

Study of Ephesians 2
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Ephesians 2:1-22

And you who were dead in trespasses and Sins, Torahlessness;

In 1John 3:4 we are told that *Whosoever commits Sin transgresses also the Torah (Law): for **SIN IS THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE TORAH (Law)**; and in Romans 6:23 we are told that **THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH.***

In *verse 1* of *Ephesians 2* Paul is speaking to people who were **NOT**, in their recent past, walking a Torah obedient life and therefore according to Scripture they were walking in Sin, trespassing the Torah of YHVH, trespassing His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions on a regular basis, and therefore they were the walking dead; although they had physical life, their spirit was at enmity with Elohim which leads to eternal spiritual death.

Verse 2 *Wherein in time past you walked **according to the course of this world**, according to the prince of the power of the air (satan), the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience:* There is a whole lot said in this *verse* beginning with Paul talking to people who **ONCE** were **DEAD** in their trespasses, their Torahless behaviour, for **THEY WALKED ACCORDING TO THE WAYS OF THIS WORLD**; they were **NOT** possessed by the Devil, as many people believe, **BUT THEY WERE DEFINITELY UNDER THE INFLUENCE** of the prince of the power of the air, who of course is satan. Please, please understand the severity of this statement. What Paul is saying is that until we come to the knowledge of Elohim and willingly and lovingly surrender our *wills* to His in total surrendered loving obedience to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **WE ARE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SATAN, THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR**, and we are told that this **IS** the spirit that **NOW WORKS IN THE CHILDREN OF DISOBEDIENCE**. Who are the children of Disobedience and what are they disobedient to? The children of disobedience are **ALL** people that are willingly, inadvertently or mistakenly walking contrary to the Torah of our heavenly Father, which means that they are **DISOBEYING** the inerrant and everlasting Torah instructions that were given to Moses at mount Sinai by YHVH Himself, it means that they are walking contrary to YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life. Furthermore, Paul says, this **IS THE WAY** that they walked in **TIMES PAST**, which means that the people that Paul **IS** talking to **HAVE NOW** changed their ways, they have actually chosen to walk in loving surrendered obedience to the Torah of Moses, exactly as it was given to Moses at Mount Sinai without adding anything to it nor taking anything away from it.

However we have to ask ourselves, **WHAT WAY OF LIFE DID THESE PEOPLE** that Paul **IS NOW TALKING TO COME FROM?** Paul tells us what kind of life that they came from in the next few *verses*.

Verse 3 *Among whom also **WE** all had our conversation in **times past IN THE LUSTS OF OUR FLESH, FULFILLING THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH AND OF THE MIND**; and **WERE BY NATURE THE CHILDREN OF WRATH**, even as others.*

Here Paul **INCLUDES HIMSELF** in the group that once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air; the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience; who had their conversation in **TIMES PAST IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR FLESH**, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were **BY NATURE, the children of wrath**.

IF Paul, who was a Pharisee, includes himself in this category that **HAD THEIR CONVERSATION IN TIMES PAST, IN THE LUSTS OF THEIR FLESH, FULFILLING THE DESIRES OF THEIR FLESH AND OF THEIR MIND; and WERE BY NATURE THE CHILDREN OF WRATH**, which actually means that they **WERE** Torahless, they **DID NOT FOLLOW NOR OBEY THE TORAH OF MOSES IN ANY WAY**, **THEN** that means that **ALL** Sadducees and Pharisees, the leaders of the man made religion of the day, were like all the other people groups, who of their own accord, **CHOSE NOT FOLLOW THE TORAH OF MOSHEH, THEY WERE AT ENMITY WITH ELOHIM BECAUSE THEY DID NOT SUBJECT** themselves to the Torah (Law) of Elohim, Romans 8:5-8 *For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded IS DEATH; but to be SPIRITUALLY MINDED IS LIFE and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against Elohim: FOR IT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF ELOHIM, neither indeed can be. 8 So THEN they that are in the flesh (Torahless) cannot please Elohim.*

Now according to Scripture when **WE DO NOT PLEASE Elohim** we encounter the wrath of Elohim. This **IS** so very important for us to understand **BECAUSE ALL RELIGIONS ARE MAN MADE**, and they all have their own man made doctrines, oral torahs, catechism, traditions of their church fathers, that are contrary to the Pure inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of YHVH, His Torah of Life. We have to understand the implications of what Paul is saying because that therefore means that, by association, **ALL** other Pharisees and Sadducees, all religious leaders of Messiah's day and every other religious leader throughout history **IS ALSO WALKING, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, CONTRARY TO THE TORAH OF MOSES**, and they, according to Paul, **ARE ALL CHILDREN OF WRATH**. Don't get mad at me for showing you this, **BECAUSE THIS IS PAUL'S TEACHING, AND ALTHOUGH I AGREE WITH IT, THIS TEACHING DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM ME**, I am simply pointing out to you what Paul said the these Ephesian and **TO US** in his letter to the Ephesians. John said *Matthew 3:7 But when John saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O GENERATION OF VIPERS, WHO HAS WARNED YOU TO FLEE FROM THE WRATH TO COME?*

Messiah said in *Matthew 23:29 Woe unto you, SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES! Because you build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, 30 And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would NOT have been PARTAKERS WITH THEM IN THE BLOOD OF THE PROPHETS. 31 Wherefore you are WITNESSES UNTO YOURSELVES, THAT YOU ARE THE CHILDREN OF THEM WHICH KILLED THE PROPHETS. 32 Fill you up then the measure of your fathers. 33 You SERPENTS, you generation of VIPERS, how can you escape the damnation of hell?*

As you can see by the text, the Pharisees and Sadducees **WERE** part of the people that Paul described as those who **WERE BY NATURE THE CHILDREN OF WRATH**. That means that **NOT** only were they **NOT KEEPING NOR TEACHING** the Pure inerrant and everlasting Torah of YHVH, **BUT** they had **REPLACED** the Pure Torah of YHVH with the traditions of their fathers, their own man made oral torah, their own man made doctrines, which is exactly what the Christians and Catholics

have done for two thousand plus years now, they have chosen to discard the pure inerrant and everlasting Torah of Mosheh in whole or in part and have replaced it with their own oral torahs and or man made doctrines, their own catechisms, and or the traditions or teaching so their church fathers..

*Verse 4 But Elohim, who **is rich** in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, 5 Even when we were **DEAD IN SINS**, when we were dead because of our **TORAHLESSNESS**, He has quickened us together with Messiah (the Living Torah made flesh), (by grace you are saved;)*

Now here, Paul tells us of the great and infinite love that our heavenly Father has for us, which He demonstrates through His mercy towards us, in that when we were sinners, even though we were breaking His Covenant by walking in a Torahless manner and casting His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions aside as some piece of worthless trash, and living by our own understanding and following man made doctrines rather than His Torah of Life; He willingly and lovingly chose to bring us back to life, **HE QUICKENED US TOGETHER WITH MESSIAH, HIS LIVING TORAH MADE FLESH.**

That statement, *He quickened us together with Messiah*, rolls off the tongue quite easily **BUT** what does it mean? To get the full understanding we need to know who and what Messiah **IS** because it says that we are quickened **TOGETHER** with Messiah. In *John 1:1* it says *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim*, and in *John 1:14* it says *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and TRUTH (Torah, Psalm 119:142).*

IF Messiah **IS** the Word of Elohim made flesh and John tells us in *John 17:17 sanctify them through Your TRUTH: Your WORD is TRUTH;* and in *Psalm 119:142 we are told Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your Torah IS the TRUTH;*

Therefore that means that **IF** Messiah **IS** indeed the Word of Elohim made flesh, as Scripture very clearly states that He is, and **IF THE WORD** of Elohim **IS TRUTH** as we are told in *John 17:17* and that the Torah of YHVH **IS** the **TRUTH**, as we are told in *Psalm 119:142*, **THEN MESSIAH, THE WORD AND THE TRUTH ARE ONE AND THE SAME ENTITY, THEY ARE ECHAD, they ARE** Elohim's **TRUTH**, and **IT IS ELOHIM'S TRUTH, HIS LIVING TORAH MADE FLESH THAT QUICKENS US, IT IS HIS TORAH THAT GIVES US LIFE.**

Vayiqra (Leviticus) 18:5 You shall therefore KEEP My Statutes, and My Judgments: which IF A MAN DOES, he SHALL LIVE BY THEM: I am YHVH.

YHVH, the Creator of the universe Himself says, **IF** anyone willingly and lovingly chooses to believe, follow, obey and **DO** My inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, My Torah of Life, exactly as I gave it to Moses on Mount Sinai, **THEN MY TORAH, WHEN OBEYED WITH A LOVING CONTRITE OBEDIENT HEART, WILL GIVE YOU LIFE, HERE ON EARTH and for ETERNITY.** Amein

Verse 6 And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Messiah Yeshua:

Again we have to understand that **IF** we are sitting **IN Messiah** it means that we are sitting **IN THE TORAH MADE FLESH**, YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **MADE**

FLESH. If one reads the text with the understanding of the proper definitions of **ALL** the words, rather than the rose coloured glasses of Religious denominational doctrines, **THEN IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COME TO ANY OTHER CONCLUSION, THAN THE FACT THAT THE ONLY WAY THAT WE CAN PLEASE OUR ELOHIM IS BY LOVINGLY SUBMITTING OURSELVES TO HIS TORAH OF LIFE MADE FLESH, OUR MESSIAH.**

Verse 7 That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Messiah Yeshua.

I hope that you can grasp what Paul **IS** saying here, **BECAUSE IT IS** of paramount importance that you understand what Paul is conveying to us before we can move ahead and understand everything else that he teaches us. Paul says that YHVH **WANTS** to show us the **EXCEEDING RICHES** of **HIS GRACE AND KINDNESS, AND** He does that, He shows us the **EXCEEDING RICHES** of His **GRACE** in His kindness toward us through Messiah Yeshua, and John has told us in *John 1:1* that Messiah **IS** the Word of Elohim, and in *John 1:14* that the Word of Elohim **IS HIS TORAH AND THAT HIS TORAH BECAME FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US**; therefore please understand that YHVH **IS** showing us His exceeding **RICHES** of His **GRACE** and His **KINDNESS THROUGH HIS TORAH** and all of His **RICHES, GRACE and KINDNESS IS AUTOMATICALLY ACTIVATED WHEN** we willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow, obey and Do His Torah of Life.

Our heavenly Father has **NOT** left us alone and without **GUIDANCE**, He has, through His **GRACE** and **MERCY, GIVEN EVERY BELIEVER, HIS HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IN TURN IS INSTRUCTED BY OUR HEAVENLY FATHER HIMSELF TO CAUSE US TO WALK OUT HIS TORAH OF LIFE** (*Ezekiel 36:27*).

Verse 8 For by GRACE are you saved through BELIEF (faith); and that not of yourselves: IT IS THE GIFT OF ELOHIM: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Now this verse has been so misunderstood, **THAT, MOST, IF NOT ALL PEOPLE** will need to have a complete paradigm shift in their man made theology to understand what Paul is really saying here. Let me show you what I mean. In Scripture we are told that YHVH brought the people of Yisrael out from under the bondage of the Egyptians. Did Yisrael do anything at all, to secure their freedom? The answer of course, **IS** very clear in Scripture, when it tells us, that it was the mighty Hand of our heavenly Father that brought the people of Yisrael, deliverance. We have to understand that once a person **IS** in bondage, **HE OR SHE ACTUALLY NEED** a **REDEEMER** and a **SAVIOUR** to act on their behalf, **OR ELSE**, their bondage will continue till the day they die. That my friends **IS** the Grace that Paul is talking about, **WE**, before we knew Messiah, **WERE IN BONDAGE TO SIN**, to Torahlessness and somehow, by His forgiving **GRACE** alone, He gave us His Holy Spirit and we were confronted with something in our lives that made us turn to Him and ask for His help. *1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to CLEANSE US from all unrighteousness, Torahlessness.* Paul is simply telling us that we **CANNOT** take ourselves **OUT OF BONDAGE**, whether that is physical bondage or bondage to sin, to Torahlessness, and therefore we absolutely **NEED** a Redeemer/Saviour who **IS WILLING** to save us, willing to take us out of bondage. And **BY THE GRACE, LOVE AND COMPASSION** of our heavenly Father, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, He sent us a Redeemer/Saviour, our Messiah, Elohim's Word Made Flesh, His Living Torah.

*Verse 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yeshua **UNTO GOOD WORKS**, which Elohim has **BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM.***

Now we know that Messiah **IS** the Living Torah, and **IF** what Paul says is true, that we are created in Messiah unto **GOOD WORKS**, then that means that we are created in **THE LIVING TORAH ONTO GOOD WORKS, THE WORKS MANDATED BY THE TORAH OF MOSES.**

Now let's see what Paul has to say about the Torah: *Romans 7:12 Wherefore the **TORAH (Law) IS HOLY, AND THE COMMANDMENT HOLY, JUST, AND GOOD.***

*Romans 7:16 If then I do that which I don't want to do, **I CONSENT UNTO THE TORAH (Law), THAT THE TORAH IS GOOD.*** The English word **GOOD IS** from the Hebrew word Tov, which does mean, good, but, it has a much more profound meaning, it means, to function in the manner that YHVH created it to function, therefore, what Paul is saying, **IS**, that **IF** we willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Torah of Mosheh, we will be doing **GOOD WORKS**, which means, that we will be functioning in the manner that Yahweh formed us to function, and that **IS IN** complete loving, surrendered obedience to the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of **LIFE**, which also gives the people who choose that particular type of lifestyle, eternal life in the kingdom of Elohim as the Bride of Messiah.

*1 Timothy 1:8 But we know that the Torah **IS GOOD, IF** a man use it lawfully;*

Well **IF** the Torah **IS GOOD** as Paul emphatically states that it IS, and we are *created IN Messiah Yeshua, who happens to be the Words of the Living Torah, UNTO GOOD WORKS, which Elohim has BEFORE ORDAINED that we should walk in them;*

IT IS or should therefore be, very obvious, that Paul **IS** telling us that the **GOOD WORKS** that he is talking about, **COME FROM OBEYING AND DOING** what the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, tells us or commands us to do.

*John 10:32 Yeshua answered them, saying Many **GOOD WORKS** have I showed you **FROM My Father;** the **GOOD WORKS** that Messiah showed everyone, **ARE the WORKS OF THE FATHER,** and the works of the Father, are the **Works of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of life** and then Messiah says, *for which of those **GOOD WORKS** do you stone Me?**

*1 Timothy 5:25 Likewise also **the GOOD WORKS** are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.*

Paul is saying that the **GOOD WORKS** of the obedient followers of Messiah, **ARE THE GOOD WORKS OF THE TORAH**, that the people have willingly and lovingly decided follow, obey and do, and those good works are also called the Doctrine of Messiah, and the Doctrine of Messiah, according to *John 7:16 IS the Doctrine of the Father and the Doctrine of the Father IS His Torah. Proverbs 4:2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake you **NOT MY TORAH (Law).***

Therefore, Paul is telling **ALL** who will listen to him, that **THEY ARE TO DO THE GOOD WORKS** of Elohim, they are to, hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand, believe, follow, obey and

DO the Torah of Father. The Scriptures are replete with examples that point out to us that the Phrase, **GOOD WORKS**, when used in conjunction with Father or with Messiah, always points to *the Words of the Father's Torah of Life*, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions.

*1 Timothy 6:18 That they do **GOOD**, that they be rich in **GOOD WORKS**, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;*

*2 Timothy 3:17 That the man of Elohim may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all **GOOD WORKS**.*

*Titus 2:7 In all things showing yourself a pattern of **GOOD WORKS**:*

In doctrine (Meaning the Father's Torah Proverbs 4:2)

In Uncorruptness, (purity, honour)

In Gravity, (venerableness, honesty, seriousness, eagerness)

In Sincerity, (genuineness, truthfulness)

These are **ALL** Torah obedience qualities.

The word **GOOD** in the Apostolic Scriptures is translated from the Hebrew word *Tov*, טוב, and it of course does mean **GOOD**, but, as I mentioned above, it has a much deeper and more profound meaning than just **GOOD**. In Hebrew, when **IT IS** said that something **IS GOOD** it means that **IT IS functioning in the manner that YHVH created IT TO function**, therefore, when Paul speaks of **GOOD WORKS**, he is telling us that when we do the **GOOD WORKS** of Elohim, **WE** are actually functioning in the manner that we were created to function, and the opposite **IS** also true, which tells us, that **WHEN WE ARE NOT KEEPING THE TORAH**, we are **NOT functioning in the manner that we were created to function**, which means that we are then, transgressing the Father's Torah of Life. And, Messiah speaks of the people that have chosen this particular life path, in *Matthew 7:21 -23 Not every one that says unto Me, Adonai, Adonai, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **BUT** he that **DOES** the will of My Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, Adonai, Adonai, have we not prophesied in Your Name? And in Your Name have rebuked devils? And in Your name done many wonderful works? And then **will I profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from Me, you that work iniquity, you lawless ones, you Torahless ones.***

Verse 11 Wherefore remember, that you, being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

For any and all believer in the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, this is one of the most important verses in all of Scripture, for it describes **WHAT** and **WHO** we once were, and what we have become by the grace of Elohim.

Here in these verses Paul is talking to relatively new believers and he says that before they came to this understanding they were **GENTILES** and called the uncircumcision, by the people of Judah. **WHY IS THIS SIGNIFICANT?** I want you to realize and truly understand that **IF** you profess to believe in and willingly and lovingly follow and obey the Elohim of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, **YOU ARE NO LONGER A GENTILE**. Therefore **IF** Elohim says you are no longer a Gentile, then please **DON'T CALL YOURSELF A GENTILE, BECAUSE** what follows **is** the description of what a Gentile **IS** as far as Paul and the Scriptures are concerned, and **IT IS NOT WHAT YOU AS A BELIEVER WANT TO BE DESCRIBED AS:**

According to Paul, a Gentile **IS** a person who is:

Without Messiah,

ALIENS from the Commonwealth of Yisrael (the family of Elohim)

Strangers from the Covenants of Promise, (none of the promises found in the Covenant of Elohim are yours).

Having NO HOPE and WITHOUT ELOHIM in the world; (it means that a Gentile is on his own, without the covering of Elohim).

According to this biblical description of who a Gentile **IS, IT IS NOT,** as I said above, a description of a believer in the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, therefore I would strongly suggest that **YOU NEVER EVER** again call yourself a **GENTILE.**

Verse 13 But now in Messiah Yeshua YOU who sometimes WERE FAR OFF are made near by the blood of Messiah. In Scripture we are told that the life of **ALL** flesh **IS** in the blood, and here we are told that Messiah lived His life with the predetermined purpose of our heavenly Father, which means that Messiah chose to willingly and lovingly obey and follow the Father's Torah of Life while He was here on earth, and that He also taught us the Father's ways by example, by actually living it out Himself. Then, by His own accord He willingly and lovingly obeyed the Father and went to the cross on our behalf, and He took the penalty of death upon Himself so that **ALL** people who willingly and lovingly chose to believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Father's Torah of Life, would **NOT** have to suffer the death penalty, **BECAUSE** in times past, they had willingly chosen **NOT** to adhere to the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, and as I said above, The Torah made flesh, took the penalty that we deserved, and placed it upon Himself. Therefore when we read that we are sanctified by the Blood of Messiah it means that **WE ARE SANCTIFIED BY THE EXEMPLARY TORAH OBEDIENT LIFE THAT HE LIVED WHILE HE WAS HERE ON EARTH,** and furthermore Messiah has admonished us to do the same, to willingly and lovingly choose to obey the Father's Commandments, the Father's Doctrine as He willingly and lovingly obeyed it. *1 John 2:3-6 And hereby we do know that we know Messiah, IF WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS. 4 He that says I KNOW HIM, (claims to Yada Him, have an intimate relationship with) and DOES NOT KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, IS A LIAR, and the TRUTH (Torah, Psalm 119:142) IS NOT in him. 5 But whoso KEEPS HIS WORD, His Torah, IN HIM VERILY IS THE LOVE OF ELOHIM PERFECTED: hereby we KNOW that we are in Him. 6 He that says he ABIDES in Messiah OUGHT HIMSELF ALSO SO TO WALK, EVEN AS MESSIAH WALKED.*

We all know or we should all know and understand that Messiah did indeed walk in total loving surrendered obedience to the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, for we are told that Messiah **DID NOT SIN, HE DID NOT TRANSGRESS THE TORAH of MOSES** and the Scriptures quite clearly state that **SIN IS TRANSGRESSION OF THE TORAH,** therefore the only conclusion that we can arrive at according to Scripture, is that Messiah obeyed **ALL** of our heavenly Father's Torah, His directives for Life or He could **NOT** have been our spotless Lamb.

Verse 14 For He is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

In Acts 10:28 we read, *And he said unto them, You know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation.* What we **ALL** must realize **IS** that

there **IS NO SUCH LAW FOUND ANYWHERE IN THE TORAH OF MOSHEH**, this unlawful act, described in *Acts 10:28* **IS** a man made religious Law, implemented by the religious leaders of the Day, and in *Acts 10*, Peter finally realizes that the wall of partition that he was taught, was between those of the circumcision and those of the uncircumcision, was to be removed completely, for YHVH showed Peter in his vision *that he should NOT call ANY man COMMON or UNCLEAN*, thereby effectively removing the **WALL** or the obstruction that was keeping them apart; and that, my friends **IS THE WALL OF PARTITION** that Paul is telling us about in Ephesians, that Messiah removed.

Verse 15 Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, the law of (man made) commandments in ordinances; in order to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

We have just learned that Messiah effectively removed the wall or obstruction that separated the family of Elohim, Judah and Ephraim. Ephraim, also known as the Northern kingdom are the people of the family of YHVH that He divorced (*Jeremiah 3:8*) and eventually exiled into the Diaspora, and it also includes all the people that are or want to be sojourners and who willingly and lovingly choose to join themselves to the family of our heavenly Father, Israel, through obedience to His Torah of Life. Therefore the **law of commandments in ordinances** that Messiah abolished **IS THE MAN MADE LAW QUOTED BY PAUL** in *Acts 10:28* *And he said unto them, You know how that IT IS AN UNLAWFUL THING for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation;* and as I said **THIS IS A MAN MADE LAW** that Messiah did abolish, and again **IT IS** very important that we understand that Messiah did **NOT** abolish **ANY** part of our heavenly Father's Torah, for **IF** Messiah had indeed abolished even the least of the Father's Commandments, **HE COULD NOT BE** our sacrificial Lamb, BECAUSE our heavenly Father has clearly stated in His Torah of Life, in *Deuteronomy 4:2* *You SHALL NOT ADD unto the Word which I Command you, NEITHER SHALL YOU DIMINISH OUGHT FROM IT, that you may KEEP the Commandments of YHVH your Elohim which I Command you;* and since adding to or taking anything away from the Father's Torah **IS** forbidden, it would mean that **IF** Messiah did indeed add to or take anything away from the Father's Torah, He would be transgressing the Torah and John tells us that transgressing the Torah **IS SIN**, and since Messiah was **SINLESS**, the only possible conclusion that we can arrive at, based on the Biblical text, **IS** that Messiah **NEVER** added **NOR** took anything away from the Torah of YHVH, that was given to Moses at Mount Sinai.

Therefore we are to understand from these words of Paul, that **THE MAN MADE LAW**, whereby Jews were **NOT** to associate with Gentiles, **IS** what Messiah abolished, thereby paving the road for the restoration of the two houses, again becoming the united family of Elohim. *Jeremiah 31:31* *Behold, the days come, saith YHVH, that I will make a renewed (Chadashah, חֲדָשָׁה) Covenant with the HOUSE OF ISRAEL, and with the HOUSE OF JUDAH:* The Hebrew word Chadasha, חֲדָשָׁה, is from the root word Chadash, חָדַשׁ, and it means to **RENEW**, *Psalm 51:10* *Create in me a clean heart, O Elohim; and RENEW, Chadash, חָדַשׁ, a right spirit within me.*

Lamentations 5:21 *Turn You us unto You, O YHVH, and we shall be turned; RENEW, Chadash, חָדַשׁ, our days as of old.* YHVH simply renewed the covenant that He made with Israel and placed in their hearts, so that they could learn to surrender their lives to it and obey the inerrant and everlasting Law (Torah) of Elohim.

Verse 16 *And that He might reconcile both unto Elohim in ONE BODY (one family) by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:*

What is the enmity that Paul is talking about that Messiah slew? *Romans 8:7 Because the **carnal mind is enmity against Elohim**: for it is **NOT SUBJECT** to the Torah (Law) of Elohim, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh (they that are carnal) cannot please Elohim.*

As you can see for yourself, Paul has already established that the people that have a carnal mind, the people that **WALK IN AND BY THEIR OWN UNDERSTANDING** and therefore transgress the Torah on a daily basis, **ARE THE ONES THAT ARE AT ENMITY** with Elohim, and they are in that position **BECAUSE** they **WILL NOT SUBJECT** themselves to YHVH's Inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, therefore when Paul says that **MESSIAH HAS SLAIN THE ENMITY, IT MEANS THAT HE HAS SLAIN SIN, TORAHLESSNESS** and the punishment that comes along with a sinful life, which means that **MESSIAH HAS SLAIN DEATH**.

*Verse 17 And came and preached **PEACE** to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.* The word peace in Greek is Strong's Number G1515, εἰρήνη, erēnē, *i-rah'-nay*, it is translated from the Hebrew word Shalom, Strong's Number H7965, שָׁלוֹם, shâlôm. The Hebrew word, shalom, means much more than the absence of war, it means completeness in every aspect of a person's life, in the physical, spiritual, emotional realms, it means a sense of well being, a sense a feeling at ease in the knowledge that you are loved unconditionally with an infinite and unending love, protected and provided for by the Creator of the universe.

Paul tells us that this **IS THE PEACE THAT WAS PREACHED TO US**. To get the complete picture therefore we have to see what was indeed preached to these Ephesians. Paul says that he and his disciples came and preached **PEACE** onto them. It is therefore very **IMPORTANT** for us to **KNOW** what Paul meant when he said those words, so let's go and see what was actually preached by Paul, Messiah and all the Apostles.

*In Matthew 11:5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have **the GOSPEL PREACHED to them**.*

*Matthew 24:14 And this **GOSPEL** of the kingdom **shall be PREACHED** in all the world for a witness unto **ALL** nations; and then shall the end come.*

*Acts 8:25 And they, when they had **testified and PREACHED the Word of YHVH**, returned to Jerusalem, and **PREACHED the GOSPEL** in many villages of the Samaritans.*

*Acts 14:5 And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use the Disciples despitefully, and to stone them, 6 They were made aware of it, and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Laconia, and unto the region that lies round about: 7 And there **they PREACHED the GOSPEL**.*

*Galatians 1:11 But I certify you, brethren, that the **GOSPEL** which was **PREACHED of me**, Paul, is not after man.*

*Galatians 3:8 And the Scripture, **foreseeing** that Elohim would justify the heathen through Belief (faith), **PREACHED before the GOSPEL unto Abraham**, saying, In you shall all nations be blessed.*

*Colossians 1:23 If you continue in the Belief (faith) grounded and settled, and be not moved away from **the hope of the GOSPEL**, which you have heard, and which was **PREACHED to EVERY creature which is under heaven**; whereof I Paul am made a minister;*

*1Thessalonians 2:9 For you remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would **NOT** be chargeable unto any of you, we **PREACHED** unto you the **GOSPEL** of Elohim.*

*1Peter 1:25 But the Word of YHVH endures **FOR EVER**. And **this is the Word which by the GOSPEL is PREACHED** unto you.*

Now I have shown you all these *verses* so that you can see for yourself that the **PEACE** that was **PREACHED** to the Ephesians **IS THE GOSPEL OF MESSIAH**, which **ALL** the Apostles including Messiah Preached.

Now we need to understand what the **GOSPEL IS** according to Scripture; *In Psalm 119:142 it says Your righteousness is an **everlasting** righteousness, and Your Torah (Law) IS the **TRUTH**; in Psalm 119:151 it says You are near, O YHVH; and all Your Commandments are **TRUTH**; in Psalm 119:160 it says Your **Word** is **TRUE** from the beginning: and every one of your righteous judgments are for ever;*

*In John 17:17 it says Sanctify them through Your **TRUTH**: Your **Word** is **TRUTH**;*

*In Ephesians 1:13 it says In whom you also trusted, after that you heard the **Word of TRUTH**, the **GOSPEL of your salvation**: in whom also after that you believed, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise (Ezekiel 27:26).*

In *verse 13* of *Ephesians 1* we are told that **the Gospel IS TRUTH**, however in other Scriptures and we are told that the **WORD** of Elohim **IS TRUTH**, and that YHVH's Commandments **ARE TRUTH**, and that the **TORAH IS TRUTH**, Therefore the only conclusion we can come to **IS** that the word *Gospel, Commandments, Torah, Word, and Peace* are synonymous terms and they speak of YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting life, and **THIS IS WHAT** was preached to the Ephesians.

Therefore when Paul says that they came and preached **PEACE** to them, what they were actually preaching was the Torah of YHVH, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His directives for everlasting Life.

*Verse 18 For through Him, Messiah, we both have access by **ONE** Spirit unto the Father.*

Here again we have to understand **WHAT** and **WHO** Messiah **IS** in order to understand what Paul is telling us. *John 1:1 In the beginning was **the Word**, and **the Word** was with Elohim, and **the Word** was Elohim. John 1:14 And **the Word** was **made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of Grace and **TRUTH**.*

This is telling us that Messiah **IS** the Living Word of the Father made flesh, and we have just learned that the Word of the Father **IS** His Torah, therefore Messiah **IS** the Father's Living Torah, and furthermore we are told that we together with Paul all have access by **ONE** Spirit unto the Father. This means that **THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY, ONE ACCESS** to the Father and that my friends **IS** when we willingly decide to approach our heavenly Father through Messiah, when we approach our heavenly Father together with the Living Torah, the Living Word of the Father. Messiah told us in *John 15:5 I am the **VINE**, you are the **BRANCHES**: He that abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for **WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING***. Here in *verse 18* when Paul

says that *through, Messiah, that both we, and Paul have access by **ONE SPIRIT** unto the Father. Paul is simply affirming what Messiah said, that **WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.***

*Verse 19 Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, **BUT** fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of Elohim; 20 And are built **UPON THE FOUNDATION** of the **APOSTLES AND PROPHETS**, Yeshua Messiah Himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom **ALL** the building fitly framed together **grows** unto a holy temple in Adonai: 22 In whom **YOU** also are built together for a habitation of Elohim through the Spirit.*

This tells us that IF we accept and willingly follow the **GOSPEL, THE TORAH OF MOSES, AND BELIEVE THAT IT IS INDEED THE TRUTH** spoken directly from the mouth of the Creator of the universe, **THEN** Scriptures says that we are adopted into the house of YHVH which **IS** built on **THE SOLID FOUNDATION OF THE TRUTH of YHVH** which was and continues to be preached by the **APOSTLES** even though the religious leaders, throughout history **HAVE DONE THERE UTMOST TO INSERT THEIR OWN MAN MADE THEOLOGY, THEIR OWN MAN MADE DOCTRINES INTO THE TORAH, THE PURE WORD OF ELOHIM, they have not been able to BECAUSE THE WORD OF ELOHIM IS ETERNAL**, while the word of man **DIES** with the false prophet that first spoke it or dreamt it up, and that is why there are so many different denominations in the religious congregations in the world, and why their doctrines are always morphing and changing into something different depending on what era we are looking at in man's history.

*Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus says Adonai YHVH, Behold, I lay in Zion for **A FOUNDATION, A STONE, A TRIED STONE, a PRECIOUS CORNER stone, A SURE FOUNDATION**: he that believes **SHALL NOT MAKE HASTE**. The Stone of course **IS MESSIAH AND THE FATHER AS ONE, THE EBEN**, אֶבֶן, Av father, Ben Son, and together they are the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, His Torah of Life.*

*1Corinthians 3:11 For other **FOUNDATION** can **NO** man lay than that is laid, which is Messiah Yeshua, the Living Torah. 12 Now **IF** any man builds upon **THIS FOUNDATION** (Messiah Yeshua, the Living Torah) gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's **WORK** shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, **BECAUSE IT SHALL BE REVEALED BY FIRE**; and the fire **SHALL TRY EVERY MAN'S WORK** of what sort it is. 14 **IF ANY MAN'S WORK ABIDE** which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.*

We know that Messiah **IS** the Living Torah, therefore Paul is telling us that **IF** we will learn to build our **BELIEF** (faith) **UPON THE FOUNDATION STONE, OUR MESSIAH, THEN** when we are tested our **GOOD WORK WILL STAND** and we will receive a **REWARD**, and that reward my friends **IS** everlasting Life in the kingdom of Elohim as the Bride of Messiah. Amein!

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Ameinn