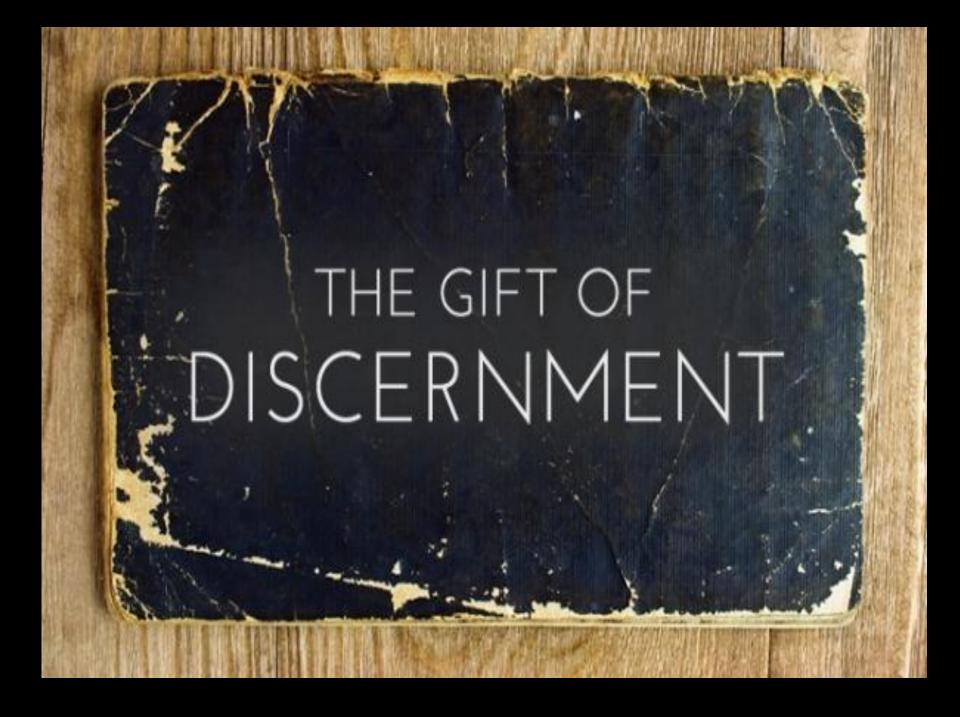


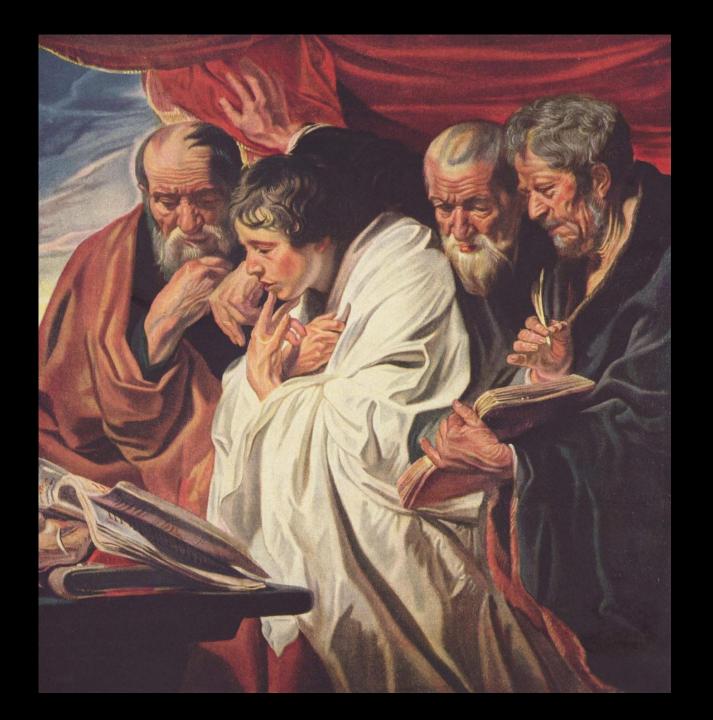
Written & Presented by Grace Elizabeth Cohen

LAW AND GRACE PART 4



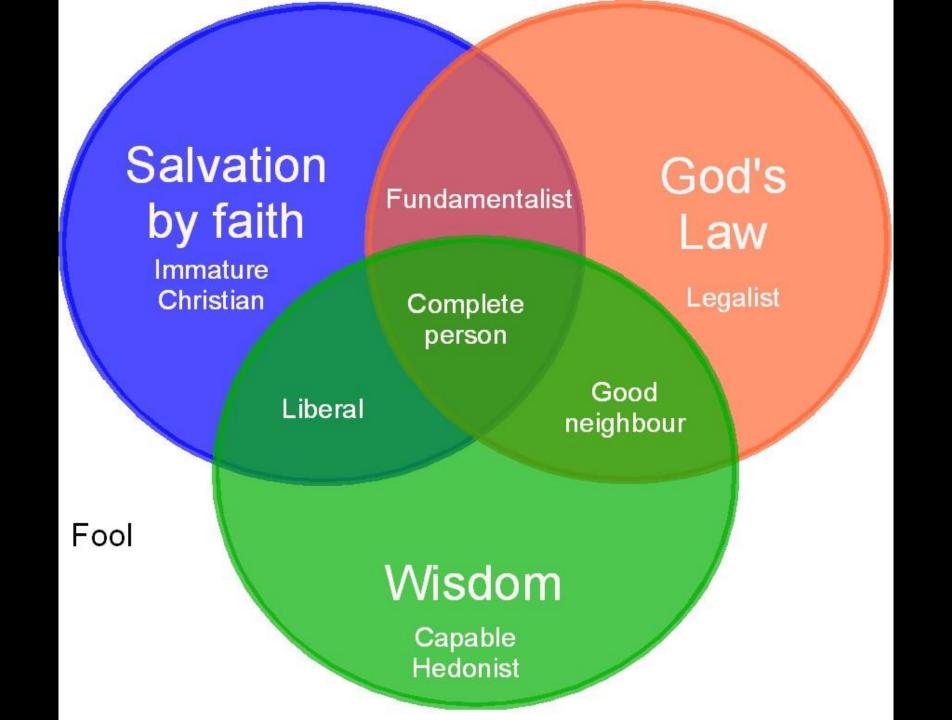
Acts 17: 11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

The Berean Jews are an excellent example of 'trying before you buy', they would examine the scriptures EVERYDAY, before accepting that Paul's teachings were truthful. Today, we must be more like the Berean Jews in our discernment of false teaching, they did not rely upon their instinct or how sincere Paul seemed when preaching, but solely relied upon the scriptures to access the cogency of Paul's teachings.



Ephesians 4: 13-15 Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of Yahuwah and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Yahshua. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth [which is the law of Yahuwah] in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Yahshua HaMaschiach.

Ephesians teaches us that until believers have the unity of both faith and knowledge of Yahshua, they are like infants; vulnerable and uneducated, believing every wind of teaching they hear, and being led astray by false teachers who twist scripture. Only until they have become mature; in having both faith in Yahshua and the knowledge of the Torah, are they then able to discern that which is and isn't of Yahuwah. Therefore, in order to protect yourself against false teaching, you must be mature spiritually, both knowing and observing the word of Yahuwah.



Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in Yahuwah and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armour of YHWH, so that you may be able to stand against the deceptive tactics of Satan. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armour of Yahuwah, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word (the law) of Yahuwah.

Ephesians teaches us that in order that we may stand against the deceptive tactics of Satan, we must put on the armour of YHWH. Ephesians details 6 components of the armour of YHWH, each referring to the two requirements that were given in Ephesians 4, for one to become a mature believer. The facets of the armour point to both knowledge of the Word (Torah) and faith in Yahshua.

1. Belt of Truth:

Romans 2:20 ' ... You have in the law the **embodiment of knowledge and truth**'

2. The Breastplate of Righteousness:

Philippians 1:11 'Being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Yahshua HaMashiach, to the glory and praise of Yahuwah.'

3. The Gospel of Peace:

Psalm 119:165 Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.

4. The Shield of Faith:

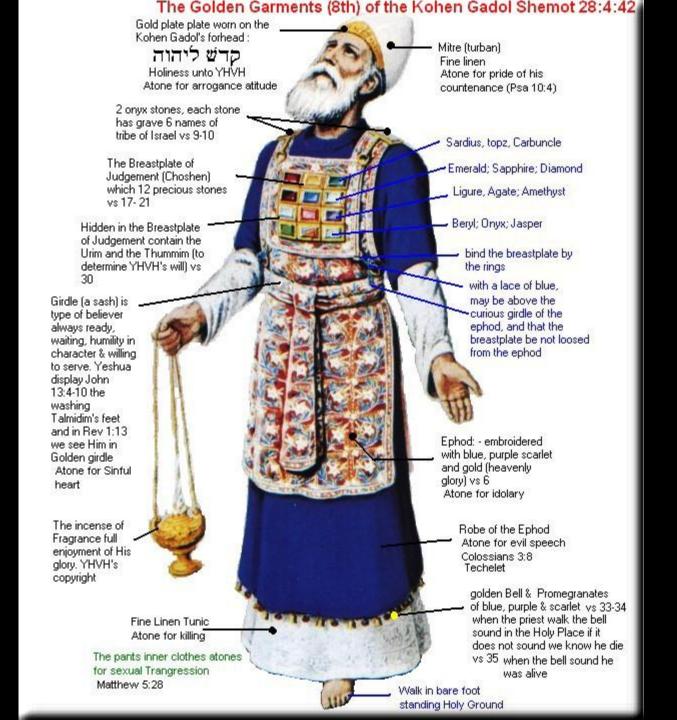
Psalm 119:30 I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws.

5. The Helmet of Salvation:

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For Yahuwah did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through Yahshua HaMashiach.

6. The Sword of The Spirit (The Word of Yahuwah):

Hebrews 4:12 See, the Word (law) of YHWH is alive! It is at work and is **sharper than any double-edged sword** — it cuts right through to where soul meets spirit and joints meet marrow, and **it is quick to judge the inner reflections and attitudes of the heart.**

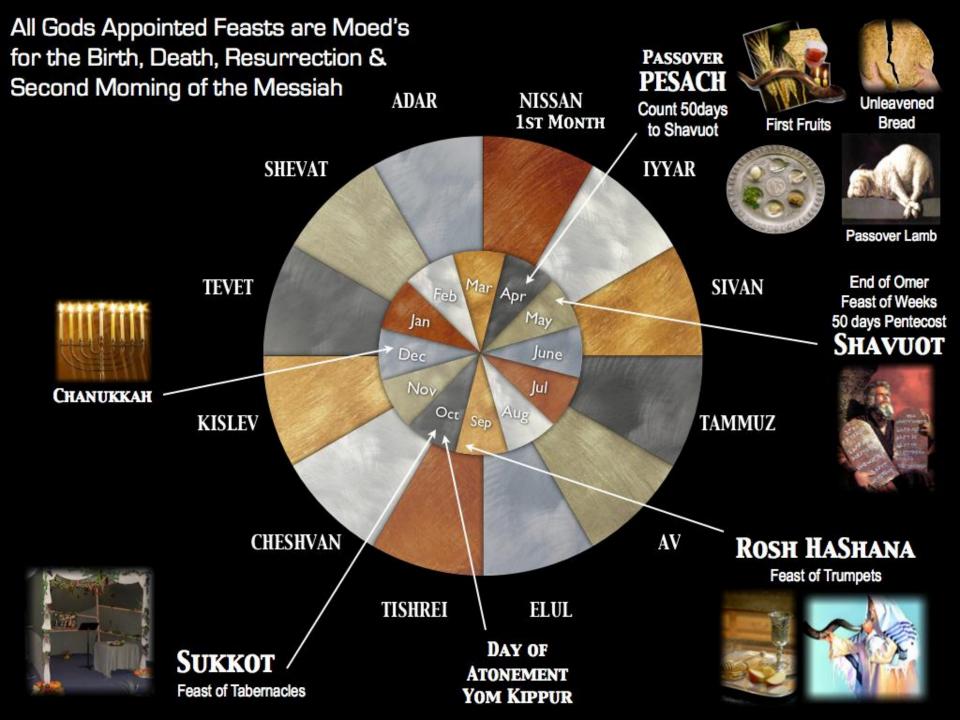


DOES THE LAW OF YAHUWAH ONLY APPLY TO

JEWS?

Many people reject the law of Yahuwah on the basis that they believe that those laws only applied to 'Israel' or 'Jews'. If that was the case, how cruel of Adonai to rob the Gentiles of one of the most instrumental tools in learning how to please Yahuwah, becoming a mature believer and receiving blessings from Him through obedience. Yahuwah intended for his commandments to apply to all of those who have faith in Yahshua HaMaschiach, not just Israel, the only reason why His commandments were originally addressed solely to the Israelites was because the Gentiles were not yet a part of the covenant and the law did not yet apply to them. Before Yahshua came, the Gentiles were idolaters and pagans who rejected Yahuwah for thousands of years. However, after Yahshua resurrection, apostles began to minister to Gentiles, and many came to believe in Yahshua as their messiah. Believing Gentiles were then 'grafted in' to the covenant of Israel, Yahuwah makes it clear within the Bible that through this they became one with Israel; which meant that all that had once applied to Israel only, now applied to the believing Gentiles also.

Yahweh's Feasts Are Forever and for



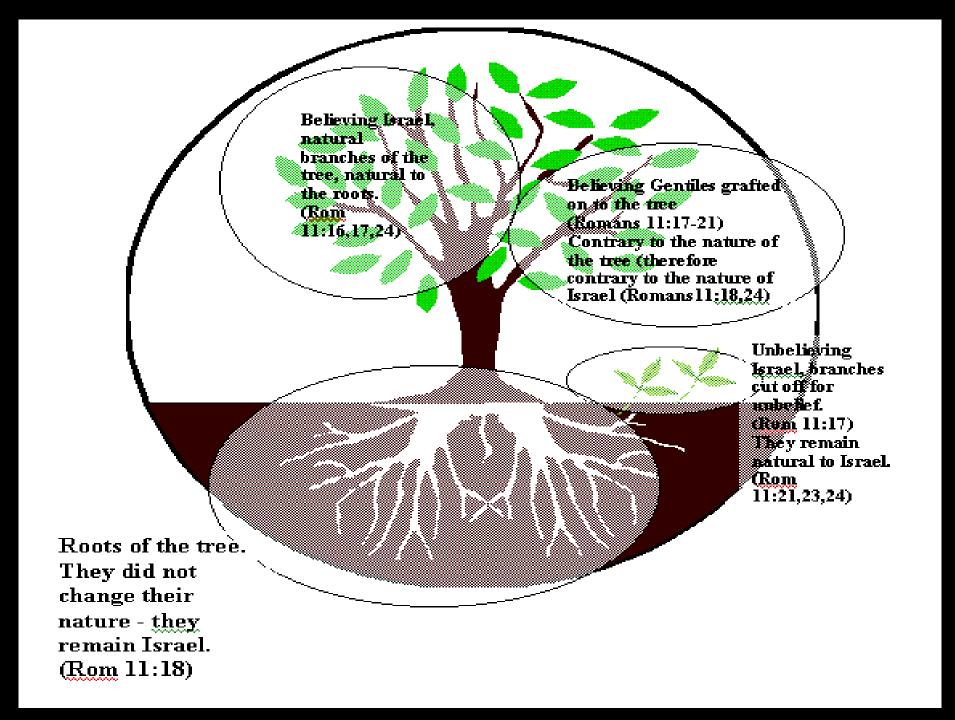
GENTILES: THE GRAFTED IN

Romans 11:16 'Now if the challah (bread) offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole loaf. And if the root is holy, so are the branches. 17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you — a wild olive — were grafted in among them and have become equal sharers in the rich root of the olive tree.'

Here, Roman's is speaking of the Gentiles entering into the covenant of Israel. The original covenant was made between Yahuwah and Israel, through Abraham, this covenant was an everlasting stamp on the Israelites as being His 'chosen nation'. The covenant of Israel here is depicted as a cultivated olive tree, the root of which is the holy Torah/Messiah, and because of this holy foundation, the branches, which are the Israelites, were in turn made a holy people.



However once Gentiles came to belief in Yahshua HaMaschiach, an alteration was made to the covenant, some of the original branches of the cultivated olive tree were broken off, and new wild olive branches were grafted in. The grafting in of these wild olive branches represents the new Gentiles believers, and their entering in to the covenant of Israel. Through this grafting in of the Gentile believers, they became 'equal sharers in the rich root of the olive tree'; they received the privilege of the Torah and were able to partake of it's blessings, they were also granted the grace of Yahshua HaMaschiach, in which salvation was imparted to them.



WE ARE ONE under messiah

Romans 9:25-26 As He says also in Hosea:

"I will call them My people, who were not My people, And her beloved, who was not beloved." 26 "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,' There they shall be called sons of the living G-d."

Yahuwah is speaking of the Gentiles, who are now also His people, but who have not always been. He says that though he once said that they are not His people, now that they are grafted in, they are called Sons of the living G-d, who is Yahuwah. This means that they are now within the covenant of Israel, and are able to partake of the commandments, the blessings and salvation, in the same way that Israel does.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 For just as the body is one but has many parts; and all the parts of the body, though many, constitute one body; so it is with the Messiah. 13 For it was by one Spirit that we were all immersed into one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free; and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Corinthians states that just as a body has many parts, but all parts are still of the body, same is the body of Messiah, just because there are different components of the body of Messiah, both Jew and Gentile, they are still both of the body, and do not differ in any regard when it comes to their place in the body of Messiah, as believers. We are all given the same spirit, the same covenant, the same blessings and the same commandments, because we are the same in His eyes.

Acts 10:34-35 Then Peter opened his mouth and said:
 "In truth I perceive that Yahuwah shows no partiality.
 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which Yahuwah sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Yahshua—He is Adonai of all'

• In Acts, Peter states that Yahuwah shows NO partiality, meaning favouritism, so why would he only give His holy and righteous commandments to Jewish believers? If he shows no partiality, why would he treat one differently to the other? Peter goes on to say that Yahuwah accepts EVERY nation who fears him and works righteousness, and that He is Adonai of ALL, not just Israel.

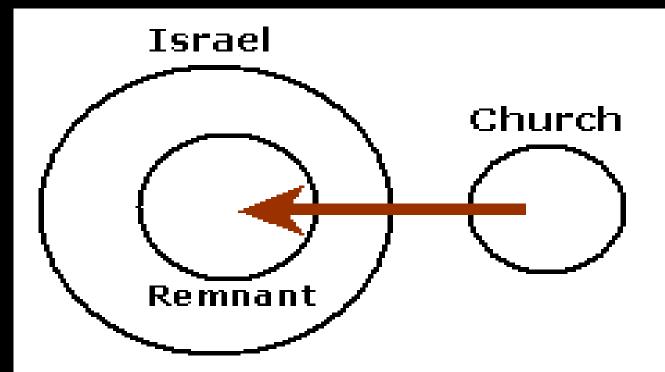
 Acts 15: 8-9 So Yahuwah, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, 9 and <u>made no</u> <u>distinction between us and them, purifying</u> <u>their hearts by faith.</u>

 Acts shows us again that Yahuwah made NO distinction between us and them (Jews and Gentiles) and that he purifies both of their hearts through faith. Yahuwah considers us all one under the blanket title of 'faithful believers'.

- Romans 3:29 'Is He the G-d of the Jews only? Is He not also the G-d of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, 30 since there is one G-d who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. 31 Do we then make void the Torah through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the Torah.'
- Romans states that Yahuwah is not only the G-d of the Jews, but of the Gentiles also, and that just because both are justified by faith, doesn't mean that the Torah is made void, on the contrary, we are encouraged to establish the Torah still. Pointing to Yahuwah as being both the G-d of the Jews and of the Gentiles begs the question, 'why would his commandments only apply to Israelites if Yahuwah is the G-d of both, equally?'

 Colossians 3:11 '<u>There is neither Greek nor Jew</u>, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Yahshua HaMashiach is all and in all.'

 Colossians once again echoes this statement of the absence of division between Jews and Gentiles. The terms 'Jews' and 'Gentiles', become just that, 'terms', they are merely titles of your origin, they no longer define your standing in the eyes of Yahuwah. HE does not see Jewish believers and Gentile believers, he just sees believers, because there is no longer a division between the two.



- The Gentile Church <u>partakes</u> of the covenants and promises given to remnant Israel.
- Gentile Christians must identify with Remnant Israel.

DO NOT BE BOASTFUL!

Some Christians, being familiar with this 'grafted in' concept, boast that they are now the new 'chosen' people' of Yahuwah, but they did not replace Israel, they became Israel, they were accepted into the Commonwealth of Israel, so that they could partake of the same blessings through obedience to the Torah and the same salvation through Yahshua HaMaschiach. Be grateful and honoured, not boastful and arrogant about the blessing Yahuwah has offered you. Yahuwah clearly addresses people who are boastful in this regard:

Romans 11: 18- 22 Then don't boast as if you were better than the (original) branches! However, if you do boast, remember that you are not supporting the root (Torah), the root (Torah) is supporting you. 19 So you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." 20 True, but why? They were broken off because of their lack of faith. However, you keep your place only because of your faith. So don't be arrogant; on the contrary, be terrified! 21 For if Yahuwah did not spare the natural branches, he certainly won't spare you! 22 So take a good look at Yahuwah's kindness and his severity: on the one hand, severity toward those who fell; but, on the other hand, G-d's kindness toward you — provided you maintain yourself in that kindness! Otherwise, you too will be cut off!

A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

Because Gentile believers are now a part of the covenant of Israel, the prophesy of being 'a light to the nations', that was originally made over Israel, now includes Gentile believers also. 'A light to the nations' refers to a separated holy people, that walk in righteousness, who are a beacon of truth, that proclaim Yahuwah's glory throughout the world, so that the unbelieving may be brought to salvation. In order to be 'a light to the nations' believers need to be obedient to the Torah, so that they can guide the unbelieving into truth, how can believers disciple and teach others if they don't know how to live according to His word?

Isaiah 42:6 "I will keep you and give you to be a Covenant for the people and a light to the nations to open the blind eyes; and to bring the captives from the prison.'

Acts 14:47 'For this is what Yahuwah has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the nations, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'

Deut. 4:6 "Learn and observe [the Torah] for it is your wisdom and understanding in the eyes of the nations, who will hear of all these laws and proclaim that this is truly a great, wise and understanding nation."



PRIESTS & KINGS

Scripture reveals that we will be priests of Yahuwah and Yahshua in the kingdom and will rule reign with him for a thousand years.

"He has made us kings and priests unto Yahshua and his Father; to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever" - Revelation 1:6

"They shall be priests of Yahuwah and of Messiah, and shall reign with him a thousand years" - Revelation 20:6

"Don't you know that Yahuwah's people are going to judge the world?"

- 1 Corinthians 6:2

'Yahshua said to them, "Yes. I tell you that in the regenerated world, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones and judge the twelve tribes of Isra'el.'

- Matthew 19:28

COMMANDMENTS IN THE KINGDOM

As priests and kings of Yahuwah, we will be keeping His commandments, and judging according to His holy law. If we have never lived in accordance with these commandments, or kept his ordinances or feasts, how are we to judge others according to them? And how are we to teach others that which we have never known? It would be like the blind leading the blind. A believer must keep the Torah in order to be a priest of Yahuwah!



Malachi 2:7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the Torah at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Master of hosts (Yahshua HaMaschiach).

The Feasts of Yahuwah, which were mentioned earlier are also known as his 'Appointed Times' or 'moedim', and these will also be continued in the kingdom. Moedim actually means 'dress rehearsal', so, what exactly are we meant to be rehearsing for? For the feasts in the kingdom of course! Colossians, when speaking of kosher food laws, new moons, holy days and sabbaths, it says that they are a 'shadow of things to come' (Colossians 6:12).

GO TO PART 5 OF LAW AND GRACE

SHOULD CHRISTIAN'S KEEP THE KOSHER FOOD LAWS?