



Passover Shabbat Day 2025

By Moshe Schwab

Today is the Shabbat day during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We have already observed the Passover meal last Saturday evening, so tonight begins the 7th day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The Feast of Unleavened Bread lasts for 7 days and began as we were finishing our Passover meal. So, we are on the last day of this feast. The Bible tells us to observe the Feast of 1st Fruits which is the day following the day of rest of the 1st day of Unleavened Bread. Some think that the day of rest before the Feast of First Fruits is the weekly Shabbat. Most think that the Feast of First Fruits is after the day of rest associated with the rest of the 1st day of Unleavened Bread.

The confusion comes from some who do not understand that feasts also have days of rest, a Shabbat. For our purposes, we contend that in antiquity, they would have observed Passover, rested on the Shabbat of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, then gave their barley on the next day for the Feast of First Fruits instead of waiting around for sometimes up to a week to do so. They needed to go home and harvest the rest of their barley!

I have posted a Firstfruits prayer. The Temple is not standing at this time. Typically, for the Feast of Firstfruits, we are to tell the story of the believers over the ages and give our first fruits. The believer Abraham came from Syria and his descendants were made slaves in Egypt. Deuteronomy 26:5-6,10 NKJV says, "And you shall answer and say before the LORD your God: 'My father was a Syrian, about to perish, and he went down to Egypt and dwelt there, few in number; and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. But the Egyptians mistreated us, afflicted us, and laid hard bondage on us.' ... "And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land which you, O LORD, have given me."

Perhaps, now is the time to remember your story. I think of the humble beginnings of my family in pagan Syria and think about how God has brought me into the family of believers consisting of Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Yeshua. Before the writing of the law at Mount Sinai, believers passed on God's commandments verbally. For example, Genesis 26:5 NKJV says, "Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." Noah kept God's commandments. Genesis 6:9 NKJV says, "Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God." It says he walked with God. To walk with God means to keep God's commandments. Deuteronomy 5:33 NKJV says, "You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you."

Shaul told the early Gentile believers that they were no longer strangers from the believing community of Israel. Ephesians 2:12-13 NKJV says, "Being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." How do you see yourself? Do you see yourself as part of the believing community of Israel going back to Noah?

For the Count of the Omer, simply mark up a standard calendar with the numbers 1 to 49. The 50th day is the day of Shavuot. The days of Omer for this year go from the first day of the Omer at sunset on 4/13/25 to the 49th day (Biblical days begin in the evening. Genesis 1:5 NKJV says, "Evening and the morning were the first day."). The 50th day at sunset begins on 6/2/25 and that is erev Shavuot. Shavuot then lasts until sunset of the following day. Also, remember that we determine when the biblical months begin by the sighting of the first crescent of the moon which is the ancient and biblical New Moon. The modern New Moon is when the Moon goes dark. Israel uses a standardized calendar, so they often do not observe the feasts on the right day. They could easily change their system.

The Omer was part of the system of giving for Israel. Perhaps we put away 1/10th or more of our income when we get paid. The count of the Omer can remind us of our faithfulness to do this. Giving for Israel revolved around a 7-year cycle. The 3rd and 6th years they were to give to the poor, widows, orphans, Levites, and the foreigners which amounts to 1/3rd of our giving. The 7th year the land was to be at rest. They were to bring 1/10th to Jerusalem the other years for the Temple. The counting of the Omer also leads up to the expectation of the Feast of Shavuot, also called Pentecost. The law was said to have been given on Shavuot and also the Holy Spirit was given on Shavuot. What will God do on this Shavuot? Perhaps that will usher in a new age someday. Only God knows.

It is important to observe God's feasts no matter what day we observe them. I believe we should try to keep them on the right day. Keeping God's feasts demonstrates that we believe that God is the creator. Genesis 1:14 NKJV says, "Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and **seasons**, and for days and years." **The word translated seasons in verse 14 is the Hebrew word for "meetings."** The lights in the heavens were given to us so that we would know when to meet with God.

At the end of this teaching, I have included some Passover scriptures for your information. Today I would like to talk about some important issues for believers.

Stay true to your commitment to God.

All the writers of the New Testament portion of the Bible tell us that we need to keep the law even the Messiah Yeshua. Shaul said in Romans 3:31 NKJV, "We establish the law." That does not sound like the law is done away with. We have a lot of evidence that we are to keep the

law. Yochanan (John) said that not keeping the law is sin. 1 John 3:4 NKJV says, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." Verse 8 says, "He who sins is of the devil." So, those who do not keep the law are living in sin according to the Bible. Yeshua said that He will reject those who do not keep the law. Matthew 7:23 NKJV says, "I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

So, stay true to keeping God's commandments. Many of you who rely on our teachings for encouragement already understand that we are to keep God's Old Testament commandments. We are not talking about commandments that are not applied well. Sometimes man-made commandments are not what God intended. Isaiah tells us that those who add man-made commandments are following people and not God. Isaiah 29:13 NKJV says, "These people draw near with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men."

Some believe that Matthew 23:2 is telling people to keep the extra laws of the Sanhedrin. Isaiah told us the opposite. Matthew 23:2-3 NKJV says, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do." The Hebrew says to do what Moshe told us to do which fits better with Yeshua's teachings. Matthew 15:9 NKJV says, "In vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." Yeshua did not teach us to follow man-made laws, but to follow God's laws.

We should also understand that God has given mankind grace since the inception of time. God gave grace to Adam and Eve through the promise of a Messiah (see Genesis 3:15). God gave Noah grace. Genesis 6:8 NKJV says, "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." Noah was a man who did what was right and kept God's commandments. That is what righteousness means. 2 Peter 2:5 says that God, "Saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness." Isaiah 51:7 NKJV says, "Listen to Me, you who know righteousness, you people in whose heart is My law." Be committed to keep God's law. No one who does not act holy will be in the future kingdom of God. Hebrews 12:14 NKJV says, "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord." To be holy is to keep God's commandments. Deuteronomy 28:9 NKJV says, "The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

If you are Jewish, it should be easy for you to accept the Messiah Yeshua because He taught us to keep the law. You just need to reexamine whether a commandment of God is applied right. Micromanagement and nonsense are not good applications of God's laws. That is why it says in Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV, "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you." Some man-made ideas may be helpful, but not all ideas are a commandment of God or are right.

The law was given to our believing ancestors and passed on verbally. As already mentioned, Noah kept God's commandments and Abraham kept God's commandments. Some will say that

not all the commandments were given yet and that is why Abraham served meat with milk. That commandment is nowhere in the Bible, and neither is it implied as some believe. That Abraham kept the law is stated emphatically through repetition. Genesis 26:5 NKJV says, Abraham **obeyed** My voice and **kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.**" An in case there is any doubt, the word laws is the Hebrew word Torah.

We should also understand that God has given us grace through Messiah Yeshua and the Holy Spirit. This is an important scripture to understand in John. God gave us His commandments in the Old Testament portion to help us, and also gives believers in the Messiah another helper, the Holy Spirit. John 14:15-17 NKJV says, "If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth." God's commandments and the Holy Spirit work together to help us live right.

Those who do not keep the 1st helper, which is God's grace through the Old Testament commandments are grieving the Holy Spirit. Those who willfully live in sin and do not keep the law have rejected God. It says in the book of Hebrews that those who live in sin will be judged accordingly.

Hebrews 10:26-31 NKJV says,

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Again, Yeshua said He will reject those who do not keep the law. Matthew 7:21-23 NKJV says, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Of course we can repent, and God will forgive us. Psalms 103:12-13 NKJV says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him." It says that God will forgive those who have a deep respect for Him (fear Him). That is something all of us need to work on. That will help keep us following God the way we should.

We need to have endurance and keep God's commandments. God's will is written in the Bible, namely it is what God wants us to do and what He wants for us. It is God's will that we keep His good commandments and also receive His good Messianic gift of the Holy Spirit. Hebrews 10:36 NKJV says, "For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise." You will not be in God's future kingdom if you are not committed to keeping God's commandments. Galatians 5:21 NKJV says, "Just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Many Christians do not keep the law.

We need to explain why this is. As you can see, the early leaders of the believers in the Messiah Yeshua had to correct the people and tell them that the law was not done away with. Because of false teaching that was passed down into Christianity, many people in our era do not understand the Bible correctly. Even Kefa in 2 Peter 3:15-16 had to correct the wrong applications of Shaul's (Paul's) letters: "Also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures." Remember, there was no New Testament at the time, so Kefa had to be talking about and living by the Old Testament commandments.

Also, most early Christians did not have access to the Bible as we do now. The Jews copied and taught the scriptures, but Christians had to rely on those who were in charge to understand how they were to live. And as we can see, the leadership passed on false doctrine. Many of the early Christians had no way of knowing they were following false doctrine. We are warned in the Bible not to follow people who do not teach what the Bible says.

Deuteronomy 13:1-4

If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods'—which you have not known—'and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall **walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments** and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

Many of the first believers in Messiah Yeshua who were Jewish had access to the scriptures and that is why they were able to identify Yeshua as the Messiah and they kept God's commandments. Acts 17:10-12 NKJV says, "When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. Therefore many of them believed." Again, there was no New Testament at the time, so they were proving that Yeshua was the Messiah through the scriptures. They also kept what Yeshua taught about keeping the law and what the other leaders taught about keeping the law.

Those who taught people not to keep the law were teaching wrong doctrine and they are not to be followed! The law is doctrine. Proverbs 4:2 NKJV says, "For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law." Some say that Shaul (Paul) taught us not to keep the law, but they are wrong. Acts 26:22-23 NKJV says, "Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, **saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said** would come that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles." Shaul taught the law of Moses. Acts 24:14 NKJV says, "But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so **I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets.**" Shaul believed in the Law, kept the Law, and taught others to keep the law. We are not to listen to others who teach God's law has been done away with. Those who do are false teachers.

Those who do not teach God's law, His Old Testament commandments are fools because they do not glorify God through His commandments. Romans 1:20-22 NKJV says, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools." It is not a sin to keep the Old Testament as some say. Romans 7:7 NKJV says, "Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law." The law helps us to know what sin is and not keeping the law is sin. Again, 1 John 3:4 NKJV says, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." So, some Christians actually teach the opposite of what the Bible teaches!

These false teachers may say they are Jewish laws, but God taught people from the inception of time His commandments and to keep His commandments. When we believe in the Messiah Yeshua, we join the family of believers from ancient times and the believers of God's commandments given to those at Mount Sinai. Cain and Abel made sacrifices to God. Cain knew that he committed murder. Noah preached doing what is right and walked with God. To walk with God is to keep God's Old Testament commandments. Joseph knew that adultery was wrong. Abimelech understood that adultery was wrong. Moshe had his sons circumcised before the law was given at Mount Sinai. He knew believers were supposed to be circumcised.

Those who do not keep the law are cursed and will not be in God's future kingdom. Again, Shaul said in 1 Corinthians 6:9 NKJV, "Do not be deceived." Deuteronomy 27:26 NKJV says, "Cursed is the one who does not confirm all the words of this law by observing them."

God gave us His law to help us in life.

Psalms 1:1-3 NKJV says,

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of

the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

Have order in your life.

It makes sense that we should have an orderly and planned life. Of course, God's commandments should be the basis for our life. They first and foremost should direct how we live. Yeshua said in Matthew 22:37-38 NKJV, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment." How do we love God? Do we just say that we love God or there is a way to do that? The Bible answers that question. Deuteronomy 11:1 NKJV says, "Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always." If you want to love God, begin by keeping His commandments.

There is a natural order to life and planning our day and carrying out the necessary things of life is important. When a person does not do these things, the Bible says they do not believe in God the way they are supposed to. 1 Timothy 5:8 NKJV says, "If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." We are to be a caring and good people who want peace for ourselves and others in life.

Take the drunkard for example. Proverbs 23:30-33 NKJV says, "Those who linger long at the wine, those who go in search of mixed wine. Do not look on the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it swirls around smoothly; at the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart will utter perverse things." Those who overindulge in intoxicating drugs or alcohol are hurting themselves and others. It is wrong. We are not to do things that are detrimental to our bodies because we are created in God's image. Just because something is legal in your country, it does not mean it is right to do. Those who are getting stoned on marijuana or other drugs will not be in God's future kingdom. Sometimes the marijuana is so strong that it is damaging some people for life.

Drunkenness is listed among some of the things that will keep you out of God's wonderful future kingdom. Galatians 5:19-21 NKJV says, "Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, **drunkenness**, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

Plan out your day, work hard at doing a great job in life, and be an involved, caring, and good person who does what is "right and good," keeping God's commandments. I start my day with prayer, I pray for others, and I try to pray frequently during the day. We should commit our day to doing what is "right and good" (see Deuteronomy 6:17-18). We should be committed to

treating everyone with respect and fairly, they are created in God's image. We should be committed to being caring and treating our family and friends well and right.

We should be committed to doing good work in all that I do. Being created in God's image should convey with that the understanding of what kind of people we should be. Our life should reflect that. We should treat others well because they are created in God's image. Genesis 1:26 NKJV says, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." We are not God, but God has given us the ability to be creative, good, caring, kind, and so much more. We should want to use our life for good and not evil and to successfully navigate all that we need to do and what is expected of us. Shaul said in Philippians 3:12 NKJV, "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on."

What does your life look like? What kind of picture do you paint?

Perhaps you could think of your life as a picture that is painted. As we go about life, what do we see and what do others see being painted? Do they see an angry antagonist or a kind and hard-working person who cares about themselves, others, and God? Do they see a rebellious evil person, or do they see a person who is working at doing what is "right and good?" Again, to do what is "right and good" is to keep God's good commandments.

I think most people want to do what is good. Why not show others that you have good biblical values. Psalms 37:3 NKJV says, "Trust in the LORD, and do good." The Bible encourages us to do what is right and good. Psalms 1:1-2 NKJV says, "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night." Trust in God and in His ways.

Since God is an all-knowing and good God, He cares about us and wants what is best for us. Therefore, not keeping God's commandments is to do evil. Do you want others to see you as an evil person? Psalms 34:14 NKJV says, "Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

In Isaiah, it talks about the person who does evil.

Isaiah 5:20-24 NKJV says,

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink, who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away justice from the righteous man!

Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, so their root will be as rottenness.

I do not think that people start out thinking they want to be a rotten worthless person, but by not controlling your thoughts, emotions, and actions, you can head in that direction.

God's ways are good. They are right and just. Have you ever been treated unfairly? Is that how you want to treat others? Is that how you want to be treated? So, do what is good. Micah 6:8 NKJV says, "He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" So, be humble towards God and keep his commandments.

Are you committed on the inside to think right? Our thoughts will eventually catch up with us. We are not to go after just anything our hearts desire but keep our hearts in the right place. Speak and seek truth and not sinful ways. Decide that you will think about what you are doing and stay away from what is wrong and evil.

Proverbs 4:23-27 NKJV says,

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put perverse lips far from you. Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; remove your foot from evil.

Perverse means to act in an evil way. Why do you think the proverb tells us that it is important what we think? That is because we will be tempted to act on our thoughts. Keeping your thoughts in the right place will keep you from acting on evil thoughts. Psalms 101:3-4 NKJV says, "I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me. A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness." Do not consider doing what is wrong and evil so that you will not do anything wicked.

Decide that you will be strong and follow God's commandments. Deuteronomy 31:6 NKJV says, "Be strong and of good courage." Seek God's ways and ask for His help. 1 Chronicles 16:11 NKJV says, "Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore!" The Bible says that God is looking for those who do what is right and good. 2 Chronicles 16:9 NKJV says, "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him." God knows what you do, and God cares about those who follow Him. Isaiah 41:10 NKJV says, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Stay true to God and be committed to Him. Endure so that you will inherit God's future kingdom. Order your life and successfully navigate all you do in life. What kind of picture does your life paint? Do they see a rebellious person or someone who wants to do what is "right and good" and follow His commandments? Be committed to living how God says to live and think what is right so that you will not do evil and do what is right.

Joshua 1:7-8 NKJV says, "Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall

meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

God is for you and cares about you, so be strong.

Torah Study and Passover Scriptures.

Torah portion for today is Exodus 13:17-15:26 and Numbers 28:19-25. The Haftarah is 2 Samuel 22:1-51. We will just share some of the important Passover scriptures and we will conclude with a brief study on who the Bible says put Yeshua to death.

We have already observed the Passover, so I have put these scriptures here for your encouragement and information. If you have not observed Passover yet, you can still do it.

God's feasts are not just Jewish feasts. They are God's feasts; they are biblical feasts! Leviticus 23:2 NKJV says, "The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts."

Passover begins on the 14th of Nisan just before sunset and just before the 15th of Nisan begins (biblical days begin in the evening – Genesis 1:4 NKJV says, "So the evening and the morning were the first day."). We are commanded to keep the Passover with ceremonies; it is a remembrance ritual. Yeshua's remembrance ceremony is also a remembrance ceremony. It is not a communion ceremony. The word communion comes from a pagan practice that was passed down into Christianity. Call it what it is, a remembrance ceremony.

Numbers 9:3 NKJV says,

"On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time. According to all its rites and ceremonies you shall keep it."

The Passover meal is to have ritual involving bitter herbs and unleavened bread. The meat is not to be eaten raw or boiled.

Numbers 9:11 NKJV says,

"They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs."

Exodus 12:9 NKJV says,

"Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water."

The Passover feast is a memorial feast and to be kept for eternity.

Exodus 12:14 NKJV says,

"So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance."

The 15th of Nisan and the 21st of Nisan are days of rest. No leavened bread is to be eaten during the 7 days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Leviticus 23:4-8 NKJV says,

"These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times. On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; seven days you must eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it. But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it."

Telling the Passover story of Israel and Yeshua our Messiah is our heritage. Israel was delivered from their bondage in Egypt. Yeshua is our Messianic Passover lamb.

Exodus 6:6-8 NKJV says,

"Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the Lord; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage: I am the Lord.'"

Yeshua is the Lamb of God who gave Himself for us. Yeshua as God came into the world and provided a sacrifice for our sin. God provided a sacrifice for us through Yeshua just as God provided a sacrifice for Abraham instead of his son Isaac. In the following, Shaul talks as though we are to be keeping Passover. We should be keeping God's feasts.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 NKJV says,

"Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

John 1:29 NKJV says,

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, " Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

Some 600 years before Yeshua came, Isaiah said about the Messiah.

Isaiah 53:5-7 NKJV says,

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter."

As we can see in Isaiah, it is about a singular male person dying for our sins. Yeshua is that "Holy One" who rose from the dead.

Acts 2:22-28 NKJV says,

Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. For David says concerning Him: "I foresaw the LORD always before my face, for He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of joy in Your presence."

Also 1 Corinthians 15:3-6 NKJV says,

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once,

The true faith got corrupted.

We also talked about how the true faith got turned around so that many do not keep God's commandments. The Greek scriptures were also tampered with to sometimes contradict scriptures that tell us to keep God's Old Testament commandments. For example, the translation of the Hebrew James 1:25 says, "But anyone who observes himself by the whole Torah, which is the instruction of The Examiner" (from The Epistle of James, by Doctor Miles Jones, page 24). The Greek translation James 1:25 NKJV says, "But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty." It is no wonder that there is so much sin in the world.

Think about it. Since God's commandments are good, why would that ever change?

Psalms 119:127-128 NKJV says, "I love Your commandments more than gold, yes, than fine gold! Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right" Psalms 33:11 NKJV says, "The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations. Psalms 119:159-160 NKJV says, "Consider how I love Your precepts; revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness. The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever." God's Old Testament commandments are forever.

People who do not believe in God's commandments often malign those who want to do what is right. I know of one pastor who says he hates the Bible. He might as well be saying that He hates God. The anti-law, anti-Jewish Greeks even made the scriptures anti-Jewish. John 1:11 NKJV says, "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." People interpret that as the Jews did not receive Yeshua. The Van Rensburg translation of John 1:10-11 of the Hebrew

manuscript from the Vatican Library says, "He is eternal; and the world was made by him; but the world does not receive him." It is the world that does not receive Yeshua. Yeshua said in Matthew 7:23 "I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Yeshua will reject those who have rejected the law. Matthew 5:17 NKJV says, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets." Yeshua did not come to take away God's good law.

Those that malign the Jews even say that the Jews put Yeshua to death. The Roman historian Tacitus said that the Roman Empire put Yeshua to death. He was probably bragging about putting the Messiah to death. That's what ancient historians did when they gave their version of history. Yeshua and the Bible says that the Gentiles put Yeshua to death.

Yeshua reveals His coming death at the hand of the Gentiles. Mark 10:33-34

Yeshua's location is revealed to the Roman appointed leaders by Judas. Luke 22:1-6

Yeshua stands before the Roman appointed High Priest.⁸ Luke 22:54

The Roman appointed leadership did not go into the area because they were to eat the Passover meal. John 18:28

Yeshua is sent to the Roman Prefect Pilate and then to the Roman appointed King Herod⁹ and then back to Pilate. Luke 23:1, 6-7, 11

They release a robber instead of Yeshua. Luke 23:16-18, 25

Yeshua is beaten by the Roman sympathizers and the Romans. Luke 22:63-65; 23:11, 16

The Roman soldiers struck him and mocked him and put a crown of thorns on His head. John 19:1

Yeshua reveals He is giving Himself and they would have no power over Him unless He allowed them. John 19:11

The Roman appointed leadership planned accusations against Yeshua to have Him put to death. Matthew 26:59, 27:1; Luke 23:23

The Roman appointed Chief Priests say they have no king, but Caesar. They reveal their true loyalty. John 19:15

Yeshua carries His crucifixion stake. The Romans crucified Yeshua.

Yeshua was speared by the Romans instead of His legs being broken. Water and blood came from where Yeshua was speared. Blood is needed for atonement (Leviticus 17:11).

"The Roman conquest of Judea and subsequent Herodian rule, the office of high ... of Jerusalem one of their first acts was the appointment of a new high priest." - <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/high-priest>

"In Rome, Herod was unexpectedly appointed King of the Jews by the Roman Senate." – https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod_the_Great

Why do people say the opposite of what historically happened? The scriptures clearly say that the Romans put Yeshua to death. The Roman Empire changed the narrative, made the Jews look bad in the Greek text, they did not like God's commandments, and they did not like the Jews. In Luke 19:27 the Greek alludes to killing the Jews. I have an old commentary that says this scripture is about killing the Jews. Yeshua would have never told anyone to commit murder. In Matthew 25:30, the same parable talks about throwing out the unprofitable servant which alludes to losing one's eternal life. Jerome in the 4th century said the Greek manuscripts had become corrupted (see Jerome, Preface to the Vulgate).

Luke 19:24-27 NKJV says,

And he said to those who stood by, "Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas." (But they said to him, "Master, he has ten minas.") "For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me."

Matthew 25:28-30 NKJV says,

"So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

People need to turn the narrative about Yeshua's death and resurrection around the right way and begin to tell the truth. Also, begin doing what the Bible says to do. Remember, it says in 1 John 3:4 NKJV, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." It is a sin not to keep the law." What does our God and King expect from us?

Proverbs 3:1-8 NKJV says,

Do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.

Do not forget God's law. Keep God's law in your heart. God's law can help you in life and give you peace. Trust in God's ways and not in your own ways. Do not think your ideas are better than God's law. Do not do evil. Through God you can have a healthier life and more drive in life.

The Aaronic Blessing.

ADONAI or LORD in all caps in our Bibles is the name for God which is pronounced Yě-hō-váh. Yě-hō-váh is used over 6,000 times in the Old Testament portion. Since God's name is used that many times, it is evident that we should be using His real name.

According to Exodus 3:15, Yě-hō-váh is God's true name forever. Of course, we should use His name with respect. Yě-hō-váh is an acronym formed from the Hebrew verb hayah. Yě-hō-váh means, He existed, He exists, and He will exist. I want to honor God's name.

The ancient rabbis agree with this pronunciation of God's name. Over 2,000 different manuscripts of the Bible point God's name as Yě-hō-váh and sometimes up to 50 times in a single manuscript. The church Fathers said God's name is Yě-hō-váh. Yeshua said in Matthew 23:39 NKJV, "You shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'" Yeshua is quoting Psalm 118:26; the word "LORD" in that verse in Psalms is Yě-hō-váh (יהוה). Numbers 6:27 says we are to put God's name on His people.

Let's say the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26:

יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ
יְאָר יְהוָה פְּנֵיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנְךָ
יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פְּנֵיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

Yě-hō-váh bless you and keep you.

Yě-hō-váh make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Yě-hō-váh lift up His face upon you, and give to you peace. Amen.

Thank you for being with us today.