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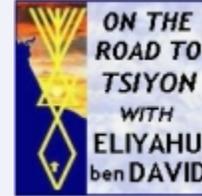
Tsiyon News

Tsiyon Messianic Radio Newsletter Vol 6.15 - 1/12/6011 TAM - 4/15/2011

Messianic Triumph

We speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom that has been hidden, which God foreordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this world has known. For had they known it, they wouldn't have crucified the Lord of glory.

1 Corinthians 2:7



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Tsiyon News

ADDRESS CORRECTION:

Tsiyon now has a new corrected Austin address. Previously some of the numbers were transposed. Please use this address in future correspondence. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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[This corrected address will be found at the bottom of each Tsiyon News]

From Dawn - Tsiyon Newsletter Tips

Did you know you can re-visit the **Tsiyon News** Weekly Newsletter Archive online? It is located at <http://tsiyon.org/newsletter/archive/>

This week's program, *Messianic Triumph*, offers a great opportunity to remind folks of the newsletter archive and/or introduce new folks to it. In this week's program, Eliyahu talks about the verses in Ephesians chapter two which he previously discussed in response to listener questions in the 2009 newsletter [here](#).

Occasionally, we hear from folks that they didn't receive the weekly newsletter. It may be that your SPAM filter on your email account is sending the newsletter into your junk-mail folder. Most email programs have a way to "approve" or "white list" an email address so that you receive all the emails from that address to solve this problem.

Recently, some of you have been telling us that you are planning on celebrating your very first Passover and Unleavened Bread. Previous newsletters include information on [Passover](#) and about [Counting the Omer](#) that you might find helpful.

May Messiah draw you near and deliver you from the oppression of the enemy during this Passover season!

Listener Q + A

Listener Comment - Messianic perspective on Colossians chapter 2

From a Messianic perspective as well as corporately I would like to understand where we stand on Colossians chapter 2. This is always a source of debate with Christians, and believe me, I am not looking to debate. However, I am not finding clarity here as far as the context of the entire chapter goes. Leading up to verse 16 much of what I read seems to be pointing at doing away with the observance of certain practices in a vague sense, particularly as it pertains to Holy days and dietary practices. Have you done, or will you be doing in the future a teaching on this chapter? Thank you Eliyahu for any light you can shed on this matter.

Tsiyon Answer - Messianic perspective on Colossians chapter 2

Thanks for writing. Following is a brief presentation of the main flow of Colossians. This is not every point, of course, but I think if you compare this to the text as you go along you will get your question answered.

In Colossians 2 Paul is not condemning obedience to Torah, as so many wrongfully assert. Colossians 2 is about the superiority of Messiah and His Body over the doctrines of the spiritually dead Pharisaical religious cult.

Paul tells us why Messiah Himself is the key, in verses such as these:

That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgment of the mystery of Elohim, even the Messiah; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Col 2:2-3

As ye have therefore received the Messiah Yeshua the Master, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Col 2:6-7

For in him dwells all the fullness of the Supreme Being bodily. And ye are complete in him... Col 2:9-10

The point of all of this is that "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" are resident in our Messiah, since all the fullness of Divinity dwells within Him bodily, in a living way. Therefore, our walk needs to be in a living relationship with Messiah Himself, "rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith."

This is contrasted against dead religion that is devoid of a real relation-ship with Messiah – but instead depends on doctrines and concepts of men. For example, Paul states:

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after the Messiah. Col 2:8

Notice that this is not talking about the Scriptures themselves. This is speaking against "philosophy and vain deceit (of sectarianism)" as summed up in the "tradition of men."

He speaks to the Gentile believers there, telling them they need not concern themselves with Pharisaic religion because they are forgiven of their trespasses through Messiah – their standing with God is anchored in Messiah, so they do not need the approval of the Pharisees to please YHWH. He then says Messiah did this:

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his stake.. Col 2:14

What does "handwriting of ordinances" mean? Here's the definition:

Ordinance, Decree - G1378 - dogma

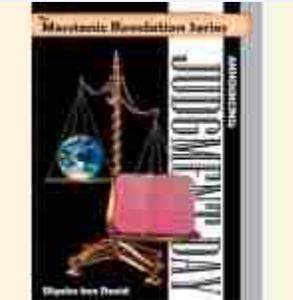
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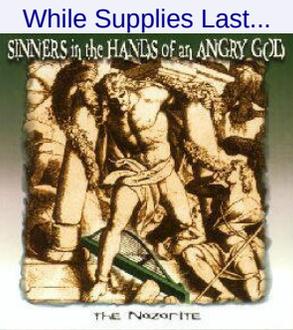


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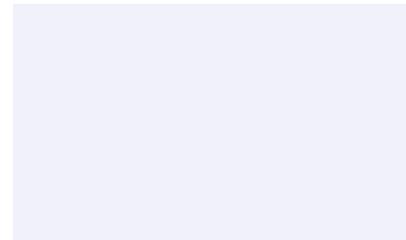
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From the base of G1380; a law (civil, ceremonial or ecclesiastical): - decree, ordinance.

Ordinance, Decree - G1380 - dok-eh'-o

..to **think**; by implication **to seem** (truthfully or uncertainly): - be accounted, (of own) please (-ure), **be of reputation**, seem (good), suppose..



Messiah has blotted out all the DOGMA of MAN-MADE RELIGION and took it out of the way, nailing it to his stake. Clearly, this is not talking about the Scriptures, as the definitions of the Greek word show. **Dogma is religious law, what men think, what seems right to them**, involving the keeping of the **traditions of men** so as to seem of good reputation.

Conforming your life to dogma can never save you, even though there may be an outward appearance of righteousness through religious observance. **Salvation by dogma is a lie and a sham!** The precious blood of the living Messiah has nailed all such worthless ordinances of false religion to the cross forever, by the power of His blood poured out for His own – which alone has the power to save!

In this context we get to verses 16 and 17:

Col 2:16 Let no^{G3361} man^{G5100} therefore^{G3767} judge^{G2919} you^{G5209} in^{G1722} meat,^{G1035} or^{G2228} in^{G1722} drink,^{G4213} or^{G2228} in^{G1722} respect^{G3313} of an holyday,^{G1859} or^{G2228} of the new moon,^{G3561} or^{G2228} of the sabbath^{G4521} **days** Col 2:17 Which^{G3739} are^{G2076} a shadow^{G4639} of things to come;^{G3195} but^{G1161} the^{G3588} body^{G4983} **is** of Christ.^{G5547} [Strong's Numbers in grey indicate a Greek word in the original text. Punctuation and words in red are not included in the Greek text but are added by the translator.]

Realize that the punctuation does not exist in the Greek, but is arranged in the verses by Christian translators in a way that supports their doctrine. Let's just take all of the punctuation out, also words that are not in the Greek, then go with what's left:

Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink or in respect of an holyday or of the new moon or of the Sabbath which are a shadow of things to come but the body of Christ. Col 2:16 -17

Note there is not a word here telling us not to keep the commands of YHWH enumerated by Paul. In fact, no one could "judge you in" them if you weren't keeping them! These verses assume you are keeping them. To "judge you in" them means to judge you in your manner of keeping them, according to the rules of the religionists.

Here's how I would punctuate Col 2:16-17 without adding any words, and in context with the chapter:

Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink or in respect of an holyday or of the new moon or of the Sabbath (which are a shadow of things to come) but the body of Christ. Col 2:16 -17 ["which are a shadow of things to come" is a parenthetical statement in the Greek original, making parenthesis appropriate in the English translation.]

The point is simple – don't let religionists who don't even know Messiah judge you in your observance of the commands of YHWH. Since all of these Torah commands are a shadow pointing to Messiah then only the Body of Messiah is able to judge how to keep these commands.

Interestingly, the prophet Isaiah prophetically presents Messiah as making the same point:

Bind up the testimony, seal the Torah among my disciples.
Isaiah 8:16

It seems that Paul is agreeing with the prophets that after Messiah's coming, the Torah is sealed among His disciples. Only they have received the key – Messiah Himself – that unlocks the true meaning of Torah.

From Eliyahu

As we approach Passover let us be aware of what this season is about for you and I on the most basic level. It is about the amazing triumph, both corporately and individually, of being set free from crushing bondage!

Consider Israel in bondage in Egypt. As slaves under harsh control of a superior power, there is no way in this world that Israel could ever be set free. Yet, it happened! How? The story of Passover is the story of deliverance - the story of Yah's nation entering into His triumph over the greatest superpower of that ancient world, and over all of the gods of Egypt. Israel was delivered *from* bondage *into* triumph!

Fast forward roughly 1500 years. Israel was laboring once again under bondage to a foreign power - this time that power is Rome. However, another bondage even more pervasive and even more grievous to the spirit of the righteous seemed to have a lock on the

faithful remnant in the set-apart Land. That was the bondage of a corrupt and dead religious system, claiming to be of God but really a demonically inspired human organization built upon the traditions of men. How would the remnant be set free? One day a Man stood up and announced:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim release to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, to deliver those who are crushed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. Luke 4:18-19

That day everything changed! The Messiah had come and set about delivering the people of God! As the poor, the brokenhearted, the captives, the blind and the crushed came to Him, they experienced TRIUMPH in Him! Many thousands were set free!

That challenge of Messiah had to be punished by this corrupt and miserable world, motivated by the spiritual forces ruling this world. Such a man who would dare to buck the corrupt and established order, that man had to DIE! He let them kill Him but "they" couldn't defeat Him! Even in what would be defeat in other men resulted in glorious triumph for Him! He triumphed, not only over this world, but even over ALL the principalities and the powers in the heavenly places! Yes, He defeated death itself for all of us who believe. Even more, as with Israel in bondage to Egypt, He has triumphed over the enemy, and has included us, His Own, in His triumph! Brother. Sister. Walk in that! That triumph in Y'shua Messiah is what Passover season is all about. That's also what our latest message is about. Be blessed by it as you enjoy the triumph of this Passover season.

Blessings and Shalom,

Eliyahu ben David
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