

## Truth... has Consequences

John K. Johnson

Ps 60:4 KJV

Thou hast given a **banner** to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.

**[Banner]** OT:5251

nec (nace); from OT:5264; a flag; also a sail; by implication, a flagstaff; generally a signal; figuratively, a token:

KJV - banner, pole, sail, (en-) sign, standard.

Ex 31:13-18 KJV

Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a **sign** between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

17 It is a **sign** between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

**[sign]** OT:226

'owth (oth); probably from OT:225 (in the sense of appearing); a signal (literally or figuratively), as a flag, beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence, etc.:

Strong's definitions OT:5251 and OT:226 from:

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Moses was commanded to teach the Israelites God's (Yahweh's) instructions for them, defined as (judgments, statutes, instructions, commandments, law), which is known among scholars as "Torah," generally called the "Law" or "Law of Moses." Now more specifically, most understand (as does this writer) the primary reference to the "Torah," is the first five books of the Old Testament (Tenakh, or Tanach). A goodly number of the Rabbis include (in reference to the Torah) the writings and the Prophets as well; otherwise, the entire Hebrew Bible.

Now, because there is so much misunderstood “inference,” when the term “Bible” is considered, and varied implications where persons from different religious persuasions hear teachings or engage in religious discussion, let me define the term “Hebrew Bible,” as follows:

“**Hebrew Bible** refers to the common portions of the Jewish and [Christian canons](#). Its use is favored by most academic Biblical scholars as a neutral term that is preferred to both [Tanakh](#) (the term used by [Judaism](#)) and [Old Testament](#) (the term historically used by [Christianity](#)) when discussing the text in academic writing. (For instance, see section 4.3 of *The SBL Handbook of Style* from the [Society of Biblical Literature](#).) Hebrew here may refer to either the [Hebrew language](#) or to the [Jews](#) (the Hebrew people)—who historically used the Hebrew language as a spoken language, and have continuously used the language in prayer and study—or both.

Because it refers to the common portions of the Jewish and Christian biblical canons, it does not encompass the [deuterocanonical books](#), largely from the [Koine Greek Septuagint](#) translation, included in the Old Testament by the Roman Catholic and [Orthodox](#) churches; thus it can be argued that the term *Hebrew Bible* only corresponds fully to the Old Testament in use by the [Protestant](#) denominations that follow [Jerome's](#) *Veritas Hebraica* doctrine.”

Direct Reference from: Wikipedia, at: <http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Hebrew+Bible>  
For those viewing this article from a web page, the highlighted text should be direct links.

If you have a computer, and go to the highlighted links you can obtain considerable insight as to why so much debate exists among religious opinions. It is my position, that if I am to “obey” the Father, I am not entitled to a differing “opinion” of the Torah where it is clearly written. Yeshua (Jesus), the WORD of GOD, that became flesh (the Torah incarnate) and walked among us... had a few things to say that will bracket the beginning Scriptural references with absolute restrictions as to opinions about what Moses said.

Yeshua made the following points very clear (will you believe them... obey their intent?). As you read the “red letter,” comments the Bible records as Yeshua’s teachings, ask yourself, ‘is it necessary that I accept Yeshua’s words?’ The [*bracketed Italics are my comments*]

John 12:44-50 KJV

44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. [*Yeshua is saying, He and the Father are one and the same*]

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. [*I believe Yeshua is talking about darkness being religious teachings that disagree with His Father's Torah, which was the written WORD of God that Yeshua personified*]

47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. [*the “word,” that he says will judge all men in the last day is the Father's WORD, Moses teachings (Torah) as you will see later on, because*

God does not change His teachings... ever; **His WORD is “forever settled in Heaven,”** as the Scripture certainly declares in Ps 119:89]

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. [*The Father’s commandments are always the same, He has NOT written a “New Testament” to do away with the “Old Testament,” as some teach*]

50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 5:19 KJV

19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. [*What about you? Will you “do likewise,” Obey the Father’s forever settled WORD?*]

Luke 16:31 KJV

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead. [*This is a reference to His crucifixion, burial and resurrection... He is saying, if My commandments, given you by Moses and the prophets are not of value to you... you will not likewise believe my resurrection as proof of My sayings.*]

John 8:47 KJV

47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God. [*What may I ask you are “God’s words,” if it is not God’s Commandments... that Moses taught and that the prophets died trying to get them to hear and obey? Yeshua was referring to the ONLY source of God’s word then used in the Synagogues, the Torah and the prophets... such as when He stood up in the Synagogue to read the “Torah reading,” in Luke 4:16-20*]

John 5:45-47 KJV

45 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. [*by their words only, as the next verse clearly points out... they really did not believe Moses (like so many today, they say they are “Christians,” trusting in “Jesus,” whom they do not follow, as in “doing” what He says to do, such as, If you love me keep My Commandments.” John 14:15; which “keeping His Commandments, includes the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment*]

46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.

47 But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words? [*This powerful blast of truth is so frightening that it requires one to drop everything and realize what He just said. Yeshua said, if you DO NOT believe Moses, “Torah (first five books of the Hebrew Bible),” how shall you believe HIS words?” In the true meaning of “believe,” in the Hebrew culture (mindset), belief is validated by “doing,” which is to “obey.” Do you understand the meaning of this rebuke to the religious pundits (church leaders) of His day... TODAY’S church leaders, nearly ALL of them, are likewise challenged the same. Are YOU going to accept the “Old Testament” Commandments as the foundation of your identity with the Messiah? If not, you can’t have the Saviour... you can not*]

*reject the Commandments and call upon the name of Yeshua for eternal life. Only faith in Yeshua can save you, but faith without “works,” is dead. James 2:26]*

John 10:35 KJV

35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; [**Yeshua is saying, “the scripture cannot be broken;”** Remember, it is “forever” settled in Heaven, Ps 119:89, as previously noted above. The “scripture” of His day, again, was the teachings in the Synagogues, the “Torah,” (Five books of Moses) and were read every Sabbath, along with the “Half-Torah,” (writings/prophets, such as Isaiah, etc.). There is a system of teaching in the Hebrew community called the “Torah Portions,” which are on a one-year and a three-year reading cycle. Some read the five books of Moses in a year and others use the three-year cycle. There are “specific” text scriptures already predetermined that are traditionally read, from generation to generation. This is the very traditional thing Yeshua was doing in Luke 4:16-20. Do you understand the importance of this? OR, are your church’s institutional doctrines blinding your view of the way the Father wants you to conduct your religious practices (filtering out truth)? The “doing things my way,” is tantamount to “breaking the scriptures.” It is called “Calf Worship”]

Now what have we heard Yeshua say about His Father’s Commandments? Did He not declare that, “I did not come to “destroy,” the “law,” (Torah), but to fulfill it (or show us how to reach the goal of it)?

Matt 5:17-18 KJV

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass [*not Calvary’s passing*], one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. [*Are heaven and earth still here?*]

Since we can now appreciate how guardedly Yeshua honored and kept His Father’s Commandments (and His absolute confirmation of Moses writings about the Torah), it is now time to refer back to the opening two Scriptures. Psalms 60: 4 is a beautiful picture of the Sabbath (as a banner) being given to the believers “who fear” the Father... lovingly, reverently and faithfully **and who keep His 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment**, which Exodus 31:13 and 17, says is a “sign” between the Father and His covenant people (who are forever referred to as Israelites, by Moses and by present day Biblical definition by those with an understanding of Torah as well; **they “Israelites” are, those who confess Yeshua as Saviour and “keep” the Father’s Commandments.** I call your attention to Rev. 12:17; who are the **ONLY people** the Devil is making war with? They are the Commandment keeping faithful who confess Yeshua, or ‘have the testimony of Yeshua.’). Therefore, as those who dare to call ourselves “believers” we must understand that we can not “break the scriptures,” or consider the “Old Testament,” irrelevant to our lifestyle in this day! We must uphold the “**Truth**,” which is the reason the Psalmist in 60:4 says “that it may be displayed **because of** the truth.” From the beginning, in the Garden of Eden, where the Serpent (Satan) challenged the “forever settled WORD,” men have twisted, resisted and redefined the “**Truth**,” the Father’s Torah. It is the dividing line between Holiness and

worldliness. All Torahlessness religions (lawless, religions that do not follow the teachings of Moses, as Yeshua notes in John 5:47), churches, institutional positions, and doctrines are at odds with **Truth**. The entire battle for the souls of men is about **Truth**... Read the Apostle Paul's comments in 2Thessalonians, chapter 2. The entire chapter is about **Truth** and the Devil's efforts to overcome it:

2 Thess 2:9-12 KJV

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,  
10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.  
11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:  
12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Psalms 60:4, once again says: "Thou hast given a **banner** to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth." Selah.

Notice several things here... The "banner" is to be displayed because of the "**Truth**." What does the Bible say is the "**Truth**?"

John 17:17 KJV

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

When Yeshua was speaking of "thy word is truth," He was talking about the "forever settled word," not some new teaching or future writings of the Apostles, known as the "New Testament," and the myriads of denominational views that ensued. Although the New Testament, **when read with foundational understanding from the original "truth" Yeshua was speaking of, (the Father's Torah)**, is truth as well. Unfortunately, theologians and doctrines of men, that have "Hellenized" the teachings of Paul with a carnal Greco-Roman Western cultural mindset and with the Church of Rome's addition of Pagan customs and institutional socio-political agendas to the "Christian" Church traditions and doctrine, have simply skewed the average churchman's understanding of truth. And since there can only be ONE truth, which path of faith and religious practice will you follow?

Another thing is the "banner," and the "sign." These two nearly identical words are given us by the Divine Spirit... they are both from the pure language of the Hebrew writings. They mean what they say. The sign of the people who The Father (Yahweh) calls HIS people are only those who follow HIS ways (those He "doth sanctify"). That is why He says, "for it is a **sign** between me and you throughout your generations; **that** ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you."

AND... The Father Says, "Wherefore **the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath**, to observe the sabbath **throughout** their generations, for a **perpetual covenant**." (**bold highlights** mine for emphasis).

These are the commandments and scriptures Yeshua was referring to... they are forever. Will you make it a study to dust off your Bible and dig into the "**Truth**," that Yeshua said "shall make you free?"

John 8:32 KJV

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Yeshua was not talking about a jail break... He was talking about "Darkness," spiritual darkness, the kind the religious system of His day had bound the people up in... just as it is TODAY.

If you KNOW the TRUTH and you embrace it, you shall be free. Free that is to walk as Yeshua walked, doing the things that please and honor the Father... such as "keeping the Sabbath throughout your generations, for a perpetual covenant..." so the "sign" will be "displayed," BECAUSE of the TRUTH. Remember the eternal battle between good and evil is about "**Truth**."

The Book of Revelation is a final call to awaken the "Churches" (Greek word, Ekkleesia; The better word from a Hebrew perspective is "assemblies," as meaning gathering of believers... not brick and mortar and institutions). The "Seven Letters," in the second and third chapters of Revelation are final warnings to flee ***Non-Scriptural practices***, and return to the pure **Truth** of the teaching of Moses; being Torah foundational, absolute practices of the original faith; that Yeshua confirms as the Father's instructions. (Because we are yet in the "Diaspora," much of the Torah instruction can not be observed until there is a Temple in the Land of Israel, and a Priesthood, as when the Millennial reign is in the earth; **presently, we can only observe "today" that which we can affect until then, such as keeping the Commandments, i.e., Sabbath 7<sup>th</sup> day rest and worship, food laws, the Father's appointed Feasts, separate that which is Holy from the profane, etc., walk in the love and likeness of Yeshua, and separate ourselves from worldly temptations**). The Scripture in Revelation depicts a Babylon (mixed/confusion) of worldly governments and religious entities, the later being the harlot (apostate) religious system of the "last days." It has blinded people in spiritual darkness and they are being admonished to "come out of her." Her, is the corrupt, lawless (outside Torah, as lawlessness means Torahlessness), false religious conglomerate that makes up the last days church of men's doings. This is the "deceived people" that Paul speaks of in the previously noted reference to chapter 2 of 2Thessalonians. Here is what the Scripture says:

Rev 18:1-6 KJV

18:1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.** (Bold emphasis mine).

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

Please NOTE: if the Angel is calling the Father's people to "come out" they must yet be in the world... we do NOT believe the Pre-Tribulation teaching that began in the late 1800's, and which is popular in the Christian Church. We do believe that Yahweh will keep his people from His wrath, but all throughout the Bible His people had to endure the surrounding calamities... however, we are also shown that His faithful are always delivered from evil, even if martyred they pass into His presence. We must leave that situation up to the Father. We also believe in a "greater Exodus," yet to come (Ezk 20:30-44)... which is a subject for another time.

We believe the battle for men's souls will indeed be challenging every man to make a choice... will you "raise your Banner," and let it be a "sign," to the powers that be and to the spirits of darkness that you stand with the Saints of Yahweh? Will you take up your station with "those who fear the Father," and enjoin other end-times believers as they follow the true Yeshua of the Bible and "keep" the Sabbath of the "perpetual covenant," and are you willing to be among those who faithfully raise their Banner, "that it may be displayed because of the truth?"

There is a time coming upon the earth that The Saints will need to be founded in Truth in order to persevere unto the end, as their very lives and eternal destiny will depend upon their grasp of the Truth, for the Scripture declares:

Rev 12:11 KJV

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Truth... has Consequences... will you search for the Truth more than any other thing? Remember... The Father's Word is Truth... do not allow any teaching to distort it:

As the Bible clearly says, about the Teaching of Moses:

Isa 8:20 KJV

20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

The opposite of light (Yeshua's truth) is darkness; any teaching, opinion, church position, or doctrine that opposes Moses teachings (Torah) is darkness... there is no middle ground.

Shalom... and may you embrace Yeshua, the living Torah, and Moses Teachings, the written Torah; for if you do not believe Moses writings... how will you believe Yeshua's words?

End of article.