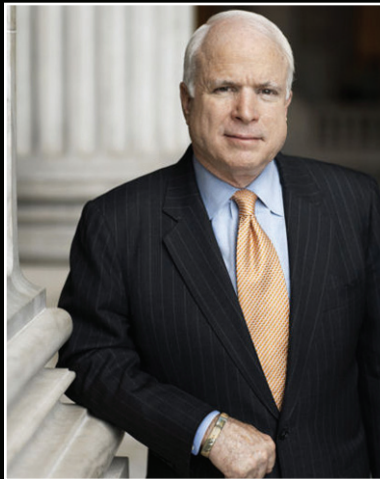


# INSIGHT

Volume 7 Number 1

October 2008

## Historic U.S. Election *Looms*



# INSIGHT

Volume 7 Number 1

October 2008

## A MAGAZINE OF BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

***From the Editor*** 3  
Does the Bible REALLY say that?

*How can we know the  
Father's name is Yahweh?* 4

Our Reader's Write 6

**The Two Groups** 8  
**of 144,000: Two Equals One?**  
What mystery surrounds them,  
and what is its solution?

2009 & 2010 Calendars 12  
Vital dates you need to know.

**Christian Freedom** 13  
**and the Law**  
Does it mean Freedom FROM the Law?

**HISTORIC** 20  
**U.S. PRESIDENTIAL**  
**ELECTION LOOMS!**

**Eye on Georgia** 22  
The News behind the News:  
Why A major player in future events  
is catapulted into the public eye!

*Insight* is published by the International Congregation of Yahweh in Pocahontas, Arkansas.

ICY is a nonprofit, religious organization dedicated to the restoration of the original doctrines of the Apostolic assembly. ICY follows the practice of the New Testament assemblies who kept the Law of the Old Testament. The true assembly is built on the foundation of the apostles' and the prophets' (Eph. 2:20) message of obedience to Yahweh's Law (Isa. 8:20; Jer. 26:4-6; Ezk. 20:19).

Our major doctrines include the name of the Creator, Yahweh, and His Son, Yahshua. Only these names are to be used in worship rather than such names as Jesus, God, Lord, Jehovah, etc. Ample Scriptural and historical evidence support this belief; not the least of which is the commandment against taking the name of Yahweh in vain (Ex. 20:7).

ICY also teaches the restored truth that the weekly seventh-day Sabbath is from dawn-to-dark. It is NOT from sunset-to-sunset as commonly taught. Yahweh's true Holy Days and New Moons are to be observed as well. Another major fundamental belief is the atoning sacrifice of the Messiah Yahshua.

*Insight* is sent free of charge to all who subscribe. Since ICY does not teach tithing on money, this is made possible by the free-will offerings of members of ICY and other contributors. *Insight* is part of ICY's effort to proclaim the Gospel in order to fulfill the commission given to the church. Circulation presently includes 34 foreign countries and the USA.

ICY can be reached by phone: (870) 892-5419; email: [info@icyahweh.org](mailto:info@icyahweh.org); or mail: P.O. Box 208, Pocahontas, AR 72455. For further information regarding our doctrine please visit our website: [www.icyahweh.org](http://www.icyahweh.org).

Cover photographs: [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com)

© 2008 International Congregation of Yahweh  
Printed in U.S.A.  
All Rights Reserved

# Does the Bible REALLY say that?

From the Editor: *Gary C. Miller*

**D**o you ever wonder what the Bible *really* teaches? Choose any Biblical topic, and it seems there are always staunch believers on *both* sides of the issue ready with an opposing view.

Here is a sampling of the innumerable Bible questions sparking heated debates:

- Is Sunday worship or seventh-day Sabbath worship Biblically required today?
- Are the Old Testament Holy Days still in force?
- Are Christmas and Easter unscriptural?
- Did the Messiah's sacrifice end all of the Law of Moses?
- What laws should the so-called New Testament church observe?
- Is there one true church?
- Is the "little horn" of Daniel chapter eight an end-time Roman Prince?

The list is endless, and so is the army of advocates for opposing views.

We hear and read many *interpretations* of Biblical prophecy and doctrines. *How* are we to *know* which one is correct...if any?

The Internet contains vast oceans of every imaginable interpretation of this Book of Books. This perennial best-seller has been translated, "microscoped" in an endless stream of commentaries, and packaged into books, articles, CDs, blogs, ad nausea.

How do we sort through this hopelessly tangled web—this mountain of views—to find the *correct* interpretation? Where do we look?

The surprising good news is *that we do not have to sort out all that 'stuff'!*

Why? Get ready for a stunning fact. NO interpretation of man is correct! None.

How is that possible? Surely there is *one* that is correct; surely?! None.

Here is why. *The Bible must interpret itself!* The *only true* interpretation of Scripture is the *Bible's* interpretation of *itself*. The *Bible* simply defines its own terms and symbols. Failure to apply this foundational principle is the major reason why there are so many false doctrines and prophecies which miss the mark by a wide margin.

It comes as no surprise that the Bible weighs in on this, verifying this fundamental principle of understanding and interpretation. Regarding prophecy, the apostle Peter stated simply, "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation" (II Pet. 1:20). This rule of understanding prophecy is probably the one most violat-

ed, because personally preferred definitions and meanings of Bible symbols are interjected at will.

Further verifying its own principles, the Bible records the prophet Isaiah,

"Who shall he teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are *weaned from the milk*, and drawn from the breast. For *precept* must be *upon precept*, precept upon precept; *line upon line*, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isa. 28:9-10; see also Heb. 5:12-14; emphasis mine).

Certainly, *many claim* to use these fundamental principles, but in truth they *do not*. They say and do not (Matt. 23:3). "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt. 15:9).

For example, the introduction of a highly advertised book billed as a *literal* Biblical view, "breakthrough prophecy," and laced with other superlative braggadocios, contained no less than *seventeen errors* about the Biblical calendar! This was just for starters.

How did I *know* these were errors? Simply because the author did not use the *Bible* to establish the calendar which was used in his study. The Bible, chapter and verse, which *explicitly* and unambiguously shows the elements of the Scriptural calendar, was used *very sparingly*.

In fact, after giving a few scriptures describing the month of Abib, the author stated, "...you will not find all the information there [*in the Bible*] you need to...put together how the calendar works...we need to look at the living oracles, the oral tradition of the Jews, to understand the subject correctly..." In other words, the Bible has to have *some help* deciding its very own calendar. Not so.

This author's use of arbitrary assumptions in telling us what the Bible is supposed to mean is no worse than most others. This is typical. It shows, however, how easy it is to mistakenly include information having no scriptural basis, or to overlook a crucial Biblical fact. We cannot be too careful.

The answers to the sample questions listed earlier are found by prayerfully applying the Peter Principle and Isaiah's Rules. They uncover the *Biblical* answers, the *truth* (John 17:17). But beware. They may not be what you want, or the commonly accepted view. They will likely require some heartfelt changes in your life. Honestly though, is it not the *truth* we should be seeking first and foremost? Is it not the *truth* that ultimately determines our individual fate and the destiny of nations? ■

# How can we KNOW the Father's name is Yahweh?

יהוה

**T**his question is asked often, and reasonably so, as people study the Holy Bible searching for the truths of this ancient book; this all-time best seller. Nearly all Bible translations omit the Creator's great Name, Yahweh, going against the divine Law which decrees we are to *not* take Yahweh's name in vain, treating it as a vain thing, not even worth pronouncing (Ex. 20:7)! Despite nearly 7,000 mentions of this great Being in the Old Testament, to this day armies of scholars simply look the other way when they translate YHWH as LORD in English.

The irony is, often following the lead of Jewish scholars, translators avoid an English rendering of the four Hebrew letters of the Creator's name by claiming it's pronunciation "cannot be known." However, they *somehow* translate hundreds and hundreds of other Old Testament Hebrew names into English with great confidence! Also, thousands of words needing vowel points for pronunciation and meaning are assuredly translated giving us the proper rendering of the text.

Now honestly, how can the pronunciation of *all these other names, nouns, verbs, etc., be known* and translated with such accuracy, but somehow Yahweh's name is supposed to be so obscure? One can hardly avoid the suspicion that something is grossly amiss in this picture, and that a massive bias exists against this supremely important name!

But what did the Messiah, Yahshua have to say about this matter of the Father's name? Here is what *He* said, "I am come in my **Father's name**, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive" (John 5:43). He came in the Father's name and **spoke** that name:

"And I have DECLARED unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them." (John 17:26; emphasis mine).

Obviously He was not omitting it, not even pronouncing it. On the contrary, He came in that Name openly speaking it! Since He spoke it, so must we!

He set the example we must follow (I Peter 2:21).

Now, who was His Father? There are two verses in Proverbs directly related to Yahshua's statement: "Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? Who hath gathered the wind in his fists? Who hath bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is HIS NAME and HIS SON'S NAME, if you can tell?" (Prv. 30:4-5).

Verse 4 certainly shows this being has a Son, and it was the Son (Mark 1:1; 3:11; 13:32; Luke 8:28; John 1:18; Heb. 1:2; I John 1:3 and 2:22) who came to establish a "better covenant" (Heb. 8:6; See also I John 5:11 showing what the covenant does...gives eternal life).

The verses, Prv. 30:4-5 "...gathered the wind in His fists ... established the ends of the earth..." in conjunction with Isa. 40:28: "...Yahweh...the Creator of the ends of the earth..." and with Psalms 104:1, 5: "Bless Yahweh...O Yahweh, you...laid the foundations of the earth.", clearly establish Yahweh is the answer to that question, "...what is His name..." (Prv. 30:4). He is the Father who does these things.

In conjunction with the statement in John 5:43 mentioned earlier, that he came in his Father's name, notice this record: "... Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord [Greek, "Kurios"]..." (Matt. 21:9; Mark 11:9).

This is a quote of Psalms 118:26 in which the name Yahweh [mistranslated "LORD"] is explicitly used. These Scriptures, (Prv. 30:4-5; John 5:43, and Matt. 21:9) give us weighty evidence that Yahshua came in Yahweh's great name as His representative, showing that Yahweh is the Father's name.

There are many such Old Testament passages quoted in the New Testament which nail down that Yahweh's name was used extensively by Yahshua when referring to "the Father."

Another important point is the Messiah came preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of Yahweh. He even gave a model prayer in which He said, "...Father who art in heaven...**THY** Kingdom come..." (Luke 11:2). So it was, and is, the Father's Kingdom which is to come on the



earth. Who is the Father? Yahweh is His name.

Here is another example where a Greek name, Theos [God] is translated in a quote of the Old Testament clearly showing the Greek word should be translated as Yahweh.

The Father's identity is shown by noting that the King James Version of the Bible and most all other versions use the word "God" in Mark 1:14: "...Yahshua came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God" (also v. 15, and Acts 20:25).

The word "God" is the Greek word "theos" which refers to a Greek deity, as mentioned above.

This same word is used in Matthew 4:4, "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

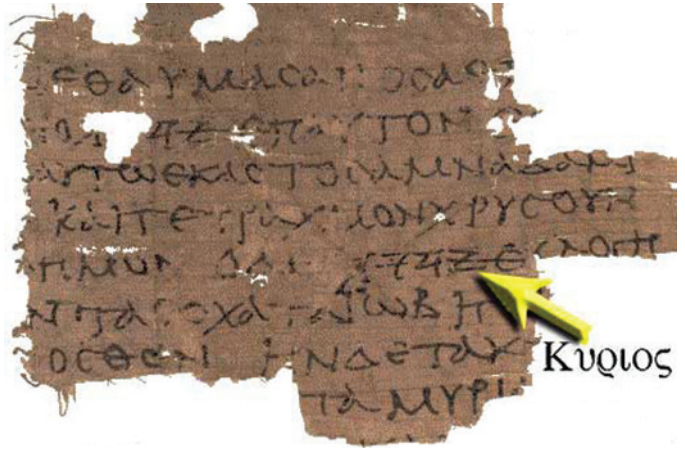
This verse is a quote of Deuteronomy 8:3 in which LORD (*KJV*) instead of God is used to translate the Creator's name. The word LORD (in capitals) is used to replace the Hebrew YHWH, the Tetragrammaton, pronounced "Yahweh" and is well known despite cries to the contrary. Note, the short or "poetic" form "Jah" ["Y" should replace "J": "Yah"] is explicitly translated in some versions (Psa. 68:4; *KJV*, Young's Literal, Concordant Old Testament).

What this tells us is that *Theos* should be translated *Yahweh*, not the other way around, since Yahshua is directly quoting the Law. Too, since the Law absolutely **cannot change**, "And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail." (Luke 16:17), it is **totally illegal** to substitute any other name for Yahweh in the Law! *Theos is not the same as Yahweh*. The Greek writer simply made a grievous mistake in putting Theos for Yahweh in Yahshua's quote of Deuteronomy 8:3. Yahshua *would not* replace the name of the heavenly Father with a pagan deity's name. Remember it was Yahshua who emphatically said, "...hallowed be **THY NAME**..." (Matt. 6:9)!

But this is not the first or only time someone illegally replaced the name of Yahweh with the name of a pagan deity as we have seen in other examples already.

Here is an explicit undeniable example from history. The original use of *Yahweh* in the Greek is found in the *Septuagint*, the Greek Old Testament (denoted: LXX) where earlier copies retained YHWH in the otherwise Greek text and not "Kurios" (Lord). A fragment of a first century C.E., LXX quoting Zech. 8:19-21 and 8:23-9:4 uses "Yahweh." This copy is in Jerusalem's Israel Museum.

But notice this! The Alexandrine Manuscript of the LXX dated 400 years LATER, replaced "Yahweh" with KY and KC, abbreviated forms of the Greek "Kurios"



This later copy of the Septuagint shows Kurios, which replaced YHWH in earlier copies. [phoenicia.org](http://phoenicia.org)

("Lord"), (See *The DIVINE NAME That Will Endure Forever*). Obviously, someone tampered with the text and replaced Yahweh with the Greek deity Kurios!

The fragment of the LXX containing YHWH, the Tetragrammaton, is the Greek Papyrus Fouad 266: W.G. Waddell, *The Tetragrammaton in the LXX*, JTS 45 (1944), 157-61. Ernst Wurthwein's, *The Text of the Old Testament*, Plate 29 (179) also shows the Tetragrammaton in the later square Hebrew script within the Greek text.

The Greek Papyrus Fouad 266 is one of the earliest examples of the LXX. Wurthwein (p. 6) also says, "the Tetragrammaton is found in Old [archaic] Hebrew letters [much differently shaped than the later square characters] in a fragmentary leather scroll containing the Greek text of the Minor Prophets." This scroll, apparently written between 50 B.C.E. and C.E. 50, was discovered in 1952<sup>2</sup>.

The Tetragrammaton, the four letters of the Creator's name, is inscribed on numerous churches and cathedrals. It is detailed on the forehead of a statue representing an angel found on the tomb of Pope Clement XIII in St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican. It can also be seen in the Foujrviere Catholic Basilica, Lyons, France, the Bourges Cathedral, France, a church in La Celle, Dunoise, France, a church in Digne, southern France, a church in Sao Paulo, Brazil, the Strasbourg Cathedral, France, and Saint Mark's Cathedral, Venice, Italy.

Who can reasonably ignore Yahweh's great name in the face of all this evidence? Let us praise the name of Yahweh as did David and numerous others over the centuries! ■

#### REFERENCES

- (1) *Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania*; 1984, p. 26
- (2) See *The Bible Advocate From Our Readers* section, June 1991; p. 16

# our reader's write



## What did Satan do to defile the Holy Place?

The Bible does not tell us exactly what Satan did to defile the Holy Place, but it had to do with uncleanness as indicated by the word, “defiled,” (Ezk. 28:18). He was cast out as profane, “unclean, common, made unclean,” (v. 16). This is also indicated by the use of the phrase “should be purified” (Heb. 9:23).

The Lamb “slain from the foundation of the world” (Rev. 13:8) must have been Yahshua. Who did Satan, “a murderer from the beginning...” (John 8:44), murder? Who murdered the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world...”? Was it Satan who became an unclean spirit, by committing of this capital crime? If the truth be known, the mystery of it all is surely stranger than fiction! ■

You very kindly sent me various articles just over 12 months ago which I have read and studied avidly. I have to say that I have not been able to find fault with them. I am currently studying line by line “Why Passover is a Sabbath.” This is really an excellent article. I cannot thank you enough for my increased understanding of Yahweh’s word. *anonymous*

## Are the Equinoxes and the Scriptural Holy Days related?

No. It is a common misconception among those advancing one form or another of a holy day calendar that they must be counted in relation to cardinal points of the year called “the equinoxes” (meaning “equal night”). However, the Scriptural calendar does not use these points in the year.

The Biblical cardinal points are Feb. 15 and Oct. 25/26. These dates are based on the Scriptural data (Ezk. 40:1) which show the **beginning** [“head”; Heb. *rosh*] of the year fell on the *10th day of the month*—not the first day of the month. So the beginning of the year is *not the same as the beginning of the months*; another misconception. The date of this event (Ezk. 40:1: 25th year of captivity; 572/573 BC) was Feb. 15, 572 B.C.

Further, the middle of the year is the Summer Solstice (Ex. 34:22; LXX; plus other reasons). Pentecost is a summer Feast that is the Sunday nearest the Summer Solstice (again, Ex. 34:22; Lev. 23:15-16) which is the revolution or “turn” of the year mentioned in Ex. 34:22.

Consequently, by counting the number of days from Feb. 15 to the Summer Solstice, and adding the same number of days forward brings us to the last day or end of the year [Ex. 23:16] Oct. 26th (25th leap years).

The *true* Biblical Holy Days must be based on the Scriptural requirements, not a secularly or *religiously* devised scheme. Typical schemes set the first day of the year as the new moon closest to the vernal equinox, or some other extra biblical definition. The true Scriptural day has been replaced in most Sabbath-professing groups with a *Babylonian* evening-to-evening day just like the Sabbath itself has been replaced with Sunday. ■

It was really good to get the Insight magazine... Your articles are insightful particularly the one on marriage which I am enjoying....I have continued to enjoy and study deeply all the articles you sent me a few months ago. As time goes on I have come across a lot more scriptures that indicate the Sabbath is dawn to dusk. I have kept the Sabbath this way for several months and have grown in grace and knowledge and understanding. *scotland*

## Was Satan born or created?

Satan was born. The word “created” (Ezk. 28:15) should be translated “born.” He was born on a certain day (probably Christmas) as this verse tells us. He was apparently highborn, possibly of the priestly order; certainly a high ranking cherub with a throne (Ezk. 28:14; Isa. 14:13).

The nearly unbelievable events surrounding this famous cherub, and their most bizarre nature weave a story that staggers the imagination. He was even perhaps the High Priest, or the Second Priest which resides in the absence of the High Priest (II Ki. 25:18). Is it just a coincidence that many modern churches still retain

a priesthood-like structure? Satan believes in a priesthood (one who officiates in religious services), and is quite likely a high ranking priest to this very day. ■

**I have heard the phrase “prayer language” associated with miracles. What is ICY’s view?**

It is not miracles, nor “prayer language” (speaking in tongues), but obedience that is evidence of following Yahshua and having the Holy Spirit: “Many will say to me in that day, Master, Master, have we not prophesied in your name: and in your name have cast out devils? And in your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU; depart from me, ye that WORK INQUITY” (Matt. 7:23). Yahshua is looking for obedience to Yahweh’s Law not lawless iniquity. Their working of lawless iniquity was the sign, the evidence, that HE NEVER KNEW THEM—regardless of the miracles they worked. Yahweh gives His spirit (they are truly spiritual) to those who obey Him (Acts 5:32), not to those who refuse to obey the Law, but think some other sign they decide on is the acid test of spirituality. ■

We enjoyed seeing all of you. It’s worth the drive to be with like-minded believers. Now we understand Feast of Weeks vs. Pentecost. We always thought Feast of Weeks and Pentecost were interchangeable terms until now. Praise Yahweh for the enlightenment! Perhaps next year we can come to your retreat. *texas*

**Is Biblical tithing on money?**

No. Scriptural tithing is strictly on agricultural produce. The Law could not be more clear on this fact if we just go precisely by what it says. However, the tradition of tithing on money is so longstanding that people automatically *assume* the Bible teaches it. How did such an obvious mistake get started, and continue unabashed? There is just one reason. People simply do not let the Bible define tithing. The Scriptures obviously teach tithing. But what is to be tithed? This is never spelled out by those teaching tithing on money. Write for our detailed study on tithing. It tells it exactly like it is straight from the Bible. For over twenty-five years this book has been freeing readers around the world of the crushing burden of falsely tithing on money. Order today. You will be glad you did. (Request *Biblical Tithing is NOT on Money*. Suggested donation, \$3. This is below our cost, but will help cover publishing and shipping. Thanks.). ■

**Who do you think are the two witnesses?**

The two witnesses will likely be Moses and John. Moses and Aaron were two witnesses who stood before the

most powerful nation of antiquity, Egypt. As Yahweh’s two witnesses, they caused plagues to fall on that nation the same as the two witnesses of the NT record (Rev. 11:3, 5-6). There was some contention regarding Moses’ body (Jude 9). Why? Remember too, a strange secrecy surrounded the burial of Moses (Deut. 34:6). Was his body preserved for some special future purpose. However, we find no further reference to Aaron after his death in a similar way to that of Moses. Interestingly, also John was told he would “prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings” (Rev. 10:11). This all leads me to think the two witnesses of Rev. 11:3, 5-6, could well be Moses and John. ■

I arrived home Friday afternoon, and the literature from ICY had arrived. My wife and I spent a good portion of the weekend with the Scriptures, the tools, and the material from ICY. Very refreshing, and literally deep. I very much appreciated the Sabbath, morning to evening, the New Moon study; but it wasn’t until I read the “Babylon Restored” paper that I realized how much of the “wine of her fornication” was still present with me. I have been one of those in the past who came out of Roman Catholicism, then Protestantism, Fundamentalism, Charismatics, etc. When I came into [the Sacred] Name, I could easily see the “Christian” influence within the Sacred Name assemblies. What I had a more difficult time with initially was seeing through the “Judaism” in the messianic movement. Anyway, your deductive exegesis is both unique and necessary, as well as very liberating. Thank you for your obedience to Yahweh. *new hampshire*

**When did the Greek Bible come into existence?**

The oldest *complete* Greek New Testament is dated to the fourth century A.D. It is called the Codex Sinaiticus which was discovered in 1844 by Constantine Tischendorf in the monastery of St. Catherine on what is generally held to be Mount Sinai. This was only a part of the Greek scriptures, however. The entire Greek Scriptures were discovered in 1859, again by Tischendorf, on a subsequent visit to the monastery of St. Catherine. This manuscript now resides in Leningrad. It was originally taken to the Russian Imperial Library in St. Petersburg. ■

**When was the first English version of the Bible printed?**

The first printed Bible was the Gutenberg Bible printed in 1456 A.D. in Latin. The first complete English Bible was John Wycliffe’s translation in the late 1300s. It was the main English version until Tyndale’s version dated at about 1525 A.D. ■



# The Two Groups of 144,000: Two Equals One?

## What Mystery Surrounds Them, and What is its Solution?

**T**he Book of Revelation contains non-stop hair-raising prophecies unequalled in other Scriptures. Its pulsing scenes of hybrid-like beasts with seven heads rival Daniel's dramatic visions. Nothing like this is known to man in all of recorded history. Imagine the mental power of a beast with *seven* brains!

Bizarre as such descriptions are, the Bible plainly says this book of astounding, often mysterious revelations, was given to Yahshua by Yahweh, "...to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass..." (Rev. 1:1). This is a *prophecy* of events following the writing of the book around 96 A.D.

Also, did you notice *to whom* this book of prophecy (v. 3) was given? *To Yahweh's servants*. It is obviously *not intended* to show everyone "...things which must shortly come to pass..." (v. 1).

There is an event described in Rev. 7:2-8, which is not shrouded in the mystery of strange beasts, locusts that sting like scorpions, or mysterious numbers such as 666. This account is of 144,000 human

beings singled out apparently for special protection prior to prophesied catastrophic events, which shake the Earth to its foundations.

True to form, however, the Revelation does not leave this clear description of 144,000 of Yahweh's servants without some questions. The account is somewhat clouded by the fact that *another* group of 144,000 is found later in the record of Rev. 14:1, *after* the seventh angel sounds a trumpet (ch. 11:15).

Are these accounts referring to the same 144,000 or *two* completely different groups? What Biblical facts decide the answer to this much debated question?

### First 144,000

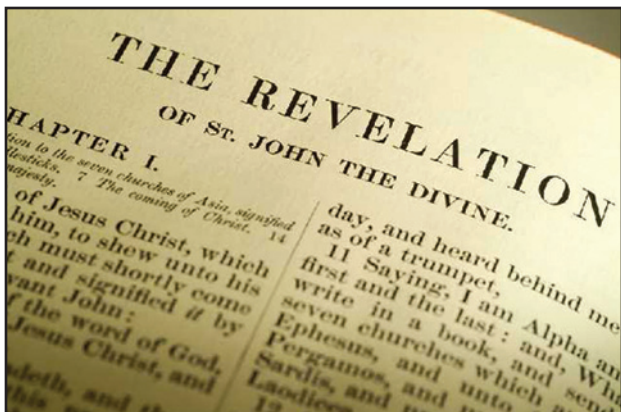
Here are the characteristics of the first group of 144,000 mentioned in Rev. 7:3-8:

- I. They are "...sealed...in their foreheads" [the nature of the seal is not given] (v. 3),
- II. They are called "...servants of our Yahweh..." (v. 3),
- III. They are numbered (v. 4),
- IV. They are from "...all the tribes of Israel..." (v. 4),
- V. The tribes are Juda, Reuben, Gad, Aser, Nephtalim, Manasses, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zabulon, Joseph, and Benjamin (vv. 5-8) [note Ephraim and Dan are not included], and lastly
- VI. This group of 144,000 is sealed *before* the seventh seal is opened (ch. 8, v. 1).

### Second 144,000

The descriptions of the second group of 144,000, mentioned in Rev. 14:1-5, include:

- I. They are with a Lamb on mount Sion (v. 1),
- II. They have his Father's name (presumably the Lamb's Father) written in their foreheads (v. 1),



**Revelation's** prophecies were written to show only Yahweh's servants "...things which must shortly come to pass" (Rev. 1:1; *KJV*).



- III. They are numbered (v. 1),
- IV. They sing a new song known only to them (v. 3),
- V. They are "...redeemed from the earth." (v. 3),
- VI. They are not defiled by women (v. 4),
- VII. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes (v. 4),
- VIII. These are the firstfruits of Yahweh and the Lamb (v. 4),
- IX. In their mouth was no guile, and are without fault before the throne of Yahweh (v. 5), and finally
- X. These 144,000 appear *after* the final seventh trumpet of the seventh seal is sounded (Rev. 8:1; 11:15).

## Two Separate Groups of 144,000 Each

These lists and other facts show beyond doubt there are actually *two different* groups of 144,000 each mentioned in these prophecies! Here are those facts.

The first 144,000-group (Rev. 7:4), is sealed from *all* the tribes of Israel (v. 4), with the exception of Dan and Ephraim—Manassa's brother. The reason for this omission is not given in the Revelation record.

Now look what the prophet Jeremiah recorded, "*Israel* was holiness unto Yahweh, and the **firstfruits** of his increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith Yahweh" (Jer. 2:3).

Notice that Jeremiah did *not exclude any tribe of Israel* from being firstfruits of Yahweh! Then it is beyond doubt that at least *some* members of the families of Dan and Ephraim must *be firstfruits*. They are conspicuously *omitted from the first 144,000*, and must be *included* in the *second* 144,000 comprised solely of firstfruits. Remember Dan and Ephraim *are* Israelites and must *CONTAIN* firstfruits (Jer. 2:3).

The *second* group of 144,000 (Rev. 14:1-5), contains some from the tribes of Dan and Ephraim, but the *first* 144,000 (Rev. 7:3-8), *does not*. These two groups cannot be the same.

The next point separating these two 144,000-groups involves the message of the book of Revelation. It is a book of *prophecy*. It describes events after about 96 A.D. (Rev. 1:3).

It is a matter of historical record that *no events* following that date could reasonably be construed as the sealing of 144,000 Israelite servants of Yahweh as depicted in Rev. 7:3-8. It is certain, then, the sealing of the first 144,000 is a momentous event *yet to occur!*

The purpose of the sealing is not stated, but seems to be protection from the calamities which follow. Protection would be pointless unless they are *living at the time of the sealing*, and any delay in hurting the sea, earth and trees until they are sealed (Rev. 7:3),

unnecessary. If dead, the calamitous events of the seventh seal would be meaningless *to them*.

What about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, David, etc., the prophets, and *all the early apostles* who died prior to John's prophecy? Are they not firstfruits ruling in the Kingdom of Yahweh? Certainly they must be (Matt. 8:11; Luke 13:28; Rev. 20:6; apostles on thrones in the kingdom: Luke 22:14, 30).

Obviously, the sealed 144,000 Israelites (Rev. 7:3-8) *alive* at the time of their sealing, cannot possibly include them, long dead by 96 A.D.! Sealed by death in their position as firstfruits, the patriarchs and apostles can only be in the *second* 144,000 firstfruits.

Beyond any doubt the first sealed group does not—*cannot*—include the patriarchs and the apostles; whereas the second 144,000 firstfruits *must* include them. This separates the two assemblies of 144,000.

Two final points provide further conclusive evidence of two separate groups of 144,000.

First, there is another fact about Abraham and Isaac who are in the first resurrection—firstfruits—ruling in the kingdom (Matt. 8:11; Rev. 20:6). They *were not of any of the tribes of Israel* who came *after* them; were not Israelites, i.e. children of Jacob whose name was changed to Israel (Gen. 32:28). Being firstfruits, they will be in the *second* 144,000 with Yahshua on Mount Zion, rather than the first 144,000 composed only of Israelites (Rev. 7:3-8).

Secondly, many Gentiles are called into the church. The church is comprised of firstfruits as James tells us, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of *firstfruits* of his creatures" (Jam. 1:18). The thrust of Paul's mission was... to the uncircumcision (Gal. 2:7), the Gentiles. They, the Gentiles in the church, are not of *any* tribe of Israel, yet they are firstfruits "...redeemed from among men..." (Rev. 14:4). Gentile converts would have to be in the *second* rather than the first 144,000.

Doubtless the prophecies of Rev. 7:3-8 and Rev. 14:1-5 refer to two different groups of 144,000 each.

## Yahweh's Firstfruits

As noted earlier Jeremiah said, "Israel was holiness unto Yahweh, and the **firstfruits** of his increase..." (Jer. 2:3). But are ALL *within* each tribe of Israel firstfruits? Recall members of the first 144,000 are *servants of Yahweh* (Rev. 7:3). But 144,000 will certainly be just a fraction of the Israelites living when the sealing occurs. Obviously then, the vast majority of Israel will *not be sealed* from these tribes, and will not at that time, be servants of Yahweh. This means they are not firstfruits, because they are not obedient

to Him. This majority will undoubtedly go through the great tribulation (Rev. 7:13-14), and will be converted as a result of what they suffer.

Historically, all Israelites at any given period do not serve Yahweh wholeheartedly. Perhaps only the firstfruits serve Him at *any* period while the vast majority do not. Over the centuries many disobedient have perished in their sins, for example, Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, etc. (Num. 16:32).

However, Jeremiah's statement is positive proof

## “...Jeremiah unlocks what was sealed in Revelation.”

each tribe of Israel *contains* firstfruits. But it **also** proves positively that the 144,000 sealed of those twelve tribes *are in fact firstfruits too!* They have to be since Israel is firstfruits (Jer. 2:3), and this 144,000 are composed solely of Israelites. Jeremiah's record leaves no doubt, even though *these* sealed are not called firstfruits *IN* Revelation, and reveals information not explicitly stated in Revelation. A fundamental truth is that Scripture unlocks Scripture. Many times the lock is found in one place and its key in another (Isa. 28:10). Here we see Jeremiah unlocks what was sealed in Revelation.

Beyond doubt we see the full truth is the two 144,000 assemblies (Rev. 7:3-8 and Rev. 14:1-5), are **two different groups of FIRSTFRUITS!** Both are firstfruits, but they are *not the same*.

The conclusion is inescapable: **There are 288,000 firstfruits!** Surprising perhaps, but Biblically *true* for sure! This total is 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel plus 144,000 comprised of all the patriarchs (as well as other faithful in Israel), prophets, early apostles and disciples, other members of the church (past and present) including converted Gentiles, AND some from the tribes of Dan and Ephraim.

This virtually unknown fact of different groups of firstfruits totaling a remarkable 288,000 has further Biblical support. The apostle James also verifies this amazing fact that *Israel and the church* are firstfruits.

Notice, as quoted earlier, “Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of *firstfruits* of his creatures” (Jam. 1:18).

The “we” mentioned here *must* include the church. Remember James, an apostle in the early church (Acts 15:4, 19, 22), stood in a church conference debating circumcision, fornication, etc., showing how Gentile converts were to be taught (Acts 15:13-21). James clearly must be writing to the church in his letter.

But, look more closely at ALL those James was ad-

ressing: “James a servant of Yahweh and of the Master Yahshua Messiah, **to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad...**” (Jam. 1:1). This was written to the *church and the twelve dispersed tribes of Israel!* Both. History does not reveal whether this letter reached the scattered tribes. If not, it is in fact a *prophecy for a later time*.

And what did he say the scattered *twelve tribes and the church* were? “...that WE [Israel and the Church] should be a kind of FIRSTFRUITS of his creatures” (Jam. 1:18).

James removes all doubt that the twelve tribes of *Israel*, as well as *the church* are included in the category of firstfruits! Just as Jeremiah said Israel was Yahweh's firstfruits, so does James. The church was composed not only of Israelites, but many Gentiles as well, and James, like the Revelation, shows *both* are in fact Yahweh's firstfruits.

## The Mystery of the TWO Wave Loaves

We now know the *two sets* of 144,000 are separate groups of firstfruits as proven by the Revelation, the prophet Jeremiah, and the apostle James. This is crucial: there are two sets of firstfruits.

The Revelation definitely reveals *two groups* of firstfruits. The first group is Israelites, while a second group includes Dan and Ephraim, the church, Gentiles, etc. as explained earlier.

Now where *else* does the Bible speak of TWO distinct firstfruit groups or bodies? Turn to Leviticus 23:17. This verse describes *two loaves* of bread called “...the firstfruits unto Yahweh.” The designation “firstfruits” has precipitated endless speculation about the symbolic identity of these “two loaves.” But why *two* loaves, and who do they represent? Many have assumed they represent the churches of the Old and the New Testament, etc.

The Bible, however, must solve this longstanding mystery. Here is the solution.

They represent the servants of Yahweh, those tried and tested (“cut, winnowed, ground, and baked”), struggling against their sins (leaven), and weaknesses of the flesh. **They are the 144,000 firstfruits sealed**

**The wave loaves** (Lev. 23:17) represent the two groups of 144,000 firstfruits (Rev. 7:4; 14:1).







**This Manuscript (MS)** is an original, containing various Scriptures from the Book of Leviticus. Leviticus: 10:15-11:3; 11:12-47; 12:8-13:6; 23:20-30; 25:30-40. It is recorded that this MS is the oldest of any of this part of the Bible. *schoyencollection.com*

from the tribes of Israel at the end time (Rev. 7:3-8), and the **other 144,000 firstfruits** collected through the ages (including those gathered at the end) shown with the Lamb on mount Zion (Rev. 14:1)! They are firstfruits to Yahweh.

But can *bread* actually represent people? Certainly. This is no stretch. Look at these clear verses: “I am the living **bread** which **came down from heaven**: if any man eat of this **bread**, he shall live for ever: and the **bread**...is my flesh,...that **bread**...not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead...he that eateth...this **bread** shall live forever” (John 6:51, 58; See also Matt. 26:26). How clear and certain that bread is equated with Yahshua. Likewise, the wave loaves of bread—Yahweh’s firstfruits (Lev. 23:17), *too* are equated with two vast assemblies of people which are likewise firstfruits!

These two groups are “baked with leaven” (Lev. 23:17), they have sins, faults, but go through a “harvesting process.” They are “cut off” [isolated, rejected, forsaken], winnowed [beaten, tossed and shaken to remove their carnality], ground [“run through the mill,” crushed, sometimes with failure, sorrow, and despair], and finally baked [“tried in the fire”] (Rev. 3:18; baptism of fire: Matt. 3:11).

Yahshua, our bread of life (John 6:35, 48), our example (I Pet. 2:21), *went through a similar “harvesting” not for His sins, but for ours!* The

prophet Isaiah makes this very clear in a prophecy of Him: “He is *despised* and *rejected* of men; a man of *sorrows*, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was *despised*, and we esteemed him not....But he was *wounded* for our transgressions, he was *bruised* for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with *his stripes* we are healed” (Isaiah 53:3, 5; emphasis mine). Yahshua by His example, provides this final key to unlock the mystery of the wave loaves! Truly, the Bible itself solves this mystery.

But when are these loaves of bread offered? They are *offered* on Pentecost, the fiftieth day from the wavesheaf of ripe barley (Lev. 23:10-11, 15-17, 20). They are *harvested*, however, during the Feast of Weeks, the firstfruits of wheat harvest (Ex. 34:22). Pentecost was celebrated in part by waving the two leavened loaves made with flour from freshly ground newly harvested wheat (Lev. 23:17, 20). Pentecost occurs around the time of the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere (Ex. 34:22).

And when will the firstfruits, Yahweh’s servants, be *offered* to Yahweh? This happens exactly when the wave loaves are offered. Harvested during the Feast of Weeks, they will be offered to Yahweh on Pentecost by the Priest, Yahshua, just as the Law requires (Lev. 23:20; Heb. 3:1: Yahshua is a priest)!

## Conclusion

The two Pentecost wave loaves are Yahweh’s firstfruits baked with leaven. That is why we often call Pentecost “The Feast of Leavened Bread” as we share the *leavened* bread on this annual High Sabbath.

Now we clearly see this Feast also celebrates the resurrected (wave loaves, Lev. 23:20), firstfruits of Yahweh, 288,000 strong. Wrestling with and overcoming numerous sins with the blood of the Lamb (Heb. 9:14), they achieve the “impossible dream” of immortality against all odds!

Yahshua, on the other hand, was the *unleavened* bread that came down from heaven who resisting all temptations, committed no sin in living a perfect life; a feat unequalled in all of human history! That is why we celebrate the Passover festival with seven days of eating *unleavened* bread, which is the body of Yahshua (John 6:51; Matt. 26:26).

Yahweh the Father and Yahshua the Messiah deserve ALL credit and honor for the historic achievement of the 288,000 who are raised as firstfruits in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6)! *Those two* make it happen. *They* make that impossible dream a reality! ■



# Sacred Calendar

The true sacred calendar of the Bible is vitally important to salvation. Most professing Christians have been lead to believe all they have to do is "believe" in the Messiah and their eternal life is assured; that all the "Old Testament" observances of holy days have been "done away." Nothing could be further from the clear teachings of Scripture. "Belief" without obedience to the Law of Yahweh is contrary to the true Gospel Yahshua came preaching (Luke 6:46; Matt. 7:23).

The sacred calendar is a central part of the true Gos-

pel, because it determines the true Sabbath days which are crucial signs of Yahweh (Ex. 31:13; Ezk. 20:12, 20). By these vital Sabbath signs Yahweh shows who He has personally sanctified. True, we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Yahshua the Messiah (i.e. His sacrifice; Heb. 10:10), but the evidence that we are in fact sanctified by Yahweh, is that we keep Yahweh's true Sabbaths (See again Ex. 31:13; Ezk. 20:12, 20). The restoration of Yahweh's calendar system is, therefore, a top priority of the International Congregation of Yahweh.

<b>2009 Sacred Calendar</b>	
Pocahontas, AR Lat: 36d 14m N / Long: 90d 57m W	
Passover Festival	April 9 - April 15
Passover Sabbaths	April 9 & April 15
Passover Supper	Night of April 9
Feast of Unleavened Bread	April 10 (UB eaten Apr 9 - Apr 16)
Wavesheaf Offered	May 3
Feast of Weeks	May 3 - June 20
Feast of Weeks Annual Sabbaths	May 9, 16, 23, 30 June 6, 13, 20
Pentecost	June 21
Shoutings (Trumpets)	September 19
Pre-Atonement Sabbath	September 27 Noon-to-sunset
Atonements	September 28
Feast of Tabernacles	Oct. 3 - Oct. 9
Sabbaths	Oct. 3 & Oct. 10
Last Great Day	October 10

<b>New Moons Month</b>		
January	26	11
February	25	12
March	27	1
April	25	2
May	25	3
June	23	4
July	22	5
August	20	6
September	19	7
October	18	8
November	17	9
December	16	10

## Sabbaths and New Moons are observed from Dawn-to-Dark

(Note: New Moons may vary with Longitude and Latitude.)

Head of the Year  
Feb. 15  
End of the Year  
Oct. 26  
Seven-Year Cycle  
3rd year  
Jubilee Cycle  
31st year

<b>2010 Sacred Calendar</b>	
Pocahontas, AR Lat: 36d 14m N / Long: 90d 57m W	
Passover Festival	March 29 - April 4
Passover Sabbaths	March 29 & April 4
Passover Supper	Night of March 29
Feast of Unleavened Bread	March 30 (UB eaten Mar 29 - Apr 5)
Wavesheaf Offered	May 2
Feast of Weeks	May 2 - June 19
Feast of Weeks Annual Sabbaths	May 8, 15, 22, 29 June 5, 12, 19
Pentecost	June 20
Shoutings (Trumpets)	September 9
Pre-Atonement Sabbath	September 17 Noon-to-sunset
Atonements	September 18
Feast of Tabernacles	Sept. 23 - Sept. 29
Sabbaths	Sept. 23 & Sept. 30
Last Great Day	September 30

<b>New Moons Month</b>		
January	15	11
February	14	12
March	16	1
April	15	2
May	14	3
June	13	4
July	12	5
August	10	6
September	9	7
October	8	8
November	6	9
December	6	10

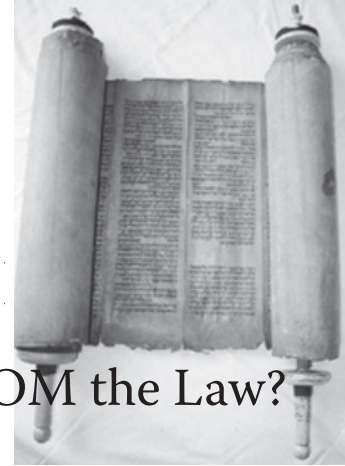
## Sabbaths and New Moons are observed from Dawn-to-Dark

(Note: New Moons may vary with Longitude and Latitude.)

Head of the Year  
Feb. 15  
End of the Year  
Oct. 26  
Seven-Year Cycle  
4th year  
Jubilee Cycle  
32nd year

# Christian Freedom and the Law

Does it mean Freedom FROM the Law?



**F**reedom from religious persecution has fueled wars since time immemorial. Zealots of the *Crusades* (c. 1090–1290 CE), were on a mission to bring the “truth” to those unenlightened souls “ignorant” of the sacred rights and freedoms of the “true” religion, usually, Christianity. In such cases, religious freedom was the struggle between those wanting the liberty to worship as they pleased, the heretics, and a majority determined to impose their brand of religion on them against their will.

*Within* modern Christianity, however, it has taken on a meaning quite different from this more traditional view of freedom of worship. Now it usually means freedom from certain laws or restrictions once practiced by those worshipping the Creator.

Exactly what is religious freedom, *Christian freedom*...scripturally? Is it, as commonly held, that Old Testament laws are a yoke of bondage and not part of the New Testament church? In this context it means freedom from the “Law of Moses.”

Advocates on both sides of this issue usually pit the New Testament against the Old Testament. Therefore, we will start with the apostle Paul’s views, since he is usually the one highly regarded as the champion of this more modern view of freedom from the Law of Moses.

So what did Paul say and *do*? Writing to Timothy, Paul said,

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of Yahweh and is profitable for Doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in **righteousness**: That the man of Yahweh may be thoroughly furnished [perfected] unto **ALL good works**” (II Tim. 3:16-17).

Is **ALL** Scripture really profitable for instruction in righteousness? Obviously, the apostle Paul thought

so. Certainly *many* profess Paul’s dictum, however, the common practice is to accept *some* of the Sacred Scriptures and **IGNORE THE REST**.

Because this practice has the blessing of fellow worshippers, *many sincere people seldom question their basic assumptions on the pivotal issue Paul discussed: **the source*** of reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness.

But just where do we draw the line on Paul’s statement to Timothy? Do we draw the line at the end of the so-called “Old Testament” as is commonly done today?

Notice verse fifteen:

“and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Messiah, Yahshua” (II Tim. 3:15; *RSV*).

What sacred writings? Truly, what part of the sixty-six books of the Bible is the “**ALL**” to which Paul refers (v. 16)? It can hardly come as a surprise that Paul’s view of “...*salvation* through faith in Messiah Yahshua...” is attained through the **ONLY** Holy Scriptures available to Timothy from his childhood: *the entire 39 Old Testament books*. The New Testament simply did not exist at that time.

A fact often missed is that Paul’s statement shows “*faith in the Messiah Yahshua*” is obtainable *without the New Testament!* Yes, **FAITH**. *Faith in the Messiah Yahshua* can come from the Old Testament. Paul emphatically makes this crystal clear and none can in truth deny it!

This will certainly shock some, maybe anger others, and send many reeling to find *some verses...any verses* that must surely neutralize this obvious Biblical fact.

Clearly, by Paul’s own admission, one could come

to the full knowledge necessary for salvation *through the Old Testament alone!* Salvation is by definition “to be saved from our sins”: “...for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). But how are we to be saved if we do not know righteousness, understand right from wrong?

So what is sin, anyway? Let another apostle tell us: “Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the Law: for sin is the transgression of the Law” (I John 3:4). Knowledge of sin comes by the Law.

Was not Yahshua’s mission—His passion and sacrifice—to save us *from* our sins, not *in* our sins? Repentance was the cornerstone of His ministry: “From that time Yahshua began to preach, and to say, **repent**: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt. 4:17). Repentance means to change from what seems right to us, to what *actually* is right: the truth.

Paul, often mistakenly labeled a “no law” apostle supposedly advocating doing away with the Old Testament Law, unapologetically shows the *Old Testament* teaches faith in Yahshua. It is the Old Testament which corrects us by showing right from wrong, good and evil (Deut. 28, entire chapter). Right and wrong have not changed, and *will not change* (Matt. 5:18).

## WHAT LAW? PAUL’S VIEW

What law provides “...correction, instruction in righteousness...” (II Tim 3:16-17)? One thing is certain—as we will see, Paul does not purge Christian doctrine of the Law of the Old Testament. Quite the contrary, he defends the Law and observed its tenants. What did he teach?

First, did Paul, a professed apostle of Yahshua (Rom. 1:1), *really* say we are no longer to observe the Law of the Old Testament?

Did *he* keep the Law? What did *he* do (“...by their fruits you shall know them...” Matt. 7:20)? “...and all may know that...you [Paul] yourself...*keepest the Law*” (Acts 21:24; emphasis mine). Other disciples of Yahshua were advising Paul in refuting the many false rumors painting him as anti-law. They knew Paul kept the Law. But what is “the Law” mentioned in verse 24?

Paul answers this pivotal question when brought

before the governor to answer accusations by Ananias the high priest and Tertullus:

“But this I admit to you, that after the Way which they describe as a *sect (heresy: KJV)*, that I do worship the Elohim of my ancestors, *retaining my belief in ALL points of the Law and in what is written in the Prophets*” (Acts 24:14; *NJB*; emphasis mine).

How clear! “ALL points of the Law” means just that. The Law he mentions is the Law of Moses, which is one of the major divisions of the Old Testament. These three major divisions are the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Writings (Luke 24:44). Do you not

suppose in this situation where Paul’s freedom and even possibly his *life were at stake*, that if he were ever going to waiver in his beliefs, it would certainly be then? Is it not at such times—when the stakes are highest—that people often buckle

and lie about their beliefs to save their skin?

Surely, just as Satan had witnessed numerous times: “Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life” (Job 2:4). *ALL* includes religious beliefs!

But Paul did not “blink” when the chips were down. He relentlessly confessed that he believed *all things written in the Law—even if he had to pay the ultimate price!* Did *he* keep the Law or not? Certainly he did. He observed Pentecost (Acts 20:16 with 21:17 and 24:11). He kept Passover and Unleavened Bread (I Cor. 5:8). He kept the weekly Sabbath (Acts 17:2; I Cor. 11:1 with I Pet. 2:21 and Luke 4:16), and even plainly stated, “There must still be, therefore, a seventh-day rest reserved for God’s [Yahweh’s] people” (Heb. 4:9; *New Jerusalem Bible*).

Whatever Paul may *seem* to be saying in his other writings it cannot contradict his clear unambiguous pro-Law stance (See again Act 24:14; II Tim. 3:15-17). *These* clear statements are the place to start in order to understand Paul’s writings.

Paul emphasizes this again clearly and directly when he said: “For they being ignorant of Yahweh’s righteousness [They do not study and obey Yahweh’s Law.], and going about to establish their **own** righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of Yahweh” (Rom. 10:3).

What is Yahweh’s righteousness? Here is David’s

“there must still be...a seventh-day rest reserved for Yahweh’s People.”



admission, "...all thy commandments are righteousness" (Psa. 119:172).

Second, Paul boldly taught that the household of Yahweh, i.e. the church, is "...built upon the foundation of the *apostles and prophets*, Yahshua the Messiah himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph. 2:20). These are the bedrock foundational works upon which the church *must be built*. This principle

## "...the prophets are a foundation of the New Testament Church"

virtually ensures that *any* church that does not teach the law of Yahweh as did the prophets and the apostles CANNOT be the true assembly of Yahweh.

We have just given an apostle's view, but who are the prophets and what did they teach? The prophets include such luminaries as Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Daniel and Malachi. The record of the prophets on the matter of observing Yahweh's Law is key to unveiling a basic foundation of the true church of Yahweh—the true New Testament church. Their record with those of the apostles sets the standards, code of ethics and the modes of worship for the true church.

Here is a sample of what they taught, i.e. the very foundation of the church.

The prophet Isaiah records Yahweh's clear directive to keep His (not ours) NEW MOONS and HOLY DAYS: Isa. 1:14; 66:23 (See also Ezk. 46:3);

"...from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, says Yahweh" (Isa. 66:23).

Prophets recorded Yahweh's rebuke of those breaking His SabbathS (plural), which ARE a *sign* of HIS people: Ezk. 20:12-20, and reward for those who keep His Sabbath: Isa. 56:2. How many keep all Yahweh's Sabbaths-weekly, annual, and seven-year land Sabbath at their Scripturally appointed times? How many today keep the Feast of Weeks (separate 49-day feast), Pentecost, the monthly New Moons, Trumpets, Atonements, Feast of Tabernacles, Passover, etc.? How many *love the name of Yahweh*, as a prophet said was necessary (Isa. 56:6)?

A prophet said,

"We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from THY [Yahweh's] precepts and THY judgments" (Dan. 9:5).

What are Yahweh's precepts and His judgments Daniel was referring to here? Unmistakably, they are those recorded in Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy (See the prophet Malachi in ch. 4, v. 4).

How many churches' teachings include these precepts and judgments? The true congregation Yahshua founded was and is *built on the prophets*. Paul said so.

A prophet, yes a *prophet*, gives the terms of the *new covenant* "...this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel...says Yahweh, **I will put my Law** in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts..." (Jer. 31:33; See *Paul quoting Jeremiah*: Heb. 8:8, 10; 10:16). This covenant with the house of Israel is *also with* the church; which is *now part of the commonwealth of Israel* (Eph. 2:12)!

"The wages of sin is death." Is this strictly a New Testament doctrine or...*from a prophet* as well? "The soul that sinneth, it shall die..." (Ezk. 18:20).

Finally, and the list is nearly endless, Daniel shows breaking the Law of Moses is still evil: "As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us; yet made we not our prayer, before Yahweh our Elohim, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth" (Dan. 9:13).

The prophet Daniel brings to light the stunning fundamental fact, that *it is impossible to understand Yahweh's truth while continuing in iniquity, sins*. When dead in trespasses and sins, one is also dead to understanding the truths of the Bible. The mind is in darkness (Eph. 2:1, 5-6, 10; John 3:19: "...men loved darkness...because their deeds were evil;" "...the dead know not anything." Eccl. 9:5). This immutable fact is evidenced by the nearly unbelievable confusion and contradictions that exist today in religious doctrines!

Remember the prophets are a foundation of the church, the New Testament church (Eph. 2:20). They cannot add to the Law any requirement *nor can they take anything away* (Deut. 12:32). Neither can the *New Testament church* add or take away from the Law! Its foundation rests on the writings of the prophets who staunchly obeyed the Law and whose writings *demand obedience to Yahweh's Law*. The Scriptural record shows nothing could be more certain!

The popular derision of the “Law of Moses” is actually directed toward the *real author* who actually gave Moses that Law. It was *not* Moses’ law but the Law of Yahweh:

“remember ye, the law of Moses my servant, which I [Yahweh; Mal. 1:1], *commanded unto Him* in Horeb...” (Mal. 4:4; emphasis mine).

He said, “Remember...the Law...,” but typically we hear, “Forget the Law.” Malachi was a prophet who merely reported the direct statements of Yahweh, and Paul said such statements *are a part of the very foundation* of the **true assembly of the creator of the universe, Almighty Yahweh!**

Can a church or assembly be part of the true church of Yahweh, but does not clearly build on the foundation of the prophets, claiming “Freedom in Christ from the works of the Law?” The apostles and the prophets clearly answer this question.

There is probably not one church in 10,000 actually trying to deceive people. So why all this deception about Yahweh’s Law being done away? *Satan and the human heart! Satan* is a major driving force behind deception, “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which **deceiveth the whole world...**” (Rev. 12:9)! The human heart is also very deceitful, causing innumerable false beliefs in direct violation of the Law: “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked...” (Jer. 17:9).

## THE MESSIAH’S VIEW: DID HE ABOLISH THE LAW?

Yahshua the Messiah emphatically said His mission was *not* to do away with the Law of Yahweh: “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law, or the Prophets: I did NOT come to abolish, but to fulfill” (Matt. 5:17, NAS; emphasis mine).

The word “fulfill” is definitely not an ‘out’ here. Whatever it means it cannot mean to “abolish” or “do away with,” as the context clearly shows. The word is the Greek, “peerloo” (*SEC* 4137). Notice how the Arndt, Gingrich *Lexicon* (p. 676). defines this important word:

“4. ‘fulfill’, *by deeds*, a prophecy, an obligation, a promise, a law,... b. ...Matt. 5:17: depending on how one prefers to interpret the *context*,...is understood here either as ‘fulfill’ = do, carry out, or as ‘bring to full expression’

= show it forth in Its true meaning, or as ‘fill up’ = complete.”

This authoritative work **and** the Scriptural context clearly show ‘fulfill’ cannot possibly mean to nullify, reduce the quantity of or abolish. Yahshua’s mission was to do the works of the Law perfectly, completely, to the full letter and intent-leaving nothing out, and in so doing be a fit sacrifice (without blemish) for sin just as the Law requires (See Ex. 12:5; Lev. 4:23, etc.).

Remember, a sacrifice for sin is payment for a debt



Keeping Yahweh’s commandments is the KEY to eternal life. *Matthew 19:17*

incurred. *Payment for sin in no way nullifies the law requiring the payment.* What it nullifies is the **debt** for **that** sin. Any transgressions which follow will also require retribution. Yahshua’s sacrifice did not do away with the laws defining sin: rather it provides the **payment** needed for the *penalty* of sins. And anyone can plainly see that sins *do occur* in our time. It is sin rather than obedience to the Law of Moses, that is responsible for the world’s present troubles. The Law, on the contrary, shows the way to happiness, prosperity, peace, etc. (Deut. 28).

A young man once asked Yahshua: “...Master what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?” (Matt. 19:16). Yahshua replied, “...but if you will enter into life, keep the commandments” (v. 17). Here Yahshua reveals the *key* to eternal life itself!

That was Yahshua’s reply. But what do *people* say? “No! You are not required to keep the commandments. It is impossible to keep them. The Messiah did away with all that commandment keeping!”

The truth is Yahshua *disproved* the theory that it is impossible to keep Yahweh’s commandments. How? By showing it *could be done*—by doing it. Yahshua did not back down when the disciples were amazed at the answer he gave that young man: “...Who then can be saved?” (Matt. 19:25), they marveled.

He then stated, “With men this is impossible [Is this not what men say, ‘It is impossible?’]; but with Yahweh all things are possible” (v. 26). Yes, with

Yahweh's help what is "impossible" can be achieved!

See, if commandment-keeping were not necessary after-the-cross, then Yahshua—who died about three years later—would have misinformed this man. The young inquirer in all probability lived after-the-cross *still believing* those same words Yahshua spoke to him before the crucifixion!

Did Yahshua really mean what He said? Is there any record He went to that young man, or *anyone*, after His resurrection changing His story by saying that some of the law had now been abolished? None. Where did Yahshua say—even *one time*—the law of Moses, the Torah Law, was valid only until His death?

Where did Yahshua say—even *one time*—the conditions of repentance which He preached for three and a half years would hold only until he was crucified, and afterward a new set of conditions would apply—nullifying the Law? Not once. Instead we find Him teaching: "...it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for *one* stroke of a letter of the Law to fail" (Luke 16:17). That is *His view of the Law of Yahweh*: more stable and enduring than the universe itself; a view He did not change after Calvary!

Heaven and earth did not pass away when he was crucified. Neither did the Law. In truth, He did not nail the Law to the stake (cross). It is the other way around. The Law nailed Him to the stake!

*Here is a crucially overlooked fact of the Bible.* Rarely is it clearly understood. Yahshua's sacrifice pays for *sins* (lawbreaking). It *does not pay for deeds, which are lawful!* They need no payment. That is why His sacrifice *could not atone for the annual Holy Days or the weekly Sabbath* blotting them out.

“...YAHSHUA’S DEATH  
HAD NOTHING TO DO  
WITH THE SABBATHS.”

His sacrifice blots out *sins*, following repentance. His death, therefore, has *no application whatsoever to someone keeping the Holy Days and weekly Sabbath!*

Yahshua's death had nothing to do with the Sabbaths—the resting on those days, only the sacrifices done on those days. Note this. The *weekdays also had sacrifices morning and evening*. No one *ever* argues that the command to *work* six days (Ex. 20:9), was “done away” once the daily morning and evening sacrifices ended, and for good reason. Then why do so many argue against the command to *rest* on the weekly Sabbath (Ex. 20:10, just one verse further down), and annual holy Sabbaths when the sacrifices done on those days ended? Actually, the bias is not against resting per se, but against the seventh-day!

People strangely argue for doing away with the command to rest on the Sabbaths, but not for doing away with the command to work the other weekdays!

Truly, it is only when one *breaks* Yahweh's holy Sabbaths by working on those days that Yahshua's sacrifice **can** be applied. *So long as we do not break them, there is no need for the sacrifice of the Messiah in that matter of the Law.*

The foundational principle that sin requires a sacrifice as payment or retribution could not be negoti-



**LEFT:** Dead Sea Scrolls which contain parts of the Book the Prophet Isaiah are currently being displayed at the Israel Museum for the first time in over 40 years. **RIGHT:** The Septuagint containing most of the verses of Psalm 90. This dates back to 2 A.D. [cbc.ca](http://cbc.ca)



ated even though He asked that the cup pass from Him—if possible. The hard truth is, it was *not possible to change that Law!* It was not possible **then** nor is it **now**. The unshakeable truth of His statement in Luke 16:17, shows the Law could not be changed, *even for the one who wrote it: Yahshua Himself!*

## YAHSHUA'S STERN WARNING

Yahshua gave a stern warning about the commandments. Remember now the commandments He is referring to are all the commandments, statutes, and judgments, i.e. The Law—that major division of the Old Testament composed of the first five books of the Bible. In the verse quoted above, Matthew 5:17, He emphatically and unequivocally stated He did not come to abolish "...The Law, or the Prophets..." These are two of the divisions of the Old Testament, as He clearly showed *after His resurrection* (Luke 24:44).

Now notice, the context of what follows is the Law "of Moses," the Torah Law which, of course, includes the weekly seventh-day Sabbath **and** the annual Holy Days of Yahweh, etc. Here is the warning He gave:

"Whosoever therefore shall break one [just one] of these *least* commandments, and *shall teach men so*, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven..." (Matt. 5:19; emphasis mine).

What is a least commandment of the Law? Perhaps tithing on mint, cumin, anise? Yahshua indicates judgment, mercy and faith—all are weightier matters of the Law than tithing on these plants (Matt. 23:23). By the way, remember that **faith** is in the **Law** of Genesis through Deuteronomy as well as the New Testament. It is there (Recall Paul's letter to Timothy quoted earlier: II Tim. 3:15)!

But what if a teacher breaks *two* or more of the least of the commandments of the Law and teaches men to do the same (or what if he broke one of the *greatest-say the Sabbaths, and taught others to do so; what then*)? Well, if breaking just *one* of the least—and teaching others to break it—makes a person the LEAST in the kingdom of heaven, then doing the same for *more than one* of the least (or *one* of the greatest) puts *him out of the Kingdom!*

Consequently, for example, if one does not tithe on his produce (there is *more than one* Law on tithing) and teaches others to do so—*he will not be in the Kingdom of Heaven!*

When one teaches *others* about the Law, the mar-

gin of error becomes critically small. The percentage of relative error as judged against Yahweh's Law is close to 0.2 of one percent! The safest course is never to disregard *any* aspect of Yahweh's Law. The often followed reckless teaching and practice of lawlessness far exceeds the close tolerance Yahweh sets on what can be taught and practiced.

Who will hear these words when the Son of Man returns: "...I never knew you, depart from me, you that *work iniquity*" (Matt. 7:23)?

After reading Yahshua's standards, Peter's words are very sobering, "For if it is with *difficulty* that the righteous is saved, what will become of the godless man and the sinner?" (I Pet. 4:18; NAS).

## THE REASON FOR THE WORLD'S PRESENT PROBLEMS: LAWLESSNESS

The reason the world is having its crushing problems is because there is a global disregard for the *natural laws* which govern the problem areas. Did you know those natural laws are in the Law of Yahweh (so-called Law of Moses)—the first five books of Scripture?

The evidence clearly shows conditions affecting such societal dynamics as food production (drought, flooding), economics, warfare, disease, family disintegration, aberrant behavior, etc. *are precisely those areas governed by the Torah, the Law of Moses.* Check it out. You will find all those matters carefully covered with detailed *solutions* spelled out in authoritative but simple language.

Diplomats and heads of government can produce little more than patchwork temporary solutions, because they treat effects and not the causes of the problems. Free trade agreements, agricultural research and shuttle diplomacy will not repair the "ship of state" if the seventh-year Land Sabbath is broken (Lev. 25:1-7), agricultural tithing is ignored (Lev. 27:30-34), wages are not paid daily (Lev. 19:13), interest is charged of native citizens (Deut. 23:19), and illegal pacts are made with foreign governments (Ex. 23:31-32). These are just a few of the urgent corrections needed...and soon...if we are to stave off the inevitable dire consequences of lawlessness lying at our national and global doorstep!

We must get the message out that the colossal losses and devastation causing nations to suffer happen for a reason. There is a cause. The collective sins of the people are the cause (no it is not just the gov-

ernment's fault)! And without the vital knowledge of Yahweh's Law, people will *never* know what they are doing wrong. Without the crucial knowledge of error, no corrections can be made.

This essential information is the *missing key* in all attempts made to solve the enormous problems the human race faces. The nations of the world are blind to *causes* of the woes they experience. The crucial knowledge needed to correct our course has been purposely obscured and hidden by Satan and his henchmen. He is making an all out effort-pulling out all the stops, to obscure Yahweh's Law. This sinister plot blocks the way to freedom from want, sickness, failure, etc. (Matt. 23:13). Without this knowledge all chance is hopelessly lost that humanity can correct its actions, and thus extricate itself from present and future disasters!

Those endlessly clamoring that the Law has been "done away at Calvary" will one day answer for contributing to the headlong plunge the world is taking toward catastrophe!

## TRUE CHRISTIAN FREEDOM

Throughout this study we have shown time and again the veracity and solid-rock endurance of Yahweh's great Law using the testimony of apostles and prophets who upheld its every tenant. But how is our freedom as Christians related to that Law? To gain true freedom we must know exactly what it is and how it is obtained.

So what is **true** Christian freedom? It is not what most have been lead to believe. They have been taught that true freedom "in Christ" is, that being "in Christ," we do not have to obey but very, very few of Yahweh's laws given in the Old Testament Torah. That is, most of the Law and the Prophets have been abolished. Nothing could be further from the truth! (See again Matt. 5:17).

Here is the vital *truth*. True Christian freedom is found *not* in freedom from obeying the Law. It is found rather in **freedom from the penalty of sin**. *This is true Christian freedom!*

How is this freedom attained? It is simply found by obedience to Yahweh's Law, because obedience carries no penalty, *only benefits, blessings!* There are several steps to this obedience as we will see shortly.

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of **liberty**, and *continueth therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a *doer of the work*,

this man *shall be blessed in his deed*" (Jam. 1:25; emphasis mine).

Those who "...continue in..." the *perfect law* of LIBERTY are *blessed...not cursed*.

What people everywhere are *really seeking*, though they may not realize it, is freedom from the penalties, the bad effects that sin produces.

As mentioned earlier, Yahshua came to *save us from our sins!* There is *no freedom* in lawlessness; only slavery. He did not come to save us from having to obey the Law by destroying the Law. It cannot be destroyed (Matt. 5:17; Luke 16:17). Rather, He came to keep us from **breaking** the Law; to prevent sinning. When someone is saved from sins, he is saved from the disasters that sin brings, the effects of sin.

Here are the necessary steps to freedom. First, full knowledge of how sin is defined *must be clearly and unmistakably shown*. Next, *comes repentance: turning from sin to obeying Yahweh's Law*. Then *penalties of all past sins must be paid for—forgiven*. Finally, *power must be given to overcome the tendency to sin*. This is **how** one is saved from sins. This is exactly what Yahshua, the true Messiah, does through His sacrifice!

The truth is the universe will never be free of law; nor can it be. The only reason it runs at all is because of absolute immutable natural laws. It will, however, someday be free of lawbreakers. Then and only then, will it-can it-be restored to its original pristine purity, peace and glory!

Notice how Paul alludes to this fact!

"...in hope that the creation itself also will be *set free from its slavery to corruption* [result of broken laws] into the *freedom* of the glory of the children of Yahweh" (Rom. 8:20-21; NAS; emphasis mine).

To have immortality where a penalty of sin will never again be felt or witnessed is the ultimate Christian freedom. It is the effects of sin-the penalty-that brings disease, death, poverty, burdensome taxation, tyranny, drought, etc.!

Freedom from never again experiencing such things is truly the ultimate freedom! *This* is the freedom which is the high destiny of all those called and chosen of Yahweh who remain faithful to their calling, faithfully doing Yahweh's commandments. For those who finally attain immortality, this **TRUE** Christian freedom will be their ultimate reward! ■

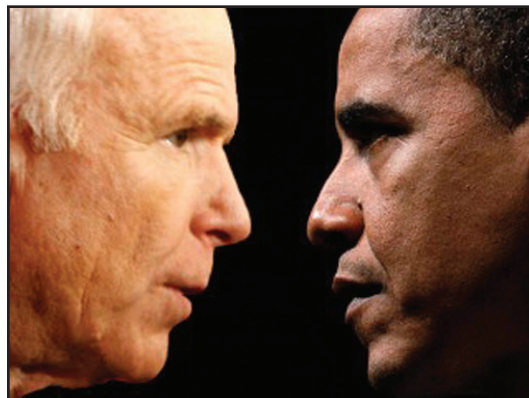
# HISTORIC U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION LOOMS

**F**ew could have imagined just four short years ago the reality of electing a woman or an African American to the highest offices in America! Our “made in America brand” of a two-party system now essentially guarantees an historic first: either a woman Vice President or an African American President!

Sarah Palin, John McCain’s vice presidential running mate, may not be the first woman VP candidate, but she is the first Republican VP candidate; another first.

Despite Republican and Democratic parties and independents fielding other highly qualified, very competent candidates, few of whom are still in the hunt, Republican John McCain or Democrat Barack Obama will likely be sworn in January, 2009. The inertia of the voting majority swayed by tradition, media hype, or public opinion in general, is working to carry one of them to a new home on Pennsylvania Avenue. Pollsters generally agree at this stage the final tally between McCain and Obama will be close (a safe bet).

It is no secret the major news networks, ABC, CNN, NBC and CBS have imposed a virtual media blackout on their outlets of those running outside the two mainstream political parties. Endorsements of McCain and Obama by Hollywood, prominent evangelicals, the news media itself via news spots, well-known Talk Show hosts, governors, congressmen, and others are swaying the general public to vote for Obama or McCain. Sometimes we forget that each celebrity or other prominent supporter has only *one*



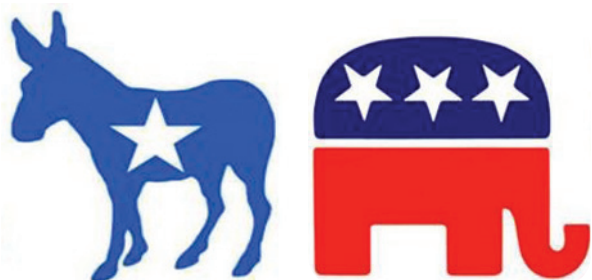
Senator John McCain (R) and Senator Barack Obama (D) are the two major candidates in the upcoming 2008 Presidential Election. *abc.com*

*vote* just like the rest of the population!

However, the Internet You-Tube, Blogs, etc. continues to buzz with news about Ron Paul who dropped out June 12, 2008 in spite of garnering millions of dollars in contributions, Ralph Nadar, and others...some bizarre. There is even a “Draft Newt Gingrich for President in 2008” movement. Nadar (announced February 24, 2008) is now on the ballot in 34 states as an independent, and is expected to be on eleven more under a partisan label (Freedom and Peace Party, Populist, Natural Law Party, etc.). A candidate is placed on the ballot by obtaining signatures of registered voters. The number required varies widely from state-to-state.

*IfoZine* features a crowded field of “271 candidates who have announced their intentions to run and 62 more potential candidates who could run” for president this year! These include Constitution Party nominee Chuck Baldwin, Libertarian Bob Barr, Green candidate Cynthia McKinney, Prohibition candidate Gene Amondson and Proudican Party candidate Bruce Bongardt.

However, if history repeats itself, “dark horse” candidates will not defeat either of the major party candidates.



**NewYorker Thomas Nast**, cartoonist, created the Republican elephant and Democrat donkey. In 1860, he also created the jocular round-bellied image of Santa Claus we know today!



## No Religion Party...So Is Voting Really Biblical?

It is somewhat surprising to find no *Religion Party* among the current crop of political parties. Given the constitutional right of freedom of speech, presumably, the “separation of church and state” keeps the religious Right or religious Left from fielding its candidate. Actually, this is a mere technicality, however. The obvious fact is that religion plays a big part in politics and government. Anyone who doubts this can merely check the number of times even the front runners Obama and McCain have, out of political necessity, aired their religious views. Mitt Romney (Republican, Michigan) was grilled on his Mormon background. Mike Huckabee (Republican, Arkansas) boldly proclaimed Southern Baptist religious views. Abortion and gay rights are religious issues, as the term “religion” is commonly used and understood. Government offices, national, state, and local, close Sundays in deference to those who worship on Sunday.

Since religious issues are part of the political mix, people often wonder if it is even Biblical to vote. What does the Bible say about voting? It may come as a surprise, but voting is sanctioned in the New Testament!

The word sometimes translated “ordained” or “chosen” is *cheirotoneo*, (SEC 5500), and actually means “to vote.” Here are scholars’ comments on this word:

- (1). “To elect to an office by lifting up the hand; to choose, vote...it means to elect through a show of hands by an assembly, as in II Cor. 8:19” [Zodhiates *Complete Word Study New Testament*, p. 1475].
- (2). “...to stretch out the hand to; to constitute by voting; to appoint, constitute (Acts 14:23; II Cor. 8:19).” [Mounce, *Analytic Lexicon to the New Testament*; p.481]
- (3). Vine’s *Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (pg. 34)

**Gov. Sarah Palin** became the first female Republican Vice Presidential Candidate when she accepted the GOP’s nomination on September 4, 2008 in St. Paul, MN.



**Sen. Barack Obama** makes history by being the first ever African American Democratic Presidential Nominee.

says *cheirotoneo* is “...primarily used of voting in the Athenian legislative assembly and meaning ‘to stretch forth the hands’...”

Voting was used by the New Testament church to choose elders “...in every church...” (Acts 14:23), coupled with praying and fasting over the matter, *then* they were commended to the service of the church, “...unto Yahweh...” (v. 23).

This indicates voting is not to be taken lightly, in an uniformed manner, but should be done with care and sober thought, evening fasting and prayer.

Once the votes are counted on November 4, 2008, the presidential elections will be history. But it is our future, what is ahead for America *after* the election that concerns us. That is why we vote. Elections influence policy for years to come. Democracy is not Yahweh’s system of government, but it is the form of government Yahweh presently allows in the USA.

The will of the majority of voters is not always correct, but usually prevails. The statistics for the last four presidential elections shows *millions* of eligible voters do not cast a ballot. In 2004, 64% voted in the presidential election, 60% in 2000, 58% in 1996 and 68% in 1992. Regardless, we all have to live with the outcome.

Our task as Yahweh’s people and as citizens is to be law-abiding citizens, and to live peaceably with all men as much as possible (Rom. 12:18).

The 2008 presidential elections will show us what Yahweh allows at this time.

Will our national sins overtake us? Is the day of reckoning just ahead? The Biblical cycles ordained by Yahweh regulating events for millennia will be active on November 4, 2008, and will do their pre-ordained work. They take a downward turn the afternoon of that day. What this means only time will tell. Many prophecies are yet to be fulfilled, and the Presidential candidate with policies consistent with those prophecies, particularly those that would stabilize Iraq, will likely be the one elected. There is an unseen hand at work in the affairs of man. The years ahead will see its finger prints ever more clearly. ■



# EYE ON Georgia

## The News behind the News:

### Why A major player in future events is catapulted into the public eye!

**O**n August 8, 2008, world attention became riveted to news of an invasion of Georgia, a former Soviet Republic prior to the break up of the USSR. Early Friday, August 8, 2008, Russian troops and armored vehicles rolled into South Ossetia, a breakaway region in Georgia. Later Friday evening Russia conducted air strikes on Georgian targets. On Saturday, August 9th, a senior Georgian official informed *New York Times* reporters by telephone that Russian bombers were flying over Georgia, prompting evacuation of the presidential offices and residence in Tbilisi.

What is behind this sudden visibility and news worthy Georgian conflict? Is there something more, something beyond the press releases and political surmisings? Does the Bible have any input on who Georgia really is, and its role in momentous events in the not too distant future? Yes, it does, but more on that later.

The *New York Times* also reported that a statement by Georgia's ambassador to the United Nations, Irakli Alasania, said Georgian military units held eight villages near the capital. Georgian officials said Russian warplanes had attacked Georgian forces and civilians in Tskhinvali, including hitting airports in four Georgian cities<sup>1</sup>.

The disputes have been brewing for years between Georgia and South Ossetia, which has in effect declared independence from Georgia. However, tensions have grown since Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, a close American ally seeking NATO membership for Georgia, is pushing for unification.

A cease fire and a withdrawal of all Russian troops by September 8, 2008, was brokered by French president, Nicolas Sarkozy. However, "...Georgians con-

tinued to be forcibly pushed out of Georgian villages near South Ossetia...by Ossetian militias...Ethnic cleansing is continuing to take place south of Tskhinvali..." said Shota Utiashvili, a spokesman for the Georgian Interior Ministry<sup>2</sup>.

Russia's actions in Georgia bring back memories of November 4, 1956, when hundreds of Soviet tanks rolled into Budapest, Hungary, killing an estimated



**Georgian** soldiers patrol a neighborhood in Gori near a recently bombed building. *nytimes.com*

30,000 protestors and causing some 200,000 to flee to the west in desperation leaving everything behind. Order was re-established by November 14<sup>th</sup> after days of brutality while USA President Eisenhower said "I feel for the Hungarian people." J F Dulles, American Secretary of State, said "To all those suffering under communist slavery, let us say you can count on us." That was it; only a US protest and empty promise. The US did nothing more. Nearly fifty-two years later, this time with Georgia, the US did little more than protest as well.

## WHO IS GEORGIA, PROPHETICALLY?

The surprising and little known fact is that Georgia is prophesied to be a major player in events depicted in the New Testament book of Revelation! Lying in obscurity and waiting “in-the-wings” of world events, Georgia’s role is given with surprisingly specific detail in the Holy Bible! Believe it or not. This is the news you will not find in the newspaper, CNN or the Internet. But it has been there for centuries, sealed until the time of the end...our time!

As events have unfolded, Georgia of the former USSR, gained its independence of the former Soviet Union when Communism collapsed in domino fashion during the Reagan years. This was absolutely essential to provide the autonomy Georgia needed to fulfill its prophetic destiny.

What does the Bible say? Notice. The book of Revelation shows the meteoric rise, a re-emergence of an ancient city, whose dominance will once astound the world! What is this city? It is Babylon, Iraq!

One clear prophecy regarding Babylon’s rise says, “...and the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which [notice] REIGNETH OVER THE KINGS OF THE EARTH” (Rev. 17:18). This great city will once again have a dominate role in world events. Remember this is a prophecy...of what will shortly come to pass (Rev. 1:1).

But what does Georgia have to do with this resurrected Babylon? Notice now there is to come a great beast with seven heads and TEN HORNS:

“And the ten horns which thou sawest [on the seven-headed beast, Rev. 17:3; Rev. 12:3] are TEN KINGS which have received no kingdom as YET...These kings have ONE MIND [a coalition]...” (Rev. 17:13).

Now look what these TEN HORNS, this coalition, will do. “These SHALL make war with the Lamb...he is...King of kings...” (Rev. 17:14). This Lamb is the Messiah Yahshua who returns to this earth in great power and might! He will defeat the ten horns (v. 14)!

So the ten horns, the ten kings, are in a titanic battle with Yahshua, the anointed, the Christ [Greek for “anointed”]! That is MAJOR WORLD NEWS!

Now notice another great world news event in which these same ten horns will be involved.

“And the ten horns which thou sawest upon [“and;” RSV, NAS, Moffatt, etc.] the beast,

THESE SHALL HATE THE WHORE (Babylon, Rev. 17:3-5), and shall MAKE HER DESOLATE,... AND BURN HER WITH FIRE” (Rev. 17:16; emphasis mine)!

Again, THIS IS MAJOR NEWS which will be reported live and by satellite worldwide!

And WHO are these ten horns? The prophet Jeremiah tells us: “...prepare the nations against her [Babylon, Jer.

51:1, 7, 12], call together against her the KINGDOMS OF ARARAT, MINNI AND ASHCENAZ...prepare against her the nations with the KINGS OF THE MEDES...” (Jer. 51:27-28).

Remember this TOO is a prophecy! It will come to pass. Remember Yahshua said, “For nation shall rise against nation, and KINGDOM AGAINST KINGDOM...” (Matt. 24:7).

Now who are these nations, these ten horns—ten kings, that will fight Yahshua and destroy Babylon? History, modern and ancient, shows beyond doubt, they are the modern areas of TURKEY (Ararat), IRAN (Minni, Media), and WHO? Notice who else is included: GEORGIA (Ashchenaz) of the former S.S.R! Amazing, even stunning perhaps, but Biblically TRUE!

There is a coming coalition of Georgia, Iran and Turkey composed of ten kings who will be “movers-and-shakers” on the world scene in the years not too far ahead. ALREADY we can see “movement” toward fulfillment of these great prophecies! *This is why Georgia has suddenly emerged “out of the shadows.”*

Do not be surprised to see Georgia continue to be a part—a highly visible part—of climactic events ahead as prophecies continue to unfold. Keep an eye on Georgia. ■

### REFERENCES:

- (1) *New York Times*, Aug. 8, 2008.
- (2) *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*; Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008.



Russian tanks occupy the streets of Budapest during the Hungarian Revolution, November, 1956. [images.google.com](http://images.google.com)

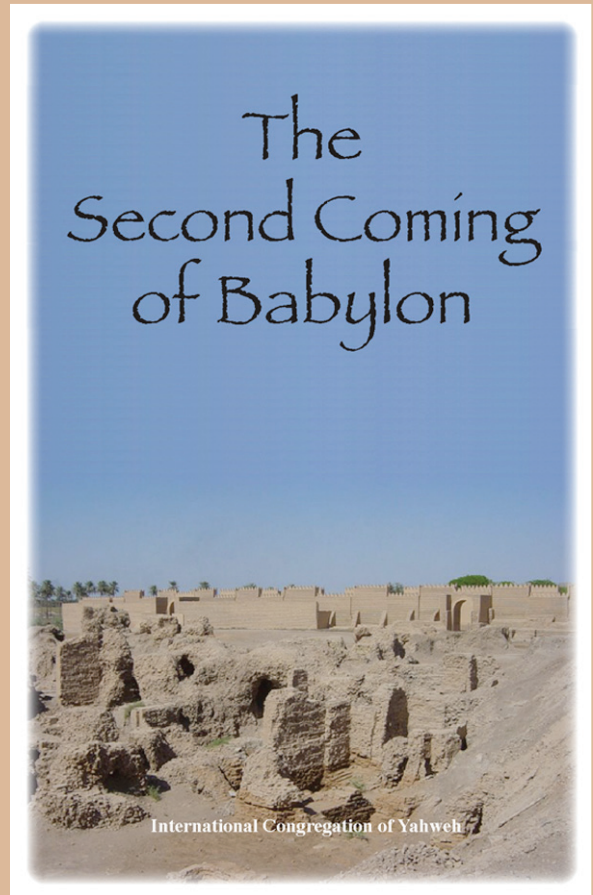


# The Second Coming of Babylon

A World Capital, a great city-called a “woman” in prophecy, is about to make a meteoric rise to prominence and dominance on the world scene! What is the name of this awakening giant, this center of opulence and world power? Where is it located? Is it New York City, NY, Rome, Italy, a European Union city, or Vatican City perhaps?

This booklet reveals the clear, definite Biblical answers to these questions. No guessing. No speculation. Too, this “woman” rides a ten-horned beast. Who are these “ten horns” of prophecy (Rev.17:12,14,16)? Read the actual NAMES of the ten-horns of prophecy unveiled right from your Bible. Find out when—month and year—the woman will likely be destroyed, and the long-hidden probable Biblical date of the SECOND COMING OF THE MESSIAH!

This booklet, “The Second Coming of Babylon,” is an urgent, stunning message for this end-time generation about, “...things which must shortly come to pass...” (Rev. 1:2). Order your copy today (Suggested donation, \$3.00, ppd in US).



**International Congregation of Yahweh**  
**P.O. Box 208**  
**Pocahontas, AR 72455**

*CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED*