

Idolatry

(other gods in preference to Yahweh)

The Most Misunderstood, Misinterpreted and Mistaken Sin

It is often taught that because we believe and are baptized, we are saved (Mark 16:16) and yet the full meaning of these very words and many other Scriptures declare that, while Yeshua did His part,
NOW WE MUST DO OURS.

Be carrying your own salvation into effect. (*Philippians 2:12*)

There is One Judge, One Measure... The Word of Yahweh



**BLESSINGS to you! Here is a gift of Truth
in accord with the Bible, Yahweh's Word of Truth.**

No opinions, no wild interpretations. Just taking the Word of Yahweh literally, as it is written:

Endeavor to present yourself to God qualified, an unashamed worker, correctly cutting the word of truth.

(*2 Timothy 2:15*)

I pray what you read here helps you to see the truth of what the final authority of the **Word of Yahweh** as it speaks to your heart. Be not deceived of what is required for salvation, regardless of what you may have been taught or influenced by those who do "works of the flesh." By their fruits shall they be recognized (Matthew 7:16).

Foundational truth of the Word of Yahweh...

No person is your judge. No so-called expert opinions matter. Not even *your* opinion matters. There is One Judge, One Authority: The WORD of Yahweh, the Bible. On that basis *alone*, open your heart and mind to ONLY the Word of Yahweh (as presented to you here).

“He who is repudiating Me and not getting My declarations, has that which is judging him; the word which I speak, that will be judging him in the last day,”

(John 12:48)

Try yourselves, IF you are in the faith; test yourselves. Or are you not recognizing yourselves that Christ Jesus is in you, **except you are somewhat disqualified?**

(2 Corinthians 13:5)

Yes, it is possible to be “**disqualified**.” How? Let’s find out. We who declare to be “**in the faith**” in Christ, must test ourselves *daily* that our thoughts, our words and our actions (behavior), our *whole* lives, line up with the One True Yardstick (Judge), the **Bible**, the Word of Truth, as Yeshua declared in *John 12:48*.

The Apostle Paul then uses “**try**” and “**test**” in the same sentence. They have similar meanings, yet “**test**” is even more serious ~ “to examine, prove, scrutinize,” To inspect our own life with a magnifying glass as to how it measures up to the Word, just as it is written, so that we do not misstep and fall for the deception. Yes, deception.

It is often taught and believed that there is no condemnation for those who are “*saved*” according to *Mark 16:16*... HOWEVER, that is not what the Word of Yahweh says:

⁶ Nothing, consequently, is now condemnation to those in Christ Jesus. Not according to flesh are they walking, but according to spirit,

(Romans 8:1)

Only “**those in Christ**” are free of condemnation, for they are those “**not walking according to the flesh, but according to spirit**.” So, how are we to truly be “**in Christ**?” It is written:

⁶ In this we know that we are **in Him**: he who is saying that he is **remaining in Him** ought also himself to **be walking according as He walks**. ⁷ Beloved, I am not writing a new precept to you, but an old precept, which you had from the beginning. The old precept is the word which you hear.

(1 John 2:6-7)

With this foundational truth in place, with your heart opened and mind readied, let the Word of Yahweh, in all its exactness, be your Only Judge:

The Apostle Paul lists seventeen sins in **Galatians 5:19-21** that if we are doing ANY of these “**works of the flesh**,” then we “**shall not be enjoying the allotment of the kingdom of God**,” which surely is what you believe you are “*saved*” for, *Yes*? One of those seventeen Scriptural sins is **idolatry**.

What is Idolatry?

³ There shall not come to be **other elohim** [gods] for you **in preference to Me**.

(Exodus 20:3)

¹ Now this know, that in the last days perilous periods will be present, ² for men will be **selfish, fond of money, ostentatious, proud, ...⁴ ...fond of their own gratification rather than fond of God;** ⁵ having a **form of devoutness, yet denying its power**.

(2 Timothy 3:1-2, 4-5)

Anyone, anything or activity you hold/do in preference to Yahweh, that serves you, not Him... *is* idolatry.

⁸ ...whatever is **true**, whatever is **grave** [honest, honorable, serious], whatever is **just** [righteous, appropriate], whatever is **pure** [clean, chaste], whatever is **agreeable** [acceptable], whatever is **renowned** [of good report] -- if there is any **virtue** [moral goodness and excellence], and if any **applause** [praise], **be taking these into account**.

(Philippians 4:8)

Any thought, act or behavior not in agreement with any of the above, we are to have **NO** part of.

¹ If, then, you were roused together with Christ, **be seeking that which is above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Be disposed to that which is above, **not to that on the earth**,

(Colossians 3:1-2)

² I shall indeed contemplate the flawless way.

—When shall You come to me?—

I shall **walk in the integrity of my heart within my house**.

³ I shall **not set a worthless matter in front of my eyes**;

(Psalm 101:2-3)

³⁷ **Avert my eyes from looking at futile things**; Revive me in Your way.

³⁸ Confirm for Your servant Your promise that leads me to the fear of You.

(Psalm 119:37-38)

Yeshua's parable of the *third* seed sown, identifies the effects of idols upon us (*here, taken collectively from the Accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke*): "**And others are those being sown into the thorns...**"

²² "...this is he who is hearing the word, and **the worry of this eon and the seduction of riches** are stifling the word, and it is becoming unfruitful. ~~~ ¹⁹ ...and the **desires about the rest**, going in, are **stifling the word**, and it is becoming unfruitful. ~~~ ¹⁴ ...**by worries and riches, and by the gratifications of life, going on**, stifle, and are **bringing nothing to maturity...**"

(Matthew 13:22; Mark 4:19; Luke 8:14)

From all the above Scriptures, to be disposed "**to that on the earth**," looking at "**worthless matters**" and "**futile things**," having "**desires about the rest**," and "**gratifications of life**" are all of the world (the flesh) and are the enemy of Yahweh (*Romans 8:7-8*), including the partaking of worldly activities:

TV, movies, the news (all of which is negativity, to instill fear), watching or partaking of sports and games (physically or on electronic devices), idolizing celebrities, purposeless talk, relying on opinions and so-called expertise of men rather than trusting Yahweh and His Word.

The devil is not in these but has influenced the hearts and minds of those people who create and partake in the shows, news, games and distractions in order to keep you in the bondage of sin and fear. What worldly habits, hobbies, amusements and desires are there in your life that do not serve Yahweh? Are these not weapons of idolatry used against you? It is a *spiritual* battle. We are to guard ourselves:

¹¹ Put on the panoply of God, to enable you to stand up to the **stratagems of the Adversary**, ¹² for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the **spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials**.

(Ephesians 6:11-12)

We are taught, and many mock, the devil as being not so smart... yet Paul instructs us to be on our utmost guard because the devil uses **strategies** specifically designed to deceive even believers and leaders in today's church into *thinking* that doing things *of the world* is acceptable.

The Scriptures declare we are not to accept false teachings, nor partake in purposeless talk, joking or making fun of people or things, *even if* other partakers profess it to be acceptable.

²⁰ O Timothy, that which is committed to you, guard, turning aside from the **profane prattlings** (*useless, joking, witty talk*) and **antipathies of falsely named "knowledge,"** ²¹ which some are professing. As to the faith, they swerve. Grace be with you! Amen!

(1 Timothy 6:20-21)

⁵ Now the consummation of the charge is love out of a clean heart and a good conscience and unfeigned faith, ⁶ from which some, swerving, were turned aside into **vain prating** (*empty, purposeless talk*), ⁷ **wanting to be teachers of the law** (*the Word of Yahweh*), **not apprehending either what they are saying, or that concerning which they are insisting**.

(1 Timothy 1:5-7)

¹ I am entreating you, then, brethren, by the pities of God, to present your bodies a sacrifice, living, **holy, well pleasing to God**, your logical divine service, ² **and not to be configured to this eon** (*age*), but to be transformed by the renewing of your mind, for you to **be testing what is the will of God, good and well pleasing and perfect**.

(Romans 12:1-2)

By testing and examining ourselves in the faith (*with a magnifying glass*), we are "**testing what is the will of God, good and well pleasing and perfect**." To not be configured to this eon means to not do worldly things that Christ Yeshua would never do. To be transformed by the renewing of the mind is to become a new creation, to become like Christ, for Him to be formed in us (*Galatians 4:19*). This is a process. It takes self-discipline and personal training to change your habits and your character in order to become like Christ, to be "**in Him**:"

⁶ In this we know that we are **in Him**: he who is saying that he is **remaining in Him** ought also himself to **be walking according as He walks**. ⁷ Beloved, I am not writing a new precept to you, but an old precept, which you had from the beginning. The old precept is the word which you hear.

(1 John 2:6-7)

Yeshua walked in holiness and had no place for entertainment, nor purposeless talk, nor jokes. He only did the will of His (our) Father, and *even* said that He only identifies those doing the Father's will as His family (*Matthew 12:46-50*). Not those *saying* that they are doing His will, but those who actually are:

⁸ "This people **with their lips is honoring Me,**
Yet their heart is away at a distance from Me.

⁹ Yet **in vain** are they revering Me,
Teaching for teachings the directions of men."

(*Matthew 15:8-9a*)

We must be sure that when we *profess* to be **in Christ**, it is in accord with the One True Measuring "Yardstick," the Word. I say this because I have had to learn this, and I DID ALL THESE WICKED THINGS mentioned above in preference to Yahweh, AND MUCH WORSE! If not worshipping Yahweh, we are by default worshipping the devil. You cannot serve both (*Matthew 6:24*). I have had to repent. YES, Yeshua was crucified for the pardon of our sins. Yet, be not deceived that living by the grace of the Lord alone bypasses His Word. We are to live by faith and works also. The Apostles Peter, Paul, John and James declare often in many Scriptures that grace is **no** excuse for sin, for example:

¹ What, then, shall we declare? That we may be persisting in sin that grace should be increasing?

² May it not be coming to that! **We, who died to sin, how shall we still be living in it?**

(*Romans 6:1-2*)

Also, Christ Yeshua Himself confirmed this by His Own spoken word:

⁴⁶ "Thus it is written, and thus must the Christ be suffering and rise from among the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ **and there is to be heralded in His name repentance for the pardon of sins**, to all the nations,..."

(*Luke 24:46-47*)

This is the RISEN Lord speaking to His disciples (and to us). Yeshua had already been crucified, resurrected and had ascended. We were already pardoned and justified through His obedience to accomplish Yahweh's purpose through Him... YET, He is declaring that we are to REPENT (*meaning to CHANGE*), to **stop** sinning, that we may be pardoned and receive life in the Kingdom of Heaven!

(*Read also Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19-21; Acts 8:21-22; Acts 11:18; Acts 20:20-21; Romans 2:5-10; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26; Hebrews 6:1-8; 2 Peter 3:8-9; Revelations 2:5, 16; Revelations 3:1b-4, 19-20; Revelations 9:20-21*).

To be **saved** and **expect** the promise of life in the kingdom of Heaven, Christ Yeshua makes the conditions very plain:

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “**IF anyone should be loving Me, he will be keeping My word,** and My Father will be loving him, and We shall be coming to him and making an abode with him.
²⁴ **He who is not loving Me, is not keeping My words.** And the word which you are hearing is not Mine, but the Father’s Who sends Me.”

(John 14:23-24)

⁴ “**Remain in Me.** I also am in you. According as the branch can not be bringing forth fruit from itself, if it should not be remaining in the grapevine, thus neither you, if you should not be **remaining in Me.**”

...

⁶ “**If anyone should not be remaining in Me, he was cast out as a branch,** and it withered. And they are gathering them, and **into the fire are they casting them, and they are being burned.**”

(John 15:4, 6)

Is being “cast out into the fire” referring to hell or Heaven? Be not deceived. We are to **test** what we believe to accord with the **Word of Yahweh** (the Word’s true meaning) on which we are judged, **not** on incorrect teachings, “**the word which I speak, that will be judging him in the last day**” *(John 12:48)*.

⁴⁶ “If I am telling the truth, wherefore are you not believing Me? ⁴⁷ **He who is of God is hearing God’s declarations.** Therefore you are not hearing, seeing that you are not of God.”

(John 8:46-47)

¹¹ And therefore **God** will be sending them **an operation of deception, for them to believe the falsehood,** ¹² **that all may be judged who do not believe the truth,** but delight in injustice.

(2 Thessalonians 2:11-12)

Yahweh Himself is sending the deception, having prewarned us what that deception is, AND the consequences for those who do not test whether what they are hearing lines up with the Word of Yahweh. Beware, this deception is even happening where you would least expect it - in some churches:

¹ Beloved, **do not believe every spirit,** but **test the spirits to see if they are of God,** for **many false prophets have come out into the world.**

(1 John 4:1)

You might say, “This is legalistic,” which literally means “strict adherence to law.” The Word declares the “**law of Yahweh**” *(Romans 7:24)* and the “**spirit’s law of life**” *(Romans 8:2)* for a reason: to be obeyed.

² ...for the **spirit’s law of life** in Christ Jesus **FREES** you from the **law of sin and death.**

(Romans 8:2).

Laws are not suggestions. Breaking a traffic law that does not suit your driving preference has legal consequences. So it is with all of Yahweh’s laws. Ask yourself, “Is there any Scripture that you are *not* to strictly adhere to?” Understand the full meanings of every word and adhere to them. There is no grey area, no middle ground, only darkness or light, holiness or sin, salvation or damnation, Heaven or hell:

⁷ “He who is conquering shall be enjoying this allotment, and I shall be a God to him and he shall be a son to Me. ⁸ Yet the **timid**, and **unbelievers**, and the **abominable**, and **murderers**, and **paramours**, and **enchanters**, and **idolaters**, and all **the false**—their part is in the **lake burning with fire** and sulphur, which is the second death.”

(Revelations 21:7-8).

As declared, acts of idolatry disqualify you from entering the kingdom of Heaven just as any other sin that remains unrepented, and instead they secure you a place in hell. Speaking the Word, saying you believe, casting out demons and doing powerful deeds are no guarantee of entrance into the kingdom of Heaven (read Yeshua’s words in *Matthew 7:21-23*)! Repent NOW! Become saved while you still can.

Blessings beyond,
Miles
Heaven’s View

