

Notes: Shabbat – April 9, 2022

Start: 10 am

Order of Service:

Meet and Greet
Introduction (if new people)
Announcements
Open in Prayer for service
Liturgy – Shema
Praise and Worship Songs
Message
Time of Prayer
Aaronic Blessing
Kiddush
Oneg

Introduction: The Traditions of Man vs. the Mitzvot of Adonai

Last Shabbat we began our journey into establishing a foundation for the journey that we are going on whereby its intent, its destination is to provide you with a library of information that will enable you to respond to those that question why you attend a Messianic Jewish Synagogue.

Next Shabbat, our Passover Seder will answer many questions and likely generate more questions pertaining to why people don't see what is so plainly revealed in Scripture, specifically the New Covenant writings.

As investigate more into this apparent dichotomy, that is, contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different we will witness something rather revealing, substantiation. We will witness the substantiation of Adonai's Mitzvot that provide a provenance of that which I will share with you today.

Provenance:

- the beginning of something's existence; something's origin.
- a record of ownership of a work of art or an antique, used as a guide to authenticity or quality.

In contrast, you will be hard pressed to find a Provenance of such manner when it comes to the “Traditions of Man”

There is another term I have used in the past and that is “Chain of Custody”

- Chain of custody, in legal contexts, is the chronological documentation or paper trail that records the sequence of custody, control, transfer, analysis, and disposition of materials, including physical or electronic evidence.

When you consider these two words, the first (Provenance) provides you with an origin, a beginning while “Chain of Custody” provides you with a history.

I consider both to be important elements for times when you are confronted about what you believe and why you are doing what you are doing. If you can't express a response then you have fallen short of what I have conveyed for years.

- Know what you believe
- Why you believe it
- Being able to defend what you believe.

2Ti 2:11 Here is a statement you can trust: If we have died with him, we will also live with him.

2Ti 2:12 If we persevere, we will also rule with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us.

2Ti 2:13 If we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

2Ti 2:14 Keep reminding people of this, and charge them solemnly before the Lord not to engage in word-battles. They accomplish nothing useful and are a catastrophe for the hearers!

2Ti 2:15 Do all you can to present yourself to God as someone worthy of his approval, as a worker with no need to be ashamed, because he deals straightforwardly with the Word of the Truth.

2Ti 2:16 But keep away from godless babbling, for those who engage in it will only become more ungodly,

2Ti 2:17 and their teaching will eat away at people like gangrene. Hymenaeus and Philetus are among these;

2Ti 2:18 they have missed the mark, as far as the truth is concerned, by saying that our resurrection has already taken place; and they are overturning some people's faith.

Don't engage in word-battles does not mean "you have the right to remain silent" but means be careful:

- Where you do discuss your differences
- When you discuss your differences
- How you discuss your differences

This warning is for those who engage in public. "They accomplish nothing useful and are a catastrophe for the hearers!"

What is the "Word of Truth" that Sha'ul is conveying to Timothy? It is simply the Tanakh, comprising Torah, The Niv'im (Prophets) and K'tuvim (Writings).

What is this but our Provenance, our Chain of Custody.

What about the authority of Yeshua's words? Consider His own response heard by many in public...

Joh 12:44 Yeshua declared publicly, "Those who put their trust in me are trusting not merely in me, but in the One who sent me.

Joh 12:45 Also those who see me see the One who sent me.

Joh 12:46 I have come as a light into the world, so that everyone who trusts in me might not remain in the dark.

Joh 12:47 If anyone hears what I am saying and does not observe it, I don't judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.

Joh 12:48 Those who reject me and don't accept what I say have a judge—the word which I have spoken will judge them on the Last Day.

Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own initiative, but the Father who sent me has given me a command, namely, what to say and how to say it.

Joh 12:50 And I know that his command is eternal life. So what I say is simply what the Father has told me to say."

Not sufficient? Here is a second witness. A statement made in public that was heard by others as well...

Joh 7:14 Not until the festival was half over did Yeshua go up to the Temple courts and begin to teach.

Joh 7:15 The Judeans were surprised: "How does this man know so much without having studied?" they asked.

Joh 7:16 So Yeshua gave them an answer: "My teaching is not my own, it comes from the One who sent me.

Joh 7:17 If anyone wants to do his will, he will know whether my teaching is from God or I speak on my own.

Thus Yeshua does not contradict the Tanakh but affirms its Provenance and its Chain of Evidence.

Now that I have established the methods I will use as we delve into two rather controversial subjects. The first is:

Shabbat vs. Sunday

In order to respond to other people's resistance as it pertains to Messianic Judaism, you must first have your "talking points" in order. You must know what Messianic Judaism is all about and thus be able to respond.

This first origin.

What is the origin of Shabbat vs. Sunday, the first day of the week as a day of worship or what some have called "the Christian day of rest or Christian Sabbath"

Let's start with Shabbat first.

There is a Provenance associated with Sunday, yet it is not of God, nor from God. I wrote an article that is on our web site and the link is provided in my notes. It is 18 pages in length so it is rather comprehensive as it pertains to a single day. In the article I cover:

- Shabbat and Creation
- Shabbat and Israel (Torah)
- Shabbat and Israel (After Torah)
- The Evolution of Shabbat in Judaism
- Shabbat and Messiah
- Shabbat and The New Covenant
- How Did We Get To Sunday?
- The Future of Shabbat

There is quite a bit of Provenance to Shabbat shared in the article. I also established a "Chain of Evidence" as you go through it, starting at Creation when Adonai made a distinction between the six days he created and thus established (worked) and the Seventh day when He rested and watched and thus immersed Himself in what He had created.

Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, along with everything in them.

Gen 2:2 On the seventh day God was finished with his work which he had made, so he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

Gen 2:3 God blessed the seventh day and separated it as holy; because on that day God rested from all his work which he had created, so that it itself could produce.

We have Provenance as to the origin of Shabbat given to Israel.

Exo 16:29 Look, Adonai has given you the Shabbat. This is why he is providing bread for two days on the sixth day. Each of you, stay where you are; no one is to leave his place on the seventh day."

Exo 16:30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

And why He gave it to them.

Exo 31:12 Adonai said to Moshe,

Exo 31:13 "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'You are to observe my Shabbats; for this is a sign between me and you through all your generations; so that you will know that I am Adonai, who sets you apart for me.

There is so much more as I have alluded to and for which you can read further. Needless to say, there is a clear origin and an even clearer continuation for which I will share these verses to further substantiate that Yeshua does not contradict Scripture but affirms it.

Mar 2:23 One Shabbat Yeshua was passing through some wheat fields; and as they went along, his talmidim began picking heads of grain.

Mar 2:24 The P'rushim said to him, "Look! Why are they violating Shabbat?"

Mar 2:25 He said to them, "Haven't you ever read what David did when he and those with him were hungry and needed food?"

Mar 2:26 He entered the House of God when Evyatar was cohen gadol and ate the Bread of the Presence,"—which is forbidden for anyone to eat but the cohanim—"and even gave some to his companions."

Mar 2:27 Then he said to them, "Shabbat was made for mankind, not mankind for Shabbat;

Mar 2:28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of Shabbat."

If this is the origin of Shabbat and its confirmation by Yeshua, then what is the origin of Sunday worship. Is it of God or Man?

In the same article I share the origin of Sunday as the day established by the Church. The decision to do so was documented and thus recorded. This would be "the smoking gun" so to speak.

Canon 20 - Council of Nicea (325 CE)

"Forasmuch as there are certain persons who kneel on the Lord's Day (Sunday) and in the days of Pentecost, therefore, to the intent that all things may be uniformly observed everywhere (in every parish), it seems good to the holy Synod that prayer be made to God standing." (Source Catholic Encyclopedia)

From Nicea, having a distinct theological anti-Judaism direction, laid the foundation for anti-Semitic legislation and judgments of later church councils. The Council of Antioch (341 CE) prohibited Christians from celebrating Passover with the Jews, while The Council of Laodicea (364 CE) forbade Christians from observing the Jewish (and biblical) Sabbath.

Cannon 29 – Council of Laodicea (364 CE)

“Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honouring the Lord's Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema (excommunicated) from Christ.”

Here is another excerpt from "Whatever Happened to the Sabbath"

The foundation of an anti-Jewish bias is firmly established within the church and its teachings. Centuries of erroneous teaching have deceived even the purest of heart believer in Messiah. The influence of seminaries and their teaching of these false concepts continue to fuel the misconceptions of faith and trust in Messiah.

If He were to return today, would He even recognize His bride?

A passage that is most frequently used to support Sunday as the day believers come together is Acts 20:7 - 8, Many will use the King James version which reads as follows:

"And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together..." Acts 20:7 - 8 (King James Version)

The understanding of this passage, from a non-Jewish perspective gives the indication that they met on Sunday, the first day of the week. However, if that were truly the case then Sha'ul must have been full of energy to speak until midnight and then travel the next day.

When we look at the same verse from a Jewish perspective, we receive a better understanding:

"On Motza'ei-Shabbat, when we were gathered to break bread, Sha'ul addressed them. Since he was going to leave the next day, he kept talking until midnight. Now there were many oil lamps burning in the upstairs room where we were meeting..." Acts 20:7 - 8 (Complete Jewish Bible)

David Stern uses the term "Motza'ei-Shabbat" which means going out of the Sabbath, the ending of the Sabbath (Saturday night).

Two verses taken out of context and the bias of past church councils are the foundation, the Provenance, the Chain of Custody for the establishment of what has become foundational, yet the very foundation to support it would be that of sand.

The vast majority of believers do not know their own church history let alone the contextual foundation of Scripture. It is right before everyone's very eyes if they would only see through a different lense of context.

Shabbat is stated specifically 120 times in the Tanakh and Brith Hadoshah.

- Torah – 26 (22%)
- Rest of Tanakh - 37 (31%)
- Brith Hadoshah - 57 (47%)

- Gospels – 45 (38%)

https://www.shalommaine.com/article_index_pdf/what_happened_to_the_Sabbath.pdf

Passover vs. Easter

The conversation of Passover vs. Easter fall along a similar path as Shabbat vs. Sunday. Next Shabbat during our Passover Seder we will be covering extensively the Provenance of Passover, basically from beginning to end. History and Prophecy. That which has happened and that which is still to come.

From the Council of Nicea as I had recorded in the article I had shared earlier "Whatever Happened to the Sabbath"

Is this statement recorded in the Catholic Encyclopedia:

“At this meeting the question concerning the most holy day of Easter was discussed, and it was resolved by the united judgment of all present that this feast ought to be kept by all and in every place on one and the same day And first of all it appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with enormous sin for we have received from our Saviour a different way...And I myself have undertaken that this decision should meet with the approval of your Sagacities in the hope that your Wisdoms will gladly admit that practice which is observed at once in the city of Rome and in Africa, throughout Italy and in Egypt...with entire unity of judgment.” (Vol. 5, p. 228). (note 3)

https://www.shalommaine.com/article_index_pdf/passover_past_present_and_forever.pdf

Within the New Covenant writings there is even less Provenance, less "Chain of Evidence" to substantiate the establishment of Easter. This aspect would work its way into the body of Messiah over time just as the egg on the Seder plate has done so as well. Neither related to the other, yet convey a representation of moving away from God based on the influences of the nations.

Last Shabbat I shared with you the only reference to Easter in Scripture coming from a specific translation that is in error.

Act 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church.

Act 12:2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

Act 12:3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

Act 12:4 And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

Even Unleavened Bread is mentioned yet this one occurrence of Easter, having nothing to do with the Passover season finds its way into Scripture. Keeping in mind that the New King James Version corrected this error in translation.

It is the Lamb of God that will take away the sin of the world, not the Easter Ham.

Joh 1:29 The next day, Yochanan saw Yeshua coming toward him and said, "Look! God's lamb! The one who is taking away the sin of the world!

God is on your side here because you are on His side.

Mat 10:26 So do not fear them; for there is nothing covered that will not be uncovered, or hidden that will not be known.

Mat 10:27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim on the housetops.

Mat 10:28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are powerless to kill the soul. Rather, fear him who can destroy both soul and body in Gei-Hinnom.

Mat 10:29 Aren't sparrows sold for next to nothing, two for an assarion? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father's consent.

Mat 10:30 As for you, every hair on your head has been counted.

Mat 10:31 So do not be afraid, you are worth more than many sparrows.

Mat 10:32 "Whoever acknowledges me in the presence of others I will also acknowledge in the presence of my Father in heaven.

Mat 10:33 But whoever disowns me before others I will disown before my Father in heaven.

People follow what others do because it is the accepted "social convention". In this case it is the "accepted church convention" Yet do not see what is clearly visible in Scripture.

I have written 12 chapters of a 20 chapter book about Passover being the Key to everything, thus it is the Master's Key. In stark contrast to the 20 page article I first wrote in 2010 the book now stands at 224 pages with eight chapters still to go.

There is an enormous amount of Provenance associated with Passover that cannot be denied, yet is. You don't need to know every minute detail, yet you need to have a strong foundational understanding in order to speak about it with authority, not in weakness or uncertainty.

Next Shabbat will fortify your faith and thus your understanding through our Passover Seder.