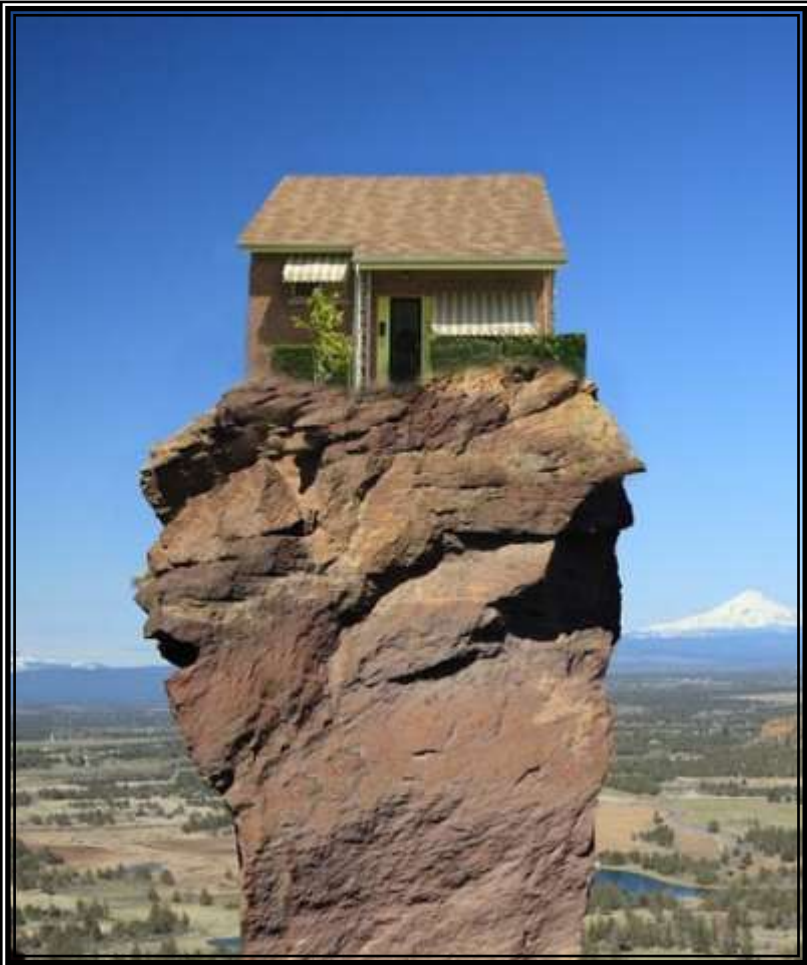


Foundation of Faith



**Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah
Rocheport, MO**

Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah

Foundation of Faith

Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah submits the following information regarding our Faith. Our ministry serves as the international headquarters for Yahweh's Assembly. We provide counseling and guidance, answer inquiries, and supply literature and scriptural studies. We also try to connect with volunteers and/or clergy from local/regional congregations to participate in studies and ministerial needs. At times, some of our ministry staff, or ministers from our supporting congregations and volunteers, visit believers for facilitating worship, studies, baptisms, counseling, and other needs that may arise.

We realize there are many who may not be familiar with our fundamental foundation—the statements of our faith—thus, you will find within a general summary, and additional instructions on how we observe and practice our faith on a daily basis, including our holy day observances, along with some optional items utilized by some in our faith. By all means, these will not be entirely inclusive. We believe and affirm that our practices are based on Scripture, and are also an individual's personal conviction in their walk of faith with their Creator.

Foundation/Statement of Faith

We, the brethren of Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah, offer this document as a clear and concise synopsis of our beliefs and a living testimony of our faith. It is our hope that you, as an interested inquirer of biblical truth, will **prove all things; hold fast to that which is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21)**. We believe this statement of belief presents the faith that was once delivered unto the saints (**Jude 3**). We present this as the sure foundation of faith upon which we all may stand (**Romans 5:1-2**).

Many of us have had the experience of having someone from outside of our faith ask, "What do you believe?" We usually give them pamphlets concerning Yahweh's Name, the Sabbath, holy days and the erroneous doctrines of Easter and Christmas, etc. But in reality, does it truly explain our position or faith as a Yahwist? This document was written to give an understanding of the foundation upon which we, of the Sacred Name assemblies, build our faith.

Contending for the Faith

The Book of Jude clearly teaches the student of Scripture: **Contend for the faith once delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3)**. Paul says, **Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of Elohim (Romans 10:17)**. Yahweh's law was given to the saints for instruction. It says that man should live by every word that comes from His mouth (**Deuteronomy 8:3**)!

Topics

The Name—Yahweh

The first subject, the core of Scripture, the bedrock upon which the foundation rests, is “Ha Shem” or the Name. We believe that there is one Father, and one Son, Who is sitting at the right hand of His Father. They, together, reign in heaven. The name, Yahweh, is found throughout the Scriptures. According to Dr. Criswell, a Baptist minister, “The whole content of biblical history is a commentary on the meaning of this name, Yahweh” (*Criswell Study Bible*, p. 75).

It was man who replaced, or substituted Yahweh's name in Scripture with titles (common English nouns) “the Lord” and “God” or “Lord God” meaning “baal troop” (Master deity). These terms find their origins in the Babylonian culture, which is found in Scripture to be the antithesis of Yahweh and His teachings (**Exodus 3:15; Isaiah 13; Revelation 18**).

The name of our Heavenly Father, as inspired in the original Scriptures, is Yahweh (**Psalms 68:4; Isaiah 42:8; Jeremiah 16:21**). His glorious name is exclusive to the family of Yahweh (**Psalms 22:22; John 17:11; Ephesians 3:14-15**). Yahweh tells us that His name is a memorial or remembrance, something that is to be remembered “throughout all generations.” Yahweh reveals to His Prophet Malachi, **A book of remembrance was written before Him, for those who fear Yahweh and meditate on His name. “They shall be Mine,” says Yahweh of Hosts, “on the day I make up My jewels. I will spare them as a man spares his own son, who serves him” (Malachi 3:16-17).**

Yahweh is a living Mighty One, Who should never be associated with any deity, including the “Lord God” (**Jeremiah 51:15-19**)

Some scholars teach that the pronunciation of the name has been lost, and therefore, it cannot be used. Those of Judaism teach that the name is too holy to even utter. They have attempted to hide Yahweh's name under the guise of "Adonai," a substitution which was never sanctioned by Almighty Yahweh, but was administered by the scribes. They formed a fence around Yahweh's name to "protect it." But in doing so, they deleted the Sacred Name and substituted a title—Adonai, meaning my sovereign. This title does not explain who Yahweh is—the Self-Existing One. English-speaking people then took the vowel sounds of Adonai and merged them with the Tetragrammaton, (or 4 Hebrew letters) producing the hybrid name, "Jehovah". Yahweh's word puts emphasis on His being, which is embodied in His name, "**I AM**" (**Exodus 3:14**). All thanks and praise is to be directed to Yahweh Who is the source of all authority and power (**Matthew 4:10, 6:9; Colossians 1:12; James 1:17; 1 Peter 2:5**). He is Spirit (**John 4:24**), and all worship centers on Him through Yahshua our Messiah (**Ephesians 5:20**).

Yahweh's only Begotten Son "hallowed" His Father's name in **Matthew 6**. In **Hebrews 2**, Yahshua sang praises to Yahweh before the congregation. In His prayer to Yahweh (**John 17**), twice He says that He kept them in His Father's name and twice He made known or declared the name to His disciples.

What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know (Proverbs 30:4-6)? Having the knowledge of these names is a prerequisite to dwelling in the holy Jerusalem which is to come (**Acts 4:12; Revelation 22:1-5**). Paul says in **1 Cor. 8:5, ...there are gods many and lords many**, but there is only one Yahweh.

The Son—Yahshua

We believe that the correct name of our Messiah is Yahshua, meaning "Yah is Salvation." He is the salvation Yahweh has provided to us (**Acts 4:12**). We are to accept the original names of our loving Heavenly Father, Yahweh, and our wonderful Messiah, Yahshua. He is the Spokesman, the Word (Logos), Who was with Yahweh and pre-existed with Him in the beginning. **And Elohim said, Let Us make man in Our image (Genesis 1:26)**. See also **John 1:1-3, 8:58, 13:3; 1 Corinthians 10:4; Colossians 1:15-17**. He emptied Himself of His glory, making Himself of no reputation, taking upon Himself the form of a servant, a man

(**John 17:5; Philippians 2:5-7; Hebrews 2:6-14**), being born of a virgin (**Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Matthew 1:18,23; Luke 1:26-38**). He lived a sinless life (**Isaiah 53:9; 1 Peter 2:22**). He was impaled for the sins of us all. He was resurrected from the dead by His Father the third day, according to the Scriptures (**Matthew 12:40; Acts 3:15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4**). He has ascended into heaven and now sits at the right hand of Yahweh (**Luke 24:51; Hebrews 1:13**), as our High Priest and Mediator (**Hebrews 3:1, 4:14**), the only and living way we can approach the Heavenly Father (**John 14:6**). He will return to judge the living and the dead, while His resurrection gives us hope for our own resurrection.

He came in His Father's name. He would be the means by which Yahweh (**Isaiah 43:3-11**) would deliver His people Israel from bondage. The Anointed of Yahweh said He came for the lost sheep of Israel (**Matthew 10:5-6**), fulfilling the prophecy of **Genesis 49:10**. Yahshua came to gather those wandering amongst the nations (**Hosea 9:17**). He said to Peter in **Matthew 16:18, ...upon this rock, I will build My assembly, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.** (The word "church" (*circe* in the Greek), was put there by the English translators.) He came to do His Father's will, and it was Yahweh's will that His peculiar people be brought into a covenant with Yahweh (**Deuteronomy 4:20; Isaiah 48:9-14**).

Yahweh had divorced Himself from Israel, yet Judah and Benjamin returned, but "halfheartedly" to Him (**Jer. 3:1-8**). Israel had wandered far from her Mighty One, but Yahweh had predetermined to send His only begotten Son (**1 John 4:9**) to bring Ephraim home (**Hos. 11, 1:10; Rom. 9:25-29**). Not only these were to be offered eternal salvation, but also those of the great multitude who would be baptized into Yahshua's name (**Acts 2:38**), and have their robes washed in the blood of the Lamb (**John 1; Rev. 7:9-14; Rom. 11**). **Go into the highways and byways and call everyone to the marriage supper of the Lamb** (**Matt. 22:1-14; Rev. 19:9; Isa. 42:6**). Yahshua not only fulfilled the requirements of the law concerning sacrifice, but His death also met the requirements of the law concerning divorce (**Deut. 24; Hos. 2; Rom. 7; Heb. 9**). There had to be a physical death of the testator in order that a new testament could be instituted.

Becoming our Passover Lamb, Yahshua met the requirements of Yahweh's law (**Exod. 12, 1 Cor. 5:7**). Yahshua taught us that He

came to do all that the law required of Him. In His life, He offered the bread, the true manna from heaven (**John 6**). In the offering of His blood, He offered the sacrificial blood of the covenant (**Matt. 26:26-29**). Through His baptism—the washing—He became the High Priest after the order of Melchisedek, a King and Priest that would cleanse and be the One who would rule over the house of Israel (**Exod. 40:32, 25:30; Num. 4:3; Ps. 110; Luke 1:33; John 18:37; Heb. 7**).

From a physical death to an eternal life in and through the Spirit, Yahshua fulfilled His Father's will. He came to proclaim the Good News (**John 6:35**). Yahshua tells those of Israel, including the great multitude: **Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand (Matt. 4:17). It is My Father's good pleasure to give this Kingdom to you (Luke 12:32). We will come and make our abode with you (John 14:23). Yet, where I go, you cannot come (John 3:13, 14:2). But in My Father's house there are many mansions and I have gone to prepare a place for you. If it were not so, I would have told you.**

The firstborn of all creation (**Col. 1:15**) came to reunite the two sticks—Israel and Judah (**Ezek. 37; Eph. 2:14-21; Rom. 9; Hos. 2**) calling the royal priesthood home (**1 Pet. 2:9**). Many will be called, but only a few will be chosen (**Matt. 2:16**). Yahshua said the gate is narrow that leads to life, and very few enter into it.

There are many mansions throughout the vastness of the universe, but the firstborn Son, the Firstfruit among men (**1 Cor. 15**) is coming to gather those obedient ones, to dwell with Them for all eternity upon the earth (**Ezek. 37; Rev. 21 and 22**).

This precious Cornerstone (**1 Pet. 2:6**) measures the whole foundation (**Rom. 10:4, 13**). It is through Him, by Him, and for Him that the whole of creation is reunited to Yahweh (**1 Cor. 15; Phil. 2; Eph. 3**). He sent the Comforter (Yahweh's Holy Spirit) to help the called-out ones so that Israel can be presented to Father Yahweh without spot or blemish (**Eph. 5:26-27**). Yahshua is the Alpha and Omega (Aleph and Tau in Hebrew—**Rev. 22:7-21**), the beginning and the end of all things. In Him is the fullness of the Mighty One (**Col. 2:9**). **If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father (John 14:9).**

We believe that it is necessary and of utmost importance that we accept the sacred names of the Father and Son, being baptized in the

name of Yahshua for the forgiveness of sins, and the receiving of the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is the mighty power of Yahweh, by one who has been anointed to conduct proper baptisms, including the “laying on of hands.”

Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the essence, mind, and the invisible dynamic force or power emanating from the Father and shared by the Son (**Luke 24:49; John 3:8, 14:17, 15:26; 1 Corinthians 2:10-16**). This power or Spirit is placed within us by the laying on of hands following baptism into Yahshua’s saving name (**Acts 2:38, 5:32, 8:17, 19:6; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6**), and is also known as the baptism of the Holy Spirit, for it immerses us into the Body of Messiah (**Romans 8:15-17; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:28**). Having the Holy Spirit placed within us, we are given the faith and power to show our love for Yahshua and the Father by keeping the Law (**John 14:15, 21-24; Acts 1:8; 1 John 2:5**). The Holy Spirit is the dynamic force of Yahweh. It is not a person; therefore, the Trinitarian doctrine cannot be, and is not scriptural.

Scripture

We believe that the Bible must be taken in its entirety in order to be understood correctly, and that it contains knowledge that man could not find for himself. We do not believe that the New Testament does away with the Old Testament, but, in fact, complements it. We must harmonize both Old and New Testaments. **All Scripture is given by inspiration of Yahweh, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:14-16)**. This includes the Old Testament (Law, Prophets, and Psalms) and the New Testament (the Evangelists, Acts, Epistles, and Revelation—**Luke 24:44; Acts 17:11; 2 Peter 3:15-16**). The inspired Scriptures are of no private interpretation (**John 17:17; 2 Peter 1:21**). It is our belief that the New Testament is a written record of people living according to the laws given by the Creator in the Old Testament. So then we must interpret the New Testament through the Old Testament.

The Law

Another stone that is part of the foundation upon which the Yahweh’s Assembly in Messiah rests is the law. Paul said in **Romans 7:7, How do I know what sin is but by the law?** He goes on to say that we do not make void the law, as a result of faith, but we are to uphold it. Paul clearly taught that we must be doers, not just hearers of Yahweh’s law

(Nehemiah 9:13-14; Romans 2:13, 3:20, 31).

The law of Yahweh has, and always will be, a stumbling block for man. Those of a particular faith instruct that salvation comes in keeping the physical law, and another teaches that salvation has nothing to do with the law—that the law was “done away with.”

How can we understand the restoration, salvation, or deliverance message, or understand Ha Shem (the Name), who Israel is or where the Kingdom of Yahweh will be, if not by the law? Yahweh commands His people to keep this law (**Exodus 16:28; Psalm 105:44-45**). Favor or grace is then shown to those who choose to keep Yahweh’s law (**Exodus 20:6**).

We believe that Yahweh’s plan of salvation for mankind is through His Son, Yahshua Messiah, and revealed by the observance of Yahweh’s holy Sabbaths and feast days (**Leviticus 23; Numbers 28-29**). The sacrificial blood offerings and ritual laws associated with temple worship have their fulfillment in the sacrifice of Yahshua—Lamb of Yahweh (**John 1:29; Hebrews 8-10**). Our sacrifices are now spiritual (**Romans 12:1; Hebrews 13:15-16; 1 Peter 2:5**). Circumcision has always been obedience from the heart (**Deuteronomy 10:16, 30:6-8; Jeremiah 4:4; 1 Corinthians 7:19; Galatians 5:6; Philippians 3:3**). It is possible, by the Holy Spirit, to keep the commandments because Yahweh has made it feasible through faith in Him, and by the saving blood of the Lamb (**Deuteronomy 7:9; Psalm 119:160; Matthew 5:17-19; Matthew 19:16-19; Ephesians 2:8-10; 1 John 1:1-5; 1 John 3:21-24**).

The keeping of the law is a condition for inheriting the promises (**Gen. 26:1-5; Luke 18:18-20; Exod. 24; Gal 3:29**). It is the law that converts the soul (**Ps. 19:7**). The law was sealed amongst the disciples of Yahshua (**Isa. 8:14-18**). He, Himself came, not to destroy, but to fulfill the law, and said that anyone who breaks the least of the commandments, and teaches men to do so, would be called the least in the Kingdom (**Matt. 5**).

No other nation has received such statutes and righteous judgments as are in these laws, which were set before Israel (**Deut. 4:8**). The Law and the Messiah are both the living Word—the Truth. They are the two things that light the narrow path that leads us to the narrow gate and on into eternity (**Ps. 119:105, 119:142; John 14:6, 1:1-12; Ps. 119:1**).

Thus, we believe it is an absolute necessity to keep the commandments and the statutes of our Heavenly Father Yahweh.

Sin

We believe that sin is the transgression (breaking) of the law (**1 John 3:4; Romans 7:7-12**). All have sinned and come short of the glory of Yahweh (**Exodus 20:1-20; Deuteronomy 5:1-24; Romans 3:23**). The penalty of sin is death (**Genesis 2:16-17, 3:19; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:22; Hebrews 9:27**). Grace is not freedom or license to sin or do as we please. **1 John 5** also addresses this topic.

Israel

Another building block that constructs the foundation of our faith is our understanding of who makes up Israel. Yahweh said, **Israel is My son, My firstborn**. It is upon these people that Yahweh's Name has been placed (**Exodus 4:22; Numbers 6:23-27**). Yahweh reveals in His word, **You only, Israel, have I known of all the families of the earth (Amos 3:2)**. Through His Son, Yahshua, we are brought into the household of Israel, coming under the "commonwealth" or body politic (**Ephesians 2:19**). Who makes up this household? The saints of Yahweh, those with whom He is working, make up this household—the holy, sanctified, called-out ones (**Ephesians 1; 1 Peter 2:9-10**). It is to these people the promise was foretold, and to whom it was given (**Galatians 3:29**). Yahshua sought out these people. They were the reason for His coming (**Matthew 10:6, 15:24**). He came not only for these, but those of the great multitude that would attach themselves to Him and Israel through faith and baptism (**Matthew 15:22-28; John 3:16-17; Acts 2:38, 10:34-35; 1 Corinthians 1:30-31**).

The Body of Believers

We believe that Yahshua Messiah is the foundation and cornerstone of His Body—the ecclesia, the Assembly, consisting of the called-out Body of Believers since Pentecost of **Acts 2**, who have accepted the sacrifice of our beloved Messiah, and have changed their lives according to Yahweh's word (**Matthew 12:50**). It is through this body of believers that the training and preparation for the coming Kingdom is being carried out (**1 Peter 2:5, 9-10**;

Revelation 1:6, 20:6). It is in the ecclesia that the spiritual gifts are exercised for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Messiah (**Ephesians 4:7-13; 1 Corinthians 12:7-10, 28-30**). The spiritual gifts are manifested in the Assembly (**Galatians 5:22-23**), and our relationship to the Assembly is likened to that of Yahshua Himself (**Matthew 25:34-36; Acts 9:5**).

Circumcision

This is a topic that is totally misunderstood, yet it is an essential part of the foundation of the true faith. Yahweh has always had a covenant or an agreement with His people, Israel. **Genesis 17:7** teaches us this covenant is never ending: **I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in your generations for an everlasting covenant to be an Elohim unto you. Vs. 8, And I will give unto you and to your seed after you (the land), wherein is all the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession and I will be your Elohim. Vs. 11, Circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, and it will be the sign of this covenant between Me and you.**

The New Testament covenant includes circumcision of the heart. **Deut. 10:16** teaches us, **...circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer.** Yahweh said that He would circumcise our hearts and the hearts of our descendants, so that we will love Him (**Deut. 36:6**). This is circumcision of our hearts (**Deut. 30:6**). This would, therefore, entitle the saints or sanctified people to become a “peculiar treasure” to Yahweh (**1 Peter 2:9; Exodus 19:5; Deuteronomy 14:2, 26:18; Psalm 135:4; Titus 2:14**).

Under the directions found in the New Covenant, those of the household of Israel are instructed to be circumcised **with the circumcision made without hands, buried with Yahshua in baptism (Colossians 2:10-13)**. We are to diligently follow the example of our Messiah Yahshua, who was also *physically* circumcised. **Luke 2:21, And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, His name was called YAHSHUA, which was so named of the angel before He was conceived in the womb.**

Without circumcision, there can be no agreement with Yahweh and, therefore, no promise of the Passover—the “passing over” of spiritual Israel during the time of the tribulation (**Exodus 12:44-48; Jeremiah 4:4, 9:25-26; Revelation 3:10**). Moving from the physical act

to one of the Spirit, ratification came with the circumcision of the heart (**Romans 2:25-29; Deuteronomy 10:16, 30:6**).

Baptism

The purpose of baptism is for the cleansing of the saints that they not stand before Yahweh unclean. Baptism also prepares them for the royal priesthood (**Matthew 3:11; John 3:5; Numbers 8:21; Revelation 7:14; Isaiah 61:10**). It is through the cleansing of the Word, by the Spirit of Yahweh, that we can be truly cleansed (**Ephesians 5:25-26; Psalm 119:9-16**). John writes that the Word which became flesh and dwelt among us, is “faithful and just” in forgiving us of our sins if we confess them. Then we would be **cleansed from all unrighteousness (John 1; 1 John 1:7-10)**.

We believe that Yahshua is the Son of Yahweh, and that repentance and baptism into Yahshua’s saving name are necessary acts of consecration (**Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 2:38, 4:12, 8:16, 10:43, 19:5; Romans 6:3**); that salvation is in no other name than Yahshua (**Acts 4:12**). Baptism is by immersion backwards, one time in water (**Acts 8:38**), signifying burial and subduing the old nature (**Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12**), arising to serve in newness of the Spirit (**Romans 7:6; 12:1; 1 Peter 3:21**). There is one baptism into the name of Yahshua, placing us into one Body (**Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:3-6**), uniting the many-membered Body through the Spirit.

Redemption

We believe that since all have sinned, and have earned the penalty of death, it is now necessary to repent; that is, to be sorry for the way of life that consisted of breaking Yahweh’s holy law, changing to a way of obedience, and following the exemplary life of Yahshua the Messiah (**Matthew 19:17; John 8:11; Hebrews 6:1, 9:14**). In order to be free from the curse of the law, which is death, we must accept the sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah as payment for our sins (**Matthew 26:26-28; Colossians 3:13; Hebrews 9:26, 10:12; 1 Peter 2:21-24; 1 John 1:7-10**). He is our Advocate and Mediator (**1 Timothy 2:3-5**).

Sacrifice

Yet another building block we use to lay the foundation of our faith is the sacrifice for sins. **Hebrews 9:22** states: **According to law, almost all things are purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.** In **Leviticus 17:1-11**, Yahweh

reveals to us that the **...life of the flesh is in the blood given upon the altar for atonement for your souls**. In Hebrews, we find that there is a new offering for sacrifice for those who sin and fall short of the glory of Yahweh. This is not a sacrifice made with the blood of bulls and goats. Only through the blood of Yahshua the Messiah is there remission of sins (**Romans 3:23; Hebrews 9:11-12**).

There is no other name under heaven by which a man can be saved from his transgressions, but through the name of Yahshua (**Acts 4:12**). It is Yahshua's blood that delivers us out of the bondage of sin and brings us into the bond of the covenant (**Matthew 26:26-29; Hebrews 8 and 10**). Sin is transgression of the law (**John 3:4**). Sin is what separates us from Yahweh, or makes us covenant breakers (**John 9:31; Jeremiah 17**).

Sanctification

Having been cleansed and made holy by the faith of Yahshua, we believe it is important to be clean inside, as well as out. Since our bodies have been likened to the temple of the Holy Spirit, we believe it is absolutely necessary to adhere to the law of clean meats of **Leviticus 11** and **Deuteronomy 14**. This is an object lesson in holiness, teaching us the difference between the clean and unclean, the holy and unholy (**2 Corinthians 6:16-18**). We are to eat clean, think clean, and live clean and holy before Yahweh—sanctified before Him in all aspects of our lives (**Matthew 5:48; 1 Corinthians 3:17; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Revelation 21:27**).

Headship

We believe in scriptural headship. Yahweh is the head of Messiah Yahshua, Yahshua is the head of the man, and the man is the head of the woman. We acknowledge that the Assembly is the Body of Messiah, the family of Yahweh, and Yahshua is the head of that Body. We are all members of one Body, no matter our race, creed or gender. We acknowledge that there are other Assemblies that are part of the Body of Messiah. Some of them are known to us, others may not be, yet we are all children of Yahweh.

Clean Foods

We believe the clean foods that were set apart for human consumption in the Old Testament are still binding upon us today. Noah was told to take seven pairs of the clean animals on the ark with him, and

only one pair of unclean animals. This was done many years before the Jews, as we know them today, even existed. Also, the Apostle Peter said, in **Acts 10:14**, that he had never eaten anything unclean. Peter made this statement many years after the time of the Messiah, and after the Holy Spirit had been poured out to them on the Day of Pentecost.

Anointing

We believe that Yahshua's perfect sacrifice has made it possible for us to be healed of our illnesses (**Isaiah 53:5; James 5:13-20**). Through the anointing of the sick by the Elders of the Assembly, in the name of Yahweh and Yahshua, the healing of our afflictions is possible by turning to Yahweh in prayer, relying on Him for His guidance and mercy.

The Adversary

We believe that Satan is a spirit being, and was the anointed cherub called Lucifer. His pride was lifted up, and he was cast out of heaven (**Isaiah 14:12-20; Ezekiel 28:13-19; Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:7-9**). The Devil is the adversary of Yahweh and His people (**John 8:44; Revelation 12:10**), and will eventually be destroyed (**Isaiah 14:18-19; Ezekiel 28:16; Romans 16:20; Hebrews 2:14**).

Mortality

We believe that the dead are unconscious in their graves in the sleep of death awaiting the resurrection (**Job 14:12-14; Daniel 12:2; John 5:29; 1 Corinthians 15:51-56; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; Hebrews 11:13, 39**). Immortality is something we seek (**Romans 2:7; 1 Corinthians 15:53-54**), and is made available through the work of Yahshua Messiah (**John 3:15, 17:2-3; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 Timothy 6:16; 2 Timothy 1:10; Hebrews 5:6 [quoted from Psalm 110:4]**). Humans do not have an immortal soul (**Psalms 6:5, 115:17; Isaiah 26:19**). Souls can die (**Ezekiel 18:4; Ezekiel 18:20; Matthew 10:28**).

Tithing

We believe that it is a blessing to be able to honor Yahweh with our substance (**Proverbs 3:9**), as an act of worship, to support the work of Yahweh with our tithes and offerings (**Leviticus 27:30-33; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 23:23; 1 Corinthians 9:1-25; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15**). A tithe is 10 percent of our income. Yahweh, in His wisdom,

has also provided a second tithe to insure us sufficient funds to participate in, and enjoy, His Feast Days (**Deuteronomy 14:22-26**). Yahweh, our Giver, also provides for the poor and the stranger by our saving an additional tithe every third year (**Deuteronomy 14:27-29, 26:12-17**). **It is more blessed to give than to receive...** (**Acts 20:35**), and we cheerfully give, knowing that Yahweh is generous and will take care of all our needs.

Set-Apart Times (Holy Days) Interpreted

Sabbath

We believe in keeping a seventh-day Sabbath (from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown), the day that Yahweh rested from creating. He hallowed it and sanctified it and made it a commemoration of His wonderful creation. The seventh day of the week, commonly called Saturday, is the day sanctified by Yahweh, and is a memorial of His magnificent creation (**Genesis 2:2-3**). The Sabbath day is a day of rest (**Exodus 20:8-11**) and points to that greater rest of salvation (**Matthew 11:28-30; Luke 4:16-18; Hebrews 4:1-6**). Yahweh offers the Sabbath as an opportunity to accept and experience His marvelous creation and redemption (**Mark 2:27-28; Hebrews 4:7-11**). In willing obedience, participating in the Sabbath, we express our belief in Yahshua, the Author and Finisher of our Salvation (**Hebrews 12:2**). The Sabbath rest is a symbol of our love, loyalty and commitment to Yahweh. By consecrating a portion of our time that He has designated for our rest and worship, we show our subjection to His will, and recognize His dominion over our lives, and over the whole creation.

Man took it upon himself to change the day of worship, instituted by Yahweh, from Saturday to Sunday, at the Council of Nicea in 325 C.E. in honor of the sun deity. This fact can be easily proven, yet is ignored by so many, who say they derive their belief in Sunday observance from **Acts 20:7** and **Mark 16:2**. These are not commandments to worship on the first day of the week.

The Scriptural Sabbath has never changed. It was instituted in **Genesis 2:2**, becoming a day of rest for Israel (**Exodus 16:22-26**). Yahweh's Ten Commandments clearly include the keeping of the seventh day as holy and set-apart. Yahweh blessed this day, and commanded all who would be His children to observe it (**Exodus 20:8, 11**). In **Leviticus 23**, we read where Yahweh called His holy days, or feast days, Sabbaths. The Messiah taught us that the Sabbath was

made for man, and that He was Master of it (**Mark 2:27-28; Colossians 2:16**). The seventh-day Sabbath was the day the Apostles reasoned with the people (**Acts 13:14, 42, 15:21, 18:4**). In **Exodus 31:12-18**, Yahweh said that His Sabbaths were a sign between Him and His people, to be kept throughout their generations. This day, although it occurs weekly, is one of Yahweh's most sanctified Holy Days. On this day, no work is permitted, and no buying or selling. It is a time to rest, pray, meditate, study, and forsake one's personal desires. It is a time to fellowship, to come together in worship, praise and study as a congregation, including a group meal, after Sabbath services. A Sabbath afternoon Bible study almost always follows the meal.

New Moon (Month/Year)

We believe that the scriptural months are delineated by the appearance of the thin crescent of the visible new moon (**2 Kings 4:23; Nehemiah 10:33; Psalm 81:3**). Yahweh's New Year begins with the new moon, in the same month that "green ears" (Abib) of barley can be observed. This is how we can easily be sure which is the first month of Yahweh's year.

Passover

We believe that the commemoration of the Passover is to be kept annually, in remembrance of Yahshua's precious sacrifice, on the evening of the 14th of Abib, which marks the original Passover in Egypt (**Exodus 12:13-14**). It commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. The Passover represents the death of the firstborn of Egypt through the passing over of the death angel, and the impalement of the Messiah on the torture stake (**Exodus 12; John 18-19**). The Passover is a memorial, not a High Sabbath. The Passover meal and emblems (unleavened) are taken on the fourteenth day of the month of Abib, at twilight (evening).

In partaking of the Passover, we give witness that we accept the shed blood of our loving Messiah for our sins (**Numbers 28:16; Luke 22:15-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29**). The symbols used are those instituted by Yahshua: eating unleavened bread as the symbol of His broken body (**Exodus 23:18; 1 Corinthians 10:16**), and drinking the fruit of the vine as the symbol of His shed blood (**Deuteronomy 32:14; Isaiah 65:8-9; Matthew 26:27-29**). Our love and humility are also acted out in a foot-washing ceremony, in which our beloved Redeemer also participated, according to **John 13:3-17**. The remainder of the evening service is spent reading from the Scriptures, recounting

the story of the Exodus, etc. We also engage in prayers, and appropriate worship songs throughout this solemn memorial service.

Secondary Passover (optional if needed)

In addition to these appointments, a secondary Passover is permitted on the fourteenth day of the second month for those who were unable to keep the first Passover—who were unclean, or who were on a journey (**Numbers 9:9-12**).

Feast of Unleavened Bread

We believe that following the partaking of the Passover, we endeavor to live a sin-free life of righteousness, as pictured in the observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread (**Leviticus 23:6; Matthew 16:12; Mark 8:14-15; Luke 12:1; Romans 6:13-22; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8**). Picturing the initial step toward righteousness and coming out of sin, the first day of Unleavened Bread is a time we delight in observing, for it is a Sabbath day that gives us much hope. This first Sabbath day of Unleavened Bread is on the 15th of Abib and begins the seven days of the Feast. The seventh day is also a Sabbath, Abib 21, and pictures the complete coming out of the worldly way of sin, while following the righteousness of our Messiah Yahshua (**Exod. 12:15, 20; Numbers 28:17-25; Acts 20:6-7**). Unleavened bread is to be eaten with our meals for these seven days, allowing us to symbolically take in the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. The first and last days are observed as High Days (Sabbaths). During this time, believers are to examine themselves, removing any pride, sin, or false doctrine from their lives. Believers are to have removed all leavened products from their homes, and eat unleavened bread for all seven days of the Feast.

On the High Days, no work is to be done. The believers assemble together for worship and fellowship. They dine together, with unleavened meals each day. During the week, Bible studies, and other activities are scheduled, including children's classes and/or outings.

Feast of Weeks

The Feast of Weeks, or day of Pentecost, is a Sabbath day, and includes a holy convocation (**Leviticus 23:10-21; Numbers 28:26**). It is counted from the day after the weekly Sabbath that

falls within the days of Unleavened Bread. Seven Sabbaths, or complete weeks, are counted, bringing us to the day after the weekly Sabbath, known as Sunday. It is observed as a memorial of the day that Yahweh made the covenant with Israel at Sinai (**Exodus 24:4-8**). It is also the day that Yahshua promised He would endue His assembly with power from on High (**Luke 24:49; John 14:26, 15:26, 16:7; Acts 1:4-8**), which was fulfilled when Yahweh's Holy Spirit was sent on Pentecost to this earth (**Acts 2:1-18**) to abide with His people forever (**John 14:16**). The Feast of Weeks points to the initial harvest of souls, a kind of firstfruits unto Yahweh (**Romans 8:23, 16:15; 1 Corinthians 15:20, 23, 42-44, 23, 16:16; James 1:18; Revelation 14:4**). This is a High Day, which includes a Sabbath service, fellowship meal, and a Bible study afterward.

Feast of Trumpets

The Feast of Trumpets is held on the first day of Yahweh's seventh month. It is a festival of blowing of trumpets, and is a joyous time. This day is a High Day (Sabbath), and no work is permitted. On this day, the congregation of believers assembles for worship to Yahweh, conducting Scriptural reading, song, prayer and study. The assembly also enjoys a meal together.

We eagerly look for the return of Yahshua the Messiah. When He returns, at the sound of the last trumpet, and the voice of the archangel, we shall receive our reward (**1 Corinthians 15:22-23, 51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; Hebrews 8:6, 11:15**). The Feast of Trumpets begins the seventh scriptural month and is a Sabbath, a holy convocation (**Leviticus 23:24-25**), reminding us to keep our minds on heavenly things, rejoicing at the return of our Messiah at the last trump (**Luke 21:27-28**).

Day of Atonement

The Day of Atonement points to Yahshua's having made the Atonement for us, having been reconciled to our Father Yahweh, through Yahshua (**Romans 5:6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Colossians 1:19-22; Hebrews 2:18**). It is a solemn day, a High Day, wherein no work is done. It is a day of afflicting our souls. As the ninth day of this seventh month ends at sunset, and the new day of the tenth begins (**Leviticus 23:32**), we neither eat, nor drink, for 24 hours until sunset on the tenth, which ends the day (**Leviticus 23:27-32; Numbers 29:7**). During the Day of Atonement, we have a holy convocation/assembly of believers, with a fellowship meal after sundown to

break the fast. We are reminded how human and carnal we are and how needful we are of the atoning sacrifice of Yahshua. The Day of Atonement also relates to the cleansing of the land by fire from all idolatry (**Isa. 4:4, 30:30, 24:4-6, 66:14-16, Deut. 32:43, & Zech. 3:8-9**). We also look forward to the destruction of Satan (**Hebrews 2:14**), and the world being at one with Yahshua and the Father (**Acts 27:9; Revelation 20:1-3**).

Feast of Tabernacles

The Feast of Tabernacles is a “shadow” of the righteous 1,000-year reign of our soon-coming King, (whose name will be Yahweh our Righteousness). A time of peace, prosperity, and happiness shall prevail, until Yahweh’s eventual sovereignty over the entire Kingdom. The Feast of Tabernacles is observed seven days, starting on the 15th day of the seventh month (Tishri 15 through 21), the first day being a holy Sabbath day (**Leviticus 23:34-36, 43; Numbers 29:12**). The Feast of Tabernacles represents the ingathering of the produce. It is a joyous time and celebrated as a festival. We have many meals, and activities planned for these feast days!

Last Great Day

This is the last of Yahweh’s appointed feasts and convocations in the seventh month. The final culmination of the plan of Yahweh is completed in the great harvest of all humans who have ever lived (**Revelation 20:5**), and the eternal judgment of Yahweh (**Revelation 20:11-15; Hebrews 6:4**), known as the White Throne Judgment (**Matthew 25:32**). It is the eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles, an annual Sabbath called the Last Great Day. It is the time of Yahweh’s ultimate salvation (**Leviticus 23:36; Numbers 29:35; John 7:37-38**). After the Millennium, a new heaven and a new earth will be created (**Isaiah 66:22; Revelation 21:1**). The Sabbatical-Jubilee cycle is also indicative of Yahweh’s plan of redemption in entering His rest. Those chosen, who are pure in heart, will look upon Yahweh’s face, and will reside with the Father and the Lamb, and serve Elohim forever (**Revelation 22:4**).

Summary of Holy Convocations & Feasts

As mentioned previously, the Scriptures do command Yahweh’s people to be a set-apart, peculiar people. They choose to be obedient by keeping/observing Yahweh’s set-apart, appointed times (Holy Days).

All of Yahweh's Feasts are to include sacrifices—spiritual sacrifices, along with free-will offerings, which can be made all throughout the year, when we observe the biblical festivals. These are the required holy days of our Father Yahweh, as prescribed by Him. The Scriptures teach that His people are not to come before Him empty-handed! We should be willing to give Him special offerings at this time. Additionally, since these are “Feasts,” *Strong's* defines them as follows: H#4150, moed, prop. an appointment, i.e. a fixed time or season; spec a festival; conventionally a year; by implication, an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the congregation; by extension, the place of meeting; also a signal, as appointed beforehand (**Leviticus 23:1-2, 4**).

Pre-Existence of Yahshua Messiah

This is a key doctrine in this assembly. We believe that Yahshua Messiah pre-existed with our Heavenly Father Yahweh, and that He (Yahshua) is the Word spoken about in **John 1:1-3, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. The same was in the beginning with Elohim. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.** Elohim is plural, and includes the Father and the pre-existent Son. According to the Scriptures, Yahshua was with Yahweh Elohim “in the beginning.” Even Yahshua Himself said this to His disciples in **John 8:58, ...Verily, verily, I say unto you, “Before Abraham was, I AM.”** Yahshua said to His Father Yahweh, **And now, O Father, honor Me with Your own self with the majesty which I had with You before the world was** (**John 17:5**).

Yahshua again described His relationship with His Father Yahweh: **You have heard how I said unto you, “I go away, and come again unto you.” If you loved Me, you would rejoice, because I said, “I go unto the Father,” for My Father is greater than I** (**John 14:28**). He acknowledged that He (Yahshua) was not equal with the Father, because the Father was, and is, greater than Him. Many times, the pre-existent Son, as a Messenger, spoke in the name of the Father Yahweh. Taken from the AENT: “This ‘Messenger’ is utterly unique in Scripture. Since no heavenly messenger has the authority to forgive sin, there is no need for YHWH to warn that such forgiveness would not be forthcoming directly from that Messenger, unless that same Messenger otherwise had this authority. In the Renewed Covenant, we are told the Son's name is superior to all other messengers. This must then be derived directly from this Torah passage because no messenger ... had YHWH's name directly, but

merely His title of El (RaphaEL, UriEL, MichaEL, etc), yet this One has Yah in His Name directly, the same Name that has the power to redeem all men (**Acts 4:12**)!"

Love

We must love Yahweh with our total being, and our neighbor as ourselves. If we say that we love Him, but hate our brother, then the truth is not in us (see **1 John 4:20**). We must recognize that the Law and the Prophets hinge on how we treat others: **...against such, there is no law**. It binds the whole of the foundation of faith. It is the very heart of the restoration message. With Yahshua's death, the wandering harlot was set free. But because He lives, He has offered the sanctified woman eternity. **No greater love has a man than this, than to lay down his life for his friends (Mark 12:30-31; John 3:16; 1 John 4; Matthew 7; Galatians 5; 1 Corinthians 13; Matthew 15; Jeremiah 3; Acts 1:6, 13:16-41; Luke 19:41-44).**

We are to be good examples of the living faith that we profess. Our example is that of Yahshua the Messiah Whom we strive to emulate in love, honesty, humility, faith, hope, patience and reverence (**Leviticus 19:17-18; Matthew 5, 6, 7, 22:39; 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; 1 Peter 2:21-23**). Love is the key attribute we try to maintain in our homes, in our assemblies, and in our communities. Love should be seen among the brethren wherever they are. We believe that salvation is freely offered to all mankind. Yahweh is the Creator of all nations and has made His house a house of prayer for all people (**Isaiah 56:7; Acts 8:27-39; Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11**). The love of Yahweh manifested in the sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah is available to all who will come (**Revelation 3:20; 22:17**).

How May One Be Considered For Membership?

...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). Repentance, baptism, and the receiving of the Holy Spirit are the steps in becoming a member of the Body of Messiah. A life of growth in knowledge and grace in Yahshua, and through obedience to the royal law, is expected of all (**Philippians 2:12; Ephesians 4:13**). Each member shall also recognize this as a basic summary of the sound doctrines proclaimed by the Scriptures. All who are willing to learn, and to be obedient to Yahweh and His laws are welcome. Although many

of the Faith call themselves by various names (Yahwists, Messianic, the Way, the Faith, Yahweh's Assembly, etc.), we are one body of believers, through the Messiah Yahshua, unto Father Yahweh.

Life as a Member of the Body of Believers

In the Inspired Scriptures, we find a definite picture of the spiritual life which is to be lived by each of the members. The Scriptures teach of a life of total obedience to Almighty Yahweh and to His perfect laws. We affirm that the members of the Body of Believers should be shining examples to those around them. It should be our goal to live a simple life, abstaining from activities with which this worldly society amuses itself. The Scriptures teach a doctrine of purity of the body, meaning that we will not take into our bodies any addicting, harmful, or illegal substances which may cause the body to lose its sanctified nature, possibly causing the Holy Spirit to depart (**2 Corinthians 6:14-18**), nor do we use our set-apart bodies as deviant or perverse items for personal gains or pleasure. Our bodies are not our own, but the temple of Yahweh (**1 Corinthians 3:16-17**).

A doctrine of non-violence toward our fellow man is also taught within the Scriptures. We are commanded to live at peace with all men, and to follow the "golden rule" set forth in **Matthew 7:12** and **Leviticus 19:17-18**. The example set by Yahshua Messiah was to leave vengeance in the hands of Almighty Yahweh. Our attitude toward all men should be that of love and respect, which may even win our enemies (**Matthew 5:33-48; 1 Peter 2:21-23**).

As commandment keepers and Bible believers, many will find a spiritual conviction as they grow in their walk. Some may find the need to wear a beard; prepare meats for consumption (from killing, bleeding, etc.); wearing particular clothing items (fringes, prayer shawls, etc.). Many of these practices are **personal**, but they are not **required** practices; thus the conviction and sincerity of the individual should be considered within the confines of Scripture.

Headcoverings

We believe and maintain that men **should NOT** wear head coverings, and that women **should** wear head coverings (**1 Corinthians 11:4-7**).

Typical (Study/Worship) Service

We participate in weekly Friday night Bible studies, Sabbath Day (Saturday) worship services, fellowship meals, and followed by Sab-

bath afternoon Bible studies. The shofar (ram's horn) is blown at many of these assemblies. Anointings are common at these particular times, as well as baptisms, witnessed by the congregation. This is not an all-inclusive list.

When the Body of Believers comes together (to assemble) for study and/or worship, typically included is fellowship, prayer (for assembly and/or individual needs), and worship through songs of praise. Blessings, petitions, and recitations may be read, along with weekly Torah readings.

Closing

We realize this document may not address all items of concern or interest. We encourage you to contact us for any reason to request information on specific items covering our doctrines/faith, our practices and services. Yahweh's holy day calendar is prepared annually. Since some of the holy days are contingent on the new moon of specific months, and some months the new moon may be seen a day earlier or later, there may be a revision to the calendar—an adjustment to a date of observance. On the Home Page of our website (www.yaim.org), you will find the calendar, and any updates or notices to this effect, in addition to all our literature, feast announcements and information, slide shows, music, Sabbath service videos, and audios. Again, our website address is: www.yaim.org.

May you be richly blessed as you seek Yahweh's truth—and serve Him as an obedient servant, according to His laws, and His will!

HalleluYah!



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