

# Chag HaMatzot, 7<sup>th</sup> day Service

## *Unleavened Bread & Sanctification – Festival msg 2*

Keeping the Commandments leads to Sanctification  
Don Cole

In the HaBikkurim Service (Festival msg, part 1), we first established Yeshua's death on the Cross. Secondly, we discussed the Hag HaMatzot; thirdly, HaBikkurim (first fruits).

Your notes:

Here, we are speaking about the seven days of Unleavened Bread, which on the Hebrew Calendar are from the 7<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> of Nisan. The Scriptures instruct that during these 7 days, we are not to eat anything with any kind of chametz (anything which has leaven in it). Leavened bread symbolizes any type of sin.

Regardless of whether we are reading the TaNaKh or the Apostolic Scriptures, we see that the Father's Commands are the same & that He expects us to keep them.

Those who obey His Commandments are declared to have a sanctified life, holy to our LORD (YHVH) and will be declared an overcomer of this life!

The majority of Christians do not believe in good works. This belief system is credited to Martin Luther, during the Reformation. Luther was against the indulgences of the Catholic Church (paying a restitution for one's sins). These indulgences were considered "works"; the average person had to pay to have their sins forgiven. Luther proclaimed that these indulgences could not be supported in the Scriptures. He took this correct viewpoint to an extreme. Consequently, he viewed Scripture's Commandments as not contributing to salvation. In fact, he rejected any type of "works" or "good works" as being evil for they did not contribute to the Grace of God. His focus was on "sola fide" "faith alone", that is "faith alone in Jesus Christ alone". This became the Luther cry of the Protestant Reformation, which continues to this day! Protestants, not knowing the Scriptures, claim that Luther's new revelation of "sola fide,"

“faith alone in Jesus Christ alone,” was all that was needed to justify one before Yeshua and for him to be declared “justified”. To this day, unfortunately, the majority of Christians consider they are justified by merely the born-again experience of “faith alone;” they totally discount Yeshua’s instructions regarding our actions of keeping the Commandments.

Two Scriptures which prove Luther’s point are Romans 4:5-6 and Gal 2:16.

Romans 4:5-6:

“<sup>5</sup>But to the one who does not work [that is, the one who does not try to earn his salvation by doing good] but believes and completely trusts in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as righteousness (right standing with God). <sup>6</sup>And in this same way David speaks of the blessing on the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:”  
(Romans 4:5-6, Amplified)

Galatians 2:16:

“<sup>16</sup>yet we know that a man is not justified [and placed in right standing with God] by works of the Law, but [only] through faith in [God’s beloved Son,] Christ Jesus. And even we [as Jews] have believed in Christ Jesus [Yeshua HaMashiach], so that we may be justified by faith in Christ [Messiah] and not by works of the Law. By observing the Law no one will ever be justified [declared free of the guilt of sin and its penalty]”. (Galatians 2:16, Amplified)

As we see Martin Luther considered sola fide as the core of the gospel. This is the belief upon which the Christian church stands or falls.

There are other Scriptures which develop this same theme, and of which I am in total agreement, that salvation only comes through the Messiah. Believers are justified because Yeshua HaMashiach personally assumed the guilt for our sins on the cross. This does not, however, nullify the fact that we are to keep His Commandments. Notice these

Scriptures quoted above are taken out of context. Taking Scripture out of context was common during the Reformation.

This heresy exaggerates the truth concerning that salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ (Yeshua HaMashiach) only and ignores the fact that Believers are to follow His Commands.

## Faith and Works

James 2:14-26:

<sup>14</sup>What is the benefit, my fellow believers, if someone claims to have faith but has no [good] works [as evidence]? Can that [kind of] faith save him? [No, a mere claim of faith is not sufficient--genuine faith produces good works.] <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is without [adequate] clothing and lacks [enough] food for each day, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace [with my blessing], [keep] warm and feed yourselves," but he does not give them the necessities for the body, what good does that do? <sup>17</sup>So too, faith, if it does not have works [to back it up], is by itself dead [inoperative and ineffective]

<sup>18</sup>But someone may say, "You [claim to] have faith and I have [good] works; show me your [alleged] faith without the works [if you can], and I will show you my faith by my works [that is, by what I do]." <sup>19</sup>You believe that God is one; you do well [to believe that]. The demons also believe [that], and shudder *and* bristle [in awe-filled terror--they have seen His wrath]! <sup>20</sup>But are you willing to recognize, you foolish [spiritually shallow] person, that faith without [good] works is useless? <sup>21</sup>Was our father Abraham not [shown to be] justified by works [of obedience which expressed his faith] when he offered Isaac his son on the altar [as a sacrifice to God]? <sup>22</sup>You see that [his] faith was working together with his works, and as a result of the works, his faith was completed [reaching its maturity when he expressed his faith through

obedience]. <sup>23</sup>And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND THIS [faith] WAS CREDITED TO HIM [by God] AS RIGHTEOUSNESS and AS CONFORMITY TO HIS WILL,” and he was called the friend of God. <sup>24</sup>You see that a man (believer) is justified by works and not by faith alone [that is, by acts of obedience a born-again believer reveals his faith]. <sup>25</sup>In the same way, was Rahab the prostitute not justified by works too, when she received the [Hebrew] spies as guests and protected them, and sent them away [to escape] by a different route? <sup>26</sup>For just as the [human] body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works [of obedience] is also dead.” (James 2:14-26, Amplified)

By the way, did you know that Martin Luther threw out the books of Hebrews and James? Why? Because they did not agree with his interpretation of Scripture!

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## ***“How to Interpret Scripture”***

### ***Three things to always apply when studying Scripture:***

1. *Contextually* – study Scripture within the context of the entire Bible.
  2. *Literally* – read Scripture literally – what do the words actually mean.
  3. *Historically* – understand Scripture within its historical/chronological context.
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### ***The character of Yeshua according to His Word:***

1. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, & forever,” [Heb 13:8; Malachi 3:6]
  2. “God is not a man that He should lie,” [Num 23:19; Heb 6:18]
  3. Do not add or subtract from the Scriptures, [Deut 4:2; Rev 22:18-19]
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### ***Key Scriptures to Interpret the Bible***

Matt 28:18-20 – **this is after His resurrection.**

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:6-8 – **after Yeshua’s resurrection, He spoke to His disciples about the restoration of Israel.**

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

John 3:36 – the book of John stated that obedience is key to eternal life:

<sup>36</sup>Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

1 John 2:3-6 - the Apostle John asked, “Do you really know God?”:

<sup>3</sup>And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. <sup>4</sup>Whoever says “I know Him” but does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, <sup>5</sup>but whoever keeps His word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in Him: <sup>6</sup>whoever says He abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked. [Note: Yeshua perfectly kept the Torah; likewise, we also need to &, thereby, stop sinning.]

## Timeline

Pre-30AD - <i>Rabbinic tradition</i>	30AD – <i>Resurrection / Pentecost</i>	40AD – <i>Peter’s vision &amp; Cornelius (Acts 10)</i>	50AD – <i>Jerusalem Council (Acts 15)</i>	325AD – <i>Council of Nicaea</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oral Law</li> <li>○ Customs of Moses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Outpouring of the Holy Spirit to <u>Jews only</u> who came up to Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10 years after Pentecost</li> <li>○ Outpouring of Holy Spirit on <u>Gentiles only</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10 years after Acts 10</li> <li>○ Jerusalem Council – discussion about Gentiles’ salvation &amp; circumcision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Under the auspices of Constantine</li> <li>○ Only Gentile bishops were allowed – Jews could not attend</li> </ul>