

# He who has an ear to hear, let him hear

Written by: Todd D. Bennett  
[www.shemayisrael.net](http://www.shemayisrael.net)

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Each week we have the ability to reset and recalibrate. YHWH declares that the Sabbath is a sign of His Covenant. A sign is something visible and observable. The Hebrew word "owt" can mean "sign" or "mark."

The Catholic Church declares that their Sunday sabbath is a mark of their authority.

So, do you submit to the authority of YHWH and bear His sign, or do you acknowledge the authority of the Catholic Church and observe the Sunday sabbath as most Christians do.

When I was a young boy and heard about the great deception and falling away at the end of the age, I could not comprehend such a thing since there were so many Christians in the world. As I grew up and discovered all of the sun worship, paganism and false doctrines that crept, or should I say "slithered," into the Christian religion it became clear to me.

I now know how "many" can call Him Lord, but be shut out, because they are lawless. They may think they know Him because they are doing seemingly "spiritual" things, but they do not obey Him. They

have been deceived into rejecting His clear instructions, and His sign - the Sabbath.

Instead, they bear the sign of the Pope, the man of lawlessness, and his lawless Babylonian religion.

YHWH is calling His people to “come out of her” and we all have a choice to make.

When Yisrael had entered into the Land, Joshua (Yahushua) led them to Shechem to renew the Covenant that they made at Sinai and later broke.

Here is what He told them. *“<sup>14</sup> Now therefore, fear YHWH, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve YHWH! <sup>15</sup> And if it seems evil to you to serve YHWH, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve YHWH.”* Joshua 24:14-15

The Amorites worshipped Amurru, the son of the sky god Anu, a Nephilim. They worshipped the son of a god.

The Yisraelites needed to set aside all of the external influences, and the gods of their fathers, and focus in exclusively on YHWH. We must all do the same.

The Christian religion promotes Jesus, a son of god, but it does not represent the teachings of Yahushua, the Son of Elohim.

It is absolute truth that Jesus was not the name of the Messiah of

Yisrael, yet people stubbornly hold to the tradition promoted by Christianity, the invention of Constantine and the Roman Empire.

The establishment of the Christian religion was an attempt to contain the spreading belief in the Messiah of Yisrael, blend it with the paganism that permeated Roman culture and subdue the masses through a new “state religion” separated from the Torah and the Covenant.

The Roman Empire captured the faith and diverted many into paganism and the broad road that leads to destruction. Christianity is the daughter of Babylon.

The religion of Judaism is a religion invented by the Pharisees, who are now attempting to revive the sacrificial system, and the Temple that YHWH allowed to be destroyed by the Romans.

This cast of characters continues to this day with their invented religions, used to distract people from the truth.

We can either bear the sign of the Creator or the sign of Babylon.

How appropriate, on this Sabbath day, that we consider the words of Joshua, who bears the same name of Yahushua the Messiah – *“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.”*

While those in Judaism claim to keep the Sabbath, their Rabbis have made it a burden instead of a day of rest.

This harkens back to the confrontation between Yahushua and some Scribes and Pharisees regarding their traditions.

Here is the account in the text of Mark.

*"<sup>1</sup> Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault. <sup>3</sup> For the Pharisees and all the Yahudim do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches. <sup>5</sup> Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands? <sup>6</sup> He answered and said to them, Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. <sup>7</sup> And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. <sup>8</sup> For laying aside the commandment of Elohim, you hold the tradition of men - the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do. <sup>9</sup> He said to them, All too well you reject the commandment of Elohim, that you may keep your tradition. <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, Honor your father and your mother; and, He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death. <sup>11</sup> But you say, If a man says to his father or mother, Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban (that is, a gift to Elohim), <sup>12</sup> then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother, <sup>13</sup> making the word of Elohim of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do. <sup>14</sup> When He had called all the multitude to Himself, He said to them, Hear Me, everyone, and understand: <sup>15</sup> There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man. <sup>16</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!" Mark 7:1-16*

When Yahushua ends a teaching with the statement "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear" you should take note.

In other words, listen up! Shema Yisrael!

Yahushua was making a bright line distinction between following the Commandments of Elohim, and the traditions of the elders.

He quoted Isaiah, who foretold that people would lay aside the Commandments of Elohim in order to obey a tradition.

This is exactly what Christians are doing with the Sabbath.

In fact, they ignore most of the Commandments because of a traditional interpretation from one of Paul's letters. They have been taught that we no longer have to obey the Commandments because Yahushua died for our sins.

Of course, that doesn't even make any sense. The Son of Elohim had to come and die because of our sins. Sin is bad. It is conduct that is not pleasing to YHWH.

*"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness."*  
1 John 3:4

YHWH provided us with His Commandments so that we understand what pleases Him, and what does not please Him.

The Commandments help us understand what He considers to be righteous, and failing to obey the Commandments is described as lawlessness.

Yahushua died because of our lawlessness, not so we could continue to be lawless.

As Isaiah prophesied, many people honor Elohim with their lips, but their actions betray them. They do it to this day.

Yahushua said: *“If you love Me, keep My Commandments.”* John 14:15

The Scribes and Pharisees appeared to be righteous, but they were actually lawless hypocrites.

Here is how Yahushua described them. *“<sup>27</sup> Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. <sup>28</sup> Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”* Matthew 23:27-28

They were lawless because they promoted the traditions of the elders as commandments. By doing so they laid aside the Commandment of Elohim.

There are a lot of religious men and women who appear to be righteous, but they are lawless hypocrites. They go to church and honor “The LORD” with their lips, but then they go home and ignore His Commandments.

That is why Yahushua asked: *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”* Luke 6:46

If you say that you love Him, but then ignore His Commandments, then you are a hypocrite. You can call Him Lord all you want, but if you do not obey His instructions then He does not know you. You are not His servant, and He is not your Master.

The Popes and the Rabbis claim the authority to interpret the

Scriptures, and then alter the Commandments through their laws, dictates and traditions.

Yahushua says they do not have that authority, and ultimately describes them all as lawless.

When I grew up in Christianity, I assumed that the Scribes and the Pharisees were the ones obeying the Torah, and that they were putting people into bondage by placing them “under the Law.”

I was sadly mistaken, because I was poorly taught. Most of my teachers were well-meaning, but they were simply repeating the lies that they have been taught.

It is now time for the people of Elohim to break this cycle and step away from the lies that we have inherited from the religious systems that we were born into.

Jeremiah actually prophesied of the time we are in. *“<sup>19</sup> . . . The Gentiles shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, worthlessness and unprofitable things. <sup>20</sup> Will a man make gods for himself, which are not gods? <sup>21</sup> Therefore behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know My hand and My might, and they shall know that My Name is YHWH.”* Jeremiah 16:19-21

As we begin to learn about the Sabbath and His Name, we recognize that we have inherited lies - big ones with eternal consequences.

The Commandments do not put us under bondage. They set us free and set us apart so that we can be united with the Holy (Qodesh) One of Yisrael.

The Torah was actually a wedding gift given by YHWH to His Bride – Yisrael at Sinai.

I never understood that. I always thought that the only wedding was in the future – between the Messiah and the Church.

I did not realize that the event at Mount Sinai was a wedding ceremony, that ended with a separation and divorce.

When Joshua (Yahushua) led the Yisraelites across the Jordan to Shechem, the renewal of the Covenant was actually a renewal of VOWS.

The relationship is defined by the “ketubah” – the Wedding Contract. The Words that YHWH inscribed in stone and Moses wrote on a Scroll was the Marriage Covenant that Yisrael agreed to.

The Covenant cannot be changed or altered.

Everything that we read about with Yisrael was a pattern for the renewal of the Covenant by Yahushua.

That is why Yahushua made it clear when He stated:

*“Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.”* Matthew 5:17

Fulfilling the Torah is the opposite of destroying the Torah. The teachings, life, death and resurrection of Yahushua had nothing to do with destroying the Torah, and everything to do with filling it up with meaning.

Yisrael, the Bride of Elohim had sinned and broken the Covenant relationship that was defined by the Torah.

Yahushua came and living perfectly according to the Torah, teaching

and showing how to obey the Torah and fulfilling the need for a perfect sacrifice by giving up His life for the Bride.

The Bride is all of the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael, and He came for the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael.

*"I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael."* Matthew 15:24

He came to lead the sheep back through the Covenant. It is the same Covenant with Yisrael, only now it is renewed and perfected through the blood of the Lamb of Elohim – Yahushua the Messiah.

I'll say it again - His sheep are the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael.

They are not the Pope's sheep or any other flock for that matter. Sadly, many who claim to be the Bride of Christ are going to find themselves in a place where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth.

They will be shocked and perplexed as they are shut out of the wedding, because they did not have ears to hear.

Yahushua say that His sheep hear His voice.

*"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."* John 10:27

Sheep follow the voice of the shepherd. They go where He leads.

Yahushua leads His sheep through the narrow gate.

False shepherds are trying to lead the flock astray where they can get eaten by ravenous wolves.

Remember, the false prophets and shepherds don't look like wolves. They are in disguise. They look like sheep, but they are not.

They wear religious robes and attire. They teach from pulpits and often get paid by the very sheep they are fleecing.

They guide and instruct the sheep, but many send the sheep away from the Great Shepherd, and down the broad way that leads them to destruction.

Last week I referenced the Assembly of Laodicea, and how Yahushua ended His admonishment with the phrase "*He who has an ear to hear, let him hear . . .*" Revelation 3:22

Well, they weren't the only ones He said that to. Seven times He repeated that important phrase to the seven Assemblies in Asia Minor that were under the oversight of John.

It is no coincidence that Yahushua sent messages to these Assemblies. They were the ones who continued to listen to His voice, instead of the Bishop of Rome.

As we approach Passover, I will discuss that issue more as it pertains to the observance of the day of Passover. These Assemblies stayed true to observing the Passover at the beginning of Day 14, while Rome changed the timing of Passover through the tradition of the elders.

The Five Wise virgins are the ones listening and ready. They have ears to hear, and they are the ones who make it into the wedding.

If you want to make it to the wedding, I suggest that you stop listening to the lies and traditions that we all inherited.

Instead, listen carefully to the voice of Yahushua, and obey His Commandments.

That is the meaning of the word “shema” (hear and obey), and it is at the heart of what Yahushua called the greatest Commandment.

We will look at that Commandment next week along with the subject of “corban” that Yahushua referred to – the giving gifts.

Berakhot

Todd

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Shema Yisrael (Hear O Yisrael) are the words that Yahushua spoke when asked what was the First Command.

*“The first of all the Commandments is: ‘Hear, O Yisrael,  
YHWH our Elohim, YHWH is one.’”*

*Mark 12:29*

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”*

*Matthew 11:15*