



**One New Man Study:
Lesson Twelve: The Dividing Wall Between The Jews And The Gentiles**

John 4:22 - Salvation is of the Jews....

The Messiah's name is Jesus, Yeshuah, Joshua, and Jacob. His name sadly, has been used to malign Jews for centuries, yet He Himself was an Israeli-born Jew from Bethlehem, the city of David. Just as the prophets had prophesied - He WAS and IS the Messiah of Israel.

The promise of a Messiah was first made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, founders of the Jewish family, a promise later renewed to King David, that one of their descendants would reign over the nations forever:

Genesis 28:14 - And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shall spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

2 Samuel 7:16 - And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

Yeshuah fit the prophet's description in every detail and was hailed by thousands of Jews as Messiah. Many of its national leaders (mainly the religious) rejected Him, of course, but significant numbers of priests and other leaders received Him. Every aspect of His life was JEWISH to the core:

- His circumcision
- His Torah studies - He baffled the Temple leaders with His knowledge of the Scriptures at age 12 (Luke 2:47)
- His annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feasts, His faithful observance of the Sabbath.
- His constant statements concerning Moses and the prophets.
- Even on the cross, His last words was from one of David's psalms (Matthew 27:46 with Psalms 22:1)¹

His whole life was spent among the Jews. Only on rare occasions did Jesus have interaction with those not under the Jewish covenant. One day when a non-Jewish female approached Him He said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." (Matthew 15:24) His death was not without the involvement of Gentiles -

¹ Finto, Don. *Your People Shall Be My People*. Regal Books, Ventura, CA. 2001

the Roman soldiers, Pilate, Herod. But most of those surrounding the Cross were Jewish people who had watched and followed Him during the years of His public ministry. (Traditionally we have been taught His ministry was 3 ½ years. More than likely Jesus may have only ministered for 18 months. Get the tape series!) Resurrection morning at the tomb also saw, not Gentiles, but JEWISH people except for the Roman soldiers who were so scared they shook and became like dead men. The resurrection appearances during the next 40 days would be to JEWISH people. When He ascended, those gathered were JEWS. The 120 in the Upper Room waiting for the "gift of the Holy Ghost," were either a son or a daughter of Abraham. (Acts 1:4).

What about Pentecost? The recipients of the gift of the Holy Spirit were Jewish people. And Peter called on the prophet JOEL and King David as witnesses that Jesus was the manifestation of what these men had seen (Acts 2:16,25). This Jesus is both "Lord and Messiah." (Acts 2:36) And guess what? He is JEWISH!

A. Messiah Is The Fulfillment Of, Not Destruction, Of Judaism

The newly 3,000 baptized believers soon grew to 5,000 and more, were not founding a new religion. They were simply living out the fulfillment of centuries-old faith in the one true God who had made a promise in the garden, then to their ancestors, that He would come to deliver them and ultimately the whole world through them. These new believers were Sabbath-keeping, son-circumcising, Torah-observing, feast celebrating Jewish people who now celebrated JESUS (YESHUA) as the one who brought meaning to it all. None of these practices ceased when they believed in Yeshuah. The first followers of Jesus were actually called "Nazarenes."² (See Scripture reference further into study)

They still frequented the Temple (Acts 2:46; 5:12). They were often present at the normal hours of prayer (Acts 3:1). Even after having been called before the Sanhedrin to defend their faith, they continued daily in the Temple. (Acts 5:42). Ananias, the man who baptized Paul, "was a devout observer of the Law." (Acts 22:12).

Salvation, however, is not obtained by observing the law. It is a free gift from God through the vicarious death of the Messiah. Now they could understand why Isaiah had spoken of a "suffering" servant (Isaiah 53:3). Even the feasts and sacrifices took on more meaning. Passover and Pentecost, the Day of Atonement and the Feasts of Trumpets were no longer a deliverance of long ago and a holy law written on stone tablets on Mount Sinai. Rather, they were recognition of the Messiah who has already come - our Passover Lamb, and a

² From an interview between Sid Roth and Bob Fischer, author of *The Children of God*. Don Finto also makes references to the Nazarenes in his book, *Your People Shall Be My People*.

law written in our hearts (BOTH JEW AND GENTILE) Jeremiah called it a "new covenant."

This was NOT a new religion. It was the fulfillment of EVERYTHING the promises of God were and still are wrapped up in today - Judaism. These new believers did not answer to the name "Christian." Not until Antioch (Acts 11:26) was a believer in Yeshuah ever referred to in the Hellenized fashion. (The term "Christian," actually is a Greek word for *christos*, the word for MESSIAH) These new believers were called "Nazarenes" because they followed the man from Nazareth. (Acts 24:5)³

Acts 24:5 - For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:

They were said to "belong to the Way." (Acts 9:2). Others saw them as only another sect of Judaism (Acts 28:22). Tertullus called Paul "a ringleader of the Nazarene sect," when he was making accusation before Governor Felix. Peter's housetop vision at the tanner's house in Joppa and Paul's Damascus Road experience brought major changes. Gentiles began to be welcomed into the family, and they did not have to become Jews to be accepted. This was very confusing to a people who had kept themselves scrupulously separate for all those years. A "Jerusalem" Council had to be called. Some were vehemently opposed to this revelation:

Acts 15:5 - But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

In the final decree from Jerusalem, Gentiles DID NOT have to be circumcised or keep the law necessarily. However, they were to be very careful to give up pagan customs and unacceptable morals that opposed faith in the one true God (Acts 15:19-21). The Gentiles were in.

Acts 15:19-21 - Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: [20] But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. [21] For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath day.

The profile of the early church took on a rapid transformation. Many Greek names were added to the roster of believers: Gaius, Aristarchus, Trophimus,

³ Finto, Don. *Your People Shall Be My People*. Regal Books, Ventura, CA. 2001

Theophilus. Cities like Antioch, Ephesus and Rome soon became centers of influence in the ever-expanding family. Some of Paul's traveling companions were Greek, others were Jewish. Timothy, with a Jewish mother and a Greek father, was circumcised before joining Paul's team. On the other hand, Titus, who was fully Greek, did not have to submit to the same act.

Jews and Gentiles were learning to embrace each other in Yeshuah. But the question then as it is not is "what about Abraham's natural seed and their identity?"

B. Always A Jew

Paul was sent to the Gentiles but that did not detract from his passion for his fellow Jewish brethren. Usually along his journeys of preaching and teaching, his first stop was usually always at a synagogue: in Salamis, Pisidian, Antioch, Iconium, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus (Acts 13:5, 14; 14:1; 17:2, 10, 17; 18:4; 19:8) Paul made every possible effort to reach his fellow countrymen.

*Acts 28:17-23 - And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. [18] Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me. [19] But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of. [20] For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain. [21] And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee. [22] But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against. [23] And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, **persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.***

Jerusalem was always in his heart. There were many times Paul rushed there just so he could attend the feast days. When he turned away from them at the end to deliver his message to the Gentiles he was not washing his hands of them for good. He had just made it clear the message of the gospel would now be sent to a group "who will listen."

Acts 28:28 - Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

Although Paul meticulously declares that salvation is alone through the

finished work of Messiah Yeshuah (Romans 3:21,22), he was a lifelong observer of the now-fulfilled Law and Prophets.

Romans 3:21-22 - But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; [22] Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

"I am a Jew," he told the Roman commander in Jerusalem as he was nearing the end of his life:

Acts 21:39 - But Paul said, I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people.

Paul's defense before Felix at the Caesarea trial was based totally on His observance of the Jewish customs. He proclaimed he had done NOTHING against their customs:

Acts 24:14 - But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

Acts 25:8 - While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all.

Acts 28:17 - And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

Acts 21:21-24 - And they are informed of thee, that you teach all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs. [22] What is it therefore? the multitude must needs come together: for they will hear that thou art come. [23] Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them; [24] Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walks orderly, and keeps the law.

Many argue that Paul's letter to the Galatians was a slap in the face of Judaism. Not even close! If anything Paul strengthened the case for the customs of the fathers. His argument to the Galatians was that the Law could not save them. Keeping the feasts could not save them. Keeping their traditions and customs did not merit them anything or any right standing with God. Faith alone

in Christ's finished work at Calvary was the ONLY way to know God intimately and inherit eternal life:

Galatians 2:16 - Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

C. The Jewish Messiah: The End Of The Law

It seems a contradiction in terms when Paul says, "Christ is the end of the law," and then say, "the law is holy." Jesus had made it clear He had not come to do away with the Law and the Prophets but to fulfill them: (Matthew 5:17). But the law has never been able to make one righteous. It is only through the Holy Spirit that the "righteous requirements of the law," can be fulfilled:

Romans 8:4 - That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Matthew 5:17 - Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

To sum it up - Christ is the COMPLETION, the GOAL, the PURPOSE, the AIM and the consummation of the law. Was this Judaizing? Was Paul's observance of the law Judaizing? NO! Paul was not asking the Gentiles to act like Jews - and neither should we as Gentiles expect the Jewish people to act like us! The Judaizers at Galatia were those who insisted that circumcision and law observance were the means to righteousness or those who insisted that Gentiles observe Jewish law. The finished work of the Messiah is for BOTH JEW and GENTILE! Salvation comes by faith in what Messiah has already done - His atoning death on the cross for our sins. Nothing more is needed. Not our sacrifices, not our works, not our deeds. Although Jewish believers may still be observers of the law, they who know Yeshuah know that the law is not the source of their righteousness! Salvation is from the Jews and it comes from God's MERCY!

Titus 3:5 - Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

All of this was no surprise to the Jews. Isaiah had foretold it in scripture:

Isaiah 49:5-6 - And now, saith the Lord that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall be my strength. [6] And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to

restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

But something happened that caused a tremendous rift in the early Jewish church. The tension between Rome and Jerusalem escalated. Roman armies surrounded the city. The ensuing siege lasted two years, but ultimately the city was destroyed and the Temple lay in ruins. Jewish believers remembered the words of Jesus on the Mt. of Olives and fled across the Jordan to the Pella. Their flight accomplished two things: It further separated them from their Jewish brothers who now considered them traitors, perhaps even in league with the Romans, and it further eroded leadership among the Jewish believers. Some of the Gentile believers began to interpret the destruction of Jerusalem as God's final judgment on Israel. To many, He was finished with the Jewish race. Some began to teach the promises made to God's "chosen people," now belonged to the "Church." That term "church" to them meant the Gentiles basically. No Jews were allowed so to speak.

We have mentioned this in an earlier lesson but another historic event widened the rift between Jews and Christian. Some 60 years later the Bar Kokhba revolt of the A.D. 130s was defeated and Jews were forbidden to go into the city. Emperor Hadrian rebuilt the city, named it Aelia Capitolina and dedicated it to three pagan gods. Any believers left in the holy city were not GENTILES. They took control of the holy places and entrenched themselves as leaders of the Jerusalem Church. There were still scattered Jewish believers in the Diaspora - those outside Jerusalem and the Land - until as late as the fourth century, even believers in Messiah in Jewish synagogues, but there was little of Jewish influence left. It is not surprising that Gentile Christians started understanding the Jewish people less and less. And we have not come back down that road even today.

The Jewish connection to the Christian faith is almost forgotten today. Few consider the fact our Lord was and is the Jewish Messiah who now sits at the right hand of Father God interceding for us. The Church has become so Gentile in its practice of faith that those of us who would seek to bring light in reclaiming our Jewish Biblical heritage are considered strange. But this is our roots and if we don't honor our "fathers" and "mothers" - The JEWISH PEOPLE - the Lord is going to bring a curse upon planet Earth.

Who Killed The Messiah?

We have already looked in detail in two earlier lessons at Replacement Theology. I want to reiterate something that happened in the church's past through the voices of Origen and Constantine. By the time of Origen, about the middle of the third century, it was an accepted fact and belief among most Christians that God's dispersion of the Jewish people was God's method of

showing them and the world He was finished with them. Origen wrote in *Against Celus*:

"They will never be restored to their former condition. For they have committed a crime of the most unhallowed kind, in conspiring against the Saviour of the human race."

Are we do totally blind and stupid that we have never paused to think that it was NOT just the Jewish people who killed Jesus? What about Pilate? What about the Roman soldiers? They were actively involved in his torture, crucifixion and arrest. Furthermore, Jesus Himself declared that HE LAID DOWN HIS OWN LIFE for all of humanity. In other words, our SINS put HIM ON CALVARY, not Israel, not the Jewish race, not the Romans, but the SINS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD - JEW AND GENTILE!

The Church did not take any chances (SEE LESSON ONE - THE THEOLOGY OF SEPARATION) for in A.D. 325 Emperor Constantine called the Nicene Council to solve some of the doctrinal problems he saw in the church and Christianity. He also wanted to make sure that the Church had once and for all separated herself from "these polluted wrenches" who had stained their hands "with a nefarious crime." They needed a resurrection celebration date other than Passover. Passover was too Jewish for the Gentiles. What we got in exchange for this demented actions was EASTER:

"It appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast, we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with an enormous sin, and are, therefore, deservedly afflicted with blindness of soul,"

Those are the words of Constantine to the assembled bishops at Nicea in A.D. 325. At the conclusion a huge church banquet ensued. The Roman calendar had conquered. The annual celebration of the Lord's passion and resurrection would not have a new name - Easter - strangely similar to *Eostre*, the Teutonic goddess of spring, dissimilar to *Pesach*, or Passover, the festival of its origin. The Western Church from this point replaced God's calendar of events forward. In his insistence that the Church change the calendar of God and that man was able to do such without penalty, Constantine forever separated the Church from its Jewish roots. WE MUST RETURN TO THOSE ROOTS IF WE ARE TO SEE REVIVAL!

Other church fathers would enlarge Constantine's edicts. Luther, Chrysostom and Martyr. All recognizable names in Church History but names synonymous with doing one of the most horrific things to the church of the Lord Jesus, Yeshuah - dividing us from our Jewish heritage. By the time the Second Nicene Council in A.D. 787, believing Jews had to prove they were "Christians." They were, for the most part required to renounce all forms of Judaism in front of

witnesses. The Lateran councils of A.D. 1179 and A.D. 1215 ordered Jews to live in separate quarters and to wear distinctive dress. THIS PAVED THE WAY FOR GHETTO LIVING AND THE YELLOW BADGE REQUIRED PRIOR TO AND DURING THE TIME OF THE NAZI HOLOCAUST! Martin Luther became the final nail in the coffin. As much as he did to bring a "reformed Church" into knowledge of grace, he also reeked with anti-Semitism that drove him to write things against the Jews. When Adolph Hitler became chancellor of Germany he didn't have to look for to find a springboard to justify his actions. Luther was quote in this evil dictator's Mein Kampf!

We've discussed all this in earlier lessons but I feel it important to discuss it again and again if necessary to get the 21st Century Church woke up out of its sleep to see what we have passed off as "godly teaching" over the years has been nothing but a Satanic effort to destroy the unity of the Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshuah. For many years there was no place of safety for a Jewish believer. Either he kept quiet about his faith and remained in his local synagogue - thus denying the Lord - or he acknowledged his faith and was forced out of his Jewish fellowship into the world of the Gentile Church and lose his Jewish identity. THIS IS NOT THE ONE NEW MAN IN MESSIAH! This is arrogance!

In 1492 Ferdinand and Isabella signed the decree to evict Jews and confiscate their property in what has now become to be known as the Spanish Inquisition. Today in Toledo, Spain is the corner of an ancient street near San Juan de los Reyes. Hanging from the walls of this old monastery were the chains in which Jewish people had been tortured and killed five centuries earlier - stark reminders of a dark past. That dark past is not just in the history of the world. It's also found embedded deeply within the confines of the church! We need to repent! Jesus is the Messiah of the JEW and the GENTILE or He is not Messiah at all. Yeshuah, Son of David, has now become Jesus Christ, Savior of the Gentiles.

In earlier times the Jews received us into their family, but now we are rejecting them! In the heart of the Church, the Gentiles are in and the Jews are out. And now the blindness that Paul foretold would come on the Jewish people has fallen upon the Gentiles. And the unity that the Gentile church has destroyed between the Jew and the Gentile in Yeshuah cannot be found even among us Gentiles! (GIVE THAT LAST STATEMENT A LOT OF THOUGHT!) We're reaping what has been sown and it's time for us to repent! Paul left us with a sobering warning about arrogance when it comes to the Jewish race. He warns us of arrogance and pride in our dealings with them as Gentiles:

Romans 11:18-20 - Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. [19] Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. [20] Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not high minded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and

severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. [23] And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again. [24] For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree? 25] For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.

That is a warning for us today in the modern Church. It's time we get the leaven out of the Church and the greatest leaven of all is the division between the Jew and the Gentile!

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

The early believers were together and had "everything in common." (Acts 2:44) They were "of one heart and mind." (Acts 4:32). In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed for the Church would be one (JEW AND GENTILE IN UNITY IN MESSIAH) that "the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17:21)

BUT WE ARE NOT ONE! There are now over 160 different ecclesiastical traditions with 23,300 separate and distinct denominations within the larger Body of Christ. ⁽¹⁾ As Don Finto says in his book "Your People Shall Be My People," - *"the DNA of the church has become distorted. The natural law inherent in all of God's creation - the DNA so to speak - has had its effect on the Church. We have reproduced 'according to our kind.'* (Gen. 1:11). By breaking from our Jewish fathers the Church has produced one division from another - we have reaped the division our "fathers" have sown in the past.⁴

After embracing our Jewish brethren for close to 300 years, we have saw the last 1900 years produce division after division: Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic; Anglican and Protestant; Calvinism and Armenianism; Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist, Nazarene and Pentecostal; denominationalism and non-denominationalism. The effect on society? NONE! ZERO! ZILCH! NOTTA! NOTHING! We have brought God down to nothing more than an argument in the Western Church and that's really sad. Because the glorious church the Lord Jesus birthed and bought by His blood was not and is not destined to be a

⁴ Ibid. Finto's entire chapter called "THE DNA Of the Church" is a MUST READ.

divided church. But the dividing line in God's mind is not whether we are Pentecostal or Baptist - it's Jew and Gentile. Always has been and always will be!

This all began when the Gentile church assumed a superior position. The gaping wound of schism between Jews and Gentiles represents the granddaddy of all wounds in the Body of Messiah. All other wounds of division stem from this original wound. According to Marty Wildman:

"Because the Church had grown to believe that it superseded Israel and Messianic Judaism, the spirit of supersessionism has plagued Christianity through the ages. The Orthodox Church believes that the Roman Catholic Church is in rebellion. The Roman Catholic Church has always viewed the Protestants as religious rebels. The many denominations and divisions in the Protestant church are primarily the result of one group of Christians superseding an existing group because they have found a "more pure way." Supersessionism essentially nullifies the promise of God to the previous group."

Israel is God's FIRSTBORN! (Ex. 4:22) A firstborn son has an irreplaceable position of honor in the family. Paul tied this theme into his writings to the Romans in relating Israel's calling and her place with God:

Romans 11:28-29 - As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. [29] For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

After years of wandering, Israel is on her way home. But the Gentile Church is acting like the older brother in the parable Jesus told in Luke 15. Israel is the son of a persecuted race. The Jewish people need ALL THE LOVE THEY CAN GET. The Lord has given the Gentile church EVERYTHING it could ever ask for and we still seek more from our own selfish hearts. We are arrogantly and prideful when we say, like the elder brother - *"they had their chance, they squandered their inheritance; now it's our time; they no longer have any rights in the Father's house."* But Father God is saying not so fast! He's saying, "QUICK! Bring the fatted calf and kill it; put the best robe on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet; let's have a FEAST and celebrate!"

D. Hands Stained With Blood

Dr. Michael Brown wrote a very powerful book not too terribly long ago entitled, *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood*. It is a historical look into the church's dealings with the Jewish people. We have touched already in previous lessons on the hatred some of the early church "fathers" had for Jews. Their writings affected generations of believers, some of which are the ancestors of those people today! There is a wall of separation and division that must be torn down before we see revival.

Too often our prayers have come from hate-filled hearts and bloodstained hands. This is graphically illustrated in the famine in the time of David after his ascent to the throne. God told David, "*it is on account of Saul and his blood-stained house; it is because he put the Gibeonites to death.*" This goes deep so follow me here. Saul was dead. The Gibeonites were a group of people that were in existence LONG before David came to power. Why would God send a famine on the land because of a past generation? Why hold David and his kingdom accountable for that?⁵

Yesterday's sins cause today's famine! Let that sink in Church! As Israel entered into the land, their leader Joshua made a covenant with the Gibeonites. Four hundred years later, Saul, the first king of Israel, broke that covenant. The famine that blighted the land during David's reign came because Saul had dishonored and killed a covenant people. This godless deed, committed centuries later, now rested on the head of the present ruler, and God expected an appropriate act of contrition and confession - NATIONALLY AND CORPORATELY.⁶

The Church finds itself in the same place today. Past generations of leaders have dishonored and even killed this special people God marked for blessing. A good friend of mine told me recently that the number of years America turned her back on the Jewish people (and a lot of that can be laid at the foot of the American church!) is the exact number of years we fought Vietnam. We are the descendants both physically and spiritually, of those generations! Authority has now passed to us just as it did David. From us in the 21st Century Church God is expecting repentance over our Anti-Jewish stances and past bloodshed at His chosen people's expense. If this does not happen we will continue to be under a curse:

Malachi 4:5-6 - Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: [6] And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

We can brag and boast about our numbers and the "hoopla" so many call revivals but friend America is not changing. All our services, all our activity and all our churches have not brought the power of God to America to the point she has repented. The reason? Because the church hasn't repented. And until we repent there is going to be a famine. Revival is not a series of meetings. Revival is change. It's a change in our hearts. It's a change in our homes. It's a change in our lives. It's a change in our jobs. It's a change in our schools. It's a change in our government. It's a change in our financial institutions. It's a change in the entertainment industry. Revival CHANGES EVERYTHING! And it's not changing

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

hearts and lives then it's not revival. We may feel God's presence, we may feel goose bumps, we may even shout and sing a little, but friend God wants to open ALL OF HEAVEN to come down and saturate this ungodly nation with HIS GLORY! The church basks in the presence but it's GODS GLORY that He wants to reveal to us! And when He reveals His glory - NO FLESH CAN GLORY IN THAT! NO FLESH can stand and boast in the presence of the GLORY OF GOD! I hear it all the time in churches all over America "God is here," "God is here," - friend, if God was there no one would be standing. We wouldn't be bragging, we'd be prostrate on the ground DEAD! Hear me America. Hear me Gentile world. There is BLOOD ON OUR HANDS! And it's Jewish blood. And the Lord Jesus (YESHUAH) is not happy right now at how we have treated His fellow brethren and kinsman! We can both repent of this evil wickedness and remove the curse, or we can rebel and harden our hearts and see judgment hit America in such a way they won't be able to find Texas on a map after God 's through with us!

The Church in some parts of the world is coming to grips with it sins. Reconciliation groups are meeting in every nation. Germans are confessing to Europeans, Japanese to Asians, descendants of European conquerors to indigenous people groups, sons and daughters of former slaveholders and slave traders to sons and daughters of former slaves. The Jewish issues are no longer and cannot any longer be ignored. You may not care about any of this - BUT YOU BETTER START CARING! This is the move of God that is ahead in the earth before Jesus comes!⁷

And if the church of Yeshuah wants to see TRUE BIBLICAL UNITY we must first be set free by territorial and denominational spirits and only have devotion to the KING! But the family can only come together when we tear down the wall between the Gentile and the Jewish people. And the Gentile world needs to be rebuked for trying to make the Jewish people become Gentiles! They don't have to lose their Jewish heritage to be part of YESHUAH! He was JEWISH!!!!

When we cleanse our hands and hearts then we will see the promise of Psalms 133 come to pass upon us!

Psalm 133:1-3 - A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren (JEW AND GENTILE) to dwell together in unity! [2] It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; [3] As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Lesson Twelve Study Questions

⁷ Ibid.

1. The promise of a _____ was first made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, founders of the _____ family
2. Every aspect of Messiah's life was _____ to the core
3. The _____ appearances of Messiah during the next 40 days after His death would be to _____ people. When He ascended, those gathered were _____.
4. The 120 in the Upper Room waiting for the "gift of the Holy Ghost," were either a son or a daughter of _____. (Acts 1:4).
5. The recipients of the gift of the _____ were Jewish people
6. Peter called on the Jewish prophet _____ and the Jewish King _____ as witnesses that Jesus was the manifestation of what these men had seen
7. These new believers known as _____, were _____-keeping, _____ son-_____, _____-observing, _____ celebrating Jewish people who now celebrated _____ as the one who brought meaning to it all
8. Salvation is not obtained by observing the _____. It is a free _____ from God through the vicarious death of the Messiah.
9. Isaiah spoke of a "suffering" _____ - (Isaiah 53:3).
10. Passover and Pentecost, the Day of Atonement and the Feasts of Trumpets were no longer a deliverance of long ago and a holy law written on stone tablets on _____.
11. All the Feasts were recognition of the _____ who has already come. He is our _____ Lamb and has written the _____ of God in our _____. Jeremiah called it the _____ Covenant.
12. Judaism is _____ and was the _____ of everything in the _____ of God.
13. _____ began to be welcomed into the family, and they did not have to become _____ to be accepted.
14. This was very confusing to a people who had kept themselves scrupulously separate for all those years. The _____ was called to debate the issue of the Gentile entry into the Church. Some were _____ to this revelation.
15. In the final decree from Jerusalem, _____ did not have to be circumcised or keep the law necessarily.
16. The only requirements for Gentiles to come into the fellowship were to be very careful to give up _____ customs and unacceptable morals that opposed faith in the _____ true God (Acts 15:19-21).
17. Paul was sent to the _____ but that did not detract from his passion for his fellow _____ brethren
18. Christ is the _____, and the consummation of the law.
19. The _____ connection to the Christian faith is almost forgotten today. Few consider the fact our Lord was and is the Jewish _____ who now sits at the right hand of Father God interceding for us
20. Israel is God's _____ Ex. 4:22) A firstborn son has an irreplaceable position of _____ in the family.