
YOM TERUAH - ROSH HOSHANAH – 2013

Welcome to Bible study. Today is the first day of Tishri, the seventh month in the Hebrew sacred calendar, but the first month of the fall civil calendar and the Creation calendar. This was the day that Adam was created in the Garden of Eden. The sixth day Creation Week was Tishri 1. Adam was our progenitor and God began to teach him in the Garden and made a helpmate fit for him. Adam named his helpmeet Eve, the mother of all living human beings that came from that union. There were no others before Adam and Eve. They were the first of God's plan. From Adam and Eve sprung the whole human race—every nation of earth. We are all potentially sons of God. He wants mankind to become his spiritual sons. He has a plan that he is working out below on this earth. That plan is to bring us all into his spiritual kingdom. He will be our Father throughout all eternity, and we will be his family and in positions of authority over the entire universe forever.

In order to accomplish his plan, he needed to create man of the dust of the ground and make him physical—a living *nehfish* (soul). God created man and breathed the breathe of life into his nostrils, and man became a living soul made in the image and likeness of God. **Genesis 1:26**—“God said let us make man in our image after our likeness”, so we have been made according to his image and likeness. Most people do not know what that means. Theologians have had many thoughts on the subject of “What is God like?” **Revelation 1: 8-9**—“I am Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” John says he was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and he heard behind him a loud voice like a trumpet, saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last.” **Verse 13**--gives us a picture of the glorified Jesus Christ.” He is clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girded about the chest with a golden ban. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes like a flame of fire, His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His countenance was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.” We will see him just like he is. He is coming with clouds and every eye shall see him.

I John 3:1—“Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when he comes, we shall be like Him, for we shall see him as he is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as he is pure.” We are made to be God's children. **Philippians 3:20**—“Our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to his glorious body, according to the working by which he is able even to subdue all things to himself.” We are going to have glorious bodies like him. We are waiting for the resurrection day when we will be transformed. **1 Corinthians 15:51-54**—“Behold, I show you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, *at the last trump*: for the trumpet

shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, and then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory'." The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

When does this occur? This occurs at the last trumpet and the resurrection of the dead. **Isaiah 27:13**—"it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem." This is talking about the gathering of Israel in the end times. This is also spoken of in **Isaiah 11:1**—"there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. He shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord. And he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, nor reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. Righteous shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins." Christ is coming very soon.

He is getting ready for the Day of Judgment. It is also pictured by The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). God judges, atones and pardons sin. For those who have repented and qualified they will be pardoned and atoned for through the blood of the Messiah. Those who refuse to repent and don't really learn what repentance really is are going to be cast into the Lake of Fire where they will be consumed root and branch (become ashes). Those who are condemned will perish; those who are saved and redeemed will inherit eternal life. Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) occurs ten days before Atonement (Yom Kippur). Inclusively counting, The Day of Atonement is ten days from now. Today is day one and the first day of the **Days of Awe** (repentance). We have been given ten days between Trumpets and Atonement to examine our hearts and minds, our beliefs and desires making sure that we really know and are convinced beyond a shadow of doubt that what we have is really the truth given by God. There is so much unbridled confusion today because the devil is on the rampage deceiving people. Many false ministers have departed from the truth and are teaching false doctrines, confusing people and leading them astray.

An email came today from a man who was really confused and almost beside himself with confusion. He was listing the many churches and different leaders that came out of the Worldwide Church of God saying they all disagree on so many things, especially the calendar. He goes on to say, "Can that really be important?" He just wants everybody to get together on the same page and stop disagreeing, and for everything be alright. Isn't that like the Pharisees in the days of the New Testament? Christ said to the Pharisees, "you tithe the little things like the herbs of mint and cumin and you should, but don't leave the more important things undone like mercy and justice." Christ called them false teachers who traded-in the commandments of God and replaced them with your own traditions and doctrines of men. Now, that is not "nit-picking", that is just plain perversion and rejecting the laws of God and the Torah.

The Jews rejected God's laws and persecuted his servants and the apostles. Some were stoned to death, others were thrown in prison and some of them were killed. Stephen is first mentioned in

Acts of the Apostles as one of seven [deacons](#) appointed by the [Apostles](#) to distribute food and charitable aid to poorer members of the community in the early church.¹ Steven a deacon in the early church was accused of declaring that Jesus would destroy the Temple in Jerusalem and of changing the customs of Moses, but appealed to the Jewish scriptures to prove how the laws of Moses were not subverted by Jesus but, instead, were being fulfilled... Stephen and James (67 AD) were both martyred.

Evidence of the life of James can be found outside of the Bible, from the historian Eusebius. In Josephus' *Antiquities of the Jews*, book 20 chapter nine, he mentions James the brother of Jesus and Ananias the High priest. According to the Bible, James, who wrote the book of James found in the New Testament, was the brother of Jesus Christ— **Mark 6:2-3**." He was known in Judea as a man of righteous character who they were planning to make the high priest of the Jewish religion. James' knees looked like camel's knees because of the calluses on his knees from extended kneeling in prayer. There was one condition, he had to reject Christ, but he refused to do this and *publicly stated that Christ was the Messiah*. Ananias, the younger, high priest of Judea, who observed the ways of the Sadducees called James and others with him before the Sanhedrin and accused him of violating the law. The Sanhedrin ordered that he should be put to death by stoning. Josephus states that James was martyred by the Sanhedrin. The angry mob was so angry that they pushed him over a cliff from the temple and stoned him to death. This is also written about in the history of the church, [The Early Church Fathers](#).

Christ was crucified in 30 A.D., 40 years later in 70 A.D. Rome invaded and conquered Jerusalem and burned down the temple. The Jews got away from the laws and truth of God after being taken into captivity. When Emperor Constantine and a small group of Roman Catholic bishops convened the Nicene Council in 325 A.D., the Jews were forbidden to have a Sanhedrin [their religious law making body] and forbade the Christians to have anything to do with the Jewish laws or calendar. The Christians were betwixt and between and became known as part of what came to be the Roman Catholic Church. The Jews were scattered throughout the Roman Empire and beyond and no longer had a Sanhedrin who declared the new moon calendar. So Rabbi Hillel in 358 A.D. with his contemporaries computed the calendar by mathematical calculation of the movements of the stars and planets.

There is a nineteen year time cycle the earth, sun and moon complete and come back into the same original configuration and then repeat that cycle and complete it every nineteen years. If the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, Hoshana Rabbi, fell on a Saturday—the weekly Sabbath—the calendar would be adjusted so the two days would not be the same. Atonement, a fast day, likewise was not allowed to be on a Friday or a Sunday. So the halacha or tradition was added by the rabbis and incorporated accordingly into the fixed calendar.

The Hillel II calendar is the calendar that the Jews use today. Brethren, we have the right days. The Jews fixed calendar was wrong this year. That means all those who follow the Jewish calendar are wrong. The truth is in the Bible and verified by the Jews themselves in their book on the calendar and in the Talmud. The Jews did this out of practicality. Because they did not know what else to do to keep all the scattered peoples of the Jewish nation informed and observing the same holy days together in unity—thus the fixed calendar. The thing that was not taken into consideration is that

God's word is our foundation, his Torah is our law. God changes not. We do not have the right to change the law of God. We do not have the right to add and observe traditions of men.

Reference: The Essence of the Holy Days by Avraham Yaakov Finkel, pages 76-77. "The Day of Atonement depicts the Day of Judgment and the coming of Christ to judge the nations. In the customary practice of the Jews today, after the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) and at sunset the shofar is sounded –one single, long *tekiah* sound in a long blast of sound signaling the closing of the gates of repentance. The concluding service of Yom Kippur is *Ne'ilah*—**the Closing of the Gates**. The entire theme of *Ne'ilah* now that we have repented, cleansed ourselves and our transgressions have been forgiven, we ask God to *seal us in the Book of Life* to maintain our spiritual progress and state from dissipating through outside influences. It is likened to a sealing of an envelope to ensure that no one tampers with its contents and to guarantee that the letter reaches its addressee without outside interference."

"The entire congregation declares its loyalty to God, crying out in unison, "*Shema Yisrael Hashem Eloheinu Hashem Echod!*" "Hear O Israel! God is our Lord, God is one!" Then, "Blessed is the Name of His glorious Kingdom for all eternity: (three times) and "Hashem alone is God" (seven times)." Confident that God has accepted our fast, repentance, and prayers and sealed us for a good year, we feel cleansed and uplifted. Thus we call out next year in Jerusalem!"

Amos 4:12—God's punishments have not reformed Israel; Israel failed to learn. So the Lord declares, "Therefore, this is what I will do to you, Israel, and because I will do this to you, *prepare to meet your God*, O Israel." These are the days of preparing to meet God by repenting, bring our every thought and action into the subjection of God and reform. It is either change or be condemned. Each day we have choices.

Joshua 24:15—As Joshua, said: "Chose you this day whom you will serve; as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Have you taken the opportunity of reading the knowledge in the booklets that are available, i.e. –*A New Look at God's True Calendar* or *A New Look at the Sabbath?* Throughout history the Jews have kept Saturday, the seventh day Sabbath as instructed by Torah. The Roman Catholics keep what they call the first day of the week, Sunday and they go all the way back in their history keeping the first day of the week. They acknowledge that is Sunday is not Sabbath but the "Lord's day." *From Sabbath to Sunday* by Samuel Bacchiocchi documents the historical transition from the Saturday Sabbath to Sunday in the early Christian church due to social, pagan and political factors, and also the decline of standards for the day plus the role the Pope and Roman Emperor Constantine I in the transition from Sabbath to Sunday, with Constantine's law declaring Sunday as a day of rest for those not involved in farming work.

Aish.com had an article entitled "*Why Jews Reject Jesus*." I did not need to read the article. I have read the New Testament how Christ came and rejected their traditions, and they rejected his teachings, were jealous, and angry. It had all been prophesied in the Old Testament (**Isaiah 53**). It is not talking about the whole nation of Israel. They were punished for their sins and "causeless hatred." Where did that baseless hatred of Messiah come from? They were sent into captivity (2,500 years) until they repented and the bondage was lifted off their backs in 1917 A.D. and they were allowed to return and reclaim the land in Israel in 1917 by the Balfour Declaration at the end of WWI. Thus far, they have established a Sanhedrin without power yet; the Temple Institute has

trained men of genetic priestly lineage in tabernacle sacrifices who have begun practicing (8/22/13) daily sacrifices and duties. Materials are ready and waiting to rebuild the temple but they are slow getting back to the original new moon calendar or temple worship. In the days of Ezra sacrifices were begun before the temple was built.

The Middle East is a tinder box ready to ignite and Obama verbally blames Assad for using nerve gas on his own people and wants to launch missiles. A counter report has surfaced saying responsibility for use of the nerve gas lies on the shoulders of the rebels with aid and know-how coming from the CIA. Putin of Russia arrives in the U.S. with 100 page report and is against using missiles and favors diplomacy. Obama's acknowledged half-brother born in Kenya is an advisor for Al Qaeda in Somalia and now he is on Egypt's wanted terrorist's list. Egypt has arrested Mohammed Morsi and thrown out the Muslim Brotherhood regime. Report says Malik Obama, Obama's brother directs radical Islamic movement's investments. The Obama administration is full of Muslim Brotherhood members. An Egyptian newspaper headlines that President Obama is a secret member of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Amos 3:3—"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" People fall into spiritual traps and snares by Satan. Pray to God with an open heart to give you the ability to discern truth from error. Take nothing for granted. **Isaiah 28:9-10**—"Whom shall he teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts; for precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line; here a little, and there a little." People fall into spiritual traps that have been set; it is because there is a snare there. Satan places snares to way-lay the unsuspecting. It is imperative to watch where you are going. Some of these people visit these obtuse websites that purport to be of God, yet keep on visiting them. Then when they see that the truth is not being taught there, they need to steer clear and stay away or they are going to suffer the consequences! One site is teaching a lunar Sabbath lie, and now had added the teaching that Mary's husband Joseph was the actual physical father of Jesus Christ.

Let me tell you, and the man who wants everyone to get together, it isn't going to happen until Jesus Christ comes. He is going to judge. The sheep will be on one side and the goats will be on the other side. Sheep don't all believe the same thing. We have the example in the Bible itself – the book of Revelation. Christ's disciple John was sent to deliver a message to the seven churches in Asia Minor. All were churches of God. Each one had its own set of specialized problems. Some of them had similar problems. Several of them had the doctrines of the Nicolaitanes who were the ancient tyrants in a tyrannical form of church government and also taught promiscuousness and immorality for the leadership. God condemns those things. The churches had to fight them off. The last church is Laodicea, the worst one in its final state of apostasy whose works are lukewarm, neither cold nor hot and has a big mouth.

In the Four Species (*Arba Minim*) in the *lulav* (*waved during Tabernacles*) that symbolizes all the totality that makes up the people of Israel. The odorless and tasteless willow branch represents the person who lacks both Torah and good deeds. It produces no edible fruit, no fragrance and has no strength to build something with it, but it has a mouth. This is the generation of the willow (Hebrew: *aravot*) where people have big mouths tweeting, twittering and sending Face-Book messages. We have sown the wind and elected a president of Muslim background and anti-Jesus Christ. Our country will pay the price and reap the whirlwind. Rush Limbaugh says these leaders

are all liars—Obama, Secretary John Kerry, Russia’s Putin. Russia has ships off the coast of Syria as well as does China. Assad of Syria is a dictator fighting the Al Qaeda rebels (so-called, “freedom fighters”) who are just as bad and worse. Nerve gas has been used on innocent citizens in Syria, and Obama wants to support people like that? America has only been used by God as we yielded to him and served him for righteousness sake.

In the 20th century, WW I and WW II were wars of righteousness for freedom, liberty and democracy. Vanity, prestige and power have replaced righteousness, i.e., Obama states his “red-line” has been crossed with the use of nerve gas a weapon of mass destruction. The Middle East is a seething cauldron.

Amos 3:6—“If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid?” It is a warning to prepare. God says in **Joel 2:1**, “Blow the trumpet and sound an alarm on my holy hill. All the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the Day of the Lord is coming.” An army of people great and strong are coming and will attack (WW III), the like of which has never been. Revelation 9 talks about the beast power—modern Babylon the Great—launching nerve gas attacks. The East will respond against the West with an army with two hundred million men crossing through Europe into the Middle East and into America—modern day Babylon. The day of God’s intervention is coming. What are we to do about it? Verses 11-12—“the day of the Lord is very great and terrible, who can endure it. Now therefore, says the Eternal, TURN to ME (*teshuva*) with ALL YOUR HEART, with fasting, weeping and mourning. Rend your hearts and not just your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious, merciful and forgiving. He is slow to anger and of great kindness.” He would like to pull back the strokes of his punishment and like to defer judgment if our people will repent and turn back to him and confess their sins and seek his face. Then he will relent (repent) of doing injury and harm to his people.

Joel 2:14—“Who knows, if he will turn and relent and leave a blessing behind him, a grain and a drink offering. Blow the trumpet in Zion. Consecrate a fast, call a sacred assembly, gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and nursing babes, let the bridegroom go out of his chamber and the bride from her dressing room. Let the priests who minister before the Lord weep between the porch and altar of the temple. Let them say: “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not give your heritage to reproach, that the heathen nations should not rule over them and oppress them.” Why should these, say among the people “where is their God?” As a nation, the people have turned their backs on God. Let us, his people, not turn our backs on him. Be an example to those around us and all those brethren who are confused and conflicted. Search the scriptures. Refrain from going to these God-forsaken, miserable websites of false teaching, hearsay and wickedness.

Prove, acknowledge, and stand up for the truth. Ask God for mercy if you cannot see it, and ask God to clean up your mind and heart. This is the Laodicean Era of the church. It is smug and says it is rich, increased with goods, and has need of nothing; and does not know that it is wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked spiritually. God says to Laodicea: “I counsel you to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich; and white raiment (righteousness), that you may be clothed, and that the shame of your nakedness does not appear; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.” Be zealous and repent. “I stand at the door and knock: if any man hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me.” The

Laodicean church is going to go through the Great Tribulation. Maybe then they will repent and turn back to God. For those who hear the call going out today (Yom Terruah) —repent and return to God.

Examine, yourself, and see if you are really in the faith of Jesus Christ. Know you not that Jesus Christ lives in you, unless you are disobedient. Every truth of God can be proved, if you are patient, diligent and dissect things carefully one by one. Don't dare to call the word of God "nit-picky". It is not "nit-picky" to obey God and do it the way he says. God tells us when to keep the Passover. He tells us when to keep Pentecost and how to count it. He tells us when and how to keep Sukkoth (Tabernacles), what the lulav is and how to wave it in rejoicing. These things are known and the Jews know it and do it. We know. There is no excuse for disobedience. Are people too tired to research the scriptures?

1 Corinthians 10:12—"Therefore, let him who thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall." Are we standing tall today, or falling down? **Hebrews 2:1-2**—"therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things that we have heard, lest at anytime we let them slip (drift away)"—like a boat that comes loose from its mooring and drifts with the tide out to sea. "For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by them that heard him."

Praise the name of the Lord! HAPPY FALL FESTIVALS!!!