [Expanded in Chapters 3, 4 &5];

Ex.19:5 "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine"

Ex.19:6 "And ye shall be unto me <u>a kingdom of priests</u>, <u>and an holy nation"</u> (1Cor.3:17, Titus 2:16, **1Peter 2:9** Re 1:6, 5:10)

Please notice and verify for yourself, these New Testament verses that are directly tided to the 'Book of the Covenant'. Remember also that Ex.20 contains the 10 Commandments that YHWH audibly spoke. Ex.20 also is part of the entire Book of the Covenant (Initiated at Ex.19:5 ... Blood Ratified at Ex.24:8). It is highly notable that Ex.24:12 evidences that Moses at this point was **not** on the mountain for the infamous 40 days and nights receiving the 10 Commandment 'stone tablets' until <u>after</u> the 'Book of the Covenant' containing the spoken 10 Commandments had already been ratified (Ex.24:7-8). Ex.24:12 evidences much more ... [See Chapter 5].

The idea of Ekklesia is very different from the modern notion of church and the different notions that the various church denominations have, which decidedly includes the jealously guarded individual dispenser-ships of so-called 'truth', and the variations thus deviations thereof. The idea of Ekklesia ties the so-called Old Testament with the so-called New Testament, matching the Book of the Covenant-10 Commandments of Exodus directly to Covenant-Commandment keeping as evidenced at Rev.12:17, 14:12, 22:14 (N/KJV) and numerous points in between. Showing 'to the end of the age' continuity! (Note: the Commandments kept in Revelations include more than just the 10) ... [See Chapter 4].

Evidenced by many books on the subject, the Authentic Apostolic New Testament 'Ekklesia' of Acts 2, to the end of /at the end of the Apostolic age is very different to what emerged only a few veiled history silent generations later. This Authentic Apostolic 'Ekklesia' included Gentile converts, that were learning the Torah of Moses, keeping the un-revised 10 Commandments, observing the Feast Days that included the weekly Sabbath. This fact is again preserved for us in the book of Acts and elsewhere (Acts 2:1, 15:19-21, 20:6,16; 1Cor.5:7-8). Conversely the so-called early 'church' fathers, Ignacius, Luther, Calvin, etc. rejected many/most things deemed 'Jewish', reasoning that the Blessing of Sabbath rest both weekly and annual were now to be decreed as the just curse on the Jew's for killing 'Christ'. Where's the merit of this logic? As if we all (as sinful humankind) were not guilty of contributing to the sin debt that exacted His death?

Torah was at the very least ignored certainly not taught, many times being actively and forcibly abandoned. The authourity of the 10 Commandments became

revisable/ignorable suggestions; the authourity of the 'church' became the authourity of the Roman state. With the help of Constantine, the Counsel of Nisea 325AD, forbidding 'Passover' in favor of Easter, and the Counsel of Liodicea 363AD, forbidding Sabbath in favor of Sunday and a few more generations what became the Roman Universal 'church⁶' became the state authority even over the Bible, ultimately destined to become the maiming murderous terror of the 'inquisition' of the dark ages. Certainly 'convert or die' is a far cry from 'who so ever will' and 'do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. Even though it may start as supposed harmless error, error begets error and there is nothing harmless or ignorable about the emboldened abandonment of 'Truth' fostering (as a matter of historical fact) the 'Terror' that an error has the potential to become.

Martin Luther was the Catholic Monk credited with breaking away from this so-called 'mother' church, initiating the infamous 'Protestant Reform' eventually addressed at the Council of Trent -- (1545-1563). Certainly an important step back to the truth, but only a step. The journey is still yet to be completed, and the complete eye-opening double-sided truth concerning Martin Luther is widely unknown. Be that as it may, in the face of the Catholic Church asserting authourity over the Bible, it is no wonder that the reforming cry of the Protestants was "Solo Scripturus" meaning 'the Bible alone'. This was an imminently correct position, once fully affirmed but has never to this date been fully applied.

It is very interesting however that the Catholic position is most correct in pointing out that the observance of Sunday is the 'mark' of Catholic⁸ authourity over the Bible, proudly and fully asserting the ownership authourity of placing the Catholic Church over the Bible. They correctly assess that in keeping Sunday, the Protestants are actually following Catholic authourity. That to reject Catholic authourity on the premise of insisting to follow the Bible alone, one must return to the Biblical 7th Day Sabbath. One of Martin Luther's own colleges Andreas Bodenstein, also know as Carlstadt⁹ (among others) urged a return to the Biblical 7th Day Sabbath; a position that Luther ultimately rejected, adding to other key/strategic/fundamental errors linked to Luther. As a fundamental result, most of the Protestant Church also legitimizes Sunday over the same rejected Sabbath, defending that position vehemently, denying even the Catholic admitted initiation of a rejected Sabbath and the institution of the Sunday they (the Protestant majority) now keep.

The Protestant Church (and even the Catholic church itself for that matter) as a result has ultimately fragmented and has continued to fracture and fragment ever so slowly but surely down through the centuries and years to our modern time, due in no small part to rejected truth and embraced errors (and that no doubt directly due to the inherent post-fall/post Constantine {un-guided by Scripture} from Creation need to be 'Set-Apart'). It is almost amusing to realize that Man ... for all his attempts to be in 'Set-Apart Unity' ... for all his effort, has nonetheless consistently produced just the opposite in all categories. Only Yahweh by and through Yahshua and His Family Covenant can marshal, produce and sustain an authentic 'Unity' that is truly 'Set-Apart'.

Ignoring this fact has and continues to create turmoil, strife and factions that have not stayed confined to the church. There are a large percentage of those that have experienced enough in the name of 'religion' to have become disillusioned. These 'disillusioned' ones are generations deep raising subsequent generations without moorings/anchored to the Bible with a corresponding decline of moral compass. This coupled with those that live like Hell all week, and then go to Church just to start the process again the next week; have led us to what we see today. We have all become aware of, maybe even victim of this fact at varying degrees and levels; from personal knowledge to the 11 o'clock News and painfully aware of what all of this has and is increasingly costing us.

This Biblical disregard has taken many forms and is played out on both sides (churched and un- churched); with many times even the un- churched correctly identifying where this confusion is coming from. One personal 'for-instance' I can recall happened one early evening as I was coming home; I happened to notice that the raised metal lettering had been changed on the corner 'Non-Denominational' Church to read 'Demon National'. There are those that would find this humorous. The sad reality is that this in too many increasingly frequent cases is alarmingly true. This exact situation and its logical consequences exacted at every 'day in and day out' level of society has directly affected our lives. Our Bibles have always told us that this would happen ... and it is (1Jn.4:1, 1Tim.4:1, 2Cor.11:13-15).

Only the Scriptural Truth can truly Scripturally unify. The longer we stay away from Truth, the further we will get away from Truth. The more at odds we will become with the Truth and the ones holding on to the Truth and with the One who said "I am the Truth" i.e. Yahshua the Messiah. This ultimately will include the One revealing the continuity of continual Truth i.e. the Set-Apart (Holy) Spirit (John 14:6, 26). It is apparent that nothing in this life is stationary or constant except YHWH who is 'Ultimate Truth' and therefore His written Word. It is only logically apparent that the authentic Called-Out-Ones will unite and 'walk' [that is obey] His written Word in Spirit and in Truth.

However, it remains that any group can unite in any common error, but three basic things will happen 1) there will be those that realize the error moving back towards the Truth, 2) those that crystallize in the error reproducing the error, 3) and those that move on to an increased error only to start the process all over again. This 2 out of 3 possibilities insures this Bible statement being true that things will "wax" worse and worse (2Tim.3:13). The continual fragmenting of these franchised 'denominations' attests to this process. Either we will unite in unchangeable Truth that can only be continually revealed, changing nothing that went before or we will unite in error that can only increase in volume and scope that questions everything that went before ... until it is revealed.

2Tim.3:13 "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

This is plainly happening in both the Denominated Churches that claim to Keep Sabbath, and with those that claim Sunday; that in addition to their chosen weekly observance, embrace the Annual Catholic Julian Calendar Holidays while fully ignoring the Scriptural Annual Feastdays of Ex.23/Lev.23. This alone showcases that YHWH's Weekly/Annual Appointed Time Feast Covenant System has been gutted to the frame work shell and re-filled in with Man's Imaginations.

These groups do not teach nor in that, do they keep the full authentic Covenant, for they ignore (through a certain 'interpretive license' interpreting a varying and/or increasing position away from Covenant) that the Salvational Covenants of Promise contain Salvational Covenant Law. With few exceptions, all these groups at varying levels buy into the non-descript concept that the New Testament Church is not under the so-called 'Old Law', which is partially true in a very specific definable way.

If this group - the Denominated Church ... along with the Torah Observant Assemblies would read Gal.3:18 and Heb.7:11 correctly, they would see that 'Paul' bannered as 'God's New Testament 'law-bashing' poster child' irrevocably identifies the 'Inheritance' Sinai Covenant (this Covenant contains Covenant/Commandment Laws), as being tied directly to the Original Abraham Promise Covenant (also containing Law as evidenced at Gen.26:5). Neither were initiated under Levitical Law or the Levitical Priesthood that sprang from that law and are therefore not part of Levitical Law. Nevertheless these not under Levitical Law Covenants are unwittingly wrapped together with Levitical Law and collectively understood and taught as quote; "the Old Law", collectively ignored, categorized as being 'Old'. [See Chapter 5]

The preeminent point to be understood is that in YHWH's Economy of both Heaven and Earth, even before the earth was created and all points in between and/or connected, including beyond the recreation of 'the New Heavens and the New Earth' at the end of this age; there is NO, ... nor will there ever be,... any such thing as a 'Law Vacuum', specifically a 'Covenant Vacuum' void of 'Covenant Law'. Yet, be that as it will, as it must, the bulk of the Denominated Churches do not even see, realize or detect that they actually operate in and dispense a paradigm/mind-set/teaching that seeks to fill the 'Covenant Law Vacuum'. This 'vacuum' has been left in the wake of error that has long-time been historically forgotten. Yet this 'vacuum' is still perpetrated and, thus currently at large has never been defined yet has been and is being continually unawaredly handed down.

This 'Covenant Law Vacuum' has evolved increasingly by a combination of early church predecessors forging the error, validating and causing it to be perpetuated, then in turn it is again accepted by current legitimizing reason, that further fashions thus insures a perpetuated error doctrine under further continual construction. In other words, the Truth will never change, it can only be further revealed. Truth will never increase, only our awareness of it. Reversely a lie/error will both change and increase *until* we become aware of it. Much like the difference between bread being either 'unleavened or leavened'. To be sure, there is a difference between those defending and administrating a

guarded denominational franchised 'truth recipe' (a mixture of truth and error) through the Church, Assembly or Synagogue ... and those seeking authentic Scriptural Truth.

This is most apparent initially with new seekers. Most new seekers are in a state of flux. They are or can be a combination of many things; repentant, remorseful, embarrassed, hurt, broken, surrendered, contrite, guilt ridden, aimless, eager, willing, trusting, etc. which predisposes a certain vulnerability, the most notable of which is the willingness to trust that can be either guided, abused or any combination in between. These 'seekers' are then taught in a certain way, by teachers who have also been taught in that same certain way, when they were in the same state of seeking, insuring the franchised purity that we call 'Denomination'. Aside from individual past sin issues and a variety of back grounds, perceptions and preconceived notions; these seekers for the most part are innocently seeking truth in the purist way they know how, yet unless they are guided to, or of themselves willfully retain that initial state of honest seeking, there will come a point when these 'seekers' will defend as truth what they have learned and in turn teach/disseminate/administrate what they almost assuredly unless objectivity is retained will eventually come to defend.

We have many Denominations, splinter groups and those claiming Non-Denomination that have become a Denomination unto themselves, that all claim to be looking at the same Bible. These groups hereafter, for the purpose of this book, will be referred to as the 'Denominated Churches'. There are many combinations that fall into two basic groups, nevertheless both those that claim Sunday and many of those that keep Sabbath dispense/orchestrate/delineate doctrine from an origin of a common mindset; that of not fully filtering the New Testament through the Old Testament in other words not fully allowing the Bible to define itself. This is typified by the structure of their chosen 'weekly/annual' observances. Most along with their weekly day observance, also observe the modern annual Julian calendar holidays (Christmas, Easter, Lent, Valentines, Halloween, etc.) that cannot be substantiated in either Testament. (Note: Some while observing their weekly day do not observe any annual days, Scriptural or calendar nonetheless they too operate from a variation of this same mindset).

These Sabbath Keeping churches seem to fall short of the understanding that the Sunday churches seem to partially grasp. Being that as the Sabbath goes, it has to either stand or fall with the Feast System it is party to. Plainly the Sabbath and the Annual Sabbaths either stand or fall together. Directly 95% of these Sabbath Keeping churches fail to distinguish the fundamental difference between Keeping the Sabbath of the Covenant (outside of its Covenant context) and Keeping the Covenant Sabbath. That is you can chose dismantle the Covenant of it parts, but the Covenant cannot be the Covenant without all its parts. Most Sabbitarians either downplay (if asked) or ignore all together the Covenant Significance. For example most of the well known Sabbath Keeping churches do not even teach that according to Lev.23 and most notably the Covenant verbiage of Ex.23; that the Weekly 7th Day Sabbath is a Feast ... part and parcel of the entire Feast system. The Sunday Keepers on the other hand are as much or more at fault for the Sunday-Holiday system they follow can claim neither Scriptural Commandment nor Scriptural Covenant.

By and large these Denominated Churches claim a 'Grace', at varying degrees, which 'cannot be added to nor taken away from' that further is 'not under the Law'; any Law except 'Love'. This notion leaves you with the euphoric idea of no responsibility other than to; just believe, change your ways, show up, pitch in and pay your tithes weekly, which could be the by-laws of any pseudo-religious society ... Biblical or not. Grace is intricately tied to Biblical Salvation. What other primary purposed function could Biblical Salvation have other than to Biblically 'Save'? The Biblical plan of Salvation is based on confessing sin, repenting from sin and accepting a substitutionary payment for past sins. The Messiah's Crucifixion Atoning Blood covers our sin and saves us 'from' all sin ... not 'in' all sin to effortlessly continue sinning.

When we confess and repent and continue to walk in that repentance, we are walking in Biblical 'Grace' that we are to continue to grow in, continually adding 'knowledge' to (2 Peter 1:5). One component that we are not taught to factor in is the fact that included in any dictionary's definition of 'Grace' is 'Pardon'. Pardon is, beyond argument universally connected to law. It is of imminent interest that most of the New Testament words that define both the positive and negative parameters of 'Salvation'; Grace, Pardon, Faith, Fidelity, Judge, Judgment, Justify, Redeemed, Bought, Paid, Ransomed, Free, Bound, Husband, Bride, Marriage, Son, Heir, Adopted, Convict, Confess, Repent, Liberty, Covenant, Lawlessness, Transgress, Trespass, Forgive, Mercy, Wages, Sin, Punish, Remission, Righteousness, Gift, Inherit, Will, Intent, Reconcile, Licentiousness, Debt, Bond, Submit, Believe, Condemn, Commandment, Ordinance, Statute, Obey, Reward, Life, Death, Servant, Conscience, Love...etc. are ALL issues and aspects of LAW!!!

Read Mat. 23:23 Yahshua (Jesus) Himself states that "FAITH & MERCY" are "WEIGHTIER ISSUES" of the **LAW**!!! Paul echoes this stating, "The JUST (legal term) will live by FAITH (legal term). These are ALL issues and aspects of LAW!!! No matter how you slice it, your salvation is a legal one with legal aspects, if you have one at all. Yet many being church taught reject this flatly.

Many of these Denominated Churches proudly assert that 'grace is unmerited favor' which again is true in one sense; we could not have orchestrated this salvation opportunity for ourselves, to ourselves, of ourselves or by ourselves. We are totally dependant on YHWH's extending His love to us despite the fact that we did not and many of us still do not and/or do not fully love Him. This is evidenced by our sincere misguided actions that we (most of us) choose to defend rather than investigate (2Tim.3:8, 2Cor.13:5). The critical point that most miss is that YHWH had to extend all that is Salvational Love in a way that did not offend or violate either His Law or Justice; that is why there is only 'One Way', that is why this 'One Way' is eternally tied to YHWH's Covenant, which should make it plain for all to see that YHWH's Covenant would contain Covenant Law ... YHWH's Law, the same 'Law' that Yahshua lived, exampled and will 'mediate' (Heb 8:6, 9:15, 12:24).

Any human-being that has functioned in a family unit knows that there are family laws that rule that family ... take out the trash, wash the dishes, pick up the dog stuff, clean up your room, don't play on the furniture, don't run with the scissors, quit pestering your sister, clean the kitty box, feed the bird, your grounded, etc. In any relationship, family, loving, business or otherwise; there are parameters/bounds ... spoken and unspoken ... expressed, implied and understood. We were created with ... given, have and will always retain free will, but even though we can choose anything, we can not just do 'any ole thang'. In the Biblical arena; when we accept this reconciling Salvation Family Covenant opportunity through 'repentance'... (an about face - a returning to the higher ground {of Covenant}); our actual journey as human-beings start with 'unmerited pardon' then builds from there. But first we have to know about Salvation, but knowing of its existence is not the acceptance of it; nor is the mental ascent of acceptance the repentant conviction or the consistent resolve to actually conduct your life accordingly.

Pick any destination on the map; you can see which way to go, but until you turn around and go that way you will certainly not be found going that way, which insures you're not going to get there. In that same way, so many of the terms that are used are jumbled up conglomerated bird's nests of constricted/restricted truisms that are only partially true. This tends covertly to hide the full truth that can and should be known, built on, and lived by. In other words the best way Satan has to get people off the track and believe a lie is to hide it. The best way to hide a lie is to mix it with truth. The easiest truth to mix a lie into is one that is only true in a specific defined way. If that definition is ignored, over looked or allowed to pass from popular knowledge either by being omitted, explained or reasoned away, nothing then will stand in error's progress. 'Grace' is specifically true only when we walk in repentance from Covenant breaking repentant to Covenant Keeping.

1Peter 4:17 "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the House of YHWH: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey **not** the gospel of YHWH? 18 And if the righteous **scarcely** be saved, where shall the <u>ungodly</u> **and** the <u>sinner</u> appear?"

We know that the wicked will be destroyed (Jer.25:29), if there is an opposite to 'grace' this is it. We know that the wicked will not to be subject to YHWH's Covenant Law. They will be 'lawless' they will be 'covenant breakers', they certainly will not be seeking to keep Covenant or its Laws. See any reflection yet? This is a sobering realization. It most certainly was for me.

As stated, virtually all the Denominated Churches errantly claim that Paul "Did away with the law", that He "makes no distinction of the law". This effectively throws out all law including Covenant Law, opting for mottos such as; 'One Way', 'Let go and let God', 'Keep your eyes on Jesus', WWJD - What Would Jesus Do, By Grace Alone, By Faith Alone, etc. or the lyrics of some religious hymn instead of Bible defining Bible knowledge. Never truly walking as He walked - never Scripturally doing what He

Scripturally did, never obeying fully what He Scripturally said to do. Many hide behind the lyrics of a religious hymn such as "Jesus paid it all", "I'd rather have Jesus", "Jesus is all the world to me", etc ... many times what this really hides and reinforces is the attitude that 'my sweet Jesus ... well; He did it all bless God ... so I don't have to' ... which carries with it the idea of an expunged responsibility which couldn't be further from the Truth.

It may be a shock but the Christians would do well to realize that the Christ they say they serve and are saved by, that they are to imitate was **not** Christian as we popularly understand it; nor did He do, observe or ignore what the bulk of Christians do, observe and ignore. Yahshua; the one we have been taught to call 'Jesus', was thoroughly educated in the Hebrew tradition in Hebrew Scriptures; Fulfilling Hebrew/Israelite/Bible/Old Testament prophecy. Marveling the temple sages at the age of 12 with His in-depth Scriptural Old Testament knowledge that would of a certainty included Torah (Luke 2:46-47). Yahshua taught by both example and instruction. Instead of syrupy song lyrics, what He would 'rather have' are those that walk in obedience (1Sa.15:22; Pr.21:3; Isa.1:17; Ho 6:6; Mic.6:6-8; Heb.10:4-10).

These Denominated Churches tend to selectively match various scripture groups, even down to half verses; to 'proof text' defended various belief positions. This tends to reduce the Bible to a moldable recipe for error. Satan himself artfully quoted selected Bible snipettes to the Messiah in the wilderness (Mat.4:1-10). Those that will reduce Biblical instruction and example to the level of allegory and symbolism run the risk of reducing a 'Commanded Direction' to the level of interpretive supposition ... to the level of an arbitrary relative status. We need to understand that those that will not be changed by a standard (Biblical or otherwise) tend to change that standard. Just look around you at all of the accepted changes and all the unacceptable changes thrust upon us that would have never even made it to the level of a question 50 years ago. In other words in the Biblical arena; the end result is that most accepting this liberal mind-set tend to respond to Biblical directives as being just a suggested (thus optional) desirable guide. Then in the course of time, this 'option' becomes the right to decide the desirability of that guide. Make no mistake, the fabric of Biblical Commands have been compromised and with it the fabric of church, family and society.

For example, one particularly telling half verse is; Hosea 6:6 "For I desire mercy and not sacrifice"; THE OTHER HALF? "and the knowledge of YHWH ... Yahweh ... (God) more than burnt offerings" [I would submit any sin offering 'burnt' or otherwise]. Another 'spilt' verse used is "Don't give heed to Jewish fables", THE OTHER HALF? ... "or the commandments of men who turn from the *TRUTH!*" (Titus 1:14) These half verses and selected readings obscure the Truth; thereby confounding/confusing the Message. Those of the Denominated Church crowd many times will give reason without Biblical directives, while ignoring Biblical directives without reason. They give messages 'about' Christ, ignoring the message 'of' Christ ... They re-construct what this "means"; giving raise to such things as modern 'situational ethics' never obediently considering what Yahshua actually did or actually said to do, like "Keep the Commandments"

(Mt.19:17), all 10 ...uncut ...unaltered and the legitimate encompassing ramifications thereof. That agree with Old Testament verses like;

Psalms 111:10 "The fear of YHWH is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that **do** His commandments".

But this is artfully precluded by the academic repackaged supposition of Grace ... being proof-text with verses like Eph.2:8-9 to instill the idea that somehow expunges, alters or marginalizes personal responsibility; by equating (and thereby confusing) Scriptural Covenant Commandment obedience with 'works'. (Personal ... of yourself ... vain imagination ... un-Biblically prescribed and/or Biblically reconciled 'works' that is).

Eph.2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of YHWH :9 *Not of works*, lest any man should boast."

Stopping short of v:10 (& v:12) which reads;

:10 "For we are **His** workmanship, created in Yahshua unto - **good** works -, which YHWH hath **before** (before what? before creation.- See Chapter 3) ordained that we should **walk** in them."

Nötice: 'in them' is definitely a directive predicated directly from Biblical 'good works' that we are to do/'walk' in, which carries the unmistakable idea of 'obedience'. Also, this 'before ordained' verbiage then is related to YHWH's Family Character that pre-existed Creation. That same Covenant Character that Yahshua sinlessly walked in, to prove His Eligibility to be that perfect spotless 'Lamb of YHWH' sinless sacrifice and to be the Messiah; the New Covenant Mediator, the very example for us to model ... "renewing our minds" (Rom.12:2) ... to "walk as He walked" (1John 2:6). Eph.2:12 and :19 (in context) is then the crux of the whole matter; showing who is an Israelite, how and why we got that way, and that there are a succession of specific Covenants specific to the Promise made to Abraham that extend Promise to us through all that is called 'Israel'.

Eph 2:12 "That at that time ye (includes Gentiles) were without Messiah, being <u>aliens</u> from the <u>commonwealth of Israel</u>, and <u>strangers</u> from the <u>covenants of promise</u>, having no hope, and without YHWH in the world:"

Eph 2:19 "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but <u>fellowcitizens</u> with the saints and of the household of YHWH." (Ex.12:49, Nu.15:16).

Please note: The phrase 'covenants of promise' is **NOT** an idle phrase. [See Chapter 5]

Just as Satan with 1/3 of the Angels rebelled severing their Relationship with YHWH, once man sinned, also breaking the Covenant Relationship, YHWH would never again be able to save everyone. Not because of any lack on His part, but by virtue of His choosing to not violate each one's individual free will that YHWH originally created each one of us with. There most certainly will be those individuals that will choose not to repent and thereby not be saved, and will be counted out-side of the Covenant with the fallen Angels that cannot be saved by virtue of their breeched (Pre-Genesis Creation fall) clear Covenant knowledge that we humans are only able to know in part (1Cor.13:12), yet enough to realize we are rejecting YHWH and His will (Rom.1:20-25) if we will but open our eyes to see it for what it is. Scripture makes it clear that there is a point of no return, none will expedite that point quicker than grieving YHWH's Set-Apart (Holy) Spirit (Mt 12:31, Eph 4:30, Heb 10:29). Nothing is more grievous than turning away from Truth that is understood ... Truth that is revealed.

To understand the above Eph.2 passage as well as the rest of the Bible more clearly, we must define the nebulous, abstract and concrete qualities of the terms that we flippantly use. Many of the words that are used like Grace and Faith are among that group of words used primarily to define the modern notion of 'Gospel Salvation' ... but defy a uniform religious definition. And as such we tend to apply any good thought or concept to define such words ... and many of them are right. The problem is that we many times are taught and/or accept only those definitions that do not apply to anything Law when in fact they very much do.

Example; ... An Orthodox Jewish definition of 'faith' is the 'confirmation of fact', those that would bristle at this definition would do well to remember that this definition is an identical match to Heb.11:1 'faith is substance' and 'evidence' ... 'substance' and 'evidence' are words that convey fact.. Collectively, 'fact', 'substance' and 'evidence' and therefore 'Faith' are aspects of Law (Mt.23:23). Therefore Biblical 'Faith' reserves the inherent right to ask, expect and receive a truthfully correct answer. Biblical 'faith' is not wishing or believing really really hard in that which is not believable or credible. That kind of 'faith' is no better than blind religious assumption i.e. religious 'fables', carrying with it little more responsibility than holding that mental wish and doing those things organizationally deemed or personally considered to be good.

We would do well to realize that the Greek word <pistis> translated 'faith' in our Bibles could have also been translated to ... 'fidelity' ... which would much more fully bring the concept of what the entire Bible has always labored to convey ... 'Personal Integrity'; based on the 'repentant intent' to render obedience exercising Scriptural Covenant Fidelity. I don't think that anyone of us could not recognize that 'fidelity' is conduct that confirms a fact. It is most noteworthy to realize that; 'Justification by Fidelity' sounds a whole lot different in terms of increased personal responsibility than the popularized phrase; 'Justification by Faith'. After all "faith without works is dead" (James.2:17). It has long been a personal observation that the Apostle James could have used one more word that would have further clarified the point - "faith without works is dead (belief)".

The practical application of this Spiritual concept is: *Faith is Belief doing the Job*. Belief is one-dimensional; a mere thought or idea, which is in stark contrast to authentic Scriptural Faith/Faithfulness/Fidelity to be implemented in all areas of life both physical and spiritual. Speaking for myself; ... growing up through the Nazarene Church left me (right or wrong) with the idea of instantaneous all-inclusive, all-at-one-time-bestowments i.e. "is your all on the alter", "are you saved and sanctified?", "did you pray through?", etc. ... as if you could bust through some invisible/intangible barrier and get it all ... instantaneously be it all .

There are several denominations with this mindset and we seriously need to lose this one-time-bestowment mentality expunged of precious little Personal Responsibility to actually/authentically enact Scriptural Integrity (Php.2:12). These 'bestowments' are not the end of the journey in some impassioned pray-through moment ... they are found in and come through/come by the 'lifelong' sustained application of the journey; ... that is they are attained, nurtured, and exercised during/by way of the journey. If we're playin' with the world off to the side of the road, we're not on that journey. Fidelity is multi-faceted and includes responsibility, spawning integrity; Spiritually and Physically inclusive of many things including ... "works" i.e. Enactment ... Growth the 'vital signs' of Authentic Scriptural Faith/Fidelity based in/emanating from the Authentic Scriptural Grace/Salvation that very much involves Pardon and 'Advocated' ongoing Pardon at that! (1John 2:1-5, Heb 4:15-16) Very clearly:

James 4:17 "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."*

Jamess 2:17 "Even so **faith**, if it hath not **works**, is <u>dead</u>, being **alone.**"

James 2:24 states; "You see that a man is justified by "works" and not by faith alone" RSV

Note: James 2:17 & 24 are the only two places that the words of this bannered phrase and word-play of "Faith Alone" appears together in any verse in any Bible saying the exact direct opposite of what this ill explained, ill conceived, works expungment error idea of "Faith Alone" seeks to convey, but is none the less CARELESSLY ASSERTED! We also see at:

James 2:14 "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? **can faith save him?**"

Notice Alert; these verses strongly implies that 'faith alone' cannot!

James 2:26 "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

Heb 6:10 "For YHWH is not unrighteous to forget your **work** and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His Name."

Did you notice that; James 2:26 graphically illustrates that "works" is the force that animates "faith" in the same way as "the spirit" is the force that animates "the body". This fact then has been shamelessly frustrated ...No New Testament Christian would deny that the New Testament is our last word on things 'law'. The New Testament in many places either alludes to or directly outright states that 'works' do have a direct part to play in both Salvation and Reward! But we must be careful, it is not any good 'works' we of ourselves can think of. Notice how Titus 2:14 ties 'Book of the Covenant' (See Chapter 5) language to good works equating these Covenant good works with being purified in the Fathers will from 'rebellion' specifically the rebellion of "Lawlessness"! (Mt.7:13-23) ... [Note; sin is as 'rebellion' or "Lawlessness" 1John 3:4]

James 4:11 " ... but if thou judge the law, thou art **not**... a **doer** of the law, but a judge."

James 1:25 "But whoso looketh into the **perfect law of liberty**, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a **doer** of the **work**, this man shall be blessed in his **deed**."

James 2:12 "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the **law of liberty**."

James 2:8 "If ye fulfill the **royal law according to the scripture**, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:"

Remember that the term "according to the scripture" has directly to do with the Old Testament, and the term "royal law" is identifying YHWH's Law found only in Covenant (including the 10 Commandments ... including the Feast Days), and at that originally only in Torah. Note: the "Kings and Priests" verbiage of Ex 19:6 and Peter 2:9 has directly to do with the 'royal law of liberty' verbiage of James.

Rom.13:8 "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other **commandment**, it is **briefly** comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.10 Love

worketh no ill to his neighbour: **therefore** love is the fulfilling of the law."

Look closely the 'love' that 'fulfills' (Covenant 'fullness' that is) the righteous requirements "of the law" is predicated on, emanates from the 10 Commandments which is part and parcel of the entire Book of the Covenant as will be shown. And as such are distinct from any other law that is not particular to a specific cache of specific Covenants that are specifically and uniquely linked to the "Promise" and its legitimate succeeding Covenant. This intelligently means that the 'Perfect Royal Law of Love and Liberty' comes from no other source than the One who spoke these Commandments included as Covenant to a Covenant People ... 'us' ... if we will obey. Therefore obeying YHWH is 'love' as much as 'loving' in this way 'fully fills' the righteous requirements "of His law"

Titus 2:14 "Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every <u>lawless</u> deed and purify for Himself 'His own special people', zealous for good works."

Note:

This phrase 'His own special people' again is from the opening YHWH spoken statement from the Book of the Covenant [Ex.19:5-6]

Rev.14:13 " ... Blessed are the dead which die in YHWH ... that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

Rev. 2:26 "And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations"

So let's take another look ... break this down and unpack Eph.2: 8 and 9.

Eph.2:8 "For by grace (unmerited pardon) are ye saved through faith <piistis> (Covenant Fidelity); and that not of yourselves: it is the gift (unmerited opportunity) of YHWH: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."

--- This is why it is: ...

9 "Not of works, lest any man should boast.:10 For we are His (YHWH's ... <u>not our own</u>) workmanship, created in Yahshua unto **good works**, which YHWH hath **before** (in Covenant and Creation) ordained that <u>we should walk in (Do) them</u>."

'Works'? ...(Please see Rev. 2:26 again) ... doing those things we should have always done ... responding in the way YHWH would have His Family respond ...

keeping Family Covenant Fidelity! You do not earn 'unmerited pardon' any more than you earn 'Covenant Fidelity'. You are given pardon entrusted to give (Do) fidelity; you must ask for and decide to walk in both ... 'befitting repentance' (Acts 26:20). You can even ask for strength and wisdom to do so; still you can *earn* none of these things. Fidelity must be in place if any one of us are ever going to 'contend earnestly' (Jude 1:3) ... "*Working* out your *own* Salvation" Php.2:12; the very picture of Justification which is a two way street.

Satan is the 'accuser of the brethren' (Rev.12:10), Yahshua Himself is the head of that brethren. Satan would love nothing better than to catch YHWH Himself (and/or thru Yahshua) ... the Ultimate Law Giver and Ultimate Law Keeper ... outside of His own Laws ... Covenant or otherwise with the host of the universe (1Cor.4:9, Ps.50:4, Isa.45:12, Nem.9:6) as audience. In that real sense we 'justify' and thereby 'bless' YHWH in having given us pardon through Yahshua's Covenant Blood Atonement, when we walk in the example of Yahshua's Covenant keeping integrity that is directly tied to all the Salvation Covenants of Promise through Abraham's original Covenant of Promise. Especially when we of our own 'free-will' deny ourselves and endeavor to walk just as His Son Yahshua walked --- in Covenant. Thereby the evidence of a heart-felt life-changing submission, giving YHWH the justifiable legal right to declare such a one justified. Covenant obedience is not of itself/by itself the means to Salvation; it is however the legal evidence of a life changing repentance to Covenant Salvation, meeting an authentic Blood-bought pardon for originally breaking Covenant that in turn is the sum total means to authentic Covenant obedience.

YHWH does give us a better deal than we receive in this life in one sense; suppose you had murdered in the past, and had never been "brought to justice". There is no statute of limitation on murder. You would never be law abiding simple by virtue of just deciding to now start observing the law. If caught you will be prosecuted and tried for that past law breaking. In the same way just deciding to keep Covenant is not the means to Covenant Salvation; repentant acceptance of Yahshua's Covenant Blood ... this Covenant's Mediator, covering ... atoning for our past Covenant breaking is. From then on Keeping Covenant i.e. Covenant Fidelity are the 'vital signs' of a living authentic repentant submitted Fidelity i.e. Faith. This covenanted reciprocal fidelity extends both a justifying Grace to the recipient ... us ... and in turn justifies the extending of that Grace by the originator ... YHWH. After all; a just and righteous judge must be found to be judging righteously and just for there to be any righteous justice:

Psalms 51:4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight-That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.

Sin must be punished and paid for; Yahshua was punished paying for our sins and lawlessness (Isaiah 53:5). YHWH accepts this substitution **if** we accept this substitution i.e. that is the asking of forgiveness and accepting Yahshua as Savoir ... accepting

Yahshua's crucifixion blood covering payment as our payment for past Covenant Lawlessness repentant to future Covenant Lawfulness.

The principal of 'substitution' turns out to be 'key' to salvation from the Genesis beginning. After man's fall into Sin, man's solution was to 'hide' and sow leaves together (Gen.3:7-9). YHWH's solution was to 'cover' sinful man with fresh skins (in all probability still bloody) by the death of an animal (in all probability a lamb-Gen.3:15; 21; 4:4) serving as an observational instruction concerning 'sacrifice, substitution and covering'. Satan has no legal grounds to reject 'substitution' as legally viable for he uses that legal concept himself;

Acts 16:23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, **charging the jailor** to keep them safely: 24 Who, having received **such a charge**, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. 25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto YHWH: and the prisoners heard them. 26 And suddenly there was a greatearthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. 27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, **he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself**, supposing that the prisoners had been **fled**.

The awareness being that this prison guard was under the control of the Romans; directly under the dominion of Satan. The reason this guard was going to kill himself was that he would then have to serve out the remainder of all lost prisoner's sentences. This could include years in prison and torture up to and/or including death by various means including crucifixion. In other words he would be the 'substitution'. Plainly; Satan accepts and uses 'substitution'. Therefore 'substitution' is a legal position employed by YHWH that Satan has no legal grounds to accuse as unlawful. Many people who do not understand the legal tenant of 'substitution' accuse 'God' of playing a trick on Himself ... declaring us righteous ... seeing Yahshua when He is looking at us. More correctly YHWH does know all about us including our decision to accept (or not) YHWH's gift of Yahshua's 'substitution' death in our place extending to us His life eternal.

Upon accepting Yahshua as Savoir ... accepting Yahshua's crucifixion blood covering payment as our 'substitution' payment, YHWH does not remember our past sins against us after repentance; that is 'good news' for most of us. But Yahshua did not die for our sins so that we would keep on sinning i.e. keep on Breaking Covenant which YHWH will remember. We are not saved 'in' sin 'to' continue sinning, that is not to say we will ever be *sinless* this side of YHWH's Kingdom, but we are to 'deny ourselves', 'contend earnestly', 'renewing our minds', consistently 'walking' in such a way that we

will continually/increasingly '**sin** less'. The very picture of the Hebrew concept of 'be ye perfect' better translated 'be ye maturing in perfection'.

It is a very Hebrew concept, Biblically speaking, that the end of the journey is not the destination, but rather that end ... that is the purpose of the journey is the journey; in other words, the arrival (that is the claiming of 'I have arrived') is not so much in/by/at the destination; the arrival/the attainment ... is the gradual process of the journey. We are saved 'from' sin "unto **good works'** i.e. an out growth of ... emanating through ... directly sourced by Keeping Covenant with a YHWH that guess what? ... Keeps Covenant. Most of us have found out the hard way that sin will take you further than you wanted go ... staying longer than you wanted to stay ... paying more than you ever wanted to pay. We must test the path we are on ... Plainly either we will 'test' the Truth and journey in Covenant or we will continue follow error and journey in counterfeit. It is a foregone conclusion that if one is keeping covenant, he is keeping covenant with ones that keep that same covenant (Ps 132:12). The same Covenant that defined Yahshua's Life ... the same life He wants to empower us to live (1John 2:3-6).

1John 2:3 "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keeps his word, in him verily is the love of YHWH perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked."

In the purest sense; Sin is the breaking of Covenant ... Family Covenant ... that includes YHWH's Family Character Covenant Law. Please consider that there is no virtue or integrity in a concept or view that imagines a Supreme Law Giving ... Law Keeping YHWH that would accept lawless children ... to remain in lawless Covenant rebellion !!! That does not make sense ... would you accept that in your home?

Most churches will teach that you must 'give your heart to God' by accepting the finished work of 'Christ'; accepting His sin covering Blood Atonement to be 'Born Again' and thereby be saved. I would not disagree, except to add you must grow in that repentant walk to maintain a consistent growing maturing vital walk of repentance; that will most certainly 'change/renew' your heart and mind. We must realize that YHWH chose to reveal all of this originally through the Hebrews and a Israelite Messiah. The point to consider is that this "Blood Atonement" is Covenant Blood (Luke 22:20; Heb.10:29). So plainly stated giving your heart to YHWH embraces everything that is YHWH or is YHWH's including what He has said; including the Covenant "finished work" of 'Yahshua'(Christ)" who said:

[&]quot;My doctrine is **not** mine, but His that sent me." John 7:16

Most churches will teach that there are those that do not see the need to repent that actually are in many ways more moral and ethical than some that profess Christianity. Yet it is precisely this non-acceptance of this 'free-gift' 'Blood Covering' that exposes this un-dealt-with rebellion issue to accept "Salvation". In particular ... specifically YHWH's Blood bought plan of Salvation. However what is also True is best described by comparison; ... Presupposing that this worldly carnal person has heard and rejected "The Gospel" ... How would it be any less rebellious for this unrepentant 'moral' one to not accept 'Christ' yet do those lawful things contained in Covenant; than it is for any one of us to profess Christ yet reject and/or not do Covenant Law? In other words to deny Yahshua yet generally accept the things He said is as much rebellion as it is to accept Yahshua, yet deny, minimize and/or refuse to obey the things He said to do (Mat.19:17, Jn.15:10, 1Jn. 5:2-3, 2 Jn.1:6).

When I speak to others concerning these things invariably Col.2:16-17 will be brought to bare which reads; "Let no 'man' judge you"...Wait a minute ...man? ... What man? Voodoo man, Pagan man, Atheist, Satanist, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Taoist, Shaman, New Ager, etc.? ... Does this also include a true Biblical believer? Not as defined by YHWH's Word penned by the same Apostle Paul ... "know ye not 'we' will judge the world and angles" (1Cor.6: 2-5) ... Who is this 'we'? Rev.12:17 holds the answer, the Ekklesia, the 'Called-Out Ones', the 'Kadosh Kohenim', the 'Set-Apart Priests' - "that Keep the Covenant Commandments of YHWH and the Covenant Fidelity of Yahshua His Son." Therefore the "man" of Colossians 2:16...is an unbeliever! ... of which the Messianic Followers were surrounded, after all Colossi is not in Israel. The "we" of 1Cor.6: 2-5 is the believers. Note: This 'man' can also include unconverted believers of which with we are still surrounded; in and out of church.

Finishing Col.2:16-17, "regarding a festival, new moon or Sabbaths" none of these are exclusively Hebrew, Israelite or Jewish, they are all to be "unto YHWH your Elohim" (Gen.1:14, Deut. 16:15; Hosea 9:5). It's not a Hebrew thing ... It's not a Jewish thing; it's a YHWH thing, from Creation, and just exactly how many Jews were there at creation? [Expanded in Chapters 4 & 5]. Continuing Col 2:17, "which *are* (present tense) of things to come (future tense), ... but the 'body' (literally Eph 1:23) *of Christ" (*'is'-a supplied word not found in the original text). Please also note this writing is post crucifixion by some 40 plus or minus years. The Breakdown then is - "Let no man judge" ... about these issues ... "but the body of Christ/Messiah"; the body (church) judging the body (church) about the body (church) things, in other words believers judging, guiding, encouraging, correcting, teaching believers; Family apprising Family about Family matters. How poetic - How natural - How scriptural - How VERY Family! Certainly you would not willingly have an outsider decide or direct YOUR family business. YHWH with decisive certainty ... by Scripture ... will also not allow un-regenerated outsiders or un-regenerated quote un-quote "believers" (no matter how loud the claim) to set as judge over His Family considerations.

If the Church is that Ekklesia, then the Church is to judge (correctly assess) the Church, about Church things; Scripturally according to Scripture and so it is, the older are to guide the younger, the wise are to guide those that would learn. The problem then

becomes what does a true believer truly believe, who is that "wise" ... "believer", that we should 'submit one to another'? (Eph.5:21) Defined by Revelation 12:17 and 14:12, That "believer" is one who upholds, keeps, and lives by YHWH's (un-cut Covenant) Commandments and the faithful Covenant Fidelity of His Son. What's the one phrase a believer wants to hear at the end of his life? "Well done thou good and faithful servant," (Mat. 25:21) ... Right? What does a servant do? Obey? Does he dictate what he obeys? Or does he obey what has already been established in Scripture? These Saints are "the Few" that have found "the Straight Way", "the Narrow Gate", they are "the Elect", "the Little Flock", who "Hear" and "Follow" (do), <u>HIS "Voice</u>" (WORD). This is a small group; and well defines that group called the "Remnant". (Note: <u>HIS "Voice</u>" again Book of the Covenant language [Ex.19:5-6]).

Among other things that have been established in Scripture is: Knowledge, Wisdom and Understanding ... and ... the tools to 'rightly divide the Word of Truth'. A believer is honor, integrity, and Truth bound to search for, correctly identify and teach YHWH's pure, true and complete Word with its Covenant Laws. There are those from the small to the great that will quip, "I don't think it matters" or its cousin "what difference does it make?" They don't want to test and know what to hold on to, they just want to hold on to and defend what they think they know. Especially if there is a paycheck involved. These statements reveal an undertone of pick and choose, an attitude of ... let's make a deal, when in reality YHWH's Covenant with its Covenant Laws are the deal, remember YHWH has said at;

Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, *that thou shalt be no priest to me*: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of YHWH ..."

We would do well to remember the words translated in our Bibles as 'iniquity'; from the Hebrew <'aven>, <`avon> and from the Greek <anomia>, <paranomia>, have to do with transgressing ... being opposed or *contrary* to ... the law. It should go without saying this is not just any law, it is being opposed to or contrary to 'Scriptural' law, and as to be shown later, specifically YHWH's Covenant Law. We would also do well to remember that any time the word 'Scripture' is referred to in the New Testament it is the 'Old Testament' many times specifically 'Torah' that is being sighted.

Let's jump to the back of the book ... Revelations, and find the place where the Spirit and the Bride say come (Rev.22:17). Come to what? The much-anticipated Marriage Supper of the Lamb; ...every believer aspires to being there. That Supper does not happen without a Marriage is a Covenant, a legally binding Covenant. That Marriage does not happen without Laws that make that Covenant legally binding. Rom.1:19-20 makes it clear that we can know many things about YHWH and the things of YHWH in what is already around us. It is evident that even in our human marriage covenant, that the children born to that union (by Biblical standard), are to be born, nurtured, raised, corrected, encouraged, empowered and protected by that same marriage

(family inclusive) covenant. The tragedies are more than evident when that marriage covenant fidelity is breeched, not only to the spouses but also to their own children.

1Timothy.5:8 "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the **faith** (/fidelity), and is worse than an **infidel**".

Make no mistake... Fidelity has to do directly with Covenant ... including marriage; including Biblical Covenant! After all Biblical marriage is a Biblical covenant within YHWH's Biblical Covenant of Salvation.

When I speak to Clergy concerning these things, I am amazed by the simplistic/rudimentary answers that usually seek to avoid truly answering the question. When I respectfully but consistently point out their 'non-answers', a variety of attitude responses will eventually appear. The most disturbing of which is that of personal attacking arrogance; that certainly does not seek an answer, but rather seeks to defend a position of the traditional individually dispensed knowledge. Some have gone so far as to beller - "You dare question God's Anointed". 1 John 4:1 instructs us to test the spirits to see if they are of YHWH, that necessarily includes the Set-Apart (Holy) Spirit; of which I certainly do not place anyone of us above. Any meaningful conversation has usually ended by then, but despite the 'non-answers', I usually will learn something even from a hostilely negative exchange. {Ya never know what you're gonna learn or where.}

I have learned many things, some of which is - Volume will never make a wrong answer right, ... that - Opposition to the Truth will never change it, ... and that the Word without the Spirit is dead, but what is worse; an untested spirit without the Word possesses the potential for being disastrously Dangerous. Including everything from turning your back on Salvation going back into the world, which I did, to suicide which has happened in my own extended family and no doubt many of yours. When they tell you to pray about it - watch out! If the Written Word of YHWH contradicts your answer to prayer, teaching, practice, tradition, adherence, doctrine, or word of knowledge, you'd better seriously question which spirit you've been talk'n to! Oh Holy Spirit, do I have to follow the Bible? Seems pretty Ridiculous, but it's about what it comes down to, a mockery of the test, trust and obedience, of/to YHWH's own system of checks and balances ... His Written Word ... the Bible.

1John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of YHWH: because many false <u>Prophets</u> are gone out into the world."

What is sobering is that this was written almost 2000 years ago, how many are the 'many' now? Who are they? Where are they? What are these false teachers teaching? What is certain is that they didn't just disappear or go away (2 Cor.11:13-15). What is just as certain is that they (these false teachers) with their false teachings have most certainly multiplied!

On one occasion as I was allowed to present some of these findings in an open Bible Study ... at the conclusion an attending ex-pastor began to chastise me saying, "as you were speaking I felt under so much condemnation", ... the truth is I was stunned, he went on saying that ..."My Jesus and the Holy Spirit are love and would not use such condemnation ...I felt convicted"... Pardon me but I have felt very convicted in the past before I repented and this asserted lodgment is in direct contradiction to scripture:

John 16:8 "...when He (the Set-Apart Spirit) has come, He will **convict** the world of sin, righteousness, **and** of judgment:"

Notice: It is the Spirit of YHWH that will convict all of us concerning what is: 1] Wrong, what is ... 2] Right <u>and</u> what is ... 3] Correctly Discerned Judgment.

I personally cannot make anyone feel anything, a lie cannot evoke that kind of response, however if I have presented YHWH's rightly-divided Word, and it sounds like the truth, evoking that kind of response; you seriously need to take a break from your status-quo religious outlet ... give it a rest ... and actually pick up your Bible like the Bereans ... and see 'if these things are so' (Acts 17:10-11).

There have been a variety of times I have been accused of being divisive in different venues and promptly given the 'unity' run-down in varying ways. One question they have never been willing or able to squarely answer is: 'Define for me at what point do we ever have the right to; negate, alter, twist, fabricate, suspend, ignore, half represent or otherwise diminish YHWH's uncompromising Word to be "Like Minded" or have "Unity"? Whether realized or not this is the exact issue at the heart of any Ecumenical question. We are to walk in and thereby be Unified/"Like Minded" in the Truth. Even if the whole world, in "agreeing," orchestrated majority being "convinced," unanimously in "like mind," agreement would think it so, against YHWH's Word ... does NOT nor will this type of 'unity' EVER make it so!!! I/You/We cannot "agree" to IGNORE, BREAK and/or CHANGE ... YHWH's Covenant Law ... EVER!!!

Still it remains that the Denominated Churches are half right, there *was* a change 'of' the law (Heb 7:12). But a change 'of' law does **not** mean a switch to '**no**' law, and it certainly does not mean a switch to **no** Covenant with **no** Covenant Laws. What's more is that YHWH's "My Law" (Gen.26:5, Jer.31:31-33, Heb.8:10) Covenant Commandment Law contained in 3 specifically linked Covenants will NEVER change. Having said that; Remember it also remains that the risk of error of any individual, group or church is just as huge to <u>accept</u> everything Jewish just because it can be attached to or assumed to be attached to the Jews as it is to <u>reject</u> everything Jewish just because it can be attached to or assumed to be attached to the Jews.

There is much to be discerned and placed in proper perspective; including 'awareness reference only' information and much to be rediscovered, learned, considered, reclaimed, properly assessed then actually properly applied. We must realize and extend to this group called the 'Jews' that have been entrusted by YHWH to keep the

Torah alive ... the considered realization that they like any other group ... are human beings sold under original sin with fallen natures, in need of regeneration and a Savior, as are we all. In spite of this being so ... archeology has proven they (the Jews) have kept the purity of the written Torah Scriptural text ... and for that alone we owe them the sincerest debt of respect and appreciation ... However archeology and historical documents have also proven they have (through other sources) added and applied many things as traditional 'orthodox' religious observances that are **not** in keeping with the purity of the written text. Having said this we must realize there is no other group of people that would have or has done any better. We must sort through and discern what is Truth.

There is much Truth that can be known from what has been deemed 'Jewish' and therefore ignored and effectively avoided that we could and very much should avail ourselves to. For example; everyone has heard of the 'Tallit' ... the Prayer Shawl ... it is the very picture of Covenant. If you ever go to the Messianic Congregation (or Orthodox for that matter); you will see most usually a prayer during or at the end of the service where everyone gathers by family. The Husband covers the Wife and the Children with his Tallit. This is the very picture of Covenant, for Covenant is actually in a very real way, in a very real sense ... our 'Cover-Net' ... it is our Scriptural Salvation Father YHWH Covering that we are to accept and walk in.

As stated Scriptural Salvation Covenants contain Scriptural Salvation Covenant Law. The word 'Law' projects many undesirable overtones. It is a negatively charged word, just by virtue of the power abuse down through the centuries; played out in many ways. The most common reoccuring theme is that of the 'Haves' (the ones in power) extracting from the soon to be 'Have Nots'. However Scripturally speaking; in a perfect world, 'Law' is only a terror to those that break it; it is the protection (salvation/blessing) of and for all that keep it. Just because we as believers will never be able to keep YHWH's (Holy) Set-Apart Covenant Laws *perfectly* in thought, word and deed as Yahshua did, does not relieve us of the obligation to try, making that authentic effort to walk in our repentance to walk as He walked ... 'even as He walked' (1 John 2:6). Continually praying for the strength, power and repentant resolve to do so.

Justifying Grace i.e. 'Unmerited Pardon' with the subsequent 'Repentant' walk of renewing 'Regeneration', understands and fills in where we can't (Heb.4:14-16, 1 John 2:1)... where we fail or are not able to at the time, but that presupposes our sincerity and obedience fueling our authentic sustained effort, surrendered to His Covenant Will, that is increasingly applied as we gain strength and knowledge. This is the picture of 'growing in Grace' (2 Peter 3:18) ... in a very real sense 'growing in/because of/dependant on' ... Pardon... His Loving Pardon to us. Notice; how this verse doesn't say anything about being 'stunted' in Grace, nor is Grace in any way to be used to justify an 'arrested development'. We are after all to 'Grow' and 'Mature' and 'Earnestly Contend' and 'Strive' toward that 'High Calling' (Php.3:14). Have you ever considered how it could possibly be that these guys who wrote this stuff ... who wrote the New Testament never once considered themselves relieved of responsibility? ... How is it then that we ... any one of us ... get off just reading about it... or what's even worse ... just hearing about it

second hand then defend what we think we know? We must get up off of ... and break out of our 'Blessed Assurance' ... Test what we have never tested ... Take a good hard look at what we have accepted and so beyond assurance stand on.

Luke 9:23 "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

[Note: His journey was a journey of submission to His Father's Covenant]

The question then is how to 'Rightly Divide' the Word of Truth concerning things Covenant? ... and /or ... concerning things Law? (This question will be the focus of Chapter 3, 4 and 5)

Job 28:28 "Behold, the fear of Yahweh (God), **that** is wisdom; and to depart from evil **is** understanding".

Psalms 91:14 "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my **name** 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation"



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- "A] Papias, Bishop of Hierapolis wrote: "Matthew wrote the oracles in the Hebrew language,
- *B] Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, wrote: "Matthew, indeed, produced his gospel written among the Hebrews in their own dialect."
- *C] Origen wrote ...: "The first gospel composed in the Hebrew language was written by Matthew"
- *D] Eusebius says the same thing; so does Epiphanius, and Jerome" also see 'the volume of 'Church Fathers'
- *E] Recommended "The Hebrew Yeshua VS. the Greek Jesus" Nehemia Gordon Hilkiah Press 2005

² "Secrets of Revelation" by Jacques B. Doukhan Pages 56 and 57

Review and Herald Publishing Asso. Hagerstown, MD 21740 ... Phone No. # 1 800 765 6955

³ Dr. E. William Bean www.csbr.net

⁴www.csbr.net,, www.yaim.com and others...

*F] Recommended - "The Gospel of Matthew According to a Primitive Hebrew Text" G. Howard ... Mecer University Press, Macon Georgia 1987

*G] "Evidence of Hebrew New Testament, First" ... Danette Davis ... LsDa7@aol.com ⁵ See Chapter 4

⁶ See - "The Two Babylons" Alexander Hislop and

"Come out of Her My People" C. J. Koster

⁷'The Catholic Mirror' 1895 - Baltimore Maryland ... also see booklet entitled

"Rome's Challenge" ... and many other sources. Cathilic admissions www.halleluyah.org/links.htm

⁸ See: 'The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich' -William Shirer

{New York: Simon and Shuster, 1960} Page 236.

See: 'Jews in Germany [From Roman Times to the Weimar Republic]' -

Nachum T Gidal {English edition - Konemann -

Verlagsgesellschaft mbH Bonner Str. 126, D-50968 Koln Page 82 - 83.

See: World Wide Web word search 'Martin Luther'

See: 'Hitler's Table Talk' 1941-1944 by Trevor-Roper, Hugh www.orionbooks.co.uk

⁹ See #6 above

10 See: http://www.cbcg.org/carlstadt.htm -

http://www.cbcg.org/Audio/carlstadt 081603.ram ... word search "carlstadt"