

A Love of all Things Jewish – A Slippery Slope

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December 30, 2011

Newsletter 5847-041

And an excerpt of reader responses included from Newsletter 5847-042

5th day of the 10th month 5847 years after the creation of Adam The 10th Month in the Second year of the third Sabbatical Cycle The Third Sabbatical Cycle of the 119th Jubilee Cycle The Sabbatical Cycle of Earthquakes Famines, and Pestilences

December 31, 2011

Shabbat Shalom Brethren,

Once again my friends at Set Apart People have shared some things we all need to be aware of. It is a letter they received from a mutual friend who is living in Israel.

I have received many emails from other people who are waking up from the Christian churches and begin to see they have to keep Torah. They then enthusiastically begin to learn Hebrew and to study with a passion. As they go and search for more information from outside the bible sources they eventually run into the Jewish anti-missionaries.

Then once that happens I begin to receive emails from these people who will no longer read anything written by Paul and condemn me for quoting any of his epistles. And it is not too long after this that they stop reading the New Testament all together. And then they announce that they are going to keep Torah and will no longer follow Yehshua and deny that Yehshua was and is the Messiah.

If this was an isolated occurrence then I would not have said anything. But it is happening more and more and I see it all over the world. I have prayed how to address this. I have prayed about what to do. Then I read this from a friend I have known who is on the ground in Israel.

I wrote and asked to be able to share this, and was given a blessing to share with you. Let me make this very plain. I am not against Jews. I am not against learning many of their ways for they have much to teach us. I am not in favour of proselytizing Jews. In fact I would rather proselytize Christians to return back to Torah.

But what I do get upset about are the lies that Christians teach as truths, and I am equally upset at the lies Judah teaches as truth. I also get upset at the lies Messianics teach as commandments.

You cannot understand the New Testament without the Torah. You cannot understand who the Messiah is, that is described in the Old Testament unless you have the New Testament.

And you cannot worship Yehovah unless you study and obey both books.

Are you even aware that HILLEL II, Jewish Patriarch gave a deathbed confession of Yehshua was witnessed by his rabbinical student Count Joseph. After his death, Joseph found among his effects Hebrew texts of Matthew, John and the Acts of the Apostles and was himself convinced of the truth of Messiah Yehshua.

Another Rabbi called Rabbi Kuduri tells us the name of the Messiah. You can watch this video of his message. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Lr4QaFXdxc> which tells us that after Ariel Sharon dies then the Messiah will come.

Yet in spite of this many former Christians are now converting to Judaism and renouncing Yehshua, the one they had learned from in the first place.

http://www.setapartpeople.com/a-love-of-all-things-jewish?utm_source=Set+Apart+People+List&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=6105e14e7eMailChimp_RSS2EMAIL_CAMPAIGN

A Messianic Hebrew Living in Israel Discusses “A love of all things Jewish”

Having lived in the land of Israel now for over a year, I am seeing a notable trend develop. That of, Messianic Hebrews (also known as Ephramites) coming to the land of Israel, and becoming over- exuberant for “all things Jewish,” to the point of conversion to Judaism. This trend somewhat confused me, in the sense that, what was causing these believers who are supposedly strongly rooted in their Hebraic faith and belief in Messiah, to even consider converting to Judaism and thereby effectively denying their Messiah? It was after finding an article that clearly defined the ‘state’ and ‘thinking’ of these believers, that I was then able to put the pieces together and more clearly understand the phenomenon of what is occurring here.

This unnatural or over enthusiasm for all things Jewish has been described as ‘Ultra-Semitism’ by Bruce Barham from <http://torahofmessiah.com/countermis art.html> in his article by the same name. His definition is:

“Ultra-Semitism is simply the opposite of anti-Semitism.”

This issue is becoming more important as more Hebraic Messianics seek to return to the land of Israel and connect with their brother Judah. This over-enthusiasm for all things Jewish, a desire to stay in the land at any cost, and the placing of Judah and Judaism above the word of YHVH and belief in Messiah, can manifest into very complex issues and have very grave outcomes. This thinking ultimately threatens the faith of the believer and also the impression our brother Judah is having of us.

In our native countries, we seem very able to separate from the pagan Church and we seem able to begin to address the religious traditions of our culture and move towards a closer relationship with YHVH and His Torah. Unfortunately, once we arrive in the land of Israel, we are subjected to a whole new set of 'pressures' that we have not been accustomed to and have not been prepared for. The pressure from Jewishness now pervades every aspect of daily life and the overwhelming feeling is to 'stand with our brother' and 'come alongside our brother'. There is also the great conviction and desire to be able to stay in this land at whatever the cost! This, however, does not mean that we should 'join our brother Judah in his sin of denying Yahshua, Messiah. Amazingly enough, this is exactly what a number of Hebraic Messianics are doing. They have such a great connection and love for their brother and this land that they are converting to Judaism and denying Messiah as the Son of YHVH!

The Messianic Hebrew has, among other things, two important cornerstones of their faith that should be non-negotiable: 1.) Yahshua Messiah and 2.) The Brit Chadashah (The New Testament).

Both are also non-negotiable to Judaism as they are NOT part of Judaism...here in lies a major dilemma to the 'ultra-Semite.'

There is yet another group prowling around this land waiting to pounce on the ultra-Semite, and this is the "anti-missionary" or "counter missionary" also defined and discussed by Bruce Braham in his articles. His definition is:

"Anti-Missionaries are individuals and groups devoted to "countering" the good news of Yahshua the Messiah."

The main group active in Israel as anti-missionaries are, of course, Rabbinical Judaism and also the ultra-Semite, many of whom are well connected with Judaism and maybe even have completed conversion to Judaism or are attending 'Geore' (conversion classes). These persons could even be defined as the "Wolves in Sheep's clothing."

One of the key Judaic groups today proclaiming to recognize and promote the return of the ten lost tribes is also openly identifying themselves as anti-missionary on their website. Kol Ha Tor defines "12 Israel Kingdom" as being pro-Rabbinic, pro-Oral Torah and willing to convert to Judaism in order to bring about restoration and an ability to return to the land.

In order for the anti-missionary to succeed, he must first complete what should essentially be an impossible task! He must discredit the Brit Chadashah and, therefore, render it completely unreliable or untrustworthy AND reduce the deity of Yahshua Messiah to that of a mere man or Prophet. Is this not ridiculous to suggest that this could even happen?! Yet, from firsthand experience, it is happening to a large number within the Messianic movement. How could this be?

The anti-missionary needs to render the Brit Chadashah unreliable and untrustworthy so they can essentially remove any proof or reliable evidence that Yahshua of Nazareth was the son of YHVH.

There is clearly within Judaism, specifically from within the Talmud, an acknowledgment that Yahshua was a 'real' man and that he did live in Israel around 30 AD. There is, however, no acknowledgment of His Deity. Herein lies the problem for Judaism. 'How can you acknowledge that Yahshua existed as a man but was not the savior prophesied about in the Tanakh when you do not have the writings of the Brit Chadashah'?

The Tanakh on its own does NOT identify or confirm that Yahshua of Nazareth, who walked the earth around 30 AD, was the son of YHVH. Although it contains many hundreds of prophesies for the first and second coming, it does not on its own identify the man, Yahshua of Nazareth, as the Son of YHVH. The only way from Scripture to identify who He was is through the Brit Chadashah, which details His life and the miracles He performed, alongside the historical information of the times, and it also details His fulfilment of prophesies given in the Tanakh. This information is also often recorded several times in the other Gospels to give even more authenticity.

The anti-missionary cannot discredit the Tanakh or Talmud so, in order to 'make anonymous' the person Yahshua, the Brit Chadashah must be rendered unreliable. Thereby, the only reliable source left to be the Tanakh, which is still pointing to the 'coming Messiah.'

The second major issue for Judaism is that, if you appear to have more than one Elohim or have a theology to abide another deity in addition to YHVH, then you are classed as a pagan and are part of a pagan religion. Many within Ephraim struggle to fully explain how Yahshua, Son of YHVH, is not Elohim but is deity. Because of our lack of understanding the wolf seems able to deceive the sheep, while we know that sometimes we will not have full understanding of all things but, through faith, we accept that it is possible to have a Father and Son relationship and yet have one Elohim. Without going into too much discussion of the relationship between the Father and the Son, since each has a different interpretation of this special cornerstone relationship, it is enough to say that, in the eyes of Judaism, when you have YHVH and the Son, Yahshua, who is also deity, there is a big problem...and you are in a pagan religion.

Much of this pagan theology or understanding has its roots from Judah's understanding from observing Christendom (Trinity Theology), and they have not adjusted this view to how the Messianic Hebrew now sees their Elohim. Worthy to note is that 'Echad' gives room for aspects of a unified Elohim.

The anti-missionary must also now reduce or adjust the deity of Yahshua to that of a mere man or prophet in order to satisfy the Judaic requirements from the Torah to only have ONE Elohim.

Current law in Israel today also plays right into the hand of the anti-missionary. In Israel, it is illegal for any foreigner to proselytize an Israeli citizen. Even simply stating any religious view point can be construed as proselytizing, and the perpetrator, if heard or reported by an Israeli citizen, can be deported from the country. However, a Jewish person has absolutely no

restrictions and can proselytize anyone he wants. When a Messianic Hebrew gets alongside Judah, they will not, and do not, have any ability to defend or discuss their position.

Herein lies another dilemma: If you constantly expose yourself (by your own choice) to a constant barrage (overtly and subtly) by very eloquent and learned men who are very skilled at constantly undermining and discrediting the Brit Chadashah and blatantly bashing Yahshua and diminishing his deity... it seems to eventually soak in, and is believed by the ultra- Semitic. After all, is this not where we all essentially started...in the Christian Church subtly being convinced to take on pagan ways and to acknowledge that the Torah had been done away with?!

For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. – 2 Timothy 4:3-4

The ultra-Semite, having now completely come alongside Judah and, having become ready to convert to Judaism, now becomes the greatest enemy to fellow believers in Yahshua and seems to have this overwhelming urge to afflict others with the same condition... Beware!

It is important particularly for those coming to the land to recognize in themselves any tendency to place Judah and things Jewish in an unnatural place of esteem that leads to contradiction of Scripture and the mixing with Talmudic traditions. Also, there is the need to beware of the tendency to be willing to do anything to remain in this land.

Judah believes that they have the Scepter and the Law even though, effectively, it is a compromised version of the Law since they have mixed it with their Talmudic traditions! Some within Judah accept that Ephraim is beginning to return, but they also believe that in order to return, we must come under Judah or under Judaism. The connection in the mind of the ultra-Semite is that they also feel obliged to help YHVH and are connecting and joining Judaism...If we all become Judah, how will the two sticks become one in His hand (Ezekiel 37) since there will be no Ephraim?!

As a Messianic Hebrew living in the land, I believe an important aspect for myself and my family being here is to fulfill the calling He placed upon us through His word. This will enable us to more effectively keep His Torah and stand for our faith in Yahshua in the land where He has placed His name. We believe that YHVH will direct our path, and if that means only being here for a season, then so be it. We must learn to stand for what we know to be true and right.

This

is part of "Passing under the Rod." Just as YHVH caused the Nation of Israel to pass under the rod in order to enter the land, the first time, those returning to the land are also effectively causing themselves to 'pass under the rod' and therefore need to be well grounded in their foundational beliefs otherwise you may NOT pass. Just as Israel failed the first time, so can we! They were NOT faithful!

If a person converts to Judaism, he needs to be careful that he is not committing the 'ultimate

Sin' one which the book of Hebrews says you can NOT come back from...

For it is impossible to restore again to repentance those who have once been enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of YHVH and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, since on their own they are crucifying again the Son of YHVH and are holding him up to contempt. – Hebrews 6:4-6

This issue is also reiterated in three of the Gospels: Matthew 5:13, Mark 9:50 and Luke 14:34, the analogy is drawn to that of Salt...

You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt becomes tasteless, how shall it be seasoned? For it is no longer of any use but to be thrown out and to be trodden down by men. – Matthew 5:13

...However, if you have already been convinced of the inaccuracy of the Brit Chadashah and that Yahshua was only a man, then these verses, along with everything else in the Brit Chadashah, carry no blessings or sting!!!

The issue really is not so much with the ultra-Semite and anti-missionary, but rather with each of us coming into the land unprepared or unaware of these issues. The key non-negotiable fundamentals of our faith should be well in place prior to our return because otherwise we may fall into deception and ultimately be misled. Yes, get alongside our brother, get to know our brother and live in this land, BUT do not take this to the point of joining our brother in the areas of his life that are in contradiction with the word of YHVH and His Son.

Peter Bennet
Israel, 2011

Having read this far I then went to the articles mentioned above.

I am going to share one of them with you. It is a hard or difficult article to comprehend, especially if you are doing some of those things mentioned. So I urge you to read it with care.

<http://torahofmessiah.com/pagantares.html>

Don't let the tares of Satan run you out of the wheat field

It is a little known fact that the ranks of EX-Christians are growing. Of course, this is a significant source of embarrassment to Christianity; therefore, it is not often discussed. Increasingly, truly studious Christians are realizing traditional Christianity is filled with unscriptural, pagan concepts that differ dramatically with the practices of the first century believers and with Scripture.

Traditional Christianity and counterfeit Messianism are also growing; however, the growth is much like it was in the first few centuries as openly pagan, sinful individuals from numerous pagan cults joined the "cheap grace, license to sin" church that was being formed at that time and that is now preaching new levels of "salvation" ease. Since the forming church presented

doctrines and practices pagans were familiar with, they chose to jump on Constantine's bandwagon. Today, since traditional Christianity presents an "obedience optional" and "Torah (God's Law) is dead and gone" salvation message, pagans and others looking for an easy ticket to heaven are seeing Christianity as a very attractive religion perfect for the modern sinner.

Christianity, without doubt, is THE easiest, least demanding religion in the entire world, a fact that is often openly admitted and used in their marketing campaigns! It is attracting millions of people that want to "do what is right in their own eyes", live as they choose, and not have to worry about having to obey anything but their own hearts. Christianity truly is the religion for the worldly. It is also largely becoming a religion of Scripturally ignorant individuals that choose whatever denominational flavor is served up as long as it suits their fancy, without ever questioning its adherence to Scripture, or ever even reading Scripture. This is precisely what Paul prophesied about in his letter to Timothy:

2 Timothy 4:3; 4 (NRSV)

3 For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.

Christianity is "going home to pagan mama" through its increasingly sinful, unholy, worldly teachings that all but reject entirely the moral demands the True God imposes upon those wishing to enter into His coming Kingdom. Christianity also, in general, outright rejects and/or declares abolished God's eternal Torah (instructions), a practice that lies at the very core of the true meaning of the mark of the Beast.

A significant reality TRUE truth seekers that actually study on their own are discovering is the pagan foundations of traditional Christianity. As more and more truly sincere believers become dismayed at the growing paganism of the "church" and venture out to independently seek truth, they are realizing Christianity does NOT possess that truth. Often, after making a little progress in their studies, they stop over or permanently take root in what I call counterfeit Messianic

Judaism. More often than not the more "Hebraic" facade of counterfeit Messianic Judaism lulls them to sleep and intoxicates them to the point they stop seeking further truth. They seem oblivious to the fact they are partaking of almost the same box of poisonous treats served within Christianity that are simply repackaged with a "Judaic" look. The spiritual "feeling" they get from the liturgical flavor of their Messianic Judaism groups blinds them to the fact the foundational beliefs of counterfeit Messianic Judaism are little changed from what they were in pagan traditional Christianity. They leave a rocky mine field only to end up in a grassy one where the mines are harder to spot but just as deadly.

Unfortunately, as the search for truth continues and the false nature of counterfeit Messianic Judaism is also recognized to be what it actually is – repackaged Christianity – many then overreact to the point that they totally abandon anything connected with the Scriptural faith of/in Messiah Yeshua and convert to Rabbinic Judaism. In frightening numbers many also

choose to become agnostic, atheist, or venture into the realm of other false religions with which mankind is cursed.

I hope with this article to limit the wholesale exodus from the TRUE Messianic faith (vs. counterfeit Messianism) by addressing the issue most seekers of truth eventually discover about traditional Christian and counterfeit Messianic faiths. That issue is the clear pagan foundations of both faith systems. As one becomes aware of the paganism that especially infests traditional Christianity, he/she must be cautious against taking the paganism argument too far by considering EVERY pagan appearing practice to be unscriptural. Pagan-phobia – an overly sensitive reaction to all things “pagan” – is a tactic Satan uses to destroy us.

Consider this, Satan is VERY smart! He has ALL his bases covered. He can both destroy and entrap. By promoting a hybrid mix of paganism and truth he can destroy the faith of those with pagan-phobia by presenting exact PAGAN copies of certain aspects of the TRUE truth. Thus, he causes some to reject what is actually truth because they assume it is pagan. He also guarantees eternal death for others that are attracted to the easy way to salvation by entrapping them in lawlessness (anti-torah). He destroys some by making them think the truth should be completely void of ALL “pagan” elements, while he entraps others that desire the “freedom” to do as they wish yet still claim to be “faithful”.

To the pagan-phobia crowd I ask the following: Would it be wise of Satan to promote a religious system (or systems) that is TOTALLY unscriptural? Of course not. In fact, virtually ALL religions have fragments of truth; however, this in no way makes them acceptable to YHWH Elohim (God). Satan’s primary tactic is to sprinkle lies (tares/darnel) within the truth (wheat). By doing this he can destroy those that discover the paganism of Christianity by driving them entirely from the wheat field of truth and entrap those that flourish in such pagan, lawless faith systems. I feel that is one of the clear teachings within the parable of the tares.

Matthew 13:24-30 (NASB95)

24 Yeshua presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man [Messiah] who sowed good seed [truth] in his field.

25 “But while his men were sleeping [Messiah’s true followers did not guard truth], his enemy [Satan] came and sowed tares [false doctrine and teachers] among the wheat, and went away.

26 “But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain [followers of the spirit of truth], then the tares became evident also [followers of the spirit of delusion – spirit of anti-messiah].

27 “The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’

28 “And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this!’ The slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?’

29 “But he said, ‘No; for while you are gathering up the tares [followers of the spirit of delusion– spirit of anti-messiah], you may uproot the wheat with them [followers of the spirit of truth]. 30 ‘Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I

will say to the reapers, “First gather up the tares [followers of the spirit of delusion – spirit of ant messiah] and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat [followers of the spirit of truth] into my barn [coming Kingdom].”

The tares (false teachings and teachers) were sown among the wheat (truth and true prophets). The tares are darnel. Darnel is a grassy weed that is virtually indistinguishable from wheat until the grain is formed just prior to harvest. Yeshua could not have used a more perfect example to represent how many false teachings have the appearance of truth (darnel has the appearance of wheat) to those that are not constantly on guard for error. Also many true teachings are copied by Satan. Had there been guards watching the field closely, the enemy would not have been able to sow the tares. Likewise, one must carefully test the spirits and scrutinize what they are taught by comparing it to the Scriptures (Acts 17:11, 2 Timothy 3:16,17). The “Scriptures” being referred to for use in the testing of truth is the Tanakh (Older Testament). Sadly, since few Christians EVER test what they are taught by studying the Tanakh, they allow the fields of their minds to become infested with the tares of the Devil. Similarly, most common Christians of today allow their feelings, which they mistakenly and lazily consider to be promptings of the “Holy Spirit”, to largely determine their beliefs. They are among today’s tare-heads, not realizing or taking to heart that we MUST test the “spirits” using the Tanakh and Hebraic study of the New Covenant writings. Instead many profanely consider their personally desired beliefs to be “spirit” based when, in fact, they are based on Scriptural ignorance.

The tares and wheat – false doctrines and truth – will both grow together until the end when the grain appears at the time of harvest and angels will come to gather the tares FIRST (this alone destroys “rapture” theory) from among the wheat. At that time the “fruit” produced will allow the tares to be easily distinguished from the wheat. The resulting lifestyle (obedience or lawlessness) as well as other fruits of one’s particular faith system, will classify them as either tares or wheat. This is, in part, to what Yeshua refers elsewhere when he says one is known by the fruits they bear. The wicked, false teachers, and those loving the spirit of error will be gathered out of the Kingdom; then, the scrutinizing believers that never end their search for truth will be left for gathering into the granaries of G-d’s Kingdom.

If one rejects doctrine or concepts because of apparent pagan equivalents (pagan appearances), then we may as well burn the entire Scripture including Torah. Virtually EVERY truth has a false equivalent in paganism. Paganism has its own “instructions” (torah). Paganism has temples. Paganism has sacrifices and blood atonement. Paganism has prophets of “god”. Paganism has a Creator(s) god. Paganism has eternal reward and punishment. Paganism has demons. Paganism has a god that is prayed to. Paganism has a savior(s), etc. etc. Remember, often tares and wheat are completely identical in appearance. It’s the root (origins, definition of God, etc.) of the tares and wheat that primarily differ, as well as the final fruit (obedience to and worship of the TRUE God and Messiah or disobedience and worship of the anti-messiah and false god).

As mentioned earlier, those realizing the truly pagan origins of traditional Christianity, which I will emphasize later, sometimes jump from Christianity to Judaism. As they learn about many of the false teachings regarding Christianity's unscriptural false Messiah, "Jesus Christ", they grossly overreact and reject the Messiah entirely without investing much time discovering the true aspects of the Scriptural Messiah. Those that do this often justify their change by pointing to Christianity's pagan nature. By doing this they become one of those discussed earlier whose faith is destroyed, though they usually feel they have actually finally found the "true" faith. They also fail to realize that, as discussed earlier, one can find parallels to paganism within Judaism also. Even the TRUE Hebraic faith can have pagan parallels; thus, paganism alone, is NOT a good characteristic to look for when determining the truth or error present in a set of doctrinal beliefs.

Another VERY disturbing trend I see is the habit many slide into of abandoning reading of the New Covenant Scriptures. I found myself near this abyss at one time; therefore, I am very familiar with the progression of thoughts in one's mind as they find themselves in somewhat of a spiritual crisis. This presents a unique problem and generally progresses as follows:

1. They discover the true fact that Christianity is largely a false religion and that the New Covenant writings are somewhat corrupt.
2. This causes them to doubt ALL the New Covenant writings.
3. They then assume corruption where none exist.
4. They fail to understand that the New Covenant writings ARE reliable, despite the fact they do have some scribal corruption and error in various areas; however, this corruption effects only a tiny fraction of the overall volume of the New Testament and can be easily seen as error by simply comparing it to the Tanakh. (Note: I discuss this and other issues regarding what is TRUE Holy Scripture in an article on that subject.)
5. They WRONGLY feel they can find ALL truth in the Tanakh and fail to realize if such was the case there would have been no need for clarification on issues such as Messiah, Torah observance, etc. Rabbinic Judaism proves itself to also promote the fact that clarification of what is written in the Tanakh is necessary since it (Rabbinic Judaism) LARGELY relies upon the "Oral" Torah – the traditions of the sages – for its interpretation of the Tanakh. Those leaving the TRUE Messianic faith (or never truly taking the time to learn about the TRUE faith) seem to somehow forget there ARE things within the Tanakh that are impossible to fully comprehend and that the New Covenant writings are one of the ONLY ways to comprehend them! Instead, they subconsciously begin to interpret much of their Tanakh studies in an ant messiah way. **THEY BECOME BIASED TO THE OTHER EXTREME – BIASED AGAINST MESSIAH AND THE TRUE MESSIANIC FAITH.**
6. They reject the New Covenant writings yet willingly embrace Rabbinic traditions that are often Scripturally unsubstantiated. Their rejection of the New Covenant writings is often due to their failure to properly interpret them from the Hebraic world view in which they were written. They mistakenly make the same mistake most Christians make by reading the Hebraic writings of the New Covenant from a Westernized, Constantinian mindset;

thus, they fail to see the purely Hebraic, pro-torah foundations of the New Testament. They then ASSUME the Rabbinic traditions to be more “Scriptural”, when in fact, those traditions often stray further from pure Scripture than the New Testament.

7. Often, due to the truly admirable devotion of sincere practitioners of Orthodox and Conservative Judaism, the individual becomes somewhat seduced by Judaism to the point that they accept these unsubstantiated Oral Traditions of Judaism. There are a lot of admirable qualities within Judaism that traditional Christianity simply does NOT have. The level of devotion to God within Orthodox Judaism is something ALL Christians could learn from. Frankly, I have NEVER come across a single Christian that demonstrates the devotion to God that is common within Orthodox Judaism! Most Christians haven't the foggiest idea of the TOTAL devotion to God – in ALL facets of life – that is practiced within Judaism. Likewise, most Christians GROSSLY misrepresent and misunderstand the teachings of Judaism. It is a simple fact that if one is looking for a faith of true devotion to God, they will find it in Judaism; however, devotion is not proof of truth. There are other religions whose followers exhibit deep devotion. Of course, traditional Christianity is comprised of some of the LEAST devoted religious individuals. When one sees this devotion within Rabbinic Judaism, the beauty and inspiring aspects of it cause some to become enamored by it and to sometimes lose the objectivity in determining if the Rabbinic traditions are truly Scriptural.
8. Their anti-paganism grows to anti-Christian and ultimately to anti-messiah Yeshua. The term “Christian” becomes a repulsive word because of the HUGE amount of error, hypocrisy, open rebellion against God's eternal teachings, and paganism found within the Christian faith.
9. Since the “New Testament” is considered the Christian Bible, their anti-Christian mindset becomes an anti-New Testament mindset. They fail to fully realize it is that very New Testament that condemns the MANY false teachings of Christianity!! The false teachings that Messiah is God and that Torah is abolished can be proven FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT without even having to reference the Tanakh! The best proof that the New Covenant writings are reliable is the fact that almost ALL the false pagan teachings within traditional Christianity and counterfeit Messianism can be proven wrong from those very New Covenant writings!
10. By rarely reading the New Covenant writings, they lose perspective and slide down an ever steepening slippery slope. They develop an aversion to reading the New Testament, mistakenly condemning the writings for the errors practiced by ignorant, hypocritical individuals that claim to follow those writings.
11. Ultimately, they misapply the Scriptural admonition to always verify what is taught in the New Covenant by checking the Tanakh. Instead, they VERY WRONGLY interpret this to mean ALL they need reference for a clear understanding of Truth is the Tanakh; thus, Satan succeeds in keeping them away from the Messianic writings of the New Covenant through which they could obtain more clarity regarding YHWH's eternal plan.

12. Basically, they GROSSLY overreact and end up rejecting the New Covenant as a totally false set of writings or at least lessening it so much that their faith becomes weak and largely void of the advantages to be had from the TRUE faith of and in Messiah.

I MUST clarify an extremely important point. One should NOT judge the New Testament using the teachings of Christianity! That may sound contradictory; however, it isn't. You see, the primary teachings of traditional Christianity are NOT what is taught in the New Testament. Christianity GROSSLY misapplied the New Covenant writings; therefore, one commits a serious error when they condemn the New Testament just because fools claiming to follow it teach and practice the grotesquely unscriptural faith system known as traditional Christianity. In fact, I sincerely feel one of the primary strategies of Satan is to drive people from the New Testament using the Beast system he created and that, itself, does NOT follow the instructions presented in the pages of the New Covenant writings.

I feel one judges with an unequal measure when they reject beliefs (Christianity) ONLY because they have similarities to paganism while adopting Judaism as their new religion, since Judaism ALSO has similarities to paganism. Rabbinic Judaism is FILLED with pure traditions of men that cannot be substantiated from the WRITTEN Word! Even PURE TRUTH has similarities to paganism. Remember, Satan is not stupid and knows he cannot promote a faith system that is totally false. Instead, he mixes his lies with truth; otherwise he could not deceive.

One of the Torah Commentaries I study (JPS Torah Set) shows excellent similarities in paganism to many of the various aspects of Torah. So, if one condemns Christianity ONLY because of pagan similarities, then they must also condemn Rabbinic Judaism and even the true Scriptural faith. This practice is a PRIMARY objection I have to counter-missionaries. They are blatantly deceptive and judge unequally when they accuse Christianity of having pagan origins yet neglect to mention virtually every ritual/practice in Judaism can also be shown to mirror pagan ritual/practice. I am firmly and irrevocably convinced that Rabbinic Judaism is NOT Hebraic, Biblical Judaism. I consider this just as obvious as the unscriptural teachings of Christianity and am appalled at how many Christians convert over to Judaism. I DO feel Judaism has very little – on none – unscriptural paganism compared to Christianity and that there IS more pure truth to be found in Judaism, especially regarding Torah; however, Judaism has its own set of serious problems, not the least of which are sage-worship and an exalting of the Oral Torah and traditions ABOVE the written Torah. As I've said in other articles, Christianity and Judaism have EXACTLY the same core problem – the worship of tradition! In traditional Christianity, however, the traditions are far less Scriptural and promote rebellion against God.

It seems everyone wants someone to lead them. Most want a king just as ancient Israel, and just like ancient Israel, what they are actually doing is rejecting YHWH (1 Samuel 8:4-8). Only a few, like ourselves, have the courage and conviction to not follow the herd. Most very much

do have a herd mentality. There are few that possess the heart of a lion that have the courage to wander alone if need be or to accept being part of the very small, persecuted remnant.

When one seeks to determine what pagan aspects are acceptable, the ONLY source to be used is the Hebrew Scriptures, the Tanakh, along with a correct interpretation of the New Covenant writings (New Testament). So, what do I feel is the importance of making the “pagan connection” to show a religion false? Well, a few of the things I consider are shown below. The items I list below are what contributed to my realization that traditional Christianity is steeped in paganism and a VERY unscriptural, false religion – the BEAST (note my article on the mark of the Beast for my reasons).

1. False religions have a pagan godhead. The true faith is consistently and uncompromisingly monotheistic. Almost all pagan religions have some sort of “godhead” or a pantheon of gods. Few pagan religions are truly monotheistic. It is for this reason the paganism of Christianity and counterfeit Messianism is more legitimately considered a significant issue, since they most certainly are NOT monotheistic faiths, despite the deceptive gyrations their leaders use to try and prove otherwise. The only 3 purely monotheistic religions I know of are Scripturally Hebraic Messianics (us), Rabbinic Judaism, and Islam. I have gotten to the point that I have little patience with ignorant Trinitarians or bitarians that insist they are monotheistic. Their “monotheism” is a blasphemous joke and clearly seen as false monotheism to all except those intoxicated on the wine of the great harlot.
2. False religions have pagan morals. The true faith follows a strict code of morality. Again, the “once saved always saved” license to sin mentality of many Christians makes the pagan parallels to Christianity more definite. The “do what is right in your own eyes” attitude that seems to dominate Christian thought, despite the arguments by theologians that it doesn’t, is purely pagan and clear proof Christianity does NOT follow the moral instructions of the ONE that inspired Scripture.
3. Paganism rejects the Torah. Again, Christianity’s paganism shines here since it also rejects– or declares abolished – the eternal Torah. Also, counterfeit Messianism promotes falsehood by claiming to promote Torah while, at the same time, teaching Torah observance is optional!

Teaching something to be optional is functionally no different than teaching it is abolished!

4. Paganism promotes holy days that are not found in Scripture and/or rejects those that are. Christianity, through its shameless exalting of celebrations of purely and undeniably pagan origins (Christmas, Easter, SUNDAY, etc.) and rejection of the God given festivals (SABBATH, Passover, Shavuot/Feast of Weeks, Feast of Tabernacles, Day of Atonement, etc.) shows itself to be totally foreign to the Scriptural example. It also shows itself to be dedicated to open rebellion against God through its brazen rejection of festivals He declared to be everlasting. 5. Most pagan religions promote godly procreation. Of course, Christianity and counterfeit Messianism, through their teachings of the virgin birth, are very definitely promoting godly procreation. The godly procreation aspect is purely pagan and has absolutely ZERO Scriptural (Tanakh)

support. The true Biblical faith does NOT present a God that comes down to earth to cohabit with woman. In fact, the hint that this occurred in Genesis 6 is clearly presented as bad. Read or listen to the article regarding the virgin birth for more insight into this.

In summary, my plea is to those that are sincere in searching and may find themselves questioning the TRUE Messianic, Hebraic faith. Before considering wholesale abandonment of the TRUE Messianic faith, make sure you are using an equal scale of judgement. Read the New Covenant writings with the Hebraic mindset in which they were written. Don't develop Pagan-phobia. Don't let Satan drive you out of the wheat field of truth!!

Reader responses from News Letter 5847-042

January 7, 2012

Last week's News Letter has generated quite the response from both sides of the camp. None of them were short in their replies. Those who found the article favorable also commented on how some had either gone the Rabbinic route and come back or how others had never come back. And they thanked me for saying what we said last week. But I have to thank the author who brought it to words what I was not able to.

Others wrote who had dropped the News Testament or Paul or Yeshua and they were upset I had posted such a letter and wrote to tell me the list of things I was wrong about and how they could justify their current position.

Others wrote to encourage me to drop all things Paul taught.

Brethren when we stand before the throne and are judged, all those who influenced our decisions in life to walk this way or that way, will not be there to hold our hands at Judgment time. You will stand on your own. So make sure you understand what you believe and why you believe it. There is a plethora of ideas out there. There is a great deal of mixed seed out there. YOU are to be the wheat and yet as we said last week the tares look just like the wheat until the harvest.

They are amongst us and they think they are just the same as the wheat. How do you tell? Check everything they and I say against the scriptures. And stick close to the scriptures. For all you know I could be part of the Tares. The only way to tell is to compare what is taught with the scriptures and to sort the good from the bad and to hold on to what is good.

1Th 5:19 Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not despise prophecies, 21 prove them all. Hold fast what is good. 22 Keep back from every form of wickedness. 23 And the Elohim of peace Himself set you completely apart, and your entire spirit, and being, and body – be preserved blameless at the coming of our Master Yeshua Messiah!

Rom 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Shrink from what is wicked, cling to what is good.

Many of those from last week will not listen to these two quotes as they are from Paul and from the New Testament. But I do listen to those things Paul taught and to the New Testament. I find they are complementary to the Torah when the mistranslations are taken out. That is who I am and what I believe and why I write the way I write. I make no apologies for that, none what so ever.

Why is it so messed up? Why does Yehovah allow this? For one very important and simple reason.

Pro 25:2 It is the esteem of Elohim to hide a matter, And the esteem of sovereigns to search out a matter.

Yehovah is searching for those who are going to be kings and priests in His coming Kingdom. They will be those who search the scriptures to prove His Torah true and the false teachers false. If you're not searching and if you're not checking then you will reap what you have sown.

Keep in mind the parable about those who were given the talents.

Mat 25:13 "Watch therefore, because you do not know the day nor the hour in which the Son of Adam is coming, 14 for it is like a man going from home, who called his own servants and delivered his possessions to them. 15 "And to one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability, and went from home. 16 "And he who had received the five talents went and worked with them, and made another five talents. 17 "In the same way, he with the two also, he gained two more. 18 "But he who had received the one went away and dug in the ground, and hid the silver of his master. 19 "And after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 "And he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents. See, I have gained five more talents besides them.' 21 "And his master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant. You were trustworthy over a little, I shall set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 "Then he who had received two talents came and said, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents. See, I have gained two more talents besides them.' 23 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant. You were trustworthy over a little, I shall set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 "And the one who had received the one talent also came and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed, 25 and being afraid, I went and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.' 26 "And his master answering, said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27 'Then you should have put my silver with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to him who possesses ten talents. 29 'For to everyone who possesses, more shall be given, and he shall have overflowing; but from him who does not possess, even what he possesses shall be taken away.1 Footnote:1See Lk. 8:18.

30 'And throw the worthless servant out into the outer darkness – there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Luke had a similar teaching but the reward was to be given authority over cities.

Luk 19:10 "For the Son of Adam has come to seek and to save what was lost." 11 And as they were hearing this, He spoke another parable, because He was near Yerushalayim and they thought the reign of Elohim was about to be manifested straightaway. 12 He therefore said, "A certain nobleman went to a distant country to receive for himself a reign and to return. 13 "And calling ten of his servants, He gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Trade until I come.' 14 "But his subjects were hating him, and sent a delegation after him, to say, 'We do not wish this one to reign over us.' 15 "And it came to be, when he came back, having received the reign, that he sent for these servants to whom he had given the silver, in order to know what each had gained by trading. 16 "And the first came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' 17 "And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant. Because you were trustworthy in a small matter, have authority over ten cities.' 18 "And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.' 19 "And he said to him also, 'And you – be over five cities.' 20 "And another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I kept laid up in a handkerchief. 21 'For I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.' 22 "And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I shall judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was a hard man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow. 23 'Why did you not put the silver in the bank, that when I come I could have collected it with interest?' 24 "Then he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who possesses ten minas.' 25 "But they said to him, 'Master, he already possesses ten minas.' 26 'For I say to you, that to everyone who possesses shall be given; and from him who does not possess, even what he possesses shall be taken away from him. 27 'But those enemies of mine who did not wish me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me.' "

So hold on tight Brethren to what is good and prove everything. It is going to get even harder to know in the coming years. Hold on very tight. Be a future King or Priest and search the scriptures to know the truth. Kings were told to write out the Torah so they would know it. But do not stop there. Once you do this, go out and teach the truth to others.

So what are you doing with your understanding? Have you increased it or doubled it, or have you hidden it so no one knows you have an opinion on anything. Remember what you have just read, if you do nothing with the knowledge given you, what you have will be taken away from you and given to another.