SHAVUOT

MESSAGE FOR 05/26/12

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YAHWEH'S SET-APART DAYS

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Vayikrah (Leviticus) chapter 23 gives us the commanded feasts of Yahweh.

Verses 1&2:

And Yahweh spoke to Mosheh, saying, "Speak to the children of Yisrael, and say to them, 'The appointed times of Yahweh, which you are to proclaim as set-apart gatherings, My appointed times, are these:"

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Verse 4:

"These are the appointed times of Yahweh, set-apart gatherings which you are to proclaim at their appointed times."

These are not man's feasts or Moshe's feasts, or Jewish Feasts, they are the feasts of Yahweh. They are His designated times.

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In Vayikrah 23:9-14, we read about the feast of first fruits. In verse 14 we are told by Yahweh that "... this is a permanent regulation through all your generations...".

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In Vayikrah 23:15-21, we read about the feast of weeks or Shavuot. In verse 21 we are told by Yahweh that "... this is a permanent regulation through all your generations...".

We are also told by Yahweh in verse 31 and 41 about the other feasts that these are permanent regulations.

We are also told in Shemot (Exodus) 12:14-24 about Passover and that it is a permanent regulation and is to be observed for all generations.

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I am trying to make a point. If Yahweh has said that these feasts of His are to be observed for ALL GENERATIONS then that must mean for all generations.

We must make the assumption that Yahweh knew that Messiah would come at a later time in history.

We must also conclude that Yahweh's Word or His Torah is pure Truth and there is no error in it.

We then must conclude that if Yahweh intended that His Holy Days were to be "done away with" after Messiah's death and resurrection then He would have worded His commands about them differently.

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YAHWEH'S SET-APART DAYS

If we, as Nazarene Israelite Believers, are seeking to reclaim our biblical heritage and become Torah Submissive, then it is my belief that we need to know the WHY of the commandments as much as the WHAT of the commandments.

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Yahweh's Set-Apart Days give order to our lives.

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Yahweh's Set-Apart Days reminds us of Messiah.

His Set-Apart Days pace our life as He wants us to pace our lives. He wants us to work six days and then rest one. He wants us to set aside special Rest Days or Shabbat Days seasonally to remember Special events.

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WHAT IS SHAVUOT

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Shavuot (weeks) is coming (May 27th, 2012 on the Roman Calendar), and is the annual commemoration/observance of the giving of Torah at Sinai.

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This Covenant is a marriage agreement, and Israel was betrothed to Yahweh as His bride (wife). So, Shavuot is a wedding anniversary (not a birthday).

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Israel was wedded to Yahweh at the first Shavuot.

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At Sinai, this Torah was written in stone.

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At the first Shavuot after the resurrection and ascension of Yahshua the Torah was written in men's hearts and minds in the form of the Ruach Kodesh.

Shavuot literally means "weeks" (7 weeks counted from the First-Fruits offering. Yahshua is the First-Fruits, from the dead).

When Yahshua rose after 3 days and 3 nights in the tomb, and met Miryam at the garden tomb, He would not allow her to touch Him, because He had not yet presented Himself to the Father as the First Fruits wave-sheaf offering. This was, and is, always on the first day of the week, the "morrow after the Sabbath".

Shavuot is a commanded commemoration of the giving of the Torah at Sinai, year-by-year.

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THE MODIM ARE SHADOWS

Shavuot is a shadow of things to come.

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We see this in Kolesayah (Colossians) 2:16 - 17:

"Let no one therefore judge you in eating or in drinking, or in respect of a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths – which are a shadow of what is to come – FOR the Body of the Messiah."

Notice that the word "but" in most translations should be "for". These "shadows" are intended to be FOR the body of Mashiach, not ignored as Christianity has done.

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The Body of Messiah is redeemed Israel.

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Yahweh & Israel's Wedding Anniversary

Once each year, this anniversary celebration occurs that most people don't know much about. It's a wedding anniversary of a marriage between Yahweh and Israel which occurred at the springtime of the year, at a mountain called Sinai (or Horeb), 50 days after being delivered from slavery in "Egypt".

Vayikrah (Leviticus) chapter 23 tells us of the "new grain offering to Yahweh" relates to how Israel becomes united to Yahweh through this renewal of the marriage Covenant.

Yahweh's redemption plan for Israel has seven parts to it represented in the seven set-apart festivals. click

COMMITMENT

Commitment is the defining aspect of any marriage, and our promise to obey Yahweh occurs at our immersion into the Name of Yahshua.

We become Israel, joined in a permanent relationship with the Maker of Heaven and Earth through the Covenant which is represented by the Torah.

The Mediator of this renewed Covenant is Yahshua, Yahweh in human form, now the Bridegroom of Israel. Commitment to the Covenant means commitment to the marriage. click

NOT A BIRTHDAY

Often, we hear that "Pentecost" as recorded in Acts 2 is the "birthday of the Church". This is because they realize something very important happened, but their "Hebrew roots" to what that is have never been connected properly. It's not a birthday, but rather an anniversary. The "church" was actually "born" at Mount Sinai at the first Shavuot. See "A Message For Our Time".

It's true that the Spirit of Yahshua was first given to the 120 Natsarim gathered together for this annual feast day at Yerushaliyim. A "renewal" of the marriage Covenant came to the early Natsarim with "power" because Yahshua took up His dwelling-place in His people for the first time, and circumcised our hearts with a love for the marriage, the Covenant.

This was the first fulfillment of the prophecy of the "NEW" Covenant, given at Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 31, quoted at Ivrim (Hebrews) chapters 8 & 10. Yahweh literally inscribes His Torah on our hearts!

What a wedding gift He has given to His bride, Israel! We love to obey Him when we have entered the Covenant through immersion into His Name. We take our Husband's Name upon us at our immersion, and become one with Him when He enters into us. We become His temple, living stones that together make up this dwelling-place.

These were the "first fruits" of many to come; they are the early harvest. We Natsarim work the fields so that the great harvest will be overflowing. As Israel vowed to obey her husband at Sinai, so we marry Yahweh at our immersion:

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The Bridegroom says,

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"Love Me, and keep My Commandments!"

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We say,

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"All that you command, we will do and obey!" ("We" means ISRAEL)

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What do we obey?

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The TORAH of YAHWEH

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Our "way" or "path" – derech – is Yahweh's Torah.

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YAHSHUA TELLS HIS BRIDE TO:

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Mattithyahu (Matthew) 28:19 - 20:

"Therefore, go and make taught ones of all the nations, immersing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Set-apart Spirit, teaching them to guard all that I have commanded you. And see, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Amen.

In this quote, Yahshua is talking to Israel, His bride, and we are to teach the heathens to obey the same Covenant - so there's to be one body, Israel, made up of many "former Gentiles", all obeying Torah, serving Yahweh in spirit and Truth.

Note: the bride is to teach Yahweh's Torah and not something strange and contrary to the Torah – the marriage covenant.

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OUR TEACHERS

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Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 30:19 – 21:

For the people shall dwell in Tsiyon at Yerushalayim, you shall weep no more. He shall show much favour to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears, He shall answer you. Though Yahweh gave you bread of adversity and water of affliction, your Teacher shall no longer be hidden. But your eyes shall see your Teacher, and your ears hear a word behind

you, saying, "This is the Way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right, or whenever you turn to the left.

Also:

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Yo'el (Joel) 2:23:

And you children of Tsiyon, be glad and rejoice in Yaahweh your Elohim, for He shall give you the Teacher of Righteousness, and cause the rain to come down for you, the former rain and the latter rain, as before.

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Our teacher is the Word – Yahshua – Who is the Lawgiver.

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Yaakov (James) 4:12:

"There is one Lawgiver and Judge, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?"

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Yahshua gave Israel the Torah – The Torah is our teacher!

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FURTHERMORE:

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Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 3:15:

"And I shall give you shepherds according to My heart, and they shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."

The teachers that Yahweh gives us shall teach according to His Heart – they shall teach His Torah.