# **The Test for a False Prophet**

~ OR ~

How to mislead the people for Fun and Prophet.

By Bernie Besherse, CJ 5/31/2016

#### Introduction

Religion is such an all-encompassing subject and it has a bearing on every minute of one's life, so this article will appear, at times, to stray away from the subject of the effect of listening to false prophets. However, if you read the entire article through to the end, you will find that you have learned many essential details about being a biblically-obedient person and the details also relate with the subject of false prophesy.

Perhaps the most persistent prophesies found in Christianity is the prophesy in <u>Isaiah 7:14</u> about the young woman about to give birth to a son. Christians maintain the belief that the young lady, *the wife of Isaiah*, was a **virgin**. That is not what the word means that was correctly translated as "*young woman*" in the Jewish Publication Society's 1999 translation.

# **Isaiah 7:14** [JPS 1999] Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: behold, the young woman shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

An *almah* (young woman) certainly *may* be a virgin, but not necessarily. The word *bethulah*, however, *always* means a virgin, even if she is eighty years old.

In Isaiah 7:14, "<u>BEHOLD THE</u> young woman" is an <u>ORDER</u> by the Prophet Isaiah, that King Ahazo <u>look at a specific, identified</u> young woman. If Isaiah had said "Pay close attention this, Ahaz, there might <u>someday</u> be <u>a virgin</u> who will conceive and bear a son, …" it would not make any sense. Isaiah would have not only been telling King Ahaz to look at someone who might not be there, but leaves it unspecified exactly who this virgin is or even when she will live. It might have been in Isaiah's day, but then again, it may be some time many years into the future, such as when Herod is ruling in Israel. However, even if the <u>almah</u> (young woman) really *was* a virgin, and the virgin was not present *at that very minute*, why would Isaiah tell King Ahaz to <u>look at</u> her? The exact meaning of the word that was translated as "<u>Behold</u>" is very important.

When one finally understands *and <u>accepts</u>* that there was no **virgin** birth prophesied in <u>Isaiah</u> <u>7:14</u>, then they must also understand *and <u>accept</u>* that both Matthew and Luke were in gross error when they handed the story to you and me that Jesus's virgin birth was a fulfillment of a prophesy *in the Tanakh*. There is no other place in the Tanakh that can even be twisted to imply a virgin birth for the Messiah. It may have been a prophesy, but if so, the prophesy would have had to come from the Babylonian sources, not the Tanakh.

In Christian Book Stores, one can sometimes find a section or rack of small books with titles like "Why I am a Baptist and not a Catholic," "Why I am a Presbyterian and not a Jehovah's Witness," "Why I am a Catholic and not a Pentecostal," and so forth. These books are short doctrinal statements that are intended to draw support from the bible (and other books) for one's own doctrine over the Christian doctrine of another denomination. All of these books claim that the entire bible (both New Testament and Old Testament) supports them in their interpretation, and does not support the position of the other denominations.

Some authors on religious issues, especially Christian issues, write for those who are uninitiated and ignorant of the bible and of history. The books and articles are especially for people who are ignorant of the content of the Tanakh. [Tanakh is an acronym for the Hebrew words for Torah - the Law, Nevi'im - the Prophets, and Kethuvim - the Writings, and is used by Torah-observant people to mean roughly the same thing that "Old Testament" means to Christians.] Their books and articles are backed by vague references to god and historical persons, and will include a few (usually misquoted) references to the Tanakh, several references to the New Testament, and the rest is their personal opinion or the opinion of some of the founders of their denomination. Truth is not an essentual factor in these books, because the only apparent purpose is to encourage an "us against them" attitude that will make good "team players" out of the members of their denomination.

The books do very little to educate people on the real meaning of the Hebrew words and phrases that are found in the Tanakh that are twisted by theologians for the purpose of making their own denomination. In this article, you will hopefully learn some of the reasons why there are so many Christian denominations, today, with each one having a body of devout believers who are taught that they can back up every doctrinal point using nothing but the bible. The sad part is that if or when these "*true believers*" are ever called upon to seriously defend their position, they always seem to end up by saying, "*Well, I'm not real the expert on this. In order to get the complete answer, you will have to talk to \_\_\_\_\_\_ because he has really done exhaustive research on this stuff.*"

What does the Law say about False Prophets? Let's look at an old Jewish translation and an even older Christian translation, and take note of a few of the differences between the two.

#### <u>Deuteronomy 13:1-19</u>, in the Jewish Publication Society (JPS), 1917 edition:

1 All this word which I command you, that shall ye observe to do; thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it. [emphasis added]

2 If there arise in the midst of thee a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams--and he give thee a sign or a wonder,

**3** and the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spoke unto thee--saying: 'Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them'; [*emphasis added*]

4 thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or unto that dreamer of dreams; for the LORD your God putteth you to proof, to know whether ye do love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. [emphasis added]

**5** After the LORD your God shall ye walk, and Him shall ye fear, and His commandments shall ye keep, and unto His voice shall ye hearken, and Him shall ye serve, and unto Him shall ye cleave.

**6** And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, **shall be put to death**; because he hath spoken perversion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of bondage, to draw thee aside out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put away the evil from the midst of thee. [*emphasis added*]

7 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, that is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying: 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

8 of the gods of the peoples that are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth

9 thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him

10 but thou shalt surely kill him; thy hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people. [*emphasis added*]

11 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath **sought to draw thee away from the LORD thy God,** who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. [*emphasis added*]

12 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is in the midst of thee.

**13** If thou shalt hear tell concerning one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to dwell there, saying:

14 'Certain base fellows are gone out from the midst of thee, and have drawn away the inhabitants of their city, saying: Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known';

15 then shalt thou inquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought in the midst of thee;

16 thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that is therein and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword. [*emphasis added*]

**17** And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the broad place thereof, and shall burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, unto the LORD thy God; and it shall be a heap for ever; it shall not be built again.

18 And there shall cleave nought of the devoted thing to thy hand, that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of His anger, and show thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as He hath sworn unto thy fathers;

19 when thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to <u>keep all His commandments</u> which I command thee this day, to <u>do that which is right</u> in the eyes of the LORD thy God. [*emphasis added*]

#### Deuteronomy 13:1-18, King James Version, about 1617 CE version

1 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,

2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;

3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. [*emphasis added*]

4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice, and ye shall serve Him, and cleave unto Him.

5 And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn *you* away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and

redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

6 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which *is* as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;

7 *Namely*, of the gods of the people which *are* round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the *one* end of the earth even unto the *other* end of the earth;

8 Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:

9 But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people. [*emphasis added*]

10 And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

11 And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and shall do no more any such wickedness as this is among you.

12 If thou shalt hear say in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there, saying,

13 *Certain* men, the children of Belial, are gone out from among you, and have withdrawn the inhabitants of their city, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which ye have not known;

14 Then shalt thou enquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, *if it be* truth, *and* the thing certain, *that* such abomination is wrought among you;

15 Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that *is* therein, and the cattle thereof, with the edge of the sword.

16 And thou shalt gather all the spoil of it into the midst of the street thereof, and shalt burn with fire the city, and all the spoil thereof every whit, for the LORD thy God: and it shall be an heap for ever; it shall not be built again.

17 And there shall cleave nought of the cursed thing to thine hand: that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee, and multiply thee, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers;

18 When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do *that which is* right in the eyes of the LORD thy God.

*The first thing that one notices is that the KJV <u>DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FIRST VERSE</u>!!! The translators left that verse with chapter 12, in these words:* 

Deuteronomy 12:32 What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it. [emphasis added]

By breaking the connection between the command not to add or subtract from the laws of **YHWH**, the Christian translation **allows** one to ignore "minor" deviations or alterations in the New Testament quotes. I am requesting that you keep in mind that **there were no chapters or verses** 

in the original writings of Moses. I will leave it to the reader to decide if he feels justified in making "minor" alterations to the law given by the ONE Creator of the entire Universe. Read both chapters, and think about the subject matter. *Where do YOU think that an admonishment to not deviate from the Law of YHWH fits best?* Also, why do *you* think that the KJV translators choose to put this verse with a different chapter?

Virtually every Christian church will teach the thirteenth chapter of Deuteronomy, and **adapt** the meaning by telling their members that, "*because Jesus is God*, then enticing Jews to leave Judaism to follow Jesus is not a crime, and is worthy of <u>praise</u>, not <u>death</u>."

As a young boy, I attended conservative, fundamentalist Christian churches, regularly. By "regularly," I mean a minimum of twice on Sunday, and once on Wednesday evenings. I was very familiar with the saying "God said it. I believe it. That settles it." I firmly believed all of the normal things that conservative, fundamentalist Christians believe. I was told (and accepted without critical examination), the theory that "The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed. The New Testament is the Old Testament revealed." I was told (and accepted without critical examination) that there was perfect harmony between the Old and New Testaments. I was forty-five years old before I even began to have enough critical thinking skills to reexamine my own, most deeply-held beliefs. I did not give up on the conservative, fundamentalist Christian beliefs without a fight! I thank the Almighty ONE that I have lived long enough to develop some critical thinking skills, and then put them to good use.

In the years that I have been studying the *differences* between the N.T. and the Tanakh, I have come to realize that many of the disparities between the two sets of writings **WERE** discussed in the churches that I attended. The differences, however, were explained away, rationalized, or swept under the rug.

In one instance, I remember my father saying that he thought that the difference was because of **inability to translate accurately**, and that his understanding was that the passage in question **should read** "\_\_\_\_\_". In other words, even without speaking, reading, or writing either Hebrew or Greek, my father felt like he was able to **second-guess** both the translators and the original writers of the bible, and did so with an **obvious** bias toward his previously-held opinion.

My father explained away the difference in <u>Isaiah 7:14</u> by saying "God gave the birth as a SIGN. It would not be a SIGN for a young women to have a son, because that happens every day. It <u>WOULD</u> be a SIGN for a <u>virgin</u> to conceive and bear a son." He was oblivious to the evidence in the following chapter showing in the son was actually the son of Isaiah and Isaiah's wife, and the son fulfilled all of the prophesies regarding that boy. NONE of those prophesies related to the Messiah, even a little bit. Check out the prophesies in Isaiah chapters 7 and 8 for yourself.

When you ask any fundamentalist Christian <u>why</u> they believe in the **virgin birth** of Jesus, they will invariably point to <u>Isaiah 7:14</u>, and the *mistranslation* of the words "<u>ha</u> Almah" (meaning "<u>that</u> young woman"), and render it as if Isaiah had written "Bethulah," which means "<u>a virgin</u>." Aside from the obvious differences between "young woman" and "virgin," we also have the difference between the adjectives, "<u>the</u> (*specific*)" and "a (*abstract*)."

An *almah* (a young woman) may certainly be a virgin, but not necessarily. A *bethulah*, however, is *always* a virgin, even if she is eighty years old.

Please remember that WORDS HAVE MEANINGS, and **YHWH** *directed* Isaiah to use certain words.

"Behold THE young woman" is an ORDER by the Prophet that King Ahaz LOOK AT a <u>SPECIFIC</u>, <u>IDENTIFIED</u> young woman. "Behold, <u>A</u> virgin" would NOT only telling King Ahaz to look at a specific woman, but leaves it unspecified exactly who this virgin is or even when she will live. It might have been in Isaiah's day, but then again, it may be some time many years into the future, such as when Herod is ruling in Israel. However, EVEN IF the <u>almah</u> (young woman) really *was* a virgin, and the virgin was *NOTPRESENTATTHAT VERY MINUTE*, then why would Isaiah tell King Ahaz to <u>look at</u> her? Remember that words have meanings. The biggest problem, of course, is that Christians try to justify something that they believe, but the **Prophet** did not write.

There is no other place in the Tanakh that can even be *twisted* to *imply* a virgin birth for the Messiah. When one finally <u>understands</u> and <u>accepts</u> that there was **no virgin birth** prophesied in **Isaiah 7:14**, then they must also understand and <u>accept</u> that both Matthew and Luke were in gross error when they handed us the story that Jesus's virgin birth was a **fulfillment** of a **prophesy** *in the Tanakh*. A virgin birth may have been prophesied, but if so, the prophesy would have had to come from the **Mithraicism** sources or **Zoroastrian** sources, **not the Tanakh**, therefore, the prophesy would not point to the <u>Hebrew</u> Messiah who will come at the end of the ages. When the major prophesies regarding the Christian Messiah do not come from the Tanakh, then where does *Christianity* originate?

This is only *one* of the issues where each denomination **invents their own interpretation** of both Tanakh and the N.T. in order to justify their own doctrinal beliefs. Other examples of discrepancies that lead to major doctrinal differences (depending on how the justification is rewritten) include:

- 1. how Judas Iscariot died,
- 2. why the huge difference between the lineage of Jesus as recorded by **Matthew** and by **Luke**,
- 3. the words that Jesus wrote in the sand regarding the woman taken in adultery,
- 4. in who's name(s) to baptize,
- 5. is there a trinity, and
- 6. why Paul wrote so many things that simply contradicted Torah, the same Torah that Jesus *allegedly* said would never change and we must all teach people to obey.

All of the above disharmonies between the Tanakh and N.T. become the basis of the differences between **denominations**. Incidentally, the Greek word "**heresies**" is translated as "**sects**" or "**denominations**." This is linguistic evidence that **all** of the Christian churches are **heresies**.

There are several words in the Tanakh that are translated as "god" or "gods." One of the most common words is "elohim." Elohim is plural, and means "*mighty ones*." Goliath and his brothers were mighty ones. Elohim is found with *either* a <u>singular</u> verb or a <u>plural</u> verb. It is not common for a singular verb to be used with a plural noun. In the case of elohim being used with a **plural** verb, the term may apply to Goliath and his brothers, being men who were mighty warriors, or it could apply to earthly kings, bureaucrats, and their governments. When the plural "elohim" is used with a singular verb, however, it refers only to the Almighty <u>ONE</u>, in the "*augmentative* <u>singular</u>." So, when we see in <u>Exodus 23:32</u> that we are not to make any contract with the men of the nations or <u>their gods</u> (elohim with a plural verb), what it actually means is that we are not to make subservient contracts with their kings, generals, bureaucrats, or powerful industrialists.

An excellent example of a false god that was worshiped by the Israelites is the golden calf, which the Israelites constructed while Moses was in the process of receiving the Law from **YHWH**. This golden calf was *given credit* for having brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, and for *being the savior of the Israelites*. Isn't this very similar to what Christians are doing today, saying that *Jesus* is their savior who is leading them through this vale of tears? Don't the Christian pastors admonish their churches to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, and to thank Jesus for delivering them from sin? During the "alter calls" in the fundamentalist Christian churches, the deluded people who are seeking salvation of their eternal souls through this false religion are told to "invite *Jesus* into your heart." Christians are worshiping a god constructed by men, *in their own image*, and are ascribing unto this false god the powers that are reserved for the Almighty ONE.

Back in the year 2000, Liz Michael (www.lizmichael.com) wrote a piece that she called "The Cult of Government. 1" She graciously gave me permission to place the entire article in my monthly newsletter, and I included it in Newsletter #004, which we printed in August 2002. In her article, she said,

"Today, I'm going to make some of you uncomfortable, because I'm telling you about one of the most widely committed biblical sins in the world. Maybe you'll think I'm some wild-eyed unkempt freak wandering around in the wilderness. Well, so were Elijah and John the Baptizer [as Christians believe].

"No, it's not heresy, or adultery, or coveting, or theft, or bowing down to statues, altars, fruit, or any such thing. It's not even murder, rape or robbery. It's not greed, or lying, violating Shabbat, or inhospitability, or sassing your mom. It certainly isn't homosexuality, about which only a handful of verses exist. No, this sin is much more offensive to Yahweh the Creator. As evidenced by so many of his faithful scribes writing about it.

"What in the world could I be talking about? It's a simple thing really. It's something that most of America, even most of the world, does on a daily basis. Even most Christians do it and do it rather faithfully I might add.

"I'm talking about the sin of worshipping the government." 1

1 - Copyright, 2000, LizMichael.com, <u>www.lizmichael.com</u> Permission to reprint granted so long as the website and the copyright remains referenced. No exclusivity may be retained by any individual or press entity which reprints. [*comment in square brackets by BB*] This article only contains a small part of the original article by Liz Michael.

Liz went on to discuss the golden calf that was crafted by Aaron while Moses was up on the mountain receiving the Law. The conclusion that she reached, and supports with good logic and scripture, is that mankind is so distrusting of the Almighty ONE that they invent their own might y ones to serve, and would rather have slavery under mankind, today, than liberty today and in the world to come.

Christians are without excuse for not knowing that even minimal distortion of scripture is still a violation of **Deuteronomy 13:1** [**Deueuteronomy 12:32** KJV]. In the alleged temptation of Jesus, at the end of his 40 days in the wilderness, Jesus is rumored to have had some conversations with **haSatan** (the Tester) that went like this in <u>Matthew 4:1 – 11</u>

- 1. Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
- 2. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.
- 3. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
- 4. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. [ref: <u>Deuteronomy 8:3</u>]2
- 5. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
- 6. And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, **He shall** give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. [Psalms 91:11-12]3
- 7. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
- 8. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
- 9. And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
- 10. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and <u>him only</u> shalt thou serve. [Deuteronomy 6:13]4
- 11. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

A similar story is found in <u>Luke 4:1 - 14</u>.

#### Note numbers:

- 1 The Cult of Government (c) 2000, Liz Michael, <u>www.LizMichael.com</u>
- 2 <u>Deuteronomy 8:3</u> And He afflicted thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that He might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every thing that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.
- 3 <u>Psalms 91:11-12</u>

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy tent.

11 For He will give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee upon their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

4 <u>Deuteronomy 6:13</u> Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; and Him shalt thou serve, and by His name shalt thou swear.

In the above, we see distortion of scripture in <u>Matthew 4:1 – 11</u> by *both* Jesus *and* HaSatan.

There are so many differences between the Tanakh and N.T. that I have found not one, single man or woman who actually believes the N.T. *as it is handed to us in the English language*. This is one of the reasons (**IM**[s]**HO**) for the many Christian denominations. Each church has their own way of *explaining away* the differences between the Tanakh and the N.T.

When going over the NT with everyone from Anabaptists to Mormons to Witnesses for Jehovah (alphabetical order) and all the way in between, you don't have to talk with them very long about various bible passages before they will say that "*the way we understand this*," or "*it does not* 

*mean that*," or "*what that means is*," and their rationalization for the errors in the New Testament will confirm what I just said about not one, single man **OR** woman believes the N.T. as it is handed down to us in the English language.

Which New Testament writer claimed to be a prophet of the Most High? (*John the Revealor*) Does every word of his writing square with Torah, or not? Does he cite New Testament characters and events? Has his work been altered? How would WE know, in the year 2018?

Our only way of measuring the validity of what the Revelation says is by comparing what is said in the Revelation with what is said in the Tanakh. When the writers of John insert worship of a *different god* from YHWH (Jesus) into the book, then we can be completely confident that even the book of the **Revelation of St. John the Divine** is **not to be trusted** because it is not in line with Torah.

Because none of the *other* writers of the N.T. claim to be prophets of the Most High, how do their works rate on a "*believability scale*" when compared with the works of Moses, Joshua, and Samuel? **Simple**. *They don't rate <u>at all</u>! Can* we place any confidence in the New Testament when it is out of line with the Tanakh? We can't. Therefore, we must return to the Tanakh in order to find a solid base for our religious beliefs.

People seem to like Christianity because they can be <u>forgiven in advance</u> for their sins, and never have to worry about being held accountable for the harm that they cause to others. While this is a religious concept that is quite old, and pre-dates Christianity, this concept of one's sins being *forgiven without remorse, repentance, and restitution*, is totally foreign to the Tanakh.

Christian churches generally teach that without the shedding of **blood**, there is no forgiveness of sin, therefore, in order to end sacrifices for sin forever, **YHWH** *required* a perfect sacrifice. They point to a verse in the Torah that says that we are not to eat blood as a food, because the <u>only</u> useful <u>purpose</u> that blood *does* have is for forgiveness of sins.

The Torah describes in *infinitesimal* detail, *exactly how* certain sacrifices are to be made, and *which animals, male or female*, are suitable for sacrifice for which sins. Some sins, in fact, do not even require a blood sacrifice. A sacrifice of fine flour is sufficient in some cases.

In their reading, Christians never take the time to study and make a list of which kinds of sins are forgiven by which kinds of sacrifices. I was as guilty of this as any other Christian, so I am not trying to point a finger at anyone else because I understand that three fingers are pointed back at me at the same time. When you examine the law, you find that the **ONLY** kinds of sins that can be forgiven by any kind of sacrifice are *sins of <u>accident</u>, <u>oversight</u>, or <u>omission</u>. There is <u>not one</u>, single, blood sacrifice, or even a combination of blood sacrifices, that are stipulated for any <i>sin of <u>rebellion</u>*. There are *no blood sacrifices* for forgiveness of *murder, adultery, lying, stealing*, or *covetousness*.

We know that Nathan the prophet said that **David was forgiven** for his **adultery** with Bathsheba and his **murder** of Uriah the Hittite by the sword of the children of Ammon, so when there is no blood sacrifice stipulated for these sins, *how was David forgiven*? The answer is, by a broken and contrite heart that leads to *Remorse, Repentance,* and *Restitution*. When David convinced **YHWH** that he was **truly sorry**, and heartbroken that he had violated the laws of **YHWH**, and David had determined *never* to repeat these sins, then **David was forgiven**. No shedding of blood was needed for the forgiveness. The N.T. is in gross error.

Yes, David did have many animals sacrificed *in <u>gratitude</u>, following his forgiveness*, but those sacrifices were of the type where the meat was given to the Israelites to **EAT**, so there was much feasting in Israel as a result of the forgiveness of King David.

Jesus was killed because **he violated Torah**, and he and his disciples <u>taught others</u> to violate **Torah**. The reason for them to be killed was in obedience to <u>Deuteronomy 13</u>.

#### Be not afraid.

The process of separating from Christianity, or any other social support group, can be a very unsettling and frightening time. We lose our **false** sense of security. **Many times, we also lose our friends and family members.** We might lose our job or our position in the community. We are rejected by our neighbors and co-workers. The raw fear of losing this security blanket stops many people from even *questioning* the validity of the New Testament. **Karaite Jews**, who believe *only* in the Tanakh, have lived and thrived for more than thirty centuries without believing in either Jesus *or the Talmud* (Rabbinical law), so we should not start worrying that we will somehow dry up and blow away if we quit believing in Jesus *and the New Testament*.

When the concentration is on what we <u>DO</u> believe instead of on what we are *rejecting*, this will take a lot of the pain out of the parting of the ways with Christianity. One of the things that we DO believe is found in <u>Deuteronomy 18:20-22</u>, here quoted from the 1917 edition of the JPS translation.

20 But the prophet, that shall speak a word presumptuously in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.

21 And if thou say in thy heart: 'How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?

22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken; the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously, thou shalt not be afraid of him. [emphasis added]

The "thou shalt not..." in verse 22 is as strongly worded as in <u>Exodus 20:12</u> in the 1917 JPS translation "12 Thou shalt not murder. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." So, the fact that we <u>must</u> not fear the false prophets that have taught Christianity for the past 2,000 years is one of the commandments, given in the Torah.

#### In Conclusion

#### Matthew 12:39-41

39. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and *there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas*:

40. For as Jonas was *three days <u>and</u> three nights* in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days <u>and</u> three nights in the heart of the earth.

41. The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

Jesus prophesied that he would *only* give "the sign of Jonah" and be in the grave for three days <u>AND</u> three nights. You can count them yourself, and you will never come up with three days *and* 

three nights that Jesus was in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea. Jesus made the statement that he would <u>only show ONE sign</u>, yet in <u>Acts 2:22-24</u>, they say that his alleged ministry was *full* of signs and wonders that <u>proved</u> that Jesus was of God.

#### Acts 2:22-24

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; **Jesus of Nazareth**, a man ap<u>proved</u> of God among you by **miracles and wonders and signs**, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and **foreknowledge of God**, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

So, Jesus not only gave false prophesy about being in the grave for three days and three nights, he also lied about *no other signs and wonders* other than *the sign of Jonah*. Of course, the really dedicated Christian **apologist** will quickly remind us that the words in Acts were written later, by apostles, and are not the words of their savior, but isn't this only an admission that the writers of Acts were *also* liars? How can someone continue to participate in a religion that was created and perpetuated by people that they have come to realize were liars?

Because the New Testament was written by people who gave false testimony, did not understand or keep the Torah, and try to get us to follow other gods and the teachings of men instead of Torah, we are *commanded* not to fear any of the dire warnings or edicts that Jesus *or his followers* allegedly pronounced against those who do not believe as they want us to believe or do as they want us to do. When we keep all of the commandments of YHWH that apply to us, we lose the fear of leaving Christianity. We have the promise of Ezekiel 18:27-28 "Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive."

Incidentally, the people who say that it is *not possible* to keep the Laws of TTTT are those who do not read and study the Law, or else they are *looking for excuses* not to obey **YHWH**.

There is nothing fancy about simply learning, understanding, and keeping the Torah law. There is no financial advantage to any man, woman, denomination, publishing house, or television station. There is no ego-boosting opportunity to make your name known across the city, state, nation, or around the world. The only thing of which we are assured by keeping Torah law is that we will have food, clothing, shelter, inner peace, *and a place in the world to come*, along with Job, Daniel, and Moses.

## Please send any comments about this article to:

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## יהוה

The name of our Creator is made up of four, Hebrew *VOWELS*, Y H W H יהוה (source: Flavius Josephus - *Antiquities of the Jews*)

The letter  $\overrightarrow{n}$  (h) when used as a vowel, usually has the "ah," "ha," or the "huh" sound. The  $\overrightarrow{n}$  is the *definite* article, or *THE*, *SPECIFIC*, *to the EXCLUSION of ALL others*.

This is exemplified in showing the difference between the word "eretz," meaning land, and the words "ha\_Eretz," meaning *THE Land of Israel, to the exclusion of all others*.

In Hebrew, the letters (y) and (v)(w) are used interchangeably, and when located in the first, second, or third position in a word, indicate the tense of the word, either past, future, or continuing.

Being placed in the first and third positions, the ' and ' indicate that the name is **both past and** future, or, - *Eternal*.

The **T** preceding **both** the **'** and the **'** means that the name is specifically, to the exclusion of all others, both *past* and *future*, or **THE Eternal**.

Furthermore, being *singular*, and *being found twice*, the  $\neg$  would also allow the addition of the word, **ONE**, as a descriptor.

The Name, **YHWH**, could then be logically rendered as **The Eternal ONE**, because **He** has eternal existence, **to the exclusion of all others**.

It is pronounced in one, long breath, like the wind, with the accent on the middle syllable. .

eeeeeaaaaaa UUUUUUU' waaaah