



Are the laws of ELAH required for today's "Gentiles" to follow or did Ha' Mashiach abolish them? Many of today's mainstream Christians continue to worship death at the cross, to the point of lifting the image to idol status and abolishing the path led by the Ruach Ha'Qodesh ~ Holy Spirit, to eternal life that lies beyond the cross.

Deu 29:17 And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them.

The laws of ELAH are written expressions of the **character, mind** and **will** of ELAH for His people. They appear in both Old and New Testaments, teaching how to **love** and **worship ELAH, love fellow man** and **prepare for eternal life in the Family of JAHWAH**. They cover both physical actions and spiritual motivations. The Ten Commandments were given directly by JAHWAH Himself, to Moses and sanctioned by Ha' Mashiach.

Obedience to them brings blessings; disobedience brings curses. To transgress them is to sin and incur the ultimate death penalty. Keeping ELAH's law, thus **showing one's submission to the government of ELAH, is a condition for eternal life.**

In the struggle to find a New Testament scripture that supports the misconception that ELAH's law is "done away," many people point to Colossians 2:14 to "prove" that Ha' Mashiach nailed the law of ELAH to the cross.

Col 2:14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was **contrary** to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

In fact, this verse becomes the key player in their mistaken argument that Christians are not required to keep ELAH's **"confining Old Testament law."** Proponents of such a teaching say that the **"handwriting of requirements [ordinances, KJV]"** refers to the law **"that was against us."** **They further claim that Ha' Mashiach "took it out of the way" or abolished the law.**

Does Colossians 2:14 do away with ELAH's law? What is "the handwriting of requirements"? What really was "nailed . . . to the cross"? Let's carefully examine this scripture to see what Paul is truly saying.

First of all, note the context. In verses 11-13, Paul explains what Ha' Mashiach did for us and how those who have believed in Him are now spiritually circumcised:

Col 2:11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Ha' Mashiach:

Col 2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of Eloah, who hath raised him from the dead.

Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Here we see that the subject under discussion is the means of our justification. Paul is saying that, when we repented and were baptized sin was buried in a watery grave, and our sins were completely forgiven through our faith in the sacrifice of Ha' Mashiach. After being raised out of the water, we were "made alive" with Him and imputed to be righteous in ELAH's sight. Paul refers to this process as "circumcision made without hands," that is, spiritual circumcision.

Handwriting of Requirements

Paul continues to explain how our justification was accomplished. Thus, the whole sentence reads,

*And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the **handwriting of requirements** that was against us, which was **contrary** to us.*

What was this "handwriting of requirements"? These words are translated from the Greek phrase **cheirographon tois dogmasin**. **Cheirographon** means anything written by hand, but can more specifically apply to a legal document, bond or note of debt. **Dogmasin** (*where we get the word Dogma*) refers to decrees, laws or ordinances, and in this context means a body of beliefs or practices that have become the guidelines governing a person's conduct or way of life.

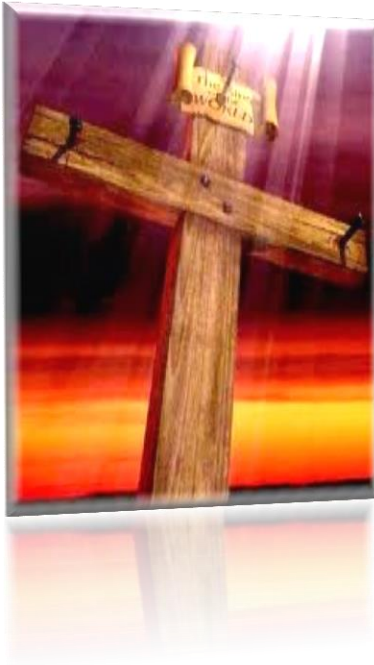
What Paul is saying is that, by His death, Ha' Mashiach has wiped out the **note of guilt or debt that we owed as a result of our sins**—sins which resulted from our past way of life. Before repentance, our lives had been governed by the standards and values of this present, evil world—the "decrees, laws and ordinances" of the society in which we lived.

Now that we have repented and accepted Ha' Mashiach, we have embarked on a new way of life and are living by ELAH's standards and values. Consequently, ELAH has wiped out the debt we acquired as a result of our sins and has imputed righteousness to us.

Another means of understanding what **"handwriting of requirements"** means is to notice that it restates the phrase immediately before it. **"Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us"** parallels **"having forgiven you all trespasses."** Thus, Paul could not be referring to the law itself but rather to the record of our transgression of that law—sin!

What Was Nailed to the Cross?

In verse 14: *"And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross,"* the word **"it"** is a singular pronoun and refers back to the singular word **"handwriting."** **"Requirements"** could not be its precursor because **"requirements"** is plural. So, some kind of handwriting—a note, a record or a citation—was affixed to the cross.



Historically, only two objects were nailed to the stake of crucifixion: 1) the condemned person and 2) an inscription naming the crimes for which he was being punished. Thus, when Jahshuwah was crucified, only His body and Pilate's inscription; were nailed to the cross.

*"This is Jahshuwah of Nazareth,
The King of the Jews"*

Matthew 27:37 And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JAHSHUWAH THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Mark 15:26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Pilate's gracious inscription replaced the customary note or record of guilt—the "handwriting of requirements" that would have been found nailed to the crosses of the two criminals crucified with Jahshuwah.

Just before He died, when the Father forsook Him, our sins were symbolically nailed to the cross in His body.

Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jahshuwah cried with a loud voice, saying, **Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?** that is to say, My Eloah, my Eloah, why hast thou forsaken me?

At the time of His crucifixion, Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua **became** sin for us.

I Peter 2:24 Who Himself **bore our sins in His own body** on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

II Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin **to be sin for us**, that we might become the righteousness of ELAH in Him.

Our note of debt that we owed ELAH as a result of our sins is what was "taken out of the way" and "nailed . . . to the cross."

No, **it was not the law that was nailed to the cross.** **The law is not against us or contrary to us but is a great blessing to us.**

Psalms 19:11 Moreover by them [ELAH's commandments and statutes] your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Paul clearly writes in *Romans 7:12*, **"Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good."**

ELAH'S FEASTS and FESTIVALS - What about them?

Through the centuries, theologians have devised many arguments to do away with the observance of ELAH's holy days. They propose that various scriptures in the New Testament do away with the need for Christians to keep the days which ELAH's law specifically says are holy to Him.

Leviticus 23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of ELAH, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

Galatians 4:9-10 is the favored scripture for this argument.

Gal 4:9 But now, after that ye have known ELAH, or rather are known of ELAH, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

Gal 4:10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years.

Here Paul expresses his frustration with the Galatians because they had returned to **certain religious practices**. He calls these practices "weak and beggarly elements" and says they were again **"in bondage"** to them.

In verse 10 he defines these practices as observances of **"days and months and seasons and years."** The argument begins at this point because some contend that these observances refer to ELAH's holy days commanded in the Old Testament. Indeed, ELAH established specific **"days"** (*Pesach -Passover, Shavuot-Festival of Weeks, Sukkot-Feast of Tabernacles etc.*), **"months"** (*new moons, sacred calendar*), **"seasons"** (*appointed times*) and **"years"** (*Jubilee and Sabbatical years*) to be kept.



Gen 1:14 And Eloah said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for **seasons**, and for **days**, and **years**:

Lev 23:4 These are the **feasts of ELAH**, even holy convocations, which **ye shall proclaim in their seasons**.

Deu 16:16 **Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before Jahwah** thy Elah in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before ELAH empty:

Exo 23:11 But **the seventh year thou shalt let it rest and lie still**; that the poor of thy people may eat: and what they leave the beasts of the field shall eat. In like manner thou shalt deal with thy vineyard, and with thy olive yard.

Lev 25:13 In the **year of this jubilee** ye shall return every man unto his possession.

The argument by mainstream Christians is that Paul is reprimanding the Galatians for returning to Old Testament observances that were a form of "bondage." Insisting that Paul taught that the Old Testament law was "done away," they conclude that Gentiles should not keep the days that ELAH had commanded Israel to keep.

What was Paul telling the Galatians? Does the message of the letter and the context of his statements confirm that the feasts and observances of the Torah have been eliminated? If not, what were these "weak and beggarly elements" that Paul warns them about? Let's examine these verses and understand what Paul really says in this highly disputed section of Scripture.

Culture and History

Whenever we are studying scriptures that are difficult to understand, we must consider the cultural and historical context. Galatia was not a city but a province in Asia Minor. The church membership was undoubtedly composed mainly of Gentiles, and the males were physically uncircumcised.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Ha' Mashiach shall profit you nothing.

Gal 6:12 As many as desire to look well in the flesh, these compel you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Ha' Mashiach. (MKJ)

Gal 6:13 For they themselves, having been circumcised, do not even keep the Law, but they desire you to be circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh. (MKJ)

When looking at Paul's initial dealings with these people, we find that they had a history of worshipping pagan idols. In Acts we see that Paul was in Lystra where he healed a crippled man and immediately the people worshipped them as gods.

Act 14:8 And a certain man was sitting in Lystra, without strength in the feet, being lame from his mother's womb, who never had walked.

Act 14:9 This one heard Paul speaking; and Paul, looking intently at him, and seeing that he had faith to be healed,

Act 14:10 said with a loud voice, Stand up on your feet! And he leaped and walked.

Act 14:11 And seeing what Paul did, the crowd lifted up their voice, saying in Lycaonian, The gods have come down to us, becoming like men.

Act 14:12 And they called Barnabas Jupiter, and Paul Mercury, because he was the chief speaker.

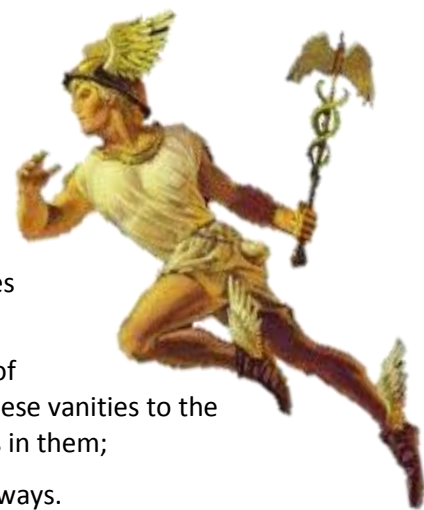
Act 14:13 And the priest of Jupiter, being before their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, wishing to sacrifice with the crowds.

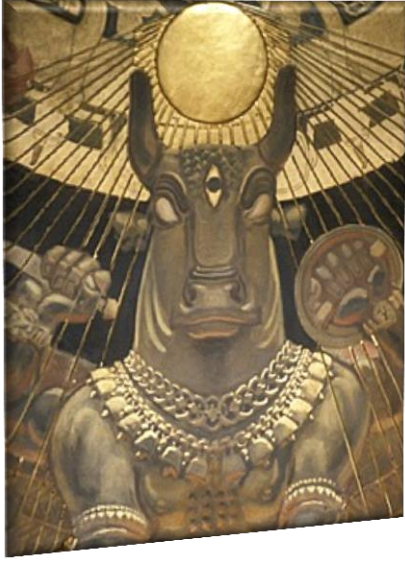
Act 14:14 But hearing this, the apostles Barnabas and Paul tore their clothes and ran in among the people, crying out

Act 14:15 and saying, Men, why do you do these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preaching the gospel to you to turn you from these vanities to the living Eloah, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all things in them;

Act 14:16 who in past generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways.

Act 14:17 And yet He did not leave Himself without witness, doing good, giving rain and fruitful season to us from heaven, filling our hearts with food and gladness.





Act 14:18 And saying these things, they scarcely stopped the people from sacrificing to them.

We see that the people in Galatia were generally superstitious and worshipped pagan idols. Further, the major thrust of the Galatian epistle is to put them **"back on the track"** because someone had been teaching "a different gospel," a perversion of the gospel of Ha' Mashiach.

Gal 1:6 I marvel that you so soon are being moved away from Him who called you into the grace of Ha' Mashiach, **to another gospel,**

Gal 1:7 which is not another, but some are troubling you, and desiring to pervert the gospel of Ha' Mashiach.

The Galatians had derailed on their understanding of how sinners are justified. To be justified means to have one's sins forgiven and to be brought into a right relationship with ELAH. False teachers in Galatia taught that one was justified by doing physical works of some kind. In dealing with this matter, Paul felt an urgency to emphasize that **we are**

justified by faith in the sacrifice of Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua.

Gal 2:15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,

Gal 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua, even we have believed in Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua, that we might be justified by the faith of Ha' Mashiach, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

One of the "works of the law" that the false teachers insisted was necessary for justification was obviously circumcision .

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Ha' Mashiach shall profit you nothing.

Gal 5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

Gal 5:11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased.

But it was not just the Old Covenant regulations that were being enjoined upon the Galatians because Paul says the false teachers themselves did not keep the law.

Gal 6:13 For they themselves, having been circumcised, do not even keep the Law, but they desire you to be circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.

Evidently, the false teachings produced a licentious lifestyle.

Gal 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Gal 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Gal 5:15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

Gal 5:16 This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and **ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh**.

Gal 5:17 For **the flesh lusteth against the Spirit**, and **the Spirit against the flesh**: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Gal 5:18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Gal 5:19 Now **the works of the flesh are manifest**, which are these; **Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,**

Gal 5:20 **Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,**

Gal 5:21 **Envyings, murders, drunkenness, reveling, and such like**: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of ELAH.

The large amount of evidence indicates that the false teachers were teaching a blend of Judaism and Gnosticism. The philosophy of Gnosticism taught that everything physical was evil and that people could attain a higher spiritual understanding through effort. It was the type of philosophy that its believers thought could be used to enhance or improve anyone's religion. In Paul's letter to the Colossians, we read of this same philosophy having an influence on the church there. It was characterized by strict legalism, a "**taste not, touch not**" attitude, neglect of the body, worship of angels and a false humility.

Colossians 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, **vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind**,

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of ELAH.

Col 2:20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Ha' Mashiach from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

Col 2:21 (**Touch not; taste not; handle not;**

Col 2:22 **Which all are to perish with the using;**) after **the commandments and doctrines of men?**

Col 2:23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to **the satisfying of the flesh**.

Contrary to Gnosticism, Paul tells the Galatians that they should not listen to even an angel from heaven who taught a false gospel.

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Also, even though the Gnostics taught a strict discipline of the body, it could sometimes lead to a licentious lifestyle. The idea that the physical, evil body was separate from the spirit often led to the attitude that what one did with the body made no difference.

Bondage of the World

What, then, were the "days, months, seasons and years" that Paul criticizes the Galatians for observing? First, Paul nowhere in the entire letter mentions ELAH's holy days. Second, the apostle **would never refer to holy days that ELAH instituted as "weak and beggarly elements."** He honored and revered ELAH's law.

Rom 7:12 Wherefore **the law is holy**, and **the commandment holy**, and **just**, and **good**.

Rom 7:14 For we know that **the law is spiritual**: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Rom 7:16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto **the law that it is good**.

Besides, he taught the Corinthians to observe Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread and he kept the Sabbath and holy days himself.

1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Ha' Mashiach our **Passover** is sacrificed for us:

1Co 5:8 Therefore **let us keep the feast**, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Act 16:13 And on the **Sabbath** we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

Act 18:21 But bade them farewell, saying, **I must by all means keep this feast that cometh** in Jerusalem: but I will return again unto you, if ELAH will. And he sailed from Ephesus.

Act 20:6 And we sailed away from Philippi after the **days of unleavened bread**, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.

1Co 16:8 But I will tarry at Ephesus until **Pentecost**.

What these "days" were becomes clear when putting the scriptures into perspective. Paul shows the Galatians that salvation through faith in Ha' Mashiach is a fulfillment of the promise made to Abraham.

Gal 3:14 That **the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua**; that we might receive **the promise of the Spirit through faith**.

Gal 3:15 Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.

-OR- My friends, I will use an everyday example to explain what I mean. **Once someone agrees to something, no one else can change or cancel the agreement.**

Gal 3:16 Now **to Abraham and his seed were the promises made**. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Ha' Mashiach.

Gal 3:17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of ELAH in Ha' Mashiach, **the law**, which was four hundred and thirty years after, **cannot disannul**, that it should make the promise of none effect.

In other words what Paul is saying is that the Law cannot change or cancel ELAH's promise that was made 430 years **before the Law** was given.

Gal 3:18 For if the inheritance **be of the law**, it is no more of promise: but ELAH gave it to Abraham by promise.

If we have to obey the Law in order to receive ELAH's blessings, those blessings don't really come to us because of ELAH's promise. But ELAH was kind to Abraham and made him a promise. What is the use of the Law? It was given later to show that we sin. In fact, angels gave the Law to Moses, and he gave it to the people.

Gal 3:19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

Does the Law disagree with ELAH's promises? No, it doesn't! If any law could give life to us, we could become acceptable to ELAH by obeying that law.

Gal 3:21 Is the law then against the promises of Eloah? Jah forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

But the Scriptures say that sin controls everyone, so that ELAH's promises will be for anyone who has faith in Ha' Mashiach. Paul tells us that all Christians both Hebrew and Gentile are spiritually children of Abraham and will inherit the promises made to him.

Gal 3:26 For ye are all the children of ELAH by faith in Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua.

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Ha' Mashiach have put on Ha' Mashiach.

Gal 3:28 **There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua.

Gal 3:29 And if ye be Ha' Mashiach's, **then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs** according to the promise.

Paul draws an analogy in which he likens the Hebrew to a child who is waiting to come into an inheritance and the Gentile to a slave in the same household. He explains how, before the coming of Ha' Mashiach, the spiritual state of the Hebrew was no different from the Gentile because neither had had their sins forgiven nor had they received the Ruach Ha' Qodesh. Prior to the coming of Ha' Mashiach, both Hebrews and Gentiles were "**In bondage under the elements of the world**".

Gal 4:1 Now I say, That **the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant**, though he be master of all;

Gal 4:2 But **is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father**.

Gal 4:3 Even so we, **when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world**:

Gal 4:4 But when the fullness of the time was come, ELAH sent forth his Son, made of a woman, **made under the law**,

Gal 4:5 To redeem them that were under the law, **that we might receive the adoption of sons**.



The word "**elements**" is the Greek *stoicheion*, which means any first thing or principal. "***In bondage under the elements of the world***" refers to the fact that the unconverted mind is subject to the influence of **Satan and his demons, the rulers of this world** and the authors of all idolatrous worship. Satan and his demons are the origin, the underlying cause, of the evil ways of this world, and all unconverted humans are under their sway.

Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against ELAH: for it is not subject to the law of ELAH, neither indeed can be.

Paul is saying that both Jews and Gentiles had been in bondage to sin. The apostle explains to the Galatians how their lives and destiny have been changed through their faith in Ha' Mashiach: And because you [Gentiles] **are sons**, ELAH has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you [Gentiles] are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of ELAH through Ha' Mashiach.

Gal 4:6 And because ye are sons, ELAH hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Gal 4:7 Wherefore thou art **no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of ELAH** through Ha' Mashiach.

Paul brings up the subject of the idolatry and paganism that they had participated in before their conversion and says to them; "*But then, indeed, when you did not know ELAH, you served those which by nature are not Elah.*" *Galatians 4:8*

This obviously refers to the worship of pagan deities just as we saw in Acts 14 when in Lystra Barnabas was called Jupiter, and Paul Mercury.

Paul is making it clear that **ELAH had called them out of that way of life**. Clearly, Paul's concern was that the Galatians were returning to the way of life from which ELAH had called them

Gal 4:9 But now, after that ye have known ELAH, or rather are known of ELAH, how **turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements**, whereunto **ye desire again to be in bondage?**



As we have seen the "weak and beggarly elements" were demon-inspired, idolatrous practices. "Elements" here is the same word, *stoicheion*, translated "elements" in verse 3. An extension of *stoicheion* can refer to the heavenly bodies that regulate the pagan calendar that are associated with pagan festivals. **The apostle condemns the practices and way of life that had been inspired by Satan and his demons**, the principal cause of the entire world's evil. Paul recognized that the Galatians had begun to return to their former slavish, sinful practices.

Called Out Completely

Gal 4:10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years

Now it becomes plain that the "days, months, seasons and years" Paul refers to were the pagan, idolatrous festivals and observances that the Galatian Gentiles had observed before their conversion! They could not possibly be ELAH's holy days **because these Gentiles had never observed them before being called**. Rather, they were turning back to their old, heathen way of life that included keeping various superstitious holidays connected to the worship of pagan deities!

So we see that, far from doing away with ELAH's holy days, these scriptures show that we should not be observing "days, months, seasons and years" that have their roots in paganism! These would obviously include such days as **Christmas, Easter, Halloween** and any other days that originated from the worship of pagan idols. Sadly, the very scriptures that warn against returning to these unchristian holidays are being used by some today to persuade members of the church to forsake ELAH's holy days and keep this world's holidays!



The lesson to be learned from these scriptures is that **ELAH has called us completely out** of the ways of this world including the pagan customs and traditions of the world. We should have nothing to do with such **"weak and beggarly elements."** The customs and traditions of true Believers are the same ones that Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua observed—ELAH's holy days which He has commanded to be observed in His Holy Word. These are the days that we rejoice in as we walk in the footsteps of Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua, living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of ELAH!

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS

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Every single word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph written in ELAH's Word, is important. However, if a matter is *very* important, ELAH has it repeated. If it is *very, very* important, ELAH has it repeated *twice*. Such is the case with the doctrine of the necessity of Christian works and faith, here written by ELAH through His apostle James in chapter two of James' epistle.



Clearly then, it is *very, very* important that we understand that faith without works is dead. But along comes another apostle—Paul, in his letter to ELAH's church at Ephesus—and just look at what he has to say:

Eph 2:8 For by **grace** are ye **saved** through **faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the **gift** of ELAH:

Eph 2:9 Not of **works**, lest any man should boast.

Some compare these two passages and declare, "The Bible contradicts itself, so how can it be the inspired Word of ELAH?" They then use this and other perceived contradictions as excuses to discard completely the whole written Word of ELAH. Others take the "path of least resistance." Adopting Paul's words, but completely ignoring ELAH's instruction through James, they claim, "All you need is grace and faith. Works are not necessary!"

Is there a contradiction? Do we or do we not need works? And just what are "works" anyway? We need to answer these questions because they are vital to our salvation. True, spiritual understanding of **Ephesians 2:8-9** and **James 2:14-26** reveals that the Bible does *not* contradict itself on this subject of faith and works—nor anywhere else, for that matter.

When we read Ephesians 2:8-9, the first thing we notice is that we are confronted with a whole list of spiritual-sounding words: **grace**, **saved**, **faith**, **gift**, **works**. Even those of us who have been with ELAH for many years and who may clearly understand each of these words individually, are slowed down in our comprehension of these verses when faced with such terms presented one after the other.

Grace (#5485): *charis* (khar'-ece). *favor, thanks, thank, pleasure.*

Saved (#4982): *sozo* (sode'-zo). *make whole, heal, and be whole.*

Faith (#4102): *pistis*. *assurance, believe, belief, those who believe, fidelity.*

Gift (#1435): *doron*. *present, offering.*

Works (#2041): *ergon*. *deed, doing, labor.*

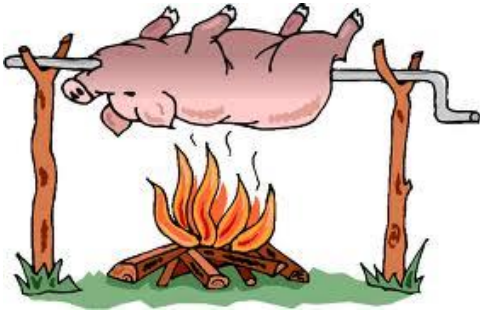
Ergon is the original Greek for the English word "**works**." It does not appear to be a very difficult, ambiguous, or confusing term. But what do the many people and churches who claim that works are not required perceive "works" to be?

Opinions vary. One group perceives *works* to mean the whole law in general. A second group perceives *works* as specific portions of ELAH's law, which they look upon as being only for "Jews" or "Old Covenant," or that they are just not willing to keep and teach. A third group, amazingly enough in their rejection of it, perceives this term as meaning works of charity in general!

Individuals or groups who choose to substitute the word "**law**" for the word "**works**", and who thus say that New Testament Christians do not have to keep ELAH's law, do not appear to mean it totally and literally. Instead, **most of**

them reserve the right to choose which parts of the law they wish to keep ("You shall not kill," "You shall not steal," etc.) and those that they do not wish to keep ("Remember the

Sabbath," holy days, tithing, clean and unclean meats, etc.). ELAH has nowhere given authority to His people to be selective in these matters, thus this stance toward the law is inconsistent and even hypocritical.



Conditions for Salvation

Salvation is a gift and one cannot earn salvation by charitable works or by obedience to ELAH's law. **However, obedience is a condition we must meet before ELAH will give us His free gift of salvation.** Let's go to the New Testament and look at the overwhelming evidence on the matter.

Acts 5:32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Ruach Ha'Qodesh, which ELAH has given to those who obey him.

I John 2:4 He who says, "I know him," and **does not keep His commandments, is a liar**, and the truth is not in him.

Matthew 19:17 So He said to [the rich young ruler], "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, ELAH. But **if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.**"

John 14:15 **If you love Me, keep My commandments.**

Paul does not say that works are not required at all. The purpose of his statement is to show that works do not save us, but that grace and faith do!

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua unto **good works**, which ELAH hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

This verse shows that ELAH calls members of His church for the very purpose of performing good works. Paul's language is very clear. ELAH desires us to walk in good works, and He has prepared our spiritual educational process so that we will learn to do them.

No Contradiction

Finally, is there any contradiction between the opinions of Paul and James on this matter?

Simply, no! Paul says that faith is required and, as we have seen says that good works are also required.

James, in the second chapter of his epistle, says that faith and works are inseparable:

James 2:17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2:20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

In his *Bible Handbook*, Henry H. Halley states that:

Paul's doctrine of Justification by Faith, and James' doctrine of Justification by Works, are supplementary, not contradictory. Neither was opposing the teaching of the other—they were devoted friends and co-workers. James fully endorsed Paul's work (Acts 15:13-29; 21:17-26). Paul preached Faith as the basis of justification before ELAH, but insisted that it must issue in the right kind of Life. James was writing to those who had accepted the doctrine of Justification by Faith but were not Living Right, telling them that such Faith was No Faith at all. (p. 659, capitalization as in original)

The Revised Standard Version translates **James 2:20** in a very interesting and appropriate way:

"Do you want to be shown, you shallow man, that faith apart from works is barren?"

It is *barren* that is so intriguing. In the Bible, several women—for example, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, and Elizabeth—could not have children. In the physical realm, a fertile male and a fertile female are both required conditions for reproduction for most forms of life. Spiritually, active faith and active works are both required conditions to reproduce a spiritual life in us. In both cases, life, whether spiritual or physical, is a gift of ELAH, the Creator and Life-giver. If either condition is absent or inactive, barrenness or lack of new life results.

Another meaning of **barren** common in English is that of a land without vegetation, a desolate place. The Greek word James uses is **argos** (*instead of nekra, "dead," as in verses 17 and 26*), meaning **"lazy," "unproductive," "unprofitable," "idle," "ineffective."** Its literal meaning is **"no work"** [*a* (negative) + *ergon* (work)]! The word picture that develops is of an area of land that receives plenty of sunshine **but too little rain**, and hence, it is barren, desolate.

Such a land cannot be worked because it will not produce anything profitable. In the same way, a person having only faith will produce nothing profitable; he needs a steady "rain" of work to grow and mature.

So there is no contradiction. **Faith is required. Works are required.** Works toward ELAH are to do His will and His work and, yes, **to obey His laws.**



Faith without works is dead. Faith *with* works is life—eternal life!

Do you know millions who actually believe in Ha' Mashiach have no salvation at all...because they trust in the wrong kind of faith?

NO SUBJECT pertaining to salvation is more generally misunderstood than that of saving FAITH! Just "**BELIEVE** in the Ha' Mashiach, and **thou shalt be saved**;" is the popular teaching today. And that statement is absolutely true — if you understand what kind of BELIEVING is required!

Unfortunately millions are being deceived—led to trust in a faith that will never save one single soul by a very popular and very false teaching. It is customary to quote only a PART of the Scriptures on this subject — reading a false meaning into them — and thus by subtle half-truths popular teachings shackle most of Christendom to spiritual blindness and deceptions.

ELAH does not usually reveal all the truth regarding a particular subject in any one passage alone.

Isa 28:9 Whom will he teach knowledge? and whom will he make to **understand the message (Doctrine)**...

Isa 28:10 For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little.

To understand any general subject in the Bible, it is necessary to view all the scriptural evidence touching on that particular subject. And we cannot read our desired meaning into any particular passage; for "**no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation**," *II Peter 1:20*, but each passage is interpreted by, and in the light of, other texts.

For example. It is quite popular to quote *Romans 3:20*: "**Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight**," and from this passage alone assume that salvation comes by faith in disobedience to **ELAH's law**! Those who thus interpret this passage never tell you that in **Romans 2:13** the same Apostle Paul was inspired to write: "**Not the hearers of the law are just before ELAH, but the DOERS of the law shall be justified**."

Is there contradiction here? If the one Scripture is intended to reveal that we do not have to make an effort to obey ELAH's Law to be justified and then saved — but that we are saved by faith without obedience to ELAH's Law, then, indeed, ELAH contradicts Himself in His Word! And if you wish to make *Romans 3:20* say that, you must consistently acknowledge there is contradiction in the Scriptures; and if this be true, you have no basis for your faith!

Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of ELAH:

Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

But those who quote this text so freely to teach the doctrine of "no works," never tell you that the same inspired Scriptures say also:

James 2:14 My brothers, what profit is it if a man says he has faith and does not have works? Can faith save him?

James 2:15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,

James 2:16 and if one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them those things which are needful to the body, what good is it?

James 2:17 Even so, if it does not have works, faith is dead, being by itself.

James 2:18 But someone will say, You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith from my works.

James 2:19 You believe that there is one Eloah, you do well; even the demons believe and tremble.

James 2:20 But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

There is no contradiction here!

Rather, by putting all the Scriptures on the subject of "Saving Faith" together, we learn that there are TWO KINDS of faith. And the kind so blindly trusted in by the majority of this day is nothing but **a DEAD faith — and a DEAD faith never will save one soul!**



Notice! "Faith without works is DEAD" —It's just a DEAD faith.

James 2:21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

James 2:22 Do you see how faith worked with his works, and from the works faith was made perfect?

James 2:23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed ELAH, and it was imputed to him for righteousness, and he was called the friend of JAHWAH."

James 2:24 You see then how a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

Then are we saved by works instead of faith? No, NEVER! We are saved by FAITH! But faith wrought with our works and **BY WORKS, our FAITH is MADE PERFECT! That is LIVING FAITH!** Why do we even need salvation? Because we have SINNED, and **the penalty of sin is DEATH!** But how have we sinned? What IS sin, anyhow? **"Sin is the transgression of THE LAW,"** is ELAH's answer.

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

There are still those who would argue... "But we are not **under the law** today, **but UNDER GRACE!**" Why certainly! "What then?" asks the inspired Paul, "shall we SIN" — (transgress the LAW) — "because we are not under the law but under grace?" And Paul's answer is, "JAHWAH FORBID!" [Romans 6:15](#).

And again... **Romans 6:1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

Romans 6:2 JAHWAH forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

The law has a penalty — DEATH. It claims the life of the one who transgresses it. The law has power to take the life of the transgressor. It therefore is more powerful than the sinner — and **is OVER** the sinner, holding a claim on his life. It is the **SINNER** who is **UNDER** the law. But when the sinner **REPENTS** of his transgression, and accepts the sacrifice of Ha' Mashiach as payment of the

penalty of the law, then he is **PARDONED — UNDER GRACE** — the law no longer stands **OVER** him claiming his life. It is those who are sinning that are **UNDER** the law! And those who, through **repentance, obedience** and **FAITH** have turned from disobedience and are, through faith, **KEEPING the law, are the only ones who are UNDER GRACE!**

ELAH's Spiritual Mirror

Let us understand it! "By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight."

No, certainly not! That Scripture is 100% true, and there is no contradiction! You cannot be justified BY the deeds of the law — not at all!

WHY? The last half of this same verse gives the answer — why do most preachers never quote it? **"For by the law is the KNOWLEDGE of sin"** *Romans 3:20*. **THAT'S WHY!**

The purpose of the law is not to forgive, to justify, to wash away, to cleanse. Only **THE BLOOD OF HA' MASHIACH** can do that! **Sin is the transgression of the law — that's what sin IS.** The purpose of the law **is to tell us what sin is — to define it — to REVEAL it, so we can quit it.**

Take for instance the the little mirror in a woman's handbag. She knows what it is for. Every once in a while she takes out the mirror to take a peek at her face. Sometimes it reveals a speck of dirt. And we might truthfully say, "By the use of the mirror no dirty face is washed clean." But do you throw your mirrors away because by them your faces are not washed? Of course not — what a silly question it seems! And if we ask you WHY your faces are not washed clean by your mirrors, you answer: "Because by the mirror comes the **KNOWLEDGE OF THE DIRT.**"



ELAH's LAW is His spiritual mirror. We look into it, and see the dirt on our hearts! But by looking at the law, or keeping it, no dirt is WASHED from our hearts — only Ha' Mashiach's **BLOOD** can do that. By the law comes the **KNOWLEDGE OF SIN!**

James 1:22 But be ye **doers of the word**, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

James 1:23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

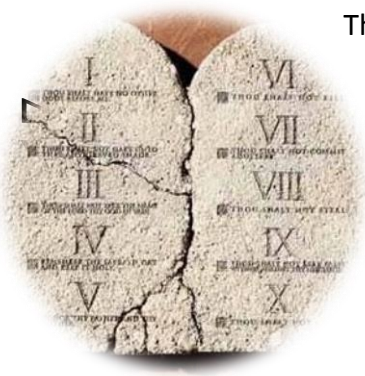
James 1:24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

James 1:25 But **whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein**, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, **this man shall be blessed in his deed.**

Is it Possible to Keep the Law?

The "**no law**" **deceiver** may argue, "No man can keep the Commandments, it is not humanly possible. **Since FAITH has come, we keep no law** — faith has made it **VOID.**"

2 Corinthians 11:13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Ha' Mashiach.



2 Corinthians 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

*Thus even "Satan himself is transferred into an angel of **LIGHT**. Therefore it is no great thing if **HIS MINISTERS** also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness — For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of **HA' MASHIACH**.*

Romans 3:31 Do we then make void the law through faith? ELAH forbid: yea, **we establish the law.**

Yes, faith establishes the Law! By keeping it is faith made PERFECT!

Yet, **can we keep the Commandments?** Is it possible? **Satan's "No Law" deceivers say NO!** What is the PLAIN TRUTH?

A man came to Jahshuwah and asked how to be saved. Ha' Mashiach Himself replied, "If thou wilt enter into life, **KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS**" *Matthew 19:17.*

Mat 19:25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

Mat 19:26 But Jahshuwah beheld them, and said unto them, **With men this is impossible; but with ELAH all things are possible.**

There is Ha' Mashiach's own answer! With men it IS impossible, — utterly impossible to really KEEP His Commandments. But — here's the blessed truth — **WITH ELAH**, it is possible, even to keep His Commandments. Do you begin to see it? **IT TAKES FAITH!**

Faith in the power of ELAH!

And, just as your own diligent effort of obedience coupled with faith makes faith perfect, so faith coupled with your effort of obedience makes **PERFECT OBEDIENCE!** The two go hand in hand. And you cannot have the one, without the other!

A LIVING FAITH — the only kind that will SAVE — is an active faith — one that TRUSTS ELAH to make it possible to OBEY HIM — to live a true life in Ha' Mashiach — to KEEP His blessed Commandments!

Think! Could a just Elah command men to do what is IMPOSSIBLE? Or can we imagine Jahshuwah as a smart-aleck young man who knew more than **His FATHER**, who did away with His Father's **COMMANDMENTS?** **How absurd!** Yet this is the popular conception today!



ELAH'S LAW is ETERNAL

ELAH's Law is not a horrible monster! Just and right laws are a tenor only to the criminal — they are made to PROTECT the good!

Psalm 19:7 **The law of ELAH is perfect, converting the soul:** the testimony of ELAH is sure, making wise the simple.

Romans 7:14 For we know that **the law is spiritual:**

Romans 7:12 Wherefore **the law is holy**, and **the commandment holy**, and **just**, and **good**.

Psalm 111:7 The works of his hands are verity and judgment; **all his commandments are sure**.

Psalm 111:8 **They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.**

Don't you believe it, when men tell you differently!

ELAH's Law is, simply, **LOVE**! It is the perfect way of life. Every particle of human suffering, unhappiness, misery and death has come solely from its transgression! It was given to make man HAPPY, and is the only philosophy of life that can do so! It came from an Eloah of LOVE, and LOVE is the fulfilling of the law!

But not YOUR own natural love! It requires "the love of ELAH, shed abroad in our hearts BY THE Ruach Ha'Qodesh"

Rom 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of ELAH is shed abroad in our hearts by the Ruach Ha'Qodesh which is given unto us.

ELAH has, and will give you the love that will fulfill His law. And so, praise His blessed Name! It is possible, through FAITH, and the GIFT of the Ruach Ha'Qodesh, for man to keep His Commandments! And whoever claims differently, ELAH calls a plain LIAR.

1 John 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

The true Commandment-keeper is mandated to **trust ELAH** to make obedience possible. And thus **faith does not void, but establishes the Law! And to keep the law requires FAITH!**

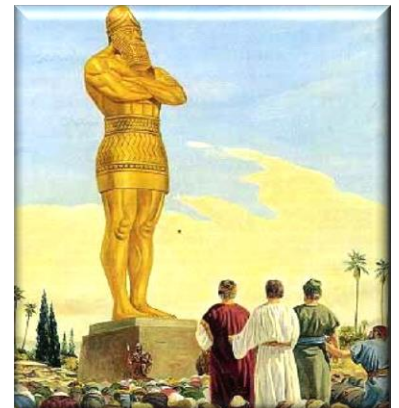
A thrilling example of this eternal truth is recorded in the Book of Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, erected a great golden image.

Dan 3:4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

Dan 3:5 *That* at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

Dan 3:6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

Set over the affairs of the province of Babylon were Daniel's three young Hebrew friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. One of the Commandments of ELAH's eternal spiritual law forbids such worship of images.



Had you been in their place, what would **YOU** have done? Would you not have said, *"Well, I have to bow down to this image — I have to do it or be killed!"* And perhaps you would have excused yourself by reasoning thus: *"I don't think ELAH would be fair if He punished me for this, when He knows I am **FORCED** to do it."* Yes, it is easy to use reason to excuse disobedience to ELAH. But ELAH is not looking for chances to punish us.

Instead He is looking for opportunities to **SAVE** us through faith! To save us from the folly of **SIN** and the sad consequence our own acts impose! Whatever we sow we shall reap. ELAH's Law is intended to protect us from suffering.



But these three young Hebrews knew the truth, that we should **OBEY ELAH** rather than men, it is through **FAITH** that ELAH makes it possible. When they **firmly REFUSED to bow down** to worship the king's image, Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded them brought before him.

Dan 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

Dan 3:17 If it be so, our Eloah whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Dan 3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy idols, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Sometimes ELAH tries our faith. He tried theirs. You might think He failed them, but He only permitted their faith to be tested.

"Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the form of his appearance was changed; . . . therefore he spoke, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was to be heated — Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments," — surely Eloah whom they trusted would have them released now? But no — there was no physical evidence whatever that ELAH so much as heard! —

And they were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace!

Dan 3:22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Dan 3:23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

ELAH permitted them actually to be thrown in! Was He unmindful of those who trusted in Him to make possible the keeping of His Commandments? Not ELAH!

Dan 3:24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded, and rose up in haste, and spoke, and said unto his counselors, Did not we cast three men bound



into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

Dan 3:25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of Eloah.

So Nebuchadnezzar came near the mouth of the furnace and called to them. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego! ye servants of the most high ELAH, come forth, and come hither! Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came forth of the midst of the fire. . . . these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was a hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them. Then Nebuchadnezzar spake and said, Blessed be the Eloah of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent His angel, and **DELIVERED** his servants that **TRUSTED IN HIM!**"



THERE was an example of **living FAITH!** A faith that **TRUSTED ELAH** to make it possible to live the way of His law! **Yes, WITH ELAH, it is possible to keep all His Commandments—and don't let any man deceive you to the contrary!**

CAN YOU BELIEVE and WORSHIP HA' MASHIACH in VAIN?

When ELAH's Word says, "**BELIEVE in the Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua, and thou shalt be saved,**" it does not mean the **DEAD** faith now popularly taught! Though common teachings of this day distort this to mean a mere belief in the **FACTS** of Ha' Mashiach's existence, His sacrifice, and His saving work. **Just accept these FACTS, and accept HIM—without any obedience to ELAH's Laws!** But the devils believe these things — and they **TREMBLE!**

Ha' Mashiach was the Messenger of the New Covenant — **Messenger sent from ELAH.** You cannot **BELIEVE** on such a divine Messenger, unless you believe, and obey the **MESSAGE** that He brought!



Acts 2:38 "If thou wilt enter into LIFE," was His teaching, **"KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS!"** **"REPENT,"** said the inspired Peter, and then believe and be baptized for the remission of sins, and "ye SHALL receive the gift of the Ruach Ha'Qodesh ".

Acts 5:32 ... ELAH gives His Ruach Ha'Qodesh **only to them that OBEY HIM.**

The Ruach Ha'Qodesh is the **LOVE** which ELAH gives us to fulfill and to keep His Commandments! And it all comes **BY FAITH!**

Ha' Mashiach came to save us **FROM**, not in, our sins! To **FREE** us from the enslavement of sin and the unhappiness and wretchedness it brings—not to make us free to commit sin! Is it possible to **BELIEVE** in Ha' Mashiach — to worship Him — in the customary manner of the day, and yet be lost? **Ha' Mashiach Himself says, "YES!"**

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, MASTER, MASTER, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.**

Hear Him again!

Mar 7:7 Howbeit **in vain do they worship me**, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Mar 7:8 For laying aside the commandment of ELAH ye hold the tradition of men...

There it is! From Jahshuwah's own lips! **Such a dead faith — such worship — is IN VAIN!** Those who trust in it, and in the men and denominations which teach it, **ARE LOST!** And the quicker we come to realize it, the better!

ELAH's PURPOSE in salvation is to rescue men from **SIN**, and its resulting unhappiness, misery, and death! To **REPENT** of sin is the first step! Then the **BLOOD OF HA' MASHIACH**, upon acceptance and faith, cleanses of all past sins. And by **FAITH** we are kept from sin in the future. Thus the resulting righteousness is of **FAITH** — the righteousness imparted from ELAH.

We are not justified BY THE LAW — we are justified by the blood of Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua! But this justification will be given only on Condition that we REPENT of our transgressions of ELAH's Law — and so it is, after all, only the DOERS of the law that shall be JUSTIFIED.

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

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Mat 5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, **he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven:** but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

How Plain, and how Beautiful is ELAH'S TRUTH!

We now see that, far from doing away with the law of ELAH, the deep and profound truth, the doctrine of justification. Paul describes the manner in which we are reckoned righteous in ELAH's sight through faith in the sacrifice of Ha' Mashiach. Ha' Mashiach Jah'shua paid in His own body the great debt which we owed ELAH because of our breaking of His holy and righteous laws. Now

our sins have been "taken out of the way" and "nailed . . . to the cross." Having risen from that watery grave, we now have the promise of eternal life as we live a new way of life—a life of righteousness beyond the cross!



Excerpts from writings of:
Herbert W. Armstrong (1892-1986)
Forerunner, "Ready Answer," February 2002
Earl L. Henn (1934-1997)