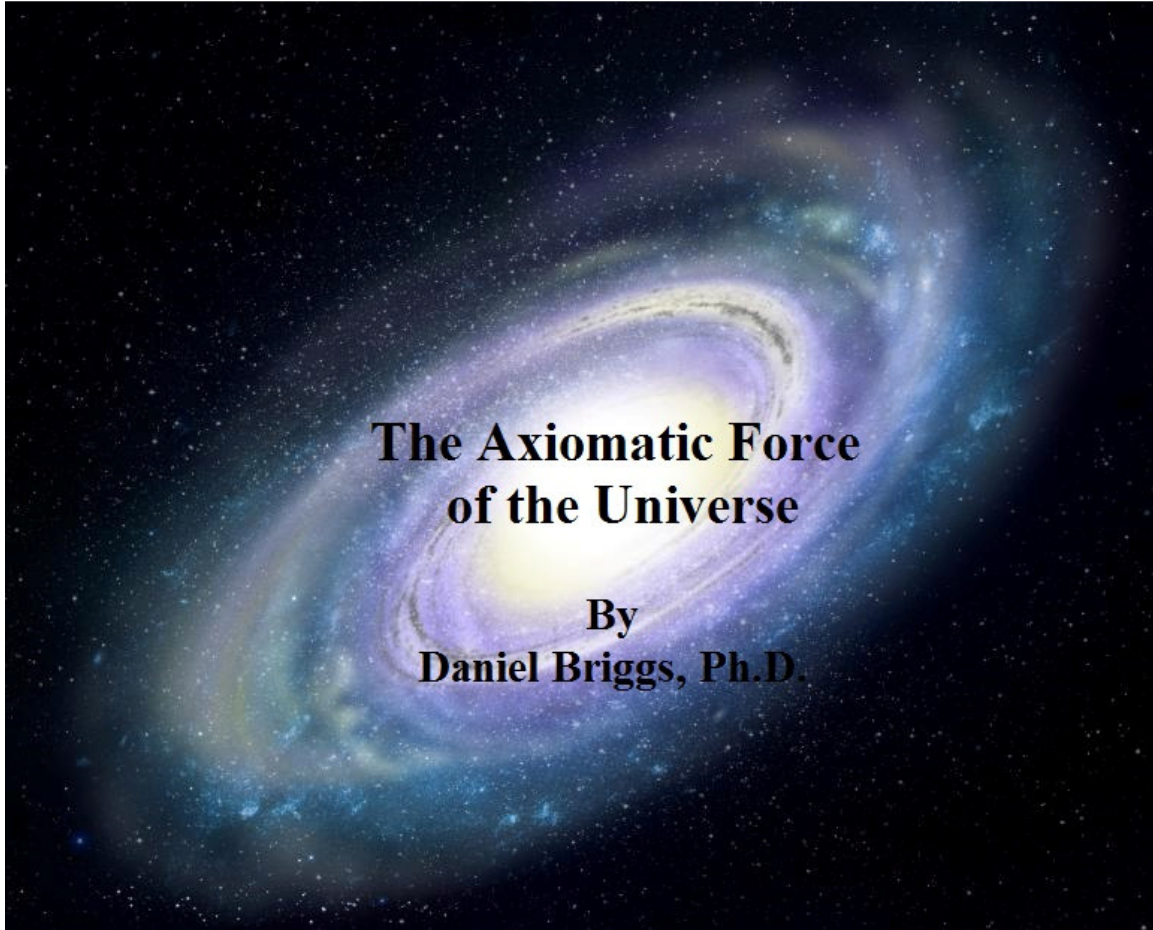


# DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

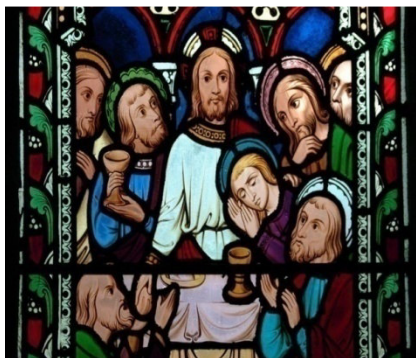
Volume One



## **The Axiomatic Force of the Universe**

**By  
Daniel Briggs, Ph.D.**

A Review of Cause, Teleology, Divine Will,  
The Universal Tri-Directional Axiom and  
“Thy Kingdom Come” Principle



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## PREFACE

In a time when the ecclesiastical world is focused on having mega churches, huge auditoriums, lavish edifices and cleric stars it seems that more than ever before people should turn to God's word for guidance and direction on the subject of LOVE. If the Apostolic Pentecostal movement intends to truly evangelize the world rather than strive to "be like other denominations", then they must return to the scriptures for divine answers and comply with the truths found therein.

The world is in chaos and is looking for answers. Humanism is not producing. Communism and socialism have proven fruitless. And once again, leaders have failed to consider history--glancing at the past to discover ideas that successfully answered similar dilemmas of human suffering, equality, happiness, world evangelism, etc.

This book will attempt to revisit the history of humanity's existence and the universe from a broad overview. In so doing the reader should catch a glimpse of the meaning and purpose of existence, find a divine continuum on which to anchor, visualize universal harmony and balance—an eternal spiritual and physical homeostasis for every element of existence—and see how world evangelism fits into the grand scheme of the Divine. This is not a new consideration, but it is a needful, timely and critical one. Many have visited this question and have found valuable insight. They have shared their discoveries, yet they were grasped by so few or were only embraced for too short of a time. For example, the great revivals of Europe, America and around the globe were brief and are all but forgotten and certainly fell short of true global evangelism.

While the eschatological epistemological musings of Kant, et.al., may synaptically titillate some, they are not usually very pragmatic for those people who usually and actually get things done. This book is not intended to join the "lofty ranks" of dust gathering books sitting on little visited book shelves. That place is for those philosophers who are eager to create more spin-off, philosophical critique, who themselves also tend to get little done.

This book, however, aspires to become a useful global evangelism tool—a guide that will, hopefully, stimulate a global paradigm shift. This book also provides a broader view speaking to the WHY, HOW and WHEN questions relative to global evangelism, which is an integral element of the divine scheme.



## DISCLOSURE

“Christianity”, as it has come to be known, was not originated by Gentiles nor was it largely embraced by Gentiles until after Apostle Paul (a Jew) became the Apostle to the Gentiles early in its multi-millennial history. The founder of this neo-Judaist sect was a Jew, and was none other than Yahushua HaMashiyach. But far too often Gentiles fail to remember and consider the “Jewishness” of Yahushua. Here is a brief list of a few examples of scriptural facts that should be remembered and not overlooked: 1) He was carried by and birthed from the womb of a Jewish mother (Mary) and was adopted by a Jewish father (Joseph), 2) Mary and Joseph had Yahushua circumcised the eighth day after His birth according to Jewish custom, 3) Mary and Joseph gave him a Jewish name (Yahushua) as instructed by YHWH’s messenger (Angel Gabriel), 4) Yahushua learned Hebrew and the Hebrew scriptures, 5) Yahushua frequented the Jewish synagogues and Jewish temple, as was the Jewish custom, 6) Yahushua marveled the Jewish scholars at a young age with his command and understanding of the Jewish scriptures and their meanings, 7) Yahushua corrected misinterpretations of Jewish scripture and further expounded upon Jewish scripture throughout His ministry, both publicly and privately, 8) Yahushua chose twelve Jewish disciples to carry on His ministry—advancing the Kingdom of YHWH, 9) Yahushua’s coming and many details concerning His life and ministry was prophesied about in Jewish scripture, 10) Yahushua instructed his disciples to go to the Jews first (as did Apostle Paul), for they were YHWH’s “lost sheep”—“children of YHWH”, 11) Yahushua was tried and sentenced to death by a Jewish court, 12) some of His last words spoken in anguish on the cross before He died were in the Hebrew (Jewish) language, which is common among multi-lingual people—to use their mother tongue when they experience elevated emotion or pain, 13) Gentiles (the wild olive tree) were grafted into the Jewish Olive tree not the other way around, in fact Yahushua himself said, “Salvation is of the Jews” (John 4:22), and (14) there is much more that could be listed here but this is enough to set the tone and make the point.

Finally, Rome made no distinction between Judaism and this neo-Judaist sect that was later dubbed as “Christianity” by unbelievers. This neo-Judaist sect was started by and advanced by a Jewish Rabbi (Yahushua) that was later advanced/continued by His Jewish disciples and followers. This neo-Judaist sect did not really explode externally (among Gentiles) until the Jewish scholar and leader Apostle Paul entered the scene. In summary, to deny Yahushua’s “Jewishness” is to deny scripture and to fight against YHWH. But while this is true, it does not mean nor justify the advancement of the Old Mosaic Covenant. Apostle Paul clearly makes a distinction between the Old and the New and identifies what is to be kept (specifically observed) and what is to be used for teaching and learning purposes. After all, the righteousness of the Law of YHWH has not changed in principle but the priestly order of it, its dissemination modality and the advanced understandings of it that ushers in an amalgamation synergy has.

Theology is popularly known as the science or the study of God (Theos - transliteration) and of the relations between God, man and the universe. However, the word Theos and Theology come from Greek influences (Hellenism) since the word Theos

is a Greek prefix used for each Greek deity which is not a term that Messiah (HaMashiyach) or the Apostles would have used. The HaMashiyachim [a name used by Jews to collectively refer to the people who believe that Yahushua (Jesus) is Messiah (HaMashiyach)] would have used the Tetragrammaton YHWH (transliteration) instead of LORD and possibly Yahweh. Technically, the HaMashiyach's name (not title) was Yahushua (Hebrew/Aramaic translation/transliteration), not *Jesus (an English creation)*. The English usage of *Jesus* follows the Latin *Vulgate* path of translation/transliteration. In other words the English spelling *Jesus* is an English translation that comes via the Greek to Latin (*Vulgate*) to the *Textus Receptus* path. The earliest publications of the *Textus Receptus*, before it was called the *Textus Receptus*, which Desiderius Erasmus, a Dutch Catholic humanist, began in 1512, that was published in 1516 AD, was known as the *Novum Instrumentum omne*. Desiderius Erasmus developed this version for economic gain and it was endorsed by the Roman Catholic Church. The full Polyglot Bible (the first printed, but not published, being the *Complutensian Polyglot*) would have been published before the *Novum Instrumentum omne*, had it not been for the exclusive printing rights granted to Erasmus by the Catholic Pope (Pope Leo X). His first few editions were so flawed that he, Desiderius Erasmus, ended up using the Vulgate (he had collected as many *Vulgate* manuscripts as he could find) to fix his translations. Later editions of the *Novum Instrumentum omne* came to be known as the *Textus Receptus*. The *KJV* did not precede the early editions of the *Textus Receptus*, which were used extensively by the *KJV* translators, despite this version's acclaim to the Byzantine line (versus the Alexandrian line). And most English Bible versions also relied heavily on the *Textus Receptus*, i.e., both its earlier versions, before it was known as the *Textus Receptus*, as well as the *Textus Receptus* itself.

Even the translators/editors of the *New International Version* acknowledge the accuracy of the YHWH Tetragrammaton (International Bible Society) but opted to use the traditional Catholic translation via the Vulgate path keeping the use of LORD, God, Jesus, etc. in vogue. As indicated above, this is the same path used by the *KJV* and most all other English translations. I suggest that **Yahushua** is the further revealed (a continuum of revelation/divine expression) name of YHWH because why would YHWH give Yahushua a name above HIS own name (Isaiah 42:8; Psalms 29:2; 148:13; Jeremiah 16:21; Nehemiah 9:5; Philippians 2:9; Ephesians 1:21)? HE would not, thus the reason why an understanding is needed to cancel misguided accusations of Biblical contradictions.

It is also believed that the name Jehovah was given prominence by the Vatican. It emerged by inserting the vowel points of Adonai into the sacred Tetragrammaton YHWH and symbolized the ecumenicalism of that period. (Wiseman, 1990). Therefore, YHWH-ology would more accurately describe the specialty study of the God of the Jews and the early church since they were Jews who believed that Yahushua was the HaMashiyach (HaMashiyach/Messiah). The term "theology" would more accurately apply to the study of the Greek gods (and perhaps the gods of other non-Jewish and non-"Christian" religions) but not the YHWH of the Jews and of the Neo-Jews.

"Thou shalt call his Name Yeshua BECAUSE He shall save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21 (From the Peshitta Bible—Aramaic N.T.)



The Peshitta Bible (Aramaic Bible) still uses the Aramaic variant of the Hebrew name Yahushua. Therefore, the Disciples of Christ volumes use YHWH and Yahushua throughout for technical reasons when referring to the English translated words “LORD”, ("God") and "Jesus" respectively. However, keep in mind that even though there are many translation or transliteration issues with most Bible versions, this does not detract from the veracity and eternal nature of YHWH's WORD that is forever settled in heaven. The mishandling of and the imperfections of humanity regarding translations and transliterations in no way diminishes nor alters the original divinely inspired WORD of YHWH that came from YHWH himself.

You can read a full treatment of this topic in *Disciples of Christ Volume 12*.



# Chapter

## - 1 -

### The Axiomatic Force

#### Part I

#### INTRODUCTION

*Agape* is not a force **of** nature but it is a pervasive force found **in** nature. And, as with all other forces found in nature *agape* is also invisible and is not testable. It cannot be seen or detected by mechanical instrumentation, like a microscope or some other laboratory or field device. All forces found in nature are only known to exist because we can observe the predictable impact and influence (effects and affects) they have on the physical materials in our physical world, but the force itself remains invisible and non-testable.

For example, the arbitrarily named force of “gravity” cannot be seen even with an electron-microscope, but it is a force found in nature that consistently causes physical objects to move towards (falls) the center of the planet on which said objects were elevated a short distance further away from said planet’s center and released (dropped). Unless some other force stops or prevents the motion of a “falling” physical object the force of gravity will always influence physical objects (materials) in this same manner, no matter how many times the experiment is repeated. Yet the force (gravity) itself remains invisible and is only known to exist because it consistently impacts on the physical material world in the same way (falling motion) again and again. It is not the force that we see but the reaction physical materials exhibit when they encounter the force’s influence.

The same is true with *magnetic fields* (forces), *dark energy force*, *apoptotic force* (e.g., in morphogenesis), *autographic force*, *necrotic force* (e.g., in programmed cell-death), forces of *embryogenesis* (as in the *diploid* before *embryogenesis* begins) and all the other arbitrarily named forces found in nature. These too are also known to exist because of the consistent impact they exert on physical materials which can then be consistently observed. Although there are many known forces, powers, and laws within our physical universe, which are arbitrarily named by scientists and the like, there is only one overarching, all-pervasive, and preeminent force/power/law in our universe that remains virtually unexamined by scientists, and this force is *agape*. I find this odd given that various expressions of this force have found their way into the earliest of literature and continue to reappear over and over up to our modern times. This is a force that nearly every person can testify that they have felt (and/or experienced) before, at some point or other and to some degree or other. Although the social sciences and the humanities tend to brush up against it more frequently than other fields of study a thorough examination of it by secular science still remains undone and elusive.

Many millions from all walks of life and from all levels of intellectualism testify of their encounter with the Divine but most undoubtedly do not realize that the core and overwhelming force and essence of the Divine is *agape* (1 John 4:16). *Agape* is the central, overarching preeminent force in and outside of our physical material world and is the force to which all other forces are subordinate. Without *agape* there would be no gravity, magnetic fields, etc.

As with other forces found in nature *agape* also produces consistent, predictable and observable effects and affects in our physical world so that we are able to correctly identify it as such. In this chapter and throughout this book I will further explore and delineate many of the consistent and observable effects and affects the *agape* force causes in our physical world allowing for accurate identification and how people can “tap into” this force and do “greater works” than that of Yahushua.

Finally, there continues to be a longstanding debate between secular scientists and pure theists as to the nature of and the forces involved with “cause”—whether or not a “force” was at play that caused the universe to come into existence. Did the universe come into existence due to cause or did it just appear on its own, uncaused? In this book I will explore questions like: “Does creationism involve what is known as teleology?” and “How does teleology and cause relate to *agape*?” If causation is at work, then one must also consider if there is a purpose (the teleological element) for the causation. Only then can one truly understand causation, its true essence and its connection to the *agape* force found in nature, something that has thus far been beyond scientific inquiry.

I proffer that the causation and the teleology of the universe, relative to its coming into existence, are not only linked to *agape* but that *agape* is the axiomatic force of the entire universe and beyond, what Einstein would have called the *unified field theory* and what explains what cosmologists call *dark energy*, and other unexplainable forces. Furthermore, fully understanding this premise corrects the false ideation of a growing and widely accepted anthropocentric theology versus the Biblically based YHWH-centric “theology”, something that most clerics are not even aware of. Anthropocentric theology forms a more humanistic theology that precipitates an egocentric attitude and perspective that is enmity against YHWH as compared with a YHWH-centric YHWH-ology that engenders faith and humility, which pleases YHWH.

## THE SECULAR (SCIENTIFIC) VIEW ON CAUSE

In this section I could easily spend considerable time reviewing and denouncing the writings of Quentin Smith (et al), a secular (atheistic) Professor of Philosophy at Western Michigan University, relative to the “Big Bang Theory”, since he blatantly criticizes the principles found in scripture, as does the “Big Bang Theory” itself, a theory he adamantly tries to defend. But, given that I already spent considerable time exposing the flaws, fraud and contradictions found in his writings, theories and critique, in my book, *The Origins of Morality* (2013), I will limit my comments here and suggest that you the reader read that book, if you have such interests.

Suffice it to say that some atheists and perhaps some theists, who may lack faith in the Divine, may believe in the Big Bang theory. But Smith rightly assumed that pure theists would never hold such a contradictory atheistic belief. Furthermore, scriptures do NOT teach that YHWH made the universe from nothing, but rather from the “invisible things” of Himself - YHWH (Romans 1:20; Hebrews 11:3). And, according to what science believes that it has figured out, all the rudimentary building blocks of what is seen (visible) are comprised from that which is not seen (the invisible), a direct reiteration of the scriptures. And all the forces, powers and laws found in our physical universe are also invisible and thus not testable in and of themselves. Science is a little slow, but once they have climbed their last height of ignorance, they will come face to face with the YHWH-ologists who have been there all the time. The “caused (*dasha*) universe” truth is a Biblical truth that was written long before man had the ability to see some of the miniscule things (“invisible”) of YHWH under the microscope; or to view what they think are some of the broader reaches of the universe; or to understand more about the attributes of light—which is an invisible electromagnetic spectrum, including x-rays, gamma rays, radio waves, “white” light, etc., except that white light can be seen by the naked eye if refracted or reflected, such as what is seen in a rainbow or via a prism. And yes, YHWH is Light but Light is only a part of what YHWH *is*.

Smith (Smith, 2007) does correctly criticize theists (for all do not embrace the same view) that use what he calls a “scientific cosmology” argument, those who use the same “Big Bang” theory to argue that God (YHWH) exists. But, he is not correct about most of his assumptions. While some things are self-evident there are other things that are purposively hidden from the understanding. Yes, purposely done so by the Divine (Mark 4:12; 2 Corinthians 3:14; 4:3; John 12:4; Romans 11:7) or by celestial (evil) darkness (2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 John 2:11), which is allowed by YHWH, of course. But creation and divinity is not one of the “hidden” things. And, there are many things people understand that are true (even self-evident things), but choose not to believe them.

Smith (ibid) does rightly say that if YHWH created the universe, the ***probability would be 100%*** that it would come into existence because YHWH is all powerful. If YHWH wills the universe to come into existence, ***his will is guaranteed to be 100% effective***. In this, Smith is correct and is also correct to criticize any theist who looks to science (i.e., the Big Bang Theory) to prove causation (relative to the Divine), since a pure theist would not need science to prove anything; after all, belief in divine *dasha* is by faith (Hebrews 11:3) for the pure theist, therefore, there is not a probability issue for them, it is always a 100% certainty. For the YHWH-ologist, it does not matter what science is saying nor does it change anything if science ever figures out creation or not. Either way, YHWH caused the universe into existence and made it out of the invisible things of Himself. When science comes to this understanding and believes it only then will science have true knowledge concerning the existence of the universe.

Science has unwittingly come to discover that scripture is correct in that all existing visible/tangible things in the universe are built from/with invisible building blocks, e.g., atoms, protons, neutrons, electrons and even much smaller. This coincides with what scripture teaches in that YHWH made visible things from the eternal (1

Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 9:14) invisible things of Himself. These invisible things (molecules, atoms, electrons, protons, etc., etc.) and invisible forces of them (fields, magnetism, gravity, and much more) are and always have been part of YHWH's eternal existence and essence, and just as forces remain invisible, so does the Divine remain invisible, the source of all forces. The closest humanity will come to seeing YHWH is through visible expressions HE chooses to reveal. But, the more that scientists explore our universe, the more they realize how much they do not know or understand and may never know (Job 9:10; Romans 11:33) or understand.

Understanding, at least to some degree, the existence of the eternal invisible things of YHWH, including *agape* and all other forces, improves the understanding of how and why YHWH fills the universe (Psalms 139:8; Job 11:6-9; Hebrews 1:10; 2 Peter 3:5; Zachariah 12:1); it begins to explain how and why healings can occur without a surgeon's scalpel; how and why miracles can happen; how and why it was possible for Yahushua to walk on water (and briefly disciple Peter), pass through walls, be translated, turn water into wine; etc. It is because there is an eternal divine invisible dimension of forces all around—it is where YHWH begins and where human reality ends; it is the point where the metaphysical (spiritual dimension) begins and where the human ability to physically see with the naked eye ends. But keep in mind that what can be seen with the microscope (even electron) or the telescope only “skims the surface” of the Divine. And although YHWH is past finding out, HE is truly not “far from anyone of us” (Acts 17:27). And, Yahushua not only lived in *agape* but was endowed with *agape* (without measure) and in this manner was fully connected with the Divine and by it could manipulate all other subordinate forces. In like manner, *agape* filled believers can do even “greater things” (*meizon*), as in more in quantity, than Yahushua (John 14:12, 21).

But, this is not to be confused with Eastern thought, in that some worship plants, trees, stars, moons, etc. believing that these are deities in and of themselves. While it is true that all celestial bodies and all living terrestrial (biological) bodies are direct or indirect expressions of YHWH and are comprised from the eternal invisible things of YHWH, they are NOT deities in and of themselves. YHWH is so much more than any one small entity (speck) or object within the universe. Thus, to worship one small speck of YHWH or one object in the universe, as YHWH, is like worshipping one sole small hair on the head of a man/woman and NOT the actual man/woman. That one small hair does not come close to representing the man/woman or who or what he/she is entirely; it is but a small speck of the whole of who/what he/she is; the whole is by far so much more.

Furthermore, to make an idol/image made from gold, silver, wood, hay or stubble is not YHWH (Psalms 96:5; 135:15) nor does YHWH want to be so represented. He is not a YHWH of the “dead” but a YHWH of the “living” (Leviticus 26:1; Deuteronomy 29:17; Luke 20:38; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 9:20). There is only one true ultimate visible image of YHWH, and that is Yahushua (Hebrews 1:3), the second Adam, by which the first physical Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45) and all his posterity, was formed and modeled after.

The expressed (revealed) image of YHWH as it relates to humanity is Yahushua, the glory (Greek: *doxa*) of YHWH (John 1:14; Hebrews 1:3); just as the church is the glory of Yahushua (2 Corinthians 8:3; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18); just as the glory of the gospel mystery is “HaMashiyach in you” (Colossians 1:27; 2 Thessalonians 2:14; 1 Peter 4:14); just as the glory that shall be revealed is the bride of HaMashiyach (1 Peter 5:1, 10; Revelation 21:23; 22:5). All these glories are similar but different. And there are more. Also, humanity (man) is the glory (and image) of YHWH (1 Corinthians 11:7); just as the woman is the glory of the man, i.e., her husband (1 Corinthians 11:7); just as a woman’s hair is her glory as it relates to subordination to her husband (1 Corinthians 11:15); just as a star has glory (1 Corinthians 15:40-41); just as each glory of each star and celestial body is distinct from each other (1 Corinthians 15:40-41), etc.

Yahushua, the expressed image of YHWH, was the second Adam, chronologically speaking, relative to human reality (1 Corinthians 15:45), but was actually the first Adam relative to eternal things—*logos*—of YHWH. This also explains how man was created in the image of an invisible YHWH. It also explains how Yahushua is in YHWH and YHWH is in Yahushua and how the same is similarly true for believers. But, I will expand more on that later.

Getting back to the BBT, in addition to the above stated BBT problems, there are other serious problems as well, as shall be shown. Einstein (a non-practicing Jewish scientist), who was educated by Talmud (who was a poor Jewish medical student, paid for by the Jewish community), for six years had it partially correct when he initially believed that there was no “beginning” (Jammer, 1999), like a Big Bang, due to existing eternal nature of known laws (not theories). Since Einstein did not like the idea of a “beginning”, (i.e., a “non-beginner”), he introduced a “fudge factor”, which he later admitted was a “big blunder” but only stated after being seduced by developers of the Big Bang theory.

What Einstein did not know, however, or at least did not publicly declare, was that Holy Writ supports the truth of the eternal nature and eternal existence of invisible matter (“things”) and forces (“powers” - Isaiah 40:26; Jeremiah 10:12; 27:5; 32:17; 51:15; Romans 1:20), which are the building blocks (1 Samuel 2:8; Job 9:6; 26:11; Psalms 75:3) of the existing universe. However, what he and most others (i.e., theists, theologians, Christian scholars and scientists alike, including nearly all of the denominational ecclesiastical world) misunderstand about the Genesis “creation account” is that this creation record found therein revolves around the earth’s developmental and its creational process, not the universe’s creation at large. The universe and the cosmic (heavenly) bodies therein are only intermittently and indirectly mentioned as they relate to the earth’s development/creation. But this Genesis “beginning” does NOT implicate a beginning of all matter that supposedly emerged out of a supposed Big Bang’s epicenter. This Genesis “beginning” is only referring to what YHWH **made/formed** (that would/could be seen by the naked eye) **OUT OF** what already eternally existed—the eternal “invisible things” of the Divine (Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:15-16; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:3), i.e., the microscopic elements and invisible powers, forces, and essence of the eternal invisible YHWH. It was from these eternal existing “things”

(elements, powers, forces, essence) of Himself that YHWH created the visible things, i.e., the “heavens and the earth”, the things that are now seen. Since Einstein could not truly comprehend such a truth, outside of “faith”, he yielded to the more prevailing notion of a “beginning”, such as in a Big Bang rather than his earlier “static universe” view with no beginning, as in “outside forces at work” (YHWH) causing/creating that which is now seen.

Einstein did acknowledge the existence of YHWH and has been quoted for purporting the following views regarding the Divine. About this intelligence (divine), Albert Einstein wrote in his book *“The World As I See It”* that the harmony of natural law “Reveals an intelligence of such superiority that, compared with it, all the systematic thinking and acting of human beings is an utterly insignificant reflection.” He went on to write, “Everyone who is seriously involved in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that a spirit is manifest in the laws of the Universe—a spirit vastly superior to that of man, and one in the face of which we with our modest powers must feel humble” (Jammer, 1999).

Unfortunately, in 1929, Einstein fell for Edwin Hubble’s explanation of an expanding universe, later to become known as the “Big Bang” theory. Since he knew little more than what Hubble knew and was erroneously told that Hubble had supposedly “proved” his theory to be true, Einstein accepted it tossing aside the many laws that such a theory violated. He did not live long enough to learn of the evidence that controverts Hubble’s theory. Thus, Einstein’s supposed biggest blunder of his career was not his “static universe” idea but rather his acceptance of the “Big Bang” theory. Had he tweaked his “static universe” idea, he would have gotten it correct.

Therefore, Michael Rivero (Hazelhurst, 2010) has it correct that the Big Bang Theory is a fallacy and nothing more than a “scientific religious belief” (a bit of an oxymoron). Michael Rivero, Tom Van Flandern, William C. Mitchell, Eric J. Lerner, Halton Arp, Geoff Hazelhurst, and many others, all point out the multiplicity of problems with the Big Bang Theory (ibid). Yet, just like the “religious fanatics” scientists often ridicule, many of the BBT-believing scientists cling tightly, with a “whited-knuckle grip, “by faith”, not by science, to their shrined Big Bang Theory, hoping to find a “law” one day that would validate their fallacy theory.

## THE YHWH-OLOGICAL VIEW ON CAUSE

This author has had many discussions with college students and scholars about the universe and the opinions held by secular professors and scientists regarding it. The same conclusions are derived over and over. To believe the secular scientific view is to trust in fallibility—since the secular view is not founded on divine hope but rather on unsubstantiated, often changing, human inventions and theories. Conversely, **faith** (Hebrews 11:3), from the Biblical view, embraces divine cause (intervention) and requires no guessing or constant changing of theories, which would render earlier theories erroneous. Since humans are certainly fallible and finite and since God (YHWH) is infallible and infinite and since Biblical writings have certainly lasted far



longer throughout written history than secular science, faith easily, albeit unscientifically from the current prevailing secular point of view, rests on the Divine. It matters not whether all of the specifics of YHWH's creation is known or understood; what matters is having faith **in** the Divine, the one who caused the universe to exist and from which the universe came.

Of course I am not saying that all scientific musings are not interesting and may even, from time to time, brush the periphery of truth, but I certainly have serious problems with ideas and theories that not only contradict scripture but are often touted (or promulgated) as “fact” when in actuality they are nothing more than mere theories—often the musings of biased human minds gone awry—that are foolishly held in faith by those who invent them and those who foolishly choose to believe them (1 Corinthians 1:22, 25; 3:18). Scientists would better serve the community by considering scriptural teachings (not religion) as a helpful consilient and convergent guide to unlocking creation's secrets rather than constantly resisting and fighting against them (Briggs, 2012).

Although the Bible is not intended to be a scientific text book, it does provide some insights concerning the universe in which we live. So, rather than pursue lengthy debate on fruitless scientific arguments, it is appropriate to turn the discussion to scriptures relevant to this chapter and this book. What does the Bible have to say about creation, the universe, the earth and its inhabitants and the forces found in nature? Turning to the Book of Beginnings (Genesis), the first two chapters of Genesis give an outlined summary of the creation dispensations (full quote not given here).

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....let there be light...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them...this is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created...”

Genesis 1:1-2:25

“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, ... seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;”

Acts 17:24

“...Hath not my hand made all these things?”

Acts 7:48

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”

### Hebrews 11:3

What does all this mean? It is man, not YHWH, that must create (buildings, cars, roads, etc.) things from something that is already visibly (Isaiah 66:1-2) in existence such as visible amassed elements, compound elements, materials, etc., things that were already formed/made by YHWH. And, all these visibly existing things must comply with the laws (“bounds”, “powers”) within both the terrestrial and cosmological dimensions found in human reality, laws that were also already established by YHWH, laws that were already eternally in place in that they were/are a part of YHWH’s existence/essence. In other words, YHWH did not make the universe, the stars, planets, trees, etc. from other visible stars, planets, trees, rocks, compound elements, etc. but they appeared out from the eternal invisible essence and existence (eternal forces, powers and microscopic components of the atomic and subatomic matter) of Himself.

YHWH established all the laws that govern visible things—all that is seen and all that is not seen throughout creation (Hebrews 1:10; Acts 17:25-26; Colossians 1:16; Ephesians 3:10; 6:12; 1 Peter 3:22; Psalms 148:4-6; Isaiah 45:18)—and all of the forces found in nature are eternally part of His essence, nature, and existence and are subordinate to HIM, in particular the *agape* force (1 John 4:8), for YHWH is *agape*.

YHWH created by “speaking (“willing”) new, never before created visible things into existence from what was not seen (invisible)—the eternal “invisible things” (forces and powers) of Himself. Hebrews 11:3 does not imply that the building blocks (invisible things) of what did appear did not previously exist but that the building blocks were simply not visible to the naked eye and what appeared, what HE created, out of HIMSELF were newly created forms (new creations, originals) that had never been seen or created before. It was what He created out of the eternal invisible things of Himself that were new, not the building blocks or the forces of them because they were eternal even as YHWH’s existence is eternal. YHWH was truly the originator/author of what HE created.

YHWH’s spoken *logos* (*Debarim*) is much like the DNA instructional code found in *embryogenesis* (biological life), or like the C+ programming code that runs in the background of computer software programs. *Debarim* is the *transmutation* code of the universe and beyond—it cannot be altered or changed; and it will accomplish-produce its intended outcome (Briggs, 2013).

There are many things that are invisible to the naked eye, but they are not invisible or unknown to YHWH. In fact, some things that were formerly unseen can now be seen or at least exposed to exist through observation via modern technology. Here are some examples:

**Light** – YHWH is light (1 John 1:5). Light can only be seen by the naked eye by reflection (or refraction and reflection).

**Atoms** – many different types of elements/atoms have been discovered.

**Subatomic Matter** – substances that are smaller than atoms (photons, electrons, neutrons, etc.).

**Forces/Powers** – many different types.

When one attempts to view something smaller than a nanometer or a femtometer by itself (not in massive accumulative streams or combined quantities), it is truly invisible, as are other small measurements. It is from this invisible essence of YHWH that he made the “worlds”, the things that are now seen, from HIS eternal invisible essence/dimension. Furthermore, it is this invisible essence/dimension that is, at least in part, the essence of YHWH himself. For example, scriptures declare that YHWH is light (1 John 1:5), which, therefore, means that YHWH fills the universe; to be everywhere present and no where absent (omnipresent), with only one exception, the divided darkness (Genesis 1:4), a place where YHWH chooses not to dwell, a belief held by most theists, if not all.

This is because all light (electromagnetic waves) that exists throughout the universe must come from some element source, which occurs at the invisible subatomic level, i.e., the loss/movement of protons moving away from an atom of any element. One, therefore, could rightly argue that light potential is inherently within every element and exists everywhere YHWH exists, given that every element originated from the eternal invisible things of YHWH. Thus, light is in Him and a part of HIM and because He is everywhere throughout the universe and beyond (where He chooses to exist), then that light potential is also present everywhere YHWH (chooses to) exists.

### The First Divine Creative Act – The Creation of Light

The scriptures teach that while YHWH hovered (fluttered) above (upon) (Genesis 1:2), the waste waters (primordial waste)—before (face) HE worked on it; before YHWH gave a command to the waste water; before HE improved earth’s condition—the first “creative act” HE did was to say “let there be light” (the first revealing act of Himself—Genesis 1:3; Romans 1:20; 1 John 1:5; Colossians 1:16-17) which is symbolic of the mainstay of Spiritual Life just as the “fourth-day lights” are the mainstay of biological life (plant, animal, and human) (John 1:4, 9; 8:12; Psalms 27:1; 36:9; Proverbs 6:23). According to John (John 1:1-14), the *Logos* (word, i.e., from the Greek meaning “something said”; “something thought/planned”) created the heavens and the earth which included the first-day LIGHT (as well as the fourth-day Lights) all of which introduces the long creative/revealing continuum principle, what I call **The Divine Illumination Continuum** (TDIC) (Briggs, *TDIC*, 2010 & Briggs, 2010).

*LOGOS* was the “word”—“spoken/thought/plan”—of YHWH, and pertained to His futuristic fully expressed self. And since time is irrelevant with a timeless YHWH, that which **is not** (within human reality) actually **is** (Romans 4:17) in YHWH’s reality. With YHWH the “future” and the “past” simply **are/is**. This is similar to what Einstein was trying to explain with his *relativity theory*: the future and the past are relative—both

can be seen by a viewer depending on the “*timing*” and “*speed*” and angle (perspective) of the viewing and the viewed event.

As mentioned earlier, what is often misunderstood is the chronology of YHWH’s creation, a portion of which is provided in Genesis Chapter One and Two. In particular, what is often overlooked is that the heavens and all the planetary bodies and stars (suns) in the heavens were already created prior to the earth-related creation record, as found in Genesis 1:2 onward. This misunderstanding often precipitates contradictions, confusion and misunderstandings. The Genesis account is mainly focused on the chronology of YHWH’s involvement with the earth’s creation/development as it relates to humankind and the developing relationship between humanity and the Divine. It is not about the details of the universe’s creation at large.

Chapter One verse one of Genesis clearly declares that YHWH created both the “heavens” AND the “earth”. YHWH created the heavens first and all that is in it, which included planet earth, with no details provided. Secondly the “and the earth” phrase not only singles out the earth from all the other planets within our universe but that further development with more details would follow, but certainly not exhaustive details. The Genesis account in verse two of Chapter One immediately begins to focus on the earth and all the creative (development) acts of YHWH that related to it and that impacted it. Little is discussed about the heavens after verse one other than intermittent comments and only if it related to or impacted on the “days of the creation of the earth”. Any creative acts that happened in the heavens prior to Genesis 1:2 seem to be secondary or incidental to earth’s creation/development account since the Genesis creation account primarily focuses on the earth’s development, the creatures, humanity, and the beginnings of a relationship between the Divine and humanity.

The coming into existence (or the formation/creation thereof) of the earth as a planet (Genesis 1:1), or any other planetary bodies, stars, etc., for that matter, is not clearly discussed after Genesis 1:1. It is not included in the “seven-day creation” window that starts after Genesis 1:1. By the time the reader arrives at Genesis 1:2, the earth already existed but was in an unfinished state, shapeless (without form) and empty of life (void) condition. This obviously reveals that any creative acts/events, prior to YHWH’s Spirit hovering over the undeveloped earth, were less relevant to the purpose of the creation record. The “seven-day creation” record (account), which indirectly includes the Genesis Chapter 2 record, points more to Divine purpose than anything else—that the creation and the formation of all things were not only done by Yahushua but was primarily for Yahushua. Humanity and its role in all this was/is an “incidental to” the overall will of the “I am” (**is**)—YHWH.

As a foot note, the intention of the Genesis Chapter Two account seems to inform the reader on events that led to the “Eden-Beginning” and its role in the beginnings of an essential Divine-human covenant relationship. This covenant relationship led to future covenants, bloodlines and the like that eventually brought humanity to the mid-point, or the pivotal point of the illumination continuum (*Debarim*) event—the birth, death, burial,

resurrection, 40 days and ascension of Rab Yahushua (*Immanuel* - Isaiah. 7:14; Matthew. 1:23; Luke 2:21) HaMashiyach. You can read more on this in DOC Volumes 2, 3 and 4.

Not only did the undeveloped earth exist prior to the seven-day creation account it is quite plausible that between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2 there existed a very large indeterminate time-gap (2 Peter 3:8). Regardless, suffice it to say that a full chronological account of all of YHWH's creative acts is not recorded. Often, only sweeping generalizations and implications are provided. However, the creative acts relative to earth's development and its chronology, including relevant cosmic correlations, are slightly more detailed and specific. This is yet another facet of divine creation that contradicts the BBT, since such a theory (BBT) purports that the emission of light would instantaneously follow the "big bang" (the super nova theory) but scriptures purport that YHWH is LIGHT and that YHWH existed eternally and thus before any possible "Big Bang". Thus, such a BBT conclusion or belief precludes any former existence of YHWH, which is a false conclusion.

### **YHWH is LIGHT = LOGOS is LIGHT**

One can follow John's scriptural logic/teaching regarding the above truth statement by carefully reading his writings, along with other supporting scriptures.

1. Firstly, John said (John 1:1) that in the beginning (Genesis 1:1) was the *Logos*; which was with YHWH (John 1:1); which was YHWH (John 1:1); which became flesh (John 1:14);
2. Secondly, John said that through the *Logos* (him) all things were made (John 1:3; confirmed by Paul: Hebrews 1:2; Colossians 1:13-17); that the world was made through him (John 1:10); all visible things came from the invisible things of YHWH (Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16), i.e., everything sprang forth from said divine life/light/LOGOS (see more on this further below in the chapter);
3. Thirdly, John said that in the Logos (him) was life; which was the LIGHT of men; the coming HaMashiyach (Logos) was/is the true LIGHT that "was coming" into the world (John 1:9) that can give light to every man (John 1:9); YHWH is light (1 John 1:15); YHWH is LIGHT = LOGOS is LIGHT
4. Fourthly, those who believe in this light (Logos) is given the right to be children of YHWH-LIGHT (John 1:12; 12:36; confirmed by Paul: Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5).
5. Fifthly, John said that the glory of the Logos made flesh (John 1:14) gives visage (reflects) to, and is, the expressed image of YHWH's glory made visible to humanity (Colossians 1:15; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 15:40-41); remember, YHWH is light (1 John 1:15) and the LOGOS is light.
6. Sixthly, LIGHT is TRUTH (John 3:21); LOGOS in TRUTH (John 14:17; 15:26); YAHUSHUA is TRUTH (John 15:26); YHWH is TRUTH (1 John 5:6; John 4:24; Deuteronomy 32:4; 1 John 4:6); TRUTH leads believers (John 12:46; 16:13) out of DARKNESS (LIES/DECEPTION) (Acts 26:18; John 3:19; 8:12; 12:35).
7. Lastly, Understanding TRUTH is not dependent on great intellectual capacity (Ephesians 4:18; John 1:5; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Romans 1:22; Jeremiah 1:12; 51:15);

some of the supposed greatest thinkers among men knew little about TRUTH (1 Corinthians 1:20-21; 2:7; 3:19); understanding TRUTH depends on attitude/faith/divine intervention (Psalms 10:17; Hebrews 4:2; Isaiah 57:15; 2 Chronicles 7:14; James 4:10; John 16:13; Romans 6:17).

### The Second Divine Creative Act – Division Between Light from Darkness

The second creative act, relative to the first (Genesis 1:3), was the dividing, separating, and making a distinction between light and darkness (Genesis 1:4). This act is likely referring to YHWH making the earth spin on its axis, causing mornings and evenings, but this event also comes with spiritual meanings. Let me explain. Even though light is invisible to the naked eye, unless a small bandwidth of the whole is reflected (or refracted and reflected), YHWH still chose to establish a place where HE would not dwell; a place of obscurity; a place for the obscure and all who commit acts that are considered acts of darkness (disobedience, unrighteousness). This does not mean that YHWH's existence is not there in the non-omnipresent sense because HE fills the universe (and beyond) but in the withdrawal of HIS expression and involvement, in the ignoring sense. When the rich man was in hell, YHWH could "see", even "communicate" with the rich man but ignored his pleas. His former carnal status meant nothing, he had become obscure. So we see that YHWH established the following divisions, right from the very beginning of HIS creation:

1. "good from evil" (Genesis 2:9; 3:22; Job 30:26; Isaiah 5:20; 45:7; Matthew 6:23; John 3:19);
2. truth from lies (John 8:44); and
3. an eternal place of **light** where YHWH and the **children of light** (John 12:36; Luke 16:8; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians. 5:5) will dwell eternally (Revelation 21:2, 3, 10; 22:5) from (separated) an eternal place of outer (exterior) **darkness** (obscurity\*: absence of light; being unknown – Matthew 7:23; Matthew 8:12; 22:13; 25:30; 1 John 3:10; John 8:44; Ephesians 5:5-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Revelation 14:11; 20:10) where the children of darkness will dwell eternally.

\*Psychosis happens to those (Briggs, 1994) who believe that they can never again be reconciled to YHWH, a sense of never being able to be seen favorably by YHWH, ever again, being eternally obscure. The behavior (Matthew 8:12) of those cast into outer darkness (obscurity) closely resembles those with severe mental disorders found in the most obscure places of mental institutions. Imagine the suffering that will be felt by those who were "famous", or felt to be "seen", or "recognized" who are then placed in total obscurity (unknown by YHWH-Matthew 7:23), not to mention the other physical and mental pains felt from hell fire (Matthew 9:47).

Most of the bandwidth of light easily passes right through most elements. Those light waves that do not pass through an element interact with it like divergent ripples on the surface of a pond, e.g., humans can feel the effect of UV rays that interact (do not pass through) with their skin cells (and their molecular make up) via what is known as "tanning" or "sun burning". Fortunately, 97% of UV light rays are blocked by the ozone layer (O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, gases, etc.), since oxygen has one of the broadest color bandwidths of the

gas elements known to man. Science already acknowledges that without some kind of greater protection beyond the current ozone layer, beginnings of life could not have been supported in the early stages of life on earth (Briggs, 2012).

Most bandwidths of electromagnetic waves (which light is) can more easily pass through elements like iron than through some gases, like oxygen. But, if one can join oxygen (a gas) with hydrogen (a gas) to produce water (a liquid), together, they can block even more light, the reason why nuclear power plants store radioactive materials (materials that produce harmful, invisible light waves and other non-light particles) under water; the reason why YHWH initially placed a film of water in the atmosphere around the earth (Genesis 1:6-8) for added protection that also allowed humans to live for a very long time (Genesis 5:3, 10, 25-27); that is until the film of water was removed by YHWH during the flood (Genesis 2:5; 7:11; 27:28; Job 28:26; 38:28), which shortened man's life span (compare Genesis 9:29 versus Genesis 25:37, etc., etc), as foretold (promised) by YHWH (Genesis 6:3), just before the flood.

Therefore, the worlds, the creation, the invisible and the visible things that are seen are reflections/expressions of YHWH himself (Matthew 17:2; Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:13-17), allowing humanity to see some of the attributes of YHWH, right from the beginning via creation. Along this continuum of divine revealing (TDIC), YHWH sanctioned (anointed the minds) the patriarchs and prophets to utter (expose) snippets of light (truth, prophecies) to the world (Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 18:31; 24:27, 44; Acts 28:23; Titus 1:2) without revealing one of HIS most kept secrets (Colossians 1:26; Ephesians 3:5, 9; 1 Timothy 3:16) of how HE would destroy the works of Satan (1 John 3:8) and reconcile humanity to Himself (2 Corinthians 5:19), lest Satan thwart HIS secret plan (1 Corinthians 2:8), i.e., the advanced revealing of Himself, the expressed image (Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:15) of Himself (YHWH); and that through this revelation (the full gospel) all can be saved (2 Corinthians 4:4) who believe in it and obey it (1 Corinthians 15:1-2).

This advanced stage of divine revealing (seeing YHWH) was the coming of HIS only begotten son, Rab Yahushua HaMashiyach (Colossians 1:15; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Hebrews 1:2-3; etc.) and His obedience to divine will, to suffer and die and rise again, etc. This is why Yahushua's face shone as the sun (Matthew 17:2-4) on the mount. As with Moses, the closer one gets to the divine, the brighter one will shine. However, with the HaMashiyach, it was even more significant since the Divine was in him (John 14:11; 2 Corinthians 5:19, etc.) and as He momentarily transfigured, the brightness of the Divine (YHWH/LIGHT) began to shine forth even through His clothes.

YHWH did not stop with this revealing, the revealing of Yahushua, because the TDIC was to continue. Thus, the next advancement was/is the revealing of YHWH to the world through HIS believers (Philippians 2:15; Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 4:6; Galatians 1:16; John 17:21; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 21), albeit limited at this time (Ephesians 1:13-14; Colossians 1:12). Solomon wrote that "the path of the just" is a "shining light" (Proverbs 4:18) and will get brighter and brighter as the just advance to the "perfect day". YHWH will soon further advance HIS revealing continuum (TDIC) one final step, when

all darkness is removed (Acts 26:18; Revelation 20:10; 2 Corinthians 4:4) and all human mortality is removed (1 Corinthians 15:53-54) after they receive the fullness of divine endowment, so that the brightness of YHWH within saved believers (Daniel 12:3) will become visible to all (Matthew 13:43) and combined, as a corporate body, will be as bright (or brighter) as the sun (Matthew 13:43; Revelation 21:23).

When YHWH said “let there be light” according to the traditional view, there were no light emitting bodies (atoms/elements) from which photons could emit, unless, of course, one considers YHWH himself as that source, a source that has always existed. In other words, according to the scientific view, the “BBT” would have had to occur first before light could exist. However, according to the traditional ecclesiastical view, it is believed that YHWH said, “let there be light” before he created light emitting bodies (sun, stars, etc.). But, I believe that light emitting bodies already existed in the heavens (Genesis 1:1) prior to this “let there be light” creative command. This “let there be light” command had more to do with clearing up of the earth’s atmosphere enough to allow some light to pass through to the earth surface, enough to support the beginnings of biological life. But having semi-transparent light getting through to a planet’s surface that did not spin was not going far enough. Thus, the need to separate light from darkness by setting the planet in motion (spinning on its axis) was needed, which was the second creative act. This would enable biological life to survive and thrive on and around the planet until the fourth-day creative act which was making the light emitting bodies clearly visible. Thus on the fourth day YHWH made the ozone layers completely translucent leaving a crystal clear film of water around the planet up in the ionosphere that provided both clear visibility to the heavenly bodies but with protection against harmful electromagnetic waves, a much needed development that would support and extended life. Remember, the Genesis record is the view from the earth looking outward toward the heavens, not the other way around.

Keep in mind that at some point after the time that the earth was without form (not yet established) and was void (nothingness) YHWH let light get through the water film and later separated light from the darkness. It would be pointless to create plants, fish, animals and humans (etc.) if they did not have a life source, all of which is sustained by light; but the light that YHWH first created was not the sun. HE (light) already existed before creation, not to mention the doubtless countless suns (stars) HE created indirectly mentioned in Genesis 1:1.

Letting light penetrate to the earth is symbolic of YHWH revealing himself to the earth as the “life spring” source of the entire universe, for YHWH is light. Every possible element that was needed or required (albeit invisible) to create the universe, the earth, the sun, the moon and the stars, etc., **already existed** within the Divine and is revealed by the emission of light that resulted by a divine command, even before any lesser light sources/bodies (sun, stars, etc.) were visible while standing on the earth. And, from what is known about light (believed to be true according to science), light must come from a photon emission source. Therefore, the only emission source that existed prior to the creation of the stars (suns) was YHWH himself. And, according to Einstein’s theory,  $E=mc^2$ , light can be transformed into matter. In fact, scientists have been able to



test this theory in the laboratory, but with very limited and minute results, since man lacks the power and facilities necessary to accomplish greater results. In other words, light can constitute matter that one can see, feel, taste and touch, even for that which one cannot see, taste and touch (like gases, magnetism, etc.). So, either way, creation emerged out from light (which was created by YHWH) or from the light emitting source, YHWH himself, or a combination of the two.

All things that consist (were set together) and all that was made (Colossians 1:15-17) were made through and by Yahushua (*LOGOS*), even the invisible laws (bounds) and forces of the universe (Jeremiah 10:12; Job 26:7-14; Psalms 119:90-91; Genesis 1:11-12; Acts 17:26; 1 Corinthians 15:38; Isaiah 45:12; Jeremiah 51:15), all unseen powers of both the physically seen and the unseen and of the spiritual dimension, etc. These laws, forces, powers, etc. are not seen or understood by science, including the omnipresence of the invisible YHWH. Furthermore, all the things that were made were not only made by him (*logos*) but were made for him (*logos*) (Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 2:10; John 1:1, 14); and since the scriptures state that YHWH made the visible from the invisible (Romans 1:20; Hebrews 11:3) and since the scriptures also state that YHWH is invisible (Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17) and since the scriptures also state that the *logos* was YHWH (John 1:1), then the conclusion is that the *logos* was invisible and that from this invisible *logos* all visible things came into existence, out from it and were caused by it; and since the *logos* was YHWH and since YHWH is light, then the *logos* is light.

Scientists do not really understand light (*logos*) or how or why the results of a “light slit” test occur as they do, but they have no choice but to accept it “by faith”, because it happens consistently right in front of their eyes, yet unexplainable (Job 9:2-11; Romans 11:33). Science is beginning to realize that there is likely far more about light (*logos*) that they do not know or understand than what they do know or understand, as proven by the light “slit” experiments. This, therefore, has now changed how science explains the “orbital clouds” of electrons as compared to the earlier theory (thought to be fact) of specific “orbital shells” of electrons. The more that scientists investigate into the invisible the more that is discovered, thus the need for repeated changes that must be made to older theories, theories that were formerly thought of as truth-facts. As already stated above, whether science ever comes close to actually figuring out how creation happened is immaterial, since the believer already knows, by faith, that YHWH caused it, created it and that YHWH did so for a specific purpose.

Suffice it to say that the first light (*logos*) that YHWH created was relevant to the sustaining of eternal spiritual life (John 1:4, 9, 13; Revelation 22:13; Matthew 6:33) and even though biological life benefited from this light/life (Matthew 5:45) a physical light (the sun) was provided in advance to support physical life in the same manner in which a spiritual light was provided in advance to sustain spiritual life. This pattern reflects both forethought and teleology, the companions of cause.

Yahushua is called the “first born” son (Hebrews 1:6), even though he was not the first physically created son of YHWH (Luke 3:38); Adam was physically formed by YHWH within human reality prior to Yahushua’s physical birth, born of a virgin

(Matthew 1:23-25; Luke 1:27-32). Adam physically appeared first and was considered earthy (terrestrial in nature) whereas Yahushua physically appeared second and is considered spiritual (1 Corinthians 15:46-47). Nonetheless, Yahushua (*logos*) was the “first born” in *logos* form given that Yahushua in *logos* existed prior to Adam’s formation; *logos* did not exist in human form until the virgin birth; but prior to the virgin birth, *logos* existed as a thought (plan) within the essence/deity of YHWH (John 1:1). HE planned that one day in humanity’s future HE would enrobe Himself in human flesh (Romans 8:3; John 6:51) via a virgin birth. This *logos* that was first revealed (expressed) as invisible light would one day be revealed more fully (visibly) to humanity (John 1:14) as the expressed image of YHWH (Colossians 1:15; 2 Corinthians 4:4) when HE came in fleshly (human) form (John 1:14; 14:11).

### Divine Creation Beyond Light

How YHWH created the “worlds” is distinctly different from how YHWH created the things on the earth, that is, once the “worlds” were framed (created). YHWH spoke (willed) the worlds into existence (Hebrews 11:3), but the scriptures suggest that YHWH created (activated) life creations on the earth by commanding the “earth to bring forth” (Hebrew for sprout); the earth obeyed YHWH’s command as evidenced by an earth filled with life.

“And God said, Let the earth **bring forth** grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.”

Genesis 1:11

The above words “**bring forth**” is translated from a Hebrew word that means to **sprout**. However, in Genesis 1:20, a different Hebrew word is used for “**bring forth**”,

“And God said, Let the waters **bring forth abundantly** the moving creature that hath life, and fowl *that* may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.”

Genesis 1:20

Here in Genesis 1:20 the Hebrew word used (translated as three words in the English) means to **wriggle, to swarm, to abound**. Yet, in Genesis 1:24, the meaning for “bring forth” has third (and different) meaning.

“And God said, Let the earth **bring forth** the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. “

## Genesis 1:24

Here in Genesis 1:24 the Hebrew word used means to **causatively bring**. What can be concluded from these scriptures? At the very least, YHWH is the one who spoke to the earth (commanded the earth and told it) to “bring forth”, “wriggle”, “swarm”, “abound” and to “causatively bring”. It can, therefore, be concluded that all life that came into existence on the earth, excluding man, sprang to life by divine command (cause; divine will) out of (up from) existing materials from which the earth and water was comprised. Somehow, with YHWH’s command (and its inherent power and essence that fills the universe, which was/is invisible), the earth acquired the ability to **spring forth** life via divine creative causative forces; all living things that are seen, with the exception of man, **sprang forth** from the earth and the water. What is not declared in scripture is the specific scientific details of how this springing forth of all life (except for man) occurred. But we can observe that this was a one-time event. The earth and water is no longer producing these events along with accompanying advancements from the simple to the complex. Why? It is not relevant. What is relevant, however, is that it happened and that believers know who caused it to happen and for what purpose.

The above paragraph does not, however, support the notion of evolution for a multiplicity of reasons. Briefly stated, evolution breaks the law, at least seven known scientific laws, not theories, not religious beliefs, but scientific laws. Were evolution true, these events would be ongoing and the fossil record would be enormous. But neither exists. Only one overarching force could override eternally fixed and subordinate established laws-forces that are in place. Below is a list of the most commonly known laws that must be broken if the theory of evolution could be postulated.

- The First Law of Thermodynamics
- The Second Law of Thermodynamics
- The Third Law of Thermodynamics
- The Law of Probability
- The Law of Biogenesis (The Law of Kinds)
- The Law of Observation
- The Law of Cause & Effect
- The Law of Irreducible Complexity (a new law, still under debate by some, but if evolution was a “law” of nature, there would be explosive evidence everywhere and in particular all the stages between the apes or monkeys and man as well as the fossil records to substantiate it).

Regarding the creation of man, YHWH, himself, got involved; HE personally “formed” man from the dust of the ground, from pre-existing materials that came into existence when HE spoke the worlds into existence.

“And the LORD God **formed** man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

Genesis 2:7

Here in Genesis 2:7 the Hebrew word used means **molded into form**. Yet, even man, while created personally by YHWH, was still created from pre-existing materials, i.e., the dust of the ground (Genesis 3:19; Ecclesiastes 12:7); from which planet earth is partially comprised of.

In conclusion, how the earth brought forth is immaterial when considering that it was YHWH's spoken command (and inherent power) that activated (caused) the process to begin. From the scriptures, one can easily see that creation **causatively** came into existence, not uncaused left to probabilities. But there is more, much more, that the Bible says regarding the question on cause and on the purpose/will of YHWH.

#### YHWH-ology Creation Summary Relative to Cause

The YHWH-ology position on creation is summarized as follows:

1. The invisible YHWH existed eternally before creation.
2. The invisible YHWH first revealed himself (first creative act; caused to exist) as LIGHT.
3. YHWH is LIGHT = LOGOS is LIGHT.
4. All visible and invisible things (and all the laws pertaining to it) were caused and emerged (were created) from LIGHT (YHWH/LOGOS/LIGHT) and/or its source, which is still YHWH/LOGOS/LIGHT.
5. YHWH/LOGOS/LIGHT commanded (caused) the earth and the waters to bring forth all terrestrial living things, except for man, but scriptures do NOT provide details of this springing forth other than its chronology.
6. YHWH/LOGOS/LIGHT personally got involved in the forming of man from the dust of the ground, and later woman out from Adam.
7. YHWH/LOGOS/LIGHT caused the universe to exist and all within it.

#### Purpose of Creation

Since God (YHWH) did create the heavens and the earth, it seems logical to ask the question, why and for what purpose? This question is not forbidden and in fact the scripture even provides the answer. The short version answer is simply this, YHWH created the heavens and the earth by and for Yahushua (Jesus) HaMashiyach (Messiah) and for a culminating purpose not yet fully revealed. The longer version answer (but certainly not exhaustive) together with all its caveats will stretch over twelve Disciples of

Christ volumes. But for starters, let me substantiate the above summary statement by reiterating what Apostle Paul wrote,

“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”

Colossians 1:16-17

Apostle John wrote,

“And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:”

Revelation 10: 6

Without a lengthy discourse here, the scriptures teach that ALL things that were created both in the heavens and the earth, both visible and invisible, etc., were created BY Yahushua HaMashiyach and FOR Yahushua HaMashiyach. Although this statement may seem impossible, there are multiple scriptures that provide logical explanations (see also Disciples of Christ Vol. 4 & 5). But the main point here is that this begins to answer the “Why” and “for what purpose” questions and how *agape* is the supreme overarching force linked to creation and all the other forces found in nature.

Apparently YHWH had preplanned everything, like a master builder who plans out his building before beginning construction. YHWH preplanned a universal saga long before HE began creating this marvelous universe in which we humans now live and long before the story began to unfolded in our physical reality.

Apostle Peter wrote,

“He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

1 Peter 1:20 {NIV}

Apostle John wrote,

“...you loved me before the creation of the world.”

John 17:24 {NIV}

Apostle John also wrote,

“...the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.”

Revelation 13:8 {NIV}

This divine master plan (identified above) was kept a mystery, (kept secret) even from the angels and humanity, yes, and even from Satan, lest this divine plan be undermined and foiled. The scriptures also confirm that HaMashiyach's coming, death, burial and resurrection (among other things) and the salvation (redemption) made available (because of it) was completely a preplanned (foreseen) secret (mystery). As an introduction, Apostle Paul wrote this,

“Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.”

Romans 16:25-26

Apostle Paul also wrote this on the same subject,

“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even the hidden wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

1 Corinthians 2:7-10

More on the subject by Apostle Paul,

“Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even in him*.”

Ephesians 1:8-10

More on the subject by Apostle Paul,

“How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Ephesians 3:3-11

Even more on the subject by Apostle Paul,

“Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Colossians 1:24-27

“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed.”

Galatians 3:8

Jesus said this,

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all *these* things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not

understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and *their* sins should be forgiven them.

Mark 4:11-12

The point should be grasped by now. The Bible clearly declares the “WHY”, the “HOW” and the “WHEN”, it even declares by “WHOM”. And a good mystery is always a solved mystery. In fact, it is the glory of YHWH to conceal (Proverbs 25:2) a matter (cause) with the intent that the matter (cause) will be searched out and one day be discovered/revealed (Romans 16:25; Colossians 1:26-27; Ephesians 1:9; 3:9; 6:19; etc.).

So, YHWH in His infinite wisdom decided it best to keep the purpose of creation and the coming/purpose of HaMashiyach a secret from before the creation of the world until after HaMashiyach’s death, burial and resurrection occurred in physical reality. This master secret plan/thought/idea is the essence of the biblical term “Word” (Greek: *Logos*—transliteration—John 1:1-14. It is important to pay close attention to verse one and verse fourteen). Now that the mystery is solved and is now made public knowledge, what does this have to do with *AGAPE*—the crux of this book?

In summary (more in Chapter 2),

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.<sup>17</sup> For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

John 3:16-17

In view of the purpose of creation and the coming of HaMashiyach, the final question concerns the grand culmination; if there was a purpose, what is the “end game” of this purpose. That question will be addressed in more detail later, but suffice it to say for the moment that all of creation itself waits with eager anticipation for the final conclusion, execution and culmination of YHWH’s plan, to view and experience HIS end game. Remember, although humanity is an incidental to YHWH’s plan they are also an integral part of it—this grand continuum and culmination of it—and being incidental is not anthropocentric rather Yahushua-centric (YHWH-centric).

Apostle Paul wrote,

“The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed...that the creation will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only



so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

Romans 8:19-23 {NIV}

### Conclusion

1. YHWH-ology view states that the universe was caused, with no scientific proof needed.
2. YHWH-ology view states YHWH caused (willed/spoke/thought) the universe into existence.
3. YHWH-ology view states that LIGHT was created first, before any “Big Bang”, as proposed by science.
4. YHWH-ology view states that the universe was created out of the invisible things of YHWH.
5. YHWH-ology view states that the LIGHT, which YHWH first created, was created by the *LOGOS* and **is** the *LOGOS*.
6. YHWH-ology view states that the universe (visible and invisible) was created out from LIGHT/*LOGOS* (the invisible) and/or its source, which is still YHWH.
7. YHWH-ology view states that YHWH caused the universe into existence for a specific divine purpose, by and for the *LOGOS*.
8. YHWH-ology view states that YHWH is LIGHT/*LOGOS*.
9. YHWH-ology view states that YHWH caused the earth and the waters to “bring forth” all living with the exception of man and woman, with only a scriptural chronology provided.

The foregoing premises are delineated in scripture and need not, nor demands, any scientific proofs. They are accepted and believed by faith (Hebrews 11:3).

### SUMMARY

By understanding the implicated truths found in scripture, relative to the divine power of *AGAPE*, *LOGOS*, LIGHT, etc., many supernatural occurrences recorded in scripture are more readily understood. I will explore and expand more on the *agape* force in the next chapter. The following list below provides a fraction of some such examples.

1. The resurrected (changed from mortal to immortal) Yahushua passed right through walls, or was translated (disappear and reappear elsewhere).
2. YHWH knows the intents of our hearts (minds).
3. The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord.
4. Yahushua healed people without being physically near them.
5. Yahushua resurrected the dead.
6. Yahushua could see the coin in the fish’s mouth ahead of time.

7. Yahushua turned water into wine.

# Chapter

## - 2 -

### The Axiomatic Force

#### Part II

#### INTRODUCTION

The scriptures tell the reader why the universe and its inhabitants were created, who created it and what force holds it all together.

“...For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities, all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

Colossians 1:16-17

All things were created **by** Yahushua ... **for** Yahushua ... and is **held together by** Yahushua. It is what I call the “*by Him for Him*” (*dia autos eis autos*) principle. Before anything was created by YHWH, whether it is the universe or anything else we know nothing about, visible or invisible, YHWH had *agape* for/toward HIS planned expression of HIMSELF - Yahushua (John 17:24 - (*debarim-logos*) from which the physical Yahushua emerged within our human reality. Creation, the universe and everything therein, is held together “in him” (Yahushua). The universe is “in him” because even though Yahushua was physically seen in our universe for a fleeting moment of “time” Yahushua extends well beyond the bounds of time and our universe, after all, *logos* was not only **with** YHWH but **was** YHWH (John 1:1) and emerged in fleshly form (John 1:14). The universe is within the “bowels” of Yahushua and HE alone with HIS powers/forces holds the universe together. Even cosmologists and mathematicians know that gravity by itself is not enough (Briggs, 2013). Yahushua sprang forth out of the bowels of *agape* (1 John 4:16) and through Him (Yahushua) all things were made (John 1:3) *dia autos eis autos*. *Agape*, the axiomatic force of the Divine was and is thus the axiomatic force/power that initiated Yahushua and our universe and still holds it together.

Given that *agape* is invisible scientists, including Einstein, have not been able to figure out what holds the universe together aside from the deficient force they call gravity. Mathematically this is known to be true (ibid) so as a correction, cosmologists and the like call this unknown force “dark matter”, the “God Particle”, etc. Einstein spent the latter years of his life trying to figure out what he called the *unified field theory* (ibid). The answer he was looking for is found in Holy Writ.

This is the overview, the surface summary explanation but there are many deeper layers, dimensions and specific details. However, this chapter will explore only a few of those deeper layers, dimensions and details. The reader is encouraged to explore others independently.

## THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING

To begin, if scripture states that all things were created by and for Yahushua, then one must ask, “What did Yahushua have to say about His own creative and binding powers that He possessed and exhibited in controlled measures?”

“If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. <sup>38</sup> But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.”

John 10:37-38

“Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.”

John 14:10-11

Apostle Paul wrote this comment,

“To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”

2 Corinthians 5:19

Therefore, the creative and binding forces of the universe that preceded the universe’s beginning was ultimately planned to reside in Yahushua bodily; the actual godhead (divinity)—YHWH/LIGHT—was in HaMashiyach (Colossians 2:9). Careful analysis of scripture will more broadly explain these seemingly contradictory statements.

## THE ESSENCE AND AXIOM OF YHWH

In Chapter One, it was discovered that,

YHWH is *LOGOS* = *LOGOS* IS YHWH  
*LOGOS* is YAHUSHUA = YAHUSHUA is *LOGOS*

YAHUSHUA is YHWH = YHWH is YAHUSHUA  
YHWH is LIGHT/LIFE = YHWH is TRUTH  
*LOGOS* is LIGHT/LIFE = *LOGOS* is TRUTH  
YAHUSHUA is LIGHT/LIFE = YAHUSHUA is TRUTH

Additionally

YAHUSHUA is YHWH = YHWH is YAHUSHUA  
YHWH is *AGAPE* = YAHUSHUA is *AGAPE*

Additionally

LIGHT is TRUTH = TRUTH is LIGHT  
TRUTH is LIFE = LIFE is TRUTH

Additionally

NON-TRUTH/DECEPTION is DEATH/DARKNESS  
Satan is the father of lies/deception.

In review, not only was physical LIGHT created by YHWH, YHWH is LIGHT. Allowing LIGHT to reach the earth's surface was not only YHWH's first Creative expression of Himself relative to creation but was a metaphor of how HE would one day reveal Himself spiritually to all of humanity (John 14:4-9); first as Yahushua coming in the flesh for the destruction of Satan's work and for the "reconciliation of man"—which is only a piece of the divine schema—but more importantly it represents the initiation and eventual complete/fulfillment of the expressed image (and glory) of YHWH to the entire universe, a schema that started prior to the Genesis "beginning" and will culminate in the not too distant future, in the "end", rather the beginning of the eternal end. The essence/substance of YHWH before creation was invisible; the *LOGOS* was invisible; but, as planned, the *LOGOS* became visible in human reality somewhere near 1 B.C. of our human calendar and will soon become even more grandly displayed in the beginning of the "end". But there is much more to explore relative to the eternal essence and existence of YHWH and our potential eternal involvement with Yahushua and how all this relates to *agape*, the central overarching axiomatic force of the universe.

YHWH's divine plan and creative actions sprang forth and emerged from the bowels of YHWH's true essence—which is *AGAPE*.

“...YHWH is love. Whoever lives in love lives in YHWH, and YHWH in him.”

1 John 4:16 {NIV}

“...because YHWH is love.”

1 John 4:8 {NIV}

“For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;”

John 5:26

Since YHWH, even Yahushua, is the life source of all creation and since YHWH is *AGAPE*, *AGAPE* is also at the creative core of all things...the axiomatic force of all creation. Unlike LIGHT, relative to its essence/existence/properties, *AGAPE* is a multi-faceted force with a simple yet profoundly complex composition; *AGAPE* is comprised of essence (LIGHT), thought/cognition (*LOGOS*) and affect (*AGAPE* feelings) with each having multiple components. Therefore, the following statements are synonymous in essence (existence), concept (thought) and in affect (feeling):

YHWH is LIGHT/LIFE = YHWH is TRUTH = YHWH is *AGAPE*  
LOGOS is LIGHT/LIFE = LOGOS is TRUTH = LOGOS is *AGAPE*  
YAHUSHUA is LIGHT/LIFE = YAHUSHUA is TRUTH = YAHUSHUA is *AGAPE*

The scriptures also teach that in addition to using cognition those that seek YHWH should also “feel” after (Acts 17:27) YHWH, to utilize the senses, which are inextricably linked to cognitive processes. In fact, the scriptures teach that HaMashiyach (YHWH/LIGHT/TRUTH/LOGOS) possesses and utilizes the ability of feelings (affect) as part of His High Priest role, according to Hebrews 4:15. For example, HaMashiyach wept (John 11:35), groaned (John 11:33), was zealous/righteous angry (John 2:15), was compassionate (Matthew 14:14), loved (Mark 10:21), was hungry (Matthew 4:2), felt thirsty (John 19:28), was tempted (Hebrews 4:15), suffered (Hebrews 13:12), etc. The affect, the senses, the feelings, and the emotions are a significant part of the human cognitive experience and the Divine obviously thought/willed it as significantly important such that HE too became connected to human reality through the avenue of the affect through Yahushua in addition to His thought processes; affect, therefore is a significant component of the multiple elements that constitute *AGAPE*.

One can further deductively conclude from the scriptures that LOVE (*agape*) and all of its components is the motivating (causal) factor for creation, the power source that facilitated creation and the binding force that holds creation together—the sole subsisting overarching axiomatic force. It is LOVE that started the universe, it is LOVE that keeps the universe together (Col. 1:17) and it is LOVE that will bring to pass the final culmination of all things. For YHWH so LOVED the world that HE gave us Yahushua, but Yahushua could not and would not come if YHWH had not created the world, the “incidental to” piece. Thus, *agape* is the underlying force that initiated creation and is the

force that will bring about its culmination, transforming it into its fully intended transmuted form.

## THE EARTH AND HUMANITY

A more finite sectional look at the universe, although seemingly infinitesimal as compared with the universe at large, provides a very relevant contribution to this discussion, one that requires a “zoom in” on the earth and its inhabitants—and more specifically, humanity. Broadly speaking, humans were created by (because of) LOVE and for LOVE. This is true since humanity, after all, was a part of the creation of the universe, and it has already been concluded that the universe was created by (because of) LOVE and for LOVE. Therefore, one can broadly draw the conclusion that humanity was also created by (because of) LOVE and for LOVE even if “incidental to”. Of course the scriptures also validate this premise,

“For God so loved the world....”

John 3:16

Nonetheless, the scriptures teach that humanity “sinned” against YHWH and that YHWH promised that if sin occurred, then said sin demanded death as punishment for said sin. Thus, after the “fall”, humanity needed reconciliation, redemption, even salvation from eminent death and damnation. To meet the requirement of death, yet escape the penalty of death, a substitute death was required, a covering for sin, a method or plan by which sinners could be reconciled back to YHWH. And, since YHWH foreknew that humanity would sin and would require divine intervention, YHWH had also preplanned that Yahushua would come as the “lamb slain”, the sacrifice, the substitute, the payer of humanity’s debt, the mediator, the planned path of reconciliation back to YHWH, the one who would lead justice to victory (Isaiah 42:4; Romans 3:25; Matthew 12:20). This further illustrates YHWH’s great *agape* and patience by stalling and storing up justice (judgment) relative to all the sins (wrong doings) of the world until HE laid the stored up judgment of the world upon Yahushua (1 John 4:10; 2:2).

Salvation, therefore, for humankind exists because of LOVE and for LOVE. HaMashiyach knew that the only way to cover sins was with LOVE. Therefore, HaMashiyach exhibited LOVE by becoming a substitute, shedding His blood for the remission of sins, gave His life as a ransom for many and took on their punishment (judgment and much more)—because only LOVE can eradicate records of wrongs—to actually cover the wrongs, so that they cannot be seen or held against the wrong doer.

“And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.”

1 Peter 4:8

“It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.”

1 Corinthians 13:5 {NIV}

There are ignorant critics (Huxley, 1937, et al) that criticize believers and followers of YHWH that say that believers only follow and obey YHWH out of fear; a fear of a horrible and angry YHWH that will judge and punish those who do not obey and follow him. But this is where the ignorance of the critics lay. Although it is true that YHWH can and will one day judge ungodly men and women who loved not the truth/light nor walked in its illumination, that is not the initial or sole motivating factor or the force involved. Those who have a relationship with YHWH, know HIM, understand HIM and love HIM and do not fear (1 John 3:21-22) HIM, but they have a boldness (1 John 4:17) when facing (thinking about) the judgment day. True followers know that YHWH loved them first (1 John 4:19), that He drew them to Him to walk with HIM (abides in HIM), a relationship that began as a response to His LOVE that YHWH had and showed toward them first. And as the love relationship grows, more so on the human side than YHWH's side, since on YHWH's side it is already perfect, fear becomes non-existent (1 John 4:18). This is where and how Huxley (ibid) and others get it wrong.

(More on this in Disciples of Christ Volume Three)

## CONTRADICTION OR HARMONY

Some see a contradiction, or minimally a dichotomy, within YHWH's plan since the death of a human by crucifixion was involved. Crucifixion sounds so cruel, especially if YHWH planned for a death to occur and did not stop it from happening. However, a careful examination of the word LOVE and the actions and intent of Yahushua reveals that HaMashiyach, who was privy to the secret divine plan of YHWH, and by choice, lay down his own life for his “sheep”. YHWH did not force a killing. Yahushua chose submission to YHWH's divine plan. John wrote,

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son....”

John 3:16

But, John also wrote,

“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep... and I lay down my life for the sheep.”

John 10:11,15



“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:13

And, Matthew wrote,

“that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?”

Matt. 26:53-54

LOVE is, therefore, found to be the universal force central to human temporal and eternal existence and preservation. Without it, the celestial and terrestrial elements of the universe would not exist nor would any of the human attempts at self-preservation within this universe prevail.

Humankind returns to this axiomatic energy source again and again especially when life’s homeostasis has gone awry; when society, security, peace and safety, freedom, health and welfare are at risk. Life’s events bring people back to this axiom even if they have drifted far away.

#### DWELLING IN THE ESSENCE OF YHWH

Pause here and carefully consider that the scriptures (1 John 4:16) teach that to dwell in LOVE is to live in YHWH—existing in the very essence of YHWH—and by so dwelling the very essence of YHWH will indwell and emanate from the dweller. This is the highest level of perfection. When one dwells in the essence of YHWH/LOVE the attributes of that essence inevitably spring forth from the being of the dweller—like luscious fruit.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. <sup>2</sup> ...every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. <sup>3</sup> ... Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.”

John 15:1-5

“For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.”

Acts 17:28

This profound change is more than a mere cognitive adoption of a Neo-Judeo moral code, it is a new behavioral lifestyle change resulting from a divine metamorphosis of a depraved human nature into a divine nature. The essence of YHWH superimposes the human nature (what Plato called the “appetites”; what Freud called the “id”) and alters the preconditioned synaptic patterns of the mind—this process is similar to what is known to psychoanalysts as “*transference*”—this, one of the intended purposes of prayer. Apostle Paul said,

“And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.”

Colossians 3:14

Apostle Paul also said,

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13 {NIV}

## THE JUXTAPOSITION OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

Apostle Paul explained the juxtaposition of Faith, Hope and Love as follows,

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:1

“For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.”

Galatians 5:6

“Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;”

1 Thessalonians 1:3

“And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.”

1 Timothy 1:14

What can be learned from the above scriptures is that Faith has its roots in hope; hope has its roots in relationship; and relationship has its roots in LOVE. Therefore, faith emerges from the bowels of LOVE. In other words, LOVE builds Relationships; Relationships build Hope; Hope builds Faith (trust); Faith pleases YHWH. The greatest is LOVE for it is the foundation on which hope and faith is built and LOVE never fails. Without faith, one cannot please YHWH, which basically means without LOVE (the invisible foundational element that produces faith) one cannot please YHWH (Romans 13:10), for faith is an outgrowth (byproduct) of LOVE. Faith requires belief in the “***IS*** of YHWH”, that HE exists and that a relationship with YHWH is possible, and in so doing it unequivocally yields great dividends (Hebrews 11:6).

“But without faith it is impossible to please *him*..:”

Hebrews 11:6

When faith is weakening it indicates that an individual is abandoning their hope. When one abandons hope, it indicates a failing relationship; a failing relationship indicates the absence of LOVE. Why? Because, ultimately,

“Love never fails...”

1 Corinthians 13:8 {NIV}

So, what exactly is Apostle Paul’s logic here? Faith is the fruit of LOVE. Faith (like fruit) is a process and something not always present, abundant, immediate or in season. However, whether one has fruit (faith) presently or not, LOVE never fails and will, therefore, eventually bring forth fruit in due season. Otherwise, it is evident that one does not live in, (not attached to the vine) nor possess, LOVE. Advanced (mature) stages of LOVE have often driven people to give their life for another, for how great is that force. That is why LOVE is the greatest.

## LOVE DEFINED

So, then, if LOVE was the driving force behind creation; and the cohesive force that keeps the universe from destruction; and the catalyst that will facilitate the culmination of all things, what, then, is LOVE? Understanding this complex force will undoubtedly bring greater understanding to this conversation.

Firstly, it is appropriate to briefly explore what love is not. LOVE is not a feeling, or an emotion, all by itself. Granted, humans may feel emotions intermittently as a result of possessing LOVE, but an emotion in and of itself is not LOVE. This is a common mistake and a point of confusion for many in the world today—causing many to be driven by or to be governed by emotions rather than other equally if not more important elements of cognition. Keep in mind that humans have many varied emotions and they come and go—emotions are unstable and thus not dependable. Conversely, LOVE is metaphysically predictable, unwavering, triumphant and infallible.

Several variations and depths of the word LOVE can be found within the Greek language. When the verse, John 3:16, was translated, the translators used the words “so loved” from a Greek expression that could also be interpreted as “cherish”. In Corinthians, Apostle Paul used a word more closely related to the English word “charity” but the KJV translators used the word LOVE. The word charity is derived from the complex meaning of a cognitive moral and altruistic choice of benevolent obligation(s) towards another. Apostle Paul described LOVE (charity) this way, both the “is” and the “is not” perspectives:

Love is patient – (Conversely: Love is not impatient)  
Love is kind – (Conversely: Love is not cruel)  
Love does not envy - (Conversely: Love is happy for others)  
Love does not boast - (Conversely: Love is meek)  
Love is not proud - (Conversely: Love is humble)  
Love is not rude - (Conversely: Love is polite)  
Love is not self-seeking - (Conversely: Love promotes others)  
Love is not easily angered - (Conversely: Love has self-control)  
Love does not keep records of wrongs - (Conversely: Love is forgiving)  
Love does not delight in evil one - (Conversely: Love delights in the Lord)  
Love rejoices in the truth – (Conversely: Love is not angered by truth)  
Love always protects – (Conversely: Love never stops protecting)  
Love always trusts – (Conversely: Love is never suspicious)  
Love always hopes – (Conversely: Love never stops hoping)  
Love always perseveres – (Conversely: Love never quits)  
Love never fails – (Conversely: Love overcomes)

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 {NIV}

Obviously, if humanity embraced, adopted and possessed the above attributes of charity, the world would be a far better place to live in, for one and all. The greatest difficulty here is that these attributes can only be acquired by divine endowment and are best maintained by habitually dwelling in the presence of YHWH—allowing a metaphysical transformation to occur through divine “*transference*”. And it was this “dwelling” habit of believers that precipitated the birth of an intended derogatory term called the “Mashiyachim”, first used at Antioch—people who were behaving like HaMashiyach. Of course, this was perceived as a compliment by the early believers and now many people everywhere call themselves the Mashiyachim to this day (now erroneously termed “Christians”), even those who are really not HaMashiyach-like believers.

## THE BY-PRODUCTS OF LOVE

YHWH’s divine plan included filling the world with his LOVE by sending forth LOVE possessing ambassadors and influencers to proselytize as many people as possible who would in turn exhibit these divinely moral and loving behaviors. This cycle was intended to repeat itself exponentially until the world was filled with YHWH’s LOVE (LIGHT). YHWH’s plan provided a way for many sons and daughters to be adopted who would then acquire this spiritual genetic makeup via spiritual transference—staying spiritually connected to the vine—the life (LOVE) source. Apostle Paul said,

“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”

Romans 8:15-16

“To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”

Galatians 4:5-6

(An expanded discussion on proselytizing and adoption can be found in Chapter 4.)

### Optional or Mandatory

Sometimes, one gets the impression in modern times that “Christians” think that possessing LOVE is merely a feeling or thought and does not translate into bearing the “fruit” of LOVE—HaMashiyach-like behaviors towards both the just and the unjust—and that bearing fruit is optional. But recall, what Yahushua said,

“...Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away...”

John 15:2

“And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.”

Matthew 3:10

“And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire”

Luke 3:9

“...the kingdom of God will be...given to a people who will produce its fruit...”

Matthew 21:43 {NIV}

Or what John wrote,

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.”

1 John 4:18-21

“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”

1 John 5: 2-3

“And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And

this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.”

2 John 1:5-6

Matthew wrote this,

“Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22: 36-40

Mark wrote this,

“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second *is* like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:30-31

Luke wrote this,

“And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked *on him*, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion *on him*, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave *them* to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that

fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”

Luke 10:27-37

One’s neighbor is not the person geographically living next door, or your favorite friend or your favorite relative, per se. One’s neighbor is the individual who is quite destitute, even an outcast, who is in need of a helping hand, less fortunate individuals. HaMashiyach taught that to “LOVE thy neighbor as thyself” meant to actively do something about the needy situation. HaMashiyach clearly said “Go, and do thou likewise.” It was an action command.

Perhaps you recall the parable of the talents where Jesus said,

“For *the kingdom of heaven is* as a man travelling into a far country, *who* called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods ... But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money ... Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine. His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 25:14, 18, 24-30

It is quite obvious that LOVE is not just a “new commandment” that is to be possessed cognitively/abstractly. When YHWH (and reiterated by Yahushua) gives a commandment it is not optional, it is mandatory. And possessing LOVE and producing fruit is just that—a commandment. In fact, fruit is the proof of possession and oh, what a possession LOVE is. The possessor must yield fruit—exhibit and yield by-products—or the possessor will be removed from the vine, cut down, discarded and the possession taken away.

Yahushua frequently preached and practiced a new way of looking at the first and greatest commandment. He blatantly expressed that the second commandment was inextricably linked to the first commandment, for Mathew wrote,



“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’”

Matthew 22:37-38 {NIV}

In other words, if a believer can grasp, embrace and practice commandment one then commandment two is a logical step that follows. How can one say that they love YHWH (whom they have not seen) and not love the brethren (YHWH’s children whom they have seen)—1 John 4:20? Adopting/complying with commandments one and two, makes the rest of the commandments a non-issue since they are under the extrapolated umbrella of commandments one and two. A LOVE filled being will have no desire to transgress (do ill will) against YVHV, self or others.

In conclusion, it can be deductively concluded from the scriptures that LOVE (*agape*) is the creative and power source that facilitated creation and what holds the universe together. And it is LOVE that will bring to pass the culmination of all things. And although *agape* is an invisible force, it does consistently impact the physical world. The proof of possession of *agape* is revealed in the possessor by genuine acts of love (not by words alone) towards the brethren and the lost. This is why part of the culmination of all things includes global evangelism—more on this ahead.



# Chapter

## - 3 -

### The Axiomatic Directions

#### INTRODUCTION

It is not enough to just know about the core essence/substance of YHWH—that YHWH is LIGHT/LIFE = YHWH is TRUTH = YHWH is LOVE—one must also know how to apply LOVE in daily living and the purpose for its application—the proof of possession. This chapter will explore and expound on just that, an expanded look at the divine will of YHWH and how believers can obey-do the “will of YHWH” and fit in the big picture.

I will also explore how obeying-doing “divine will” grants an individual believer access to this overarching axiomatic force (agape) found in the universe—to be able to have (be granted) whatever you ask YHWH for, in prayer. The secret key is provided in scripture but is often overlooked because one must be able to piece together several parts in order to comprehend the complete secret key.

#### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I want to start with the “Ten Commandments” (*Eser Debarim*), which have survived millennia and have certainly been integrated within culture, literature and society on many fronts. It is the moral bedrock for most modern civilizations, whether admitted or not. And, it is rhetorically embraced by the three major religions, the Catholics/Greek Orthodox/Protestants, the Jews and the Muslims. The specific number “ten” is a misnomer given the Hebrew word is *eser* which implies ten plus. And if you count the commands, there are more than ten. As an overview, Moses wrote this and more, but I will start here,

“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

Deuteronomy 5:7-10 {NIV}

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These

commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them upon your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

“Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your fathers, promised you.”

Deuteronomy 6:3 {NIV}

The common question asked by Gentiles on this subject is whether or not the *Eser Debarim* (Debarim is Hebrew for commandments, YHWH’s word—*logos* being its Greek equivalent) is applicable under the New Covenant. Gentiles often but mistakenly think that the Commandments do not apply and that being under the New Covenant (often termed being “under grace”) the burden and responsibility of the Commandments is reduced or lightened. To the contrary! The New Covenant elevates and enlightens the intentions and responsibilities of the Commandments. Yahushua came to correct, enlighten and model the meaning of the Commandments. He joined the two into one new amalgamation, into a neo-Judaism sect—new wine put into new wine skins. But it was still “wine” put into “wine skins”.

Yahushua said,

“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:19-20

Yahushua also said,

“But if ye had known what *this* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.”

Matthew 12:7

Yahushua also said,

“Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe *which is* instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man *that is* a householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure *things* new and old.”

Matthew 13:52

Apostle Paul taught this,

“For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.”

Romans 2:13

John wrote this,

“Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

Revelation 14:12

John also wrote this,

“Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

Revelation 22:14

Of course there are far too many scriptures to list here, but the point is that the Commandments are still very relevant but the ordinances concerning the Levitical practices are no longer valid in that Yahushua came and ended the need for such priestly practices and established a new priesthood after the order of Melchisedec (See DOC Vol. 5). Burnt offerings and sacrifices are no longer required.

When Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans regarding circumcision and the Law, he was not trying to denounce the Commandments but to prove that the practice of circumcision (as well as the other ordinances) did not provide righteousness. Righteousness is imputed upon believers as an initial gift from YHWH. But this divine imputation is not *carte blanche* to keep living in unrighteousness (Romans 6:1-2, 14; 7:4, 6; 8:7-10). To the contrary, the Commandment are still at play meaning that if we sin, we fall right back under the Old Law, for the Law is for the lawless. But if we through the

Spirit live righteously we remain free from the law of sin and death, free from the judgment of the Old Law.

## THE NEW COMMANDMENT

Yahushua gave what he called a “New Command”. Although, HaMashiyach’s command was not new in the sense of “never before given” it was new in the sense of a “new interpretation” or “new perspective” or “clarification of” the existing Commandments given by YHWH, at least when compared with the traditional interpretation or practice. This new command is largely accepted, at least theoretically too some degree, by society at large and by the three major Abrahamic religions.

Matthew wrote,

“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’”

Matthew 22:37-40 {NIV}

“honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

Matthew 19:19 {NIV}

“But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that ye may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

Matthew 5:44-45 {NIV}

Luke wrote,

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that for you? Even “sinners” do that...”

Luke 6:32-38 {NIV}

John wrote,

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no

one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends...this is my command: Love each other.”

John 15:12-13

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

John 13:34-35

The inclusion of the LOVE element has always been embedded in and has always been an integral part of the *Eser Debarim*, but has not always been understood or practiced as such. It was not until the advent of the New Covenant that the testator of it indicated that the proof of possession and of discipleship is hinged upon an aligned exhibition (acts of love) of said possession. Possession is more than confession. Fruit (bona fide evidence) was required.

## ANALYSIS OF THE NEW COMMANDMENT

A careful analysis of scriptures reveals that LOVE is to be channeled in three major directions:

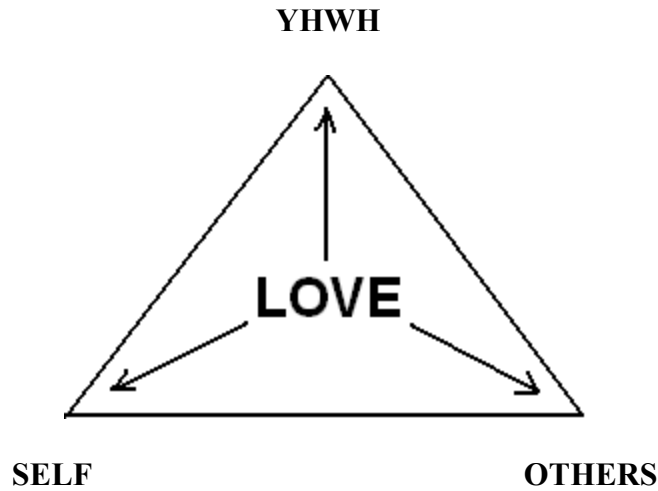
1. Love for YHWH
2. Love for Others
3. Love for Self

This can be substantiated by carefully examining this scripture:

“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’”

Matthew 22:37-40

As can be clearly seen, LOVE is the central command (axiom) to be directed in three major directions, 1<sup>st</sup> - towards YHWH, 2<sup>nd</sup> - towards others (neighbor) and 3<sup>rd</sup> - towards the self (Briggs, 1994). The priority direction is Love for and of YHWH. The second priority direction is Love for and of others. The last priority direction is the Love for and of the self, which guides the believer how to appropriately display Love towards others.



Of course, the love for self is implied and/or understood, since it is basic human nature to love self (Ephesians 5:29), but self-love must not be disproportionate or unbalanced. It must be in keeping with the scriptures. A disproportionate and unbalanced love of (and for) self, too far in either direction, causes psychopathology. Too much self-love in one direction leads to what can be called narcissism, for the lack of a better accepted globally understood term. This path follows the deeply self-centered carnal aspirations. It pursues the “world”, i.e., the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, with unacceptable energy to the neglect of others. This path is instigated by Satan to snare and destroy an individual and runs contrary to the instinctual well balanced social beings humans were created by YHWH to be.

Another direction relative to self-love is too little self-love. This leads to what can be called self-loathing, eating disorders, suicide (the death wish) and the like. Without proper and balanced self-love, one may not even seek soul salvation, let alone spiritual maintenance, the “survival of the species”, etc., etc. Ironically, and as can be seen, if one goes too far in either direction it can lead to damnation. Thus, the only prescription is balance, a balance that is best achieved through proper spirituality, which can be learned from the scriptures and then put into practice in everyday life.

Yes, the Bible teaches self denial (Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23), even martyrdom, if need be (Acts 1:8 *witness/martyr*; Matthew 10:39; 16:25; Mark 8:35; Luke 9:24; 17:33; John 12:25; Revelation 12:11), preferring thy “brother” (Romans 12:10; 14:15, 21; 1 Corinthians 8:11, 13; 1 Thessalonians 4:6; James 2:15-16; 4:11; 1 John 2:9-11; 3:10, 14, 15, 17; 4:20-21), laying down one’s life for the brethren (John 10:11-13, 15, 17-18; 15:13; 1 John 3:16) and so on. But to expand these teachings beyond their



intended meanings and applications leads to psychopathology and beyond what is implied in scriptures.

Even HaMashiyach made efforts to preserve his own life (John 10:39) and even taught his disciples (and others) to do so, which the Apostles heeded, by the way (Matthew 2:13; 10:23; 24:16; Mark 13:14; Luke 21:21; Acts 14:4-6; 2 Corinthians 11:33; Revelation 12:6). It is pointless to lay down one's life untimely and unnecessarily (John 10:39; 2 Timothy 2:3, 10, 12) for to do so is to deny the divine purpose and significance of the self (Mark 8:36) and its intended relationship to and with the whole (the "body"), i.e., a vessel of edification (1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Colossians 2:19; Ephesians 4:16; 5:30), guided by the Biblical definition of LOVE (1 Corinthians 13). The Apostles said things like "take heed unto thyself" (1 Timothy 4:16; Luke 21:34; Acts 20:28) and used the nurturing of the bride (wife) analogy (Ephesians 5:28; 4:16; 1 Peter 3:7) that was to be conducted and modeled after appropriate and balanced self-love (nurturing). In other words, when self-love is properly developed it yields a healthy, balanced and acceptable living—a love that not only tolerates but promotes love for YHWH and for others above self-centered aspirations, but not to the neglect and destruction of the self as a living soul that is a co-heir with the divine (Romans 8:17; Galatians 3:29; Titus 3:7; Hebrews 1:14; James 2:5).

LOVE should be the core essence and axiom of the believer's being, just as it is the very essence of YHWH in Yahushua. Nothing less will do. This is the reason why an applied possession of LOVE is proof of Discipleship. LOVE is the essence of Yahushua, for YHWH was in HaMashiyach reconciling the world unto himself. The absence of applied LOVE negates any claim that a person is Yahushua's Disciple. Discipleship is all about becoming like the master. And an examination of HaMashiyach's behaviors speaks loudly and clearly that YHWH was truly in HaMashiyach. HaMashiyach truly exhibited LOVE, he practiced what he preached and HaMashiyach taught that the entire law and the prophets rest on the above truth. In other words, LOVE is an action word that must be a functional and operating possession.

NOTE: The pursuit of martyrdom as promoted by some religious groups, like radical Islamists, or Jim Jones, etc. is off the mark. Martyrdom is not something to be sought, or self-initiated, but if it should come, it is to come from sources outside the self and for HaMashiyach's name sake. And should it come HaMashiyach taught that with YHWH's power within the believer, they can face death and overcome (Acts 1:8; Revelation 12:11), but HaMashiyach was NOT promoting the pursuit of it.

As illustrated in the *universal tri-directional axiom* diagram above, the scriptures teach that LOVE should be directed towards YHWH, self and others. However, since LOVE involves both cognitive and relational elements, then one must first have knowledge about YHWH in order to make a cognitive choice to LOVE YHWH. Furthermore, having LOVE towards YHWH is unique in that it requires an element and level of faith not required with LOVE towards self and others. Since YHWH is not physically seen one must therefore believe in and LOVE YHWH by faith. But interestingly, the scriptures emphatically teach that the way to test the veracity of one's claim of LOVE towards YHWH is by analyzing the behavioral evidence—LOVE actions/reactions towards others.

“We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.”

1 John 4:19-21

“But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.”

1 John 3:17-19

“That’s easy to love my neighbor,” one may be thinking. Undoubtedly the Jews thought the same thing since most Jews had Jewish “neighbors” (“brothers”). But HaMashiyach clarified and defined the question of, “Who is my neighbor/brother?” in this way.

Luke wrote,

“And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked *on him*, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion *on him*, And went to *him*, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave *them* to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”

Luke 10:27-37

It is quite obvious that Yahushuah was teaching that LOVE requires appropriate actions towards one's neighbor but said action does not qualify if it is done expecting a returned favor or merely reciprocating kind treatment received. This also applies to charity actions shown towards natural kin or spiritual relatives. Why? Because said actions do not define LOVE. LOVE behaves beyond what comes natural via the carnal depraved Adamic nature. Charity actions must be done expecting nothing in return and proffered to unlikely candidates. Consider the following scriptures to strengthen this point.

Matthew wrote,

“Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.”

Matthew 5:23-24

“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.”

Matthew 18:21-22

Luke wrote,

“But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the *one* cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not *to take thy* coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask *them* not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend *to them* of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and *to* the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.”

Luke 6:27-36

“Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe *unto him*, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.”

Luke 17:1-4

As hard as this truth may be to follow, Yahushua HaMashiyach practiced what He preached. Remember when He reached out to His betrayer, Judas, who signed His death warrant; or when He forgave those that crucified Him (his killers who were actually putting Him to death); or when He forgave those that abandoned and denied Him—all very difficult actions of LOVE. It is always more difficult to LOVE (actions of charity) those who cannot return a favor; or to LOVE (help and embrace) outcasts of society; or to LOVE (forgive) your enemies. But said actions are the emblem (proof) of LOVE.

Job knew that he was guiltless before YHWH by the way he had behaved prior to losing everything and enduring great suffering at the hand of Satan. He said this,

“because I rescued the poor...and the fatherless...the man dying blessed me; I made the widow’s heart sing. I put on righteousness as my clothing; justice was my robe and my turban. I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame; I was a father to the needy; I took of the case of the stranger...”

Job 29:12-16 {NIV}

And he also said this,

“If I have denied justice to my menservants and my maidservants...If I have denied the desires of the poor or let the eyes of the widow grow weary, if I have kept my bread to myself, not sharing it with the fatherless—but from my youth I reared him as would a father, and from my birth I guided the widow—if I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing, or a needy man without a garment and his heart did not bless me for warming him with the fleece from my sheep, if I have raised my hand against the fatherless...I could not do such things.”

Job 31:13-20, 23 {NIV}

## HOW TO ACQUIRE *AGAPE* (LOVE)

This *agape* does not come by way of natural birth. It is acquired via a “new birth” (spiritual birth) that facilitates development of a new, inner, godly, spiritual nature. This “new birth”, a gift from YHWH, is promised to them that enjoin the HaMashiyach Covenant (see Disciples of Christ Volume Two, Briggs, 2010). However, the carnal nature still exists and wars against the spiritual nature. Therefore, divine assistance, cognitive training, submission to the Holy Spirit through prayer, and discipline with regards to the LOVE commandments of YHWH in particular, helps the believer yield to, exhibit and give supremacy to the spiritual nature rather than the carnal nature.

Apostle Paul wrote,

“*This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”

Galatians 5:16-17

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)”

2 Corinthians 10:3-4

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.”

Romans 6:11-13

Apostle Peter wrote,

“Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.”

1 Peter 2:11

Apostle James wrote,

“From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come they* not hence, *even of your lusts that war in your members*?”

James 4:1

In conclusion, possession of LOVE is validated by the charitable behaviors believers demonstrate towards their “neighbours” (Romans 13:8, 10). This also includes obedience to YHWH’s commandments which are extensions of LOVE acts towards one’s neighbors, since all the law and prophets hang on the first two commandments.

John wrote,

“If *ye love me, keep my commandments.*”

John 14:15

“*He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me:* and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”

John 14:21

It is quite simple really, if one can truly keep the first two greatest commandments, then the rest is easy. Possessing divine *agape* is the key. To LOVE YHWH is first and foremost and then second, to LOVE one’s neighbor as equally as LOVING oneself. Without *agape*, a person will not produce the kind of fruit YHWH intended.

LOVE vs. HATE and HaMASHIYACH vs. ANTI-HaMASHIYACH

The absence of LOVE also directly relates to anti-HaMashiyach. An anti-HaMashiyach is often thought of as a specific evil person who will one day arrive on the scene and deceive the world, ushering in the end of times. However, this is not how John explained it in his epistles and in the gospel of John. A closer examination reveals something more than is often considered.

Trying to follow John’s logic can be challenging but a slow careful read and re-read helps. For a starting point John indicated these basic premises:

1. YHWH first LOVED US (Believers) (1 John 4:10, 19; 3:1) and did so via the sending of his only begotten son (not only son – see *Disciples of Christ Volume 2*) Yahushua HaMashiyach who was obedient to YHWH's will by laying down his own life, being buried, rising from the dead, spending 40 more days with his disciples opening their understanding of the Kingdom and then taking his broken body and shed blood to heaven as the atonement and redemption for all mankind.
2. Believers in return LOVE YHWH which means that Believers LOVE YHWH's child (Yahushua HaMashiyach) as well (1 John 5:1).
3. Believers must also LOVE all of YHWH's children (adopted children, all believers and HIS lost children), not just one child (Yahushua HaMashiyach) (1 John 4:11; 3:1).
4. LOVING YHWH and carrying out his commands is proof that a person LOVES the children of YHWH (1 John 5:2).
5. Obedying YHWH's commands is proof that a person LOVES YHWH (1 John 5:3).
6. LOVING YHWH's children (brothers/sisters) as HaMashiyach LOVED his disciples (and humanity) is a commandment of the New Covenant (2 John 5-9; John 15:12).

With the above premises established there are other elements that must be discussed, the opposite of LOVE. John uses the word “hate” and the word “anti-HaMashiyach” relative to people who may at one time have been thought to be believers but are now engaged in behaviors and teachings that are opposite to how HaMashiyach taught or behaved. Therefore, an anti-HaMashiyach (Greek: antichristos - transliteration) is anyone who opposes HaMashiyach or who behaves and speaks directly opposite to how HaMashiyach behaved or spoke. Below are John's premises regarding anti-HaMashiyachs:

1. The Spirit of anti-HaMashiyach has been at work since the Apostle's day (1 John 2:18; 4:3).
2. Many anti-HaMashiyachs have already come and will continue to come (1 John 2:18).
3. Anti-HaMashiyachs come from within the family of believers (1 John 2:19).
4. Anti-HaMashiyachs tells lies (blaspheme-false witness) in general and also spread lies concerning HaMashiyach (1 John 2:20-27).
5. Anti-HaMashiyachs do not listen to (or obey) the message of believers (1 John 4:6).
6. Anti-HaMashiyachs do not remain in what they heard from the beginning (1 John 2:22-27).
7. Anti-HaMashiyachs deny that Yahushua is the HaMashiyach (1 John 2:22).
8. Satan, the devil, is certainly an anti-HaMashiyach.

But John does not stop here, therefore it is incredibly important to expand these premises and follow the path to where John is taking the believer.

1. If a person says they LOVE YHWH and does not LOVE the brotherhood, he is a LIAR (1 John 4:20).
2. If a person is a LIAR they are an anti-HaMashiyach for HaMashiyach is truth and speaks only truth in all purity (1 John 2:21-22).
3. If a person does not LOVE his brother he is not a child of YHWH but a child of the devil (1 John 3:10), an anti-HaMashiyach.
4. If a person does not do what is right, he is not a child of YHWH but a child of the devil (1 John 3:10), an anti-HaMashiyach.
5. Every spirit that does not acknowledge (covenant with) Yahushua has come in the flesh is not from YHWH and is the spirit of anti-HaMashiyach (1 John 4:3)
6. If a person does not remain in the Son, even in the Father, even in HIS promises, even in eternal life, which initiates with the covenant enjoinder process, they are anti-HaMashiyach (1 John 2:23-27).

The final extension of John's teaching on this subject is the most important part of all since it goes beyond critical thought and into the dimension of the applied, the real crux of the Kingdom of YHWH. LOVE has more to do with genuine behaviors (deeds) that match both profession and intentions than mere theory or words

1. The definition of LOVE comes from HaMashiyach's behavior, that he laid down his life for the believers (1 John 3:16; John 15:13).
2. This same definition applies to believers, that believers ought to lay down their lives for the brethren (1 John 3:16; John 15:12).
3. The definition of LOVE is more than words or tongue, but is to be an applied concept validated with actions (in purity/truth) that specifically identifies giving and sharing of material possessions (alms) with believers in need (1 John 3:17-18; 4:20-21).
4. HaMashiyach promulgated this "applied" teaching (a doctrine of HaMashiyach) in the beginning (Matthew 25:31-46; John 15:12-13).
5. James confirmed this teaching in his writings (James 2:14-17).

When reading the teachings of HaMashiyach, found in Matthew 25 (verses 31-46), it can be clearly seen that HaMashiyach fully intended to infer that charitable behaviors administered to the least of the brethren, or the absence thereof, is the same thing as doing it unto HaMashiyach. And why should it not? Are not the least of the "brethren" children of YHWH and co-heirs with HaMashiyach? By exhibiting charitable behaviors to the "least of the brethren" one is rewarded with eternal blessings. Conversely, the absence of these charitable behaviors brings an eternal reward of eternal punishment. There are no exceptions.



“And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it (LOVE). For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antiChrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”

2 John 1:5-9

Finally, there are several conclusions that must be drawn, summarized and reviewed.

1. Yahushua is the HaMashiyach, YHWH with us, the promised “seed” (singular) that would fulfill all things and open the door to all who hear, believe, enjoin the HaMashiyach Covenant and remain in the doctrine of HaMashiyach. Those that do not believe and do not obey but deny this, are anti-HaMashiyachs.
2. Whoever LOVES YHWH also LOVES YHWH’s child (Yahushua HaMashiyach) and YHWH’s children (adopted co-heirs, believers) and if not they are anti-HaMashiyachs.
3. Whoever LOVES YHWH keeps his commandments, which includes LOVING believers just as HaMashiyach loved his disciples and humanity and if not they are anti-HaMashiyachs.
4. This LOVE only comes from YHWH (1 John 4:7; Romans 5:5) and is “shed abroad” into a believer’s heart by enjoining the HaMashiyach Covenant and being sealed by YHWH (Ephesians 3:13-14; 2 Corinthians 5:5).
5. The scriptures defines LOVE as charitable behaviors administered to others especially the least of the believers and if said behaviors are absent in a believer’s life said “believer” is an anti-HaMashiyach and never belonged to the body of HaMashiyach in the first place.
6. This is one of the main reasons why most people will be shocked on judgment day. They were deceived into thinking that expanding a carnal kingdom (building larger church buildings and getting bigger crowds, etc., yet neglecting the physical needs of others, especially those of the household of faith) was doing YHWH’s will.
7. The two main functions of the “church” are to administer its spiritual wealth with the world by preaching the truth of the gospel to the world (Mark 16:15) including the edifying the body of HaMashiyach through its five-fold ministry and other gifts (Ephesians 4:11-13) AND to administer to the physical needs of others especially to the brethren (Galatians 6:10).
8. The true original purpose for tithing was not for building temples, church buildings, etc. but for supporting the work of the “ministry” and the poor (see

*Disciples of Christ Volume Six*). Severe misappropriation of Kingdom funds happen every day in churches all around the world.

9. This is the reason why the unsaved Cornelius was unknowingly building a memorial in heaven, because of his prayers and alms giving (charity). YHWH saw it and even dispatched an angel to make sure this devout (Gentile) man would be included in the New Covenant and in the Kingdom of YHWH.

“There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*, A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.”

Acts 10:1-4

The coming and birth of Yahushua HaMashiyach embodies and promotes a divine paradigm shift that was to redirect humanity onto a new path; a path of humility and servitude; a path of action that reaches out to sinners, to help the poor, the needy and the sick (Matt. 20:26-28; 9:12). This new path of humility and servitude is defined as greatness (Luke 9:48); conversely, the pursuit of wealth, power and prestige is not only carnal but a path that will end in emptiness (Luke 1:51-53; 12:15-21). Notwithstanding, if wealth and power can be obtained with a pure heart (or has been acquired) it is to be used for the benefit of and given to the poor and needy, that is, if perfection is to be acquired (Matt. 19:21). Furthermore, giving must be done with humility, even secretly (Matt. 6:1-4). But do not worry, because Yahushua observes giving from an equitable perspective (Mark 12:41-44) and HE will reward those that are truly charitable. Somehow, the bulk of the “Christian” community has forgotten this HaMashiyach teaching, but together this can be changed and the Church (the body of HaMashiyach) can get back on the narrow path (Matt. 7:12-27).

Imagine being in the shoes of less fortunate fellow believers, this perspective should guide people in their giving and actions? (Matt. 25:34-46 and Matt. 7:12) If a believer can perceive this concept, they will grasp that HaMashiyach was teaching (Matt. 7:12-27) a summary on the whole Law and the Prophets. Charitable and gracious words are not only meaningless without aligned actions (behavior) but actually determine a believer’s eternal status.

Therefore, in review, the responsibility of the existing Body of HaMashiyach is two-fold. First, it is to share its spiritual wealth--the Gospel of Hope and scriptural wisdom and knowledge--with hungry unbelievers and believers alike. Second, it is to share its individual and collective non-spiritual wealth with less fortunate others and especially members of the Body of HaMashiyach via collections, distributions and

sharing. Remember, a person's wealth is not solely comprised of money earned or saved, but also includes his/her knowledge, possessions, skills, and so on.

At one point in early church history, the Apostles delegated this social church responsibility to holy men equipped with the talents and skills to do so as means to avoid the neglecting of their ministry of YHWH's word. This duty was not assigned to the Preachers, per se, but to gifted and holy ecclesiastical administrators. But it is likely that no teaching of HaMashiyach and of His disciples is more violated among wealthy nations than this one.

More will be written on this subject in Disciples of Christ Volumes Five and Six.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE

Obedience is critical for numerous reasons. Consider the following:

“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:19

Without LOVE (the axiom) and the tri-directional actions (fruit) of LOVE, an individual can hardly be considered a true believer. To teach or say otherwise is to teach contrary to the teachings of HaMashiyach. Beware of becoming an anti-HaMashiyach.

## THE KEY TO GETTING PRAYERS ANSWERED

Many often wonder, what is the key to getting my prayers answered and initiating miracles? And often the quick response is, “you must have faith.” While that is certainly a truth statement, regarding the question, there is more to it than that. So this must be followed by another question and a closer examination. How can I acquire and/or develop this required faith?

Even in the receiving of a miracle, one miracle candidate honestly said to Yahushua, “I believe, but help mine unbelief.” In another place one man said, “Can you do this?” and Yahushua’s response was quite different because it is never a matter of “can you” but “will you.” You see, being the recipient of a healing or miracle is quite different from being the one who initiates one. It is easier to receive than to give, but it is more blessed to give than receive. The giving of a healing or a miracle (among other things) is far more challenging for man but not with YHWH.

While faith is certainly the overarching requirement, one cannot have the “faith” required if they are not right with their fellow man. This is why Yahushua taught that

before you seek forgiveness (or blessing) from YHWH, you must first get right you're your fellow man. Leave your gift at the altar, go get right with your fellow man, then go back and seek your forgiveness and blessings from or offer worship to YHWH. This is why husbands and wives (real close to home) must first settle issues between them prior to seeking forgiveness and/or blessings. Not doing so hinders prayers from being answered. This is why John said, "if our heart condemns us". We know in our heart, if we are honest with ourselves, if there are unresolved issues. These must be addressed first so that not only will we have complete confidence on judgment day standing before YHWH, but in the here and now when we seek answers to our prayers.

This is why, Yahushua said to the rich young man, "sell all that you have, give it to the poor and then come and follow me." This was this young man's unresolved issue. He thought he was living right, but failed to recognize that sins of neglect (omission) are just as weighty as sins of commission. Yahushua was saying, if you want to be perfect (right before YHWH), you must leave your request here (your gift) at the altar, go make things right with the neglected poor, then come back, pick up your gift and seek your answer. This young man had actually failed in the first two commandments and did not recognize it. To truly love YHWH, you must love HIS children (in this case the poor), i.e., love your neighbor as yourself.

For the believer, casting out some kinds of demons (or evil spirit) require prayer and fasting (as well as faith), but prayer, fasting and faith all require the prerequisite of being right with your fellow man first followed by being right with YHWH second. Most believers get it backwards thinking that they must be right with YHWH first, but you CANNOT get right with YHWH if you are not right with fellow man. So, as a believer, you must leave your gift, deal with unresolved issues then come back to the feet of Yahushua.

Yahushua had unhindered access to the ultimate overarching axiomatic force of the universe (*agape*) because of His right standing with both humanity and YHWH. This is why YHWH loved Him and gave Him whatever He asked for. The doors to this divine force were wide open to Yahushua. But this begs the question, "How does one get right with YHWH?" The answer to this has been largely covered in chapters above and in this chapter. But, in summary form, one must first keep (obey) HIS Commandments as a doer and not a hearer only. If one keeps the first two greatest Commandments, the rest are essentially kept within the first two greatest Commandments. But in saying this, there is one other point to consider relative to keeping of the Commandments. To be in right standing with YHWH, you must do HIS will. By keeping HIS Commandments one largely covers the "doing HIS will". But more specifically, this refers to being engaged as a kingdom priest doing the duties of a kingdom priest (see *Disciples of Christ Volume 5 & 6*).

These kingdom priest duties are very individualistic. For example, you and I are not assigned to shed our blood for the sins of many, but Yahushua was, and He was obedient to that assignment in addition to the other generic elements of "keeping HIS Commandments". His obedience qualified Him to sit on the throne and gave Him right standing with YHWH and kept the doors to the axiomatic force wide open. In fact,

Yahushua told his disciples after He obeyed divine will (being the lamb slain—the purpose for His coming) that “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to [Him].” (Matthew 28:18).

While our individual purpose is not the same as Yahushua’s we do have a specific purpose designated by YHWH in addition to keeping the generic elements of “keeping HIS Commandments.” Because each purpose is individualistic, I cannot tell what it is. It is something you must hear and receive from YHWH and then be obedient to it. You can read more about this in *Disciples of Christ Volume 5 & 6*.

So, in summary, the key to accessing the axiomatic force of the universe can be summed up in this way:

1. Be right with YHWH by keeping YHWH’s Commandments,
2. Be right with fellow man, and
3. Be obedient to your individual purpose.

In so doing, you can ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you given that your will is now aligned with YHWH’s will and you have the “mind of HaMashiyach” which gives you the confidence before YHWH knowing that YHWH loves you. This of course applies only to believers, for YHWH “heareth not sinners.” Becoming a believer as defined in scripture is delineated in *Disciples of Christ Volume 3*.



# Chapter

## - 4 -

### The Inextricable Link - Thy Kingdom Come

#### INTRODUCTION

This chapter will build a bridge between Causation, Divine Will, Divine Purpose (Teleology) and global evangelism, an advanced view of YHWH's divine illumination continuum (TDIC) as well as the inextricable link to the divine continuum of LOVE towards humanity, which is the key to sustained global evangelism. Many things will be examined in this chapter, but remember they are not really useful/helpful until AFTER a solid foundation of LOVE is laid in a believer's heart/life. When one truly understands the TDIC as it relates to the divine continuum of LOVE and embraces it via participation, only then can one be linked to and found doing the "Will of YHWH".

Having a firm foundation of LOVE coupled with an understanding of how this relates to divine will is the key to sustained global evangelism. It is the will of YHWH that the earth be filled with his LIGHT/TRUTH/LIFE/LOVE—HIS KINGDOM COME ON EARTH as it is in HEAVEN. Without the foundation of LOVE, which is the energy source and true driving force (causation) underpinning evangelism, efforts for global evangelism dwindle and a drifting away from HaMashiyach-like methods and intentions begins. But, with LOVE in the soul, one can employ the same methods used by HaMashiyach and gain identical if not greater results than experienced by HaMashiyach himself (...greater works than these shall ye do...John 5:20). Furthermore, with infused LOVE in the soul, an individual's divine focus and purpose will be sustained.

Global evangelism and "making disciples" is not only the will of YHWH and a command that, when obeyed, has a dual outcome it is the fruit of *agape*, some thirty fold, some sixty fold and some one hundred fold. The first outcome of making disciples is that it fills the earth with YHWH's name, light, truth and love in/by/through Yahushua HaMashiyach and second, it enlarges the body of HaMashiyach getting the universe closer to YHWH's intention (Romans 11:25-27). The more believers on the planet, the brighter the light of YHWH shines (through and around us). It has always been the will of YHWH to fill the earth with his light (life, truth, love). Evangelism as a King-Priest is the will of YHWH for every believer, period. Whatever a believer can do to make his/her light (not darkness) shine and the making of disciples because of it is walking in the will of YHWH and is walking in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7).

As shown in Chapter One above, the universe was caused and because it was caused, there was a reason, a purpose for this causation—the essence of teleology. This purpose is directly linked to global evangelism. Within the counsels of the foreknowledge of YHWH, YHWH preplanned the entire culmination of all things prior

to creating the universe, starting with *Logos*, then onward to creation of the worlds, then onward to the creation of humanity, then onward to the “fall of man” (Adam and Eve sinning in the Garden of Eden), then onward to the unfolding of the preplanned, yet secret, salvation method that would incorporate an illumination continuum spread over millennia’s of snippet prophetic utterances, the leading and guiding of individuals and nations, until Yahushua finally came, died, was buried, resurrected, spent 40 additional days on earth teaching/training (enlightening) His disciples (Acts 1:3) and then ascending to heaven some 2,000 years ago, soon to return—this basic summary is called the gospel.

Obedience to this gospel teaching (message) was/is the method by which humanity can be reconciled back to YHWH. This testing that Yahushua suffered, even unto His death on the cross (Hebrews 2:14-18; 5:7-9), was the purpose/cause (John 12:27; 18:37) for Yahushua’s coming, the ultimate expression/revealing of YHWH’s LOVE towards Yahushua and secondarily towards humanity (Ephesians 2:4; 5:2; Revelation 1:5; John 3:16; 15:13; 2 Peter 3:9; 1John 4:10-11,19) as it benefits Yahushua (*dia autos eis autos*), the next to the last greatest self-revealing (illumination) of the Divine (2 Corinthians 4:4; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:15; 1 Corinthians 13:12), with the “bride” being united eternally with HaMashiyach being the grand finale (Revelation 21:9-27) revealing. In like manner, believers, children of light (John 12:36; 1 Thessalonians 5:5), should in turn direct that bestowed divine LOVE towards others (1 John 4:11; Mark 16:15), becoming the next generation of illuminators (ministers of reconciliation) to those in darkness (Matthew 5:16; 2 Corinthians 4:4, 6, etc.).

However, evangelism and discipleship training should never circumvent, negate nor diminish the “daily distributions” (Acts 2:44-47; 4:32-35; 6:1-7) responsibility of the church. Conversely, neither should the “daily distributions” circumvent, negate nor diminish the responsibility of global evangelism and discipleship training. A balance must be maintained. The Apostles took steps to make sure a balance was maintained. And collections were initiated for this purpose, not to make the Apostles rich, have lavish houses, modes of transportations, bank accounts, etc. In fact, HaMashiyach modeled for his Apostles to live simple, modest, meager lifestyles relative to earthly possessions.

Some additional areas of discussion will be the analysis of the 1) contextual sociopolitical environment within which Yahushua lived and how this impacted on HaMashiyach’s interactions with people, 2) the methods employed by HaMashiyach to solicit candidates for discipleship, 3) the actual disciple making techniques and 4) the subject matter Yahushua used for teaching and training.

## HaMASHIYACH – THE DIVINE EXAMPLE

As a preface, it is appropriate to consider the following scriptural incident,



“Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ‘All this I will give you,’ he said, ‘if you will bow down and worship me.’”

Matthew 4:8-9 {NIV}

HaMashiyach was offered the ultimate short cut to instant personal power, fame and riches. Now, if HaMashiyach was more interested in his own kingdom then he would have disregarded YHWH’s Kingdom and the divine universal axiomatic truth and would have accepted Satan’s offer. But HaMashiyach was more interested in YHWH’s Kingdom Coming on earth as it was in heaven. Therefore, Yahushua replied,

“... ‘Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Matthew 4:10 {NIV}

The context of HaMashiyach’s quote was taken from the first of the Ten Commandments, the crux of our discussion in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 above. Yahushua was able to resist this serious temptation since he possessed both divine LOVE helping Him focus on YHWH’s kingdom coming “on earth as it is in heaven” and knowledge that YHWH’s kingdom was not to be earthy in nature but spiritual. It was not to be acquired, developed or governed as kingdoms of the earth. YHWH’s kingdom foundations would be,

“built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Yahushua himself being the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his spirit.”

Ephesians 2:20-22 {NIV}

## UNDERSTANDING THE KINGDOM OF YHWH

Understanding the Kingdom of YHWH is crucial to formulating evangelism plans and keeping the mission pure and sustainable. It is easy to skew ideas if they are not clearly defined. YHWH’s Kingdom on earth would be like no other kingdom. It would employ entirely new and different approaches, methodologies, cognitive processes and polity,

“ ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. NOT SO WITH YOU. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’”

Matthew 20:25-28 {NIV}

With LOVE as the core, many things would be inverted, i.e., what was up would be down, what was last would be first, what was least would be greatest, what was younger would be senior, what was despised would be loved, masters would be servants, servants would be masters, and so on. This culture could only be adopted, embraced and practiced by possessors of LOVE.

The cornerstone and primary example is Yahushua HaMashiyach. He demonstrated how the shepherds (leaders) in YHWH’s Kingdom must behave,

“ ‘...The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...I lay down my life for the sheep...’”

John 10:11-18

Of course hirelings care nothing for the sheep...only the money. As proof, when the wolf comes, a hireling abandons the sheep who then scatters because of the wolf. True kingdom leaders will defend the sheep even to their own death. Why would Yahushua or kingdom leaders lay down their life for the sheep? Because of LOVE—the universal divine axiom—HaMashiyach forsook his own ambitions to take the path of humility, servitude and sacrifice. He passionately desired for YHWH’s will to be done and for YHWH’s kingdom to come on earth as it was in heaven. This path required that HaMashiyach invest in the twelve and lay down his life for them.

HaMashiyach laid down His life for His disciples in two ways. First, He preferred them over Himself by serving them, although He was royalty, by investing in them for years rather than seeking His own potentials, by allowing His disciples to increase while He decreased, by protecting them, not considering His own protection needs, and so on. Second, He gave up His own life—becoming the “lamb slain”—so their sins, and that of the whole world, could be forgiven, giving them eternal life.

Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (all the saints) are to conduct themselves in the same manner. Not an easy task and an extremely vulnerable way to traverse through life. However, this is the only path and manner of conduct that facilitates a tremendous nurturing and life giving environment that can foster and sustain true world evangelism.

Apostle Paul said this about the Kingdom of YHWH,

“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.”

Romans 14:17

This definition of the Kingdom was given in the context of relational issues within the body of HaMashiyach. In other words, with divine LOVE in the soul and knowing that YHWH's goals are not earthly, then one realizes that preserving peace and salvation is more important than a certain view or opinion. Why fuss, fight and argue over temporal issues? The important issues are eternal spiritual matters.

“Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way. I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that *there is* nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him *it is* unclean. But if thy brother be grieved with *thy* meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. Let not then your good be evil spoken of: For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ *is* acceptable to God, and approved of men. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another. For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed *are* pure; but *it is* evil for that man who eateth with offence. *It is* good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor *any thing* whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.”

Romans 14:13-21

Apostle Paul believed that it was more important to lay down his own physical life (set aside his own views and practices) for his brothers in order to preserve good brotherly relations. Why? Because, if his actions estranged his brothers this could lead to their spiritual demise and counter-productivity in the kingdom. He believed it far more important to maintain the soul salvation of his brothers and the continued expansion and advancement of YHWH's kingdom on earth than saving his own physical life or the pursuing of his own ambitions, thoughts and ideas.

“Howbeit *there is* not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat *it* as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled. But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.”

1 Corinthians 8:7-13

The main focus of Paul’s writing here is not about whether it is okay to eat meat or not, but about the relational issues, attitudes and acts of LOVE towards other Kingdom Priests. And the word “offend” here refers to “causing to sin”. Any behavior directed towards or impacting upon any Kingdom Priest is the same as doing it unto HaMashiyach. This is not a novel idea, since HaMashiyach himself taught this principle. Apostle Matthew wrote,

“And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.”

Matthew 25:40

The above was said within the context of a very applicable and intriguing teaching. Below is the full context.

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*? Or saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye

visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

Matthew 25:31-46

Clearly, HaMashiyach taught that we are to treat every Kingdom Priest, from the very least to the greatest, as if it were HaMashiyach himself in need. Because on judgment day, this is exactly how HaMashiyach will review and judge our actions here on earth. There will be no exceptions.

If the outside world knew that this kind of charitable treatment existed among a brother/sisterhood, how hastily would many onlookers want to become a part of YHWH’s Kingdom. Unfortunately, this is often not the case and many are wounded and driven away by the ones that have received the commandment to LOVE. Apostle Matthew wrote,

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

So what is our light that should shine? Is not light a byproduct emanating from a central source of energy? If so, then what is the believer’s core energy source? That is right, LOVE.

“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

1 John 1:5-7

YHWH is light. And YHWH was in HaMashiyach. Therefore, the Holy Ghost in the spirit-filled believer is an earnest possession of YHWH’s light. And, thus, HaMashiyach-like behaviors are the byproducts of that energy source exhibiting outward and good works directed towards others. Either the world sees this light or it does not. It is either because we choose to let it shine or we choose to “hide it under a bushel” or because the light is not in us. Apostle John wrote,

“Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”

1 John 2:8-11

Once again, proof of possession of this light is appropriate behavior exhibited towards others.

Finally, Apostle Paul ruled out “meat and drink” as being part of the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is not physical or carnal in and of itself. It is metaphysical. The focus is spiritual. However, this does not negate the impact spirituality has and should have on behavior and on the physical world in which one lives. But, what is important to remember regarding this truth is that priorities must be kept crystal clear. More on this in Chapter Five.

## UNDERSTANDING POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

LOVE behaviors, of course, immediately bring the following discussions to the fore. What kind of people will be attracted to this light?

“But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, *yea*, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.”

1 Corinthians 1:23-29

It is YHWH’s plan that HE would select those people who are humble and weak to fill and build his kingdom—those who would be most attracted to it and those in the greatest need. This truth can be clearly seen in the teachings and ministry of HaMashiyach. Matthew wrote,

“And great multitudes came unto him, having with them *those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others*, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.”

Matthew 15:30-31

It is quite obvious who came to see HaMashiyach and why these people were attracted to HaMashiyach. More importantly, the church (both members in particular and collectively) is to be the embodiment of HaMashiyach here on earth. Read below for several more examples to drive home this valuable point.

“But when Jesus heard *that*, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what *that* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Matthew 9:12-13

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”

Matthew 11:4-6

“Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.”

Matthew 22:9-10

Mark wrote,

“When Jesus heard *it*, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Mark 2:17

Luke wrote,

“But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners? And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Luke 5:30-32

“And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

Luke 4:17-19

“So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.”

Luke 14:21-24

What was true then is largely true today. Humanity has not changed. They still have basic human needs—food, shelter and clothing. Beyond basic needs, they still long for freedom, to have meaning and purpose in life, to feel connected to something they believe in. They long for a brotherhood of common ideals, faith and hope. They long to provide a brighter future for themselves, family and society.

Basic Common Human Desires:

1. Food, clothing, shelter – relative to work – Love of Self
2. Family and society – relative to relationships – Love for Others
3. Safety/Freedom - relative to leisure, reflection, spirituality – Love for YHWH

However, it is sad when the secular world is spending more time, finances and energy addressing these human needs than the church. In today’s world, the church



seems to be far more focused on numbers, buildings, church programs, popularity, etc. than on the needs of their brothers and sisters. Sadly, when destitute people become blessed, over time, they often forget from whence cometh their deliverance. More on this later.

## SELECTING DISCIPLES

When HaMashiyach was seeking out disciples to proselytize he turned to men who were obviously Jewish and who possessed qualities, skills and beliefs already inherent, attributes that HaMashiyach felt beneficial to discipleship. Most were humble men from varying backgrounds.

The sociopolitical context was set, so once candidates were selected, HaMashiyach had only to understand them and speak to them within the framework of their specific thinking, i.e., he employed rhetoric relative to the candidate's reality. The simple task was to reach their psyche (heart and mind) by utilizing words that would resonate with them, words that would convince them that HE was the HaMashiyach (that they already longed for), words that would escalate the idea that he would rescue them from bondage, words that would liberate them and give them a new meaning on life, words that would fulfill their hopes and dreams.

Consider this,

“And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left *their* nets, and followed him.”

Matthew 4:18-20

“When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, ‘Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.’ ‘How do you know me?’ Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, ‘I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Phillip called you.’ Then Nathanael declared, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.’ Jesus said, ‘You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that.’”

John 1:47-50

“And as he passed by, he saw Levi the *son* of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.”

Mark 2:14

“And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.”

Matthew 9:9

Of course, there are a thousand and one applications to this principle, but it is up to the reader to learn and understand this principle and then apply it to people and circumstances in the local community where the reader lives.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Yahushua well understood that Israel desired freedom from the hand of the Romans. HE knew the Jews longed for a HaMashiyach who would restore all things. And, even though most Jews yearned for a HaMashiyach, they did so from both a carnal (physical) sociopolitical perspective as well as from a religious perspective. Although HaMashiyach’s coming was predominately spiritual in nature, this, however, mattered little to would-be followers at first, but in time, that would change. Consider the following political and social context,

“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.”

Matthew 2:1-6

“There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife *was* of the daughters of Aaron, and her name *was* Elisabeth.”

Luke 1:5

“Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of

Abilene, Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.”

Luke 3:1-2

Yahushua was able to capitalize on this knowledge of the contextual political and social environment to seek out and gain candidates for discipleship. In other words, the soil had already been prepared long ago, the seeds had already been planted and the fruit was ripe and ready to be harvested.

## THE KEY FOCI TO REACHING THE WORLD

As we examine the actions and lifestyle of Yahushua HaMashiyach we are able to collect and formulate what his priorities were and the pitfalls he avoided in his mission to evangelize the world.

### 1. HaMashiyach focused on the Twelve

- a) The multitudes were not his main focus. This is not saying that he did not minister and did not teach and preach to those who came to be healed by him or to listen to him teach his disciples. But what is important here is to stress that HaMashiyach was more focused on investing in the twelve.

“And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.”

Matthew 14:22-23

“And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear *it*. But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.”

Mark 4:33-34

“And he turned him unto *his* disciples, and said privately, Blessed *are* the eyes which see the things that ye see: For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and

have not seen *them*; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard *them*.”

Luke 10:23-24

“And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable. And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him;”

Mark 7:17-18

“And in the house his disciples asked him again of the same matter. And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her.”

Mark 10:10

“Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.”

Luke 9:1-2

“Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude.”

Luke 9:16

“And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him; and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?”

Luke 9:18

“And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?”

Mark 14:12

“And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover. <sup>17</sup> And in the evening he cometh with the twelve. And as they sat and did eat...”

Mark 14:16

“And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow,”

Luke 22:45

“And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem *about* threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.”

Luke 24:13-16

“After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.”

John 3:22

- b) Crowds were merely byproducts of his work, mostly because they marveled at the healings and miracles they saw and/or because of the food they ate. In other words, crowds come and go for a multiplicity of reasons. And a focus on “crowds” will divert your attention away from your most important assignment—making disciples.

### **Crowds Coming**

“But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judaea, And from Jerusalem, and from Idumaea, and *from* beyond Jordan; and they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him. And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should throng him. For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues. And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God. And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.”

Mark 3:7-12

“Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.”

John 6:26-27

### **Crowds Going**

“From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.”

John 6:66

### **Crowds Coming**

“And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and *from* Decapolis, and *from* Jerusalem, and *from* Judaea, and *from* beyond Jordan.”

Matthew 4:25

“In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he

began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.”

Luke 12:1

### **Getting Away From the Crowds**

“Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side.”

Matthew 8:18

“And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.”

Matthew 14:22-23

### **Many Women Ministered Unto Yahushua**

“And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children.”

Matthew 27:55

“There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome; (Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.”

Mark 15:40-41

“And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they

returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.”

Luke 23:55-56

“Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and other *women that were* with them, which told these things unto the apostles.”

Luke 24:10

### **Mixed Crowds**

“And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.”

Luke 23:27

“And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.”

Luke 23:49

c) The Twelve Disciples had nowhere else to go since they had chosen a new vocation. The general public would come intermittently, but the twelve were dedicated to learning and ministering alongside Yahushua.

“Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.”

John 6:67-69

## **2. HaMashiyach did not focus on wealth, power or fame**

As shown earlier, HaMashiyach rejected tempting opportunities for personal wealth, power and fame. Granted, gaining wealth, power and fame can be very tempting for any person, but yielding to it will divert you away from the divine



mission of evangelizing the world. It causes an imbalance in your Tri-Directional actions of LOVE. The focus shifts towards self-love.

These temptations can come in many forms. HaMashiyach utilized several techniques to avoid further temptations. First, he avoided the homeownership fiasco by finding shelter wherever it could be found.

“And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head. And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.”

Matthew 8:19

“And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment.”

Luke 12:22-23

When people donated to his ministry (and they did),

“And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.”

Luke 8:2-3

Yahushua had Judas hold and manage the funds that came into his ministry.

“For some *of them* thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy *those things* that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.”

John 13:29

This was true even though Judas was a thief.

“Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.”

John 12:6

There will be more discussions on this in Chapter Five.

3. HaMashiyach did not focus on physical temple buildings

In Chapter Five, the reader can find a more indepth examination on this subject. In summary, HaMashiyach was not interested in Temples, Church Buildings or Large Auditoriums. He was interested in people.

4. HaMashiyach did not focus on political alignment

Although HaMashiyach was very much aware of the political environment around him, he was not interested in aligning with them, particularly if they resisted or were contrary to YHWH's Kingdom coming “on earth as it is in heaven.”

5. HaMashiyach taught his disciples to become like leaven

Why Leaven? Large public gatherings (too much public popularity) will get you killed for starters and will raise up resisters, but mainly because HaMashiyach taught that the best way to evangelize the world was the leaven approach—replication of the self exponentially generation after generation via making disciples, see below.

6. HaMashiyach employed simple extrapolated mathematics

HaMashiyach was not distracted by the crowds. Not saying he did not minister to them, but he was more interested in completing the very important divine task of fully discipling the Twelve. HaMashiyach knew that the completion of this task—the replication of Himself—would complete the first stage of world evangelism.

7. HaMashiyach Focused on YHWH's Kingdom, not his own.

Last but not least, when HaMashiyach taught his disciples how to pray, the words of submission to YHWH's will—the coming of YHWH's Kingdom—can be found,

“thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:10

Yahushua's submission to YHWH's will was a struggle for him as his upcoming death by crucifixion drew near,

“And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”

Matthew 26:39

“He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.”

Matthew 26:42

“And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

Luke 22:40-42

Nonetheless, HaMashiyach kept a clear focus on, comprehension of and submission to YHWH's divine plan.

“From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee

behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.”

Matthew 16:21-23

Remember, it is not “your” kingdom. It belongs to YHWH. Any kingdom one tries to build for oneself will fall, crumble, disappear, come to naught and be burned up. But YHWH’s Kingdom is eternal. And making investments in YHWH’s Kingdom assures eternal preservation of a believer’s investment.

“Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go *and* sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”

Matthew 19:21-22

“Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.”

Mark 10:21-22

“And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Luke 12:19-21

“Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Luke 12:33-34

“And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.”

Matthew 19:29

HaMashiyach promised an hundredfold return on investment now in this time, with persecutions and eternal life in the world to come. That is a pretty good guaranteed rate of return.

“And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last first.”

Mark 10:29-31

But this was not the main focus or reason for being a disciple. It was about joining forces with HaMashiyach to participate in the coming establishment of YHWH's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. It was about learning how to effectively “make disciples” and teaching them to observe all things, driven by a finite portion of YHWH creative, binding and culminating force in one's being—LOVE.

Remember, it is nothing about “your” kingdom, it is everything about YHWH's Kingdom. When anything begins to take the shape of a wall between a believer and YHWH or distracts one away from participating in the facilitation of the coming of YHWH's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven, then it must be removed. It will cause an imbalance among the tri-directional distributions of LOVE and bring about spiritual sickness.



## Chapter - 5 -

### Building Temples or Becoming Leaven

#### INTRODUCTION

The reason why it is so difficult for modern ministers and churches to facilitate a sustained global revival includes the inability to adopt, grasp and apply the “Leaven” principle and keeping true LOVE at the core of their soul and that of the people they influence. The traditional temple pride and the “my kingdom” attitude distract modern ministers. Even HaMashiyach faced this mind set among his own disciples, not to mention the complications that often emerge as a result of the human pursuit of greatness. But Yahushua was not interested in filling “temples” with people or developing a large “church” congregation to support His ego or His “ministry”. His focus was on the broader view, His father’s “will”, eradicating darkness by bringing light into darkness and filling the earth with YHWH’s LIGHT/LOVE. Therefore, nothing less than a major paradigm shift will break ministers and people free from the shackles of the “temple building” mindset (traditions) and transcend them into the divine approach that will facilitate a true, end-time, global harvest, a church without walls.

#### BUILDING TEMPLES

The first genuine reaction the disciples had on the mount of transfiguration was to suggest “let us make three tabernacles”. After all, it was “good for us to be here”.

“And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.”

Matthew 17:1-9

“And after six days Jesus taketh *with him* Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid. And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves. And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead.”

Mark 9:2-9

“And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment *was* white *and* glistering. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said. While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud. And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept *it* close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.”

Luke 9:28-36

The Jews were tightly linked to their temple. It was an intricate part of their daily life and national pride.

“And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not *of it*.<sup>44</sup> But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among *their* kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors,



both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.”

Luke 2:42-47

“And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.”

Luke 4:16

“And he went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought; Saying unto them, It is written, My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves. And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him.”

Luke 19:45-48

Notice the tone of national pride the disciples had regarding the Temple.

“And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here! And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Mark 13:1-2

“And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, *As for* these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Luke 21:5-6

“And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye

not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Matthew 24:1-2

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? <sup>21</sup> But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.”

John 2:19-22

However, sad to say, the Temple’s meaning and purpose was long lost.

“And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.”

John 2:13-16

The Jews (including the disciples of Yahushua) were so enamored with the beauty and greatness of the temple they failed to recognize that the “greater than the temple” was among them, Yahushua HaMashiyach, for YHWH dwelled in HaMashiyach, not buildings made with hands.

But I say unto you, That in this place is *one* greater than the temple. But if ye had known what *this* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

Matthew 12:6-7

“But Solomon built him an house. Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven *is* my throne, and earth *is* my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what *is* the place of my rest? Hath not my hand made all these things?”

Acts 7:47-50

“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;”

Acts 17:24-25

The scriptures delineate that HaMashiyach's body was to be the Temple of YHWH. The physical temple was to be a thing of the past. The new focus was not on the physical temple in Jerusalem, but on Yahushua HaMashiyach, the TEMPLE of YHWH.

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.”

John 2:19-22

This misunderstanding of the New Temple Concept was even used against HaMashiyach at his death trial.

“And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him, saying, We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.”

Mark 14:57-58

All typology teachers and those believing in HaMashiyach's fulfillment of the law believe that the old temple practices were to be a thing of the past since a new age (dispensation) was being ushered in as signified by the rending of the Jerusalem temple veil from top (YHWH intervention) to bottom. This rending represented the body of HaMashiyach being rent (sacrificed) providing all men everywhere direct access to YHWH through a new High Priest, Yahushua HaMashiyach and without the need for a physical temple made with hands.

“And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.”

Luke 23:45

“For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”

1 Timothy 2:5-6

“And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. Whereupon neither the first *testament* was dedicated without blood. For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This *is* the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. *It was* therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself... So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”

Hebrews 9:15-28

One more advancing (enlightening) step is required here. Most Bible scholars agree that the tabernacle, and later Solomon’s Temple, was merely a pattern (type, form) of HaMashiyach (his attributes and ministry) and a pattern (type, form) of what was actually in heaven. This concept (pattern, type, form) was divinely planned to eventually emerge on earth in the form of a spiritual “kingdom” rather than in the form of a small physical “brick and mortar” temple (or many of them). So, if this is so, then this begs the question, “What is in heaven that is to be modeled after?”

“And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending

out of heaven from God...And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred *and* forty *and* four cubits, *according to* the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was *of* jasper: and the city *was* pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And **I** saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

Revelations 21:9-23

The crux of this scriptural text has three key points, 1) The Lamb's wife is the great city (holy/new Jerusalem), 2) The intricate ornate beauty of the Lamb's wife and 3) That there is no physical temple therein—not in the old paradigm sense, but in the new paradigm sense. This new paradigm states that the Lord God Almighty (YHWH) and the Lamb comprise the temple of the Holy City. That's right! There is NO physical church or physical temple building there.

Shocked? People may utter, "How then will we have church?" This is precisely the point. The old paradigm cannot understand the new paradigm. One must abandon the old to embrace the new so one can enter therein. The reader may notice that in other scriptures they seem to imply that there is a physical temple in heaven, but that is only if one is looking through the glasses of the old paradigm.

"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out:"

Revelation 3:12

"Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple:"

Revelation 7:15

“And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out...”

Revelation 11:1-2

“And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”

Revelation 11:19

“And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.”

Revelation 14:15-17

“And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.”

Revelation 15:5-8

For some this may appear to be a contradiction, but only to the Old Testament thinker. The New Testament (new paradigm) thinker will clearly see that the below scripture provides clarification as to why Revelation 21:22 says there is no temple even if many other Revelation scriptures seemingly indicate that there is one. The “abode” of the divine is not in the physical sense, as in a physical enclosure. Such expressions are anthropological but if perceived as such (physical versus metaphysical) such a perception contradicts the true meaning (intention) of scripture. Let me explain. It is not possible to “enclose” YHWH because HE is limitless and one cannot shrink His omnipresence to less than physical enclosures of any size. Humans can dwell within enclosures completely but NOT the Divine. HIS omnipresence allows for us (and the universe) to dwell within HIM and a portion of HIM in us, but this indwelling in us is not in the

“enclosure” sense because HE indwells millions of people simultaneously. In other words, there is no single “enclosure” that can “enclose” YHWH. So, when one considers the many other non-Revelation scriptures above, relative to identifying HaMashiyach as “YHWH’s temple not made with hands”, the revelation begins to unfold. I will expound more on this in Volume 10.

“And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.”

Revelation 16:17

The voices and angels, etc. coming out from the temple of heaven are actually emerging from YHWH’s throne and only one sits on the throne (which is the true and ultimate “Mercy Seat”), YHWH in HaMashiyach (the Lamb). The heavenly (metaphysical) throne is where Yahushua sprinkled His shed blood and then sat down upon it, the throne (the Mercy Seat). Furthermore, the throne in heaven implies YHWH’s centrality, the hub from which all the universe receives its life source, guidance, forgiveness, mercy, etc.; and toward which all of creation directs its worship and praise. It does not depict a specific physical geographic location per se because YHWH is omnipresent. Thus the reason why there is no sun or moon there, for YHWH in HaMashiyach (the Lamb and His body) is the light within each “lively stone” of the New Jerusalem (the Bride), shining brightly outward to the universe and beyond.

Ironically, after HaMashiyach ascended, the disciples went back to some of their old physical temple habits, just like when Peter went back to his former fishing profession until HaMashiyach drew him away from it again, back to being a fisher of men. It seems that they did not know any better or that habits (traditions) are truly hard to break. I am sure Peter was overwhelmed by the response he saw to his sermon on the Day of Pentecost. But going to Jerusalem to tarry was meant to be a temporary event (Luke 24:49; 46-49). Some never got beyond this stumbling block nor broke free from this shackle until YHWH allowed the destruction of the temple by Rome.

“And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”

Luke 24:53

The 70 A.D. temple destruction broke the remaining temple traditions and the Apostles were dispersed with no instruction from the Divine to reconstruct the temple in Jerusalem or anywhere else on the planet. Of course HaMashiyach frequented the temple while on earth (while still under Mosaic Law), so as to reasonably blend in with the culture (OT traditions), but more importantly it was a place to find an audience and potential candidates for the upcoming Kingdom of YHWH and a place to train his disciples. But, HaMashiyach also showed them how to break free from the temple by

going out into the communities and the countryside to minister, heal and deliver and to minister to the people from house to house.

HaMashiyach never gave one command to build another physical temple, synagogue or church, even though he expected his disciples to evangelize the world. One would think that with such a monumental task, certainly there would be a need for church buildings, accompanied with training and instructions (commands) to build, etc., but one never came. Why? Because the new paradigm (testament) would be different and would not require physical church buildings (temples, etc.); the physical temple paradigm was a thing of the past, the Levitical Priesthood ended with HaMashiyach nailing everything to the tree (cross).

The new focus would be on the abstract and on investing in people. Physical temple building requires too much time, energy and funds. Besides temple building cannot and has not kept up with the population growth nor can it keep up with the kind of global evangelism YHWH desires.

There are only a few incidents found in scripture that disclose divine instructions regarding the building of a physical temple ("church buildings"). The first one came to Moses in the form of building an Old Testament Tabernacle (which was an elaborate system of tents).

*"And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. And this *is* the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' *hair*, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, *after* the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make *it*."*

Exodus 25:1-9

Later, King David, through his son Solomon, desired to build a more permanent house for the name of YHWH.

*"Then David said, This *is* the house of the LORD God, and this *is* the altar of the burnt offering for Israel. And David commanded to gather together the strangers that *were* in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God. And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the joinings; and brass in abundance without weight; Also cedar trees in abundance: for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David. And David said, Solomon my son *is* young and tender, and*



the house *that is* to be builded for the LORD *must be* exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will *therefore* now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death. Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the LORD God of Israel. And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God: But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight. Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I *will be* his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever. Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as he hath said of thee.”

1 Chronicles 22:1-11

“And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants unto Solomon; for he had heard that they had anointed him king in the room of his father: for Hiram was ever a lover of David. And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying, Thou knowest how that David my father could not build an house unto the name of the LORD his God for the wars which were about him on every side, until the LORD put them under the soles of his feet. But now the LORD my God hath given me rest on every side, *so that there is* neither adversary nor evil occurrent. And, behold, I purpose to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David my father, saying, Thy son, whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build an house unto my name.”

1 Kings 5:1-5

“Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. And he began to build in the second *day* of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.<sup>3</sup> Now these *are the things wherein* Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God...”

2 Chronicles 3:1

Thirdly, Cyrus was directed to rebuild the temple. There are scriptures that reveal temple reparations, but no other significant building or rebuilding commands.

“Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which *is* in Judah. Who *is there* among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which *is* in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he *is* the God,) which *is* in Jerusalem. And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that *is* in Jerusalem.”

Ezra 1:1-4

Last of all, there is some indication that a temple rebuilding may have occurred in Zachariah’s time.

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, which *were* in the day *that* the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built.”

Zachariah 8:9

However, in each of the above incidents, with the exception of the Tabernacle, each command to build a temple or a temple construction program was either related to building the original Temple, repairing the original temple or rebuilding the original temple that had been destroyed. In each rebuilding case, the temple is rebuilt in the same way and on the same location as the original. Israel, therefore, only ever had ONE temple, as shown earlier. You see, YHWH did not (does not) need a house made by the hands of men to live in. How is that possible given that the entire planet is symbolically equivalent in size to YHWH’s “footstool.” In fact, the original purpose of the Temple was to build a house for the **name** of YHWH. It was not meant to be a dwelling place for YHWH in the human sort of experience. Its function was to be more like a governmental palace building or an embassy building in a foreign country (Israel was supposed to be a theocracy), thus, the reason why it was so often destroyed when foreigners would overtake Israel.

“...He shall build an house for my name...”

1 Chronicles 22:10

However, on an annual occasion, YHWH did “visit” the Tabernacle briefly during the annual atonement offering event, but that too has been abolished by HaMashiyach.

“...And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them...”

Exodus 25:8

“And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which *are* upon the ark of the testimony, of all *things* which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.”

Exodus 25:22

“And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy *place* within the vail before the mercy seat, which *is* upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat. Thus shall Aaron come into the holy *place*: with a young bullock for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering. He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these *are* holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and *so* put them on... Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that *is* for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat: And he shall make an atonement for the holy *place*, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness. And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goeth in to make an atonement in the holy *place*, until he come out, and have made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel....And he that let go the goat for the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp. And the bullock *for* the sin offering, and the goat *for* the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy *place*, shall *one* carry forth without the camp; and they shall burn in the fire their skins, and their flesh, and their dung. And he shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make an atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation. And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make an atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year. And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.”

Leviticus 16:2-34

The phrase “dwelling among them” does not imply that YHWH would “live” twenty-four-seven in the Tabernacle or in Solomon’s Temple. It was only a brief annual occurrence surrounding the Day of Atonement. And, all these tabernacle and temple edifices, furniture and articles were symbols of heavenly (spiritual) meanings (which will not be discussed here). The physical temple concept was to be for a brief season, to be replaced later by a clearer, more revealed and fully disclosed plan of YHWH. To be revealed only after the death, burial and resurrection of Yahushua HaMashiyach, lest the secret plan of YHWH be foiled.

The Kingdom of YHWH “coming on earth as it is in heaven”, therefore, truly implies something different from the traditional idea. Its truest meaning reveals that the Kingdom of YHWH would not be comprised of physical things and physical temple buildings, but that Yahushua HaMashiyach would be YHWH’s temple and our temple—a place where we live, move and have our being—and believers would become the temple of YHWH as well (singularly and collectively).

YHWH’s Kingdom is a spiritual kingdom comprised of spiritual beings not physical temple buildings, churches, meat and drink.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you*? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

1 Corinthians 3:16

“For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven.”

2 Corinthians 5:1-2

“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.”

Romans 14:17

Obviously, since the physical temple in Jerusalem was destroyed nearly two millennia’s ago, YHWH has certainly not been too worried about being homeless nor overly concerned with its rebuilding, in fact there is no new mandate to build another physical temple or to rebuild the destroyed temple. And, this temple absence has not caused YHWH to be absent from among his people, since he now places an earnest portion of HIS spirit within believers—temples made without hands. Although most

ministers and ecclesiastical church leaders fundamentally agree with this, ironically, they do not really believe it since they do not practice it. More and more and larger and larger physical temples are being built around the globe and certainly not according to any uniform standard of construction that can be found in the scriptures.

The difficulty to abandon the Old Testament philosophy for many, if not for most, would be to overcome pride that goes with the “my kingdom” attitude and then discovering that the true requirements demand a more intense, intimate and vulnerable leadership, care giving and training style. However, the sustained long-term results of embracing the new paradigm (the true Kingdom of YHWH) would be earth shattering.

The old paradigm (physical temples) mentality locks ministers and people into a mindset and behavior that paralyzes people preventing them from functioning in the world as YHWH had intended. This immobility and ineffectiveness is Satan’s plan to slow down, stall and stop the Kingdom of YHWH. Focusing on physical buildings causes believers to fail the similar test HaMashiyach faced in his temptations. Satan offered all the kingdoms of the world (buildings, prime property, real estate, etc.) but as tempting as it was, it was not YHWH’s plan. Worshiping YHWH and him alone was far more important (1John 2:15-17) than any earthly kingdom. All church buildings, homes, etc. will be burned up and pass away.

So what needs to be looked at seriously for a contrast is this. Brothers and Sisters in HaMashiyach around the world are virtually starving to death, yet Europe and America spend multiplied 100’s of millions on physical church buildings and building expenses all for what? They will be burned up and pass away anyway, yet fellow Brother and Sisters around the world suffer virtually unnoticed. Where is the focus on the true body of HaMashiyach and balance in that? Read more about this in Disciples of Christ Volume Five, Six and Ten.

## BECOMING LEAVEN

So then, what is the Kingdom of Heaven (Kingdom of YHWH) like? And, what is the New Testament Approach to Evangelism?

“Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.”

Matthew 13:33

“And again he said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was

leavened.”

Luke 3:20

What is to be learned from Yahushua’s analogy (parable) above? Leaven (yeast) is a subtle eukaryotic microorganism classified in the Fungi kingdom that secretly works its way throughout an entire batch of dough, slowly yet exponentially, starting from a very small amount. Remember, Yahushua started his earthly ministry with twelve disciples and finished his earthly ministry with eleven Apostles—a very small band of men as compared to the population of the then known world. However, this simple principle produced a large religious phenomenon in the world that still exerts influences in literature, politics, economics and society to this day. Unfortunately, this principal was not fully adhered to and as a result religion became corrupted and the momentum was lost.

HaMashiyach practiced this principle for obvious reasons. Too much public exposure and popularity would expedite his death. So, HaMashiyach kept the lowest profile possible.

“Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.”

Matthew 16:20

“And they departed thence, and passed through Galilee; and he would not that any man should know it.”

Mark 9:30

Popularity also brings unnecessary criticism.

“Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.”

Matthew 15:2

“Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?”

Matthew 15:12

“At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.”

Matthew 12:1-2

“And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?”

Mark 2:16

“And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?”

Mark 2:18

“Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem. And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault. For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash *their* hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. And *when they come* from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, *as* the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables. Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?”

Mark 7:1-5

“And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them. But the scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?”

Luke 5:29-30

Of course HaMashiyach used these moments as teaching moments. The fact that He was in Israel, a very religious and receptive nation to religious teachings, was certainly helpful in some ways but unhelpful in other ways.

As part of discipleship training, HaMashiyach frequently drew his disciples away from the temple and out into the communities where they could really minister to and reach the masses. This principle can even be found within his parables.

“Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.”

Matthew 22:9-10

“So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.”

Luke 14:21-23

The above phrase “that my house may be filled” is not referring to filling Temples, Church Buildings or Large Auditoriums with people. Even though HaMashiyach could have easily done so, he was not interested in that. Never once did he command or teach on the construction of new temples, synagogues or churches for his “new” religious movement. He was interested in people. He started his earthly ministry with twelve men and ended his earthly ministry with eleven. Many ministers today would call that a failure. But his “failure” produced not only salvation for the eleven but for the whole world and which caused his teachings to spread across the globe.

If, however, one is a “temple builder” they possess short-term thinking, self centeredness, and a “my kingdom” mentality. By this leaders will defraud themselves and others of the simple mathematical extrapolation effects of the “Leaven” principle. Yes, one may develop their own small little kingdom but they will not have kept HaMashiyach’s command nor executed the will of YHWH. The “temple builder” approach will not keep abreast with population growth let alone evangelize the world.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century Apostolic Pentecostals have already had enough time to evangelize the world if they had only employed the simple “Leaven principle”, but sad to say, the world remains unevangelized. Take a look at a few mathematical extrapolations to strengthen the point.



<u>Number of Trainers</u>		<u>Number of Disciples Being Trained</u>		<u>Number of Potential New Trainers</u>
1	x	12	=	12
12	x	12	=	144
144	x	12	=	1,728
1,728	x	12	=	20,736
20,736	x	12	=	248,832
248,832	x	12	=	2,985,984
2,985,984	x	12	=	35,831,808
35,831,808	x	12	=	429,981,696
429,981,696	x	12	=	5,159,780,352
5,159,780,352	x	12	=	61,917,364,224

As can be easily seen, if just one person obeyed the will of YHWH by making disciples of just twelve men throughout in his life time and could successfully convey YHWH's will to each generation of disciples thereafter, then within just 33 years over 61 billion people could be disciplined (allowing 3.5 years for each new generation training cycle). In fact, if every Apostolic Pentecostal minister of YHWH currently on the planet would focus on training just two disciples in his life time, 20 billion people could be disciplined in just 60 years.

But to do this, each King-Priest (leader/trainer) must give his life for his disciples. His focus must always be on his disciples, to love them, to support them, to feed them and to protect them in every way so they will have the strength, training and knowledge to develop the next generation of disciples.

Not only does building temples, churches and programs distract King-Priests away from the true task set before them it breaches the power of the Leaven Principle and slows the growth. Imagine trying to build enough churches to accommodate the above extrapolated growth curve? It would be too expensive, too time consuming, too distracting and too costly. Besides there are plenty of existing buildings and homes that can be commandeered intermittently if/when needed for special occasions and small groups.

“And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover? And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he will shew you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us. And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.”

Mark 14:12-16

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.”

Acts 2:1-2

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

Acts 2:42-47

“And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

Acts 5:42

“Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you. Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

Colossians 4:14-15

“Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy *our* brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer, And to *our* beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house.”

Philemon 1:1-2

A “my kingdom” focus is truly a great temptation that can only be overcome by the recognition of the temptation, by prayer, by the word of YHWH and by dedication and submission to the will of YHWH—a willingness to take up one’s cross and follow Yahushua. Remember, HaMashiyach overcame this temptation to help believers overcome.

“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.”

Matthew 16:24-25

Remember, HaMashiyach was not distracted by the crowds, by a “my kingdom” thinking, money, fame or popularity. This is not saying that He did not minister to the crowds, but He was more interested in completing the very important divine task of fully discipling His Twelve. HaMashiyach knew that the completion of this task—replicating Himself—would be the completion of the first phase of world evangelism.

## REVISITING THE GREAT COMMISSION

With a clearer understanding of YHWH’s Kingdom, revisiting what is often called “The Great Commission” and the surrounding conversations would be appropriate.

“So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry *thee* whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what *shall* this man *do*? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what *is that* to thee? follow thou me. Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, *what is that* to thee? This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.”

John 21:15-25

HaMashiyach drilled home the point to Peter the importance of staying focused on Kingdom duties. He was to “feed” the “lambs” and the “sheep” and not to run away from his calling and be drawn back to his fishing profession like a hireling. HaMashiyach wanted him to become a good “shepherd” who would give his life for the flock. Not an easy task for Peter. The demands, the persecution, the fear of death, etc., relative to being an Apostle, would all be issues Peter would face and since he had the tendency to revert back to his fishing profession as an avoidance and self-protection mechanism, HaMashiyach pierced him to the soul.

The two significant points, among many, that HaMashiyach was driving home here was 1) Focus on feeding Yahushua’s lambs and sheep—which was his new divinely called vocation and 2) Follow Yahushua—willfully taking up his cross to follow Yahushua—to the death, for nothing less would do and nothing else mattered by comparison.

“Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Mark 16:14-20

“And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”

Luke 24:44-53

“Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”

Matthew 28:16-20

Without going into lengthy theological discussions on the definition of the gospel and what the Apostles actually preached and practiced regarding the gospel (that is more fully discussed in *Disciples of Christ Volume 3*), a focus on the material relevant to this discussion is necessary. The key elements to note are:

1. HaMashiyach’s command to go into all the world
2. HaMashiyach’s command to go into all the world to preach
3. HaMashiyach’s command to go into all the world to preach the gospel
4. HaMashiyach’s command to go into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature
5. HaMashiyach opened their understanding
6. HaMashiyach opened their understanding of the scriptures regarding the law and prophets
7. HaMashiyach opened their understanding of the scriptures regarding the gospel
8. HaMashiyach’s command to preach
9. HaMashiyach’s command to preach the gospel
10. HaMashiyach’s command to preach the gospel in his name
11. HaMashiyach’s command to preach the gospel in his name among all nations
12. HaMashiyach’s confirmation that the Apostles were witnesses “of the gospel, etc.”
13. HaMashiyach’s command to go and teach
14. HaMashiyach’s command to go and teach all nations
15. HaMashiyach’s command to go and teach all nations to observe all things HaMashiyach commanded

Notice that the list includes key action words like **preach**, **teach** and **witness** (even unto being a martyr) and that these actions should be done in all the world, to every creature and in all nations. It even includes teaching all nations to observe all of HaMashiyach’s commands. But interestingly enough, you cannot find any command in the “Great Commission” that even remotely relates to building physical temples, church buildings or auditoriums. Nor can the reader find one such command in the entire gospels or any place in the book of Acts or anywhere in the epistles that relates to constructing physical temple buildings. In fact, the reader cannot find even one passage

in the entire New Testament that indicates that any temple building programs or church building programs ever existed or should exist.

Building monuments (temples, churches, building) and having a large following is a human pride thing that started way back in Babylon and seems to have carried forward even to this modern era, even among Apostolic Pentecostal leaders and followers. But because they do exist, this begs the question: “Is there no value in having/building church buildings?” Some still argue “yes”. But since the cons outweigh the pros, it would be more useful to properly train followers (children of the light) to make a paradigm shift away from the old and become wiser than the children of this world (Luke 16:8). To do so, one must think outside the box and leave traditions behind in order to truly evangelize the world. It is time to stop being consumed with greatness; greatness of a leader; greatness of an organization; greatness of a congregation size; greatness of an orator; greatness of time and money consuming programs geared to drawing crowds and keeping them; etc., etc. What happened to good ole fashioned Bible methods, like making disciples, teaching them, letting the word and the spirit keep people, not buildings and programs; otherwise, the focus tends to shift off HaMashiyach and global evangelism and more onto carnality.

It is doubtful that most can even imagine an ecclesiastical world without physical church buildings. Modern thinking has become so entrenched in the temple building paradigm that thinking outside the box is almost sacrilegious. But consider that there are probably more than several churches in every major westernized town on earth, yet the world remains unevangelized. Temple building does not and cannot evangelize the world. Becoming leaven through making disciples is the only approach that can truly keep abreast with and exceed the population growth rate.

If building churches were part of YHWH’s will, it certainly would have been included in the New Testament. But there is no record anywhere of one single temple building (building temples or synagogues) project in the New Testament. In fact, the synagogue was a place Paul went to evangelize, like a public square, because he knew unsaved Jews would be there. He was not interested in bringing people to the temple or to the synagogue to get saved, but to go there to find unsaved Jews to bring them out.

So where does this temple building habit and mentality come from? Building kingdoms is part of the carnal nature. As stated earlier, the first genuine record of this can be found in Genesis (the building of Babel). Much later in human history, the constructing of the OT Tabernacle and Solomon’s Temple can be found, albeit its original purpose (spiritual lessons) was severely misconstrued by the Jews. In modern times, it predominately comes from Romanism and trickle-down Romanism.

Finally, group psychology, which every gathered group experiences, is another subconscious euphoric phenomena experienced in a group setting. People think, feel and behave differently in a group context than they do in a very small group or one-on-one setting. For this reason, what people think, feel and behave like in the large group (over twelve, not including the moderator) is virtually impossible to take “home” with them

when they exit the group. What is required is two-way dialogue and that can only be done successfully in groups of twelve or smaller.

This is why the preacher is often perplexed by the ratified acquiescence of the group that does not seem to go beyond the temple doors and out into the community. A large group cripples, immobilizes and debilitates listeners and causes them to depend on the preacher and the group to do their job. YHWH wants more than euphoria. YHWH wants an active, fruit bearing, holy nation of royal priests where each priest is engaged in Kingdom duties (Briggs, 2007). The old temple paradigm prevents this from happening. In fact, the end time harvest will pass by the “temple builders”, for they will be too busy building their own little kingdoms.





# Chapter

## - 6 -

### Overcoming the Temptations of Traditions

#### INTRODUCTION

Okay, so the previous chapters were a little shocking, unnerving, scary and maybe even irritating. Good, that was the intention. But of course shock therapy is only good if new habits can be formed replacing the old ones. And the new habits must also be embraced with heartfelt conviction or reverting will inevitably occur. Therefore, this chapter is dedicated to exploring ways to permanently overcome the temptations of the traditional temple building paradigm.

#### RECOGNIZING THE TEMPTATION

The first step to overcoming a temptation is to recognize the temptation itself. Without acknowledgement that the temptation is real then overcoming it will not occur. When Yahushua was faced with the lure of wealth, power and fame, he recognized it for what it was and only then was he able to address the temptation and overcome it.

It is human nature to desire wealth, power and fame but a divine nature takes up a cross, denies the carnal nature (and its goals) and follows Yahushua. It is the divine nature that says, “thy kingdom come, thy will be done.” Subjugating the carnal nature, as the reader already knows, comes via prayer, fasting and putting YHWH’s word in their heart.

Although temple building is not identified in scripture as a direct sin against YHWH, it is quite clear that it is certainly not the will of YHWH for modern times. There are plenty of more appropriate alternatives than the wasteful engagement of temple building. Why build temple buildings for YHWH when HE will not live in them? Why build temples YHWH will not preserve? Why build temples for YHWH’s name when there are far more temples already made without hands with HIS name on them, temples where HE already dwells in (right now) and many more empty human temples already “built” ready to be commandeered? The leaven approach will fill the earth with YHWH’s name, for that is the will of YHWH. The physical temple in Jerusalem was a spiritual lesson for the Messianic Kingdom—“Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits,

*and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.”

Revelation 22:1-5

“And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty *and* four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.”

Revelation 14:1

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, *which is* new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

Revelation 3:12-13

“Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name: Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:”

Romans 1:1-6

“When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 19:5

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Galatians 3:26-27

At water baptism the name Yahushua HaMashiyach is invoked over the candidate during water immersion whereby adoptees and new born babes will bear the name of YHWH.

“And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 19:3-5

It is here, at water baptism, that YHWH places HIS name on believers and by which HE fills the earth with HIS name. After all, that was the intention of the one and only physical Temple of YHWH that did exist on earth—to build a “house” for the name of YHWH.

Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I *will be* his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever. Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as he hath said of thee.”

1 Chronicles 22:1-11

“For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.”

Romans 9:17

Be reminded that YHWH now has many temples on the earth spreading and representing HIS name. These temples are HIS followers and are not physical buildings made with human hands. HIS name is placed upon people so that YHWH will fill the earth with HIS name.

The disadvantage of a physical building is that it cannot go out into the earth and propagate YHWH's name and it is ludicrous to think that people can or will build enough

physical temples to accommodate the number of temples made without hands that already bear HIS name and those that will bear HIS name in a sweeping world-wide revival. But a living temple can go into all the world, to every nation and to every creature to herald the name of YHWH and find new temples in which YHWH can dwell in and place HIS name upon.

“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, delleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;”

Acts 17:24

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you*? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

“And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

2 Corinthians 6:16

“For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.”

1 Corinthians 3:9

“To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an

holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 2:4-5

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;<sup>21</sup> In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

## THE CULMINATION OF YHWH's PLAN

Without going into great detail here, it is prudent to mention that as a bride bears the name of her husband so will the bride of HaMashiyach bear YHWH's (in Yahushua) name. It is the church that is the bride of HaMashiyach and the church is comprised of people (believers), not buildings, who bears the name of YHWH and worships her husband. In fact, the scriptures reveal that the Holy City is the Bride of HaMashiyach, the jewel of God.

“Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.”

John 3:28

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith to unto me, these are the true sayings of God.”

Revelation 19:7-9

“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

Revelation 21:2

“And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,”

Revelation 21:9

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

Revelation 22:17

“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.”

Ephesians 5:23

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

Ephesians 5:25-27

“This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

Ephesians 5:32

“*Seeing then that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth

righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.”

2 Peter 3:12-14

Even HaMashiyach used a parable of a man planning to marry ten virgins as an analogy about the kingdom of heaven.

“Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom... And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, *Not so*; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”

Matthew 25:1-13

Thus the church, the collective body (group) of saints, who have adorned themselves with righteousness, is the Holy City and the Holy City is the Bride of HaMashiyach (HaMashiyach is the Lamb, the Husband), and YHWH in the Lamb is the Temple of the Holy City. And since the saints are the Wife—the body of HaMashiyach (HaMashiyach is the Head of the Body)—then the saints (collectively and individually) are also the Temple of the Holy City and of YHWH. This is why the scriptures say,

“Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”

John 14:19-21

“*Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

John 14:17

Therefore, it can be concluded by following the LOVE continuum within the scriptures that YHWH's grand finale—the culmination of all things—is the presentation of his prepared bride unto Himself and the universe—which HE loved from the beginning since HE pre-planned, foresaw, foreknew, pre-ordained and then facilitated. Yes YHWH is the author of this entire LOVE STORY.

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God”

Hebrews 12:2

“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”

Hebrews 5:9

This bride is the “temple” where YHWH will dwell, within the atmosphere of LOVE, worship, praise and adoration willfully coming from the “temple” (YHWH's wife) towards YHWH, forever and ever, amen.

“But thou *art* holy, *O thou* that inhabitest the praises of Israel.”

Psalms 22:3

“Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens, his name is the Lord (JAH), and rejoice before him.”

Psalms 68:4

“But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

“And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Hallelujah; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous *are* his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore,



which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Hallelujah. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Hallelujah. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Hallelujah: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.”

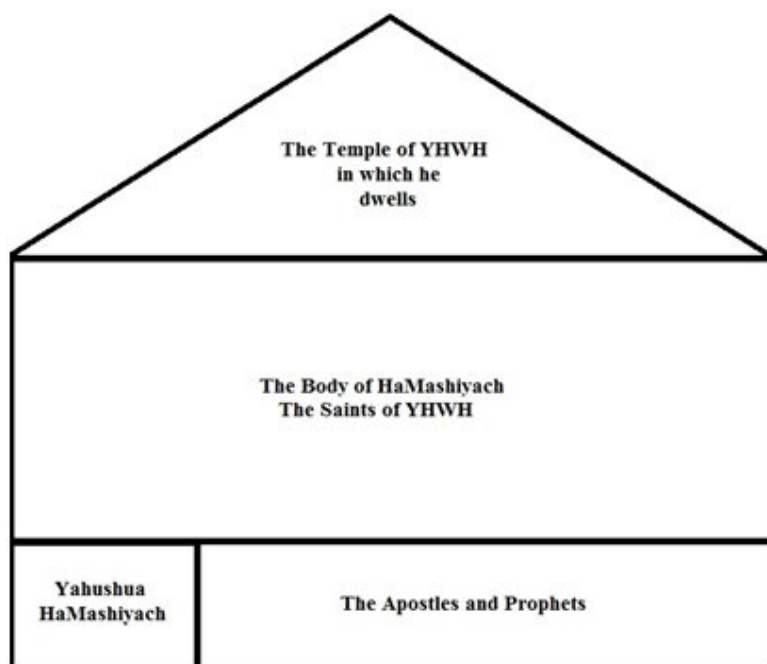
Revelation 19:1-7

Even Paul alludes to Sarah (Abraham’s **wife**) as Jerusalem, the mother of us all.

“For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.”

Galatians 4:25-26

He compares the natural (carnal wife-old Jerusalem) to the spiritual (heavenly wife-New Jerusalem).



The illustration above shows that the temple of YHWH is comprised of a “chief cornerstone” a “foundation” and a house (body) that sits on the foundation. This is the temple of YHWH that YHWH lives in. And since the temple is comprised of a collection of members in particular, i.e., HaMashiyach, Apostles, Prophets and the rest of the body, YHWH lives in HIS corporate body (temple) as well as in each member individually. YHWH DOES NOT “dwell in” physical church buildings or temples.

## CONCLUSION

Therefore, it makes no sense to waste precious time, energy and money on building something that YHWH is not interested in, not dwelling in and will not preserve. Do not the scriptures say,

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

2 Peter 3:9-10

“*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”*

2 Peter 3:11-13

“According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

It is quite obvious that Apostle Paul did not put a lot of stock in things built by the hands of men consisting of physical earthly materials, i.e., gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or stubble. Apostle Paul declared that a foundation had been laid, which is Yahushua HaMashiyach and that every man needs to “take heed” how they build thereupon.

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

## FORMING NEW HABITS

*Disciples of Christ Volume 5 & 6* will elaborate in more detail about the behaviors and habits expected from Kingdom Priests. But for now, a brief and limited discussion will get the reader started on exploring ideas.

The forming of new habits takes a tremendous amount of focus and determination. It is also best to have a clear plan of execution before launching new activities. Therefore, herein below are a few suggestions that will hopefully plant some seeds.

1. Establish reasonable and achievable Goals. For example, one may set the following Goals:

**Goal 1:** Disciple two men over the next three and a half years (or more if reasonable); men that the reader believes will pledge themselves to enter into a discipleship training program with the reader, men who the reader will give his/her life for and invest in, with prayers, teaching, energy, time, and finances.

**Goal 2:** Establish a discipleship training program comprised of both theological teachings and practicums.

2. Establish reasonable Objectives to reach your Goals. For example, one may set the following Objectives:

**Objective1:** Find two men willing to commit to a three and a half year discipleship training program that the reader will support in every way.

**Objective 2:** Find Biblically sound materials relative to establishing the doctrines, teachings and commands of Yahushua HaMashiyach; create materials where other materials are deficient or incomplete; establish practicum objectives and outcomes.

3. Establish reasonable Strategies to reach your Goals

**Strategy1:** Interview potential disciple candidates until target is met.

**Strategy2:** Start creating (or search for) literature sources and create a three and half year syllabus with Planned practicums relative to the training materials that will help establish and replicate the execution of YHWH's will—thy kingdom come, they will be done. Practicums can include going into the communities to visit, pray, heal, deliver, feed, encourage, support the poor and needy and practice sharing the word with others.

Be determined that to stick to this plan, pray daily about it and force faithful execution of the plan daily. Ask YHWH to help reveal the master plan and give strength to yield to YHWH's will and not the carnal will.

*Disciples of Christ Volume 5 & 6* will go into greater detail that will assist further exploration and insight on how the leaven approach can be applied and will work.

# Chapter

- 7 -

## Transcending Rhetoric with Bona fide Action

### INTRODUCTION

Most pastors have often wondered how to motivate people beyond thought (philosophy) and into action. Well, here is a thought. Get the preacher out from behind the pulpit to start living in and doing (modeling-practicing) the will of YHWH. Let them start by taking on some disciples and working closely and intimately with them. It will force both the trainer and the disciples into bona fide action. And teach the disciples, as Kingdom Priests to make disciples infinitum generation after generation as Yahushua commanded, not focused on building large congregations and edifices. Sure, it may be more uncomfortable and more vulnerable than when shielded behind, pulpits, suits and ties, etc., but it will launch the trainer and the disciples into the heart of the will of YHWH. They will be truly engaged in executing the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" and being a catalyst to bring about the end time harvest.

"But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:36-38

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

Luke 10:2

"Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that

whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.”

John 4:34-38

## CHOOSING DISCIPLE CANDIDATES

As indicated in Chapter 4 above, when HaMashiyach was seeking out disciples to proselytize he turned to men who were obviously Jewish and who possessed qualities, skills and beliefs already inherent, attributes that HaMashiyach felt beneficial to discipleship. Most were humble men from varying backgrounds.

The sociopolitical context was set, so once candidates were selected, HaMashiyach had only to understand them and speak to them within the framework of their specific thinking, i.e., HaMashiyach employed rhetoric relative to the candidate's reality. The simple task was to reach their psyche (heart and mind) by utilizing words that would resonate with them, words that would convince them that HE was the HaMashiyach (that they already longed for), words that would escalate the idea the he would rescue them from bondage, words that would liberate them and give them a new meaning on life, words that would fulfill their hopes and dreams.

In other words, understanding the sociopolitical environment, economic environment, the human psyche, the human nature and human needs will not only help the trainer select appropriate candidates but will help them improve retention of said disciples once training has commenced.

## WHAT IF I LOSE A DISCIPLE OR TWO?

Even HaMashiyach lost disciples, so do not worry. Just make the best effort and do not take on an unrealistic number of disciples. Grow into it if necessary.

“After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.”

Luke 10:1

“From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.”

John 6:66

“Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? of Judas Iscariot *the son* of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.”

John 6:70-71

## WHAT ABOUT THE EXISTING CHURCH BUILDINGS AND SAINTS?

Do not to worry, and rest assured that existing church buildings can serve numerous purposes, especially if they are already paid for. Many useful functions come to mind and at minimum becoming a “store house” and a place for a charity “feeding the poor” program. And if ever used for an annual “holy day” convention (e.g., Pentecost or Passover), it can be an event to find candidate disciples, like Paul did. He went to the synagogues to find Jews to bring them out and get them New Covenant enjoined. But never lose the focus of making disciples. Eventually, the church building would only be suitable (relative to size) for disciple conferences and could be shared with other “down-line” disciple trainers for their disciple conferences. Ultimately, stay away from the church building as much as possible. If you stay focused on just your disciples, the “down-line” will eventually become staggering in number, and because “numbering the people” is a human pride thing that YHWH does not favor, best to ignore it. Let YHWH track the numbers. It is HE that “adds to the church daily” as such as should be saved anyway.

Existing saints may not be ready for such a paradigm shift because they are so culturally entrenched. But a good starting place would be to encourage home meetings with selected disciples. Some pastors have used what they call “cell groups”, but this approach still links people to one church building and one leader in a horizontal direction versus an unlimited (vertical) number of down-line generations with each being accountable to only one generation up-line and one generation down-line.

Have the selected disciples help feed the “lambs” as part of their practicum training—keep them planting the seeds of YHWH’s word for all are potential disciples for training one day, if not already. One plants, another waters but YHWH gives the increase. Keep feeding them and keep planting the seed of YHWH’s word. But, the main priority is on training the disciples. And since it is YHWH’s kingdom, trainers should gladly share opportunities with the disciples to take on house churches to start their own band of disciples. No need to worry, if the disciples were properly trained, they will do fine.

The trainer must be prepared to give his/her life for the disciples. Give totally to them, even if one of them turns out to be a “Judas”. It is the will of YHWH. Apostle Paul often worked with his own hands to support men he tutored (discipled). It is part of the cost of being a shepherd.

“Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.”

1 John 3:16

“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”

John 10:11

Take the Goals, Objectives and Strategies that were developed and passionately launch them into action. Be a partaker of the first fruits. Lead by example. After all, HaMashiyach clearly said that the greatest is the servant of all. So, start serving, start being a good shepherd to the flock, start investing in them and in the kingdom like never before. It is time for leaders to get out of the comfortable protection of the ecclesiastical sanctuary and the comfortable church liturgical methods and practices. Go out into the highways and byways and take the disciples alongside. Find those receptive to the gift in hand. It is great training for the disciples.

With the modern day trend to create large congregations (mega churches), the making of disciples is all but a thing of the past. For most ministers, teaching a few home Bible studies, getting them baptized and coming to church regularly, getting them to pay their tithes and keeping them baited by church choirs, activities and pretty sermons seems to be the norm for discipling these days. What happened to the real teaching and training of candidate disciples?

If someone has a true desire to “follow Yahushua”, do not ship them off to Bible Schools because of being too busy with one’s hectic little kingdom. They should be trained right under the reader’s wing and when that disciple is ready to take on a new generation, let them begin. If a minister does not know how to do this, then they should become equipped. Start by being less focused on temple building and having a large congregation so it is easier to focus on YHWH’s will. This will allow the trainer to see the bigger picture and begin discipling candidates. It is YHWH’s will and it is the only way to truly evangelize the world.

## CHOOSING YOUR AUDIENCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Aside from privately teaching his disciples, what audience did HaMashiyach seek to minister to with his disciples at his side? As stated earlier, HaMashiyach sought out the sick, the hault, the maimed, the blind, the publicans and sinners. Why? Because the sick need a physician, the healthy people do not need a physician and so on.



“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*? Or saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me...but the righteous into life eternal.”

Matthew 25:34-40, 46

“When Jesus heard *it*, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinner to repentance.”

Mark 2:17

Wow, what a practicum. Imagine, training and working side by side with Yahushua HaMashiyach. What an unforgettable experience. The reader can create some similar training experiences for their disciples, if they will apply themselves and see the will of YHWH.

## SHOULD I HAVE ANY “CHURCH” PROGRAMS?

Consider why the programs engaged in social services have grown larger than many church congregations, and without large church buildings? It happens because they often follow some of the principles of HaMashiyach more accurately than the people who claim to be the “church”. And they do not require the use of huge auditoriums to effectively manage continued growth. Other emerging institutions are also realizing that large and expensive buildings are debilitating to rapid growth. So, how is it that the church is fixated on physical temples made with hands?

It is quite likely that if trainers and their disciples were truly engaged in a more equitable charity program, the poorest of saints in communities of the poorest countries would be greater served and the church would begin to look more similar to what is read about in the book of Acts. In fact, most charity programs and charity gifts are nothing but “leftovers”, “corporate trash”, etc. The lesson we learn from the O.T. concerning the “third year tithe” (one of the earliest charity programs recorded in history) is that this kind of giving was NOT to be selected because of blemishes, etc. but was to be from among the choice stock, etc.

“And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.”

Acts 2:44-45

“And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples *unto them*, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid *their* hands on them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.”

Acts 6:1-7

So, if there are any programs that would be appropriate, it would be social gospel programs. Not only are they Biblical, but this is what Yahushua modeled (Matthew 19:21; John 13:29; Matthew 14; Luke 14:13-14; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; etc.) and is one of the most beneficial and cost effective ways to expand the Kingdom of YHWH. There are poor and needy people in every country on the earth, if believers will but look for them and look for them they must. The Apostolic Pentecostal body should not cater to just the middle class or the elite. In fact, it should focus on the poor and the needy if it is going to be in alignment with YHWH's will. However, most church groups have a little “side ministry”, like a small soup kitchen or food pantry, if they are fortunate—just enough to suave the bleeding conscience.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

James 1:27

“For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always.”

Mark 14:7

“But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.”

Luke 14:13-14

“So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.”

Luke 14:21-23

“For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always.”

Matthew 26:11

“The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.”

Matthew 11:5

“The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

Luke 4:18-19

“Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. And blessed is *he*, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”

Luke 7:22-23

## THE TRUE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

Of course, trainers and their disciples will face the same difficult choices as did the people in HaMashiyach's day.

"Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go *and* sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions."

Matthew 19:21-22

"So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."

Luke 14:33

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

Matthew 16:24-25

"Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Luke 12:33-34

Possessions and money tie people down to this world whereas giving it away frees people from this world and which in turn links their hearts to the heavens (1 John 2:14-17).

"I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father."

John 16:28

## WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME?

It is natural to ask the same question that the disciples asked Yahushua. They wondered what was in it for them, since they had forsaken all. Keep in mind, if a trainer will train their disciples well, they will see the need to care for the elderly or the debilitated which may eventually include the trainer. That is why HaMashiyach said this to Peter.

“Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.”

Matthew 19:27-30

“Then Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee. And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.”

Luke 18:29-30

In other scriptures Yahushua said this.

“Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the

morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.”

Matthew 6:25-34

“Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.”

Matthew 10:29-31

“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*? Or saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me...but the righteous into life eternal.”

Matthew 25:34-40, 46

“But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.”

Luke 14:13-14

“And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.”

Luke 22:35

Of course there are times when a believer needs to take a purse (etc.), but having the wisdom to know when is the key. Generally speaking, when Kingdom Priests are working in Gentile communities, among sinners, they will have to support themselves. Gentiles have no real concept or conviction to support this kind of ministry anyway.

“Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end. And they said, Lord, behold, here *are* two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough.”

Luke 22:36-38

Does this mean that everyone should stop working and that everything should be sold?

Of course not. As the band of disciples finish their training and launch out on their own, they will be able to support themselves as needed (like Paul did) by their own work and the ministerial support that comes in from future supporters. Disciples are expected to forsake all, which keeps their expenses low. Non-disciples are not, only if they submit to discipleship. If everyone in the world stopped working at once, who would support the disciples? But from time to time a wealthy individual decides to forsake all. But, Yahushua did not tell the rich young ruler to give his money to Judas, he said, give it to the poor. He and his disciples did not need much money, just enough for daily sustenance.

“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat... Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.”

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

“Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you.”

2 Thessalonians 3:8

“And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.”

Luke 8:2-3

Even the rich young ruler would have been quite occupied with the liquidation of assets and then distributing his wealth to the poor. It would have been a ministry in and of itself and when he was done with that, he was instructed to follow Yahushua. Little did the rich young ruler know that by giving his wealth to the poor he would also be fulfilling a portion of YHWH's will.

## DO NOT TRY TO BE POLITICALLY ALLIGNED

Although HaMashiyach was very much aware of the political environment around him, he was not interested in aligning with them, particularly if they resisted or were contrary to YHWH's Kingdom coming "on earth as it is in heaven."

Remember this,

*"Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."*

Isaiah 43:7

*"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 3:13-14

May YHWH touch hearts and minds greatly and help them enter into HIS harvest in accordance to the will of YHWH.

## FINAL NOTE

With the "Thy Kingdom Come Thy Will be Done" perspective freshly reviewed, revisit all the parables relating to the Kingdom of Heaven or the Kingdom of God in the New Testament and new light and greater meaning may transpire.

Matthew 13:18-23 Parable of the Sower  
Matthew 13:24-30 Parable of the Tares  
Matthew 13:31-32 Parable of the Mustard Seed  
And Many Others



*Disciples of Christ Volume 5 & 6* will go into greater detail that will assist further exploration and insight on how the leaven approach can be applied and will work.



## **Addendums**



## Chapter One

### Quiz Questions

1. What was YHWH's first creative act? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who was it created for? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What truths can be learned relative to YHWH's first creative act relative to the TDIC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In what way does it relate to the culmination of all things? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In what ways does the "Big Bang" theory contradict the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What is one required to possess to believe in divine creation? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What was YHWH's second creative act relative to the first? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What truths can be learned relative to YHWH's second creative act? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Although teleology is not a Biblical term, what is its meaning? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What Biblical truths relate to the meaning of teleology? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Identify three elements that define the "IS" (essence) of YHWH as delineated in this chapter. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!

## Chapter Two

### Quiz Questions

1. What is the core divine “force” that caused YHWH to create the universe? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the core divine cohesive “force” that keeps the universe together? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the core divine “force” that will bring about the culmination of all things?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Identify four elements that define the “IS” (essence) of YHWH as delineated in this chapter. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What are the three major elements that defines Satan as delineated in this chapter?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Identify five attributes/actions that LOVE is not. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Identify five attributes/actions that LOVE is. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Is LOVE behavior (possession of) optional for the believer? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is the longevity of LOVE? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What is the longevity of hope? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What is the longevity of faith? \_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!



## Chapter Three Quiz Questions

1. Where can the scriptural roots of the Universal Tri-Directional Axiom be found?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Redraw the Universal Tri-Directional Axiom drawing.
3. What is the Axiom of the Universal Tri-Directional Axiom? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the Tri-Directions? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Is the essence of LOVE comprised of words, cognition, action or affect? Please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How does one acquire divine LOVE? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What two things are people called that do not possess/show LOVE towards his brother? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What kind of behavior reveals the possession of LOVE? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Is the possession of LOVE mandatory or optional? \_\_\_\_\_
10. If we say we LOVE YHWH, who must we also love? \_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!

## Chapter Four

### Quiz Questions

1. What should come on earth that is relative to the divine will of YHWH? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How does this divine will relate to YHWH's first creative act? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In what ways are things to be different in YHWH's kingdom as compared to the way humanity structures carnal kingdoms? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the Kingdom of YHWH comprised of? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Is YHWH's kingdom abstract or concrete? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What scriptural text defines the essence of YHWH's kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How should kingdom (Yahushua's) priests be treated? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Who was HaMashiyach's main focus relative to YHWH kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How does this relate to YHWH's first creative act? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What should the focus be of kingdom (Yahushua's) priests? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!

## Chapter Five

### Quiz Questions

1. What attitude did HaMashiyach face within his own disciples relative to physical temple buildings? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the Biblical leaven principle relative to making disciple? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Can the physical temple building concept evangelize the world? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can the leaven principle evangelize the world? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What replaces physical temples building that were made with hands? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Will there be a physical temple building in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In what way(s) does a large group scenario impede mobilization of individuals?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Define the purest meaning of what is often called the “Great Commission”. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Identify at least three key action words found in the so called “Great Commission”. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What will most likely pass by “temple builders”? \_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!

## Chapter Six Quiz Questions

1. What is the purpose/focus of Chapter Six? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the first step in overcoming temptation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Summarize the divine culmination plan? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who or what is the Lamb's (Yahushua's) wife? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Re-Draw the true Temple of YHWH drawing.
6. Identify three potential plans that could assist in replacing old "temple builder" habits. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why do "men" focus on "temple building" efforts, (beyond habits and misguided teaching/training)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What mobility advantage does the leaven principle have over the "temple builder's" method? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Who is the chief cornerstone of YHWH's building? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What is the foundation of YHWH's building comprised of? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!



## Chapter Seven

### Quiz Questions

1. What difficulty do most pastors face relative to church member involvement?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What deficiency did HaMashiyach identify relative to the harvest?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who gives the increase? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who adds to the church (YHWH's building)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What charity program should the body of Yahushua be involved in? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the true cost of discipleship? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the best training practicum for disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What is more important than desiring or striving to build mega churches? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. In what way should a discipleship trainer be a partaker of the "first fruits"? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. In what way does discipleship training relate to YHWH's first creative act? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

On the space provided below write a one-page response to this Chapter. Express your thoughts and feelings about this Chapter and how you have received it!

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Agape:** A divine force (axiomatic) found in the universe that all other forces are subordinate to. When possessed by humans it causes-evokes cognitive choices to express benevolent charitable and irrevocable acts-behaviors towards others without discrimination. It is often translated as love or charity in Holy Writ, but its true meaning is often lost in translation and can be misconstrued by convoluted meanings found in various cultures and languages.

**1st Law of Thermodynamics:** The first law of thermodynamics, which is an expression of the principle of conservation of energy, which states that energy can be transformed (changed from one form to another), but cannot be created or destroyed. The increase in the internal energy of a system is equal to the amount of energy added by heating the system minus the amount lost as a result of the work done by the system on its surroundings. The first law of thermodynamic says that energy is conserved in any process involving a thermodynamic system and its surroundings. Frequently it is convenient to focus on changes in the assumed internal energy ( $U$ ) and to regard them as due to a combination of heat ( $Q$ ) added to the system and work done by the system ( $W$ ). Taking  $dU$  as an incremental (differential) change in internal energy, which is often written this way,

$$dU = \delta Q - \delta W$$

Where  $\delta Q$  and  $\delta W$  are incremental changes in heat and work, respectively. The minus sign in front of the  $\delta W$  indicates that a positive amount of work done by the system leads to energy being lost from the system.

**2nd Law of Thermodynamics:** In simple terms, the second law is an expression of the fact that over time, ignoring the effects of self-gravity, differences in temperature, pressure, and chemical potential tend to even out in a physical system that is isolated from the outside world. Entropy is a measure of how much this evening-out process has progressed. Heat generally cannot flow spontaneously from a material at lower temperature to a material at higher temperature.

**Entropy:** Entropy is a measure of how organized or disorganized a system is: "Gain of entropy eventually is nothing more nor less than loss of information. Entropy is as such a function of a system's tendency towards spontaneous change. For isolated systems, entropy never decreases. The second law of thermodynamics states that the total entropy of any system cannot decrease other than by increasing the entropy of some other system. Hence, in a system isolated from its environment, the entropy of that system cannot decrease. It follows that heat cannot flow from a colder body to a hotter body without the application of work (e.g., the imposition of divine order relative to the creation of the universe) to the colder body. Secondly, it is impossible for any device operating on a cycle to produce net work from a single temperature reservoir; the production of net work requires flow of heat from a hotter reservoir to a colder reservoir.

As a result, there is no possibility of a "perpetual motion" system. Finally, it follows that a reduction in the increase of entropy in a specified process, such as a chemical reaction, means that it is energetically more efficient.

**Singularity:** The present Cosmology theory is that the universe enjoyed a period of "rulelessness" of about 3 seconds, after which the elements formed and the fundamental forces of the universe, gravity included, were functioning as we see them today. Ah, but there is a problem. The singularity formed by the primordial egg turns out to be rather large.

### **The Universe's Age**

The Big Bang is currently imagined to have occurred 14 billion years ago.

The farthest object seen in the sky by the Hubble and Keck Telescopes is 13 billion light-years distant, and is assumed to have been created when the universe was just 750 million years old. It would take at least that long (if not longer) for the material from the theorized Big Bang to coalesce into stars and for those stars to form a rotating galaxy. But here is the problem. We are seeing that object 13 billion light-years distant not as it is today and where it is today but as it was and where it was, 13 billion years ago, 13 billion light-years distant from earth.

In other words, for this galaxy to lie 13 billion light-years away from Earth only 750 million years after the Big Bang, it would have had to travel 13 billion light years in just 750 million years' time. That requires the galaxy in question to travel more than 17 times faster than the speed of light, a speed limit which according to the Big Bang supporters was in effect from the moment the universe was 3 seconds old.

### **Singularity:**

Estimates of the total mass of the universe vary wildly, given that the ends of the universe have not yet been determined. One estimate is found at [http://www.rostra.dk/louis/quant\\_11.html](http://www.rostra.dk/louis/quant_11.html) of  $2.6 \times 10^{60}$ .

From the mass, you can calculate the diameter of the event horizon by finding the distance from a point mass that will have an escape velocity of  $c$ . Use  $\sqrt{2GM/r}$  where  $M$  is the mass of the hole (the entire universe in this case) and  $r$  is the radius (classical), and  $G$  is the gravitational constant. Work it backward starting at  $c$  and you get

$$c^2 = 2GM/r.$$

This works out to an event horizon light years across!

In short, at the moment in time when the Big Bang theorists claim the universe was functioning as it does today, complete with all fundamental forces, the entirety of the universe's mass was still well within the event horizon of its own gravity well. That the well was not the product of a true singularity is irrelevant, Newton's equation provides an equivalent gravity field for a singularity or a super dense mass in a localized region. Therefore the Big Bang, as currently described, could not have produced the universe as we see it today. At three seconds, the time the theorists claim the universe started operating as we know it, it would have come under the influence of its own gravity and unable to reach an escape velocity exceeding that of light, collapsed back into itself.

### **Population Stars:**

For the purposes of this thought experiment, let us assume that God waved a magic wand and the universe popped into existence from a Big Bang, and that "somehow" the universe escaped from its own gravity well. With the entire  $2.6 \times 10^{60}$  mass/energy of the universe confined to that small region, the temperatures and pressures amount to a super-supernova. We already know that in the cataclysm of a supernova, the heavier elements are created. That is where all the heavy elements in your body were created; inside an exploding star. Therefore, in that moment of super-creation called the Big Bang, as the universe started to operate by the rules we know today, the expanding universe should be creating all the known heavy elements.

Population II stars are stars with no heavy elements in them. When they explode at the end of their life cycles, heavy elements are created. These are swept up by stars that form afterwards creating Population I stars, usually with planets around them. Population I stars have heavy elements. Population II stars do not.

If the Big Bang had happened, the universe would be filled with heavy elements created in those first few moments the universe started to operate under the rules of physics we know today. There should not be any stars in existence devoid of those heavy elements. And yet there are.

The existence of Population II stars, devoid of heavy elements, directly contradicts the theory of the Big Bang.

### **Formation of Elements:**

Current stars are known to form elements, not just during a supposed Big Bang event. The point missed by most Big Bang proponents is that the formation of elements is not exclusive and still requires the use of pre-existing eternal invisible "things". Thus smaller event versions of the supposed "super nova" (Big Bang) behave in the same way as attributed to only the "super nova" and thus controverts an exclusive Big Bang event in a multiplicity of ways.



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**Daniel Briggs, Ph.D.**

**Brother Daniel Briggs** earned his Ph.D. from [Walden University](#), his C.A.C. from AAINE (n/f [Alfred Adler Institute of New England](#)), his B.A. in Fine Arts in Writing & Literature from [Union Institute & University](#), and did most of his undergraduate work in Sociology at [Norwich University](#). He also received a Th.B. at [Indiana Bible College](#). He has held various professional positions ranging from Home Missionary (Founder/Pastor of FACB), CEO, Psychoanalyst, LCPC Therapist, Non-Destructive Radiographer II (within an aerospace manufacturing company, FMI), Financial Consultant (within a Wall Street company, First Investors), owned/operated a successful mechanical engineering company, etc. He taught Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy at IADT of Brown University for 4 ½ years, which is accredited by ACICS, writes books, and is also the Chairman of WCMA. He was also a journalist for the Examiner.com.

Dr. Briggs founded [Bangor Counseling Center](#), Cornerstone, Inc. (n/f), Cornerstone Theological University, First Apostolic Church of Biddeford, Apostolic Church of Faith, Maine Christian Ministries, and others. He also founded [Aletheia Logos University](#), which is now approved to operate in the State of Florida, and [Transmutation Psychology Institute](#). He also helped establish, design and build the Pentecostal Church of Moncton. He has authored several books, most notably his [Disciples of Christ Volumes, \(1 - 12\)](#), [The Origins of Morality](#) and [A Comparative Historical Analysis of Freudian, Adlerian and Theocentric Psychologies](#).

Dr. Briggs, is a third generation clergyman who began his life calling when he was just 15 years old, when he first started preaching under the guidance of his father, Rev. Arthur Briggs, in Winterport, Maine. When Dr. Daniel Briggs was 17 years old he began attending seminary in the USA and by 18 years of age he transferred to a Canadian seminary and simultaneously began to minister in many churches throughout Eastern Canada. By age 21 Dr. Daniel Briggs left Canada and went to Biddeford, Maine (a predominately catholic French speaking city) to start a new congregation he named [First Apostolic Church of Biddeford](#) (FACB), where he also founded and headquartered WCMA-Maine in 1993. WCMA-Maine divested in 2008 to WCMA-Florida (2006). It has since flourished to over 38,000 clerics representing over 5.2 million constituents.

The main premise of this book was endorsed by Rev. Dr. David Bernard in the early nineties when it was first being developed. A copy of that interview is available upon.