

“Our Identity”

Now and Forever

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Refer to the last page: “How to Interpret Scripture”

Your notes:

Torah Observance

My message today is really more like a Heart to Heart.... from my heart to your heart. I am deeply moved and amazed by watching true “Messianic Disciples.” It is their actions and words that captured my attention! It is not that they use a lot of Scriptures or even that they try to be super-spiritual with their actions. Rather it is something that happens naturally. In fact, some on-lookers may not pick up on this, even if they are born again or baptized in the Holy Spirit.

What I am going to discuss with you is what makes a Messianic Disciple different from other Christians or even other Messianic believers.

Messianic Disciples are committed and devoted to the Word, to the Torah.

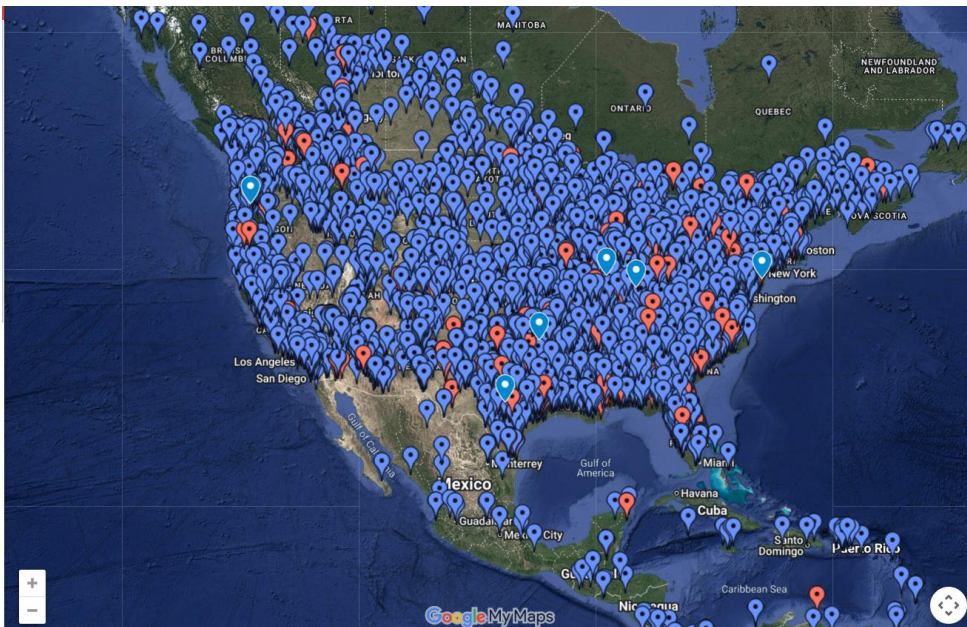
Our highest desire needs be to obey the words of the Torah with great joy! It is so astoundingly natural that as a result of spending time in His Word, we will know that we are in the presence of Yeshua! In fact, as a person spends time in the Torah, studying to truly obey its precepts, Yeshua Himself changes them. These changes are due to complete and simple obedience to the Torah.

Please, don’t take this lightly or shrug your shoulders. We need to understand that YHVH is moving in the lives of those who are His. You may think this is preposterous, because after all “I am born-again” and I love the Lord.

Has anyone noticed the size and growth pattern of Messianics in the world! No, this is not a man-made movement, or a

denomination code or creed. It is so interesting to observe. Messianics are loosely united with one thing in common, the Torah. They do not all have the same theology; they have a passion for following the Torah!

Below is a picture of Messianics listed with 119 Ministries in North America! Click on this link to view the rest of the world: [119 Ministries Fellowship Finder - Google My Maps](#)



So, who is heading up this movement of Messianics? Ask any Torah-Observant Follower, and they will say without a hesitation that it is YHVH! This movement is different from historical revivals. It is YHVH and His Torah.

He is getting His People prepared. This preparation is unlike anything we have seen before ... no man or an individual can control nor orchestrate this. In fact, this is becoming the largest movement in the world. While we see man-made denominations falling away because of sin, this Torah Movement is growing and is strong, and it is unfailing in everyday individuals who are truly hungry for YHVH's Word. Truly, these individuals stand out as "peculiar people"!

Yeshua was asked about Eternal Life

¹⁶Just then a man came up to Jesus [Yeshua] and inquired, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to obtain eternal life?”

¹⁷“Why do you ask Me about what is good?” Jesus [Yeshua] replied. “There is only One who is good. **If you want to enter life, keep the commandments...**” (Matt 19:16-17 BSB)

Yeshua kept the Torah; He read from the Torah; He taught from the Torah, especially from the book of Deuteronomy. Unlike man, Yeshua never made-up anything! In fact, we are instructed to not add to the Scriptures nor to subtract from the Scriptures, Deut 4:2.

The words of the Torah are life-giving; they are eternal, given by the Father, through YHVH, the Son of God and empowered by the Holy Spirit! Nothing can stop, change, or alter the ways of YHVH.

No, I did not start out as a Messianic Disciple (a True Disciple of Yeshua), nor do I claim to have arrived. However, I am arriving. I encourage us all to start afresh today ... to passionately study His Word, to obey His precepts with great joy. to make following His every Word our greatest desire.

“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.

¹⁸And Jesus [Yeshua] came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching 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.

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord [YHVH], will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But 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 4:22-24 Amplified Bible

²²You [Samaritans] do not know what you worship; we [Jews] do know what we worship, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But a time is coming and is already here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit [from the heart, the inner self] and in truth; for the Father seeks such people to be His worshipers. ²⁴God is spirit [the Source of life, yet invisible to mankind], and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

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

³⁶Whoever 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.

James 1:25

²⁵But he who looks carefully into the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and faithfully abides by it, not having become a [careless] listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he will be blessed *and* favored by God in what he does [in his life of obedience].

James 2:12

¹²Speak and act [consistently] as people who are going to be judged by the law of liberty [that moral law that frees obedient Christians from the bondage of sin].

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

³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶whoever 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.]

James 2:19-24

¹⁹You 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]! ²⁰But are you willing to recognize, you foolish [spiritually shallow] person, that faith without [good] works is useless? ²¹Was 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]? ²²You 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]. ²³And 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. ²⁴You 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].

John 12:47-50

⁴⁷If anyone hears My words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge *and* condemn the world [that is, to initiate the final judgment of the world], but to save the world. ⁴⁸Whoever rejects Me and refuses to accept My teachings, has one who judges him; the *very* word that I spoke will judge *and* condemn him on the last day. ⁴⁹For I have never spoken on My own initiative *or* authority, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment *regarding* what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰I know that His commandment is eternal life. So the things I speak, I speak [in accordance with His exact instruction,] just as the Father has told Me.”

Timeline

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