

7 Jan 2003

Hey

I'm not Jewish however I previously wore the star of solomon as a symbol of philosophy and the acquisition of wisdom (how ironic), so I was most interested to read your article. I will destroy the symbol as I have no intention to do anything but good. Your article was extremely informative and whilst searching I mostly found information regarding its use as a symbol of protection and only two pages said otherwise, yours and an extremist mormon page. Thank you and sorry about my bad spelling, keep on searching.

Giles

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Dear Sir,

I am newly coming back into trying to find my faith and I truly believe the Jews are God's chosen people. I am very confused as to which Bible is really and truly the correct Word of God. I have tried many different ones and they all have their own man made interpretations. I have bookmarked your website because I feel that our Lord keeps taking me there. I pray to Him to show me the 'truth' and most of these so called preachers today seem phony to me but your words are plain, factual, and to the point.

Thank you for your time, Respectfully,

Cynthia

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Avram responds:

Dear Cynthia,

Shalom: May His Peace be with you today.

There is much to cause confusion as to which Bible is 'the correct Word of God.' There is no Bible that is 100% accurate as all of them rely on translators or as you write, 'their own man made interpretations.' I would suggest the New King James or the New American Standard or the New Revised Standard. All of them are very good and if you can, get two or all of them to reference them against one another.

Of course, the best way to understand the Bible is to learn Hebrew and Greek and then you can see what is actually written (of the ancient manuscripts that we have). It's not as hard as it might seem. If you're interested in learning Hebrew from me, I have a course that in nine lessons, you'll be able read, write and sing enough Hebrew to use in your daily Bible devotions. It's a beginners course and designed with the 'average' person in mind (especially in terms of time that one can devote to it during the week).

You can access it via www.seedofabraham.net/c&v.html.

Avram

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28 January 2003

Dear Brother,

I have an appetite for the truth and I don't like being lied to, who doesn't right. I have read your article on the star of david. I can verify that you are telling the truth about the star of david because I have done my own investigation on the issue and it only confirms what you are saying about it. However I am having a hard time telling the rabbi about the issue. I have never seen him so upset. what do you suggest ?

shalom

Yochanan

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Avram replies:

Dear Yohanan,

Shalom: May His Wisdom guide you in reaching your rabbi.

Have you considered changing rabbis? Many within Messianic Judaism are so caught up in 'being Jewish' that they don't see the hand of Satan in the things they believe and do.

Some people will never come to the Truth.

Searching for Truth, finding it, and applying it to our lives is the task of every talmid (student-disciple). There is a disease in the Body of Messiah called 'unteachable-ness' that cannot be part of a student of Yeshua.

Resistance to change is normal (carnal). But rejection of Truth means that carnality is ruling. This is not the Spirit led life.

I suggest you give your rabbi a copy of my article and ask him to check it for errors. Perhaps he will come to the Light. Or, you might just tell him of my website and ask him to check it out on there.

You have a right to ask your rabbi/pastor/shepherd what is right and what is wrong. When it doesn't line up with the Word of God though, you also have a right to explain to the person, in love and humility, that they are in error. From there we can only follow the leading of the Spirit.

Avram

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May, 2003

I just read your article on Shavout. I found it very powerful. Every time I get burdened about not knowing how to celebrate the Feasts of the Lord, you have an article that just tears away the heaviness and simplifies the word so that it is understandable. I fill the freedom to celebrate God's Feast without a lot of religious baggage.

Father, I thank You for Avram and what you have done through him. For his obedience to You and his heart of Yeshua. He is truly doing a mighty work. Continue to bless Avram and Ruti as they Press on. May the joy of the Lord overtake them this Shavout. In the name of Your Son Yeshua.

With Love,

Bonnie

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Dear Bro. Avram,

My name is Elaine. I live in Georgia. I'm a mother of seven and a grandmother of 2. I'm 46 y.o. and have been a christian for 19 years although I was raised in a Southern Baptist Church all my life. In 1993 I received the Baptism of Holy Spirit and it has truly been an adventure. Abba Father turned my world upside down a few years ago when he started taking me back to the Jewish Roots. Everything that I thought I knew was counted naught. He has given me such a hunger for Torah and everything else that is so foreign to me. Your teachings have so blessed my life and have opened up so many questions, one being the Nazerite vow.

Could you please explain to me exactly who and why would take the vow. I've read Numbers 6 and un-

derstand that men or women could take the vow. I guess what I would like to know is , if Yeshua would have taken the vow. As far as I can tell he ministered the Lord's supper (passover) , but did not partake of it. I would so appreciate your help in this. Our little group that meets here looks forward to your teachings. I pray that Abba through Holy Spirit will continue to pour out through you for all of us here. Blessings to you and yours....

Elaine

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Avram replies:

Dear Elaine,

Shalom: His Peace surround you today.

Thank you for sharing about yourself. I was blessed to hear of your infilling with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is really our Teacher, via Messiah Yeshua. When the Lord opens up the Word to us, it really means something.

I'm going to 'read between the lines' and try to 'cut to the quick' on your question about the Nazarite Vow. If I'm not 'on point' please tell me. You're asking the question because you want to know about the drinking of alcohol. Is it a sin? And or, you want to know if Yeshua ever drank alcohol.

I have a short teaching on that on the web site: [Nazarite or Nazarene?](#)

In Hebrew, the two words are not the same. Sort of like in English, if someone tried to link guard and garden together, any English speaking person would know that it was silly. So too with Nazarite and Nazarene. They come from two different Hebrew words and have two different meanings.

For Yeshua not to have tasted of His own cup at the Passover would have been very, very unusual, especially as it pictured His own Death. But, even so, if He didn't, which I don't believe, can you imagine it being 'wrong' for Him, yet He giving it to all His students (talmidim; followers)?

Drinking alcohol has never been a sin. Living a life-style of drunkenness has always been a sin. Some in Christianity have confused alcohol with alcoholism. There is a big difference. Perhaps it would be similar to confusing eating food with gluttony. No one advocates that we stop eating cause of gluttony. And yes, I'm familiar with the counter-argument that we need food but we don't need alcohol to survive but survival is not the question. The question is, 'Is alcohol sin in God's eyes?' And the biblical answer in both the Tanach and New Covenant is 'No'.

When Matthew writes of Yeshua being a Nazarene, we have to understand several things. One, Nazareth is where Yeshua grew up. It comes from the Hebrew Netzer which means 'branch'. Two, 'Branch' is a favorite messianic title for the prophets to use of Messiah (Jer. 23:5; Zech. 6:12-13, etc.). Three, the term came into being when Aaron's role as High Priest was initially accused by Korach (Num. 16-17), as having been installed into the office by his brother, Moses. Yahveh puts an end to that perverse opinion by having all the tribal leaders place the symbols of their tribal leadership, their branches (staffs), before the Ark of the Covenant. God says that the branch that 'comes alive', buds, flowers, etc., would be the one whom He had chosen for High Priesthood. Aaron's bud, flowers and grows ripe almonds. Aaron's DEAD BRANCH came back to life. And so it is seen with Yeshua as the dead branch in His Resurrection. Not only did He grow up on the city of the branch (Nazareth), but He WAS the Branch of Yahveh, as the prophets spoke of. And this is why Hebrews is adamant that no one takes the High Priesthood 'upon himself' but is given it by God:

Heb. 5:4: 'And no one takes the honor to himself but receives it when he is called by

God, even as Aaron was. So also Messiah did not glorify Himself so as to become a High Priest, but He who said to Him, 'You are My Son. Today I have begotten You.' Just as He says also in another passage, 'You are a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.' (Heb. 5:4-6; with the last reference of Priest forever from Psalm 110:4)

And some passages with reference to Messiah as the Branch of Yahveh:

Jer. 23:5: 'Behold, the days are coming,' declares Yahveh, 'When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch. And He will reign as King and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the Land.'

Zech. 6:12: 'Then say to him, 'Thus says Yahveh of Hosts, 'Behold, a man whose Name is Branch, for He will branch out from where He is and He will build the Temple of Yahveh.'''

Zech. 6:13: 'Yes, it is He who will build the Temple of Yahveh and He who will bear the honor and sit and rule on His Throne. Thus, He will be a (High) Priest on His Throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices.'

In Torah, the Priesthood and Kingship came from two different tribes:

Levi and Judah. In Messiah, they will be one, as it was with Melchizedek.

You might want to read more about the Branch in one of my Jewish Newsletters: [Spiritual Reality](#)

So in answer to your question, Yeshua never took the Vow of the Nazarite.

My Love to all in the group. And thank you for your kind assessment of the teachings that the Lord Yeshua has given me for His Bride.

May you all grow into His Image and Likeness in greater and greater ways,

Avram

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18 Sept 2003

Shalom,

Mr. Avram, my name is Leo, 20 years old, I'm a reformed Christian. Live in Indonesia, Jakarta. But for the last year I have been a Torah Observer. I consider myself as a Christian who learn to walk with Yeshua and understand Scriptures through Hebrew point of view. And also ask for the Holy Spirit in Yeshua to guide me.

I'm in a study class of Hebraic roots for the last two weeks, but before that I already learned much from library and browsing through the internet...

A few days ago I read the articles bout messianic symbol of Jerusalem, I was so excited.. and i want to make a ring out of it for me & my friend, it has the Star of david that being form by menorah stand and fish tail from ichtus..(I considered it is like a message that gentiles and Hebrews are one in the Messiah Kingdom). But then I learn bout a society called Freemason, they are using star of David, then I also realized that many of New Age and Satanic worshippers uses the Star of David. Is kabbala kosher...?? Can you explained it to me.. ?

I need to know cause some of my friend said that there are 2 Kabbala, one is the real from Torah, and the other are false-pseudo Kabbala. Me myself don't know anything about kabbala... But I do want to know where it came from... Cause so much Messianic Judaism movements or believers uses this symbol.. be-

low is the copy of the article about Messianic Seal of Jerusalem..

Please help me akhi Avram, .. I rally want to walk in the truth..

Thank You,

Shalom aleicha

Your lil' brother in Yeshua, Leo

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Avram replies:

Dear Leo,

Shalom: May the Peace and Joy of Yeshua our Messiah surround you today.

Glad that you are walking in Torah and following Yeshua by His Spirit and His Word (the Bible).

As you already have seen, many pagans use he so called Star of David. You can find out more on it, how pagan it is, by reading this article that I wrote:

[The Star of David](#)

As for the Fish symbol, that also is very pagan. Please read another article of mine:

[Jesus the Fish god?](#)

The only thing in the so called Messianic Seal that is not pagan is the Menorah (Lampstand).

I think the things that have been found with these symbols on them are ancient (perhaps 200-300 A.D.), but that they are ancient things that use pagan symbols...just like today, you'll find many Jews and Christians wearing the so called Star of David, thinking them to be something that David or King Solomon used. But this is not true.

The ancient pottery found tells us that many false things were used in Christian worship early on and this is in accord with Church history. Much changed from the days of the Apostles to 200 A.D. Have you ever read the classic on paganism in the Church? It's Alexander Hislop's, The Two Babylons. It's worth reading Leo.

Kabbalah is nothing more the Babylonian mysticism with Jewish clothes on. It is certainly forbidden by Torah, even though many Jews practice it. It is sorcery. For an understanding of why I say this, please read another article of mine:

[Kabbalah](#)

Even within Judaism it is recognized as witchcraft, yet it pervades Judaism. Nothing new under the sun as King Solomon once wrote (Eccl. 1:9).

Avram

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10 Oct 2003

Brother Avram,

I just discovered your article on the beard and really appreciate the hard work and study you have put into it. Also bringing into it the Torah and New Covenant writers to show contrast and balance.

I am a Gentile believer in Yeshua and a Counseling/ Psychology major in a large Christian University. I, too, have to deal with all of the cultural pagan practices people are doing even in Yeshua and the embrac-

ing of the world within the church. I found this article very to be liberating. For it is written " Come out from among them and be ye separate says the LORD and I will receive you". Since I have been in school, the LORD has been teaching me about keeping the Ten Commandments and honoring the Sabbath and keeping it holy. Which you probably know that the church in a lot of sections does not advocate any longer by reason of and imbalanced teaching on grace.

Concerning the article, I agree completely. The HOLY SPIRIT led me along these lines 13 years ago in following YESHUA completely. It was one of the greatest joys of my life to learn about and be apart the ancient heritage of Israel. I remember seeing Orthodox Jews walking on the Sabbath every saturday and longing and praying for the same opportunity to honor and worship Yeshua in this way as well as other ways. Also concerning the portrayals of Yeshua in film, (as many good ones as there are out there) I have always commented that Yeshua's beard is to short and his hair is too long. Which I think doesn't give accurate portrayal of the Jewishness of Yeshua. It is sad that the Christian world has done so much to separate Yeshua from being Jewish and the non-believing Jewish world separating themselves from their promised heritage in Yeshua.

Thank you so much for your article and for being willing to be used as a, " A voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the paths of the LORD".

Very Sincerely,

Richard

Texas USA

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Thank you for this courageous article. Recently, I was motivated to make a banner for a women's group (Aglow International) to which I belong. One of the primary symbols I was going to use was the Star of David.

As I began to research the symbol, I realized that it should not be used in relation to God. Words such as charm, good luck, etc.; caused warning bells in my mind. Consequently, I will not use this symbol.

As a Christian, the cross has always been an emotional issue. Being raised Catholic the cross is the most commonly used symbol of Christianity for the purpose of adornment.

Recently, two-to-three years ago, The Sprit of God has helped me to realize that the cross was absolutely the most humiliating symbol possible to our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. How could I use this ultimate humiliation of my Lord as a piece of adornment? I suppose this is thought to be strange to others, however; my conscience will not allow me to use these symbols either as adornment or for spiritual purposes.

Thank you for the confirmation and inspiration.

May you continue to always walk after the Holy Spirit of GOD.

In Him,

Pamela

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30 Nov. 2003

Shalom:

I just finished your article on the Mogen David, I praise G-d for your bold stand and obedience in this

matter. Through His precepts I get understanding, therefore I hate every false way.

I am not ethnically Jewish, but am a 'grafted in' Gentile through the precious blood of Yeshua. I recently left my position as worship leader at an evangelical church because I felt I could no longer in good conscience continue going along to get along with things such as the pagan holidays, secret rapture belief, and warmongering spirit/inability to separate America from the Kingdom Of God...I left the Assembly Of God where I was leading worship before that because of the merger I perceived taking place with Catholicism through things like watering down of the doctrinal statement, Promise Keepers, ECT statement, etc.

I have been attending Shabbat on Friday evenings at a nearby Messianic Jewish congregation, but today was my first Saturday service. At about the midway point, the large cabinet positioned in the corner of the platform was opened and what I later learned to be scrolls was removed, but at first was rolled up and covered and appeared to be topped with some sort of golden crown. One of the brothers walked the aisles of the sanctuary, children following, and I noticed people kissing the roll, of kissing their hand and touching the roll, or touching it with their Bibles. When he passed by me I did not do it, although I felt awkward, as though I was expected to, but I have made up my mind I will not follow along blindly anymore, unless I can do so with a clear conscience, and as you said in the article about the Mogen David, to be able to 'biblically state to anyone, 'why I do the religious, ceremonial, symbolic things that I do.' Is this more of a "tradition"...do I do a disservice to the Lord by not participating? I love His word and try to honor it by living it out, and hiding it in my heart. I would appreciate your comments on this.

Thank you and stay encouraged..

Trenet

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Avram replies:

Dear Trenet,

Shalom: May His Peace surround you today and His Wisdom lead you into His Ways.

Thank you very much. I agree wholeheartedly with you about getting understanding through God's precepts. And I am very glad that you have left the old church and are charting out new Waters with His Spirit.

Kissing the Ark or the Torah Scroll (five books of Moses), is certainly a tradition in Judaism. I remember when I was young that if you dropped a religious book, you picked it up off the floor and kissed it. Out of respect for the book and its contents. And it didn't necessarily have to be a religious book.

The kissing of the Torah Scroll is supposed to be, and is in many instances, a sign of affection for God's Word. It is a tradition but tradition is not necessarily evil. Only those traditions that nullify the Word of God are evil. There are good traditions though. The Jewish tradition of having four cups of wine for the Passover Meal, is where we get Communion. Nothing in Scripture for the original Passover (Ex. 12), spoke of having wine. But it was there that night for Yeshua to give to His students (disciples; talmidim in Hebrew, students). So we have to discern if the tradition is evil or not. If not, then it can stand. (Not many in the Church realize that half of Communion comes from a Jewish tradition associated with Passover. And that the other half of Communion comes from the Jewish Holy Feast of Passover; the bread should be unleavened (matzah: Ex. 12:8), and I imagine, originally was. Today of course, any bread will suffice but if it's leavened bread, what the person is saying is that Christ's Body was full of sin; 1st Cor. 5:1-8.)

There is nothing in Scripture where God commands the kissing of the scroll and here we get into undefined waters. What I mean by that is that it's obviously not a sin to kiss or to touch, a Torah scroll or a Bible, showing one's affection for God and Torah through it. But is it 'kosher'? How does God view it? I

know from experience that I've seen some people go overboard, going crazy in their fervor (usually non-Messianic Jews in traditional synagogues), in that they are obviously expressing too much 'affection' for it. But perversion of something by a group or a person, does not mean that it's actually bad.

In my early time as shepherd of the Seed of Abraham in Tulsa, OK, we would walk the Scroll around. It was a way of elevating the Word of God in the midst of the community, in a physical way.

The Bible, in many evangelical circles, is highly regarded, as it should be, as God's Word. Walking the Scroll around, the precursor to the Bible, I think is just an expression of this esteem. It's a way of thanking God for His Word.

The kissing aspect relates to how we as human beings, show emotion to those we love. As with any tradition it can get perverted but again, where is the tradition in God's eyes?, and who is doing it?

There are many things in Judaism, and unfortunately in Messianic Judaism, as much of the time, Messianic Jews, in wanting 'to be Jewish' and be seen as Jewish by their non-Messianic brethren, have taken whole chunks of tradition and walked in it themselves. This is one of them. It's hard for me to put my finger on any pagan or perverse origins of this practice. But there are some, like the wearing of the kipa/yarmulka (traditional head covering), that is very pagan. Or studying or taking things from Kabbalah, or some/much of rabbinic teaching (which is often anti-Messiah and filled with Kabbalah. For more on these please see my articles:

[The Kipa](#)

[Kabbalah](#)

[Jewish Idolatry](#)

As for the kissing of the Scroll/Word of God, I think the best thing for you would be to just let the Spirit of Yeshua lead you in this matter.

And if you have any other concerns/questions, etc., please feel free to let me know,

Avram

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1 Dec 2003

I am so grateful to have been sent your email - which began with the explanation of the Star of David. It broke my heart. But I think we will take down the flag in our Congregation Meeting room; do you suppose a new flag, say with the Lion of Judah might be forthcoming some day? Or at least a new flag of some kind? Your balance and sense of integrity in your writings blesses me!

Shalom,

Carol D.

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Avram replies:

Thank you, Carol.

When we learn the Truth, His Truth, it may very well break our hearts. I know mine was struck when I first learned the truth about the Star of David. I couldn't believe it but I knew it was true. Out went many things with the star on it, to the trash. I couldn't, in godly conscience, have them when I was supposed to be an example, a living example, of His Truth. Truth and deception are not good partners. And when found out, one has to go.

Good for you! To take down the flag of the Star in your congregational meeting room. We used to have a beautiful flag of Israel, many years ago, before I learned of the Star but when I learned of it, it had to go to.

There are flags with the Lion of Judah on it. They are flags of Jerusalem. It's the city's emblem and it's beautiful. With the Wailing/Western Wall of the Temple Mount in the background.

Thank you again for your email. It tells me that you desire Yeshua more than the traditions of men that nullify Who He is.

May His Glory Shine forth from you,

Avram

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4 Dec 2003

Dear Avram,

I have benefited much from some of your articles. I have printed them out and shared them with people who wanted the truth on such issues as the "Star of David" and the "Kipa".

I have been studying about the Talmud. I have read your article concerning the Talmud. It is very good, but one thing troubles me, you stated "as helpful as it might be on some occasions and as destructive as it might be on others, it is not divinely authoritative", now the thing that bothers me is that you said it could be helpful on some occasions. I do not agree, the Talmud should never be considered helpful, not on any occasion. Have you studied about this book, in depth?

It states the most blasphemous things about our Saviour and Redeemer, Yeshua. It really does "make void the laws of God". It is full of perversion, racism and demonology. I have been studying this topic for a month, along with several friends. We have done much research and my conclusion is, anyone that proclaims they follow Yeshua, our Messiah, should not have anything to do with the anti-Christ, wicked, perverse, evil writings contained in the Talmud.

I like your article, you bring forth much truth about the Talmud, but I would hope you would take a deeper look into this subject and perhaps would retract your statement in the last paragraph of the article. This statement infers that at times the Talmud might be helpful. I must disagree in love. IT is truly a book that no believer should ever refer to. You are right, it is not divinely authoritative, it is inspired by Satan himself. My heart goes out to all of the Jewish people who are held in bondage to the Talmudic teachings of the rabbis, who exalt the Talmud above the Torah, and also to the "Messianics" who listen to Messianic teachers quote the Talmud, like it is just a "historical book" or a Biblical commentary. (It actually makes null and void the Laws of YAH.) When in reality, if they studied, and knew what was contained in it, they would be sickened. I think that some who quote the Talmud, are probably just quoting someone else's statements, and they, personally don't really know much about the perverse, racism, and sexual depravity contained within it's pages.

Avram, my point is, I think you wrote a fine article. I want to print it out and share it with others because of all the truth you bring forth, but..... the statement in the last paragraph saying "as helpful as it might be on some occasions"..... I just cannot agree with that ... any book that says such things, especially about our Messiah Yeshua, could never be helpful.

I truly hope I have not offended you. I am about to read your article on the Virgin Birth, I have glanced over it, but want to read it slowly. I am very glad you have written this because there are many "Messianics" denying the Virgin Birth and the deity of our Messiah Yeshua. I really do appreciate your labors, and

your work is a blessing to me and those I share it with.

With love in our Messiah,

Janet G. , Your Sister in Yeshua

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Avram replies:

Dear Janet,

Shalom: May His Peace surround you today and His Hand be upon you to lead you into all His Truth.

Thank you Janet. I appreciate your desire for God's Truth and also to bring to my attention a possible need for correction. Before I get into that though, I like to say that I hope you find the Virgin Birth helpful. I know that a number of believers, Jews and Gentiles, have been deceived into questioning and denying the miraculous conception of Yeshua in Miryam's womb. That's too bad for them.

As for your critique of the Talmud, it is not a book per se but many volumes (approximately 35 by Soncino in English), with about two and a half million words covering Jewish law and superstition and most everything in-between) written by many different people over 500 years or more. And that's a major point. It's not written by one or two authors with a particular viewpoint on demons or Yeshua or perversion, etc. It's more like a gigantic commentary with both good and evil.

On the one hand you say that you've been studying it for about a month now but on the other you say that one shouldn't read it. So I imagine that you're studying 'about' it, from a writing that has a particular slant against it (for it's perverse writing on Yeshua, etc.). But here, all you're getting is the evil. With just that understanding, I too would be against the reading or use of it.

The few things written about Yeshua (which they call Yeshua; an acronym for: May His Name be Blotted Out), however evil and gross they are, and some of them are really gross, only occupy an extremely tiny space compared to the entire work.

What I meant by the Talmud being helpful has to do with its recording of things like the Temple rites and rituals which cast tremendous light on some of the sayings and meanings of Yeshua (like His call to those who thirst (Jn. 7:37ff), at the water drawing ceremony for Sukote: Feast of Tabernacles, with all it's implications of Messiah and what Messiah would give Israel: Living Waters).

You wrote about the Talmud that, 'It actually makes null and void the Laws of YAH', but are you suggesting that all the laws of Yahveh are made void by the Talmud? And if not, which ones? If making void a law of Yahveh was a criteria for not reading something, most Christian literature couldn't be read as it either states or implies that the Law of Moses is done away with.

I'm currently reading a book about a tremendous man of God called John G. Lake. I am in awe of the incredible things that the Holy Spirit did through this man. But when it comes to his theology on say, the Sabbath or the Torah, he was as much in the dark as most any Christian in his time (he died in 1935). The reason I brought this up is to say that when it comes to things I know that aren't true, like Lake's understanding of the Sabbath, I realize that, as powerful as he was in the Spirit, he didn't have any Light on the subject of God's true Sabbath. But I glean what I can from him. The same is true of the Talmud. There are some beautiful things in it and some very gross things in it (that have absolutely nothing to do with Yeshua), and some things that are run of the mill. I don't study it per se but find it extremely useful in presenting Messiah Yeshua to those in the Jewish community that hold it in some esteem. The ancient Rabbis before Yeshua had some keen insight about a Messiah dying for their sins (Sanhedrin 98a/b), which they called Messiah the Son of Joseph, out of understanding Is. 53 and the Suffering Servant of

Yahveh being rejected by Israel (Is. 53:4-5). You might want to read the latest Jewish Newsletters (# 28 & #29) and see all the good things that the Talmud had to say about Messiah, and how perfect it fits Yeshua.

Now, if the Talmud was all superstition, like Kabbalah, that's another story. I know that there are too many ignorant Jewish leaders and people in the Messianic community that are teaching and using Kabbalah and not realizing it's Babylonian witchcraft in Jewish clothes.

I'm also not in favor of studying Talmud per se, but it's nice to know certain passages that are helpful to us, whether for understanding more about Yeshua or being able to present him from an ancient rabbinic point of view, or just to know how the procedure for the morning sacrifice went about (as in A. Ederheim's, *The Temple and it's Ministry*, where there are a number of Talmudic cites noted), etc.

Again, I thank you and note your concern. I hope you can understand my position.

Avram