

Teleios Ministries (Volume 2)

Teachings
for
The Mature Members
of the
Body of the Christ

*Proclaim the Word,
convince, rebuke, encourage.
And, the things which thou hast heard from me among many witnesses,
the same, entrust thou unto faithful men,
such as shall be, competent, to teach, others also.
Take thy part in suffering hardship, as a brave soldier of Christ Yahoshua.
(2 Timothy 2:2-3, 4:2)*

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The Authority of the Slanderer, the Adversary, the Deceiver, the Liar

“...He that is called adversary¹ [diabolos = slanderer] and the satan² [satanas = adversary], that deceiveth [planao = to lead astray] the whole habitable world... When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

Revelation 12:9, John 8:44

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament,

I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahoshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and Anointed for Christ.)

Contrary to religious teachings, the adversary cannot control the weather, the motion of the universe or you. If he had that kind of power, our earth would have been destroyed a long time ago. He has no physical power or physical ability because he is an evil spirit. He has no hands, feet or mouth and neither do his spiritual agents, such as demons³ (evil spirits whose abode is in people) or messengers (evil spirits whose abode is in heaven, angels). His power⁴ and authority,⁵ which is achieved through words of deception, is derived from willing and deceived men and women, who deliver up their authority and power to him. False delegates, messengers (apostles)⁶ and deceitful workers, which are his willing men, are his ministers (ones who execute the commands of another) transfiguring themselves as ministers of righteousness.⁷ His other ministers are deceived individuals who do not realize that they are pawns, being manipulated by his deceptive practices. His methods, at one time or another have deceived us all, thereby making us his minister at the time. The Pharisee, Saul, later known as the Apostle Paul was no exception.

Saul, who was “...circumcised, the eighth day, of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews,—regarding law, a Pharisee, regarding zeal, persecuting the assembly, regarding the righteousness that is in law, having become blameless,”⁸ was deceived by the religions of men, was one of satan’s religious pawns who delivered up his authority and power to the adversary, inadvertently, by persecuting Christians. Saul

¹ Adversary is the Greek word, ‘diabolos,’ which means, “1) prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely 1a) a calumniator, false accuser, slanderer.” Diabolos is derived from, ‘diaballo,’ which means. “1) to throw over or across, to send over 2) to traduce, calumniate, slander, accuse, defame.”

² Satan is the Greek word, ‘satanas,’ which means, “1) adversary (one who opposes another in purpose or act)”

³ The English word, ‘demon,’ comes from the Greek word, ‘daimonion.’ Daimonion means the divine power, deity, divinity. In Greek times, a daimonion was a lesser deity than Zeus.

⁴ 1411 dunamiv dunamis *doo'-nam-is* 1) strength power, ability 1a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth

⁵ 1849 exousia exousia *ex-oo-see'-ah* 1) power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases 1a) leave or permission 2) physical and mental power 2a) the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises

⁶ 652 apostolov apostolos *ap-os'-tol-os* 1) a delegate, messenger, one sent forth with orders; Jn. 13:16, 2 Cor. 8:23, Phi. 2:25

⁷ 2 Cor. 11:13-15

⁸ Phil. 3:5-6

became the slanderer's mouth, hands and feet because he persecuted the Body of the Christ, Christ being the Head. Yahoshua spoke to Saul in Hebrew and said, "Saul! Saul! why, me, art thou persecuting" (Acts 9:4, 26:14)? Saul took pleasure, as did the adversary, who is a murderer, in the death of Stephen (Acts 8:1). Paul said, "I, therefore, imagined to myself, that, against the name of Yahoshua the Nazarene, it was needful, many hostile things, to bring about,— which also I did in Jerusalem, yea and, many of the saints, I myself, in prisons, shut up,—the authority, from the High—priests, having received: and, when they were to be put to death, I brought against them my vote; and, throughout all the synagogues, oftentimes punishing them, I would fain have compelled them to defame; and, being excessively maddened against them, I went on to pursue them as far as even the outlying cities" (Acts 26:9-11). Saul's manipulation by the slanderer, through the religion of men was excused, because he did it ignorantly in unbelief (1 Tim. 1:13). If Saul had known the scriptures instead of the religion and doctrines of men, he would have recognized that Yahoshua was the Messiah and the Pharisees and Sadducees were the enemies.⁹ The Apostle Paul was not an exception. The prophet Aaron made a molten calf; the anointed King Saul attempted to murder David; the anointed King David, a man after Yahweh's heart, murdered Uriah; the Apostle Judas betrayed Yahoshua. We will begin our understanding of the adversary's authority and power upon the earth by first re-examining the original authority and power given to Adam and Eve, by Yahweh.

Let them have Dominion over all the Land

Many of us have been taught that the slanderer gained his earthly power and authority from Adam and Eve when they sinned in the Garden of Eden. Let us then examine the power and authority Eve and Adam received from Yahweh as recorded in the book of Genesis; "And Elohim blessed them, and Elohim said to them Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue [kabash = to subject, subdue, force, keep under, bring into bondage] it [the earth],—and have dominion [radah = to rule, have dominion, dominate, tread down] over the fish of the sea and over the bird of the heavens, and over every living thing that moveth on the land" (Gen. 1:28). The above verse illustrates that Yahweh gave Adam and Eve the authority and power to rule all living things that moved upon the earth. They also were given a command to bring this earth into their subjection. Many of us were instructed by the Church that once Eve and Adam ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they transferred their power and authority over the earth to the serpent. The scriptures never make such a statement.

However the Word does state the consequences of their sin; "And Yahweh Elohim laid command on the man, saying,—Of every tree of the garden, thou mayest eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it,—for in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt die" (Gen. 2:16-17). Death was the consequence of their disobedience and not a loss of dominion. Today, man does not rule over all the animals but he does rule

⁹ For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*. Acts 13:27

over many of them. Also man does subdue much of the earth. If the authority and power of Eve and Adam was transferred to satan, as taught by some Churches, mankind would be nothing more than cattle living under the dominion of their owner, the adversary. Their life or death would be in the hands of their master, the adversary but experience and history teaches us that this is not the case!

Another consequence of Eve and Adam's disobedience was the curse; "Unto the woman, he said, I will, increase, thy pain [itstsabown¹⁰], of pregnancy, In pain shalt thou bear children,—Yet, unto thy husband, shall be thy longing, Though, he, rule over thee. And, to the man, he said...Accursed be the ground for thy sake, In pain [itstsabown], shalt thou eat of it, all the days of thy life; Thorn also and thistle, shall it shoot forth to thee,—when thou hast come to eat of the herb of the field: In the sweat of thy face, shalt thou eat bread, until thou return to the ground, because therefrom, wast thou taken,—For, dust, thou art, And, unto dust, shalt thou return [death foretold]" (Gen. 3:16-19). Obviously the curse was not that bad because Adam lived 930 years before he returned to dust. If the adversary has the physical power over anyone's death, as some contend,¹¹ then he sure did a poor job by taking 930 years to kill Adam. I believe Adam's natural death was the result of the curse and not because of the adversary. Abel's premature death, on the other hand, was the result of Cain, who was acting as the hands and feet of the adversary. The consequence of Adam and Eve's sin was the curse and death. Nowhere does it state that mankind lost their dominion over creatures and the earth. The man Yahoshua, the last adam, demonstrated the dominion over all the earth, which was originally given to Eve and Adam, by exercising his authority and power, as a Son of Yahweh, over matter.

Yahoshua was the last adam¹² (1 Cor. 15:45); walking in all of the same power and authority the first adam was originally given. Yahoshua exercised his authority over the fish of the sea when he commanded them to surround the boat of Peter and in another instance, take Peter's hook (Jn. 21:6, Mt. 17:27). Yahoshua exercised his power and authority over the weather and the sea when he quieted the storm (Mk. 4:39). Yahoshua exercised his authority over demons when it was said in Mark 1:24, "Hast thou come to destroy us? I know thee, who thou art, The Holy One of Yahweh." Yahoshua exercised his power over plant life when he cursed the fig tree and it died (Mk. 11:13-14). Yahoshua exercised his power and authority over matter when the five loaves and two fishes, were multiplied to feed thousands (Mt. 14:17). This same power was available to his disciples and prophets because he told his disciples, "They need not depart; give ye them to eat" (Mt. 14:16, 2 Kg. 4:38-44). Yahoshua ruled over the earth by subduing the fish, sea, wind, demons, plants and matter in general. Yahoshua said, "He that believeth on me, the works

¹⁰ 06093 Nwbue 'itstsabown *its-tsaw-bone*' 1) pain, labour, hardship, sorrow, toil. This word is only used three times in the Word of Yahweh and the other occurrence is in Gen. 5:29. "and he called his name Noah saying,—This, one shall give us rest from our work, And from the grievous toil ['itstsabown] of our hands, By reason of the ground which Yahweh hath cursed."

¹¹ Seeing therefore the children have received a fellowship of blood and flesh, he also, in like manner, took partnership in the same,—in order that, through death,—he might paralyse him that held the dominion of death, that is, the Adversary (Heb. 2:14)

¹² 0120 Mda 'adam *aw-dawm*' 1) man, mankind

which, I, am doing, he also, shall do; and, greater than these, shall he do, because, I, unto the Father, am going” (Jn. 14:12). Abraham did not “...hesitate by unbelief, but received power by his faith” (Rm. 4:20). Elijah brought down fire from heaven and stopped the Jordan River. Peter believed and walked on the sea! Paul raised the dead. The two witnesses, in Revelation chapter eleven, have the authority to smite the land, with any manner of plague, as often as they will. Yahoshua told his disciples, “Have faith of¹³ Yahweh. Verily, I say unto you—Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be lifted up, and cast into the sea, and shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe that, what he speaketh, cometh to pass, it shall be his” (Mk. 11:22-23). This promise, the dominion of mankind over the earth was stated in Genesis chapter one, is to those who will believe it!

As children of Yahweh, we will die, as Eve and Adam did, and the ground is cursed but we have dominion over the earth if we believe and act on the promises of Yahweh. Could it be, that mankind’s dominion over the earth was never diminished, only his knowledge of how to subdue the earth? Noah had dominion over the animals that entered the Ark. King Solomon, who in 900 BC ruled a kingdom that had all the amenities of life; chariots, metal, written language etc. Two thousand years later, in the Americas, the natives did not even have the wheel, let alone a written language! All men have come from Eve and Adam but all did not carry on the knowledge of their forefathers. If dominion over the earth was not exercised by mankind, it does not mean that this power and authority did not exist. Yahoshua instructed Peter on how to walk on the water.¹⁴ Once Yahoshua started exercising his dominion over the earth others followed in his footsteps. The knowledge, which is necessary to rule the earth, is revealed in the Word of Yahweh; “...All things are possible to the one that is believing” (Young’s, Mk. 9:23).

Mankind was created to rule the earth instead of spirits; “For, not unto messengers, hath he subjected the coming habitable earth of which we are speaking” (Heb. 2:5); “When I view thy heavens, the work, of thy fingers, moon and stars, which thou hast established, What was weak man, that thou shouldst make mention of him? or the son of the earthborn, that thou shouldst set him in charge? That thou shouldst make him little less than Elohim, with glory and honour, shouldst crown him? Shouldst give him dominion over the works of thy hands,—All things, shouldst have put under his feet: Sheep and oxen, all of them,—yea even the beasts of the field; The bird of the heavens, and the fishes of the sea,— the passer-by on the paths of the seas” (Ps. 8:3-8).

The slanderer’s Authority and Power

The Church teaching that satan has the authority and power over the earth comes from the Gospel record of Yahoshua’s temptation in the wilderness; “And, leading him [Yahoshua] up, he [the slanderer] showed him all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth, in a moment of

¹³ Most translations insert the word, ‘in,’ which is not in the text.

¹⁴ Mt. 14:28-31

time. And the slanderer said to him—Unto thee, will I give this authority, all together, and their glory; because, unto me, hath it been delivered up, and, to whomsoever I please, I give it: Thou, therefore, if thou wilt worship before me, it shall all, be thine” (Lk 4:5-7). What had been delivered up to the slanderer? Kingdoms! Kingdoms are composed of men who are ruled by a king. What had been delivered up to the slanderer was not the control of the earth but rather the power and authority of certain kings. This transfer of power and authority from men to the adversary will also happen in Revelation 17:12-13; “And, the ten horns which thou sawest, are, ten kings...These, have, one mind, and, their power and authority, unto the wild-beast, they give.” The adversary’s power and authority is not over the earth but is over kingdoms when kings surrender their authority and power to him. How does he get the kings to surrender their authority to him willingly? By the art of deception! Eve was the first victim on whom the slanderer used his art of deception. It was implemented through words, in order to accomplish his will, which is to murder and lie.

Eve sinned when she believed the delusion presented by the slanderer.¹⁵ “A delusion denotes something which is believed to be or is accepted as being true or real but which is actually false or unreal. Delusion in general implies self-deception or deceptions by others; it may connote a disordered state of mind, extreme gullibility, or merely an inability to distinguish between what only seems to be and what actually is true or real.”¹⁶ The promise of enrichment or fulfillment must be part of each delusion. Eve was promised, “Ye shall not die...For Elohim doth know, that in the day ye eat thereof, then shall your eyes be opened,—and ye shall become like elohims, knowing good and evil” (Gen. 3:4-5). The slanderer had no authority or power in Eden until Eve and Adam acted upon his deception, which in turn empowered him. The slanderer’s deceptive words, when injected into the minds of Adam and Eve, acted as a deadly bacterium, whose objective is to disable or disempower the affected party.

A Spiritual Plague

Words of deception act as a deadly bacterium. A bacterium needs a vehicle, which in this example will be a parasite, in order to spread death and a parasite needs a host. The bubonic plague, which killed millions, was the result of a bacteria called, ‘*Yersinia pestis*.’ The bacteria, although deadly, can accomplish nothing by itself. It has no authority or power on its own although it is lethal. This bacteria, like words from the adversary, needs to be injected into a human body in order to cause the end result, which is death. The bacterium, by itself, does not have the power of mobility to act as an injector. The bacterium’s power comes from an infected parasite, such as a flea, which can bite a human. The parasite’s power is limited to a small geographic area unless it attaches to a

¹⁵ 2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear lest, by any means, as, the serpent, completely deceived Eve, in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the singleness and the chasteness which are *due* unto the Christ. 1 Timothy 2:14 And, Adam, was not deceived, whereas, the woman, having been wholly deceived, hath come to be, in transgression;

¹⁶ Merriam Webster’s Dictionary of Synonyms; pg. 224

host, such as a rat, which enables the parasite to increase its geographical area thereby increasing its power.

The infected flea is the second stage of the infection process. The flea has a very limited geographic area in which it can inject the bacterium by biting. The flea, a parasite, attaches itself to the rat, which has a greater ability to transmit the poison over a wider range. Along comes men with their ships, which carries the rat unknowingly to other countries, which carries the flea, which carries the bacteria, '*Yersinia pestis*,' which cause death. In our analogy the adversary's words are, '*Yersinia pestis*,' the fleas can be demons, spiritual beings and or infected men who inject these words of deception and the rats and the ships are men and women who transport and deliver the delusion, the false doctrine, many times unknowingly. Physical and or spiritual death can be the result of the words of the adversary, if they are injected into the mind and believed; "And, even if our glad-message is veiled, in them who are perishing, it is veiled, In whom, the elohim of this age [satan], hath blinded [tuphloo]¹⁷ the minds of the unbelieving" (II Cor. 4:3-4). How does he blind the minds of the unbelieving? He blinds the minds of the unbelieving through men, who are infected, who communicate the slanderer's message and block Yahweh's message; "For, such as these, are false apostles, deceitful workers, transfiguring themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel! for, satan himself, doth transfigure himself into a messenger of light! No great thing, therefore, if, his ministers also, are transfiguring themselves as ministers of righteousness!—whose end, shall be according to their works" (2 Cor. 11:13-15). His authority and power, as the elohim of this age, is in the ability to blind men with delusions. Although the adversary's deceptive power is great, we must remember that he has no authority or power over the elements, nature etc. as is illustrated in our Father's Word.

The adversary receives authority and power through men that he has deceived by way of his many methods. For instance, the adversary wanted to stop the Messiah, because the Messiah was going to crush his head, as recorded in Genesis chapter three. He is an evil spirit, who has no hands or feet. He needs to acquire power through able bodied men. The slanderer deceived King Herod into believing that the King of the Judeans (Yahoshua) would hinder Herod's Kingdom. This deception caused King Herod to order the deaths of all the children in Bethlehem who were of the age of two years and younger. Herod, "walked, according to the age of the world, according to the prince of the authority [exousia] of the air, of the spirit that now energiseth in the sons of disobedience" (Eph. 2:2). The prince of the authority of the air energized Herod (Rev. 12:4). This authority and power of death that had been delivered up to the slanderer by way of King Herod and his

¹⁷ John 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; lest they should see with their eyes, and should understand with their heart, and should turn,—and I should heal them.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom, the god of this age, hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, to the end they may not discern the radiance of the glad-message of the glory of the Christ—who is the image of God.¹ John 2:11 Whereas, he that hateth his brother, in the darkness, dwelleth, and in the darkness, walketh; and knoweth not whither he is drifting, because the, darkness, hath blinded his eyes.

soldiers, accomplished the slanderer's will but it could not have been accomplished without men. Wickedness comes through wicked men and through men who are not wicked but who have been deceived, such as the Apostle Paul when he was still called Saul.

Was the slanderer involved in the crucifixion of our Lord? According to the Book of Acts, the Judeans, who were supposed to be the holy people, crucified Yahoshua; "Assuredly, then, let all the house of Israel know: that, both Lord and Christ, hath Yahweh made him, even the same Yahoshua whom, ye, crucified" (Acts 2:36)! In contrast, I Corinthians 2:8 states that the rulers of this age had crucified the Messiah; "Which, none of the rulers of this age had come to know, for, had they known, not, in that case, the Lord of the glory, would they have crucified!" Religious men gave the slanderer their authority and power knowingly and unknowingly to crucify our Lord by offering their mouths, hands and feet to accomplish the task of killing Yahoshua. The slanderer, whose will was to murder the Son of Yahweh,¹⁸ deceived the High priests through words,¹⁹ who then deceived the religious people through words,²⁰ who threatened Pilate by way of words,²¹ who then ordered, by way of words, the Roman soldiers to crucify the only begotten Son of our Creator. Our Savior was murdered by people through the means of a religious delusion presented to mankind in words of deception. All of the above parties, whether knowingly or unknowingly, became satan's agents.

Some people are just like the rats and unknowingly carry the fleas that carry the bacteria, while other people are the actual fleas on a mission to infect society. Remember the girl with the spirit of Python who followed Paul around saying, "These men, are servants of the Most High El."²² She was acting as a carrier until Paul delivered her from the spirit that imprisoned her. The slanderer's power came from the girl's voice, which was being controlled by the spirit of Python, which was residing within her. This resulted in her masters making money. Once the spirit was cast out of the girl, the slanderer lost his power and authority, which came through her mobility and voice. The second case is different because the man, being used as an agent for the adversary, knew what he was doing. This is the case of the flea called, Bar-jesus.²³ He was a false prophet whose mission was,

¹⁸ And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. (Rev. 12:4)

¹⁹ Mt 26:65-66 Then, the High-priest rent asunder his garments, saying—He hath spoken profanely! What further need have we, of witnesses? Lo! now, ye have heard the profanity... Guilty of death, he is.

²⁰ But, the High-priests and the elders, persuaded the multitudes, that they should claim Barabbas, but, Jesus, should, destroy. Mt. 27:20

²¹ For this cause, Pilate, began seeking to release him; but, the Jews, cried aloud saying—If this man thou release, thou art not a friend of Caesar, for, every one who maketh himself king, speaketh against Caesar. Jn. 19:12

²² And it came to pass, as we were on our way unto the place of prayer, a certain damsel, having a spirit of Python, met us,—who, indeed, much gain, was presenting unto her masters, by divining. The same, following after Paul and us, kept crying aloud, saying—These men, are servants of the Most High God,—who, indeed, are declaring unto you a way of salvation. And, this, she continued to do for many days. But Paul, worn out, and turning unto the spirit, said—I charge thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, to come out from her. And it came out the same hour. Acts 16:16-18

²³ And, passing through the whole island, as far as Paphos, they found a certain man, a magician, a false-prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus; Who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. The same, calling for Barnabas and Saul,

“seeking to turn aside the proconsul from the faith.” This false prophet, an agent of satan, was a Hebrew. He was the adversary’s voice, hands and feet. Father gave Paul different instructions concerning this spiritual problem. He did not deliver the false prophet, as he did the girl but blinded him instead, which bound the false prophet, thereby limiting satan through his life.

The adversary has power and great authority, as is illustrated in the Revelation 13:2, “...And the dragon gave unto him his power, and his throne, and great authority.” His great authority but not great power, comes from people who give him their great authority. The greatness of his authority is in his ability to deceive men and spiritual beings. He is called: the accuser, the great dragon, the ancient serpent, the adversary, the satan, that deceiveth the whole habitable world.²⁴ This is illustrated in the fact that, once he is imprisoned for 1,000 years, there are no wars or famines but tranquility and material abundance in Christ’s 1000 year Kingdom; Paradise restored. When he is released, he will enter Paradise and begin to deceive men again, as he did with Adam and Eve. (One would believe that if one was living in the Garden of Eden that there could be no temptation or deception that could over take you but this is not the case, as was illustrated with Adam and Eve and the people who will live in Christ’s Kingdom.) His religious delusions presented to these men will cause those who believe his delusions to use their hands, feet and mouth to wage war against Christ’s Kingdom (Rev. 20:8). Evil and deceived men are satan’s vehicle of power.

Mankind has been positioned above spirits (Heb 2:5-8). The adversary is an evil spirit that has also been accursed (Gen. 3:14). ‘Accursed,’ is the Hebrew word, ‘arar,’ which means, “to bind (with a spell), hem in with obstacles, render powerless to resist.”²⁵ The opposite of being accursed, ‘arar,’ is being blessed, ‘barak.’²⁶ Mankind has been blessed; “Male and female created he them; and blessed [barak] them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created” (Gen. 5:2). A result of the curse on the adversary could be that evil spirits do not have the advantages that ministering spirits have. Ministering spirits²⁷ can come into physical form, while there is no record in the Word of an evil spirit taking on a physical form. Demons need a human body²⁸ to be effective, while a ministering spirit is able to perform without a human body, as in the case when a messenger released Peter

sought to hear the word of Yahweh. But Elymas the magician,—for so, when translated, is his name,—withstood them; seeking to turn aside the proconsul from the faith. But Saul, who is also Paul, filled with holy spirit, looking steadfastly at him, Said—O full of all guile, and all recklessness! Son of an slanderer! Enemy of all righteousness!—Wilt thou not cease to pervert the straight ways of the Lord? Now, therefore, lo! the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun, until a fitting time. And, instantly, there fell upon him a mist and darkness; and, going about, he was seeking such as might lead him by the hand. Acts 13:6-11

²⁴ Revelation 12:9, 20:7.

²⁵ Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament by Harris, Archer and Waltke; pg. 75 , Vol. 1. Genesis 9:25, Joshua 9:23, Numbers 22:6, 12.

²⁶ “And Elohim said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them,—Thou shalt not curse [arar] the people, For blessed [barak], he is” (Num. 22:12).

²⁷ Heb. 1:14

²⁸ Mt. 12:43-45

from prison (Acts 12). Evil spirits must also have rules, issued by Yahweh, to abide by and if they break these rules they can be imprisoned or cast into the abyss.²⁹

In the Word of Yahweh, the adversary has exhibited no authority or power over nature and the elements as Yahweh's people have done. Elijah (Yahweh's agent), stopped the rain for three and a half years and then prayed and it rained (James 5:17-18). The two witnesses in the Book of Revelation are given authority; "These, have authority to shut heaven, in order that, no rain, be moistening in the days of their prophesying; and, authority, have they, over the waters, to be turning them into blood, and to smite the land, with any manner of plague, as often as they will" (Rev. 11:6). Jezebel, Ahab and Baal's prophets (agents of the adversary) could not make it rain nor could they bring down fire from heaven as Elijah did (I Kg. 18). Pharaoh's sacred scribes displayed limited supernatural ability when they copied three out of the ten wonders brought by Yahweh through Moses (Ex. 7, 8). Yahweh's people have raised the dead, while there is no record of the slanderer's agents doing so. What appears to be the maximum authority and power of the agents of the slanderer will be displayed in the book of Revelation. It appears, in chapter thirteen, that the wild beast is raised from the dead. Also fire will come down out of heaven, by the prophet of the wild beast, and an inanimate object (image of the beast) will speak. These agents cannot change the weather, stop the sun or feed millions of people from heaven. However, these evil agents (spirits) can and do inflict evil upon people through their human agents, by way of murdering, stealing and destroying.

People are the mouth, hands and feet of the adversary as was illustrated by Jezebel and Ahab when they murdered Yahweh's prophets. Pharaoh's power and authority was in alignment with the adversary's will, which was to persecute and murder Yahweh's people. The Kings of the New Testament killed babies, John the Immerser and the Apostle James. The wild beast will also murder Yahweh's people during the Tribulation period. The adversary's authority and power is especially revealed through the hands of powerful men, who in many cases have been put into power by the very people they will enslave; Adolph Hitler was voted into power. Joseph Stalin and Adolph Hitler, with the assistance of willing accomplices, had millions of people murdered.

Men and the adversary have many things in common. Yahoshua stated, "Withdraw behind me, satan! A snare, art thou of mine, because thou art not regarding the things of Yahweh, but the things of men" (Mt. 16:23). Mankind, although made higher than spirits are born into a fallen evil state; "Filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, baseness, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil disposition, Whisperers, detractors, haters of Yahweh, insolent, arrogant, vain boasters, inventors of vices, unto parents unyielding, Without discernment, regardless of covenants, without natural affection, unmerciful" (Rm. 1:29-

²⁹ In which, even unto the spirits in prison, he went and proclaimed,— *spirits* unyielding at one time, when the longsuffering of Yahweh was holding forth a welcome in the days of Noah... (I Pet. 3:19-20). And Yahoshua questioned him—What name hast thou? And, he, said—Legion! because many demons had entered into him. And they were beseeching him that he would not order them, into the abyss, to depart (Luke 8:30-31).

31). These sound like the attributes of the adversary when they are really the attributes of fallen man. Spirit beings, as well as mankind, choose life or death. Lucifer chose death, while Michael chose life. Abel chose life, while Cain chose death. Men as well as spirits will all be judged because they all have been given freedom of will. All men have freedom of will and must agree willingly with the suggestions of the slanderer before they become his accomplices; Eve and Adam were willing accomplices of the serpent. If a man resists the adversary's delusions, the adversary has no authority over the man's affairs, except through the ability of others who have power and authority over the man. Charles Manson's authority over his followers was displayed when they obeyed his words and murdered innocent people. Charles Manson murdered, not by his hands but through his words, by way of willing accomplices. Stalin did not personally murder thirty million people but his willing accomplices performed the task for him. Our adversary, in conjunction with Stalin, Hitler, Manon and religious leaders has murdered millions, not with his hands but with the hands of others. Satan, who is powerless without men, has poisoned, with the assistance of men, environments with his words of deception. Satan's second recorded human agent, you might say, was Cain.

Darkness came upon the face of the earth after sin was committed. Darkness was manifested with Cain murdering Abel. Satan did not physically murder Abel but it is stated in 1 John 3:12, "... Cain, was, of the wicked one." Approximately 1600 years after Cain murdered Abel, all of mankind, except for eight souls, were wicked; "Then Yahweh saw that great, was the wickedness of man [not the wickedness of satan] in the earth, and that, every purpose of the devices his heart, was only wicked all the day; and it grieved Yahweh, that he had made man in the earth,—and he took sorrow unto his heart" (Gen. 6:5-6). Men, in partnership with spiritual wickedness, were the reason for the flood.³⁰

Religious Men as Satan's Agents

Paul wrote, "But I fear lest, by any means, as, the serpent, completely deceived Eve, in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the singleness which are *due* unto the Christ...For, such as these, are false apostles, deceitful workers, transfiguring themselves into apostles of Christ. And no marvel! for, Satan himself, doth transfigure himself into a messenger of light! No great thing, therefore, if, his ministers also, are transfiguring themselves as ministers of righteousness!—whose end, shall be according to their works" (2 Cor. 11:3-15). Let us look at some examples where the adversary, through religious men, attempted to destroy Yahoshua's mission: King Herod, who was a Hebrew, was one who attempted to murder him as a child; The Pharisees attempted to stone him; Judas betrayed him;³¹ Peter tried to talk him out of dying for mankind;³² All these actions were accomplished through religious men.

³⁰ "The sons of Elohim (spirits) saw the daughters of men (men)! that they were, fair,—so they took to themselves wives of whomsoever they chose" (Gen. 6:2).

³¹ "And, supper, being in progress, the adversary, having already thrust into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot, that he should deliver him up" (John 13:2).

Religious people, including Christians, have burned Christians at the stake; they have forbidden Christians to speak the Word of Yahweh when it contradicts the Churches teaching; they have excommunicated Christians and called them heretic. Under the false teaching of forgiveness they have pardoned or paroled murderers and pedophiles who then murder and rape the innocent again. The Church, in many instances, is the institution whereby the adversary holds the high ground from which he issues his deadly assaults on Yahweh's people, as he did with the religion of Judaism.

Good religious men can and do inject the words of the slanderer into society through ignorance, bad Bible translations or through pride guided by the traditions of men. As we know, the slanderer through men, can and will misquote and quote scripture out of context (Mt. 4:6). Psalms 116:15 is one of these scriptures which is commonly recited at funerals. The Rotherham Bible translates this verse correctly while the majority of all other Bible translations print the slanderer's deception. The verse, as translated in the King James Version, says, "Precious [yaqar]³³ in the sight of the LORD *is* the death of his saints." Now we would assume, by this translation, that Psalms 116 is written about the death of a saint, which made Yahweh happy. This person's death, according to religious custom, would have been valuable to Yahweh. Is the death of your children, 'precious,' in your sight or is it, 'costly?' Psalm 116 is actually addressing the rescue of the Psalmist from death, which is actually costly and not precious to Yahweh!

"I love Yahweh—because he heareth my voice, my supplications; Because he hath bowed down his ear unto me, therefore, throughout my days, will I call. The meshes of death encompassed me, and the distresses of sheol, came upon me, Peril and sorrow, I found; But, on the Name of Yahweh, I called—I beseech thee, Yahweh, deliver my soul. Gracious is Yahweh and righteous, and, our Elohim, is full of compassion... For thou hast rescued my soul from death,—mine eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I will walk to and fro before Yahweh, in the lands of life... Costly [yaqar] in the eyes of Yahweh, is, death, for his men of lovingkindness" (Ps. 116:1-5,8-9,15) (Rotherham Emphasized Bible)

"Costly in the eyes of Yahweh, is, death, for his men of lovingkindness," but precious in the sight of the adversary is the death of Yahweh's saints, who was a murderer from the beginning.³⁴ The adversary's mission statement states that his purpose is to, "thieve and

³² "But, he, turning, said to Peter—Withdraw behind me, Satan! A snare, art thou of mine, because thou art not regarding the things of Yahweh, but the things of men" (Matthew 16:23).

³³ 1Ki 5:17 And the king commanded, and they quarried great stones, costly [yaqar] stones, to found the house...

1Ki 7:9 All these, were of costly [yaqar] stones, after the dimensions of hewn stones, sawn with saws, within and without...

1Ki 7:10 And, the foundation, was of costly [yaqar] stones, large stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.

1Ki 7:11 And, above, were costly [yaqar] stones, after the dimensions of hewn stone, and cedar.

³⁴ Joh 8:44 Ye, are, of your father—the adversary, and, the covetings of your father, ye choose to be doing. He, was, a murderer, from the beginning, and, in the truth, he stood not; because truth is not in him: Whensoever he speaketh falsehood, of his own, he speaketh; because, false, he is, and, the father of it.

slay and destroy” (Jn. 10:10). By translating the Hebrew word, *yaqar*, in Psalms 116:15 into English as, *precious*, injects the poison that our death is valuable to our Father. A famous radio ministries founder died and what passage did the ministry send to hundreds of thousands of their listeners? They sent Psalms 116:15, translated as, “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.” This virus sent forth to produce a plague implies that this minister’s death pleased or was valuable to Yahweh. The mailing might as well have come from satan himself; words that poison children of Yahweh resulting in death, in part or in whole. This organization has become, unknowingly, a rat spreading the poisoned words of the slanderer, instead of the Words of Life of Yahweh, which state that death is an enemy (I Cor. 15:26); Costly in the eyes of Yahweh, is, death, for his men of lovingkindness. The people who have given money to this Christian organization have inadvertently enabled this organization, by paying for the letters to be sent, to spread a plague. If we are not careful in giving money to organizations, we could be the boat who transports the rats, which bring the flea that is infested with the words of death, which bites the child, who commits suicide. Why not! If, as religion teaches, death is ‘precious in the sight of the Lord’ and to be ‘absent from the body is to be present with the Lord’ or in other words I go to heaven the moment I die, why not commit suicide after I receive salvation? This teaching puts people into a religious delusional stupor.

Words spoken or written are the slanderer’s sword just as the Word of Yahweh is His sword of the spirit (Eph. 6:17). In Genesis 3:1, “he said [words being spoken] unto the woman.” His intention was to murder Eve and Adam but he could not strike Eve with lightning or have a tiger maul her because he does not have that power or authority but he could gently speak deceptive religious words to her, which painted a delusion of immortality. The slanderer’s sword was also drawn on our Lord because, “the tempter said [words being spoken] to him,—If thou art Yahweh’s, Son” (Mt. 4:3). Our Lord’s sword was also drawn and won the battle because he spoke the Word of Yahweh when he said, “it is written.”

Whether we like it or not we are in a spiritual conflict. We have been rescued out of the authority of darkness.³⁵ We do not battle flesh and blood but spiritual wickedness with spiritual weapons. 2 Corinthians 10:4 states, “For, the weapons of our warfare, are not fleshly, but mighty, by Yahweh, unto a pulling down of strongholds.” The battle has been assured to us if we but put on and operate our spiritual armor; “Put on the complete armor of Yahweh, with a view to your having power to **stand** against the strategies [methodeia =

³⁵ Who hath rescued us out of the authority of the darkness, and translated *us* into the kingdom of the Son of his love; Col. 1:13 *Unto* you also—being dead by your offences and sins, In which at one time ye walked, according to the age of the world, according to the prince of the authority of the air, of the spirit that now energiseth in the sons of disobedience, Among whom also, we all, had our behaviour, at one time, in the covetings of our flesh, doing the things desired by the flesh and the mind, and were children, by nature, of anger—even as the rest,— But, God, being rich in mercy, by reason of the great love wherewith he loved us, Although we were dead by our offences, gave us life together with the Christ,—by favour, ye have been saved, and raised us up together, and seated us together in the heavenlies, in Christ:.. Eph. 2:1-6

cunning arts, deceit, craft, trickery] of the adversary [slanderer]; Because our struggle is not against blood and flesh, but, against the principalities, against the authorities, against the world-holders, of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies. For this cause, take up the complete armor of Yahweh, in order that ye may receive power to **withstand** in the evil day, and, all things, having accomplished, to **stand!** **Stand** therefore,—having girded your loins with truth, and put on the breastplate of righteousness, And shod your feet with the readiness of the glad-message of peace; With all, having taken up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall have power, all the ignited darts of the wicked one, to quench; And, the helmet of salvation, welcome ye, and the sword of the spirit, which is what Yahweh hath spoken, With all prayer and supplication, praying in every season, in spirit, and, thereunto, watching, with all perseverance and supplication, for all the saints” (Eph. 6:11-18). Our spiritual weapons are operated by believing, speaking and acting on the Words of Yahweh. We offer, “supplications, prayers, intercessions, thankgivings, in behalf of all men, In behalf of kings, and all them who are, in eminent station; in order that, an undisturbed, and quiet life, we may lead, in all godliness and gravity” (I Tim. 2:1-2).

The slanderer or adversary is small but has cast a large shadow, which is a strategy of a weaker opponent. He is the deceiver and accuser, who has been accursed. His time, as sand in an hour glass, is running out. More power has been attributed to him than he actually has. His power and authority is not over the weather, disease etc. but rather is derived through the operation of words that deceive men, who then speak and act on his behalf. We are the rulers of the earth and he is under our feet. Fear runs through his veins when children of Yahweh exercise their power and authority; “I was beholding Satan [adversary], when, like lightning, out of heaven, he fell! Lo! I have given you the authority—to be treading upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and, nothing, unto you, shall in anywise do harm” (Lk. 10:18-19). We have been given a promise; “With all, having taken up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall have power, all the ignited darts of the wicked one, to quench” (Eph. 6:18). As our Lord Yahoshua defeated the slanderer with the Word of Yahweh, saying, “It is written,” so also our clarion call is to walk in our Lords footsteps and, to open others eyes; that they turn from darkness unto light, and the authority of the adversary unto Yahweh (Acts 26:18)!

Appendix A

Hebrews 2:14

*“that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death,
that is, the devil” (KJV).*

*in order that, through death,—he might paralyse him that held [past tense] the dominion
of death, that is, the Adversary” (Rotherham)*

We must examine Hebrews 2:14 in its context. If the adversary murdered someone in chapter two then the context would be correct in stating that the adversary has the power of death but no one is murdered by the adversary in chapter two. The death of our Lord is mentioned in chapter two but his death is not attributed to the adversary. Our Lord gave his life and no one took it from him (Jn. 10:17-18).

Natural death is the result of the curse, which came about by sin (Gen. 3:19). The context of Hebrews chapter two speaks of the death and resurrection of Yahoshua, which were accomplished in order to save his brethren. “...In behalf of every one, he might taste of death...when, many sons, unto glory, he would lead, The Princely Leader of their salvation, through sufferings, to make perfect. For, both he that maketh holy, and they who are being made holy, are, all, of One; For which cause, he is not ashamed to be calling them, brethren” (Heb. 2:9-11). The context of Hebrews chapter two is not talking about the adversary but rather about Yahoshua’s brethren being released from bondage. “... these—as many as, by fear of death, were all their lifetime liable, to bondage” (Heb. 2:15). How did Yahoshua release us from bondage? He released us from bondage, which was brought about by the fear of death, by being raised from among the dead with his resurrected body, which will never die again. Hundreds of believers witnessed our risen Savior, who will never be bound by death again. Before this event, the adversary bound the people through the dominion (kratos³⁶) of death. Kratos means might, strength or force. The might that he held over men was the fear of death, which binds. Once Yahoshua was raised from among the dead, the fear of death could no longer bind the believer. The slanderer’s ability to bind men through the fear of death has been paralyzed. Many people have been taught that the slanderer has the power (dunamis³⁷) of death, which infers that he can kill anyone at any time; that all deaths are attributed to him. This is not the case. People can die a natural death because of age (a result of the curse), as Moses and Abraham did; people can be put to death by righteous people because they have committed a capital offense (result of their free will doing evil), as Samuel did by slaying King Agag;³⁸ people can die prematurely from an accident or an illness caused by natural or spiritual means; people can be murdered by people who are under the influence of the adversary, “because he was a murderer from the beginning” (Jn. 8:44).

³⁶ 2904 kratov kratos *krat'-os*

1) force, strength 2) power, might; mighty with great power 2a) a mighty deed, a work of power 3) dominion

³⁷ 1411 dunamiv dunamis *doo'-nam-is*

1) strength power, ability

1a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth

1b) power for performing miracles 1c) moral power and excellence of soul

1d) the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth 1e) power and resources arising from numbers

1f) power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

³⁸ 1 Samuel 15:33

I John 5:19

“We know that, of Yahweh, are we; and, the whole world, in the wicked one, is lying.”

When I John 5:19 uses the word, ‘world,’ it does not mean the physical earth. It is the Greek word, kosmos,³⁹ which can mean, “the ungodly multitude; the whole mass of men alienated from Yahweh, and therefore hostile to the cause of Christ.” This verse could be read as, “We know that, whosoever hath been born of Yahweh, is not committing sin,—Nay, he that hath been born of Yahweh, He keepeth him, and, the wicked one, doth not touch him. We know that, of Yahweh, are we; and, the whole ungodly multitude, in the wicked one, is lying.” This is also stated in John 15:19. “If, of the world, ye had been, the world, of its own, had been fond; but, because, of the world, ye are not, on the contrary, I, chose you out of the world, therefore, the world, doth hate you.” The adversary is also referred to as the, ‘ruler,’ (archon) of the ungodly (world) in the Gospel of John and other books:

Ruler [archon] of the ungodly

Luke 11:15 but, some from among them, said—In Beelzebul, the ruler [archon] of the demons, is he casting out the demons;

John 12:31 Now, is there, a judging, of this world [the ungodly] ,—Now, the ruler [archon] of this world [the ungodly], shall be cast out;

John 14:30 No longer, many things, will I speak with you; for, the world’s [ungodly] ruler [archon], is coming, and, in me, hath, nothing,—

John 16:11 And, concerning judgment, because, the ruler [archon] of this world [the ungodly], hath been judged.

1 Corinthians 2:6 ¶ Wisdom, however, we do speak, among the full-grown,—wisdom, indeed, not of this age, nor of the rulers [archon] of this age, who are to come to nought;

1 Corinthians 2:8 Which, none of the rulers [archon] of this age had come to know, for, had they known, not, in that case, the Lord of the glory, would they have crucified!

Ephesians 2:2 In which at one time ye walked, according to the age of the world, according to the prince [archon] of the authority of the air, of the spirit that now energiseth in the sons of disobedience,

A list of some additional verses that use, ‘kosmos,’ in I John, as the ungodly:

1 John 2:15 Love not the world <2889>, neither the things *that are* in the world <2889>. If any man love the world <2889>, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:16 For all that *is* in the world <2889>, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world <2889>.

1 John 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of Yahweh: therefore the world <2889> knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

1 John 3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world <2889> hate you.

1 John 4:5 They are of the world <2889>: therefore speak they of the world <2889>, and the world <2889> heareth them.

1 John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of Yahweh overcometh the world <2889>: and this is the victory that overcometh the world <2889>, *even* our faith.

1 John 5:19 *And* we know that we are of Yahweh, and the whole world <2889> lieth in wickedness.

³⁹ 2889 kosmov kosmos *kos'-mos*

1) an apt and harmonious arrangement or constitution, order, government 2) ornament, decoration, adornment, i.e. the arrangement of the stars, ‘the heavenly hosts’, as the ornament of the heavens. #1Pe 3:3 3) the world, the universe 4) the circle of the earth, the earth 5) the inhabitants of the earth, men, the human family 6) the ungodly multitude; the whole mass of men alienated from God, and therefore hostile to the cause of Christ

Who is Responsible for Death?

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament, I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahoshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and ruah for pneuma (spirit).

Death was never a part of Yahweh's plan for mankind but rather His desire was for them to live an age-abiding life with Him in the Garden of Eden. There He could commune with His children who were formed in His image and His likeness. Yahweh's will and desire for mankind was frustrated through the disobedience of our parents, Adam and Eve. Their disobedience resulted in death taking its stronghold upon all of mankind. Many Churches teach that Yahweh is in control, that "He has complete authority and control over all human beings and every aspect of the universe."⁴⁰ If Yahweh is in control of everything then all death can be laid at His feet; He either caused the death or allowed the death to occur. Other Christian organizations teach that the devil has the power of death. (See Appendix A) Neither of the two cases listed above are correct. The responsible parties for natural death are Adam and Eve, who represent mankind as a whole. The serpent can take some credit because he did deceive Eve into believing his lie, which led to Adam and Eve's demise.⁴¹ Premature death, on the other hand, has multiple causes. An individual's actions can cause their own premature death; suicide, accident, disobedience to Yahweh, etc. Other men can cause an individual's premature death; an accident or murder. Yahweh can put to death evil individuals either directly or indirectly. The slanderer's deception and manipulation of mankind can indirectly contribute to an individual's murder. (The definitions of killing and murder are listed below⁴².) Sin also has its place with natural and premature death. It has corrupted our world, the consequence being that sickness, disease, genetic defects, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes etc. exist because of Adam and Eve's decision. Death, our enemy, does have its stronghold upon us but the Good News is that Christ came to destroy death and to set us free "...as many as, by fear of death, were all their lifetime liable, to bondage" (Heb. 2:15).⁴³ He has "...paralyzed him that held the dominion of death, that is, the slanderer [diabolos]" (Heb. 2:14). Christ's power and authority over sickness, disease and defects, was also given to us if we but exercise it but if we fall short of exercising this power in its fullness, we can still rejoice in each day Yahweh has made and know absolutely that there will be a day when "...this corruptible must needs clothe itself with incorruptibility, and this mortal, clothe itself, with

⁴⁰ Charles F Stanley, God is in Control.

<http://ww2.intouch.org/site/c.dhKHIXPKIuE/b.2406769/apps/s/content.asp?ct=3405541>

⁴¹ And Yahweh Elohim layeth a charge on the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden eating thou dost eat; and of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou dost not eat of it, for in the day of thine eating of it—dying thou dost die (Young's Gen. 2:16-17). And the serpent said unto the woman,—Ye shall not die, For Elohim doth know, that in the day ye eat thereof, then shall your eyes be opened,—and ye shall become like Elohim, knowing good and evil (Gen. 3:4-5).

⁴² 1. Kill: To put to death; to deprive of life; to slay, slaughter. Murder: a. *trans.* To kill (a human being) unlawfully with malice aforethought; OED

⁴³ 1Co 15:26 As a last enemy, death, is to be destroyed; But, whensoever, this mortal, shall clothe itself with immortality, then, shall be brought to pass the saying that is written—Death hath been swallowed up, victoriously; Where, O death, is thy victory? Where, O death, is thy sting? Now, the sting of death, is, sin, and, the power of sin, is, the law; — But, unto Yahweh, be thanks, who is giving unto us the victory, through our Lord Yahoshua Christ. I Cor. 15:54-57

immortality;” a day when “...Death hath been swallowed up, victoriously;” a day when we can say, “Where, O death, is thy victory? Where, O death, is thy sting? (1 Cor. 15:53-55).

The Lies

According to the Word of Yahweh, death (*muth mooth*) is the opposite of life (*chay khah'-ee*). Man made religions teach that death only occurs to the body because man's spirit or soul is immortal. This teaching is contrary to the Word of Yahweh. Yahweh Elohim, the giver of *chay* (life) to Adam and Eve, told Adam that if he disobeyed His commandment that dying (*muth*) he would die (*muth*).⁴⁴ Adam and Eve did die and they are still dead today awaiting their resurrection. If they are raised in the first resurrection, the resurrection of the just, the second death has no authority over them. If they are raised in the resurrection of the unjust, the second resurrection, then they will die again in the second death, never to *chay* (live) again.

Mankind, as a whole, does not like this truth of Yahweh so they have brewed up their own doctrine that makes them feel better; “For there will be a season—when, the healthful teaching, they will not endure, but, according to their own covetings, will, unto themselves, heap up teachers, because they have an itching ear” (2 Ti. 4:3). Their doctrine places good people in heaven and bad people in hell the moment they die. All man-made religions basically teach this doctrine. This man made teaching states that there is no such thing as death; it does not exist. Oh yes, they believe in the death of their bodies but they say their soul or spirit will never die but rather it is released to enter heavenly bliss. The coldness of death is replaced with life in heaven. Men feel better at funerals when the pastor states that this person is not dead but rather he is now alive with the Lord in the heavens just as Adam and Eve were in the Garden. The coldness of death is warmed up by refusing to acknowledge its existence. This teaching, although making one feel comfortable at the funeral parlor, is a cancer that attempts to embitter us to our loving Father, thereby empowering His archenemy, the slanderer.

We become embittered with Yahweh by this teaching because our loved ones who died prematurely are no longer with us! We have now been robbed of their precious presence. These individuals usually die a painful death such as cancer, car accident etc., which we can not understand. We ask ourselves, “Why would Yahweh do such a thing or allow such a wicked thing to happen to innocent, good people?” Why would He take them to heaven, thereby robbing us of all future joy? If He is a God of Love, why would He allow my daughter to be raped and then murdered? The teachings that say, ‘God is in Control,’ that ‘We do not die but just change residences,’ that ‘God wanted another rose petal in Heaven’ are all lies.

⁴⁴ Muth is used two times in this verse. Robert Young's Bible translations says, “and of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou dost not eat of it, for in the day of thine eating of it—dying thou dost die.” (Gen. 2:17)

Before we begin our study of death, let us sum up Yahweh's true future, which is an age-abiding life in the New Jerusalem with our Father and our Brother. We, who have confessed and believed Romans 10:9 are winners through Christ Yahoshua no matter if we die prematurely or naturally. All of us will die, without exception, except for the few who will be alive at our Lord's Presence, which I hope will be today.⁴⁵ None of us are losers even if some of us die prematurely; neither is premature death the will of our Father. Death of a loved one is always costly to any parent especially to our Heavenly Father and is never the will of Yahweh.⁴⁶ Yahweh does not delight in anyone's death, even a lawless individual.⁴⁷

Is Yahweh in Control?

We must first address the question, "Is Yahweh in Control of the affairs of Mankind." Let's test this religious teaching when we are behind the controls of an automobile. At 70 mph, in traffic, let us take our hands off of the steering wheel and our foot off of the brake and see what happens. After the crash we can ask ourselves if we were in control of the car or was Yahweh? We can perform this test one thousand times and the results will always be the same, thereby confirming that we are in control of the automobile and not Yahweh. Control means, "to exercise restraint or direction upon the free action of; to hold sway over, exercise power or authority over; to dominate, command."⁴⁸ Something being controlled has no choice or freedom of will. If Yahweh is in control of the affairs of mankind, then mankind cannot have freedom of will. It could be said that the slanderer professed that Yahweh was in control when he tempted Yahoshua by saying, "...If thou art Elohim's, Son, cast thyself down,—for it is written, To his messengers, will he give charge concerning thee; and, on hands, will they bear thee up, lest once thou strike, against a stone, thy foot" (Mt. 4:6).

Yahweh, as the Creator, relinquished His control over His creation, the earth, and gave it to mankind.⁴⁹ He gave Adam and Eve the authority and power to control their own environment; the earth. He also gave them the ability to choose an age-abiding life; to live

⁴⁵ 1 Cor. 15 & 1 Thes. 4

⁴⁶ Costly [yaqar] in the eyes of Yahweh, is, death, for his men of lovingkindness.(Ps. 116:15) "Life is valued very highly in the OT. David would not kill Saul even when he had the upper hand because he valued his life. {#1Sa 26:8-11,21 2Ki 1:13ff} An adulterous woman is most damaging because she claims the most precious aspect of a man, his life. {#Pr 6:26} God also protects and delivers his people from oppression and violence because he values their blood. {#Ps 72:14} Man's life exceeds the value of his ability to redeem himself. He does not have the money, nor can he offer himself, for he is a sinner). {#Ps 49:7ff [H 8f.} Consequently God alone can redeem man, and out of love he will provide the redemption necessary, even at great cost. {#Isa 43:1-4}" (TWOT)

⁴⁷ Eze 18:23 Could I take, delight, in the death of the lawless? Demandeth My Lord, Yahweh. Must it not be in his turning from his ways in which case he shall live? Eze 18:32 For I cannot take delight in the death of him that dieth, Declareth My Lord, Yahweh, Make good your return then, and, live!

⁴⁸ OED

⁴⁹ Ps 115:16 As for the heavens, the heavens, belong to Yahweh, but the earth, hath he given to the sons of men. Gen. 1:28 And Elohim blessed them, and Elohim said to them—Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it,—and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the bird of the heavens, and over every living thing that moveth on the land.

in the garden forever or die.⁵⁰ He instructed them that they could choose life by eating of the tree of life or they could choose death by eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They chose death! Men will be judged for their deeds because they, and not Yahweh, will be accountable for their actions.

The Church teaching that Yahweh is in Control is like gangrene in the Body of the Christ. For example, let's consider the event where King Herod murdered the children in Bethlehem.⁵¹ If Yahweh was in control then Yahweh ordered or allowed Herod and his soldiers to murder children, one of whom would have been His only-begotten Son, if a messenger of Yahweh had not warned Joseph in a dream. Why would Yahweh send a messenger to Joseph and have him flee to Egypt if He was in control of Herod and his soldiers? If Yahweh could have stopped King Herod from murdering innocent children then Yahweh and not Herod was responsible for the deaths of these children. The teaching that Yahweh is in control of the affairs of mankind makes men puppets; unaccountable for their actions. If men are puppets then they cannot be judged for their actions; contradicting Yahweh's teachings.⁵² Yahweh is not in control of mankind's decisions.

The Cause for Natural Death

Adam and Eve are responsible for the origination of death and not the adversary nor Yahweh; "For, since indeed, through a man, came death, through a man, also cometh the raising of the dead; For, just as, in the Adam, all die, so, also, in the Christ, shall all be made alive" (I Cor. 15:21-22). The ultimate consequence of Adam and Eve's disobedience was to die or return to dust; "For, dust, thou art, and, unto dust, shalt thou return" (Gen. 3:19). The disobedience of mankind brought mortality to man and corruption to the creation. In the beginning, Adam's natural mortality took 930 years to be fulfilled (Gen.

⁵⁰ And Elohim blessed them, and Elohim said to them—Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it,—and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the bird of the heavens, and over every living thing that moveth on the land. And Elohim said—Lo! I have given to you—every herb yielding seed which is on the face of all the land, and every tree wherein is the fruit of a tree, yielding seed,—to you, shall it be, for food; and to every living thing of the land—and to every bird of the heavens, and to every thing that moveth on the land, wherein is a living soul, every green herb for food. And it was so. Gen. 1:28-30

⁵¹ Now, when they had retired, lo! a messenger of Yahweh, appeareth by dream unto Joseph, saying, Arise, take unto thee the child and its mother, and flee into Egypt, and be there, until I tell thee,—for Herod is about to seek the child, to destroy it. And, he, arising, took unto him the child and its mother, by night, and retired into Egypt; and was there, until the death of Herod,—that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt, called I my son. Then Herod, seeing that he had been mocked by the wise men, was exceedingly enraged,—and sent and slew all the male children that were in Bethlehem, and in all its bounds, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled, that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, saying: A voice, in Ramah, was heard, weeping and great mourning,—Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted,—because they are not. Mt. 2:13-18

⁵² Ro 14:10 But, thou, why dost thou judge thy brother? Aye! and thou, why dost thou despise thy brother? For, all of us, shall present ourselves unto the judgment seat of Yahweh;

2Co 5:10 For, we all, must needs be made manifest before the judgment seat of the Christ, that each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practised, whether good or corrupt.

Rom. 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and, books, were opened, and, another book, was opened, which is, the book, of life; and the dead, were judged, out of the things written in the books, according to their works.

5:5). It appears that the natural life span of man changed after the flood from 930 years for Adam to 175 years for Abraham (Gen. 25:7); to 120 years for Moses; to 70 years for David (II Sam. 5:4). It also appears from Psalms 90:10 that the natural life span of man, on the average, will be seventy to eighty years. Ideally, I believe that we can all live like Moses who "...was a hundred and twenty years old, when he died,—his eye had not dimmed, nor had his freshness fled" (De. 34:7). Also he was told by Yahweh when he was going to die. I believe his death was painless; it was Moses going to sleep without rising again.⁵³ This is how I would like to die and since Yahweh is an Elohim of lovingkindness, He hears our supplications; "Beloved! if our heart be not condemning us, boldness, have we, towards Yahweh; And, whatsoever we are asking, we are receiving from Him, because, His commandments, are we keeping, and, the things that are pleasing before Him, are we doing" (1 Jn. 3:21-22).

In Christ's thousand-year kingdom, the natural span of a man's life will be over one hundred years.⁵⁴ During this time period, the natural man's death cannot be attributed to the adversary because he has been bound and placed into the abyss for one thousand years. Their deaths cannot be attributed to Yahweh because this is the new heaven and new earth, where Christ is reigning as King. Their natural death will be the result of the Adamic fall. After Christ's one thousand-year reign, the accuser will be released from the abyss. The slanderer will then deceive many of the natural men into warring against Christ, which will lead them into their premature death; fire coming down out of heaven and devouring them.⁵⁵ The fire does not come from the accuser but from Yahweh or Christ because of their wickedness! Also this fire does not devour the righteous but rather the wicked.

⁵³ And Yahweh spake unto Moses, on this selfsame day, saying: Get thee up into this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, which is over against Jericho—and behold the land of Canaan, which I, am giving unto the sons of Israel, for a possession; and die thou in the mount whither thou art going up, and be withdrawn unto thy kinsfolk,—as Aaron thy brother died, in Mount Hor, and was withdrawn unto his kinsfolk; (De. 32:48-50)

⁵⁴ For, behold me! Creating new heavens, and a new earth,—And the former, shall not be mentioned, neither shall they come up on the heart. But joy ye and exult, perpetually, in what I, am about to create,—For, behold me! Creating Jerusalem an exultation, and, Her People a joy; Therefore will I Exult in Jerusalem, and, Joy in my People,—And there shall be heard in her, no more, The sound of weeping, or the sound of a cry: There shall be thenceforward, no more, A suckling of a few days, or an elder, Who filleth not up his days,—But, a youth, a hundred years old, may die, Yea, a sinner, a hundred years old, shall be accused, Is. 65:17-20

⁵⁵ And, as soon as the thousand years, shall be ended, the Accuser shall be loosed out of his prison, and will go forth to deceive the nations that are in the four corners of the earth, the Gog and Magog, to gather them together unto the battle—the number of whom, is as the sand of the sea. And they came up over the breadth of the land, and surrounded the camp of the saints, and the beloved city. And there came down fire out of heaven, and devoured them; and, the Adversary that had been deceiving them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where *were* both the wild-beast and the false-prophet; and they shall be tormented, day and night, unto the ages of ages.Rev. 20:7-10

The Causes for Premature Death

Yahweh Executing Justice in the Earth

Yahweh is an Elohim of justice and can kill evil people directly and indirectly.⁵⁶ Yahweh warns people, by His prophets and others, to repent of their wickedness before He sends judgment. Also He allows the righteous to flee from the scene before judgment falls from heaven, as He did with Noah, Lot and their families. Natural destructive forces such as earthquakes, hurricanes, floods or famines are not Yahweh's judgments upon mankind unless a prophet has given the people warning to repent and they do not, such as in the cases of the plagues upon Egypt. Yahweh used Moses and Aaron as His spokesmen to warn Pharaoh to repent of his ways or the plagues would come upon the Egyptians. In these judgments of Yahweh, His servants are protected. The plagues placed upon the Egyptians did not come upon the righteous Israelites.

Numbers chapter sixteen illustrated the direct justice of Yahweh through Moses when the earth opened up and closed upon people who were trying to overthrow Moses.⁵⁷ Also fire came down from heaven and destroyed an additional two hundred and fifty people.⁵⁸ Yahweh also enforces justice indirectly through men and women; Moses brought the sea upon Pharaoh's army; Elijah killed 450 of the prophets of Baal (1 Kg. 18:40); Jezebel was killed by the order of Yahweh, which avenged the murder of Naboth (1 Kg. 21:19, 23, 2 Kg. 9:32). Yahweh also works indirectly at putting wicked people to death by commanding his people to perform the task, as was done in stoning.⁵⁹

Yahweh's messengers have the ability to kill evil people by the order of Yahweh as was done with the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah.⁶⁰ A messenger of Yahweh killed one hundred and eighty five thousand enemies of Yahweh in one night (2 Kg. 19:35). Messengers of Yahweh and His saints will also kill Yahweh's enemies in the Book of Revelation.⁶¹

The Slanderer is a Murderer

The adversary indirectly murders individuals through his willing agents, who are men and women. Yahoshua instructed us that the slanderer, "...was, a murderer, from the

⁵⁶ I, am Yahweh, Executing lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness in the earth,—That in these things, I delight Declareth Yahweh (Jer. 9:24).

⁵⁷ Nu. 16:28-34

⁵⁸ Nu. 16:35

⁵⁹ But, when a man shall act presumptuously against his neighbour, to slay him with guile, from mine altar, shalt thou take him to die. And, he that smiteth his father or his mother, shall, surely be put to death. And, he that stealeth a man of the sons of Israel and selleth him, or he be found in his hand, shall, surely be put to death. Ex. 21:14-16
Whosoever lieth with a beast, shall, surely be put to death. Ex. 22:19

⁶⁰ For we are about to destroy this place,—for, great, is the outcry of them unto the face of Yahweh, so that Yahweh hath sent us to destroy it. Gen. 19:13

⁶¹ by these three plagues, were slain, the third part of mankind, by reason of the fire and the smoke and the brimstone, that proceedeth out of their mouths; Rev. 9:18

beginning” (Jn. 8:44). Cain, who was of the wicked one, murdered Abel (1 Jn. 3:12). Jezebel had the prophets of Yahweh murdered (1 Kg. 18:4). Herod murdered the children in Bethlehem who were two years old and younger (Mt. 2:16). The beast will murder the saints in the Book of Revelation (Rev. 11:7). The adversary cannot directly murder any individual. He needs an agent who has hands and feet. There is not one case in the Word of Yahweh where the adversary murdered someone without human assistance. Yahweh, His messengers and His people have the ability to kill evil people but the adversary, his messengers and his demons do not have this ability. They need humans to accomplish their tasks, such as in the case with Hitler, Stalin and Pol Pot, to name a few. (See the article, “The Authority of the Slanderer, the Adversary, the Deceiver)

Sin, Accidents & Suicide

Obedience to Yahweh’s commandments lengthens one’s life, while disobedience or sin hinders the blessings of Yahweh, which may shorten one’s life (Deu. 5:33, Deu. 28). Israel after leaving Egypt refused to obey Yahweh’s words by not entering into the land of Canaan, which would have prolonged their days. Yahweh then directed them to the wilderness but some went into Canaan to fight anyway, which Yahweh had forbidden. The consequence of their rebellion was death by the hands of their enemy (Deu. 1:29-45). Rebellion against Yahweh resulted in their premature death. Our own coveting tempts us, which leads to sin, which can lead to death; the wages of sin being death.⁶² People can also die because of an accident; “Whoso shall smite his neighbor unwittingly, he, not having hated him aforetime; as when one entereth with his neighbor into a forest, to fell trees, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe, to cut down the tree, and the head flieth off from the handle, and lighteth upon his neighbor, that he die, he, shall flee into one of these cities, and live” (Deu. 19: 4-5). People can also choose to commit suicide as in the case of King Saul and Judas.

The Fallen World

The earth has been corrupted because of Adam and Eve’s disobedience.⁶³ Their disobedience catastrophically changed the environment of the earth, which impacts our life expectancy. Storms, famines, diseases, genetic mutations etc. were not part of the Garden of Eden, neither are they part of Yahweh’s will. These natural destructive forces, which have an impact on our natural and premature death, must have resulted from the disobedience of Adam and Eve. People disobeying Yahweh’s commandments can produce the same destructive forces today, while obedience to His commandments can produce life

⁶² Let, no one, while tempted, be saying—From Yahweh, am I tempted,—for, Yahweh, cannot be tempted by things evil, and, himself, tempteth no one; But, each one, is tempted, when, by his own coveting, he is drawn out and enticed, Then, the coveting, having conceived, giveth birth to sin, and, the sin, when full-grown, bringeth forth death. Ja. 1:13-15

Ro 6:23 For, the wages of sin, is death; but, Yahweh’s gift of favour, is life age-abiding, in Christ Yahoshua our Lord.

⁶³ “For, the eager outlook of creation, ardently awaiteth the revealing of the sons of Yahweh,— For, unto vanity, hath creation been made subject—not by choice, but by reason of him that made it subject, in hope That, creation itself also, shall be freed—from the bondage of the decay into the freedom of the glory of the sons of Yahweh; For we know that, all creation, is sighing together, and travailing-in-birth-throes together until the present” (Rom. 8:19-22).

and prosperity (Deu. 28). Natural storms, famines, diseases etc. are not from Yahweh but rather they are the result of the fall of Adam and Eve.⁶⁴

A person having sexual relations not in accordance with the Word of Yahweh can receive life threatening sexually transmitted diseases. Morality, cleanliness and diet, which are in the control of mankind, can prevent diseases thereby lengthening life expectance. Famines can be natural, the result of mankind or from Yahweh. Yahweh will not send the rain if people are wicked, resulting in famine, as was done to Ahab and the Israelites. In the case of a natural famine, Yahweh can warn the righteous people of the coming famine to have them store up food as was done with Joseph in the land of Egypt.⁶⁵

Victory over Death

Christ Came to Destroy Death & Premature Death

Christ came to redeem people from the age-abiding destruction. Age-abiding destruction is the second death described in the book of Revelation.⁶⁶ Christ came to redeem those who choose to live with Yahweh from the second death. Death and Sheol will be cast into the Lake of Fire because of the sacrificial death of our Lord.⁶⁷ Yahoshua tasted death for all mankind.⁶⁸ He was tortured to death, on the cross, in order that, through death,—he might paralyze him that held the dominion of death, that is, the slanderer, and might release those as many as, by fear of death, were all their lifetime liable, to bondage.⁶⁹ We were reconciled to Yahweh by his death.⁷⁰ Yahweh raised him up from among the dead thereby loosing the pains of death.⁷¹ Christ has abolished death.⁷² The history and future of death is

⁶⁴ I believe diseases, killer storms and carnivores began to have an impact on mankind after the flood of Noah. Before the flood occurred, people had life spans of over 900 years. Today, our genetics and diseases do not allow these life spans. It appears that the food source, animal temperament, etc. were different before the flood than we have today, which allowed for these incredible life spans. Men and I believe animals were vegetarians until they left the Ark (Gen. 1:29-30, 9:3). If this was the case then carnivores, such as lions, would not have killed people. After the flood an animal, lightening or disease could lead to a man's premature death. Man's genetic makeup could have changed after the flood because of his new diet, which could be a factor in his days being shortened.

⁶⁵ Ac 11:28 And one from among them, by name Agabus, rising up, gave a sign, through means of the Spirit, that, a great famine, was coming over all the inhabited earth; which, indeed, came to pass under Claudius.

⁶⁶ 2Th 1:9 Who, indeed, a penalty, shall pay—age-abiding destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might—

⁶⁷ And, death and sheol, were cast into the lake of fire. This, is, the second death—the lake of fire. Rev. 20:14

⁶⁸ Heb 2:9 But, Yahoshua, made some little less than messengers, we do behold: by reason of the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour, to the end that, by favour of Yahweh, in behalf of every one, he might taste of death.

⁶⁹ ...in order that, through death,—he might paralyse him that held the dominion of death, that is, the Adversary,— And might release these—as many as, by fear of death, were all their lifetime liable, to bondage. Heb. 2:14-15

⁷⁰ Ro 5:10 For, if being enemies we were reconciled unto Yahweh through the death of his Son, much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

⁷¹ Ac 2:24 Whom, Yahweh, raised up, loosing the pangs of death, inasmuch as it was, not possible, for him to continue held fast by it.

summed up in I Corinthians chapter fifteen; “For, since indeed, through a man, came death, through a man, also cometh the raising of the dead; For, just as, in the Adam, all die, so, also, in the Christ, shall all be made alive...As a last enemy, death, is to be destroyed...But, whensoever, this mortal, shall clothe itself with immortality, then, shall be brought to pass the saying that is written—Death hath been swallowed up, victoriously...Where, O death, is thy victory? Where, O death, is thy sting...Now, the sting of death, is, sin, and, the power of sin, is, the law” (I Cor. 15:21-22, 26, 54-56). The second death has no power over us because we have confessed and believed Romans 10:9.

Christ also came to destroy premature death by healing the sick, raising the dead, casting out demons and teaching the Word of Life which will lengthen ones days. We also have been given this same power and authority whether we believe it or not.⁷³ If we believe these truths, then premature death will not occur in our lives. If we can not rise to the point of believing and acting upon these truths, then premature death may be part of our lives. There is no shame in attempting to believe and act upon Yahweh’s promises but still falling short of receiving the promises. Our Father is delighted that we walked out upon His promises. As Yahoshua said to the blind men, “Believe ye, that I can, do this? They say unto him, Yea, Lord! Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith, be it done unto you” (Mt. 9:29). Yahweh has promised us that “...all things, are possible, to him who has faith” (Mr. 9:23). If we say His scriptures are not true, then we call Yahweh a liar.

Faith

Peter, because of his faith, walked upon the water while the other disciples did not. I might die from an illness because of my lack of faith while another may believe for his total healing. I rejoice over their faith even though I can not attain the prize. We all win in the end whether some fall short of the goal by dying prematurely and others attain the goal by dying a natural death because we all will be given the life that Christ has acquired, the life that is age-abiding!

Some people are born with great genetics while others may be born with diabetes, heart disease or other life threatening illnesses. Some people live to be 100 years old and have never exercised a day in their lives while a healthy jogger with a genetic defect may have a heart attack while jogging. The person with good genetics does not have to believe for his health but the diabetic must exercise his faith to prolong his days upon the earth. Is this

⁷² 2Ti 1:10 But hath now been made manifest through means of the forthshining of our Saviour Christ Yahoshua,—Who, indeed, hath abolished death, and hath thrown light upon life and incorruptibility, through means of the glad-message:

⁷³ Verily, verily, I say unto you—He that believeth on me, the works which, I, am doing, he also, shall do; and, greater than these, shall he do, because, I, unto the Father, am going (Jn. 14:12) ...All things, whatsoever ye are praying for and asking, believe that ye have received, and they shall be yours. (Mr. 11:24) Mt 10:8 Be curing, the sick, raising, the dead,—cleansing, lepers, casting out, demons: freely, ye have, received, freely, give. And what the surpassing greatness of his power unto us who believe,—according to the energy of the grasp of his might (Eph. 1:19)

fair? No, but never-the-less it is a reality because of the fall of Adam and Eve. All things are possible to those who believe but some have higher demands placed upon them than others because of their genetics or environment. James the Apostle was murdered by the sword of Herod but Peter although apprehended by Herod to be murdered, escaped.⁷⁴ Was Peter more righteousness than James? Did Yahweh want His servant James to be murdered and Peter kept alive? Did Yahweh love Peter more than James? Absolutely not, in all cases; “Costly in the eyes of Yahweh, is, death, for his men of lovingkindness” (Ps. 116:15). James dying and Peter living was probably because James’s faith did not rise to the occasion for him to be delivered from Herod as did Peter’s. James did not sin nor is he less thought of nor was it our Father’s will that he be murdered. He will be rewarded greatly for his righteous deeds.

The sin of Adam and Eve corrupted our world thereby producing unfair environments, genetics and circumstances. Our prayers, supplication, intercessions, faith and actions can be the great equalizer, as was illustrated by our Lord and promised by our Father. Faith gives us the victory that overcomes the world.⁷⁵ Those who have come before us walked in faith, “who, through faith—prevailed in contest over kingdoms, wrought righteousness, attained unto promises, shut the mouths of lions, Quenched the power of fire, escaped the mouths of the sword, were made powerful from weakness, became mighty in battle, overturned, camps of aliens; Women received, by resurrection, their dead...” (Heb. 11:33-35). We are not to blame Yahweh when we do not believe to be delivered from unfair environments, genetics and circumstances. We must accept the reality that we did not rise to the position that was promised by our Father’s Word. We must encourage others that although we did not attain the fullness of Yahweh’s promise, never-the-less they should still shoot for the stars and walk in the fullness of faith, as did Abraham and Sarah; “...he [Abram] was not led to hesitate by unbelief, but received power by his faith, giving glory unto Yahweh. And being fully persuaded (that), —what He [Yahweh] hath promised, able is He also to perform” (Rm. 4:20-21).

Conclusion

Yahweh’s will for mankind, who were created in His image, was for them to live an age-abiding life with Him. Yahweh relinquished His control over the earth by giving it to mankind, who could then choose their own future. His original plan was for His children to choose immortality, by taking of the tree of life, and to rule the earth as Sons of Elohim. They were to be in control of their life and the earth. If they had made this choice then death, grief and pain would not exist but they instead chose mortality by disobeying Yahweh Elohim.⁷⁶ Yahweh’s contingent plan then came into effect. This plan was for his

⁷⁴ Acts 12:2-11

⁷⁵ 1Jo 5:4 Because, whatsoever hath been born of Yahweh, overcome the world; and, this, is the victory that hath overcome the world—our faith.

⁷⁶ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for, the first heaven and the first earth, have passed away, and, the sea, is no more. And, the holy city, new Jerusalem, saw I coming down out of heaven from Yahweh, prepared as a bride adorned for her

Son, a Son who would completely obeyed Him, to deliver mankind from the dominion of death. Yahweh wills long life for all of mankind, who walk in righteousness, justice and lovingkindness thereby fulfilling their calling, as was done by Moses and Paul. Natural death is the result of the Adamic Fall, while premature death can be attributed to many causes, one of which can be the adversary. The adversary cannot murder an individual anytime he wants, neither does Yahweh kill innocent people so they can be with Him in heaven. Death is an enemy and along with Sheol will someday be cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:14). Long life upon the earth is promised to those who live and act upon the promises of our Father's Words. Our hope is not death, as many Churches teach but rather Christ coming back to raise the dead, giving them an age-abiding life, resulting in them never dying again. There will be a day when Yahweh "...will wipe away every tear out of our eyes,—and, death, shall be no more, and grief and outcry and pain shall be no more" (Rev. 21:4)! Praise ye Yah!

husband. And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying—Lo! the tent of Yahweh, is with men, and he will tabernacle with them, and, they, shall be, his peoples, and, he, shall be, Yahweh with them; And he will wipe away every tear out of their eyes,—and, death, shall be no more, and grief and outcry and pain shall be no more: the first things, have passed away. Rev. 21:1-4

Appendix A

Hebrews 2:14

*“that through death he might destroy him that had [past tense] the power of death,
that is, the devil” (KJV).*

*in order that, through death,—he might paralyse him that held [past tense] the dominion of death, that is, the Adversary”
(Rotherham)*

We must examine Hebrews 2:14 in its context. If the adversary murdered someone in chapter two then the context would be correct in stating that the adversary has the power of death but no one is murdered by the adversary in chapter two. The death of our Lord is mentioned in chapter two but his death is not attributed to the adversary. Our Lord gave his life and no one took it from him (Jn. 10:17-18).

Natural death is the result of Adam and Eve’s disobedience to Yahweh (Gen. 3:19). The context of Hebrews chapter two speaks of the death and resurrection of Yahoshua, which were accomplished in order to save his brethren. “...In behalf of every one, he might taste of death...when, many sons, unto glory, he would lead, The Princely Leader of their salvation, through sufferings, to make perfect. For, both he that maketh holy, and they who are being made holy, are, all, of One; For which cause, he is not ashamed to be calling them, brethren” (Heb. 2:9-11). The context of Hebrews chapter two is not talking about the adversary but rather about Yahoshua’s brethren being released from bondage; “... these—as many as, by fear of death, were all their lifetime liable, to bondage” (Heb. 2:15). How did Yahoshua release us from bondage?

He released us from bondage by being raised from among the dead, never to die again. The bondage spoken of was from the fear of death. Hundreds of believers witnessed our risen Savior, who will never be bound by death again. Before this event, the adversary bound the people through the dominion (kratos⁷⁷) of death. Kratos means might, strength or force. The might that he held over men was the fear of death, which binds. Once Yahoshua was raised from among the dead, the fear of death could no longer bind the believer. The slanderer’s ability to bind men through the fear of death has been paralyzed. Many people have been taught that the slanderer has the power (dunamis⁷⁸) of death, which infers that he can kill anyone at any time; that all deaths are attributed to him. This is not the case. People can die a natural death because of age (a result of the curse), as Moses and Abraham did. People can be put to death by righteous people because they have committed a capital offense (result of their free will doing evil), as Samuel did by slaying King Agag.⁷⁹ People can die prematurely from an accident or an illness caused by natural or spiritual means. People can also be murdered by people who are under the influence of the adversary (Jn. 8:44).

⁷⁷ 2904 kratov kratos *krat'-os*

1) force, strength 2) power, might: mighty with great power 2a) a mighty deed, a work of power 3) dominion

⁷⁸ 1411 dunamiv dunamis *doo'-nam-is*

1) strength power, ability

1a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth

1b) power for performing miracles 1c) moral power and excellence of soul

1d) the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth 1e) power and resources arising from numbers

1f) power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

⁷⁹ 1 Samuel 15:33

Why Does it Sometimes Appear That Yahweh Does Evil?

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament, I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahoshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and Anointed for Christ.)

The image of Yahweh, in the books of Genesis through Malachi, is different from the image presented in the four Gospels. In Deuteronomy 32:39, Yahweh spoke, “See, now, that, I, I, am, he that is, And there are no elohims with me,—I, kill—and make alive, I wound, and, I, heal, And there, is none, who, from my hand, can deliver.” In the former books Yahweh is presented as someone who could bring sickness, even unto death, on His servants, while in the Gospels He heals and brings the dead back to life through His Son, Yahoshua.⁸⁰ Yahoshua spoke, “The thief, cometh not, save that he may thieve and slay and destroy: I, came, that, life, they might have, and, above measure, might have” (Jn. 10:10). What accounts for this contrasting image of Yahweh and Yahoshua? Did Yahweh’s nature change between the time of Malachi and the ministry of His Son, Yahoshua? No! Then what accounts for this contrast? The only possible explanation is that in the Old Covenant, Yahweh had not revealed the adversary and his methods to Moses or to any other prophet. Therefore good and evil acts committed in the Old Covenant had to be attributed to Yahweh, the only spiritual being that the Hebrews knew; even though the adversary, his workers and other factors were actually responsible⁸¹. The truth about the adversary and his methods was not revealed until Yahoshua began his ministry. Yahoshua, who was spiritually endowed to conquer the slanderer, then instructed the believers that our fight was not against flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness in the heavenlies (Eph. 6:12). Yahweh’s true nature had now been manifested in its fullness, through the life of His Son. Yahoshua did not inflict disease, death or evil spirits upon his servants as

⁸⁰ “And it shall be, if thou wilt, hearken, unto the voice of Yahweh thy Elohim, to observe to do all his commandments which I am commanding thee to-day, then will Yahweh thy Elohim set thee on high, above all the nations of the earth; and all these blessings shall come in upon thee” (Deut. 28:1,2). “But it shall be, if thou do not hearken unto the voice of Yahweh thy elohim, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I am commanding thee to-day, then shall come in upon thee all these curses and shall reach thee:— Cursed, shall thou be in the city,—and cursed, shall thou be in the ield...Yahweh will cause to cleave unto thee—the pestilence,—until he hath consumed thee from off the soil which thou art entering to possess. Yahweh, will smite thee, with consumption and with fever, and with inflammation and with violent heat and with the sword, and with blight and with mildew,—and they shall pursue thee, until thou perish” (Deu. 28:15-22).

⁸¹ Where does bad weather, sickness and wickedness come from? Let us begin by stating that Yahweh’s will has always been to fellowship with His children in Paradise (Gen. 1 & Rev. 21). In Paradise there is good weather, joy, health, goodness and life age-abiding (Is. 35, Rev. 21,22). Bad weather, pain, sickness, wickedness and death are all part of this age. They are a result of the disobedience of mankind. Yahweh gave His messengers (angels) as well as mankind a freedom to choose life or death (Deu. 30:19). One-third of the messengers chose wickedness (Rev. 12:4), which results in death, while today, people chose goodness or wickedness, life or death. When mankind chose to sin instead of eating of the tree of life the earth became cursed, which is where we get bad weather, sickness and death (Gen. 3:17). So where does wickedness come from? Wickedness comes from wicked messengers (Jn. 10:10), demons and mankind (Rm. 1:18-32). Demons and wicked messengers need a vehicle to accomplish their wickedness, which are men. For example, the adversary wanted the Anointed One (Christ) dead. King Herod and his soldiers became willing accomplices to the adversary in the killing of the children in Bethlehem. Man was involved as also was the adversary. The Good News is that Yahoshua was given authority over evil; over the weather, sickness and spiritual wickedness. He also has given us the same authority because we are His Body (Jn 14:12, Lk. 10:19). (See the Article, “The Authority of the Slanderer, the Adversary, the Deceiver”)

Yahweh had appeared to do in the Old Covenant but rather healed, raised the dead and cast out unclean spirits.⁸²

First we must rule out the teaching that, “Yahweh is in Control of the Affairs of Mankind.” If Yahweh is in control then all evil can be laid at His feet; He either caused the evil or allowed the evil to occur. Let’s test this Christian teaching when we are behind the controls of an automobile. At 70 mph, in traffic, lets take our hands off of the steering wheel and our foot off of the brake and see what happens. After the crash we can ask ourselves if we were in control of the car or was Yahweh in control of the car. We can perform this test one thousand times and the results will always be the same, thereby confirming that we are in control of the automobile and not Yahweh. Control means, “to exercise restraint or direction upon the free action of; to hold sway over, exercise power or authority over; to dominate or command.”⁸³ Something being controlled has no choice or freedom of will. If Yahweh is in control of the affairs of mankind, then mankind cannot have freedom of will.

Yahweh, as the Creator, relinquished His control over His creation, the earth, and gave it to mankind.⁸⁴ He gave Adam and Eve the authority and power to control their own environment, the earth. He also gave them the ability to choose their age-abiding destiny; live in the garden forever or die.⁸⁵ He instructed them that they could choose life by eating of the tree of life or they could choose death by eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They chose death! Cain also chose death, while Abel chose life. Men are accountable for their own choices because men and not Yahweh, are in control of their own affairs.

The Church teaching that Yahweh is in Control, is like gangrene in the Body of the Christ. For example, let’s consider the event where King Herod murdered the children in Bethlehem.⁸⁶ If Yahweh was in control, then Yahweh ordered or allowed Herod and his

⁸² Ac 10:38 How Yahweh anointed him with holy spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the adversary, because, Yahweh, was with him.

⁸³ OED

⁸⁴ Ps 115:16 As for the heavens, the heavens, belong to Yahweh, but the earth, hath he given to the sons of men.

⁸⁵ And Elohim blessed them, and Elohim said to them—Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it,—and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the bird of the heavens, and over every living thing that moveth on the land. And Elohim said—Lo! I have given to you—every herb yielding seed which is on the face of all the land, and every tree wherein is the fruit of a tree, yielding seed,—to you, shall it be, for food; and to every living thing of the land—and to every bird of the heavens, and to every thing that moveth on the land, wherein is a living soul, every green herb for food. And it was so. Gen. 1:28-30

⁸⁶ Now, when they had retired, lo! a messenger of Yahweh, appeareth by dream unto Joseph, saying, Arise, take unto thee the child and its mother, and flee into Egypt, and be there, until I tell thee,—for Herod is about to seek the child, to destroy it. And, he, arising, took unto him the child and its mother, by night, and retired into Egypt; and was there, until the death of Herod,—that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt, called I my son. Then Herod, seeing that he had been mocked by the wise men, was exceedingly enraged,—and sent and slew all the male children that were in Bethlehem, and in all its bounds, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled, that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, saying: A voice, in Ramah, was heard, weeping and great mourning,—Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted,—because they are not. Mt. 2:13-18

soldiers to murder children. One of whom would have been His only-begotten Son, if a messenger of Yahweh had not warned Joseph in a dream. Why would Yahweh send a messenger to Joseph and have him flee to Egypt, if He was in control of Herod and his soldiers? If Yahweh could have stopped King Herod from murdering the children, then Yahweh and not Herod was responsible for the deaths of the innocent children. The teaching that Yahweh is in control makes men puppets; unaccountable for their actions. If men are puppets, then they cannot be judged for their actions; contradicting Yahweh's teachings.⁸⁷ Yahoshua was not a puppet but the only-begotten Son of Yahweh who had freedom of will. He chose to submit his will to his Father's will.⁸⁸

Yahoshua said to Phillip, "He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father" (Jn. 14:9). Yahoshua fully made known Yahweh when he was anointed with the spirit of Yahweh. He was the image of Yahweh; "...who, being an eradiated brightness of his [Yahweh's] glory, and an exact representation of his [Yahweh] very being..." (Heb. 1:3). Yahoshua came to reveal the Father and the adversary in a truer light than Moses and the prophets ever could.⁸⁹

As an illustration, let us examine the topic of divorce, which was acceptable with Moses but unacceptable with Yahoshua, except in the case of adultery. In Deuteronomy 24:1, Moses wrote, "When a man takes a woman, and marries her, then shall it be, if she find not favor in his eyes, because he hath found in her some matter of shame, that he shall write her a scroll of divorcement, and put it into her hand, and shall send her forth, out of his house." Yahoshua brings the covenant of marriage into a truer light than Moses had known. The Pharisees questioned Yahoshua by saying, "...Moses permitted, to write, a roll of dismissal, and to divorce. But, Yahoshua, said unto them—In view of your hardness of heart, wrote he for you this commandment; But, from the beginning of creation, male and female, made he [[them]]; For this cause, shall a man leave behind his father and mother, and, the two, shall become, one flesh; so that, no longer, are they two, but, one flesh. What then, Yahweh, hath yoked together, let, a man, not put asunder" (Mk. 10:4-9). Yahoshua brought to light our Father's heart on divorce.

⁸⁷ Ro 14:10 But, thou, why dost thou judge thy brother? Aye! and thou, why dost thou despise thy brother? For, all of us, shall present ourselves unto the judgment seat of Yahweh;

2Co 5:10 For, we all, must needs be made manifest before the judgment seat of the Christ, that each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practised, whether good or corrupt.

Rom. 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and, books, were opened, and, another book, was opened, which is, the book, of life; and the dead, were judged, out of the things written in the books, according to their works.

⁸⁸ Lu 22:42 saying—Father! if thou please, bear aside this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be accomplished.

⁸⁹ And, the Word, became, flesh, and pitched his tent among us, and we gazed upon his glory,—a glory, as an Only-begotten from his Father. Full of favour and truth... Because, out of his fulness, we all, received, even favour over against favour. Because, the law, through Moses, was given, favour and truth, through Yahoshua Christ, came into existence. No one, hath seen [horao, to see with the mind, to perceive, know], Yahweh, at any time: An Only Begotten Elohim, The One existing within the bosom of the Father, He, hath interpreted [exegeomai, used in Greek writing of the interpretation of things sacred and divine, oracles, dreams, etc.] *him*. Jn. 1:14-19

Another example of Yahweh withholding information from His servants would be when He outlawed the eating of pork. Did the Hebrews understand the problem with eating pork or eating carnivores?⁹⁰ No. Today we understand the wisdom of such a law because pork and carnivores can be infected with the larvae of a species of worm called, ‘Trichinella.’ When this meat is under cooked you can get trichinosis,⁹¹ which can lead to death. In the Old Covenant, Yahweh was presented as the Good Guy and the Bad Guy. Yahoshua unveiled our Father as being the Good Guy, while identifying the serpent and his workers as the Bad Guys.

The enemy of Yahweh is, “the great dragon...the ancient serpent, he that is called adversary and the satan, that deceives the whole habitable world” (Rev. 12:9). The adversary was introduced in Genesis 3 as the serpent.⁹² In the Old Covenant we were told his methods and his fate but we were never given instructions on how to deal with him. Also we were never told that he runs a wicked kingdom where he rules over unclean or familiar spirits, messengers, his children, etc. When Cain murdered Abel, the adversary’s influence on Cain was never mentioned. The full story came to light in I John 5:10-12; “herein, are, manifest, the children of Yahweh, and the children of the adversary...just as, Cain, was, of the wicked one, and slew his brother!” Demons, as we know them today, did not exist in the minds of Old Covenant believers. In the Old Covenant, evil spirits came from Yahweh, while in the New Covenant, impure spirits come from our adversary.⁹³ In the Old Covenant sickness came from Yahweh, while in the New Covenant disease can come from the adversary.⁹⁴ In the Old Covenant there was very little information about our spiritual enemy. (See Appendix A) Demons were just as active then as they are today even though wickedness was not attributed to them. Yahoshua came to expose the dragon and his methods, while at the same time equipping us with the necessary tools needed to defeat our spiritual enemies.

Yahoshua was the first person to take authority over demons and the adversary. We never saw Moses, Elijah or any other Old Covenant prophet cast out demons. One of Yahoshua’s

⁹⁰ Lev. 11

⁹¹ Trichinellosis, also called trichinosis, is caused by eating raw or undercooked meat of animals infected with the larvae of a species of worm called *Trichinella*. Infection occurs commonly in certain wild carnivorous (meat-eating) animals but may also occur in domestic pigs. Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, fatigue, fever, and abdominal discomfort are the first symptoms of trichinellosis. Headaches, fevers, chills, cough, eye swelling, aching joints and muscle pains, itchy skin, diarrhea, or constipation follow the first symptoms. If the infection is heavy, patients may experience difficulty coordinating movements, and have heart and breathing problems. In severe cases, death can occur.

⁹² In the Book of Job, most translators translate the Hebrew word, ‘07854 Njs satan’ ‘Satan’ when it means ‘adversary.’ The word is not a proper name and was used to refer to an adversary. “2 Samuel 19:22 And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries <07854> unto me?”

⁹³ Then came there a evil spirit of Yahweh unto Saul, he being in his house, seated, with his spear in his hand,—while, David, played with his hand, Saul sought to smite David with the spear. (I Sam. 19:9)

But Satan entered into Judas, him called Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve; and, departing, he conversed with the High-priests and Captains, as to how, unto them, he might deliver him up. Lk. 22:3-4

⁹⁴ even every disease and, every plague, which are not written in this scroll of the law, will Yahweh bring up against thee, until thou art destroyed. De 28:61

But, this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan had bound, lo! eighteen years, was there not a needs-be that she should be loosed from this bond, on the day of rest? Lk. 13:16

purposes was to expose and deliverer us from the authority of the adversary. Yahoshua's mission is recorded below as:

“Healing all that were oppressed by the adversary.” Acts 10:38

“He might paralyze him that held the dominion of death, that is, the adversary.” Heb. 2:14

“He might undo the works of the adversary.” I Jn. 3:8

“To open their eyes; that they turn from...the authority of satan unto Yahweh.” Acts 26:18

Our spiritual enemies have now been revealed. In the Old Covenant, there was no mention of spiritual enemies even though they existed. In the Old Covenant, Yahweh, not the adversary, was presented as the spiritual enemy, who brought about sickness, poverty and death. Why? I believe that Yahweh withheld this information from the Old Covenant believers because they were not spiritually prepared to fight spiritual wickedness; they were not filled with the spirit of Yahweh. The information concerning our adversary must have had to be withheld from man until the outpouring of the gift of spirit, as prophesied by the prophet Joel, which first occurred on the Day of Pentecost. The gift of spirit, poured out upon those that believe, brought with it three manifestations, which are word of knowledge, word of wisdom and discerning of spirits. These are the tools necessary to defeat the enemy.⁹⁵ Ephesians unveils our spiritual warfare with a guarantee that we are able to extinguish every ignited dart of the wicked one. Why? We have received the of gift of holy spirit and power.⁹⁶

Yahweh, as Judge, has and will in the future, inflict pain and death upon wicked men, as was done to the Egyptians,⁹⁷ Sodomites⁹⁸ and the wicked people who will be living during the Book of Revelation.⁹⁹ Yahweh will always command men to repent of their evil ways

⁹⁵ But, unto each one, is given the manifesting of the spirit, with a view to that which is profitable; For, unto one, indeed, through the spirit, is given, a word of wisdom, but, unto another, a word of knowledge, according to the same spirit; — Unto a different one, faith, in the same spirit, and, unto another, gifts of healings, in the one spirit, And, unto another, energies of mighty works, [[and]], unto another, prophesying, [[and]], unto another, discriminations of spirits,—unto a different one, kinds of tongues, and, unto another, translation of tongues; — But, all these, energiseth the one and the same spirit, distributing unto each one, peculiarly, even as it is disposed. I Cor. 12:7-11

⁹⁶ Put on the complete armour of Yahweh, with a view to your having power to stand against the strategies of the adversary; Because our struggle is not against blood and flesh, but, against the principalities, against the authorities, against the world-holders, of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies. For this cause, take up the complete armour of Yahweh, in order that ye may receive power to withstand in the evil day, and, all things, having accomplished, to stand! Stand therefore,—having girded your loins with truth, and put on the breastplate of righteousness, And shod your feet with the readiness of the glad-message of peace; With all, having taken up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall have power, all the ignited darts of the wicked one, to quench; Eph. 6:11-16

⁹⁷ Then said Yahweh unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh,—then shalt thou say unto him—Thus, saith Yahweh,—Let my people go, that they may serve me. But, if thou art, refusing, to let them go, lo! I, am plaguing all thy boundaries with frogs; Ex. 8:1-2

⁹⁸ And the men said unto Lot, Whom, besides, hast thou here? Son-in-law, and thy sons and thy daughters, and all that thou hast in the city, bring thou forth out of the place; For we are about to destroy this place,—for, great, is the outcry of them unto the face of Yahweh, so that Yahweh hath sent us to destroy it. Gen. 19:12-13

⁹⁹ Nevertheless, I have against thee, that thou sufferest the woman Jezebel, she who calleth herself a prophetess, and is teaching and leading astray my own servants to commit lewdness and to eat idol-sacrifices; and I gave her time, that she might repent,

first but if they do not repent, then justice can be administered by pain and or death. Yahweh will always take full credit for His judgments.¹⁰⁰ Hurricanes, earthquakes and tornadoes will never come from Yahweh unless he foretells their arrival, by a prophet, thereby warning the righteous people to flee His judgment. Prophets or messengers, sent by Yahweh or Christ, will always warn the people of impending doom first. This allows the people to repent before judgment is unleashed. Righteous men, such as Lot and his daughters, were warned beforehand, allowing them to flee His anger. Righteous individuals could also be given instructions on how to avoid His judgment.¹⁰¹

The Old Covenant believers viewed Yahweh through a dimmer window than we have today. Yahweh spoke to Moses in the Old Covenant, while now He has spoken unto us through His Son, who has interpreted unto us the Father, in His fullness. Moses longed for a day when all of Yahweh's people could have spirit.¹⁰² Today is that day! Spirit allows us to know and understand the things of Yahweh.¹⁰³ Yahoshua also unveiled the adversary and his kingdom.¹⁰⁴ These unveilings had never before been revealed in the capacity we now see them. We now see a Father of love, life and healing. We also see a spiritually wicked kingdom where deception, death and destruction are it's objective. In the Old Covenant, Yahweh was presented as the Good Guy and the Bad Guy but now we see clearly that He is only the Good Guy. The Bad Guys have now been revealed. They are the slanderer, his workers and men. Our conflict with evil is never caused by Yahweh but is the result of;

1. the curse that resulted from the sin of Adam and Eve;
2. the result of sin;
3. the result of the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies.

and she willeth not to repent out of her lewdness. Lo! I cast her into a bed, and them who are committing adultery with her, into great tribulation,—except they repent out of her works; Rev. 2:20-22

¹⁰⁰ Then said Yahweh unto Moses, Rise thou early in the morning, and station thyself before Pharaoh,—then shalt thou say unto him—Thus, saith Yahweh, Elohim of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me; for, this time, am, I, sending all my plagues unto thy heart, and amongst thy servants, and amongst thy people,—to the intent thou mayest get to know, that there is none like me, in all the earth. For, now, might I have put forth my hand, and smitten thee and thy people, with pestilence,—and thou shouldst have secretly disappeared from the earth; but, in very deed, for this purpose, have I let thee remain, for the purpose of showing thee my might,—and that my name may be celebrated in all the earth. Ex. 9:13-16

¹⁰¹ And Yahweh will pass along to plague the Egyptians, and, when he beholdeth the blood upon the upper beam, and upon the two door-posts, then will Yahweh pass over the entrance, and not suffer the destroyer to enter into your houses, to inflict on you the plague. Ex. 12:23

¹⁰² But Moses said unto him, Art, thou, jealous for, me? Oh would that, all the people of Yahweh, were prophets! Yea, let Yahweh put his spirit upon them! Num. 11:29

¹⁰³ 1Co 2:12 But, as for us,—not the spirit of the world, have we received, but the spirit which is of Yahweh,—that we might know the things which, by Yahweh, have been given in favour unto us:

¹⁰⁴ Lu 11:18 And, if, even Satan, against himself hath become divided, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye are saying that, in Beelzebul, am I casting out the demons.

Appendix A

Demons, Diabolos & Satan Were Basically Unknown In the Old Covenant

Old Covenant Usage

07700 dv shed *shade* (demon = 2)

De 32:17 They sacrificed to mischievous demons, to a No-El, elohims whom they knew not,—New ones lately come in, Your fathers never shuddered at them!

Ps 106:37 Yea they sacrificed their sons and their daughters to mischievous demons;

New Covenant Usage

1140 daimonion daimonion *dahee-mon'-ee-on* (demon = 60)

Mt 7:22 Many, will say unto me, in, that, day, Lord! Lord! did we not, in thy name, prophesy, and, in thy name, cast, demons, out,—and, in thy name, many works of power, perform?

Mt 9:33 And, the demon being cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the multitudes marveled, saying,—Never, was it seen thus, in Israel.

Mt 9:34 [[But, the Pharisees, beg to say, In the ruler of the demons, is he casting out the demons.]]

Mt 10:8 Be curing, the sick, raising, the dead,—cleansing, lepers, casting out, demons: freely, ye have, received, freely, give.

Mt 11:18 For, John, came, neither eating nor drinking, and they say—A demon, he hath!

Mt 12:24 But, the Pharisees, hearing it, said, This one, doth not cast out the demons, save in Beelzebul ruler of the demons.

Mt 12:27 And, if, I, in Beelzebul, am casting out the demons, In whom are, your sons, casting them out? Wherefore, they, shall be, judges of you.

Mt 12:28 But, if, in Yahweh's Spirit, I, am casting out the demons, then doubtless hath come upon you unawares, the kingdom of Yahweh!

Mt 17:18 And Yahoshua rebuked it; and the demon came out of him,—and cured was the boy, from that hour.

Mr 1:34 and he cured many that were sick with divers diseases, and, many demons, he cast out, and suffered not the demons to be talking,—because they knew him [[to be Christ]].

Mr 1:39 and he came, making proclamation, into their synagogues, throughout the whole of Galilee,—and, was casting the demons out.

Mr 3:15 and to have authority to cast out the demons;

Mr 3:22 ¶ And, the Scribes who from Jerusalem had come down, were saying—He hath, Beelzebul; and—In the ruler of the demons, casteth he out the demons.

Mr 6:13 and, many demons, were they casting out,—and were anointing with oil, many sick, and were curing them.

Mr 7:26 Now, the woman, was a Grecian, a Syrophenician by race,—and she was requesting him that, the demon, he would cast forth out of her daughter.

Mr 7:29 and he said to her—Because of this word, go thy way, the demon hath gone forth out of thy daughter;

Mr 7:30 and, departing unto her house, she found the child laid prostrate on the couch, and the demon gone forth.

Mr 9:38 John said unto him—Teacher! we saw someone, in thy name, casting out demons,—and we forbade him, because he was not following with us.

Mr 16:9 ¶ [[[[And, arising early, on the first of the week, he was manifested, first, unto Mary the Magdalene, from whom he had cast, seven demons.

Mr 16:17 Signs, moreover, shall follow, them who have believed,—these:—In my name, shall they cast, demons, out, with tongues, shall they speak,—[[and, in their hands,]] they shall take up, serpents;

Lu 4:33 And, in the synagogue, was a man having a spirit of an impure demon; and he cried out with a loud voice—

Lu 4:35 And Yahoshua rebuked it, saying—Hold thy peace! and go forth from him. And the demon, throwing him into the midst, went forth from him, doing him no hurt.

Lu 4:41 And demons also were going forth from many; crying aloud, and saying—Thou, art the Son of Yahweh. And, rebuking them, he suffered them not be talking; because they knew him to be, The Christ.

Lu 7:33 For John the Immerser hath come, neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and ye say—A demon, he hath:

Lu 8:2 and certain women, who had been cured from evil spirits and infirmities,—Mary, the one called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone forth,

Lu 8:27 And, when he went forth upon the land, there met him a certain man, out of the city, having demons; and, for a considerable time, he had put on no garment, and, in a house, would not abide, but among the tombs.

Lu 8:30 And Yahoshua questioned him—What name hast thou? And, he, said—Legion! because many demons had entered into him.

Lu 8:33 And the demons, going forth from the man entered into the swine; and the herd rushed down the cliff, into the lake, and were choked.

Lu 8:35 And they went forth to see what had happened; and came unto Yahoshua, and found the man from whom the demons had gone forth, sitting, clothed, and of sound mind, near the feet of Yahoshua,—and they were struck with fear.

Lu 8:38 And the man from whom the demons had gone forth, began to beg of him, that he might be with him; but he dismissed him, saying—

Lu 9:1 ¶ And, calling together the twelve, he gave them power and authority over all the demons, and to be curing, diseases;

Lu 9:42 And, while yet he was coming, the demon tare him, and mangled him. But Yahoshua rebuked the impure spirit, and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

Lu 9:49 But John, answering, said—Master! we saw some one, in thy name, casting out demons,—and we forbade him, because he followeth not with us.

Lu 10:17 ¶ And the seventy[[-two]] returned, with joy, saying—Lord! even the demons, submit themselves unto us, in thy name!

Lu 11:14 ¶ And he was casting out a demon that was dumb; and it came to pass, when the demon went out, the dumb began speaking. And the multitudes marveled;

Lu 11:15 but, some from among them, said—In Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, is he casting out the demons;

Lu 11:18 And, if, even Satan, against himself hath become divided, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye are saying that, in Beelzebul, am I casting out the demons.

Lu 11:19 But, if, I, in Beelzebul, am casting out the demons, In whom are, your sons, casting them out? Wherefore, they, shall be, your judges.

Lu 11:20 But, if, with the finger of Yahweh, I, am casting out the demons, then doubtless unawares hath come upon you, the kingdom of Yahweh.

Lu 13:32 And he said unto them—Go and tell this fox, Lo! I am casting out demons, and, cures, am I finishing, today, and tomorrow,—

Joh 7:20 The multitude answered—A demon, thou hast: Who, is seeking, to slay, thee?

Joh 8:48 The Jews answered, and said unto him—Do, we, not, well, say: Thou, art, a Samaritan, and hast a demon?

Joh 8:49 Yahoshua answered—I, have not, a demon, but honour my Father: and, ye, dishonour me.

Joh 8:52 The Jews said unto him—Now, we know that, a demon, thou hast:—Abraham, died, and, the prophets, and yet, thou, sayest: If anyone shall keep, my word, in nowise shall he taste of death, unto times age—abiding.

Joh 10:20 But many from among them were saying—A demon, he hath, and is raving,—Why, unto him, do ye hearken?

Joh 10:21 Others, said—These sayings, are not those of one demonized,—Can, a demon, open the eyes of, the blind?

Ac 17:18 But, certain both of the Epicurean and of the Stoic philosophers, were encountering him; and some were saying—What might this picker-up-of-scrap wish to be saying? And, others—Of foreign demons, he seemeth to be a declarer: because, of Yahoshua and the Resurrection, he was announcing the joyful tidings.

1Co 10:20 On the contrary—that, the things which the nations sacrifice, unto demons, and not unto Yahweh, they sacrifice; and I wish not that ye should become, sharers together with the demons!

1Co 10:21 Ye cannot be drinking—a cup of the Lord, and a cup of demons; ye cannot be partaking of, a table of the Lord, and a table of demons.

1Ti 4:1 ¶ Howbeit, the Spirit, expressly saith—that, in later seasons, some will revolt from the faith, giving heed unto seducing spirits, and unto teachings of demons—

Jas 2:19 Thou believest that Yahweh is, one: thou doest, well—Even the demons believe, and shudder!

Re 9:20 And, the rest of mankind who were not slain by these plagues, repented not of the works of their hands,—that they should not do homage unto the demons, nor unto the idols of gold and of silver and of copper and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;

Old Covenant Usage

Diabolos (devil or adversary = 0)

New Covenant Usage

1228 diabolov diabolos *dee-ab'-ol-os* (slanderer = 38)

Mt 4:1 ¶ Then, Yahoshua was led up into the wilderness, by the Spirit, to be tempted by the slanderer;

Mt 4:5 Then, the slanderer taketh him with him, unto the holy city,—and he set him upon the pinnacle of the temple;

Mt 4:8 Again, the slanderer taketh him with him, into an exceeding high mountain,—and pointeth out to him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory;

Mt 4:11 Then, the slanderer leaveth him,—and lo! messengers came near, and began ministering unto him.

Mt 13:39 And, the enemy that sowed them, is the slanderer, and, the harvest, is, the conclusion of an age, and, the reapers, are, messengers.

Mt 25:41 Then, will he say unto those also, on his left hand: Depart ye from me, accursed ones! Into the age—abiding fire, which hath been prepared for the slanderer and his messengers;

Lu 4:2 forty days,—being tempted by the slanderer; and he did eat nothing in those days,—and, when they were concluded, he hungered.

Lu 4:3 And the slanderer said to him—If thou art Yahweh's, Son, speak unto this stone; that it become bread.

Lu 4:5 And, leading him up, he shewed him all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth, in a moment of time.

Lu 4:6 And the slanderer said to him—Unto thee, will I give this authority, all together, and their glory; because, unto me, hath it been delivered up, and, to whomsoever I please, I give it:

Lu 4:13 And, having concluded every temptation, the slanderer departed from him until a fitting season.

Lu 8:12 And, those beside the pathway, are they who have heard; afterwards, cometh the slanderer, and catcheth away the word from their heart, lest, believing, they should, be saved.

Joh 6:70 Yahoshua answered them—Did not, I, make choice, of you, the twelve? And yet, from among you, one, is, an slanderer.

Joh 8:44 Ye, are, of your father—the slanderer, and, the covetings of your father, ye choose to be doing. He, was, a murderer, from the beginning, and, in the truth, he stood not; because truth is not in him: Whensoever he speaketh falsehood, of his own, he speaketh; because, false, he is, and, the father of it.

Joh 13:2 And, supper, being in progress, the slanderer, having already thrust into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot, that he should deliver him up,—

Ac 10:38 How Yahweh anointed him with Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the slanderer, because, Yahweh, was with him.

Ac 13:10 Said—O full of all guile, and all recklessness! Son of an slanderer! Enemy of all righteousness!—Wilt thou not cease to pervert the straight ways of the Lord?

Eph 4:27 Neither be giving place unto the slanderer;

Eph 6:11 Put on the complete armour of Yahweh, with a view to your having power to stand against the strategies of the slanderer;

1Ti 3:6 Not a new convert, lest, being beclouded, into the sentence of the slanderer, he fall;

1Ti 3:7 It is needful, moreover, to have, an honourable testimony also, from them who are without, lest, into reproach, he fall, and the snare of the slanderer.

1Ti 3:11 Wives, in the same way,—dignified, not given to intrigue, sober, faithful in all things.

2Ti 2:26 And they should wake up to sobriety out of, the slanderer's, snare,—though they have been taken alive by him for, that one's, will.

2Ti 3:3 without natural affection, accepting no truce, given to intrigue, without self-control, uncivilized, unfriendly to good men,

Tit 2:3 Aged women, in the same way, in deportment, as becometh sacred persons, not given to intrigue, nor yet, to much wine, enslaved, teachers of virtue,—

Heb 2:14 ¶ Seeing therefore the children have received a fellowship of blood and flesh, he also, in like manner, took partnership in the same,—in order that, through death,—he might paralyse him that held the dominion of death, that is, the Slanderer,—

Jas 4:7 Range yourselves, therefore, under Yahweh, but withstand the slanderer, and he will flee from you:

1Pe 5:8 ¶ Be sober! be watchful! Your slanderous slanderer, as a roaring lion, is walking about—seeking to devour:

1Jo 3:8 He that is committing sin, is, of the slanderer, because, from the beginning, the slanderer is sinning. To this end, was the Son of Yahweh made manifest, in order that he might undo the works of the slanderer.

1Jo 3:10 Herein, are, manifest, the children of Yahweh, and the children of the slanderer: Whoever is not doing righteousness, is not of Yahweh, nor yet he that is not loving his brother.

Jude 1:9 Whereas, Michael, the chief-messenger, when, with the slanderer, disputing, he was reasoning about the body of Moses, durst not impose on him a defamatory sentence, but said—The Lord rebuke thee!

Re 2:10 Do not fear the things which thou art about to suffer. Lo! the slanderer is about to cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried, and may have tribulation ten days. Become thou faithful until death, and I will give thee the crown of life.

Re 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out,—the ancient serpent, he that is called Slanderer and the Satan, that deceiveth the whole habitable world,—he was cast to the earth, and his messengers, with him, were cast.

Re 12:12 ¶ For this cause, be joyful, O heavens, and ye who, therein, are tabernacling. Woe! unto the earth, and the sea, because the Slanderer hath come down unto you, having great wrath—knowing that, but a little season, he hath.

Re 20:2 and he laid hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is Slanderer and the Accuser, and bound him for a thousand years,—

Re 20:10 and, the Slanderer that had been deceiving them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where *were* both the wild-beast and the false-prophet; and they shall be tormented, day and night, unto the ages of ages.

Old Covenant Usage

07854 Njs satan *saw-tawn* ' (adversary = 14)
as a spiritual opponent

1Ch 21:1 ¶ Then the accuser stood up, against Israel,—and moved David, to number Israel.

Job 1:6 ¶ Now there came a certain day, when the sons of ElohimYahweh entered in to present themselves unto Yahweh,—so the accuser also entered, in their midst.

Job 1:7 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Whence comest thou? And the accuser answered Yahweh, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and wandering about therein.

Job 1:8 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Hast thou applied thy heart unto my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a man blameless and upright, one revering Yahweh and avoiding evil?

Job 1:9 And the accuser answered Yahweh, and said, Is it, for nought, that Job revereth Elohim?

Job 1:12 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Lo! all that he hath, is in thy hand, only, against himself, do not put forth thy hand. So the accuser went forth from the presence of Yahweh.

Job 2:1 ¶ And there came a certain day when the sons of Elohim entered in, to present themselves unto Yahweh—so the accuser also entered in their midst, to present himself unto Yahweh.

Job 2:2 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Whence comest thou? And the accuser answered Yahweh, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from wandering about therein.

Job 2:3 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Hast thou applied thy heart unto my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a man blameless and upright, one who revereth Elohim, and avoideth evil; and still he is holding fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to swallow him up without cause.

Job 2:4 Then the accuser answered Yahweh, and said, Skin for skin, and so, all that a man hath, will he give for his life.

Job 2:6 And Yahweh said unto the accuser, Behold him! in thy hand,—only, his life, preserve thou!

Job 2:7 ¶ So the accuser went forth from the presence of Yahweh,—and smote Job with a sore boil, from the sole of his foot, unto his crown.

Zec 3:1 ¶ And he shewed me, Joshua the high priest, standing before the messenger of Yahweh,—and, the Accuser, standing at his right hand, to accuse him.

Zec 3:2 Then said Yahweh unto the Accuser, Yahweh rebuke thee, O Accuser, Yea Yahweh rebuke thee, he who is choosing Jerusalem,—Is not, this, a brand snatched out of the fire?

New Covenant Usage

4567 satanav Satanas *sat-an-as* ' (adversary = 36)

Mt 4:10 Then saith Yahoshua unto him, Withdraw, Satan! for it is written,—The Lord thy Elohim, shalt thou worship, and, to him alone, render divine service.

Mt 12:26 And, if, Satan, is casting, Satan, out, against himself, hath he become divided,—How then shall, his kingdom, stand?

Mt 16:23 But, he, turning, said to Peter—Withdraw behind me, Satan! A snare, art thou of mine, because thou art not regarding the things of Yahweh, but the things of men.

Mr 1:13 and he was in the wilderness, forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts,—and, the messengers, were ministering unto him.

Mr 3:23 And, calling them near, in parables, began he to say unto them—How can, Satan, cast, Satan out?

Mr 3:26 And, if, Satan, hath risen up against himself, and become divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.

Mr 4:15 And these are they beside the pathway where the word is sown,—and, as soon as they hear, straightway, cometh Satan, and snatcheth away the word which hath been sown into them;

Mr 8:33 But, he, turning round and looking upon his disciples, rebuked Peter, and saith—Withdraw behind me, Satan! because thou art not regarding the things, of Yahweh, but the things, of men.

Lu 4:8 And, answering, Yahoshua said to him—It is written: The Lord thy Elohim, shalt thou worship, and, unto him alone, render divine service.

Lu 10:18 And he said unto them—I was beholding Satan, when, like lightning, out of heaven, he fell!

Lu 11:18 And, if, even Satan, against himself hath become divided, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye are saying that, in Beelzebul, am I casting out the demons.

Lu 13:16 But, this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan had bound, lo! eighteen years, was there not a needs—be that she should be loosed from this bond, on the day of rest?

Lu 22:3 But Satan entered into Judas, him called Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve;

Lu 22:31 Simon! Simon! lo! Satan, hath claimed you, to sift as wheat;

Joh 13:27 And, after the morsel, then, entered, Satan, into that man. Yahoshua, therefore, saith unto him—What thou art doing, do quickly!

Ac 5:3 But Peter said—Ananias! wherefore did Satan fill thy heart, that thou shouldst deal falsely with the Holy Spirit, and keep back part of the price of the field?

Ac 26:18 To open their eyes; that they turn from darkness unto light, and the authority of Satan unto Yahweh, that they may receive remission of sins, and an inheritance among them who have been made holy by the faith respecting me.

Ro 16:20 Howbeit, the Elohim of peace, will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The favour of our Lord Yahoshua, be with you.

1Co 5:5 To deliver such a one as this, unto Satan, for the destruction of the flesh,—that, the spirit, may be saved in the day of the Lord.

1Co 7:5 Be not depriving one another—unless perhaps by consent for a season, that ye may have leisure for prayer, and, again, may be together,—lest Satan be tempting you by reason of your want of self-control.

2Co 2:11 Lest we should be overreached by Satan, for, of his thoughts, we are not ignorant.

2Co 11:14 And no marvel! for, Satan himself, doth transfigure himself into a messenger of light!

2Co 12:7 Wherefore, lest I should be unduly lifted up, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, that he might buffet me,—lest I should be unduly lifted up.

1Th 2:18 Wherefore, we desired to come unto you—even, I, Paul, both once and again,—and, Satan, thwarted us.

2Th 2:9 Whose, presence, *shall be* according to an inworking of Satan, with all manner of mighty work and signs and wonders of falsehood,

1Ti 1:20 Of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may be taught by discipline not to be defaming.

1Ti 5:15 For, already, some have turned aside after Satan:

Re 2:9 I know thy tribulation, and destitution, nevertheless, thou art, rich, and the profane speech from among them who affirm that they themselves are, Jews, and they are not, but a synagogue of Satan.

Re 2:13 I know where thou dwellest, where, the throne of Satan, is; and thou art holding fast my name, and didst not deny my faith, even in the days of Antipas, my witness, my faithful one, who was killed near you, where, Satan, dwelleth.

Re 2:24 But, unto you, I say,—the rest who are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching, such as have not come to know the deep things of Satan, as they say, I do not cast upon you any other burden;

Re 3:9 Lo! I give them of the synagogue of Satan, who are affirming themselves to be, Jews, and are not,—but say what is false,—lo! I will cause them, that they shall have come, and shall bow down before thy feet, and shall get to know that, I, loved thee.

Re 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out,—the ancient serpent, he that is called Adversary and the Satan, that deceiveth the whole habitable world,—he was cast to the earth, and his messengers, with him, were cast.

Re 20:2 and he laid hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is Adversary and the Accuser, and bound him for a thousand years,—

Re 20:7 And, as soon as the thousand years, shall be ended, the Accuser shall be loosed out of his prison,

What Happens when a Person Dies?

(Death, Hell and Greek Mythology)

*(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament,
I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahoshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and Anointed for Christ.)*

Greek mythology is embedded in some of the teachings of the Christian Church today. The concepts of hell, the immortality of the soul, disembodied spirits and judgment given upon death all came from Greek Mythology. The Word of Yahweh¹⁰⁵ does not teach the above doctrines. Our Fathers Word teaches that when people die, whether good or evil, they all go to sheol, which is a state of sleep. They await, in the state of sleep, for the Parousia¹⁰⁶ of the Lord or the resurrection of the just or the resurrection of the unjust. The unjust will perish (be destroyed) and be cast into the lake of fire and the just will eventually live on the new earth (Paradise) age-abiding with Yahweh and His Son Yahoshua¹⁰⁷. There are hundreds of clear verses in the Word of Yahweh that verify the above statements. Are there a few difficult verses that apparently contradict the clear verses? Yes! We do not make a doctrine out of a few difficult verses, as the Christian Church has done, when it contradicts the hundreds of clear verses. The difficult verses must be understood in the light of the clear verses.

Immortality of the Soul and disembodied spirits

The Apostles' Creed

"I Believe in the Resurrection of the Body"

or is it

'the Resurrection of the Dead?'

The Apostles' Creed and most Christian Church's statement of beliefs state, "I believe in the resurrection of **'the body'**." The Word of Yahweh never makes this statement but does promise the, "resurrection of the dead." Men have replaced Yahweh's words, 'the dead,' with the words, 'the body.' Why? Does death separate us from Yahweh as the Psalm¹⁰⁸ says, or does death unite us with Yahweh, as is taught by most Christians? If death unites us with Yahweh, then death becomes our friend rather than our enemy as was written in I Corinthians 15:26. If we are united with Yahweh immediately upon death we must be disembodied spirits awaiting the resurrection of our bodies. If death unites us with Yahweh, then, when a believer is sick I should pray for his death in order that he could enter Heaven and live a wonderful life. It would be selfish on my part to pray for his

¹⁰⁵ The name of the Creator Ex. 3:15

¹⁰⁶ 3952 parousia parousia *par-oo-see'-ah* 1) presence 2) the coming, arrival, advent 2a) the future visible return from heaven of Jesus, to raise the dead, hold the last judgment, and set up formally and gloriously the kingdom of God

¹⁰⁷ The name Yahweh gave his Son.

¹⁰⁸ "For, in death, is no remembrance of thee,—In sheol, who shall give thanks unto thee" (Ps. 6:5)?

healing. My bedtime prayer for my children should be, “now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to take.” The Christian hope would not be the Parousia of the Lord but death because death would immediately unite us with the Lord. The fingerprints of our adversary, whose purpose is to steal, kill and destroy are all over these Church doctrines. They are counterfeits, which are corruptions of our Father’s magnificent Word of Life.

The adversary’s mission is to corrupt or delete the words of Yahweh. In the Garden, his first recorded words were, “Can it really be that Elohim hath said” (Gen 3:1)? When we question, add to, change or delete the words of Yahweh, we no longer have the Word of Yahweh. The adversary uses men, even religious men, to corrupt Yahweh’s Word¹⁰⁹. This corruption, by men, of our Father’s Word, has come about by ignorance¹¹⁰ as well as malice¹¹¹. We must not be deceived by the good intentions of men, because some of those men could be “false prophets, who come unto you in clothing of sheep,—while, within, they are ravening wolves” (Mt. 7:15).

The philosophies of men and the religions of the world have penetrated and influenced the teachings of Yahweh (Appendix A). One of these pagan teachings is the transmigration of the soul, otherwise known as metempsychosis¹¹². This is the teaching that I was born a spirit being (immortal), I have a soul and I live in a body¹¹³. When the body dies, we, as disembodied spirit beings, move to a new residence while we await the resurrection of our body. With Christianity, this new residence is called Heaven, Hell, Purgatory or Limbo. Does this sound familiar? Most religions of the world (Hinduism, Buddhism etc.) believe this concept. Most religions of the world do not believe that the person who dies is really dead, awaiting the resurrection, as taught in the Word of Yahweh. When Paul was on the Hill of Mars in Athens Greece, he proclaimed to the people the resurrection of the dead. “But, certain both of the Epicurean and of the Stoic philosophers, were encountering him; and some were saying—What might this picker-up-of-scrap wish to be saying? And, others—Of foreign demons, he seems to be a declarer: because, of Yahoshua and the Resurrection, he was announcing the joyful tidings...Now, when they heard of raising the dead, some, indeed, began to mock, while, others, said—We will hear thee, concerning this, even again” (Acts 17:17,32). The resurrection of the dead, Christ being the first fruit, was the Apostle Paul’s proclamation of the good news.

¹⁰⁹ King Jehoiakim, of Judah, took the Word of Yahweh which was written by the prophet Jeremiah and cut the scroll up and cast it into the fire (Jer. 36:23).

¹¹⁰ Acts 15:1 And, certain persons, coming down from Judea, began to teach the brethren—Except ye be circumcised according to the custom of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

¹¹¹ John 8 &10 “Ye, are, of your father—the adversary (Jn. 8:44)”

¹¹² “Metempsychosis is the passing of a human soul, after the death of its body, into the body of an animal or, in fortunate cases, into another human body...Plato incorporated it in his theory of ideas; Josephus ascribed it to the Pharisees; several heretical Christian sects from the second to the thirteenth century held it; and it was also popular among the Jews of the Middle Ages” (Collier’s Encyclopedia, Vol. 13, 1059).

¹¹³ Faith Food Devotions by Kenneth E. Hagin, pg. 297

The dead, according to the Word of Yahweh, are exactly that, dead. They are referred to as, “they who have fallen asleep¹¹⁴”. “But we do not wish you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are falling asleep,—lest ye be sorrowing, even as the rest also, who are without hope; For, if we believe that, Yahoshua, died, and rose again, so, also will, Elohim, bring forth with him, them who have fallen asleep through Yahoshua” (I Thess. 4:13,14). The teaching that we never die, only our body dies, was the same great deception proclaimed in the Garden by the adversary. “And the serpent said unto the woman, ‘Dying, ye do not die’” (Young’s, Gen. 3:4). This is the same teaching that encouraged the use of a witch, which then called up the disembodied spirit of the dead. Remember the Witch of Endor (I Sam. 28:7)? The dead, according to the Word of Yahweh, are in the state of death, sheol¹¹⁵, awaiting either the Parousia of the Lord for his Body (the Christian Assembly), or the resurrection of the just and unjust (I Cor. 15, I Thess. 4, Acts 24:15).

The teaching that, all men are spirit beings who live in a mortal body, actually portrays the lives of demons¹¹⁶ or gods. Demons are spirit beings that seek to dwell in a human being or an animal. “But, when the impure spirit goes out of the man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest,—and finds it not. Then, it says, Into my house, will I return whence I came out” (Mt. 12:43,44). The teaching that mankind are immortal spirit beings also leads Christians into the area of incarnation¹¹⁷ and reincarnation¹¹⁸.

Christians teach the incarnation of Yahweh. The teaching states that Yahweh enters into an embryo, attached to Mary, which when birthed is named Yahoshua¹¹⁹. “God prepared a body, a special body, for this Being called the Son of God. In the Incarnation, Christ became man! Any religion that denies the Incarnation of Yahoshua of Nazareth is false.¹²⁰” However the word, ‘incarnation,’ is not in the Word of Yahweh. This doctrine first appears in Latin Christian authors around about 300 A.D. A few difficult verses in the Gospel of John helped to contribute to this concept but the Gospel of John¹²¹ must be interpreted in the light of the rest of the sixty-five books of Yahweh and not the contrary. The teaching that all men are immortal spirit beings, gods, having everlasting life, leads to the conclusion that all people have been incarnated or reincarnated.

According to the Word of Yahweh, mankind was originally made to rule the earth as immortals but Adam and Eve chose to sin, which led to death (Gen. 2:17, Rm. 6:23). When people are born, they are sons of adam and not sons of Elohim (Gen. 5:3). Sons of

¹¹⁴ Mt. 27:52; Jn. 11:11,12; I Cor. 7:39, 15:6, 18,20; I Thess. 4:14,15, I Kings 2:10, 11:43, 14:20, etc.

¹¹⁵ Ps. 6:5, 89:48 115:17, Is. 38:18, 19, Ecc. 9:10. (A Critical Lexicon and Concordance by E W Bullinger, pg. 368,369) Shades of Sheol, Death and the Afterlife in the Old Testament by Philip S. Johnston

¹¹⁶ 1142 daimwn daimon *dah'-ee-mown* 1) a god, a goddess 1a) an inferior deity, whether good or bad 2) in the NT, an evil spirit

¹¹⁷ Incarnation = any person or animal serving as the embodiment of a god or spirit. Webster’s New World Dictionary

¹¹⁸ Reincarnation = rebirth (of the soul) in another body. The doctrine that the soul reappears after death in another and different bodily form. Webster’s New World Dictionary

¹¹⁹ Faith Food Devotions by Kenneth E. Hagin, pg.349

¹²⁰ Faith Food Devotions by Kenneth E. Hagin, pg. 352, 353

¹²¹ The Gospel of John is an Engima

adam (of the earth) are mortals. When a son of adam confesses Yahoshua as his Lord and believes with his heart that Yahweh raised Yahoshua from among the dead, he receives the gift of holy spirit, which is a token of his inheritance (Rm. 10:9, Acts 2:38, Eph. 1:13-14). Now this son of adam, who is a living soul, receives spirit, which is holy, and becomes a son of Elohim. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 is the only verse in our Father's word that mentions body, soul and spirit in the same verse. We must remember that I Thessalonians was written, "to the assembly of Thessalonians in Yahweh the Father, and the Lord Yahoshua Christ" (I Th. 1:1). The Thessalonians, who were living souls, had received the gift of holy spirit, which made them children of Yahweh. Bible translations have also contributed to the error that the dead are not dead.

Bible translators, excluding the "Rotherham's Emphasized Bible" and the "Young's Literal Translation of the Bible"¹²², have translated incorrectly the Greek word 'ek.'¹²³ when used with nekros. The phrase, 'ek nekros' (from among the dead, see Appendix B), was used forty-five times in the New Testament but the major Bible translations translated ek nekros, 'from the dead,' instead of, 'from among the dead.' "But, now, hath Christ been raised from among [ek] the dead [nekros],—a firstfruit of them who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor.15:20). If Christ was raised from among the dead then that means the dead, that he was raised from among, are still dead, which includes Moses, Elijah and Enoch. Christ was the firstfruit or the first one, from among the dead, to be raised never to die again.

Death does separate us from Yahweh, which is why we resist death to the end. Death is our enemy and not our friend. Our hope is not death but the resurrection of the dead (Acts 23:6). "But now, hath Christ been raised from among the dead,—a firstfruit of them who have fallen asleep; For, since indeed, through a man, came death, through a man, also cometh the raising of the dead; For, just as, in the Adam, all die, so, also, in the Christ, shall all be made alive. But, each, in his own rank:—A firstfruit, Christ, after that, they who are the Christ's, in his presence [Parousia]" (I Cor. 15:20-23). Christ was the firstfruit from sheol¹²⁴ who would never return. The rest of mankind will arise in the future. "For, this, unto you, do we say, by a word of the Lord,—that, we, the living who are left unto the Presence (Parousia) of the Lord, shall in nowise get before them who have fallen asleep; Because, the Lord himself, with a word of command, with a chief-messenger's voice, and with a trumpet of Yahweh, shall descend from heaven,—and, the dead in Christ, shall rise, first, After that, we, the living who are left, together with them, shall be caught away, in clouds, to meet the Lord in the air:—and, thus, evermore, with the Lord, shall we be" (I Thess. 4:15-17)!

¹²² Young's translated ek nekros, 'out of the dead.'

¹²³ 1537 ek ek ek or ex ex ex a primary preposition denoting origin (the point whence action or motion proceeds), from, out (of place, time, or cause; literal or figurative; ; prep 1) out of, from, by, away from.

¹²⁴ Psalms 16:10, Acts 2:27 For thou wilt not abandon my soul to sheol, neither wilt thou suffer thy man of lovingkindness, to see corruption:

Resurrection of the Just and the Unjust and a Day of Judgment

Christians are taught, as also Greek Mythology teaches, that when you die only your body dies and you live on in another form. Upon the death of your body, you as a spirit, are judged immediately and are sent either to Heaven or Hell. There is no need of a future judgment. In contrast, the Word of Yahweh talks of a future day when the dead, who did not take part in the first resurrection in Revelation 20:6, will be raised and judged in the second resurrection. This day is a 'Judgment Day.' Those who are not written in the book of life will be thrown into the lake of fire, which is called the second death (Mt. 25:41, Rev. 20:11-15). This 'Judgment Day' does not occur upon death but after the one thousand year reign of the Christ. "And I saw a great white throne, and him that was sitting thereon, from whose face fled the earth and heaven, and, place, was not found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and, books, were opened, and, another book, was opened, which is, the book, of life; and the dead, were judged, out of the things written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and, death and hades, gave up the dead that were in them; and they were judged, each one, according to their works. And, death and hades, were cast into the lake of fire. This, is, the second death—the lake of fire. And, if anyone was not found, in the book of life, written, he was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:11-15).

Yahweh has placed people in one of three groups in I Corinthians 10:32: the Hebrews (Israel, Bride of Christ), the Nations (non Hebrews, Gentiles, just and unjust) and the Assembly of Elohim (Body of Christ). What happens after death is dependent upon whether you are a Hebrew, a Gentile or a part of the Assembly of Elohim. Christians are part of the Assembly of Elohim.

The Sequence of Events after death.

"There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust" (Acts 24:15).

The Just and the Bride of Christ, Israel

- 1.) All die and go to sheol, the state of death, sleep. "And Jacob rent his garments...Surely I will go down unto my son mourning to sheol" (Gen. 37:34,35)! David said, "For thou wilt not abandon my soul to sheol" ((Ps. 16:10).
- 2.) The resurrection of the just. "Happy and holy, is he that hath part in the first resurrection: upon these, the second death, hath no authority; but they shall be priests of Yahweh and of the Christ, and shall reign with him for the thousand years" (Rev. 20:6).
- 3.) The resurrection of the unjust occurs one thousand years after the resurrection of the just. "And I saw a great white throne... And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne...And, if anyone was not found, in the book of life, written, he was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:11,12,15).

The Assembly of Christ, His Body

“The revelation of a sacred secret, in age-past times kept silent” (Rm. 16:25).

- 1.) Not all will die and go to sheol. “Lo! a sacred secret, unto you, do I declare:—we shall not, all, sleep, but we shall, all, be changed” (I Cor. 15:51, I Thess. 4:15).
- 2.) A Parousia of the Lord for his Assembly, his Body. This event occurs before the resurrection of the just and the unjust and before the Day of Yahweh, which is the Book of Revelation. “For, this, unto you, do we say, by a word of the Lord,—that, we, the living who are left unto the Presence [Parousia] of the Lord, shall in nowise get before them who have fallen asleep; Because, the Lord himself, with a word of command, with a chief-messenger’s voice, and with a trumpet of Yahweh, shall descend from heaven,—and, the dead in Christ, shall rise, first, After that, we, the living who are left, together with them, shall be caught away, in clouds, to meet the Lord in the air :—and, thus, evermore, with the Lord, shall we be” (I Thess. 4:15-17)!

Does Hell exist in the Bible?

The meaning of the word “Hell,” for most Christians, is “the place where fallen angels live and to which sinners and unbelievers go after death for torment and eternal punishment.¹²⁵” I would also add to this definition that most people believe that Satan is the ruler or king of Hell and Hell’s location is under the earth. This place called “Hell” does not exist in the Bible, as we shall see. The word “Hell” is used 54 times in the King James Version of the Bible and 16 times in the NIV Bible. This word should not be a part of a Christian’s vocabulary because it is not a part of Yahweh’s vocabulary. Two Bibles where “Hell” is not used, are, “Young’s Literal Translation of the Holy Bible” and “Rotherham’s Emphasized Bible,” which also is a literal translation. Where did the word “Hell” come from?

“Etymologically, hell is a hidden place. It goes back ultimately to the Indo-European word “kel” = cover, hide, which has contributed an extraordinary number of words in English, including cell, cellar, conceal, helmet and hull.¹²⁶” The Hebrew word that was sometimes translated hell in the King James, is “Sheol.” The Greek words that are sometimes translated Hell are Hades (same meaning as Sheol), Gehenna (Valley of Hinnom) and Tartarus.

The “Hell,” as we know it, primarily evolved from Greek mythology beginning around 600 B.C. The Greeks had a “Three-Story Universe.” (See page 12) The top story was heaven, the middle story was earth and the bottom story was the underworld. A god named “Hades,” known as the “Zeus of the Underworld”, ruled the underworld. This is where we get our tradition that Satan is the ruler of a place called Hell (Underworld), just as Hades

¹²⁵ Webster’s New World Dictionary of the American Language

¹²⁶ Arcade Dictionary of Word Origins, by John Ayto

was the ruler of the Underworld. Satan does not rule a place called “Hell” but is ruling in the heavenlies.

Satan is called the prince of the authority of the air in Ephesians 2:2. In chapter 6 we are told that we do not struggle with flesh and blood but against spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies. Yahoshua spoke to his disciples after they took control over demons, “I was beholding the Adversary, as lightning from the heaven having fallen”(Luke 10:18). In Revelation 12:7-13 we see that Satan and his messengers are cast out of heaven to earth in the day of tribulation. Satan and his messenger’s locations are in the heavens not in a place called Hell. The Greeks also taught, as do most religions, that the soul of man is immortal. Yahweh’s Word teaches otherwise.

The Greeks taught that the good people went to Elysium (Paradise) and the evil people went to Hades (Hell), or Tartarus (Hell) and they all lived forever without the body. This concept states that all of mankind has everlasting life. Living in Hell is not a good life but none the less, it is still an everlasting life. The Word of Yahweh states in Romans 6:23, “For, the wages of sin, is death; but, Yahweh’s gift of favor, is life age-abiding, in Christ Yahoshua our Lord.” The immortality of the soul is a lie from Satan that goes back to the Garden of Eden. The Word of Yahweh teaches that, “for Yahweh did so love the world, that His Son—the only begotten—He gave, that every one who is believing in him may not perish [apollumi, be destroyed], but may have life age-abiding” (John 3:16). The opposite of life age-abiding is death, to perish or to be destroyed. The people who do not believe and disobey what Yahweh says shall perish. To perish is not to live an everlasting life in the Underworld. The Greek word translated “perish,” in John 3:16, is the word “apollumi” which means “to destroy, to be utterly and finally ruined and destroyed, to be lost, brought to naught, put to death.¹²⁷” (See Appendix C) The unbeliever will not live an everlasting life in Hell but will perish, be destroyed, be cast into the lake of fire.

The Lake of Fire is the avenue by which those who are not written in the Book of Life shall perish. “And if any one was not found written in the scroll of the life, he was cast to the Lake of the Fire” (Rev. 20:15). Being cast into the Lake of Fire is the second death. The Lake of Fire is only used in the Book of Revelation and is Biblical while Hell is not. The Lake of Fire is not an underground kingdom ruled by Satan where people with everlasting life, and no bodies, are presently being tormented (by evil spirits withholding water from them) by fire. It is a lake that burns with fire and brimstone. Does fire and brimstone remind us of another event in the Bible? “And Yahweh hath rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Yahweh, from the heavens... he [Abraham] looked on the face of Sodom and Gomorrah, and on all the face of the land of the circuit, and saw, and lo, the smoke of the land went up as smoke of the furnace” (Gen. 19:24-28). Fire and brimstone consumes and destroys life (Num. 17:35). The people of Sodom and

¹²⁷ A Critical Lexicon and Concordance, Bullinger

Gomorrah were destroyed or perished, as will also the people not written in the Book of Life. Only three will be thrown into the Lake of Fire alive.

“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who did the signs before him, in which he led astray those who did receive the mark of the beast, and those who did bow before his image; living they were cast—the two—to the lake of the fire, that is burning with brimstone” (Rev. 19:20). The beast and the false prophet will be thrown, alive, into the Lake of Fire, while Satan will join them 1000 years later. “And the Devil, who is leading them astray, was cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone, where *are* the beast and the false prophet, and they shall be tormented day and night—to the ages of the ages” (Rev. 20:10). Satan does not rule the Lake of Fire as Hades did with the Underworld but in contrast is thrown into the Lake of Fire, alive. The dead, who are not written in the Book of Life, are not thrown into the Lake of Fire until the end of Christ’s 1,000 year reign. Then where are the dead now?

The dead go to Sheol, not Gehenna nor Tartarus. The Holy Spirit, by the written word, reveals to us the characteristics of Sheol (Hades in the Greek text). “For in death is no remembrance of thee, in Sheol who shall give thanks unto thee” (Ps. 6:5)? Psalm 6:5 is a good example of comparing death with being asleep. “The dead, cannot praise Yah, nor any that go down into silence” (Ps. 115:17). “For, sheol, cannot praise thee Nor, death, celebrate thee,—They who go down to the pit cannot wait for thy faithfulness. The living, the living, he, can praise thee, As I do this day,—A father, to his children, can make known thy faithfulness” (Is. 38:18,19). “By looking at the occurrences of the word Sheol, it will teach:

1. That as to direction it is down.
2. That as to place it is in the earth.
3. That as to nature it is put for the state of death. Sheol therefore means the state of the dead;
4. And finally, as to duration, the dominion of Sheol or the grave will continue until, and end only with, resurrection, which is the only exit from it.¹²⁸”

“Hades’ is a heathen word (a word of human origin) and comes down to us surrounded with heathen traditions, which had their origin in Babel, and not in the Bible, and have reached us through Judaism and Romanism. Sheol is a word with Divine origin.¹²⁹” To illustrate that Sheol and Hades are the same word, we refer you to Acts 2:27 and Psalms 16:10 which both state the same Words of Yahweh, one in Hebrew and the other in Greek. The Greek word, Gehenna is also translated, “Hell” in most translations.

¹²⁸ A Critical Lexicon and Concordance, Bullinger

¹²⁹ A Critical Lexicon and Concordance, Bullinger

“Gehenna is the Greek word for, Valley of Hinnom, a valley near Jerusalem. The name was derived from the act of burning carrion, by means of ever-burning fire. Probably used by our Lord as a symbol for a notion of a devouring judgment fire, which was current prior to the possible employment of Gehenna in this sense.¹³⁰” Gehenna was not the Underworld, nor did Satan rule it, nor are people presently being tormented there. It was a valley, possibly a city dump, used as a symbol for the Lake of Fire. The Valley of Hinnom also had a history of human sacrifice and Baal worship. “And, he, burned incense, in the valley of the son of Hinnom,-and burnt his sons, in the fire, according to the abominable ways of the nations, whom Yahweh dispossessed from before the sons of Israel” (2 Chronicles 28:3). “And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, To burn up their sons and their daughters in the fire,—Which I commanded not, Neither came it up on my heart” (Jeremiah 7:31). “And have built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of Ben-hinnom, To cause their sons and their daughters to pass through unto Molech, Which I commanded them not Neither came it up on my heart, That they should do this horrible thing,—Causing, Judah, to sin” (Jeremiah 32:35)! The history of the Valley of Hinnom was well known to the Hebrews. Yahoshua used the Valley of Hinnom as a figure for the Lake of Fire. “And be not afraid of those killing the body, and are not able to kill the soul, but fear rather Him who is able both soul and body to destroy [same word as perish in John 3:16] in Gehenna” (Mt. 10:28). One last word translated “Hell” is the Greek word “Tartarus.”

“For if Yahweh messengers who sinned did not spare, but with chains of thick gloom, having cast *them* down to Tartarus, did deliver *them* to judgment, having been reserved”(II Peter 2:4). Tartarus is a place where certain messengers (angels) have been kept bound for future judgment. No people are there, nor is Satan ruling, nor does it has anything to do with fire and brimstone but its characteristics are pits of gloom. Tartarus is used only once in the Word of Yahweh. For more information on Tartarus refer to “The Companion Bible, by E.W. Bullinger, appendix 25 (The Nephilim) or Christian Educational Services.

We have discovered, from Yahweh’s Word, that Satan abides in heaven not in a place called Hell. He is the prince of the authority of the air not a ruler of an everlasting fiery kingdom. Man is not immortal but can choose immortality if he makes Yahoshua his Lord. If he rejects Yahoshua he will perish in the Lake of Fire, which is the second death. Satan, the beast and the false prophet will be thrown in the Lake of Fire alive. We also learned that all people who have died are not alive in heaven or in hell but they are asleep (in Sheol) until they are resurrected. We should use the phrase “Lake of Fire,” which is in Yahweh’s Word, and not the word “Hell,” which brings with it’s usage, meanings of: Immortal souls, Disembodied spirits, The Underworld, Satan ruling a fiery kingdom, Sinners being everlastingly tormented.

¹³⁰ A Critical Lexicon and Concordance, Bullinger

Conclusion

When people die, they are in the “state of death,” sheol, where there is no remembrance (Ps. 6:5, Is. 38:18,19). They stay asleep (dead) until they are awakened, from among the dead, by the Lord Yahoshua at the appointed time (I Thess. 4:13-18, I Cor. 15:35, Rev. 20:6,14,15). When the dead are awakened they will receive either, life age-abiding and eventually live in Paradise (on the new earth) or they will perish, which is the second death (Jn. 3:16, Is. 35, Rev. 20:14). The first awakening of the dead occurs when Christ returns in the air for his Body, the Assembly (I Thess 4:16). The Lord Yahoshua shall descend from heaven and the dead in Christ shall rise (clothed with incorruptible bodies) and those that are alive in Christ (clothed with immortal bodies) will meet the Lord in the air (I Thess. 4:17, I Cor. 15:53). Christ and his Assembly will return to the earth to battle the beast and his armies during the Tribulation, the Day of Yahweh (Rev. 19:11-21, Joel 2:31). The adversary is then bound for one thousand years. The second awakening of the dead occurs in Revelation 20:4 after the tribulation. These are the just of Israel, the Bride of Christ. A new heaven and earth will be established and the Body and the Bride of Christ will live with our Lord for one thousand years (I Thess. 4:17, Rev. 19:14). After one thousand years has occurred, the accuser is then loosened out of his prison to be defeated and thrown into the Lake of Fire, along with death and sheol (Rev. 20). (The beast, the false prophet and the adversary are the only ones thrown into the Lake of Fire, alive (Rev. 19:20, 20:10.) The third awakening of the dead occurs after the thousand-year reign of Christ (Rev. 20:5,11). These are ‘the unjust’ and possibly, ‘the just’ who lived and died during Christ’s thousand year reign. Christ then delivers the Kingdom unto his Elohim and Father, so that Yahweh may be, all things in all (I Cor. 15). The holy city, New Jerusalem, will then come down out of heaven and Yahweh Elohim of host¹³¹ and the Lamb will sit upon their thrones. Yahweh will dwell with men in Paradise, as He originally did in the Garden of Eden (Rev. 21:3). We shall render divine service unto our Father and we shall reign unto the age of ages with our Father and our brother, Yahweh and Yahoshua (Rev. 21,22).

(A difficult section of the scriptures concerning death is, “The rich man and the poor man in Luke 16:19-31,” which has cause many Christians to confuse Hades and the Underworld with the teaching of Yahoshua. The attached article, “The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus” will give a possible explanation of these scriptures on the next page.)

¹³¹ Lord God Almighty

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

(A possible explanation of Luke 16:19-31)

A parable is a short, simple, story from which a moral lesson may be drawn. The moral lesson is the purpose of the story. For example, a parable (story) that would portray a moral lesson in our society is the story of Santa Claus. The lesson to be drawn would be to be good to one another. The Santa Claus story itself is fiction. The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus is fiction used to teach a moral lesson.

The moral lesson is, “No domestic is able to serve two lords, for either the one he will hate, and the other he will love; or one he will hold to, and of the other he will be heedless; you are not able to serve Yahweh and mammon” (Luke 16:13). The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were openly sneering at Yahoshua (Luke 16:14). The parable is addressed to the Pharisees.

The Jewish people, the people Yahoshua was sent to, had pagan beliefs as part of their religion. They lived in a Greek culture with Greek mythology, which had become part of their religion. One example of this is the transmigration of the soul or reincarnation, in which the Greeks believed and it had been accepted by some Jews. “And passing by, he saw a man blind from birth, and his disciples asked him, saying, ‘Rabbi, who did sin, this one or his parents, that he should be born blind’” (John 9:1,2). How could a man sin before he was born? Only if he existed before birth and had sinned in his former life. Another example is that the Sadducees did not believe in angels, or spirits, or resurrection, while the Pharisees believed in all three (Acts 23:6-8). The Greeks did not believe in a resurrected body. “And having heard of a rising again of the dead, some, indeed, were mocking, but others said, ‘We will hear you again concerning this’” (Acts 17:32).

As we have seen, in the scriptures, the Pharisees believed in angels and this is to whom the parable was addressed. The parable is a story based on Greek and Jewish Mythology. How this is determined, is by comparing the facts. “And it came to pass, that the poor man died, and that he was carried away by the messengers to the bosom of Abraham” (Luke 16:22). “The bosom of Abraham” is a foreign phrase in the Word of Word of Yahweh because it is not used in any other place. It is mentioned in, “The Works of Josephus.¹³²” Josephus was a Jewish historian writing around 100 A.D. I suggest that Josephus’ discourse on Hades be

¹³² The Works of Josephus, Translated by William Whiston, Josephus’ discourse to the Greeks concerning Hades, pg. 813. also see the paper, ‘The Jewish mindset concerning Death, Hades, Angels & the Bosom of Abraham in the 1st Century’ by Chuck Cunningham

read to understand what Abraham's bosom means. This phrase would be based on Jewish Mythology. The use of Hades, in this chapter, is another example of Greek Mythology.

The rich man could not cross the chasm, as in Greek Mythology. "And the rich man also died, and was buried; and in the Hades having lifted up his eyes, being in torments... and having cried, he said, Father Abraham, deal kindly with me, and send Lazarus... And Abraham said... between us and you a great chasm is fixed, so that they who are willing to go over from hence unto you are not able, nor do they from thence to us pass through" (Luke 16:22-26). "Hades and Persephone, King and Queen of the Underworld, rule over a gloomy realm inhabited by fearful monsters and shades of the dead...Enforcing death's utter finality, the couple permits no one (except a few heroes) to escape Hades' confines. The, "Odyssey," pictures Hades' realm, eternally dark and cheerless, as the permanent prison of all dead souls; only a few of Zeus's favorites are sent to the Isles of the Blest (also called Elysium), an earthlike paradise. As Greek concepts of individual responsibility developed over time, however, many poets and philosophers argued that a person's behavior in this life determined one's fate after death. After the sixth century B.C., the old Homeric view of Hades' realm was typically modified to accommodate all righteous souls in Elysium, with the wicked atoning for their crimes in Tartarus.¹³³" According to the Bible, all people go to Sheol (Hades) but according to this parable only the evil go to Hades (Sheol).

King David and Jacob both spoke of going to Sheol. David spoke, "You wilt not leave my soul to Hades [sheol], nor wilt You give Thy Kind One to see corruption" (Acts 2:27, Ps. 16:8-11). "For David did not go up to the heavens" (Acts 2:34). Why? Because he is in Sheol. Jacob also said, "For—I go down mourning unto my son, to Sheol,' and his father weepeth for him" (Gen. 37:35).

People err when taking this parable as a literal teaching about the next life. They also overlook the fact that it does not mention Heaven or Gehenna or Yahweh or resurrection or that people are asleep not alive. Actually, Abraham is in Yahweh's position and, "The bosom of Abraham," has replaced Heaven while Hades has replaced Gehenna (symbol of the Lake of Fire).

¹³³ Classical Mythology, Stephen L. Harris – Gloria Platzner, pg. 193.

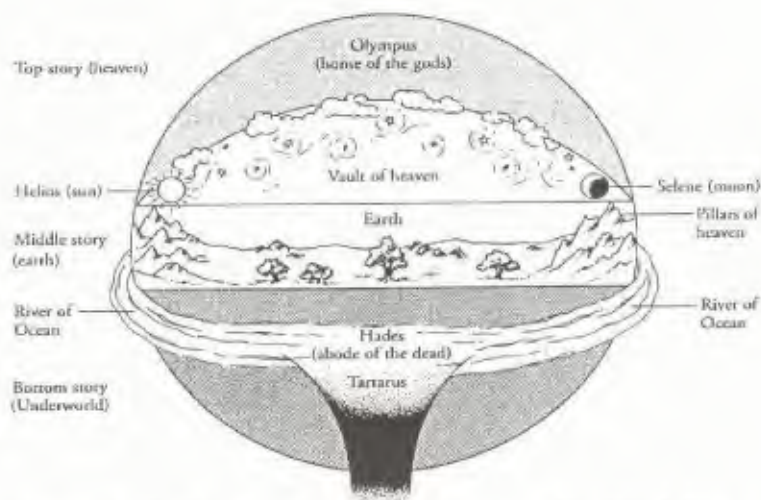


FIGURE 1-7 The “Three-Story Universe.” Following ancient traditions from the Near East, Greek mythographers conceived of the earth as a massive disc surrounded by a watery waste, the circular River of Ocean. The physical heavens arched overhead like an inverted bowl, the edges of which were supported by mountainous pillars—or held up by Atlas, the mightiest Titan. The Olympian gods lived somewhere above the clouds. Beneath the earth lay the eternally dark kingdom of Hades, a vast subterranean cavern housing the dead. Tartarus, a deep pit beneath Hades’s main level, served as a prison for fallen Titans and the souls of notorious sinners.

Evolving Ideas about the Afterlife

Hades’s Evolution

For all its gloom, even the Homeric Underworld depicts the human soul as too important to suffer total extinction at death, granting it a tenuous survival and some retention of individual identity. This view of Hades pictures it as a Freudian or Jungian dreamlike state in which disembodied souls, like sleepers caught in a nightmare, experience a paralysis that renders them unable to control their actions or environment. Souls float helplessly amid flickering shadows, insubstantial as clouds that dissolve and reform without purpose or volition. For Homer, death is being trapped in a murky dreamland where the rational will loses all ability to make choices or influence events.

After the rise of philosophy made logic and ethics the supreme modes of interpreting existence, many Greek thinkers came to believe that the cosmos embodied moral absolutes and that its divine rulers distinguished between good and evil souls, assigning them qualitatively different fates after death. Following Pythagoras and Plato, many poets and philosophers envisioned an ingeniously compartmentalized Hades, an afterworld divided into contrasting regions such as Elysium and Tartarus, each representing a positive or negative aspect of the human psyche. Some authors implied that souls entered a spiritual dimension in which all potentialities, for good or ill, could reach full expression.

Incapable of empirical proof, notions about the afterlife have always been the province of myth. A realm teeming with the subconscious mind’s sharpest anxieties and terrors, the Underworld is at once a repository of the psyche’s unacknowledged potential for destructiveness and a wish-fulfilling projection of hope. Although Hades spawns monsters that are distorted images of human instincts, appetites, and emotions—Gorgons and ghouls that haunt troubled minds—it also serves humanity’s need to become ultimately like its gods, enjoying an eternal perpetuation of the individual ego in a paradise resembling a perfect earth. With its undying conviction that human consciousness is the central pivot on which the cosmos turns, Greek humanism eventually succeeds in transforming the Hades myth into an affirmation of humanity’s unique value.

Appendix A

The Jewish and Greek mindset concerning Death and the Immortality of the Soul in the 1st Century. by Josephus

Josephus was a Jewish historian (not a Christian) who was born AD 37/38, and died early in the 2nd century. He joined the party of the Pharisees at the age of nineteen. After the fall of Jerusalem, Josephus went to Rome, where he settled down as a client and pensioner of the emperor, whose family name, Flavius, he adopted.

He had access to first-rate sources, both published and unpublished: the works of Nicolas of Damascus, historiographer to Herod the Great, supplied a detailed record of that monarch's career; official records were placed at his disposal; he consulted the younger Agrippa on various details concerning the origin of the Jewish war. This same Agrippa had an encounter with the Apostle Paul, whom he charged in bantering vein, with trying to make a Christian of him (Acts 26:28). Josephus works were completed in AD 93¹³⁴.

“Josephus’ discourse to the Greeks concerning Hades” (see attached) gives us an insight to the beliefs of the 1st Century Jews concerning the events, which occur after death. This Jewish/Greek belief system cannot be found in the Old Testament. This belief system must have been in the minds of the Jews Yahoshua was teaching. The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus as illustrated in Luke 16:19 is an excellent example of this Jewish/Greek belief.

Enjoy!

¹³⁴ The New Bible Dictionary, Douglas pg. 660

AN EXTRACT OUT OF
JOSEPHUS' DISCOURSE TO THE GREEKS CONCERNING HADES

1. Now as to Hades, wherein the souls of the righteous and unrighteous are detained, it is necessary to speak of it. Hades is a place in the world not regularly finished; a *subterraneous* region, wherein the light of this world does not shine; from which circumstance, that in this region the light does not shine, it cannot be but there must be in it perpetual *darkness*. This region is allotted as a place of custody for souls, in which angels are appointed as guardians to them, who distribute to them *temporary punishments*, agreeable to every-one's behavior and manners.

2. In this region there is a certain place set apart, as a *lake of unquenchable fire*, whereinto we suppose no one hath hitherto been cast; but it is prepared for a day afordetermined by God, in which one righteous sentence shall deservedly be passed upon all men; when the unjust and those that have been disobedient to God, and have given honor to such idols as have been the vain operations of the hands of men, as to God himself, shall be adjudged to this *everlasting punishment*, as having been the causes of defilement; while the just shall obtain an *incorruptible and never-fading kingdom*. These are now indeed confined in Hades, but not in the same place wherein the unjust are confined.

3. For there is one descent into this region, at whose *gate* we believe there stands an archangel with an host; which *gate* when those pass through that are conducted down by the angels appointed over souls, they do not go the same way; but the just are guided to the *right hand*, and are led with hymns, sung by the *angels* appointed over that place, unto a region of *light*, in which the just have dwelt from the beginning of the world; not constrained by necessity, but ever enjoying the prospect of the good things they see, and rejoice in the expectation of those new enjoyments, which will be peculiar to every one of them, and esteeming those things beyond what we have here; with whom there is no place of toil, no burning heat, no piercing cold, nor are any briers there; but the countenance of the *fathers* and of the just, which they see always smiles upon them, while they wait for that rest and *eternal new life in heaven*, which is to succeed this region. This place we call *The Bosom of Abraham*.

4. But as to the unjust, they are dragged by force to the *left hand* by the angels allotted for punishment, no longer going with a good will, but as prisoners driven by violence; to whom are sent the angels appointed over them to reproach them and threaten them with their terrible looks, and to

thrust them still downwards. Now those angels that are set over these souls, drag them into the neighborhood of hell itself; who, when they are hard by it, continually hear the noise of it, and do not stand clear of the hot vapor itself; but when they have a nearer view of this spectacle, as of a terrible and exceeding great prospect of fire, they are struck with a fearful expectation of a future judgment, and in effect punished thereby; and not only so, but where they see the place [or choir] of the *fathers* and of the just, even hereby are they punished; for a *chaos* deep and large is fixed between them; insomuch that a just man that hath compassion upon them cannot be admitted, nor can one that is unjust if he were bold enough to attempt it, pass over it.

5. This is the discourse concerning Hades, wherein the souls of all men are confined until a proper season, which God hath determined, when he will make a resurrection of all men from the dead, not procuring a transmigration of souls from one body to another, but raising again those very bodies, which you Greeks, seeing to be dissolved, do not believe [their resurrection]: but learn not to disbelieve it; for while you believe that the soul is created, and yet is made immortal by God, according to the doctrine of Plato, and this in time, be not incredulous; but believe that God is able, when he hath raised to life that body which was made as a compound of the same elements, to make it immortal; for it must never be said of God, that he is able to do some things, and unable to do others. We have therefore believed that the body will be raised again; for although it be dissolved, it is not perished; for the earth receives its remains, and preserves them; and while they are like *seed*, and are mixed among the more fruitful soil, they flourish, and what is *sown* is indeed sown *bare grain*; but at the mighty sound of God the Creator, it will sprout up, and be raised in a *clothed and glorious* condition, though not before it has been dissolved, and mixed [with the earth]. So that we have not rashly believed the resurrection of the body; for although it be dissolved for a time on account of the original transgression, it exists still, and is cast into the earth as into a potter's furnace, in order to be formed again, not in order to rise again such as it was before, but in a state of purity, and so as never to be destroyed any more; and to everybody shall its own soul be restored; and when it hath *clothed itself* with that body, it will not be subject to misery, but, being itself pure, it will continue with its pure body, and rejoice with it, with which it having walked righteously now in this world, and

never having had it as a snare, it will receive it again with great gladness: but as for the unjust, they will receive their bodies not changed, not freed from diseases or distempers, nor made glorious, but with the same diseases wherein they died, and such as they were in their unbelief, the same shall they be when they shall be faithfully judged.

6. For all men, the just as well as the unjust, shall be brought before *God the word*; for to him hath *the Father committed all judgment*; and he in order to *fulfill the will of his Father*, shall come as judge, whom we call *Christ*. For Minos and Rhadamanthus are not the judges, as you Greeks do suppose, but he whom *God even the Father hath glorified*; concerning whom we have elsewhere given a more particular account, for the sake of those who seek after truth. This person, exercising the righteous judgment of the Father towards all men, hath prepared a just sentence for everyone, according to his works; at whose judgment seat when all men, and angels, and demons shall stand, they will send forth one voice, and say, **just is thy judgment**; the rejoinder to which will bring a just sentence upon both parties, by giving justly to those that have done well an *everlasting fruition*; but allotting to the lovers of wicked works *eternal punishment*. To these belong *the unquenchable fire*, and that without end, and a certain fiery *worm never dying*, and not destroying the body, but continuing its eruption out of the body with never-ceasing grief; neither will sleep give ease to these men, nor will the night afford them comfort; death will not free them from their punishment, nor will the interceding prayers of their kindred profit them; for the just are no longer seen by them, nor are they thought worthy of remembrance; but the just shall remember only their righteous actions whereby they have attained *the heavenly kingdom*, in which there is no sleep, no sorrow, no corruption, no care, no night, no day measured by time, no sun driven in his course along the circle of heaven by necessity; and measuring out the bounds and conversions of the seasons, for the better illumination of the life of men; no moon decreasing and increasing, or introducing a variety of seasons, nor will she then moisten the earth; no burning sun, no Bear turning round [the pole], no Orion to rise, no wandering of innumerable stars. The earth will not then be difficult to be passed over, nor will it be hard to find out the court of Paradise, nor will there be any fearful roaring of the sea, forbidding the passengers to walk on it: even that will be made easily passable to the just, though it will not be void of moisture. Heaven will not then be uninhabitable by men; and it will not be impossible to discover the way of ascending thither. The earth will not be uncultivated, nor require too much labor of men, but will bring forth its fruits of its own ac-

cord, and will be well adorned with them. There will be no more generations of wild beasts, nor will the substance of the rest of the animals shoot out any more; for it will not produce men, but the number of the righteous will continue, and never fail, together with righteous angels, and spirits [of God], and with his word, as a choir of righteous men and women that never grow old and continue in an incorruptible state, singing hymns to God, who hath advanced them to that happiness, by the means of a regular institution of life; with whom the whole creation also will lift up a perpetual hymn from *corruption to incorruption* as glorified by a splendid and pure spirit. It will not then be restrained by a bond of necessity, but with a lively freedom shall offer up a voluntary hymn, and shall praise him that made them, together with the angels, and spirits, and men now *freed from all bondage*.

7. And now, if you Gentiles will be persuaded by these motives, and leave your vain imaginations about your pedigrees, and gaining of riches and philosophy, and will not spend your time about subtleties of words, and hereby lead your minds into error, and if you will apply your ears to the hearing of the inspired prophets, the interpreters, both of God and of his word, and will believe in God, you shall both be partakers of these things, and obtain the good things that are to come, you shall see the ascent into the immense heaven plainly, and that kingdom which is there; for what God hath now concealed in silence [will be then made manifest] *what neither eye hath seen, nor ear hath heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man the things that God hath prepared for them that love him*.

8. *In whatsoever ways I shall find you in them shall I judge you entirely*; so cries the end of all things. And he who hath at first lived a virtuous life, but towards the latter end falls into vice, these labors by him before endured, shall be altogether vain and unprofitable, even as in a play, brought to an ill catastrophe. Whosoever shall have lived wickedly and luxuriously may repent; however, there will be need of much time to conquer an evil habit, and even after repentance his whole life must be guarded with great care and diligence, after the manner of a body, which, after it hath been a long time afflicted with a distemper, requires a stricter diet and method of living; for though it may be possible, perhaps, to break off the chain of our irregular affections at once,—yet our amendment cannot be secured without the grace of God, the prayers of good men, the help of the brethren, and our own sincere repentance and constant care. It is a good thing not to sin at all; it is also good, having sinned, to repent,—as it is best to have health always; but it is a good thing to recover from a distemper. *To God be glory and dominion for ever and ever.* Amen.

Appendix B

ek nekros

(from among the dead)

Matthew 17:9 And, as they were coming down out of the mountain, Yahoshua commanded them, saying—Unto no one, may ye tell the vision, until the Son of Man, **from among the dead** shall arise.

Mark 6:14 ¶ And King Herod heard,—for, famous, had become his name; and he was saying—John the Immerser hath arisen **from among the dead**, and, for this cause, are the powers working mightily in him;

Mark 9:9 And, as they were coming down out of the mountain, he charged them, that, unto no one, they should narrate what they had seen, save whenever the Son of man, **from among the dead** should arise.

Mark 9:10 And, the word, they held fast unto themselves, discussing what was, the rising **from among the dead**.

Mark 12:25 For, when, **from among the dead**, they rise, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like messengers in the heavens.

Luke 16:31 But he said unto him—If, unto Moses and the Prophets, they do not hearken, neither, if one, **from among the dead**, should arise, would they be persuaded.

Luke 20:35 But, they who have been accounted worthy, that age, to obtain, and the resurrection that is **from among the dead**, neither marry, nor are given in marriage;

Luke 24:46 and said unto them—Thus, it is written, That the Christ, should suffer, and arise **from among the dead** on the third day;

John 2:22 When, therefore, he had been raised **from among the dead**, his disciples remembered, that, this, he had been saying; and they believed in the Scripture, and in the word which Yahoshua had spoken.

John 12:1 ¶ Yahoshua, therefore, six days before the passover, came unto Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Yahoshua had raised **from among the dead**.

John 12:9 The great multitude of the Jews, therefore, got to know that he was, there, and came, not on account of Yahoshua only, but that, Lazarus also, they might see, whom he had raised **from among the dead**.

John 12:17 The multitude, therefore, that was with him when he called, Lazarus, out of the tomb, and raised him **from among the dead**, was bearing witness.

John 20:9 For, not yet, knew they the Scripture, that he must needs, **from among the dead**, arise.

John 21:14 This, already, is the third time Yahoshua was manifested unto the disciples, after he was raised **from among the dead**.

Acts 3:15 But, the Princely Leader of Life, ye slew:—whom, Yahweh, raised **from among the dead**, whereof, we, are witnesses.

Acts 4:2 Being tired out because of their teaching the people, and announcing, in Yahoshua, the resurrection **from among the dead**;

Acts 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and unto all the people of Israel: that, in the name of Yahoshua Christ the Nazarene,—whom, ye, crucified, whom, Yahweh, raised **from among the dead**, in him, doth, this man stand by, in your presence, whole.

Acts 10:41 Not unto all the people, but unto witnesses who had been fore-appointed by Yahweh, unto us, who, indeed, did eat and drink with him after his rising **from among the dead**.

Acts 13:30 But, Yahweh, raised him **from among the dead**:

Acts 13:34 And, in that he raised him **from among the dead**, no more destined to return unto corruption, on this wise hath he spoken—I will give unto you the faithful lovingkindnesses of David.

Acts 17:3 opening up, and setting forth, that it was needful for, the Christ, to suffer, and to arise **from among the dead**; and saying, This, is the Christ,—Yahoshua, whom, I, am declaring unto you.

Acts 17:31 inasmuch as he hath appointed a day, in which he is about to be judging the habitable earth in righteousness, by a man whom he hath pointed out,—offering faith unto all, by raising him **from among the dead?**

Romans 4:24 But for our sakes also—unto whom it is to be reckoned,—even unto them that believe upon him who raised Yahoshua our Lord **from among the dead:**

Romans 6:4 We were, therefore, buried together with him through our immersion into his death, in order that—just as Christ was raised **from among the dead** through the glory of the Father, so, we also, in newness of life should walk.

Romans 6:9 Knowing that, Christ having been raised **from among the dead**, no more dieth,—death, over him, no more, hath lordship,—

Romans 6:13 Neither be presenting your members as weapons of unrighteousness unto sin, but present yourselves unto Yahweh as though alive **from among the dead**, and your members as weapons of righteousness unto Yahweh;

Romans 8:11 If, moreover, the Spirit of him that raised Yahoshua **from among the dead** dwelleth in you, he that raised **from among the dead** Christ Yahoshua, shall make alive even your death-doomed bodies, through means of his indwelling Spirit within you.

Romans 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the abyss? That is, to bring up, Christ, **from among the dead;**

Romans 10:9 That, if thou shalt confess the declaration with thy mouth—That Yahoshua is, Lord, and shalt believe with thy hear—That, Yahweh, raised him **from among the dead**, thou shalt be saved;—

Romans 11:15 For, if, the casting away of them, hath become the reconciling of a world, what shall, the taking of them in addition, be, but life **from among the dead?**

1 Corinthians 15:12 ¶ Now, if, Christ is proclaimed, that, **from among the dead**, he hath been raised, how say some, among you—resurrection of the dead, there is none?

1 Corinthians 15:20 ¶ But, now, hath Christ been raised **from among the dead**,—a firstfruit of them who have fallen asleep;

Galatians 1:1 Paul, an apostle,—not from men, nor through man, but through Yahoshua Christ, and Yahweh the Father who raised him **from among the dead**,

Ephesians 1:20 which he energised in the Christ, when he raised him **from among the dead**, and seated him at his right hand in the heavenlies,

Ephesians 5:14 Wherefore it saith—Up! thou sleeper, and arise **from among the dead**, and the Christ will shine upon thee.

Colossians 1:18 And, he, is the head of the body, the assembly, Who is the beginning, Firstborn **from among the dead**, in order that, he, might become, in all things, himself, pre-eminent;—

Colossians 2:12 Having been buried together with him in your immersion, wherein also ye have been raised together, through your faith in the energising of Yahweh—Who raised him **from among the dead**.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And awaiting his Son out of the heavens—whom he raised **from among the dead**,—Yahoshua: Who is to rescue us out of the anger that is coming.

2 Timothy 2:8 ¶ Keep in mind Yahoshua Christ—raised **from among the dead**, of the seed of David,—according to my joyful message:

Hebrews 11:19 Accounting that, even **from among the dead**, Yahweh, was able, to raise *him*,—whence, even in similitude, he bare him away.

Hebrews 13:20 But, the Elohim of peace, He that led up **from among the dead** the great Shepherd of the sheep, with the blood of an age-abiding covenant,—our Lord Yahoshua,

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the Elohim and Father of our Lord Yahoshua Christ, Who, according to his great mercy, hath regenerated us unto a living hope, through the resurrection of Yahoshua Christ **from among the dead**,

1 Peter 1:21 who, through him, are faithful towards Yahweh,—Who raised him **from among the dead**, and glory to him gave, So that your faith and hope are directed towards Yahweh:

Appendix C

Perishing

622 apoollumi ‘apollumi’ *ap-ol’-loo-mee* from 575 and the base of 3639; TDNT-1:394,67; AV-perish 33, destroy 26, lose 22, be lost 5, lost 4, misc 2; 92

- 1) to destroy 1a) to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to ruin
- 1b) render useless 1c) to kill
- 1d) to declare that one must be put to death
- 1e) to perish, to be lost, ruined, destroyed

John 3:16 For Yahweh, so loved, the world, that, his Only Begotten Son, he gave,—that, whosoever believeth on him, might not perish [apollumi], but have life age-abiding.

John 10:28 And, I, give unto them life age-abiding, and in nowise shall they perish [apollumi], unto times age-abiding; and no one shall carry them off out of my hand.

1 Corinthians 1:18 For, the discourse which concerns the cross, unto them, indeed, who are perishing [apollumi], is, foolishness; but, unto them who are being saved—unto us, it is, Yahweh’s power.

2 Corinthians 2:15 That, of Christ, a grateful odor, are we, unto Yahweh,—in them who are being saved, and in them who are being lost [apollumi]:

2 Corinthians 4:3 And, even if our glad-message is veiled, in them who are perishing [apollumi], it is veiled,

2 Thessalonians 2:10 And with all manner of deceit of unrighteousness, in them who are destroying [apollumi] themselves, because, the love of the truth, they did not welcome, that they might be saved;

2 Peter 3:9 ¶ The Lord is, not slack, concerning his promise, as some count, slackness; but is long-suffering with regard to you, not being minded that any should perish [apollumi], but that, all, unto repentance, should come.

Matthew 10:28 And be not in fear, by reason of them that are killing the body,—and, the soul, are not able to kill. But fear, rather, him who is able, both soul and body, to destroy [apollumi] in gehenna!

Some other usages of apollumi

Matthew 2:13 ¶ Now, when they had retired, lo! a messenger of the Lord, appeareth by dream unto Joseph, saying, Arise, take unto thee the child and its mother, and flee into Egypt, and be there, until I tell thee,—for Herod is about to seek the child, to destroy [apollumi] it.

Matthew 12:14 ¶ And the Pharisees, going forth, took, counsel, against him, to the end that, him, they might destroy [apollumi]

Old Testament Scriptures

Psalms 37:20 For, the lawless, shall perish, and, the foes of Yahweh, be like the glory of the meadows, They have vanished! In smoke, have they vanished!

Psalms 37:28 For, Yahweh, loves justice, and will not forsake his men of lovingkindness, Unto times age-abiding, have the perverse been destroyed,—and the seed of the lawless, been cut off.

Psalms 104:35 Sinners shall be consumed out of the earth And, the lawless, no more, shall exist,—Bless, O my soul, Yahweh, Praise ye Yah!

Psalms 145:20 Yahweh preserves all who love him, but, all the lawless, will he destroy.

Receive the Blessing of Abraham

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament, I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahoshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and Anointed for Christ.)

The Blessing from Yahweh that was upon Abraham's life Can be upon Your life!

Yahweh's blessing upon Abram made him exceedingly fruitful. He obtained riches, children, long life, health, protection from his enemies and most importantly, he received communion with the Creator, Yahweh. We also are the seeds, the descendants, of Abraham.¹³⁵ Yahweh's will for us is that we can also receive His baraking (blessing), resulting in our lives being exceedingly fruitful.¹³⁶ The blessing poured out upon us will be in the proportion to which we obey, believe and act upon Yahweh's written and spoken words. Yahweh said unto Abram, "Come out of thy land that I may bless thee" and Abram "Came according to that which Yahweh had spoken."¹³⁷ We also, as children of Yahweh, have been asked to "Come out of the world" that He may be able to barak us.

The Hebrew word translated blessing is 'barak.' Barak means, "to endue with power for success, prosperity, fecundity (fruitfulness), longevity etc."¹³⁸ Yahweh is the only source of barak. "His presence confers blessing, and it is only in His name that others can confer blessing. Indeed, Yahweh's name, the manifestation of his personal, redemptive, covenant-keeping nature, is at the heart of all blessing...Yahweh demonstrates from Gen. 12 onward that He alone has power to bestow this blessing. In the patriarchal narratives, blessing is linked very specifically to reproductive powers. The lesson is clear. Yahweh gives life. Neither god, nor man, nor rite can do so. Nor does Yahweh have to be cajoled into giving His blessing.¹³⁹ He wishes to give it to all who will trust Him.¹⁴⁰" The first usage of barak is Genesis 1:22; "And Elohim blessed [barak] them [animals], saying,—Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let, the birds, multiply in the land." The second usage of barak is Genesis 1:28; "And Elohim blessed [barak] them [Adam & Eve],

¹³⁵ Now, if, ye, are of Christ, by consequence ye are, Abraham's seed, according to promise, heirs. Gal. 3:29

¹³⁶ And what the surpassing greatness of his power unto us who believe,—according to the energy of the grasp of his might which he energised in the Christ, when he raised him from among the dead, and seated him at his right hand in the heavenlies...Now, unto him who is able to do, above all things, exceeding abundantly above the things which we ask or conceive,—according to the power which doth energise itself within us, Eph. 1:19-20, 3:20

¹³⁷ And Yahweh said unto Abram: Come thou on thy way, Out of thy land and out of the place of thy birth, and out of the house of thy father,—Unto the land that I will show thee; That I may make thee into a great nation, And bless thee, and make great thy name, And become thou a blessing; That I may bless them who bless thee, But, him who maketh light of thee, will I curse,—So shall be, blessed in thee, all the families of the ground. And Abram came on his way, according to that which Yahweh had spoken unto him, and Lot came with him,—now, Abram, was seventy-five years old, when he came forth out of Haran. Gen. 12:1-4

¹³⁸ Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament by Harris, Archer, Waltke; pg. 132, Vol. 1.

¹³⁹ That I may bless them who bless thee, But, him who maketh light of thee, will I curse,—So shall be, blessed in thee, all the families of the ground. Gen. 12:3

¹⁴⁰ Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament by Harris, Archer, Waltke; pg. 132, Vol. 1.

and Elohim said to them—Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it,—and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the bird of the heavens, and over every living thing that moveth on the land.” Yahweh blessed [barak] Noah and his sons after the flood, and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth” (Gen. 9:1). In the above three usages, barak is linked to being fruitful and having dominion over the earth.

Abram and Sarai were baraked by Yahweh because they obeyed His voice.¹⁴¹ Obedience to the revelation He gives us, whether written in His Word or given by revelation (word of knowledge, word of wisdom and discerning of spirits),¹⁴² is absolutely necessary in order to receive in full His blessing. Disobeying Yahweh’s revelation results in His blessing being hindered. For example, Yahweh gave the revelation to the children of Israel that they could take by force the land of Canaan, which was the land flowing with milk and honey. Yahweh was giving unto them, “cities great and goodly, which thou didst not build; and houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and hewn cisterns which thou hewedst not, vineyards and oliveyards which thou plantedst not,—and shalt eat and be full”¹⁴³ but the Israelites feared the report of the ten unbelieving spies, therefore turning down Yahweh’s full blessing.¹⁴⁴ Their wandering in the wilderness for 40 years was the result of their unbelief. They were still blessed in the wilderness by our Father but not in the full capacity.¹⁴⁵ Their unbelief resulted in them living in tents instead of houses; eating manna and quail instead of olives, grapes and figs; living in the wilderness instead of cities that were great and goodly!

¹⁴¹ Then called out the messenger of Yahweh, unto Abraham,—a second time, out of the heavens; and said, By myself, have I sworn is the oracle of Yahweh,—Because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only one, That I will, richly bless, thee, and, abundantly multiply, thy seed, as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the lip of the sea,—that thy seed may take possession of the gate of his foes: So shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves in thy seed,—Because thou didst hearken unto my voice. Gen. 22:15-18

and Yahweh appeared unto him, and said, Do not go down towards Egypt,—Make thy habitation in the land, which I may name unto thee: Sojourn in this land, that I may be with thee, and bless thee,—for, to thee, and to thy seed, will I give all these lands, So will I establish the oath which I sware to Abraham, thy father; and will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heavens, and will give to thy seed, all these lands,—And all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves in thy seed: Because that Abraham hearkened unto my voice,—and so kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes and my laws. Gen. 26:2-5

By faith, being called, Abraham obeyed—to come forth into a place he was destined to receive for an inheritance; and he came forth, not well knowing whither he was coming. Heb. 11:8

¹⁴² I Cor. 12:7-10

¹⁴³ Deu. 6:10-11

¹⁴⁴ And they took in their hand of the fruit of the country, and bare it down unto us,—and brought us back word, and said, Good, is the land, which, Yahweh our Elohim, is giving unto us. Nevertheless ye were not willing to go up,—but rebelled against the bidding of Yahweh, your Elohim; and murmured in your tents, and said, Because Yahweh hated, us, hath he brought us forth out of the land of Egypt,—to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us. Whither, are, we, to go up? Our own brethren, have made our heart melt, saying—A people greater and taller than we, cities large and walled—up into the heavens,—yea, moreover, sons of Anakim, have we seen there. Then I said unto you,—Ye must not tremble, nor be afraid of them: Yahweh your Elohim, who is going before you, he, will fight for you,—according to all that he did with you in Egypt, before your eyes; also in the desert which thou hast seen, where Yahweh thy Elohim carried thee as a man will carry his son, throughout all the way that ye journeyed, until ye entered as far as this place. But, in this thing, ye were putting no trust in Yahweh your Elohim; who was going before you in the way—to search out for you a place, where ye might encamp,—in the fire by night, that ye might get sight of the way wherein ye should go, and in the cloud, by day. And Yahweh heard, the voice of your words,—and was wroth, and sware—saying: Surely, not one of these men, this wicked generation,—shall see, the good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers: Deu. 1:25-35

¹⁴⁵ For, Yahweh thy Elohim, hath blessed thee, in all the work of thy hand, he hath considered thy traversing of this great desert,—these forty years, hath Yahweh thy Elohim been with thee, thou hast lacked, nothing. Deu. 2:7

“By faith, being called, Abraham obeyed...”¹⁴⁶ and thereafter came the power for success, prosperity, fruitfulness and longevity. Abram was blessed with material possessions. Pharaoh gave him flocks and herds, and he—asses, and men—servants, and maid—servants, and she—asses, and camels, resulting in him leaving Egypt being very rich in cattle, in silver and in gold.¹⁴⁷ Abimelech gave him sheep and oxen and men—servants and maid—servants.¹⁴⁸ Abram was blessed with military strength. The enemies of Abram were delivered into his hands by El Elyon (God Most High).¹⁴⁹ Abram was blessed with long life. Yahweh promised him, “thou, shalt go in unto thy fathers, in peace,—thou shalt be buried in a good old age” (Gen. 15:15). He lived for 175 years.¹⁵⁰ Yahweh appeared to Abram at the age of 99 and promised him a son from Sarai and that he was going to make him exceedingly fruitful.¹⁵¹ Abram’s name was changed, by Yahweh, to Abraham, which means “father of a multitude.” Sarai’s name was changed to Sarah and Yahweh told Abraham, “I will barak (bless) her, yea moreover will give—from her—to thee, a son,—And I will barak (bless) her, and she shall become nations. Kings of peoples, from her, shall arise” (Gen. 17:16). Yahweh had also heard Abram’s request for Ishmael. Yahweh said, “I have heard thee; lo! I have baraked (blessed) him, and will make him fruitful, and multiply him, exceedingly,—twelve princes, shall he beget, and I will grant him to be a great nation” (Gen. 17:20). Why did Yahweh barak Ishmael? Ishmael, as we are, was Abraham’s seed. Ishmael was blessed because he was the seed of Abraham through Hagar. How much more the blessing will be upon us because we are the seed of Abraham through Sarah.¹⁵²

One of the greatest acts of Abraham’s obedience was in the offering up of his son, Isaac. Yahweh told Abraham, “Take, I pray thee, thy son, thine only one, whom thou lovest [ahab], even, Isaac, and get thee into the land of Moriah,—and cause him to ascend there, as an ascending—sacrifice, on one of the mountains, which I shall name unto thee” (Gen. 22:2). Abraham obeyed but a messenger stopped him and said, “for, now, know I that, one who reverest Elohim, thou art, when thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only one, from me... Because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only one, That I will, richly barak (bless), thee, and, abundantly multiply, thy seed, as the stars of the

¹⁴⁶ By faith, being called, Abraham obeyed—to come forth into a place he was destined to receive for an inheritance; and he came forth, not well knowing whither he was coming. Heb. 11:8

¹⁴⁷ and, with Abram, dealt he well for her sake,—so that he came to have flocks and herds, and he—asses, and men—servants, and maid—servants, and she—asses, and camels. Gen. 12:16; So Abram came up out of Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, towards the South. Now, Abram, was very rich,—in cattle, in silver, and in gold. Gen. 13:1-2

¹⁴⁸ Then took Abimelech sheep and oxen, and men—servants and maid—servants, and gave to Abraham,—and restored to him Sarah his wife. (Gen. 20:14)

¹⁴⁹ Now, Melchizedek king of Salem, had brought forth bread and wine,—he, being priest of El Most High. So he blessed him, and said,—Blessed be Abram, of El Most High, possessor of *the* heavens and earth; And blessed be El Most High, who hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. So he gave unto him a tenth of all. Gen. 14:18-20

¹⁵⁰ Now, these, are the days of the years of the life of Abraham, which he lived,—a hundred and seventy—five years. Gen. 25:7

¹⁵¹ And I will make thee fruitful, exceedingly, and grant thee to be nations,—Yea, kings, out of thee, shall come forth; Gen. 17:6

¹⁵² Yet, even the son of the bondwoman, will I appoint to become, a nation, because, thy seed, he is. Gen. 21:13 For it is written, that, Abraham, had two sons—one by the bondmaid, and one by the free woman; But, he that was of the bondmaid, after the flesh, had been born, whereas, he that was of the free woman, through means of a promise. Gal. 4:22-23

heavens, and as the sand which is on the lip of the sea,—that thy seed may take possession of the gate of his foes: So shall all the nations of the earth barak (bless) themselves in thy seed,—Because thou didst hearken unto my voice.” (Gen. 22:12-18). Abraham’s great reward for hearkening unto the voice of Yahweh was that he would be richly baraked. A manifestation of Abraham being richly baraked is that his body was complete, even past the age of 100. Sarah died at the age of 127,¹⁵³ which made Abraham 137 years old. He had six other children from the age of 137 to 175.¹⁵⁴ These children came from the man who at the age of 99 laughed in his heart and said, “...To one a hundred years old, shall a child be born? And shall, even Sarah, who is ninety years old, give birth” (Gen. 17:17)? Yahweh was with Abraham! Abraham was a baraked man as also would Isaac become. Why? Isaac was the seed of Abraham and he obeyed the voice of Yahweh.

Yahweh appeared to Isaac, when there was a famine in the land and said, “...Do not go down towards Egypt,—Make thy habitation in the land, which I may name unto thee: Sojourn in this land, that I may be with thee, and barak (bless) thee,—for, to thee, and to thy seed, will I give all these lands, So will I establish the oath which I sware to Abraham, thy father; and will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heavens, and will give to thy seed, all these lands,—And all the nations of the earth shall barak (bless) themselves in thy seed: Because that Abraham hearkened unto my voice,—and so kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes and my laws” (Gen. 26:2-5). If Isaac would have disobeyed Yahweh and had gone to Egypt then Yahweh could not have been with him and baraked him in the capacity desired. Isaac did obey Yahweh by staying in the land that was experiencing a famine. The reward of his obedience was that he waxed exceedingly great; reaping a hundred fold from sowing; possessions of flocks, and possessions of herds, and a large body of servants.¹⁵⁵ Yahweh was with Isaac! Yahweh’s blessing upon Isaac was visible to mankind. Abimelech told Isaac that, “We, saw plainly, that Yahweh was with thee” (Gen. 26:28)! People should be making this statement about our lives.

Jacob was exceedingly baraked by Yahweh, even though his father-in-law abused him. Yahweh, standing by Jacob said, “I, am Yahweh, Elohim of Abraham thy father and Elohim of Isaac,—The land whereon, thou, art lying, to thee, will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall become, as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt break forth westward and eastward, and northward and southward,—And all the families of the ground shall be blessed in thee, and in thy seed. Lo! then, I, am with thee, so will I keep thee in every place whithersoever thou mayest go, and will bring thee back unto this soil,—For I will not forsake thee until I have done that of which I have spoken to thee” (Gen. 28:13-15). Laban, Jacob’s father-in-law, who was a pagan, saw that he was being materially blessed,

¹⁵³ And the life of Sarah came to be, a hundred and twenty—seven years,—the years of the life of Sarah. Gen. 23:1

¹⁵⁴ And Abraham took another wife, and, her name, was Keturah; and she bare to him Zimran, and Yokshan, and Medan, and Midian,—and Ishbak, and Shuah. Gen. 25:1-2

¹⁵⁵ And Isaac sowed in that land, and found, in the same year, a hundredfold,—seeing that Yahweh had blessed him. So the man waxed great,—and went on and on waxing great, until that he had waxed exceeding great. So he came to have possessions of flocks, and possessions of herds, and a large body of servants,—and the Philistines envied him. Gen. 26:12-14