

RAPTURE READY

DOV Ministries

Rapture Ready

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to our Lord and Savior YAHSHUA Messiah who has given everyone the information they need to know how they can be Rapture ready.

INVITATION

We invite all believers in YAHSHUA Messiah to study this book with Bible in hand to see if you are Rapture ready.

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FOREWORD

If you are not Rapture ready this book is for you. This book shows you exactly what you must do to be Rapture ready.

No, you do not need to read every book on the Rapture that you can get your hands on or watch prophecy teachers on television or watch DVDs on prophecy. Most believers who are prophecy nuts are so confused they will never be Rapture ready.

The way to be Rapture ready 24-7 is simple and every believer can follow the five steps. You must first dedicate your life to YAHSHUA, learn what the Rapture warning signs are, become a disciple, live a holy life and finally share what you have learned.

Study the steps presented in this book and then act on them. Become a dedicated disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah and then make disciples until the Rapture or your departure from this realm.

INTRODUCTION

The Rapture is a controversial subject among believers in YAHSHUA Messiah. The timing of the Rapture is the aspect that produces great controversy among believers who care about the Rapture. This book does not deal with that aspect of the Rapture. Instead it explains how every believer can be Rapture ready by learning what the Rapture warning signs are, by becoming a disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah and by living a holy life.

Being Rapture ready does not mean one must read dozens of books on Bible prophecy, go to every prophecy conference that comes to town or watch every prophecy teacher on TV. Learning what the Rapture warning signs are and watching for them to be fulfilled is important, but being a dedicated disciple of YAHSHUA, living a holy life and sharing what you have learned is more important.

If you want to be Rapture ready 24-7 study this book carefully with your Bible in hand and then dedicate your life to YAHSHUA and live for Him daily.

ONE

THE COMMANDS TO BE RAPTURE READY

YAHSHUA Messiah told His disciples that they would not see His return (Luke ???). All of the commands He gave during His ministry to “watch” and “be ready” were for His Second Advent, not the Rapture. These verses apply only to people who are saved after the Rapture to be ready for the Second Advent of YAHSHUA.

These commands are:

Matthew 24.42-44

Matthew 25.13

Mark 13.33-37

Luke 12.40

Peter also gave a command for believers of the Church Age to be “*awaiting and hastening the presence of the day of YAHWEH* (Second Advent):

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in which the heavens will pass away with a rushing sound and will be dissolved with fire and the Earth and the works in it will be revealed. Since all these things will be dissolved what sort of men should you be. You should live holy lives in piety awaiting and hastening the presence of the day of YAHWEH in which the heavens will be dissolved with fire and the elements will melt in the heat. (2 Peter 3.10-12)

The context of this passage is holiness. Peter explains that, because this present world and universe will be destroyed by fire some day, believers should live holy lives. While a believer is living a holy life he should be “*looking*” for the Second Advent. Since the Rapture takes place prior to that event this passage we are indirectly told to be looking for the Rapture and to live holy lives so it will come sooner.

Admonishments by Paul to be ready

Paul is the only writer of Sacred Scripture which gives commands for believers of the Church Age to look for the Rapture. As we will see, he did not imply that YAHSHUA could return at *any moment*.

1 Corinthians 1.7-8

Paul gave this admonishment to the church in Corinth to wait the return of the Lord:

*So you are behind in no gift; **awaiting** the revelation of our Lord YAHSHUA Messiah; who will also confirm you to [the] end, unimpeachable in the day of our Lord YAHSHUA Messiah.*

It was given specifically for those living in the “end times” and generally to all believers throughout the Church Age, just as the commands by YAHSHUA were given. If believers keep their eyes on Jesus, each and every day, they are less likely to be carried away by the temptations of the world. One way a believer keeps his eyes on YAHSHUA is by “waiting” for the fulfillment of the prophecies (*warning signs*) that will take place before He returns. Other ways are through daily prayer (Ephesians 6.18; 1 Thessalonians 5.17), study of Scripture (Acts 17.11; 2 Timothy 2.15), and regular fellowship with fellow believers (Hebrews 10.24-25).

Philippians 3.20

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul stated that all believers are to “wait” for the return of Christ:

*For our commonwealth is in heaven; from which also we **wait** for the Saviour, the Lord YAHSHUA Messiah.*

Prior to this statement Paul exhorted his readers to press on toward the goal, be complete, live by the same standard he does and to follow his example (Philippians 3.14-17). He also warned them that there were some people who claimed to be saved, yet they were “*enemies of the cross of Messiah, whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things*” (Philippians 3.18-19). In this admonishment, Paul is reminding all believers throughout the Church Age to remember that our home is Heaven, and that they should “wait” for their Savior and Lord, YAHSHUA Messiah.

1 Thessalonians 1.9-10

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul praised them for turning from idols to the living and true God. He then told them to “wait” for His Son YAHSHUA, who will come from Heaven to deliver them from the wrath (Tribulation) to come:

*For [they] themselves report concerning us what manner of entrance we had unto you; and how you turned to YAHWEH from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to **wait** for his Son from Heaven, whom he raised from the dead, YAHSHUA, who delivers us from the wrath to come.*

This command was given to newborn believers who had turned away from “idols” to live holy lives. He added to it for them to “wait” for the return of YAHSHUA. The context of this passage is holiness, and Paul added the promise that

YAHSHUA would return someday and keep believers from going through the Tribulation. The “*wrath to come*” is the Tribulation which begins with the breaking of the Sixth Seal. When one lives a holy life he will patiently “*wait*” for the return of YAHSHUA by “*watching*” the *warning signs*.

All believers from the apostles to the last generation are commanded to “*wait*” for the return of YAHSHUA. When one considers His parables (Matthew 25.14-30; Luke 19.11-27), where He made it explicitly clear that He would be gone a “*long time*” (Matthew 25.19), it becomes obvious that “*waiting*” for Him does not mean He could return at *any moment* since Pentecost. It means one must be “*patient*,” as James wrote (5.7-8), and “*wait*” for His return by “*looking*” for the *warning signs*.

We know YAHSHUA could not return at any moment because He made several prophecies which must be fulfilled first – the Temple would be destroyed (Matthew 24.2), Jerusalem would be taken and controlled by the Gentiles until the “*times of the Gentiles*” was fulfilled (Luke 21.24), and Peter would be martyred in his old age (John 21.18-19).

1 Thessalonians 5.1-9

Later, in his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul gave another warning to them to “*watch*” for the return of YAHSHUA. He described the Rapture (4.13-17), and then commanded them to “*comfort one another with these words*” (v. 18). He continued to explain that they do not need anyone to teach them what will happen just before the Rapture takes place. (There are no chapter breaks in the original text.):

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need to be written to for you yourselves know accurately that the day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night. When they say, ‘Peace and safety,’ then sudden destruction comes upon them as travail to her that is with child and in no wise shall they escape.” (vs. 1-3)

Paul then warned his readers in verses 4-6 to be spiritually alert and sober:

But you, brethren, are not in darkness in order that the day should overtake you as a thief. For you are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore we should not sleep as the rest do, but we should watch and we should be sober.

In verse one, Paul told his readers they had no need for someone to explain to them how they would know when the Rapture would be an *imminent* event. He had already taught them about it when he founded the church. Yet he summarized that teaching in verses 2 and 3. The war of the Second Seal (Revelation 6.3-4) will catch the unsaved by surprise, as a “*thief*” does when he comes to steal in the dead of night. The lost will be cheering when there is a time of so-called “*peace and safety*” in the world. It is just after this period of false peace and safety that a world war breaks out and is followed by famine, economic depression, pestilence and finally by mass murder of believers (Revelation 6.5-11).

The lost will be caught by surprise, but believers who are awake will not be surprised when the war breaks out and the horrors that follow it. We must keep in mind that YAHSHUA cannot return until the Antichrist is revealed and the first five seals are broken. Any Bible teacher who tells you YAHSHUA must appear before the Antichrist is denying the clear teaching of Scripture. He is twisting the Scriptures unto his own destruction (2 Peter 3.16). He is also teaching contrary to every early Church father who wrote about the Rapture. They all, to the man, taught that THE Antichrist would rise to power and persecute believers of the Church Age before the Rapture.

2 Thessalonians 2.1-3

In his second letter to the church in Thessalonica Paul commanded them to not be deceived about the return of the Lord:

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the appearing of our Lord YAHSHUA Messiah, and our gathering together to Him for you not to be quickly shaken in mind nor to be troubled; neither by spirit, nor by word nor by epistle as if by us that the day of the Lord is present. Let no one deceive you in any way for it will not be unless the apostasy comes first and the man of sin shall have been revealed the son of perdition.

Someone had forged a letter claiming that the “*Day of the Lord*,” which starts with Daniel’s Seventieth Week (Daniel 9.24-27), had begun. Paul cleared up the confusion by explaining that two things had to take place before that seven-year period could begin – the “*falling away*” and the revealing of the “*man of sin*.”

The only way to keep from being deceived is to know what must take place prior to the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week. Paul had told them in his first letter there will be a period of “*peace and safety*” before the Seventieth Week (1 Thes. 5.3). In his second letter he gave two more signs – the “*falling away*” of the Church from the faith, and the revealing of the “*man of sin*.” We are living in the time of the “*falling away*.” The next two super-signs are the rise of the “*man of sin*” (Antichrist) and a period of false “*peace and safety*.”

Titus 2.11-13

Paul also exhorted Titus to warn his flock to live holy lives by “*looking*” for the return of Christ:

For the grace of YAHWEH that saves appeared to all men, instructing us to deny impiety and worldly lusts, and to live sensibly, righteously and piously in this present age, expecting the blessed hope and appearance of the glory of the great Mighty One and our Savior YAHSHUA Mashiych.

This is an exhortation to live a holy life. All believers should be “*expecting the blessed hope and appearance*” of YAHSHUA. It is holy living that leads a person to look for the return of YAHSHUA, and one does that by knowing what the *warning signs* are.

The statement by YAHSHUA to, “*Watch therefore, for ye know not the day or the hour*” of His return (Matthew 25.13), complements the statements by Paul cited above. One cannot know the exact “*day or hour*” of the return of YAHSHUA years ahead of time (Matthew 24.36), but when the prophecies leading up to Daniel’s Seventieth Week are fulfilled we will be in a much better position to recognize the approximate time it will start. Alert believers can know it is extremely close when there is a worldwide period of false “*peace and safety*” (1 Thessalonians 5.3), and the Antichrist has been revealed (2 Thessalonians 2.3).

Conclusion

The context of the commands and warnings by YAHSHUA, Paul and Peter to be “*alert*” is holiness. Believers are commanded to live holy lives, and “*looking*” for the return of YAHSHUA is an important aspect of holy living. They were not theological truths on which to base a doctrine. YAHSHUA cannot return at *any moment*, because numerous prophetic *signs* have to be fulfilled before the start of the Seventieth Week. The two most important *warning signs* are the time of false “*peace and safety*” (1 Thessalonians 5.3), and the revealing of the “*man of sin*,” the Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2.1-3).

Christians who believe in the false doctrines of Preterism, Amillennialism, Postmillennialism and Dominion Theology are not obeying the commands of YAHSHUA to “*watch*” for His return by actively watching for prophecies to be fulfilled before that blessed event. One radio talk show host said that Christians are to “*wait for the Second Coming*,” but not to

look for prophecies to be fulfilled beforehand because there are none (“Bible Answer Man” radio program, 6.22.2009).

The commands to be “*alert*” were not given to make believers think YAHSHUA could return at *any moment*. The HOLY SPIRIT, who inspired Paul and Peter to write all of their letters, knew that YAHSHUA would not return in their lifetime, nor would He return for over 2,000 years! It would be an act of deception by the HOLY SPIRIT, the Father and the Son to give us commands to eagerly “*wait*” for YAHSHUA to return at *any moment* when They knew He would not return for more than 2,000 years! The end (holy living) can never justify the means (doctrine of *imminence*)! We should all eagerly “look” for the *warning signs* to know the time of the Rapture.

TWO

HOW TO BE RAPTURE READY

There are three ways to be Rapture ready. The first is to learn what the Rapture warning signs are and then watch them be fulfilled. The second is to be a disciple of Jesus and the third is to live a holy life.

Step One

Dedicate your life to YAHSHUA

Once you have studied the Rapture warning signs and have decided to be a disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah committed to living a holy life you are on the road to being Rapture ready. Just knowing what the Rapture warning signs are and daily watching them to be fulfilled does not make you Rapture ready. You must also become a disciple of YAHSHUA and live a holy life.

The vast majority of believers of the Church Age will die before the Rapture takes place. For them their death is their Rapture. No one has a guarantee that they will live another day. The Rapture can take place at any moment for any believer. This is why all believers should be Rapture ready 24-7. No one wants to die in a backslidden state. Even though a backslidden believer will go to Heaven when he dies he will be embarrassed and experience shame until and maybe after he is judged at the Bema Seat Judgment:

*For we must all be revealed before the **judgment-seat of Messiah**; that each may receive the things [done] in the body, according to what he did, whether good or evil. (2 Corinthians 5.10)*

Many believers will suffer loss at the judgment for rewards, but they will be saved:

*Now if anyone build up on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, straw; the work of each will be made known for the day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire. The fire will prove the work of each what kind it is. If anyone's work remains which he built up, he shall receive a reward. If the work of anyone is consumed he shall **suffer loss**: but he **will be saved**; but as through fire. (1 Corinthians 3.12-15)*

We are not certain if those who suffer loss will experience shame after the judgment. It is possible they will feel shame throughout the Millennial Kingdom. Remember, it is only after the Great White Throne Judgment which takes place after the Millennial Kingdom that YAHWEH wipes away every tear from the eyes of His children:

I heard a great voice from the throne say: "Behold, the tabernacle of YAHWEH is with men, and He will tabernacle with them and they will be His people. YAHWEH will be with them and will wipe away all the tears from their eyes. There will no longer be any death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain, because the first things are passed away." (Revelation 21.3-4)

Believers who have no or little desire to be a disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah and live a holy life need to examine their faith:

Try yourselves, if you are in the faith; prove yourselves. Or know you not know yourselves, that YAHSHUA

Messiah is in you unless you are rejected?.(2 Corinthians 13.5)

There are millions of believers around the world who think they are saved, go to church regularly, tithe, pray and even read their Bible once a day. Yet they are not saved. They are religious and have never asked YAHSHUA to save them.

Not every one who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy through Your name and through Your name cast out demons and through Your name do many works of power?' And then will I say to them, 'I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.'" (Matthew 7.21-23)

A confession of faith is all that one must make to be saved, but it must be a sincere confession of faith:

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord YAHSHUA and believe in your heart that YAHWEH raised Him from the dead you shall be saved; for with the heart is belief to righteousness and with the mouth is confession to salvation. (Romans 10.9-10)

Too many people make a confession of faith at an evangelistic rally, but they do it to please their spouse, parents or children. They play the church game but they do not have a life-changing experience with YAHSHUA. Many spend their life playing the religious game while others fall away.

The only way you can know for certain if you are a true believer is by your actions. If you desire to be a disciple of YAHSHUA and live a holy life you have assurance of your salvation. If you have no or little desire to be a disciple and live a holy life you have no assurance.

If you are backslidden or riding the fence today is the day for you to dedicate the rest of your life to serving YAHWEH. Do not put it off even one more day.

In Paul's letter to Titus he explained that all who have been saved should live a holy life and as we are living a holy life we are to look for the return of YAHSHUA:

For the grace of YAHWEH which brings salvation for all men appeared, instructing us that having denied ungodliness and worldly desires, we should live discreetly and righteously and piously in the present age; awaiting the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour YAHSHUA Messiah. (Titos 2.11-13)

Holy living comes first and then watching the warning signs of the Rapture. Too many believers get wrapped up in studying Bible prophecy and do not bother to live a holy life. Every believer who is an expert on the Rapture, but does not live a holy life is not a disciple of YAHSHUA who is pleasing to YAHWEH. Commit your life to YAHSHUA, live a holy life and then watch for the warning signs.

Step Two

Be a disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah

Every believer in YAHSHUA Messiah is commanded to be His disciple (Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Eph. 4.11-13). The purpose of being saved is to escape punishment in Hell and the Lake of Fire. Yet it is also to be a disciple of YAHSHUA who can lead others to Him and also disciple them. Before you can “*make disciples*” you have to be disciplined. Ask your pastor to disciple you. If he cannot or has no interest in discipling you seek out a brother or sister in the Lord who can. If you cannot find someone who can disciple you find a book on discipleship and go through it. You can begin with the remainder of this chapter and the next chapter.

Step Three

Live a holy life

Every believer in YAHSHUA is commanded to live a holy life:

*Speak to all the company of the sons of Israel, and you shall say to them, “**You are holy; for I YAHWEH your Gods are holy.**”* (Leviticus 19.2)

*And you shall **sanctify yourselves** and you shall **be holy**; for I AM YAHWEH your Gods.* (Leviticus 20.7)

*Wherefore having girded up the loins of your mind, being sober, hope perfectly in the grace being brought to you at the revelation of YAHSHUA Messiah; as children of obedience, not fashioning yourselves to the former desires in your ignorance, but according as He who called you [is] holy, **you also be holy** in all [your] conduct; because it has been written, “**Be holy for I am holy.**”* (1 Peter 1.13-16) redo

We live a holy life by being in prayer and the Word every day throughout each day. As we pray numerous times during the day and take Bible breaks reading one chapter here and another there, we keep our minds on the things above and not on the things of the world:

Mind the things above, not the things on Earth. (Colossians 3.2)

When we are praying and studying the Scriptures daily we will lose our love of the world and all that is in it:

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him; because all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the vain glory of life, is not of the

Father, but is of the world. The world is passing away and the lust of it; but the one who is doing the will of YAHWEH remains unto the age. (1 John 2.15-17)

As you spend more time in prayer and the Word your love of the world and all the pleasures in it will disappear. You will become a walking Bible. When the lost see you in action they will see the gospel without you having to preach to them or beat them over the head with the Bible. This does not mean you will never share the gospel with the lost. When your family, neighbors, co-workers, employers, friends and strangers ask you why you are different than them you will have the perfect opening to share the gospel. Eventually you will share the gospel every chance you get.

Step Four

Watch the Rapture warning signs

There are numerous **warning signs** of the approaching Tribulation and later the Rapture for which all disciples of YAHSHUA Messiah should be diligently “watching” as commanded to (1 Thessalonians 5.3-4; Titos 2.13).

Six major **warning signs** (prophecies) are currently being fulfilled:

1. Breakdown of morality and society (2 Timothy 3.1-5)
2. Drug addiction (Revelation 9.21; 18.23)
3. The “*apostasy*” (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4)
4. Conflict between the corporations and workers (James 5.4-6).
5. Ressurgence of the homosexual movement (Luke 17.28-29)
6. Mark of the Beast technology (Revelation 13.15-18).

The 8 **warning signs** that take place, from a few years to several months, before Daniel's Seventieth Week are:

1. Gog/Magog and allies destroyed (Ezekiel 38.1-9; 39.6-8; 30.1-5)
2. Rebuilding the ancient city of Babylon (Zech. 5.5-11)
3. Moving the Holy See to Babylon (Zechariah 5.1-5)
4. Rise of the world church and the False Prophet (Rev. 17.1-5, 18; 13.11-17)
5. World economy (Revelation 13.15-17)
6. World government (Daniel 7.23)
7. World government breaks into 10 divisions (Daniel 7.24)
8. Rebuilding the Temple (Revelation 11.1-2; 2 Thess. 2.4).

The 8 **warning signs** that take place a short time before the Post-70th Week Pre-Tribulation Rapture are:

9. Rise of Antichrist (Daniel 7.20, 24; Rev. 6.1-2; 13.1-10)
10. The "*overflowing scourge*" (Joel 2.1-11)
11. A time of "*peace and safety*" (1 Thessalonians. 5.3; Revelation 6.1-2)
12. Antichrist's covenant with Israel (Isaiah 28.15, 18-19; Daniel 9.27)
13. World War (Daniel 7.8, 20, 24; Revelation 6.3-4)
14. Worldwide depression and famine (Revelation 6.5-6)
15. Worldwide pestilence and wild animals (Rev. 6.7-8)
16. Martyrdom of Church Age believers (Daniel 7.21, 25; Mark 13.12-13; Revelation 6.9-10; 7.9-17)

We must remember that YAHSHUA rebuked the religious leaders of His time for not knowing the time they were living in:

"Hypocrites! You know how to discern the appearance of the earth and the sky, but this time how do you not discern?" (Luke 12.56)

YAHSHUA rebuked the Pharisees for not knowing the time of His First Coming. They failed to discern the time they were living in. They missed the **signs** of the First Coming of the Messiah. If we do not “watch” for the **warning signs** of the Tribulation we will also not be ready when YAHSHUA returns.

All of these **warning signs** must be fulfilled before the Rapture. Believers should keep close “watch” of their fulfillment. As they are fulfilled we will understand that the Rapture is that much closer.

Step Five

Share what you have learned

Every believer in YAHSHUA is commanded to encourage the brethren and share their faith with the lost:

*But **encourage yourselves every day** as long it is called today that none of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.* (Hebrews 3.13)

*And we should consider [how] to **provoke one another to love and to good works, not forsaking the assembling together of ourselves** as is the custom with some, but **encourage [one another]** and all the more as you see the day drawing near.* (Hebrews 10.24-25)

The primary way to encourage the brethren is to share what we learn in the Word. Sharing our personal opinions and ideas may help others but it pales compared to the opinion and wisdom of YAHWEH.

We are also commanded to share the Gospel with the lost and then disciple them:

*Going therefore, **disciple** all the nations baptizing them to the name of the Father and of the Son and of the HOLY SPIRIT, **teaching them** to observe all things*

whatever I commanded you. And lo, I am with you all the days until the completion of the age. (Matthew 28.19-20)

If you think that command was only for the Disciples or for pastors and evangelists meditate on this command:

*“And these words which I commanded you today shall be on your heart. And you shall **repeat them to your sons** and you shall **speak of them** when you sit in your house and when you walk in the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” (Deuteronomy 6.6-7)*

It is the duty of every father and mother to disciple their children and it is the duty of every child to be disciple:

*My son, keep your **father’s commands** and do not forsake the **law of your mother**. Tie them on your heart continually and bind them on your neck. (Proverbs 6.20-21)*

Conclusion

One last thing we must remember concerning the Rapture. Whether you believe it can happen at *any moment* with no *warning signs* or *warning signs* must precede it we can die at *any moment*. Our death is our Rapture. That is why it is extremely important to live a holy life 24-7. It is more important to live a holy life every day of our lives than to study Bible prophecy endlessly and not live a holy life. You could know every detail of Bible prophecy and be the leading prophecy expert of all time, but if you do not live a holy life all of your studies are to no avail.

YAHWEH does not want prophecy experts – He wants obedient servants who live holy lives leading people to YAHSHUA and bringing glory to YAHWEH.



RAPTURE SECRETS REVEALED

This book reveals secrets about the Rapture that have been hidden in the Bible of over 1,900 years. Most of the details about the Rapture that you have been taught are wrong, including when it will take place.

It is an excellent book to give to fellow believers in YAHSHUA Messiah to wake them out of the dreaded “Twinkling of an eye Syndrome” which has infected the Christian world. The antidote to that disease is the Bible. Once a believer studies the Bible he will clearly see that secrets revealed in this book are Scriptural.

To order your copy of *Rapture Secrets Revealed* email – [**dovbooks@yahoo.com**](mailto:dovbooks@yahoo.com)

THREE

WHAT TO DO ONCE YOU ARE RAPTURE READY

Be a disciple of YAHSHUA

Now that you have decided to be a disciple of YAHSHUA Messiah you need to take the Faith Test and also set up a Spiritual Fitness Program. These two things are just the start of becoming a disciple. For a complete book on discipleship get *Make Disciples of all the Nations* from Grace Mercy Ministry.

Faith Check

Are you being conformed to the image of YAHSHUA Messiah?

Because whom He foreknew, He also predestined [to be] conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be [the] firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8:29)

Are you being conformed to the image of YAHSHUA Messiah? Has there been a noticeable change in your likes and dislikes since you trusted YAHSHUA to save you?

*I exhort you therefore, brethren, by the compassion of YAHWEH to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, well-pleasing to YAHWEH which is your intelligent service, and **do not fashion yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,** that you may prove what is the good and well-pleasing and perfect will of YAHWEH. (Romans 12:1-2)*

Everyone who is truly born from above will change. You will stop doing certain things and start doing things you did not do previously. Your thought life will also change.

To determine whether something is good (honoring to YAHWEH) pray, read the Bible and ask yourself if YAHSHUA would join you.

There are a few things we know are not of YAHWEH, and must be avoided at all costs – illegal drugs and getting drunk.

*And be not drunk with wine in which is debauchery, but **be filled with the SPIRIT.** (Ephesians 5.18)*

The next time you listen to secular music, watch television and movies ask yourself if you think YAHSHUA would enjoy spending the day listening to that music and watching those shows and movies. Not all movies and television shows are bad. Exercise great discernment in watching them. Stick to news and documentaries. The next time you watch a Hollywood production imagine YAHSHUA is sitting next to you. Do you think He would sit through a Hollywood trash movie or television show? By the way, YAHSHUA is with you at all times.

The Spiritual Man versus the Natural Man

Take a few minutes out of your busy schedule and examine your daily walk with YAHSHUA.

Spiritual activities	Average time spent weekly
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Prayer	_____
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Reading and studying the Bible	_____
--------------------------------	-------

Memorization and Meditation	_____
-----------------------------	-------

Devotions with family	_____
-----------------------	-------

Fellowship with believers	_____
---------------------------	-------

Sharing the Gospel	_____
--------------------	-------

Helping others	_____
----------------	-------

Total time serving YAHSHUA	_____
-----------------------------------	-------

World activities	Average time spent weekly
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Watching TV & movies	_____
----------------------	-------

Internet	_____
----------	-------

Reading (secular books/magazines)	_____
-----------------------------------	-------

Hobbies	_____
---------	-------

Recreation	_____
------------	-------

Attending sporting events	_____
---------------------------	-------

Socializing (in person or by phone)	_____
-------------------------------------	-------

Shopping	_____
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Other non-spiritual activities	_____
--------------------------------	-------

Total time serving yourself	_____
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Sleeping, eating, moderate exercise and working are not on this list because they are pursuits of the flesh that are necessary for survival. It is your free time that you are to examine. All believers should spend more of their free time each day feeding their soul than feeding their flesh. Sadly, few do that. Worse yet, few believers spend more time feeding their souls than they do eating.

If you are not spending more time in spiritual activities (feeding your soul) than you do in eating (feeding your flesh) you are backslidden. Since most people take time to feed their flesh should you take an equal amount of time in feeding your soul?

If you spend more time each day exercising the flesh than you do exercising your soul which is more important to you – your sinful body or your eternal soul?

Take this faith check once a month for the first year and then take it every few months or so. This will help you see your progress of maturing in the Lord.

Make several copies for your use and for others. You can go to www.gracemercyministry.com and print out the “Faith Check.”

Spiritual Fitness program

YAHWEH commands every child of His to be spiritually fit. This includes denying oneself of the pleasures of the world, living a holy and disciplined life, daily study of Scripture, living by every Word that proceeds from His mouth and then teaching others:

*Messiah having then suffered for us in the flesh, you also arm yourselves with the same mind, for he [who has] suffered in the flesh has done [away] with sin, [that he should] no longer **live** the remaining time in [the] flesh for the lusts of men, but **to the will of YAHWEH.***
(1 Peter 4.1-2)

*Be diligent to present yourself **approved** to YAHWEH a workman not ashamed, straightly cutting the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2.15)*

*And these were more noble than those in Thessalonika who received the word with all readiness, **daily examining the Scriptures** if these things were so. (Acts 17.11)*

*But answering He said, “It has been written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but **by every word proceeding out of the mouth of YAHWEH.**’” (Matt. 4.4)*

*“And these words which I commanded you today shall be on your heart. And you shall **repeat them to your sons** and shall **speak of them** when you sit in your house and when you walk in the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” (Deuteronomy 6.6-7)*

1. There are a few basic things that a believer in YAHSHUA **Pray** (Matthew 7.7-11; Luke 18.1-8; John 14.13-14; 16.24; Ephesians 6.18; Philippians 4.6; Colossians 4.2; 1 Thessalonians 5.17; James 1.5).
2. **Listen** to Scripture (Deuteronomy 4.10; Proverbs 8.34; 22.17; 23.12; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).
3. **Read** Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Isaiah 34.16; Revelation 1.3).
4. **Study** Scripture (Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15).
5. **Memorize** Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8; Colossians 3.16).

6. **Meditate** on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; Colossians 3.16).
7. **Fellowship** with the brethren (Psalm 22.22; 119.63; Proverbs 13.20; Acts 2.42, 46-47; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 John 1.7).
8. **Worship** with the brethren and privately (Deuteronomy 6.13; 26.10; 1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 2.11; 29.2; 96.9; 99.5, 9; 132.7; Jeremiah 7.2; Matthew 4.10; John 4.23-24; Romans 12.1; Philippians 3.3; Revelation 4.10; 14.17; 19.10; 22.9)
9. **Share the Gospel** (Psalm 9.1; 26.7; 35.28; 96.2; Proverbs 11.30; Mark 16.15; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15).
10. **Be disciplined** (Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Eph. 4.11-13).
11. **Make disciples** (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 11.18-19; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Joel 1.3; Matt. 28.19-20; Ephesians 4.11-13; 2 Tim. 2.2).

1. **PRAY:** Pray often for your family, friends, fellow employees, employer, church members, pastors, and city, state and federal politicians. Pray with your family daily and with church members on a regular basis. Begin and end each day in prayer, and pray throughout the day. Pray that YAHWEH teach you each day as you study His word.

2. **LISTEN TO SCRIPTURE:** Play recordings of the Bible and listen to sermons and Bible studies.

3. **READ SCRIPTURE:** Make a reading program and stay with it. If you read three chapters a day in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament you will read the Bible through in one year. It is also important to read one chapter of Proverbs each day. It does not take more than a half-hour a day to read five chapters. If you watch TV have your Bible

handy and read a chapter during commercial breaks. Anyone could read ten chapters a day by just taking a Bible break during commercials.

4. **STUDY SCRIPTURE:** Choose a book of the Bible or a topic to study, and stay with it until you finish it.

5. **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE:** Memorize key verses from both the Old and New Testaments.

6. **MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE:** Once you have a few verses memorized you can meditate on them any time of the day, and wherever you are. Until then keep a pocket Bible or pocket New Testament handy. Keep a Bible and a few New Testaments in your car at all times for yourself and others. Get into the habit of giving out Bibles and pocket New Testaments.

7. **FELLOWSHIP WITH THE BRETHREN:** Become an active member of a church. Support the church with your time, talents, treasure and spiritual gifts. If you cannot find a real church meet with believers in a home.

8. **WORSHIP:** It is so important that there are more commands to worship YAHWEH than to pray, study the Bible, memorize Scripture or meditate on the Word. Every believer should spend time each day worshipping YAHWEH. We worship YAHWEH by being silent and meditating on the blessings He has given you; by thanking and praising Him by rejoicing and singing.

9. **SHARE THE GOSPEL:** Once you learn how to share the Gospel be ready to do so 24/7. Be sensitive to the leading of the HOLY SPIRIT to share the Gospel. Carry tracts with you and hand them out as you are prompted by the HOLY SPIRIT. If the person(s) wants to talk – speak with them, but if they do not want to talk ask them to read the tract, and pray as you walk away. Keep a diary of your witnessing. When you lead someone to the Lord invite them to church and make sure they

become an active member. If you are not mature enough to disciple them ask your pastor(s) to find someone to disciple them.

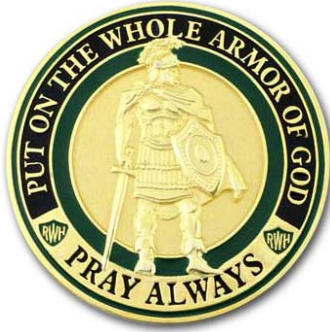
10. BE DISCIPLED: Find someone to disciple you or find a good book on discipleship such as *Make Disciples of all the Nations*.

11. MAKE DISCIPLES: Once you have been discipled, start to disciple others. If you are a husband disciple your wife. If you are a father disciple your children. If you are a mother disciple your children with your husband. If you are single lead a person to the Lord and disciple him/her. Never disciple a person of the opposite sex unless you are engaged.

If a believer develops a discipline in these basics of holy living he will become a *disciple* of YAHSHUA Messiah. It does not happen overnight. It takes many years to become a mature *disciple*, but it starts with the daily discipline of being in prayer, in the Word and in regular fellowship with other believers.

Pray in the morning, throughout the day and before you go to sleep. Set up a daily Bible reading program. If you read 4 chapters a day you will read through the Bible in a year. Read 3 chapters in the Old Testament each day and 1 chapter in the New Testament. Buy an audio copy of the Bible, and listen to it at home and in the car. Buy DVDs of movies about the Bible and watch them often (*The Gospel of John, Peter and Paul, The Greatest Story Ever Told, King of Kings*, etc.). Memorize Scripture. If you memorize one verse a week you will have 52 verses memorized in one year. Meditate on Scripture and let the HOLY SPIRIT teach you. Learn how to share the gospel. Ask your pastor to train you, and then share your personal testimony and the gospel as the Lord leads.

As you grow in the Lord you will pray more, and listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture more and more. You will share your gospel more often, and spend more time in fellowship with other believers.



Put on the armor of YAHWEH

All Christians need to learn what the “armor of God” is and how to use it. We are in a spiritual war and every Christian is a warrior. Most have been wounded and are sitting on the sidelines watching the war.

Very few pastors train the members of the congregation in the arts of spiritual warfare. This is why most churches are not alive and why many have been dead for decades. It is the solemn duty of the pastors to train their spiritual soldiers to fight just as the drill instructors in all military basic training camps train their recruits to fight. If your church does not have a basic training program study this step carefully, then put on your armor every day and go into battle with boldness.

*For the rest, my brethren, be empowered in the Lord and in the power of His strength. **Put on the full armor of YAHWEH** that you will be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. Because we do not wrestle against principalities, against authorities, against the world-rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual powers of wickedness in the heavenlies. Because of this **take up the full armor of YAHWEH** that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done everything to stand. Stand therefore having gird your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness and having shod your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace. Besides all this take*

up the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench the flaming darts of the wicked one. Also receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the SPIRIT which is YAHWEH'S Word. By all prayer and supplication pray in every session in the SPIRIT and watch with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. (Ephesians 6.10-18)

The devil has many schemes to keep believers from serving YAHWEH fully. That is why it is vitally important to know what our armor is and how to use it. Study the above passage in Ephesians and meditate on it for many hours. Memorize the passage and burn it into your mind and heart. Also study the exposition of the passage given on the following pages. Once you understand what your spiritual armor is put it on every day and use it.

Your armor

1. Gird your loins about with truth (v. 14).
2. Put on the breastplate of righteousness (v. 14).
3. Shod your feet with the Gospel (v. 15).
4. Take up the shield of faith (v. 16).
5. Put on the helmet of salvation (v. 17).
6. Take up the sword of the Spirit (v. 17).

Gird your loins about with truth

A believer clothes himself with the truth by studying Scripture. The Bible from Genesis 1.1 to Revelation 22.21 is truth. Every believer needs to study the entire Bible book-by-book, chapter-by-chapter and verse-by-verse throughout his life. Methodical reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture is a must. We need the whole truth and not just part of the truth to be victorious in our spiritual warfare. That is why it is extremely important to set up a spiritual fitness program. You should already have set one up, but if you have not go to Appendix C.

Believers clothe themselves with the truth, but also with righteous deeds. A believer's robe of righteousness is symbolic of our righteous deeds that YAHWEH has prepared for us to do (Ephesians 2.10; 2 Timothy 3.17). Each morning when a believer wakes up he puts on his robe of righteousness by praying (1 Thessalonians 5.17) that the Lord direct his steps that day and give him the strength to do the good deeds that YAHWEH has prepared for him to do. He also needs to spend time in the Word. Daily Bible reading, study, memorization and meditation is necessary to prepare for spiritual battle. One must start the day with time in Scripture and then renew one's mind with It throughout the day. Taking periodic Bible breaks is a good habit to develop.

Girding one's loins is symbolic of preparing your mind for battle. One must be prepared to encounter problems throughout the day and respond to them in a holy, loving, joyful and considerate manner. These problems may be encounters with people seeking to harm or deceive us, accidents, illness or circumstances that prevent us from doing what we planned to do. When we fight through our daily problems with prayer and meditation on Scripture we will win the battles through the power of YAHSHUA Messiah who strengthens us (Philippians 4.13).

Put on the breastplate of righteousness

To put on the breastplate of righteousness means to live a holy life. All believer's are commanded to live holy lives (Leviticus 11.44; 19.2; 20.7; Psalm 99.3, 9; 1 Peter 1.14-16) instead of continuing to live sinful lives as we did before we were saved and cleansed (Romans 6.1-2, 6-7, 12-13; Ephesians 4.17; 1 Peter 4.2-3). We are to daily not be conformed to the world but transform and cleanse our minds (Romans 12.1-2). We do this by reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture. It is the Word of YAHWEH that cleanses our minds and lives (John 15.3; 17.17; Ephesians 5.26). This daily cleansing will enable us to

lay aside our old nature, be renewed in our minds and put on our new nature (Ephesians 4.22-24). It will also help us abstain from fleshly lust (1 Peter 2.11) and not love the things of the world (1 John 2.15-17). As we daily read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture the Holy Spirit washes, regenerates and renews us (Titus 3.5).

Shod your feet with the Gospel

Shodding your feet (putting on footwear) means to be prepared at all times to share the Gospel. Every believer is commanded to know what the Gospel is and how to share it with everyone who asks him about his faith (1 Peter 3.15). To be able to share the Gospel in a clear manner one must memorize the basic verses. It is also necessary to learn how to quote them in a logical order and comment on them. Memorize the basic salvation verses in Appendix A and practice sharing the Gospel with a brother. This is another reason you need a discipleship partner.

Take up the shield of faith

Taking up the shield of faith means to use your faith. We do that by trusting the Lord to meet our needs as He has promised (Matthew 6.25-34). Instead of worrying about our daily needs we are to trust in the Lord. That does not mean we can watch television all day and not seek work. Everyone must work for a living (2 Thessalonians 3.10). We do what we can to meet our needs and trust the Lord for the rest.

Along with using our faith we should seek to increase it. The more we exercise our faith the more it grows. It also grows by study of Scripture for *“faith is by the report, but the report by the Word of YAHWEH”* (Romans 10.17). The more we study Scripture the more our faith grows. This is just one more reason why every believer needs to read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture daily.

Put on the helmet of salvation

Putting on the helmet of salvation is having total assurance of your salvation. The helmet protects the most vital part of a body and when a soldier does not wear a helmet he becomes highly vulnerable to injury and death. The same is true in spiritual warfare. When a believer does not have complete assurance that he is saved he can easily be taken out by the enemy. Doubts can sneak into one's mind concerning his conversion and if those doubts are not dealt with they can cause him to stop serving YAHWEH or even believing in Him.

Assurance of salvation is necessary to stay in the spiritual battle. Failure to have assurance also endangers the brethren. A believer in a position of leadership who does not have assurance can cause others to doubt their salvation resulting in the destruction of spiritual moral. Spiritual soldiers who are demoralized are ineffective and become casualties.

One can have assurance of salvation by knowing the Gospel and by making a public profession that you have trusted in YAHSHUA Messiah alone to save you by His sacrifice on the cross understanding that *“that Messiah died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised the third day according to the Scriptures”* (1 Corinthians 15.3-4). Once you make that confession fully trusting YAHSHUA to save you apart from works, baptism, keeping the Sabbath or any other law or ordinance you can have total assurance of your salvation.

Take up the sword of the Spirit

The sword is an offensive and defensive weapon. Every believer should be an expert swordsman capable of defending his faith. Our spiritual sword is Scripture (Hebrews 4.12). Defending our faith is the ability to quote or cite Scriptures to refute those who make false charges or claims against our faith, the Bible and YAHWEH. One uses Scripture in an

offensive manner by using Scripture to destroy concepts, ideologies and philosophies that are opposed to Scripture (2 Corinthians 10.5). We can also defend the faith and destroy unbiblical ideologies by writing articles and books, and making audio and video presentations.

Prayer

Along with our armor we must also use prayer in our daily spiritual battles. We should wake up praying, pray throughout the day and pray as we fall asleep (1 Thessalonians 5.17). We are to pray for ourselves and our brethren (Ephesians 6.18). We cannot pray for every believer we know, but we should try to pray for as many as we can.

Appearance

Every believer is an ambassador of YAHSHUA Messiah (2 Corinthians 5.20) and should dress as an ambassador. This does not mean we must walk around in public in our Sunday best every day of the week. For some that is appropriate for them, but not for most. We should dress well and not try to attract undue attention to ourselves.

Men should wear clean slacks that are not too worn out with decent shoes and a clean shirt. Women should wear a clean dress or skirt that does not cling to her body and which hangs down to her knees or below. Mini-skirts are not modest dress. If a woman wears a skirt with a blouse it should not cling to her body revealing all of her curves. It should also not be a low-cut blouse. Women should only wear slacks if a dress or skirt would not be appropriate for the chore they are doing. Women should also not doll themselves up with loads of make-up, jewelry, fancy hair-dos or anything else. They must always dress modestly without attempting to draw attention to themselves:

*Whose adornng, **let it not be** the outward braiding of the hair or the wearing gold or of [fancy] garments; but the*

*hidden man of the heart, of the **incorruptible ornament of a meek and quiet spirit** which is of great price in the sight of YAHWEH.* (1 Peter 3.3-4)

Single women, you do not have to look like a movie star or a model to attract the attention of a man. You attract the attention of a holy man by living a holy life, dressing modestly and serving the Lord. The kind of man women attract by wearing provocative clothing and accessories is not the type of man a true daughter of Sarah would want for a husband (1 Peter 3.6). A true man of YAHWEH may not be exciting, funny, rich, handsome, strong or anything else that most unsaved women are looking for. Which is more important to you – a man of the world who makes you happy for a few years or a man of YAHWEH who is sold out to Him?

Live a holy life

*But as according as He who called you is holy, **you also be holy in all your conduct**; because it has been written, “**Be holy for I am holy.**”* (1 Peter 1.15-16)

Living a holy life is not a simple thing. There is a lot of work involved in living a holy life. Two key aspects of holiness are being continually filled with the HOLY SPIRIT and being humble.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit

*And be not drunk with wine in which is debauchery, but **be filled with the SPIRIT.*** (Ephesians 5.18)

Believers in YAHSHUA Messiah are not to be intoxicated (drunk) with wine and in like manner to not get “high” with drugs (legal or illegal). Instead we are to “*be filled with the SPIRIT.*” What does it mean to “*be filled with the SPIRIT*”? Does it mean we must have a “second blessing” in which the HOLY SPIRIT empowers us to do the work of the Lord?

Scripture does not say that before we can be “filled” or empowered with and by the HOLY SPIRIT we must have a special “second blessing.” Instead it is a daily activity. It is something we must do when we first awake and then throughout the day.

The first thing we should do when we wake up is ask the HOLY SPIRIT to fill us and lead us that day. Prayer at the beginning of a day makes it go by much more smoothly. Prayer gets us in the proper attitude so we can let our light shine throughout the entire day. The second thing one should consider is spending time in the Word. A quiet time in the Word when one first gets up fills us with the Word. Being filled with the Word and the HOLY SPIRIT is the same thing because the words that YAHSHUA spoke are “spirit” and “life” (John 6.63). Not only are the words that He spoke “spirit” and “life” but all Scripture is:

Every scripture inspired by YAHWEH is profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction and for discipline in righteousness that the man of YAHWEH may be complete, fully fitted for every good work. (2 Timothy 3.16)

Prayer throughout the day (1 Thessalonians 5.17) is a spiritual habit that keeps our mind set on the things above and not the things of this sin-filled world (Colossians 3.2). Being filled with the Word several times throughout the day is another spiritual habit that will conform us to the image of YAHSHUA (Romans 8.29). Taking Bible breaks is vital to be continually “filled” with the HOLY SPIRIT. If you can take a Bible or New Testament with you when you leave home try reading a few chapters during the day. If you cannot take a Bible with you to work or when you are out you can meditate on Scripture that you have memorized. When you hide the Word of YAHWEH in your heart you always have it with you to meditate on.

By praying several times throughout the day and taking Bible breaks one can continually be “filled” with the HOLY

SPIRIT. The more often one feeds on Scripture and prays the more he will grow. Babies would die within a few days if they were not given food. The same is true of newborn believers. If they are not given spiritual food they quickly die spiritually. The more spiritual food they receive the faster and stronger they grow.

One or two twenty minute sermons each week may keep a believer alive spiritually, but that is life-support nourishment. To grow into a strong, mature and vital disciple one must feed on Scripture several times each day. All believers need to listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture daily and wash the Word down with prayer. If you do that faithfully every day YAHWEH will bless you with myriad spiritual blessings, not physical blessings.

If you want to be a disciplined and dedicated disciple of YAHSHUA you must be a spiritual glutton, feeding on the holy Word of YAHWEH throughout each day and praying always. Instead of being a glutton of physical food and pleasures of the world be a glutton of spiritual food.

Humility

Humility is a trait that few believers in YAHSHUA Messiah have because it is impossible to obtain it through the flesh. Humility only comes when a believer surrenders his life to the Lord every day. Surrender is daily obedience to YAHWEH and dying to oneself, the flesh and the world.

One obeys YAHWEH by praying throughout the day from morning to night (1 Thessalonians 5.17); by daily reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture; by regular fellowship with the brethren (Acts 2.42, 46-47; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25); by continual sharing of the Gospel (Psalm 96.2; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15) and by making disciples (Matthew 28.19-20; 1 Timothy 2.15).

One dies daily to self by not doing things that feed the ego. Instead of spending time seeking to have your ego built up by the approval, attention, love, respect and honor from others,

and seeking fame, glory and riches we need to seek how we can build others up by giving approval to their good deeds, and by giving them attention, love, respect and honor (Philippians 2.1-9). The road to humility is travelled by building others up in the faith, not demanding others build us up in the faith or build up our egos.

A believer also dies to the flesh daily by not engaging in things that the sinful flesh desires and which are sins. Two of the most prevalent sins of the flesh are gluttony and intoxication (by alcohol or drugs). Excessive indulgence in some other activities of the flesh that most believers should consider reducing are: sex (with spouse), partying, sports, hobbies, vacationing and chit-chatting. The goal of a believer who seeks to die to himself is to spend more time in spiritual activities than activities of the flesh which are not necessary for survival.

Everyone must eat to live, but gluttony is a sin. Everyone needs some exercise, but too many believers spend more time exercising than they do praying and reading the Bible. The same is true of partying, sports, hobbies and chit-chatting for too many believers. These things are not sins, but excessive indulgence in them is. Some rich believers vacation too much, and that is something they need to cut back on. If they cannot cut back on vacations they can invite a poor brother, sister or couple in the Lord to go with them and pay their expenses. That way they can spend time on vacation in the Word, prayer and soul-winning with strong brothers or sisters in the Lord.

A believer dies to the world by reducing his involvement in worldly activities or by cutting them out altogether. Some other worldly activities that most believers spend far too much time in are: television, movies, music, Internet, politics, non-spiritual books and magazines, and seeking after wealth and possessions. Every believer who desires to die to himself and live a holy life for the glory of YAHWEH will spend more time each day in prayer, Scripture, fellowship and soul-winning than in activities of the world.

We know we are growing in the Lord and dying to ourselves, the flesh and the world when our self love, our love of the flesh and our love of the world diminishes as it should:

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him; because all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. The world is passing away and the lust of it; but the one who is doing the will of YAHWEH remains unto the age. (1 John 2.15-17)

The more these sinful desires diminish the more humble one will be. Pride is the opposite of humility. Pride is the root of every sin. There is no sin a person can commit that does not spring from pride. That is why the key to holy living is humility which replaces pride, and when pride is vanquished so is sin. No one can ever eliminate all traces of pride and sin, but it should be the goal of every true believer.

Humility is a spiritual trait that all believers should not only desire, but actively seek after. YAHWEH does not use His children to bring Him glory until they are humble. A believer who humbles himself before YAHWEH will be looked upon by Him with grace (Isaiah 66.2; Proverbs 3.34; James 4.6) and He will have regard for him (Psalm 138.6). When we humble ourselves before YAHWEH and those around us He will exalt us (James 4.10). We must never forget that all believers are commanded to “*humble*” themselves before YAHWEH (1 Peter 5.6), “*walk humbly with*” YAHWEH (Micah 6.8), be “*humble in spirit*” (1 Peter 3.8), clothe themselves “*with humility*” (1 Peter 5.5) and to not be proud (Romans 12.16).

Humility is always better than pride (Proverbs 16.19) and it is the only way to obtain true riches, honor and life (Proverbs 22.4). Pride will bring a person down while humility will bring him honor (Proverbs 11.2; 16.18; 29.23). We must also remember that there are numerous warnings against pride (Psalm 10.2; 40.4; 73.6; 119.78; Proverbs 3.7; 26.12; 28.25; Isaiah 5.21; 13.11; John 9.41; Revelation 3.17). Pride is a sin

(Proverbs 21.4), one of the seven things that YAHWEH hates and that is an abomination to Him (Proverbs 6.17; 8.13).

Humility is one of the most difficult traits for anyone to obtain. No one can be humble in his own power. We must rely on the power of the HOLY SPIRIT to impart humility to us. Yet there are specific things we must do on a daily and regular basis before He will give us humility. The daily things we should do as noted previously are pray, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture. The things one should do on a regular basis are fellowship with the brethren and share the Gospel with the lost as the HOLY SPIRIT leads. These are the basics, but there are many other things a dedicated believer should do on a daily basis:

Seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH (Matthew 6.33)
Put on the armor of YAHWEH (Ephesians 6.10-18)
Fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6.12)
Transform your mind (Romans 12.2)
Take up your cross (Matthew 10.38-39; 16.24-26)
Deny yourself (Romans 12.1)
Be content in your circumstances (Phil. 4.3; 1 Tim. 6.6-8; Hebrews 13.5)
Give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5.18)
Continually offer praise to YAHWEH (Hebrews 13.15)
Forsake the world and all that is in it (Rom. 12.2; Galatians 6.14; 1 Peter 1.14; 1 John 2.15-17)
Flee from seeking after riches (1 Timothy 6.9-11)
Submit to others (Ephesians 5.21)
Obey your spiritual leaders (Hebrews 13.17)
Love the brethren (John 13.34-35; James 2.15-16; 1 John 3.16-18)
Love the lost and one's enemies (Prov. 25.21; Matthew 5.43-48)
Be rich in good works (1 Timothy 6.18; Galatians 6.10; Ephesians 2.10; 2 Timothy 3.17; Hebrews 13.16)
Do not grow weary in doing good works (2 Thessalonians 3. 13)

Give to those in need (Leviticus 25.35; Deuteronomy 15.7; Proverbs 11.24-25; 19.17; 21.13; 22.9; 28.27; Ecclesiastes 11.1; Isaiah 58.7; Matthew 5.42; Luke 6.38; 12.33; Acts 11.29; Romans 12.13; Hebrews 13.1-2; James 1.27; 1 Peter 4.9)

Lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity (1 Timothy 2.1).

As we do these things day-by-day we will grow more humble and be used by YAHWEH for His glory (1 Corinthians 10.31) more each day. Others will see the Lord working through us and may be encouraged to follow our example. Pastors must set an example for the flock (1 Peter 5.3) by engaging in the spiritual activities above and they should also encourage others to do the same. They and all believers should be the servant of all (Matthew 20.26-27; Mark 9.35; Luke 22.26).

Appearance

Every believer is an ambassador of YAHSHUA Messiah (2 Corinthians 5.20) and should dress as an ambassador. This does not mean we must walk around in public in our Sunday best every day of the week. For some that is appropriate for them, but not for most. We should dress well and not try to attract undue attention to ourselves. Men should wear clean slacks that are not too worn out with decent shoes and a clean shirt. Women should wear a clean dress or skirt that does not cling to her body and which hangs down to her knees or below. Mini-skirts are not modest dress. If a woman wears a skirt with a blouse it should not cling to her body revealing all of her curves. It should also not be a low-cut blouse. Women should only wear slacks if a dress or skirt would not be appropriate for the chore they are doing. Women should also not doll themselves up with loads of make-up, jewelry, fancy hair-dos or anything else. They must always dress modestly without attempting to draw attention to themselves:

*Whose [appearance] let it **not be** the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing of gold or of apparel; but [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible [ornament] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of YAHWEH of great price. (1 Peter 3.3-4)*

Single women, you do not have to look like a movie star or a model to attract the attention of a man. You attract a holy man by living a holy life, dressing modestly and serving the Lord. The kind of man women attract by wearing provocative clothing and accessories is not the type of man a true daughter of Sarah would want for a husband (1 Peter 3.6).

Know the schemes of the Devil

The devil and his ministers have thousands of schemes to keep believers from fully serving the Lord. We are commanded to not be ignorant of those schemes and to keep from being sidetracked by them:

*For the rest, my brethren, be empowered in the Lord and in the power of His strength. Put on the full armor of YAHWEH that you may be able to stand against the **schemes of the devil**. Because we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against authorities, against the world-rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual powers of wickedness in the heavenlies. (Ephesians 6.10-12)*

Here are the top ten schemes of the devil:

1. Love of money
2. Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, sex
3. Career/Job
4. Television, movies, music
5. Sports

6. Unsaved friends
7. Celebrity worship
8. Accumulation of stuff
9. Food
10. Alcohol and drugs

There are many other schemes that the devil and his ministers of evil (2 Corinthians 11.15) use to distract, sidetrack, confuse, deceive, and mislead believers so they cannot serve their Lord and Savior fully.



Love of money

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6.10)

The love of money is the most powerful weapon that the rulers of darkness use to keep believers from being dedicated bond servants of YAHSHUA Messiah. Virtually everyone in the Western World has a love of money, some more than others. All believers must fight the desire of the flesh to be rich. We are commanded to replace our natural love of the world and all that is in it with the supernatural love of the Father:

Love not the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone should love the world, the love of the Father is not in him; because all that is in the world – the desire of the flesh, and the desire of the eyes and boastful pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away and the desires of it, but he that does the will of YAHWEH abides forever. (1 John 2.15-17)

We need to replace the natural (sinful) love of the world and all the things in it with the love of the Father. The way to do that is by being in prayer, in the Word, in fellowship with the brethren, and by sharing the Gospel with the lost as the HOLY SPIRIT leads. It does not happen overnight. It takes decades to replace the love of the world with the love of the Father. It takes dedication, discipline and accountability. If the church you are a member of does not have dynamic discipleship and evangelism programs find one that does. If you cannot find a good church start a home Bible study.

Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, sex

*But I wish you to be without care. **The unmarried cares for the things of the Lord, how he can please the Lord;** but he who is married cares for the things of the world, how he can please his woman. There is a difference between a woman and a virgin. The unmarried cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but she who is married cares for the things of the world, how she can please her husband. But this I say for your own profit; not that I may cast a noose before you, but for what is appropriate and to wait on the Lord without distraction. (1 Corinthians 7.32-35)*

It is not a sin to marry (1 Corinthians 7.28), and it is better to marry than to burn in lust (1 Corinthians 7.9). If a couple is 100% sold out to YAHSHUA Messiah marriage can increase

the time they serve Him. Yet the vast majority of marriages are not between two sold out believers. Most couples spend more time serving each other and themselves than they do the Lord. In bad marriages couples neglect their duties to each other and the Lord. One or both become backslidden shipwrecking their faith.

A believing couple that is not sold out to the Lord can be if they want to. The following steps will help you become a true bond slave couple of the Lord:

1. Pray together every day (1 Thessalonians 5.17).
2. Read the Bible together every day (Deuteronomy 17.19).
3. Study the Bible together at least once a week for one hour or more (2 Timothy 2.15).
4. Memorize Scripture together – one verse a week (Psalm 119.11).
5. Meditate on Scripture together (Joshua 1.8; Job 23.12; Psalm 1.2).
6. Go to church together and get involved (Heb. 10.24-25).
7. Live a holy life and share the Gospel as the HOLY SPIRIT leads (1 Peter 3.15).
8. If you have children disciple them (Deut. 4.9-10; 6.6-9; 11.18; 32.46; Proverbs 1.8; 2.1; 3.1; 4.1; 5.1; 6.20).

For the vast majority of single believers their relationship with their boyfriends/girlfriends hinder their service to the Lord. The way to not be sidetracked while you are seeing someone is to follow the first seven steps above.

Sex is a problem for all singles. They are commanded to flee from youthful lusts and instead pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart (2 Timothy 2.22). Instead of wasting time and money chasing loose women, brothers in the Lord are to spend their time serving the Lord with other Spirit led believers. They should give some of their money to the work of the Lord instead of strange women (Proverbs 29.3).

Sisters in the Lord who allow brothers or unsaved men to seduce them in hopes of getting married are fooling

themselves. Most men abandon the women they seduce for another. A true sister in the Lord will test her fiancé's sincerity to the Lord by waiting until marriage to have sex.

Career/Job

“But seek first the Kingdom of YAHWEH and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (Matthew 6.33)

Everyone must work. Paul commanded the pastors of the church in Thessalonica to compel all believers to work. If they refused to work they were not to be given food (2 Thessalonians 3.10).

Yet for too many men and women a career or job becomes the most important thing in their life. They neglect the Lord, their spouse, their children, their neighbors and strangers. Some believers neglect the Lord and others almost fully, while some neglect the Lord and others to a lesser degree. Believers must never allow their career or job to consume them and come before and between the Lord and their family. Sadly, too many pastors and evangelists neglect their family also.

Television, movies, music

Therefore whatever you eat or you drink or anything you do, do all things to the glory of YAHWEH. (1 Corinthians 10.31)

There is probably no believer in the Western World who has not become distracted from serving the Lord to some degree by secular television, movies and music. Far too many believers spend more time watching television and movies than they do praying and studying the Bible. If believers in the West were to spend more time in prayer and in the Word than they do just watching television and movies there would be a revival greater than that of the first Great Awakening of the 18th century.



Television and movies are two of the most effective forms of brainwashing ever invented. Viewers are conditioned to accept what is shown through thousands of viewings. The brainwashing is very subtle and it can take decades to fully brainwash some people. Some of the behaviors that television and movies have conditioned people to accept as normal are – drunkenness, getting high on drugs, smoking, pre-marital and extra-marital sex, homosexuality, abortion, cheating others, lying, stealing, cursing, gambling and doing whatever it takes to get ahead. It has also been used to push the numerous isms that plague the world – atheism, humanism, evolutionism, communism, socialism, feminism, homosexualism, hedonism and existentialism.

There is very little worth watching on secular television. Some news programs, documentaries, wildlife shows and talk shows can be worth watching, but virtually all dramas, situation comedies and soap operas are a total waste of time.

Quiz and game shows and reality shows are also a waste of time. They are just trivial pursuits.

Christian television for the most part is merely entertainment with very little serious Bible teaching and preaching. Be very careful what you watch. There are hundreds of false teachers on television who are leading believers astray.

If you need to relax read the Bible or a good book about the Bible. Talk with your spouse and children. You can also go to church. Attendance in American on Sunday and Wednesday nights is very low. About ten percent of members show up on those nights.

Think about what believers did before radio, movies and television were invented. They spent time in fellowship with their families and each other. The devil and his minions have hindered Christians from serving the Lord with the distraction of television and movies.

Virtually all secular music and far too much Christian music are not pleasing to the Lord. Rock and Roll, Hip Hop, Rap, Blues, Jazz and Country Western music are for the most part not edifying and they are definitely not honoring to the Lord. Most Christian music is not edifying or honoring to the Lord either. Be careful what music you listen to. It is a subtle form of brainwashing just as television and movies are.

Sports

For bodily exercise is of little profit, but piety is profitable for all things, [since it holds] promise for the present life and also for the life to come. (1 Timothy 4.8)

Professional and amateur sports are a phenomenon of the 20th century. Even though they began in the 8th century B.C. in Greece and in the 19th century in America they did not appeal to the masses outside of Greece until the 20th century.

There is nothing wrong in participating in sports. Yet some believers spend far more time participating in all kinds of sports and it becomes an obsession. During the fitness craze of

the 1970s and 80s some believers spent more time in the gym than they did in church, prayer and the Word. Some still do.



Lombardy Trophy awarded to the winner of the Super Bowl

There is also nothing wrong in watching a sporting event in person or on television, but the vast majority of brothers in the Lord spend far too much time watching sporting events. If every brother who watches sports were to spend more time in prayer and the study of the Bible than watching sports there would be a revival in the West greater than the second Great Awakening of the 18th century.

Sports is the most popular subject of discussion among men in church. It is hard to believe but many churches have Super Bowl parties at church. Most men talk about sports after service or at potlucks. They rarely talk about the Bible. Why? They know everything about their favorite sport and teams, but almost nothing about the Bible.

Pastors need to set the example by never talking about sports at church or church gatherings, and they should discourage men from talking about sports. Every pastor should challenge the men in the church to give up one Super Bowl. They should have an all men's prayer meeting and Bible study during the Super Bowl where the importance of spending time each day in prayer and the Bible is taught. Maybe some pastors will be able to wean their men off the worship of the idol called the Super Bowl. They can also do the same thing for the World Series, and the basketball and hockey playoffs. Imagine how happy the wives would be. It would bring husbands and wives closer together.

Unsaved friends

Be not be deceived: "Evil manners corrupts good companionships." (1 Corinthians 15.33)

Peer pressure is a big distraction among young believers. They have extreme pressure put on them in the public schools to fit in. Most give in and hang out with the unsaved. They do the things the unsaved do and far too many get dragged into the lifestyle of the wicked. By the time they graduate from high school they no longer go to church and the few who do go to make their parents happy. Once they head off to college they usually fall away entirely and live like the wicked. That is one reason why most believers marry the unsaved.

It is the duty of the pastors and the parents to teach the youth that they are not to hang with the wicked. They are not to have unsaved friends and they are to never date an unsaved person. This does not mean they can never speak with

someone who is not saved. They should do that every day and share the Gospel through word and deed. It means they are not to do worldly things with their unsaved friends.

They can have unsaved friends go to church and church events with them, but they should avoid going to places and doing things with the unsaved that is not honoring to the Lord. A possible exception might be playing pick up or organized ball. Yet if the unsaved men they play with use foul language and tell dirty jokes believers must tell them they will not tolerate it. The unsaved will comply with the wishes of a believer most of the time. If they do not they should walk away. When believers play ball with the lost they should be the leader and always take the time to say something about their faith in YAHSHUA Messiah.

Celebrity worship

Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (1 John 5.21)

Virtually all the unsaved and most believers worship celebrities. Believers do not consider their admiration of celebrities to be a form of worship but it is. Any time a believer spends more time following the exploits of a celebrity than they do fellowshiping with their Savior that is celebrity worship. If you spend more time following your favorite celebrity than you do in prayer and Bible reading, study, memorization and meditation you have a problem with idol worship. That celebrity is an idol that you worship. Study the warning that John gave all of us (1 John 5.21).

Anything that one devotes more time to than prayer, the Word, fellowship with the brethren, worship of YAHWEH and sharing the Gospel with the lost is an idol. The only exceptions are sleep, work and family. Examine yourself to see if you have any idols. Take the “Faith Check” in Appendix B.



Rolls Royce

Accumulation of stuff

“But YAHWEH said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul They require of you; and to whom will go what you have prepared?’ Thus [is] he who treasures up for himself, and is not rich toward YAHWEH.” (Luke 12.20-21)

Every believer owns things. Even the apostles who had very little owned clothes, a knapsack, a walking stick and a flask or jug of some kind to drink from as they took the Gospel to the nations. Some even had homes, but none of them accumulated myriad, worldly possessions.

Believers should remember that everything we own is a tool to help us serve the Lord more effectively. We might consider disposing of the things that we have solely for our pleasure. Any possession, whether it is a car, motorcycle, dirt bike, ATV, RV, boat or plane, that takes more of your time than you give to YAHWEH is an idol (1 John 5.21).

Every believer should spend more time in the Scriptures, prayer, fellowship with the brethren and sharing the Gospel than on their possessions and worldly activities. If you are

spending five minutes a day in prayer and maybe five minutes a day reading the Bible, your possessions and your love for the things of the world are more important to you than your Savior. You need to examine your faith, your life and your desires, and then make some changes.

Put YAHSHUA Messiah first in your life. Give Him the first hour of your free time each day. Pray before you do anything for yourself and pray throughout the day. Read, study, memorize or meditate on His Word when you start each day. Eat spiritual food before you eat physical food (Deuteronomy 8.3). Then consume His Word throughout the day. Read a chapter here and a chapter there. Try to memorize one verse a week and pick a book or topic to study and study it. Get disciplined.

Another aspect of the accumulation of stuff is envy. Some believers accumulate stuff because they are envious of their neighbors, friends, relatives and strangers who have more stuff than they do. Believers are to not envy others (saved or unsaved) for any reason (Exodus 20.17; Proverbs 23.17; 24.1, 19). We are to be content with the bare necessities as Agur was (Proverbs 30.8-9), and as Paul was (Philippians 4.11; 1 Timothy 6.8; Hebrews 13.5). We must also remember what our Lord said about possessions and necessities – that we should not accumulate wealth (Matthew 6.19-21) and should not be anxious for our daily needs (Matthew 6.25-32). Instead we are to lay up eternal treasures in Heaven (Matthew 6.20) and seek first His kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6.33).

Food

*Whose end is destruction, whose **god is the belly**, and glory in their shame, who mind earthly things.*
(Philippians 3.19)

The devil does not have to work very hard to sidetrack believers with food, but he pushes junk food with a

vengeance. He knows it kills more people every year than anything else. More than one million people die every year in America alone from heart disease, diabetes, cancer and other ailments that are caused by a poor diet.



For most believers it is something they over-indulge in without much help from the forces of darkness. They do not understand that their body is a “*a temple of YAHWEH and that the Spirit of YAHWEH dwells in you? If any man corrupt the temple of YAHWEH, YAHWEH will bring him to corruption for the temple of YAHWEH is holy, which you are.*” (1Corinthians 3.16-17). That means if a believer corrupts his body through eating a poor diet, consuming excessive amounts of alcohol, drugs or tobacco, or through a lack of proper sleep and exercise, YAHWEH will bring him to corruption.

Of the leading causes of premature death in America all are due primarily to poor diet and use of toxic substances such as alcohol, illegal drugs and tobacco. Some researchers believe diet is the main cause of Alzheimer's. It should also be noted that the third leading cause of death in America is medical errors. In 2000 a researcher discovered that 225,000 Americans died from medical errors including overdose from prescription drugs. If you eat an unhealthy diet you will end up in the hospital and you may die due to medical incompetence.

Few believers die of old age. Most die prematurely due to myriad ailments caused from eating a poor diet. They consume far too much sugar, caffeine, meat, processed foods and milk products. These are the killer foods that cause heart disease, stroke, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease. (There is some evidence that drinking sodas in aluminum cans is a contributing factor in Alzheimer's disease. The aluminum leeches into the sodas and accumulates in the brain causing the dreaded disease.) The leading causes of death in America in 2007 were:

Heart disease	616,067
Cancer	562,875
Stroke (cerebrovascular diseases)	135,952
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	127,924
Alzheimer's disease	74,632
Diabetes	71,382
Nephritis and nephrosis	46,448
Annual deaths due to poor diet	1,383,225

Pastors should set an example by eating a healthy diet and exhorting their flock to do the same. Yet many pastors set the example of gluttony and their flock follows them. Gluttony is a sin (Proverbs 23.20-21; 28.7), and no matter how many excuses a pastor or layman may make – there is NO excuse to not loose weight. It is very easy for anyone to lose weight. All one has to do is reduce their intake of calories and eat healthy foods. No matter how slow a person's metabolism may be anyone can lose weight.

The key to losing weight and having a healthy “*temple of YAHWEH*” is knowledge. Always get proper sleep and exercise. Drink pure water and replace unhealthy foods with healthy ones. Keep replacing junk foods with good foods until all you eat is healthy foods. That is the way to keep your “*temple of YAHWEH*” in tip-top condition. Whenever possible buy organic foods. Below is a chart of “healthy” and “unhealthy” foods. Try to eat as many of the “healthy” foods as you can and as few of the “unhealthy” foods as possible.

If you eat any of the unhealthy foods buy organic only. To learn more about the dangers of the Standard American Diet that has killed millions of Americans watch the movies *Fast Food Nation*, *Food, Inc.* and *Super Size Me*; watch the videos “*Diet for a New America*” and “*Food: The Ultimate Secret*” (www.infowars.com/food-the-ultimate-secret-exposed). Read the book by Eric Schlosser, *Fast Food Nation* and *Diet for a New America* by John Robbins, and read articles at www.naturalnews.com.

Healthy Foods	Unhealthy Foods
Fruits	Alcohol
Vegetables	Sugar (raw and in food)
Raw cereals (no added sugar)	Sodas
Nuts	Caffeinated drinks
Seeds	Milk
Eggs	Ice cream
Legumes (beans)	Cheese
Grains (rice, corn, millet, rye)	Cottage cheese
Stem tubers (potatoes)	Yogurt
Sweet potatoes and yams	Meat
Peppers	Fish
Herbs	Fowl
Allium (onions, garlic, shallots, scallions, leeks, chives)	Processed foods (Most foods in boxes, cans and packages.)

There are other dangers not only in the food we eat, but the water we drink. To learn about the dangers of fluoridated water check these links: www.radioliberty.com/nldec04.html & www.naturalnews.com. When you go to the Natural News website type in *fluoride* in its search window to see a list of articles dealing with it.

There is also a danger in vaccines. To learn about this threat visit: www.naturalnews.com. (Type *vaccines* in the search window.)

One last danger to consider is the cell phone. For articles concerning this type *cell phone* into the search window at www.naturalnews.com.

Remember, your body is a temple of the HOLY SPIRIT. Take care of it as best you can.

Alcohol, drugs, thrill seeking

And be not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit. (Ephesians 5.18)

Abuse of alcohol and drugs (legal and illegal) is one of the leading causes of crime, loss of work productivity and divorce. They will continue to be abused until the Second Advent of YAHSHUA Messiah. During the Seventieth Week of Daniel drug addiction will be universal. Virtually everyone will be an addict of legal or illegal drugs (Revelation 9.21; 18.23).

No believer should ever become intoxicated with alcohol or get “high” on drugs. If you do not get “high” by studying the Bible there might be something wrong with you. Studying the Bible is the most exciting thing a believer can ever do. There is nothing in this life that is more exciting than studying the Bible.

Alcoholics get “high” by drinking a few beers at the beginning, but eventually downing a six-pack is not enough. They have to move on to more powerful drinks to get “high.” Some end up drinking themselves drunk every night.

Drug addicts start with a weak drug but the “high” they get is not that big so they take more of the drug or they move on to more potent drugs. Many drug addicts get to a point that no matter how powerful a dose they take they cannot get “higher.” The only way they can get “higher” is to over-dose themselves into Hell.

There are also thrill-seekers who seek out all sorts exciting activities, but after they have done them a few dozen times the thrill is not the same. They seek something bigger, better, faster and scarier. Some of these thrill-seekers end up dying from pushing themselves too far.

Thrill-seekers usually run out of things to do to give them the “rush” they seek. Believers can get “high” and get a greater “rush” than anything natural man can experience by studying the Bible. Studying the infallible, holy Word of YAHWEH is more thrilling than anything you can imagine. The Bible is YAHWEH Elohim revealing Themselves to you. The more we study Their Word the more we learn about Them and more intimate our fellowship with Them is.

How could any physical experience be more thrilling and exciting than communing with the Creator of the Universe? Do you really believe that fellowship with the Creator of the Universe is boring? If you do not get so excited when you study the Bible that you want to rush out and share what you learned with others you may be spiritually dead. If the infinite wisdom, understanding and knowledge of YAHWEH Elohim are boring to you it is possible you may not be saved.

If studying the Bible has been boring to you try studying these books – Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Daniel, James, 1 John, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, Jude and Revelation. Start with one book and read a chapter or two each day. Take notes and write down what you learn. Memorize verses that speak to you and meditate on them. Write notes about things you do not understand and find someone who can teach you.

If that does not get you excited study the following passages – Genesis 2.6; 3.24; 6.1-4; 15.17; 20.12; 24.2-5; 28.12-17; 29.22; 32.24-32; 38.1-30; Exodus 4.24-26; 32.20; Isaiah 8.1-3; 20.1-6; Micah 1.8. Other passages to study are:

The Eternal Kingdom – Revelation 21.1-22.5

Extreme phenomenon – Joshua 10.12-13; 2 Kings 20.9-11; Joshua 10.11; Revelation 16.21; Revelation 16.18-20

Spaceships – 2 Kings 2.11; 6.17; Ps. 68.17; Isaiah 66.15; Habakkuk. 3.8

Flying horses – Revelation 19.11, 14

Guardian angels – Matthew 18.10; Acts 12.15

Forces of darkness – Daniel 10.20; John 12.31; 14.30; 16.11; 2 Corinthians 4.4; Ephesians 2.2; 6.12

Angelic weapons – Gen. 19.11; Ezek. 9.1, 2, 7; Acts 12.7, 10

Biological weapons – Job 2.7; Exodus 12.23, 29-30; Psalm 78.49-51; 2 Samuel 24.15-17; 1 Chronicles 21.14-16; Amos 4.10.

If the above passages do not give you a hunger and thirst to study the Bible you may want to examine your faith (2 Corinthians 13.5).

Other schemes of the devil

The devil and his minions have thousands of schemes to keep believers from serving the Lord. Here are a few other tricks of theirs – false religions, cults, isms, politics, the Internet, night clubs, gambling, shopping, hobbies, secular books and magazines and civic duty.

Schemes to blind the lost

The devil's gang has thousands of schemes which they use **to blind** *“the thoughts of the unbelieving so as to not beam forth to them the radiancy of the Glad Tidings of the glory of the Messiah, who is the image of YAHWEH.”* (2 Corinthians 4.4).

Christians should be aware of these schemes so we can defeat them through prayer and the Word of God. The top ten blinders are:

1. Love of money
2. Career/Job
3. Spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, sex
4. Television, movies, music
5. False religions, cults, isms
6. Sports

7. Celebrity worship
8. Accumulation of stuff
9. Food
10. Alcohol and drugs

The schemes of the devil to distract believers and blind the lost are almost identical. He uses the same old tricks that have worked for thousands of years. When new technology comes along such as movies, radio, TV and the Internet, he races in and uses it to deceive mankind.

The devil uses false religions, cults and the isms to deceive the lost and the saved. It is the duty of pastors to teach their flock what the false religions and cults are and train them how to resist being seduced by them. Pastors should also train them how to lead cultists to the Lord. It is important for them to show their flock from the Scriptures that the leading isms plaguing the world are of the devil. They are:

Atheism	Liberalism
Evolutionism	Socialism
Humanism	Communism
Hedonism	Existentialism

These isms are taught in all public schools in the West and the students are thoroughly brainwashed into accepting them. This is a major reason why believing parents should not send their children to the devil's indoctrination centers (day-care centers, public schools and public universities). Every church should do what it can to have a school or train parents to home school their children.

AFTERWORD

No believer in YAHSHUA Messiah has an excuse to not be Rapture ready! Now that you have read this book you have no excuse. Study the *warning signs* of the Rapture and watch as they are fulfilled.

We must also be disciples of YAHSHUA and live holy lives to be Rapture ready. If you have not dedicated your life to the Lord do it right now. Do not put it off even one second.

After you have dedicated your life to your Savior become a disciple, live a holy life and make disciples. Keep the faith and give it away until the Lord calls you home or until the Rapture.



MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS

This book is designed to assist believer's grow in grace from a newborn baby in the Lord to a pastor. Not every believer will need to be discipled to be a pastor, but that training is available in this book. It is not a study book designed to indoctrinate the reader into the dogmas of a specific denomination or church. It only helps the reader study the Bible inside and out and to burn the Scriptures into his soul. This workbook can be used by any and all denominations and churches.

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GLOSSARY

Angels – Created beings who serve YAHWEH and believers (Hebrews 1.14). One-third of them joined Satan in his rebellion (Revelation 12.4). They are called “fallen angels.”

Antichrist – He will rise to power prior to the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week (Daniel 9.24-27) and be identified as the Antichrist by true believers (2 Thessalonians 2.1-3). The lost will think he is a great religious leader. He will confirm a worldwide peace treaty (Daniel 9.27) that had been made months or years earlier. Once he confirms this treaty Daniel’s Seventieth week will begin. He will rule alongside ten other world rulers (Daniel 7.24) and soon after the Seventieth Week begins a war will break out between him and three of the world rulers. He will defeat them and take his place as the chief of the world rulers (Daniel 7. 20, 24). When he assumes control of the world he will still be under the control of the World Church (Revelation 17.3).

At the mid-point of Daniel’s Seventieth Week he will take total control of Earth by the power of Satan (Revelation 13.4) and rule with absolute authority for 42 months (Revelation 13.5). He will blaspheme YAHWEH (Daniel 7.25; Revelation 13.5-6) and persecute and kill those who are saved after the Pre-Tribulation Rapture that takes place at the end of the Fifth Seal (Daniel 7.21, 25; Revelation 13.7). He will be killed by YAHSHUA when He returns at His Second Advent (Daniel 7.11), be resurrected by Him and finally he will be cast into the Lake of Fire along with the False Prophet (Revelation 19.20). He will burn in the Lake of Fire for ALL eternity alongside Satan, the False Prophet, the fallen angels, demonic creatures (Revelation 9.3, 16-17) and everyone who dies in their sins. They will have NO hope of escape, parole or pardon.

Apostasy – The turning away by the Church from the faith and biblical doctrines to a false faith and false doctrines (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4). It started in the first half of the 19th Century with the rise of the American cults – Seventh-Day Adventism, Mormon Corporation, Watch Tower Society, and it will continue until the Rapture.

Any Moment – A term that means YAHSHUA Messiah can return to Rapture the Church at any time. This unbiblical concept promotes the idea that there are no warning signs or events that must take place before the Rapture.

Apostles – The eleven Disciples (Judas Iscariot not included) plus Paul, who YAHSHUA chose to preach the Gospel (Matthew 28.19-20; Acts 1.8) to the world and to build His Church (Ephesians 4.11-13). There are no apostles today.

Beast – See **Antichrist**. This future world ruler is also called the man of sin and the son of destruction among other names (2 Thessalonians 2.3)

Believers – Those who believe in YAHSHUA of Nazareth as the Messiah and the Savior of mankind. They trust in Him alone and His work on the cross to save them. They live a holy life for YAHSHUA. All believers are Christians, but not all Christians are believers.

Bible – The infallible, holy word of YAHWEH. It contains all the information that every believer needs to live his life for the Lord YAHSHUA Messiah (2 Timothy 3.16). It contains hundreds of prophecies that have been fulfilled in a literal manner. It also contains more prophecies which will be fulfilled prior to the Rapture. Those prophecies are the warning signs that we must all look for.

Christians – Those who claim to be followers of YAHSHUA. Not everyone who calls himself a Christian is truly born from above. YAHSHUA said that come judgment day some people

who thought they were saved and serving Him will be turned away into Hell (Matthew 7.21-23).

Church – The body of YAHSHUA Messiah which consists of all true believers in YAHSHUA (1 Corinthians 12.27; Ephesians 4.12).

Daniel's Seventieth Week – A seven year period of time that begins with the rise of the Antichrist and ends with the Second Advent of YAHSHUA (9.24-27). It is often confused with the Tribulation which begins about 1.5 years after the Seventieth Week starts.

Demons – They are the spirits of the angelmen who died in the universal flood of Noah's day. Several hundred years before the universal flood that destroyed all air breathing life on Earth, a select group of fallen angels mated with women who gave birth to angelmen. They were far superior to man and dominated them leading them into every evil imaginable. YAHWEH created the universal flood to specifically destroy them. Once they were killed in the flood their spirits were permitted to roam the planet and take possession of people who were not chosen to be saved. They can also possess animals (Matthew 8.28-32).

Devil – See **Satan**.

Disciples – The 12 men that YAHSHUA chose (Luke 6.14-16) to train so they could build His Church after His ascension. They became the Apostles except for Judas Iscariot, who betrayed YAHSHUA and committed suicide. Paul was chosen by YAHSHUA (Acts 9.1-16) to replace him as the twelfth Apostle.

End Times – An indeterminate period of time that began with the apostasy of the Church and will end with the Second Coming of YAHSHUA Messiah. We are living in the End Times.

Eschatologist – A person who studies eschatology and writes books or essays on it.

Eschatology – The study of the “last things” in the Bible. The “last things” are also known as the End Times and the Last Days.

False Prophet – The religious leader who heads up the World Church. He is a partner of the Antichrist who enforces his dictates (Revelation 13.11-18).

Gap – A period of indeterminate time between the Rapture and the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week. The alleged gap is not biblical because the Rapture takes place after the Seventieth Week starts.

Gospel – The “good news” that YAHSHUA Messiah, the Son of YAHWEH, died to save mankind.

Great Red Dragon – He is Satan, the once highest-ranking angel who led a rebellion among the angels of Heaven taking one-third of them with him (Revelation 12.4). He is the ruler (John 12.31) and the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4.4). He is also the leader of all the forces of darkness (Ephesians 6.12). He has been and will be defeated by YAHSHUA Messiah and cast into the Lake of Fire where he will be tortured through ALL eternity along with the angels he led astray, the demons (Genesis 6.4), his genetically engineered demonic creatures (Revelation 9.3, 17), and the billions of people he led astray.

Great White Throne Judgment – It is a final judgment in which those who are waiting in Hell to be judged are brought before YAHWEH and YAHSHUA. They are judged for every sin they committed in their life from birth until death. They are forced to give an account of every sin they committed by thought (Romans 2.16), word (Matthew 12.36), deed (Proverbs 24.12; Romans 2.6; Revelation 20.12) and motive (Proverbs 24.12; Romans 2.16). They will be found guilty of every sin they committed and a level of pain will be assigned

to them. The pain receptors of their immortal body will be set at a specific level. They will endure that level of pain for ALL ETERNITY!

Hell – The place, in the heart of the Earth (Matthew 12.40), where people who die in their sins go (Luke 19.16-31), to await judgment at the White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20.13-14).

HOLY SPIRIT – He is the Third Person of the Trinity who is fully God by Himself. He is equal to the Father and the Son in all ways.

Imminence – A false doctrine that teaches YAHSHUA could have returned to rapture the Church at any moment since Pentecost. Therefore, there are no *warning signs* or events that must take place before the Rapture.

Jesus Christ – See **YAHSHUA Messiah**.

Lamb of YAHWEH – The Lamb of YAHWEH and the Lamb are names and descriptions of YAHSHUA Messiah. Yochanan the Baptizer called YAHSHUA the Lamb of YAHWEH (John 1.29, 36). The Apostle of John also called YAHSHUA the Lamb (Revelation 6.16). YAHSHUA died for the sins of the elect. He is the Passover Lamb who died for the elect, cleansing them of their sins by His blood (Romans 3.25; 1 Corinthians 6.20; Ephesians 1.7; Colossians 1.20; Hebrews 9.12, 14; 10.19, 29; 13.20; 1 John 1.7; Revelation 1.5; 5.9).

Lake of Fire – The final abode of Satan and the fallen angels (Matthew 25.41; Revelation 20.10). The demons (Genesis 6.4) and genetically engineered demonic creatures (Revelation 9.3, 17) will also be punished there through all eternity. It is also the final abode of everyone who dies in their sins without trusting YAHSHUA Messiah to save them (Revelation 20.11-15). Everyone who is cast into that place of punishment (Proverbs 10.16; Matthew 25.46) has NO hope of parole,

pardon or escape for ALL ETERNITY! They will be punished with fire (Psalm 11.6; 140.10; Revelation 14.10), burning sulfur (brimstone) (Psalm 11.6; Revelation 14.10), burning coals (Psalm 11.6; 140.10; Proverbs 25.22; Romans 12.20), burning wind (Psalm 11.6), smoke (Revelation 14.11), extreme heat (Luke 16.24), unquenchable thirst (Luke 16.24), immortal maggots (Mark 9.44, 46, 48), deafening screams of billions of other damned people, and eternally fighting with each other, the demons, the genetically engineered demonic creatures, the fallen angels and Satan.

Last Days – See End Times.

Mark of the Beast – A mark of some kind (most likely a computer chip implanted under the skin) that the Antichrist will force everyone on Earth to take to be able to buy or sell or receive any kind of government benefits. Those who refuse to worship Antichrist and take his mark will be executed (Revelation 13.15-17).

Millennial Kingdom – The period of time that begins with the Second Coming of YAHSHUA Messiah and ends after 1,000 years (Revelation 20.1-10). It is also called the Millennium. The major passages describing that age are – Isaiah 4.1-6; 11.6-10; 25.6-7; 60.1-9; 61.3-11; 62.1-9; 65.17-25; 66.22-24; Jeremiah 23.3-8; 30.18-22; 33.6-18; Ezekiel 40-48; Joel 3, 18-21; Micah 4.1-8; Zephaniah 3.9-13; Zechariah 14.9-11, 16-21.

Pentecost – The official day that the Church began (Acts 2.1). On that day 120 believers in YAHSHUA Messiah gathered to pray (Acts 1.12-15). The HOLY SPIRIT came and took up residence inside of them (Acts 2.1-4). The Disciples then went out and preached the Gospel (Acts 2.5-13). Peter gave the concluding sermon (Acts 2.14-40) and about three thousand people were saved on that glorious day (Acts 2.41).

Rapture – The taking away of all believers in YAHSHUA Messiah (1 Thessalonians 4.16-17).

Pre-Seventieth Week Rapture teaches YAHSHUA Messiah will rapture the Church before the start of Daniel's Seventieth Week.

Early Seventieth Week Pre-Tribulation Rapture teaches YAHSHUA Messiah will rapture the Church after the breaking of the Fifth Seal and just before the breaking of the Sixth Seal. It is the correct position on the timing of the Rapture which contains no contradictions within it. The other four major positions have serious contradictions within them.

Mid-Tribulation Rapture teaches YAHSHUA Messiah will rapture the Church at the mid-point of the Tribulation.

Post-Tribulation Rapture teaches YAHSHUA Messiah will rapture the Church at the end of the Tribulation.

Pre-Wrath Rapture teaches YAHSHUA Messiah will rapture the Church near the end of the Tribulation just before the pouring out of the wrath of YAHWEH through the seven bowl plagues (Revelation 16.1)

Satan – See Great Red Dragon.

Second Advent – The physical return of YAHSHUA Messiah to judge the wicked and reward the righteous (Revelation 19.11-21). After He judges the wicked and rewards the righteous (Matthew 25.31-46) He will establish the Millennial Kingdom. It is also referred to as the Second Coming and the Glorious Appearing.

Seven Seals – The Seven Seals start with Daniel's Seventieth Week. After the Seventh Seal is broken the blowing of the Seven Trumpets begins and after they finish then the Seven Bowls are poured out with the final wrath of YAHWEH and the Lamb.

Sin – It is any thought, word, deed or motive that violates a command of YAHWEH. Very young children commit sins on a

daily basis even though they do not know what sin is. When a child reaches the age of understanding what sin is they continue to commit sins because they have a sin nature. ALL babies are conceived in sin and born in sin (Psalm 51.5) and they ALL go astray from birth (Psalm 58.3). Everyone sins on a daily basis until death (1 John 1.8-10). EVERYONE who dies in their sins goes to Hell and at the end of the Millennial Kingdom they are judge at the Great White Throne Judgment, they are found guilty and they are cast into the Lake of Fire where they are punished for ALL ETERNITY for their sins!

Signs – See Warning Signs.

Tribulation – It is a period of time during which YAHWEH Elohim judges the unsaved by pouring out Their wrath upon them. Chapters 6.12 through 19.21 of Revelation describe this period among other passages in the Bible. The Tribulation starts with the breaking of the Sixth Seal (Revelation 6.12) and ends with the Second Advent of YAHSHUA.

Trinity – It consists of God the Father, God the Son and God the HOLY SPIRIT. Each God is fully God and equal to each other in all ways. Each is omnipotent (all powerful), omniscient (all-knowing) and omnipresent (present everywhere). Together They created and rule the Cosmos. They are ALWAYS in full agreement with each other in ALL things – in thought, word, deed and motive. They are three Gods who think, speak and act as if They are one God. The claim that there is “one God revealed in three Persons” is not biblical. It strips the Father, Son and HOLY SPIRIT of Their godhood. To say that each of Them is only “God” in combination with each other is denial of Their individual divinity. It does not take all three of Them to make up the “one” God.

They are of the same substance and equal in every way possible. There is one God “substance” but three separate Persons. To say the God “substance” is God is a serious mistake. The “substance” is what They are made of, whatever

it may be, but the “substance” is not God. They, the Father, Son and HOLY SPIRIT, are the three Gods who act as if They are just one God – one Person, one Supreme Being.

The truth that each member of the Trinity is fully God apart from each other is proven by the declaration Moses made, “*Hear, O Yisrael, YAHWEH our Elohim. YAHWEH united*” (Deuteronomy 6.4). Elohim is the plural form of God (3 or more) and is translated Gods. If we insert verbs it would read, “*Hear, O Yisrael, YAHWEH [are] our Gods. YAHWEH [are] united.*” The Hebrew word *echad* means unity or united. One God or one person cannot be united! Only two or more can be united as YAHSHUA said about a man and a woman (Genesis 2.24; Ephesians 5.31). The truth of the Trinity is: Three Gods who are equal in all ways with each other who are always united in thought, word, deed and motive!

Warning Signs – The past and future events that have and will fulfill Bible prophesy that alert us to the nearness of the Rapture.

World Church – Prior to the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week a world religion will be established. All of the religions of the world will be part of it. When the Seventieth Week starts it will have total control over all the churches on Earth. It will also control the Antichrist for the first 42 months of the Seventieth Week (Revelation 17.1-7). The churches that refuse to be part of it will be shut down and their members will be forced to fellowship in secret. Most true believers will be executed during the Fifth Seal.

World Economy – Prior to the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week a world economic system will be founded. Every nation will be part of it. During the Seventieth Week the Antichrist will use this economic system to force everyone on Earth to worship him and take his mark.

World Government – Prior to the start of Daniel’s Seventieth Week a super-government will be established that will have control over all the governments of the world (Daniel 7.23). Then this government will split into a coalition of ten nations

which will rule all the nations of the world (Daniel 7.23; Revelation 17.12).

YAHSHUA Messiah – The Son of YAHWEH and the Messiah who died for the sins of the elect. He will return to Earth sometime in the 21st Century to slay the wicked, reward the righteous and establish His Millennial Kingdom.

YAHWEH – God the Father who created the Cosmos along with YAHSHUA Messiah (God the Son) and God the HOLY SPIRIT. He is equal in ALL aspects with God the Son and God the HOLY SPIRIT.

YAHWEH Elohim – God the Father, God the Son and God the HOLY SPIRIT are YAHWEH Elohim. These three separate Gods are equal in ALL aspects with each other. They are THREE Gods who think, speak and act as if They are ONE God.

APPENDIX A

WHAT YOU MUST DO TO BE SAVED?

The most important thing any person can ever do is know where he/she will spend eternity. The Creator of the universe said there are only two places where a person can go when he dies – Heaven or Hell:

Everyone is a sinner in need of salvation:

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of YAHWEH; (Romans 3.23)

Those who die in their sins will be judged:

And for as much as it is apportioned to men to die once and after this judgment. (Hebrews 9.27)

Yet even though all have sinned, one can escape eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire, and have eternal life:

He that believes on the Son has eternal life and he that is not subject to the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of YAHWEH abides on him. (John 3.36)

And these shall go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. (Matthew 25.46)

And if anyone was not found written in the Book of Life, he was cast into the Lake of Fire. (Revelation 20.15)

The pleasures and riches of this world are not worth your soul:

For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8.36-37)

Salvation is available to all because:

For YAHWEH so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes on Him may not perish, but may have eternal life. (John 3:16)

YAHWEH commends His own love to us that while we were still sinners, Messiah died for us. (Romans 5.8)

Belief in YAHSHUA the Messiah is the only way to be saved:

YAHSHUA said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father but by Me." (John 14.6)

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under Heaven which has been given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4.12)

The free gift of eternal life is given to all who believe in YAHSHUA:

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My Word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. (John 5.24)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of YAHWEH is eternal life in Messiah YAHSHUA our Lord. (Romans 6.23)

Salvation is by grace through faith in YAHSHUA alone:

For by grace you are saved through faith; and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of YAHWEH; not of works, that no one might boast. (Ephesians 2.8-9)

What you must do to be saved?

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord YAHSHUA, and believe in your heart that YAHWEH raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart is belief to righteousness, and with the mouth is confession to salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)

If you believe that God the Father raised YAHSHUA from the dead, call upon YAHSHUA to save you right now:

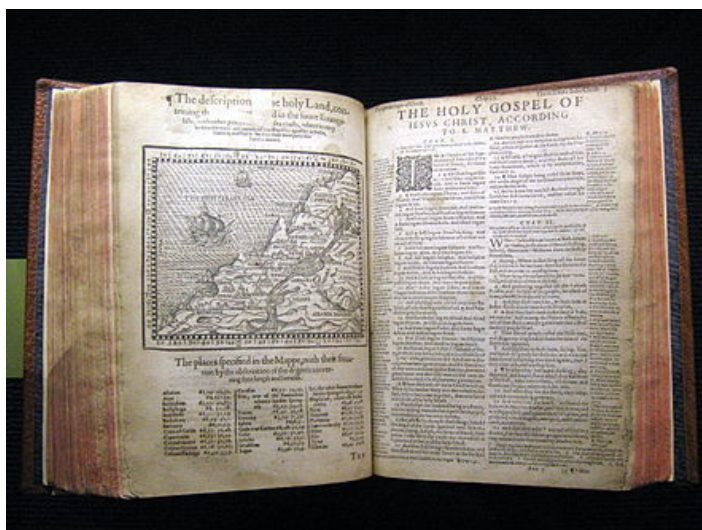
For everyone, whoever may call on the name of YAHWEH shall be saved. (Romans 10.13)

Today is your day of salvation:

Behold, now is the day of salvation! (2 Corinthians 6.2b)

Receive YAHSHUA today for you know not what tomorrow may bring:

But as many as received Him, He gave to them authority to be children of YAHWEH, to those that believe on His name. (John 1.12)



SPIRITUAL FITNESS PROGRAM

YAHWEH commands all of His children to be spiritually fit (Ephesians 4.11-15) and He expects all of them to become teachers (Deuteronomy 6.6-7; Proverbs 6.20; Hebrews 5.12). The only way to get spiritually fit and eventually become a teacher of the Bible is to set up a Spiritual Fitness Program.

All combat soldiers go through basic training which includes a physical fitness program. Without it they could never hope to fight and win. The same is true for believers of YAHSHUA. We are all soldiers in the Army of Messiah and we need to be trained how to fight the spiritual war we are in which includes a Spiritual Fitness Program.

To order your copy of *Spiritual Fitness Program* email – **dovbooks @yahoo.com**

APPENDIX B

FAITH CHECK

Are you being conformed to the image of YAHSHUA Messiah?

Because whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8:29)

Are you being conformed to the image of YAHSHUA Messiah? Has there been a noticeable change in your likes and dislikes since you trusted Jesus to save you?

I exhort you therefore, brethren, by the compassion of YAHWEH to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, well-pleasing to YAHWEH, [which is] your intelligent service, and do not fashion yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and well-pleasing and perfect will of YAHWEH. (Romans 12:1-2)

Everyone who is truly born from above will change. You will stop doing certain things and start doing things you did not do previously. Your thought life will also change.

To determine whether something is good (honoring to YAHWEH) pray, read the Bible and ask yourself if YAHSHUA would join you.

There are a few things we know are not of YAHWEH, and must be avoided at all costs – illegal drugs and getting drunk.

And be not drunk with wine in which is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit. (Ephesians 5.18)

The next time you listen to secular music, watch television and movies ask yourself if you think YAHSHUA would enjoy spending the day listening to that music and watching those shows and movies. Not all movies and television shows are bad. Exercise great discernment in watching them. Stick to news and documentaries. The next time you watch a Hollywood production imagine YAHSHUA is sitting next to you. Do you think He would sit through a Hollywood trash movie or television show? By the way, YAHSHUA is with you at all times.

Sleeping, eating, moderate exercise and working are not on this list because they are pursuits of the flesh that are necessary for survival. It is your free time that you are to examine. All believers should spend more of their free time each day feeding their soul than feeding their flesh. Sadly, few do that. Worse yet, few believers spend more time feeding their souls than they do eating.

If you are not spending more time in spiritual activities (feeding your soul) than you do in eating (feeding your flesh) you are backslidden. Since most people take time to feed their flesh should you take an equal amount of time in feeding your soul?

If you spend more time each day exercising the flesh than you do exercising your soul which is more important to you – your sinful body or your eternal soul?

Take this faith check once a month for the first year and then take it every few months or so. This will help you see your progress of maturing in the Lord.

Make several copies for your use and for others. You can go to www.gracemercyministry.com and print out the “Faith Check.”

The Spiritual Man versus the Natural Man

Take a few minutes out of your busy schedule and examine your daily walk with YAHSHUA.

Spiritual activities	Average time spent weekly
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Prayer	_____
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Reading and studying the Bible	_____
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Memorization & Meditation	_____
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Devotions with family	_____
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Fellowship with believers	_____
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Sharing the Gospel	_____
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Helping others	_____
----------------	-------

Total time serving YAHSHUA	_____
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Worldly activities	Average time spent weekly
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Watching TV & movies	_____
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Internet	_____
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Reading (secular books/magazines)	_____
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Hobbies	_____
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Recreation	_____
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Attending sporting events	_____
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Socializing (in person or by phone)	_____
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Shopping	_____
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Other non-spiritual activities	_____
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Total time serving yourself	_____
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If you spend more time in worldly activities than you do in spiritual ones you have a problem. You need to reset your priorities. Set aside a specific amount of time each day to pray, read the Bible, study the Bible, and memorize and meditate on Scripture.

Fellowship with the brethren is also important. Attending church services on Sunday and Wednesday is not enough fellowship to keep a believer spiritually healthy. Everyone needs fellowship more frequently. Seek out a home Bible study or start one yourself. The first believers of the Church Age fellowshiped every day:

And every day they stedfastly continued with one accord in the temple, breaking bread in their houses they partook of food with gladness and simplicity of heart praising YAHWEH. (Acts 2.46)



FAITH TEST

Faith Test is a book that every believer needs to read. Paul exhorted the believers in Corinth to examine themselves to see if they were in the faith:

Try yourselves if you are in the faith; prove yourselves! Or do you not recognize yourselves that YAHSHUA Messiah is in you, unless you are rejected. (2 Corinthians 13.5)

To see if you pass the faith test order your copy of ***Faith Test***. Email – [**dovbooks@yahoo.com**](mailto:dovbooks@yahoo.com)

APPENDIX C

SPIRITUAL FITNESS PROGRAM

YAHWEH commands every child of His to be spiritually fit. This includes denying oneself of the pleasures of the world, living a holy and disciplined life, daily study of Scripture, living by every Word that proceeds from His mouth and then teaching others:

Messiah having then suffered for us in the flesh, you also arm yourselves with the same mind, for he [who has] suffered in the flesh has done [away] with sin, [that he should] no longer live the remaining time in [the] flesh for the lusts of men, but to the will of YAHWEH. (1 Peter 4.1-2)

Be diligent to present yourself approved to YAHWEH a workman not ashamed, straightly cutting the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2.15)

And these were more noble than those in Thessalonika who received the word with all readiness, daily examining the Scriptures if these things were so. (Acts 17.11)

But He answered saying, "It has been written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word proceeding out of the mouth of YAHWEH." (Matt. 4.4)

“These words, which I commanded you today, shall be on your heart and you shall repeat them to your sons. And you shall speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” (Deuteronomy 6.6-7)

There are a few basic things that a believer in YAHSHUA Messiah must do to become a faithful *disciple*:

1. **Pray** (Matthew 7.7-11; Luke 18.1-8; John 14.13-14; 16.24; Ephesians 6.18; Philippians 4.6; Colossians 4.2; 1 Thessalonians 5.17; James 1.5).
2. **Listen** to Scripture (Deuteronomy 4.10; Proverbs 8.34; 22.17; 23.12; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).
3. **Read** Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Isaiah 34.16; Revelation 1.3).
4. **Study** Scripture (Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15).
5. **Memorize** Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; 11.18; 30.14; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; Ezekiel 3.10; Romans 10.8; Colossians 3.16).
6. **Meditate** on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; Colossians 3.16).
7. **Fellowship** with the brethren (Psalm 22.22; 119.63; Proverbs 13.20; Acts 2.42, 46-47; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 John 1.7).
8. **Worship** with the brethren and privately (Deuteronomy 6.13; 26.10; 1 Chronicles 16.29; Psalm 2.11; 29.2; 96.9; 99.5, 9; 132.7; Jeremiah 7.2; Matthew 4.10; John 4.23-24; Romans 12.1; Philippians 3.3; Revelation 4.10; 14.17; 19.10; 22.9)

9. **Share the Gospel** (Psalm 9.1; 26.7; 35.28; 96.2; Proverbs 11.30; Mark 16.15; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15).

10. **Be disciplined** (Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; Eph. 4.11-13).

11. **Make disciples** (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 11.18-19; 31.13; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Proverbs 1.8; 4.1; 6.20; 22.6; Joel 1.3; Matt. 28.19-20; Ephesians 4.11-13; 2 Tim. 2.2).

1. **PRAY:** Pray often for your family, friends, fellow employees, employer, church members, pastors, and city, state and federal politicians. Pray with your family daily and with church members on a regular basis. Begin and end each day in prayer, and pray throughout the day. Pray that YAHWEH teach you each day as you study His word.

2. **LISTEN TO SCRIPTURE:** Play recordings of the Bible and listen to sermons and Bible studies.

3. **READ SCRIPTURE:** Make a reading program and stay with it. If you read three chapters a day in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament you will read the Bible through in one year. It is also important to read one chapter of Proverbs each day. It does not take more than a half-hour a day to read five chapters. If you watch TV have your Bible handy and read a chapter during commercial breaks. Anyone could read ten chapters a day by just taking a Bible break during commercials.

4. **STUDY SCRIPTURE:** Choose a book of the Bible or a topic to study, and stay with it until you finish it.

5. **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE:** Memorize key verses from both the Old and New Testaments.

6. **MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE:** Once you have a few verses memorized you can meditate on them any time of the day, and wherever you are. Until then keep a pocket Bible or pocket New Testament handy. Keep a Bible and a few New

Testaments in your car at all times for yourself and others. Get into the habit of giving out Bibles and pocket New Testaments.

7. FELLOWSHIP WITH THE BRETHREN: Become an active member of a church. Support the church with your time, talents, treasure and spiritual gifts. If you cannot find a real church meet with believers in a home.

8. WORSHIP: It is so important that there are more commands to worship YAHWEH than to pray, study the Bible, memorize Scripture or meditate on the Word. Every believer should spend time each day worshipping YAHWEH. We worship YAHWEH by being silent and meditating on the blessings He has given you; by thanking and praising Him by rejoicing and singing.

9. SHARE THE GOSPEL: Once you learn how to share the Gospel be ready to do so 24/7. Be sensitive to the leading of the HOLY SPIRIT to share the Gospel. Carry tracts with you and hand them out as you are prompted by the HOLY SPIRIT. If the person(s) wants to talk – speak with them, but if they do not want to talk ask them to read the tract, and pray as you walk away. Keep a diary of your witnessing. When you lead someone to the Lord invite them to church and make sure they become an active member. If you are not mature enough to disciple them ask your pastor(s) to find someone to disciple them.

10. BE DISCIPLED: Find someone to disciple you or find a good book on discipleship such as *Make Disciples of all the Nations*.

11. MAKE DISCIPLES: Once you have been discipled, start to disciple others. If you are a husband disciple your wife. If you are a father disciple your children. If you are a mother disciple your children with your husband. If you are single lead a person to the Lord and disciple him/her. Never disciple a person of the opposite sex unless you are engaged.

If one develops a discipline in these basics of holy living he will become a *disciple* of YAHSHUA. It does not happen overnight. It takes many years to become a mature *disciple*, but it starts with the daily discipline of being in prayer, in the Word and in regular fellowship with other believers.

Pray in the morning, throughout the day and before you go to sleep. Set up a daily Bible reading program. If you read 4 chapters a day you will read through the Bible in a year. Read 3 chapters in the Old Testament each day and 1 chapter in the New Testament. Buy an audio copy of the Bible, and listen to it at home and in the car. Buy DVDs of movies about the Bible and watch them often (*The Gospel of John, Peter and Paul, The Greatest Story Ever Told, King of Kings*, etc.). Memorize Scripture. If you memorize one verse a week you will have 52 verses memorized in one year. Meditate on Scripture and let the HOLY SPIRIT teach you. Learn how to share the gospel. Ask your pastor to train you, and then share your personal testimony and the gospel as the Lord leads.

Verses that every believer should have memorized are those dealing with the Gospel and evangelism:

All have sinned – Romans 3.23

The wages of sin is death – Romans 6.23

Judgment – Mark 8.36-37; Hebrews 9.27

Jesus is the only way – John 14.6; Acts 4.12; Romans 5.12

The gift of eternal life – John 1.12; John 3.16; Rom. 6.23

Faith in Jesus – Romans 10.9-10, 13; Ephesians 2.8-9

Evangelism - Matthew 28.19-20; Acts 1.8

Choose verses on specific topics that help you in your daily walk. Here are some examples:

Eternal security – John 5.24; 6.37; 10.27-29; 20.31; 1 John 5.10-13.

Holiness/Sanctification – Psalm 119.11; Proverbs 8.13; Romans 12.1-2; 1 Cor. 10.31; 2 Corinthians 5.17; 6.14-18; Galatians 5.13-26; Colossians 3.16; James 4.1-10; 1 Peter 1.15-17; 1 John 2.15-17.

Love – Matthew 5.43-48; 1 Corinthians 13.1-13.

Blessed hope – 1 Thess. 4.16-18; Titus 2.13; 1 John 3.2-3.

Brotherly love – John 13.34-35; 1 John 3.16-18

Peace – Philippians 4.7.

Prayer – Matthew 7.7; John 14.13-14; 1 John 3.22; 5.14.

Prosperity – Psalm 1.

Protection – Psalm 23.

Spiritual warfare – Ephesians 6.10-18.

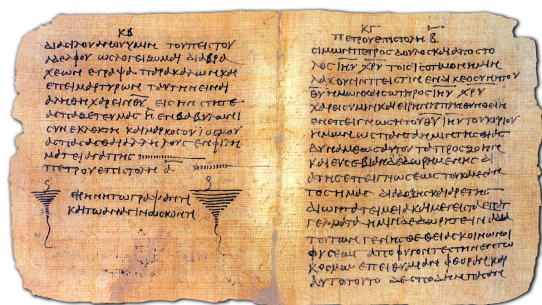
Strength – Isaiah 40.29-31; Ephesians 3.16; Phil. 4.13.

Sufficiency – Philippians 4.19.

Temptation – 1 Corinthians 10.13.

Tongue – James 3.1-18.

As you grow in the Lord you will pray more, and listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture more and more. You will share your gospel more often, and spend more time in fellowship with other believers.



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APPENDIX D

BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

*And be not drunk with wine in which is debauchery, but **be filled with the Spirit.*** (Ephesians 5.18)

Believers in YAHSHUA Messiah are not to be intoxicated (drunk) with wine and in like manner to not get “high” with drugs (legal or illegal). Instead we are to “*be filled with the SPIRIT.*” What does it mean to “*be filled with the SPIRIT*”? Does it mean we must have a “second blessing” in which the HOLY SPIRIT empowers us to do the work of the Lord?

Scripture does not say that before we can be “*filled*” or empowered with and by the HOLY SPIRIT we must have a special “second blessing.” Instead it is a daily activity. It is something we must do when we first awake and then throughout the day.

The first thing we should do when we wake up is ask the HOLY SPIRIT to fill us and lead us that day. Prayer at the beginning of a day makes it go by much more smoothly. Prayer gets us in the proper attitude so we can let our light shine throughout the entire day. The second thing one should consider is spending time in the Word. A quiet time in the Word when one first gets up fills us with the Word. Being filled with the Word and the HOLY SPIRIT is the same thing because the words that YAHSHUA spoke are “*spirit*” and “*life*” (John 6.63). Not only are the words that He spoke “*spirit*” and “*life*” but all Scripture is:

Every scripture inspired by YAHWEH is profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction and for discipline in righteousness that the man of YAHWEH may be complete, fully fitted for every good work. (2 Timothy 3.16)

Prayer throughout the day (1 Thessalonians 5.17) is a spiritual habit that keeps our mind set on the things above and not the things of this sin-filled world (Colossians 3.2). Being filled with the Word several times throughout the day is another habit that will conform us to the image of YAHSHUA (Romans 8.29). Taking Bible breaks is vital to be continually “*filled*” with the HOLY SPIRIT. If you can take a Bible or New Testament with you when you leave home try reading a few chapters during the day. If you cannot take a Bible with you to work or when you are out you can meditate on Scripture that you have memorized. When you hide the Word in your heart you always have it with you to meditate on.

By praying several times throughout the day and taking Bible breaks one can continually be “*filled*” with the HOLY SPIRIT. The more often one feeds on Scripture and prays the more he will grow. Babies would die within a few days if they were not given food. The same is true of newborn believers. If they are not given spiritual food they quickly die spiritually. The more spiritual food they receive the faster and stronger they grow. One or two twenty minute sermons each week may keep a believer alive spiritually, but that is life-support nourishment. To grow into a strong, mature and vital disciple one must feed on Scripture several times each day. All believers need to listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture daily and wash the Word down with prayer. If you do that faithfully every day YAHWEH will bless you with myriad spiritual blessings, not physical blessings.

If you want to be a disciplined and dedicated disciple of YAHSHUA you must be a spiritual glutton, feeding on the holy Word of YAHWEH throughout each day and praying always. Instead of being a glutton of physical food and pleasures of the world be a glutton of spiritual food.

APPENDIX E

HUMILITY

Humility is a spiritual trait that few believers in YAHSHUA Messiah have because it is impossible to obtain it through the flesh. Humility only comes when a believer surrenders his life to the Lord every day. Surrender is daily obedience to YAHWEH and dying to oneself, the flesh and the world.

One obeys YAHWEH by praying throughout the day from morning to night (1 Thessalonians 5.17); by daily reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture; by regular fellowship with the brethren (Acts 2.42, 46-47; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25); by continual sharing of the Gospel (Psalm 96.2; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15) and by making disciples (Matthew 28.19-20; 1 Timothy 2.15).

One dies daily to self by not doing things that feed the ego. Instead of spending time seeking to have your ego built up by the approval, attention, love, respect and honor from others, and seeking fame, glory and riches we need to seek how we can build others up by giving approval to their good deeds, and by giving them attention, love, respect and honor (Philippians 2.1-9). The road to humility is travelled by building others up in the faith, not demanding others build us up in the faith or build up our egos.

A believer also dies to the flesh daily by not engaging in things that the sinful flesh desires and which are sins. Two of the most prevalent sins of the flesh are gluttony and intoxication (by alcohol or drugs). Excessive indulgence in

some other activities of the flesh that most believers should consider reducing, are: sex (with spouse), partying, sports, hobbies, vacationing and chit-chatting.

The way to die to yourself is to spend more time in spiritual activities than of the flesh which are not necessary for survival. Everyone must eat to live, but gluttony is a sin. Everyone needs bodily exercise, but excessive exercise is a misuse of the Lord's time. The same is true of partying, sports, hobbies, vacationing and chit-chatting. These things are not sins, but excessive indulgence in them is.

A believer dies to the world by reducing his involvement in worldly activities or by cutting them out altogether. Some other worldly activities that most believers spend far too much time in are: television, movies, music, Internet, politics, non-spiritual books and magazines, and seeking after wealth and possessions. Every believer who desires to die to himself and live a holy life for the glory of YAHWEH will spend more time each day in prayer, Scripture, fellowship and soul-winning than in activities of the world.

We know we are growing in the Lord and dying to ourselves, the flesh and the world when our self love, our love of the flesh and our love of the world diminishes as it should:

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him; because all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. The world is passing away and the lust of it; but the one who is doing the will of YAHWEH remains unto the age. (1 John 2.15-17)

The more these sinful desires diminish the more humble one will be. Pride is the opposite of humility. Pride is the root of every sin. There is no sin a person can commit that does not spring from pride. That is why the key to holy living is humility which replaces pride, and when pride is vanquished so is sin. No one can ever eliminate all traces of pride and sin, but it should be the goal of every true believer.

Humility is a spiritual trait that every believer should not only desire, but actively seek after. YAHWEH does not use His children to bring Him glory until they are humble. A believer who humbles himself before YAHWEH will be looked upon by YAHWEH with grace (Isaiah 66.2; Proverbs 3.34; James 4.6) and He will have regard for him (Psalm 138.6). When we humble ourselves before YAHWEH and those around us He will exalt us (James 4.10). We must never forget that all believers are commanded to “*humble*” themselves before YAHWEH (1 Peter 5.6), “*walk humbly with*” YAHWEH (Micah 6.8), be “*humble in spirit*” (1 Peter 3.8), clothe themselves “*with humility*” (1 Peter 5.5) and to not be proud (Romans 12.16).

Humility is always better than pride (Proverbs 16.19) and it is the only way to obtain true riches, honor and life (Proverbs 22.4). Pride will bring a person down while humility will bring him honor (Proverbs 11.2; 16.18; 29.23). We must also remember that there are numerous warnings against pride (Psalm 10.2; 40.4; 73.6; 119.78; Proverbs 3.7; 26.12; 28.25; Isaiah 5.21; 13.11; John 9.41; Revelation 3.17). Pride is a sin (Proverbs 21.4), one of the seven things that YAHWEH hates and that is an abomination to Him (Proverbs 6.17; 8.13).

Humility is one of the most difficult traits for anyone to obtain. No one can be humble in his own power. We must rely on the power of the HOLY SPIRIT to impart humility to us. Yet there are specific things we must do on a daily and regular basis before He will give us humility. The daily things we should do as noted previously are pray, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture. The things one should do on a regular basis are fellowship with the brethren and share the Gospel with the lost as the HOLY SPIRIT leads. These are the basics, but there are many other things a dedicated believer should do on a daily basis:

Seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH (Matthew 6.33)

Put on the armor of YAHWEH (Ephesians 6.10-18)

Fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6.12)

Transform your mind (Romans 12.2)

Take up your cross (Matthew 10.38-39; 16.24-26)
Deny yourself (Romans 12.1)
Be content in your circumstances (Phil. 4.3; 1 Tim. 6.6-8; Hebrews 13.5)
Give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5.18)
Continually offer praise to YAHWEH (Hebrews 13.15)
Forsake the world and all that is in it (Romans 12.2; Galatians 6.14; 1 Peter 1.14; 1 John 2.15-17)
Flee from seeking after riches (1 Timothy 6.9-11)
Submit to others (Ephesians 5.21)
Obey your spiritual leaders (Hebrews 13.17)
Love the brethren (John 13.34-35; James 2.15-16; 1 John 3.16-18)
Love the lost and your enemies (Prov. 25.21; Matthew 5.43-48)
Be rich in good works (1 Timothy 6.18; Galatians 6.10; Ephesians 2.10; 2 Timothy 3.17; Hebrews 13.16)
Do not grow weary in doing good works (2 Thess. 3.13)
Give to those in need (Leviticus 25.35; Deuteronomy 15.7; Proverbs 11.24-25; 19.17; 21.13; 22.9; 28.27; Ecclesiastes 11.1; Isaiah 58.7; Matthew 5.42; Luke 6.38; 12.33; Acts 11.29; Romans 12.13; Hebrews 13.1-2; James 1.27; 1 Peter 4.9)
Lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity (1 Timothy 2.1).

As we do these things day-by-day we will grow more humble and be used by YAHWEH for His glory (1 Corinthians 10.31) more each day. Others will see the Lord working through us and may be encouraged to follow our example. Pastors must set an example for the flock (1 Peter 5.3) by engaging in the spiritual activities above and they should also encourage others to do the same. They and all believers should be the servant of all (Matthew 20.26-27; Mark 9.35; Luke 22.26).

Negativity Factor

Very few believers understand the Negativity Factor. Understanding of this is the key to gaining humility and ridding oneself of pride.

Everyone is conceived and born in sin and goes astray from birth (Psalm 51.5; 58.3). We struggle with sin our entire lives even after we are born from above (Galatians 5.17). It is our sin nature and our submission to it that hinders the work that YAHWEH seeks to do through us. This is the Negativity Factor. We do not add to the work of YAHWEH in any way, we only hinder it. YAHWEH performs great works through us in spite of us. We hinder His work we do not help it. The only thing we can do is lessen our Negativity Factor by obeying YAHWEH every second of every day of our lives.

Believers who think they help YAHWEH perform good deeds or great works are delusional. We can never help YAHWEH. All we can do is empty ourselves of all of our desires and make ourselves available to Him every day. We must daily do what John the Baptist said about Jesus the Messiah, *“He must increase, but I must decrease”* (John 3.30). The more we rid ourselves of us the more YAHWEH can work through us for His glory.

The way to diminish ourselves is to spend every spare moment we have in prayer, worshipping YAHWEH, Bible reading, study, memorization and meditation, fellowship with the brethren, sharing the Gospel and making disciples. Every minute we spend enjoying the pleasures of the world – watching TV, movies and sports, shopping, partying, reading meaningless fiction books, eating pleasure foods, hobbies, worrying over investments – is a minute wasted forever. Everyone needs down time, recreation and relaxation, but there are good ways of getting R&R and bad ways. Make sure your methods of R&R are honoring to the Lord and do not over do it. Three of the best forms of relaxation are praying, reading the Bible and listening to hymns. When you need to chill out pray, read the Bible and or listen to hymns. If these activities do not relax and energize you something is wrong.



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APPENDIX F

ON WHAT DAY WILL THE RAPTURE TAKE PLACE?

The Rapture will take place on the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanna). We know this because the first four feasts were fulfilled on the very day of each of them.

YAHSHUA died on Passover being the Passover Lamb for the whole world as John said:

On the morrow, John seeing YAHSHUA coming to him said, "Behold, the Lamb of YAHWEH who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1.29)

The Feast of Unleavened Bread was fulfilled with the burial of YAHSHUA and His resurrection fulfilled the Feast of First Fruits. The priest would wave a sheaf before YAHWEH on the first day after the Sabbath of the week of the feast of Unleavened Bread (Leviticus 23.11). A year-young lamb would also be offered (Leviticus 23.12).

The waving of the sheaf was symbolic of the first fruits of the harvest (Leviticus 23.10). YAHSHUA was First Fruit of the Resurrection of the righteous (1 Corinthians 15.20, 23). His resurrection and the resurrection of the Old Testament saints (Ephesians 4.8; Matthew 27.52-53) were the First Fruits. The full harvest will be the resurrection and rapture of the Church Age believers (1 Corinthians 15.51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4.16-17). The gleanings will be the rapture of the

144,000 (Revelation 14.1-5) and the resurrection and rapture of the two witnesses (Revelation 11.3-6). The final gleanings will be the resurrection of the believers of the Tribulation period (Revelation 20.4).

The fourth feast is Pentecost which takes place 50 days after the first day after the Sabbath of Unleavened Bread. A new grain offering was to be made along with a lamb, a bull and two rams (Leviticus 23.16-18). The Church was born on the day of Pentecost fulfilling that feast (Acts 2.1-4).

The fifth feast is the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah). It was a feast in which an indeterminate number of trumpets were blown from the first day of the seventh month until the tenth day of that month (Leviticus 23.24-25). It is speculation that the Rapture will take place on this feast, but it makes sense.

The first four feasts were fulfilled on the very day of each of them so we should expect the next major event to take place on the next feast. That next event is the Rapture of the Church which has numerous trumpet blasts in it.

It should be noted that the last three feasts will not be fulfilled in the same year unless the Rapture comes at the end of Daniel's Seventieth Week. As we will see in the next chapter the Post-Tribulation Rapture is impossible. Therefore, there will be a gap of 5.5 years between the fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets and the Feast of Atonement.

The sixth feast is that of Atonement which falls on the tenth day of the seventh month (Leviticus 23.27). The Second Advent will take place on this feast.

The last feast is the Feast of Tabernacles (Booths) which lasts for seven days (Leviticus 23.34-36). The start of the Millennial Kingdom will begin on that day. There will be a five day gathering of the peoples of the world for the judgment of the nations from the Second Advent of YAHSHUA. The judgment of the nations will be the official start of the Millennial Kingdom (Matthew 25.31-46). The wicked who are alive at His return will be judged, found guilty and cast into the Lake of Fire joining the Antichrist and False Prophet (Revelation 19.20).

The righteous who live through Daniel's Seventieth Week will enter into the Millennial Kingdom in mortal bodies. All believers who died prior to the Second Advent will rule with YAHSHUA during the Millennial Kingdom in immortal bodies.

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