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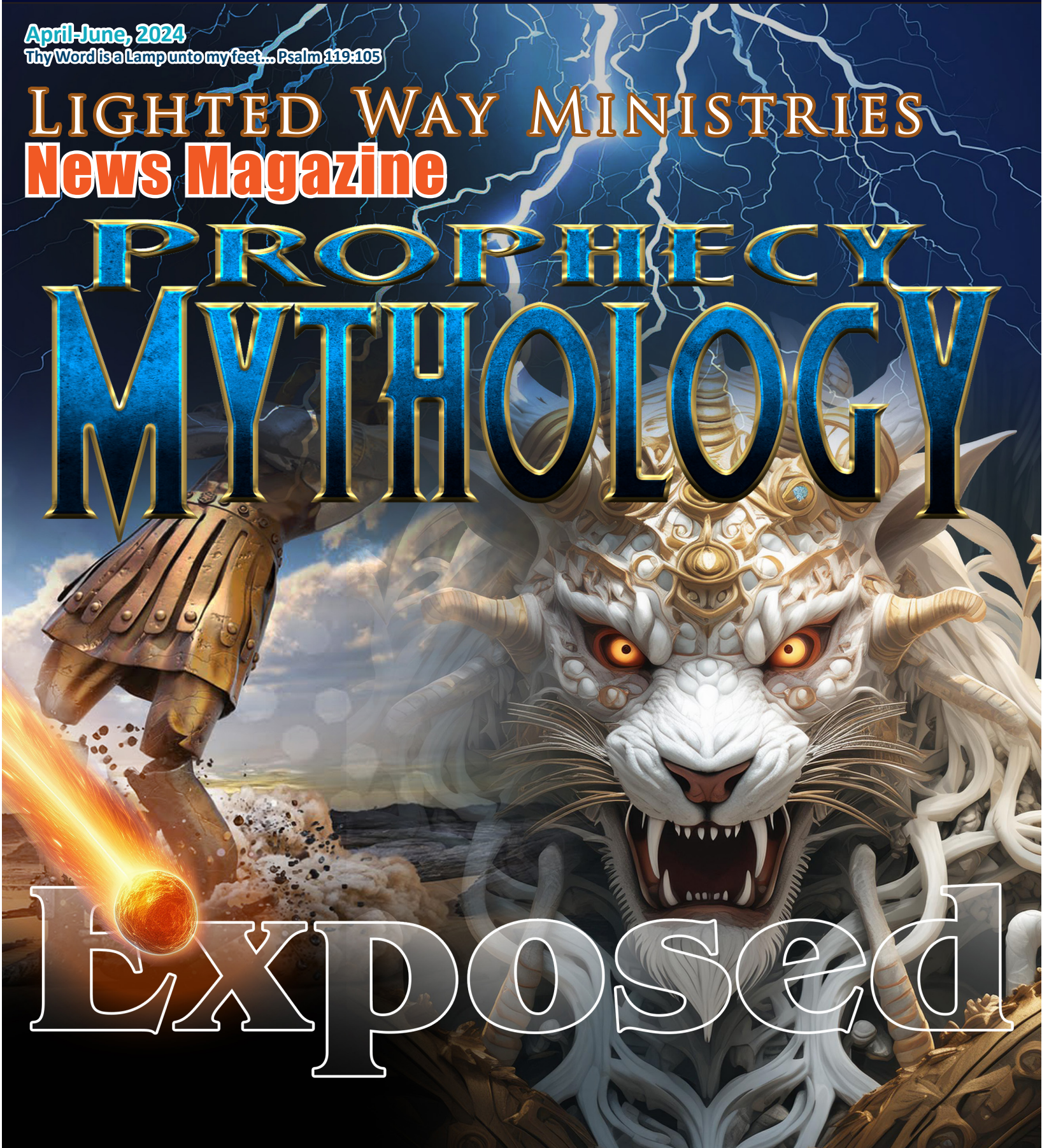
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April-June, 2024
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LIGHTED WAY MINISTRIES News Magazine

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY

Exposed!





Lighted Way Ministries News Magazine
April-June, 2024

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The Lighted Way News Magazine



PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY EXPOSED...

BEWARE OF THE 6 CATEGORIES OF BIAS —
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Lighted Way Ministries News Magazine (April-June, 2024 Issue)

Lighted Way Ministries
 Writers: Mark and Shauna Manfredine
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This news magazine is prayerfully designed to encourage you in a deeper walk with *Yahweh*. The articles focus on studies of the Word, Bible prophecy, current events, and ministry reports.



PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY

Personal Myths Cause Prophecy to be Missed!

Mythology is a collection of stories or accounts, held by a culture or religion, which typically contain elements of fact mingled with the stories and teachings of false gods. Mythology contains stories of real, historical events and people, mixed with fantastical and idolatrous tales of “the gods”. Scripture tells us not to mix the “sacred” with the “profane” or mingle truth with deception. Thus, most believers know to avoid the realm of mythology.

Bible-based believers commonly understand that spending time in the myths of the idolatrous nations is counter-productive—even sinful. But it might shock us to discover that most of us have fallen a prey to sneaking myths, which have crept in the proverbial “back door”, coming in under our spiritual radar! These myths typically manifest in our understanding of Bible prophecy...

Prophecy Mythology, which besets believers unawares—like all mythology—mingles Truth with error. This kind of mythology has biased believers in every past prophetic fulfillment.

*Prophecy Mythology blinded the Jews of **Yahshua’s** Day... Does it blind us now?*

Prophecy MYTHOLOGY Exposed...

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 —“*Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*”

Of all Greek mythology, Homer’s famous *Iliad*, is likely the best known. It contains the story of the city of Troy and the infamous Trojan War. But like all myths, the stories of Troy contain real historical elements, mixed with fantastical stories of the idolatrous Greek gods. From 1750-1300 B.C., the city of Troy really *did* exist.

“Troy in the Late Bronze Age was a thriving coastal city consisting of a steep fortified citadel and a sprawling lower town below it. It had a considerable population and extensive foreign contacts, including with Mycenaean Greece. Geographic and linguistic evidence suggests that it corresponds to the city of Wilusa known from Hittite texts...”

Bryce, Trevor (2005). *The Trojans and their Neighbours*. Taylor & Francis. p. 59.

In fact, archaeology has found that the late Bronze Age city of Troy was located in present-day Hisarlik, Turkey. But while Troy has been proven to have actually existed, Homer’s *Iliad* account of the Trojan War is not a trustworthy representation of actual events. Homer’s story is well known to be a myth, mingling truth with error, fact with fiction, historical elements with fantastical tales of the pagan gods.

Predating the mythical tales of Greece, and perhaps the original mythological story, is the Babylonian tale of Gilgamesh. But Gilgamesh, king of the ancient realm of Uruk, wasn’t a god as the epic tales suggest. Rather, he was a very



Walls of the late Bronze Age city of Troy, located near present-day Marmara, Turkey

wicked man, historically known as Sargon I, or the Biblical Nimrod. Just like the mythology of ancient Greece, the *Epic of Gilgamesh* mingles truth with deception, historical facts with idolatrous fiction. Such a mixing is characteristic of mythology. In fact by definition, mythology is a collection of accounts held by a culture or religion, which contain historical elements, mixed with fantastical tales of the pagan “gods”.

According to *Torah*, this mixing of truth with error is a spiritual form of “mingled seed” (Leviticus 19:19). For this reason, *Yahweh’s* people have long known to avoid the realm of mythology. For centuries, believers have conscientiously rejected pagan mythology, keeping it out of their homes, from the “front door” of pagan cultures’ mythological tales. But while guarding against idolatrous mythology, another form of myths have crept in undetected. This form of mythology manifests in one’s understanding of Bible Prophecy. In Messiah’s Day, it caused the Jews to misconstrue Messiah, blinding them from recognizing Him even when He stood before them!

(continued on page 6...)

Mythology Mingles Fact with Fiction...



Mythology includes details which are provable, historical facts... But, mythology cannot be trusted to be an accurate representation of historical facts because it also contains the idolatrous teachings and beliefs of pagan cultures. Thus, while parts of a mythical tale are true, the reader may find it difficult to discern truth from the false doctrines and ideologies which it also contains.

Thus, in mythology, the reader is left to determine what parts of the tale should be believed and what shouldn’t. Of course, this places the reader in the role of being the “interpreter of truth”. But, no one can safely catch every lie and reliably pick out the course of truth by simply relying on one’s own understanding. In fact, mixing true with false, fact with fiction, good with evil, is a wicked practice which goes all the way back to the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God’s people are not to partake of this mingling:

“...Put difference between holy and unholy, and between clean and unclean.” Leviticus 10:10

“Her priests have violated My Law, and have profaned Mine holy things. They have put no difference between the holy and profane...” Ezekiel 22:26

(continued from page 5) ...In fact, one of the biggest reasons the Jews missed Messiah, when He stood right in front of them, is that they had inserted their own biases into their interpretation of the Messianic prophecies. Having personal biases about what a prophecy means, and how it should look when it is fulfilled, often happens without our awareness of it. Such biases, when strongly held, become areas of Prophecy Mythology: **Prophecy Mythology is interpreting Bible Prophecy according to our own biases, and expecting the fulfillment of these prophecies to look just as we believe it must.**

In **Yahshua's** first Advent, the rabbis and Jewish leaders had full access to the Messianic Bible prophecies. They prided themselves in studying them. Naturally, they firmly believed that they fully understood the details of these prophecies, so that when Messiah appeared, they would surely recognize Him. For when He came, they thought Messiah would perform all their expected details. But, He came—and He didn't!

Of course **Yahshua** fulfilled all the Bible prophecies of Messiah, for He truly *is* Messiah. But, when the Messianic prophecies were being fulfilled before the eyes of the Jews, His teachings and work often came into direct opposition to their expectations. In fact, their biases were demonstrations of Prophecy Mythology. But, instead of recognizing Messiah for Who He was, they clung to their precious mythology and rejected **Yahshua**. Great is the blindness which comes with Prophecy Mythology!

So what did the Jews expect, in their

biased interpretation of the Bible prophecies?

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 1: FOCUSING ON THE NATION OF ISRAEL—The Jews expected Messiah to Reign on the Throne of David—Breaking Israel's Subservience to Rome.

As is true with all mythology, this belief was a mingling of truth with error. "Messiah" means "anointed One" in Hebrew, which is called "Christ" in Greek. When Israel's kings became idolatrous, Israel was punished with captivity, exile and subservience to the earthly kingdoms of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. But the Prophets had foretold that Messiah would overthrow all lesser kingdoms and would rule on the Throne of David.

"Of the increase of His Government and of peace there will be no end, on the Throne of David and over His Kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore."

Isaiah 9:7

The Rabbis held the bias that Messiah would fulfill this prophecy by defeating Rome and establishing an earthly Kingdom at His first coming. Thus, when the true Messiah came His fulfillment of this prophecy looked different than the Jews expected. **Yahshua's** first coming was to build the Kingdom, which was not of this world. Bringing people to Salvation **was/is** the Spiritual building of His Kingdom. **Yahshua** did fulfill the Messianic prophecies, He just fulfilled them in ways which didn't suit the Jews' expectations.

For example, **Yahshua** was descended from David. He performed signs that the prophets said would demonstrate

His Messiahship, like giving sight to the blind, healing the lame and riding on a donkey colt in His Triumphal Entry (*Isaiah 35:5-6; Matthew 11:4-5; Luke 5:24; Luke 18:42; Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4-9*).

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 2: MISUNDERSTANDING PROPHETIC DETAILS—The Pharisees had claimed divine powers of prophetic interpretation and taught that Moses and Messiah, as foretold in Deuteronomy, would be two different individuals.

The Pharisees and religious leaders of Judaism had studied the Bible prophecies regarding Messiah. Moses, in Deuteronomy 18, foretold that a Prophet, like himself (*Moses*), would be raised up (*in the time of Messiah*).

"Yahweh your Elohim will raise up for you a Prophet like me (*Moses was writing of himself*) **from among you, from your brothers—it is to Him you shall listen... And Yahweh said to me, 'I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My Words in His Mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.** And whosoever will not listen to My Words that He shall speak in My Name, I Myself will require it of him."

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

But while the Pharisees were looking for a separate prophet, who would be like Moses, **Yahshua** gave many signs and even direct testimony of Himself, that He *was* the Prophet, like Moses, in fulfillment of Deuteronomy 18:15-19. Plainly identifying Himself, **Yahshua** testified:

"For I did not speak on my own, but the Father Who sent Me commanded Me to say all that I have spoken."

John 12:49

(continued on page 8...)



**Prophecy Myth:
They Expected Messiah to Set
up an Earthly Kingdom at His
First Advent**

Yahshua spent His Ministry setting up the Kingdom, but His Kingdom was not of this world (John 18:36). *Yahshua* worked to dispell this Prophecy Mythology by telling them the prophecies were being fulfilled before their very eyes. The fulfillment just looked different than they had expected:

“Being asked by the Pharisees when the Kingdom of God would come, He answered them, “The Kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed... for behold, the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you.” Luke 17:20-21

***Yahshua's* Second Coming
will be more like what the
Jews expected in His
First Advent...**

**Prophecy Myth:
They Expected Moses and
Elijah to Prepare the Way for
Messiah**

In Deuteronomy 18:15-19, the Prophecy of Messiah foretold that a prophet like Moses would come. Malachi 4:5-6 gave the prophecy that Elijah would come. The people were filled with confusion about whether *Yahshua* was an imposter, “the Prophet” (Moses or Elijah) or Messiah as is recorded in John 7:40-41.

**The Messianic forerunners of
Moses and Elijah *did* come to
prepare the way. But the
Jews expected literal Moses
and Elijah - and these prophecies
were fulfilled in a spiritual
way (*John the Baptist was the
Elijah - Matthew 17:10-12*)**

Moses and Elijah did come in a literal way, at the Mount of Transfiguration... But only 3 people saw it!

***Yahshua* came as
the suffering Servant,
when they expected
the conquering King**

Yahshua gave many signs that He was the fulfillment of Deuteronomy 18. Moses turned water to blood, *Yahshua* turned water to wine. Like Moses, *Yahshua* commanded the sea and it obeyed. Through Moses, Israel ate Manna. *Yahshua* fed the 5000 with miracle food.

***Yahshua* rejected the
Talmud and teachings
of the Pharisees...**

**Why the Jews
Rejected Messiah**

***Yahshua* was humble and
lowly, when they
expected someone who
appealed to Jewish pride.**

(continued from page 6)

...For miraculous signs of His prophetic identity, **Yahshua** turned water to wine, like Moses turned water to blood. In another sign of His Deuteronomy 18 fulfillment, Like Moses, **Yahshua** commanded the sea and it obeyed. With Moses, the people ate manna that miraculously appeared in the wilderness; with **Yahshua**, the people ate bread and fish that miraculously multiplied in the wilderness.

But in spite of the miraculous signs and His own testimony that **Yahshua** was the foretold Prophet and the Messiah, the Jewish leaders largely refused to accept that their prophetic interpretation had been wrong. When the fulfillment looked different than the teachings of the Pharisees, they refused to humble themselves and accept it.

Such is the danger of Prophecy Mythology!

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 3: REJECTING SPIRITUAL FULFILLMENT—The Jews misunderstood Malachi 4, and expected literal Elijah to serve as the forerunner.

The prophet Malachi had written that Elijah would serve as the forerunner to prepare the Way of Messiah at His appearing.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of Yahweh: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”

Malachi 4:5-6

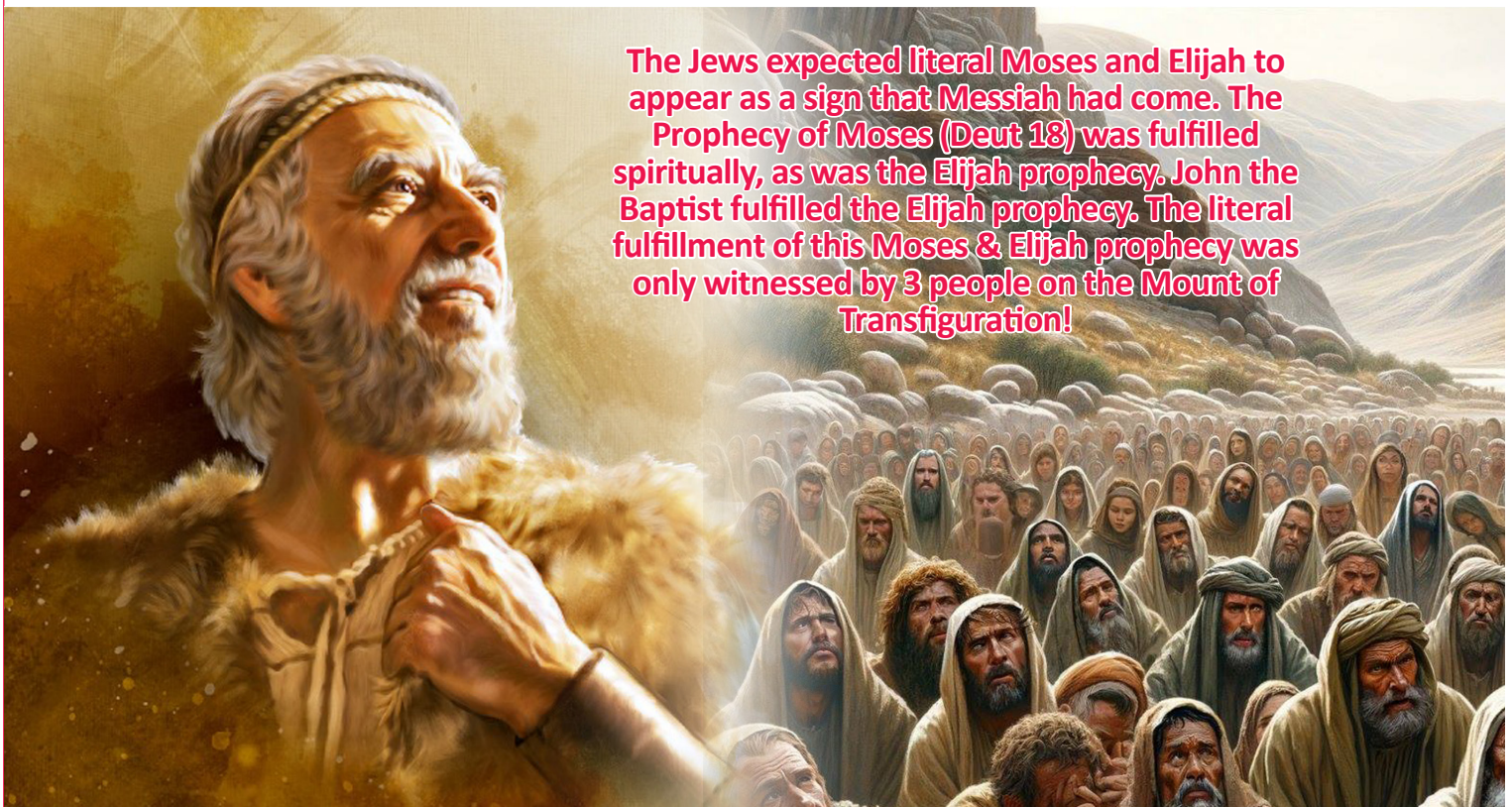
The Jews had interpreted this prophecy to mean that literal Elijah would appear and begin teaching in the land of Judea, as the forerunner of Messiah. But, when this prophecy was fulfilled, literal Elijah did not appear. Malachi 4:5 was fulfilled in a

spiritual way before the eyes of the people, through John the Baptist.

The disciples revealed that this belief in literal Elijah was one of their own areas of Prophecy Mythology, by their question to **Yahshua** regarding Elijah. In fact, in their coming to believe that **Yahshua** was the Messiah, one of the disciples’ biggest tripping points was their bias regarding the Elijah prophecy.

“And His disciples asked Him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias (Greek for Elijah) must first come? And Yahshua answered and said unto them, Elias (Elijah) truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that He spake unto them of John the Baptist.”

Matthew 17:10-13



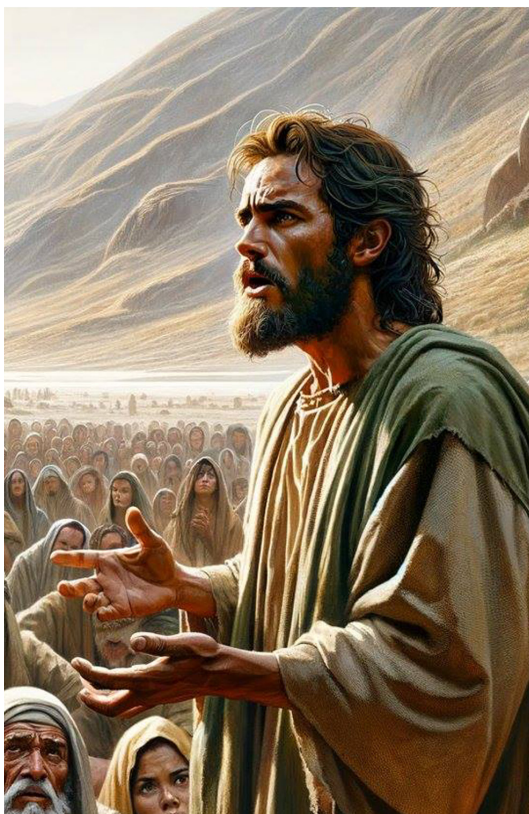
The Jews expected literal Moses and Elijah to appear as a sign that Messiah had come. The Prophecy of Moses (Deut 18) was fulfilled spiritually, as was the Elijah prophecy. John the Baptist fulfilled the Elijah prophecy. The literal fulfillment of this Moses & Elijah prophecy was only witnessed by 3 people on the Mount of Transfiguration!

It is comforting and beautiful to see how gently the Saviour dealt with areas of Prophecy Mythology, so long as they weren't held in pride. The reality is that *everyone* has them—even the sincerest of believers, like the disciples!

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 4: SEEING IS FULFILLING—The Jewish leaders expected to see every aspect of prophetic fulfillment. If they didn't see it, they believed that it couldn't be counted as a prophetic fulfillment.

Regarding the Deuteronomy 18 and Malachi 4 prophecies of Moses and Elijah appearing to prepare the Way for Messiah, both Moses and Elijah appeared with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration. But their appearance, in literal fulfillment of the Deuteronomy and Malachi prophecies was not believed, or counted, because it was an unknown event.

*“And after six days **Yahshua** taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high*



mountain apart, and was transfigured before them: and His Face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light. **And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias** (*Elijah*) talking with Him... And as they came down from the mountain, **Yahshua charged them, saying, ‘Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.’** Matthew 17:1-9

Only three of the disciples witnessed the appearance of Moses and Elijah. And, at **Yahshua's** instruction, no one else was told that Moses and Elijah had indeed appeared on earth, until after Messiah was resurrected. But did the fact that almost no one knew of the literal prophetic fulfillment of Deuteronomy 18 and Malachi 4 negate these prophecies' fulfillment? Of course not! Clearly, just because a detail of prophetic fulfillment may not be commonly known, doesn't mean it hasn't been fulfilled!

But, again, while the literal fulfillment of these prophecies was not commonly known, the spiritual fulfillment was plainly shown before everyone. Certainly, even though the Messianic fulfillment looked different than they thought, the prophetic details were profoundly manifested, albeit in unexpected ways.

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 5: EXALTING JUDAISM—The Jews expected Messiah to be Supportive and Submissive to the Edicts and Pride of the Rabbis.

The Rabbis and Jewish leaders looked for Messiah to be a warrior-king, who would defeat the Roman rule, but who would also be submissive to them in spiritual matters. The Pharisees had a set of rules—known as the **Talmud**—which trumped the **Torah**, according to their teachings. This teaching of the Pharisees is written in the Jewish **Talmud**, which states:

“Be careful concerning

Rabbinical enactments even more than the **Torah**. Because... anyone who violates a Rabbinical enactment is worthy of death.”

Talmud, Eiruvim 21b, Translated by Adin Even-Israel (Steinsaltz) Published by Steinsaltz Center

Never, in all Scripture, was the authority of Israel's leadership to include making new laws, or taking away any Laws of the **Torah**. The **Torah**, given by **Yahweh**, was complete. In fact, adding or deleting from it is a sin (*which is defined as being transgression of the Law—1 John 3:4*):

“You shall not add unto the matter which I command you today nor shall you diminish aught from it.” Deuteronomy 4:2

According to **Yahshua**, the “traditions of the elders” made the “Commandment of **Yahweh**” of “none effect” (*Isaiah 29:13*). Thus, **Yahshua** notably resisted the **Talmud** and sinful added laws of the Pharisees. He did this both in His bold teachings as well as in the way He performed many of His miracles. For example, when **Yahshua** multiplied the loaves and fishes and fed the multitude, the people sat down to eat the miracle food, without completing the ceremonial hand-washing. This infraction against the Pharisees' teachings did not go unnoticed by them—especially since it happened in the context of a front-page-news-worthy, miraculous event:

*“Then came to **Yahshua** scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Why do Thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?...”*

(continued on page 10...)

(continued from page 9) ...For they wash not their hands when they eat bread.' But He answered and said unto them, 'Why do ye also transgress the Commandment of God by your tradition?' "

Matthew 15:1-3

Yahshua turned the water to wine at a Pharisee wedding. Not coincidentally, the water to wine miracle took place in the Pharisaical water purification pots. According to the teachings of the Rabbis, wine was not permitted to be in a water-purification pot. Of course, no such teaching appears in **Torah** and adding such a "law" to Israel's divine injunctions was a sin. This point is one which **Yahshua** profoundly demonstrated in this miracle, and repeatedly emphasized throughout the miracles He performed.

Instead of supporting the Pharisees and Jewish religious leaders, **Yahshua** openly rebuked and upbraided them—repeatedly. Thus, to the prideful Pharisees and religious leaders, **Yahshua** was far from the submissive and supportive Messiah they envisioned. Because of their pride, they only saw Him as an inconvenient opposition—who was even a danger to them—threatening their power and position over the people. Their pride in their Prophecy Mythology, their power and their position, meant more to them than the Truth.

"So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, 'What are we to do? For this man performs many signs (that He was Messiah). If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation'."

John 11:47-48

Soberingly, because of their blind perspective, they could not see (*would not see*) Messiah, even though He stood right before them and was fulfilling the Messianic prophecies which they had long studied and taught.

PROPHECY MYTHOLOGY POINT 6: INVERTING THE TIMELINE—The Jews expected Messiah to be the conquering King—not the suffering servant—at His First Advent.

Another aspect of the Jews' Prophecy Mythology was a misplacement of events on the prophetic timeline. They expected a conquering King, at His first Advent. **Yahshua** will not come as a conquering King until the Second Advent. Thus, the Jews had unknowingly inverted the prophetic timeline.

He came the first time, as a suffering Servant, and is coming the second time as the conquering King. Isaiah prophesied about a righteous, suffering Servant. But no one thought the Messiah and the suffering Servant could be the same person. Why? Because the Messiah was supposed to rule forever, while the suffering Servant had to die, as Isaiah plainly stated in the Messianic prophecy found in Isaiah chapter 53:

"And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His Mouth."

Isaiah 53:9

See the problem with Prophecy Mythology? The Jews didn't see how the Messiah, whom they thought would save Israel from Rome and establish an everlasting kingdom, could also be Isaiah's suffering Servant, who would die.

The disciples had bought into this detail of Prophecy Mythology, also. This is why, when **Yahshua** told them that He would suffer, be killed, and on the third day be raised, Peter rebuked Him and said this would never happen (*Matthew 16:21-22*).

This point of Prophecy Mythology also pervaded the masses in His day, which is why, when **Yahshua** told the crowd He would be lifted up from the earth, they surmised that He was speaking of death and replied:

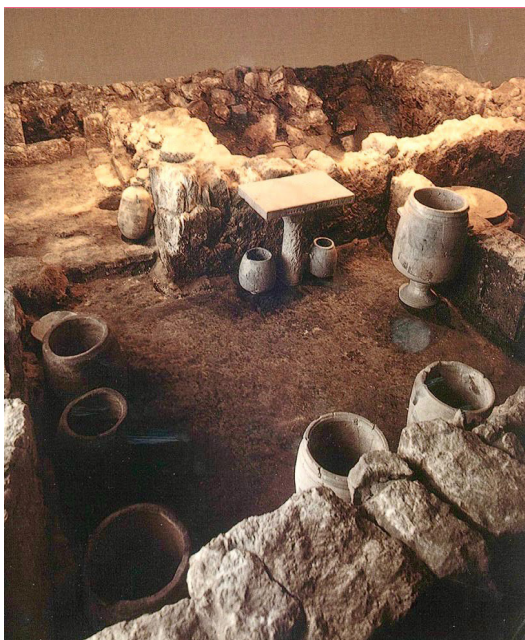
"We have heard from the Law that the Christ (Messiah) remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up (in death)?"

John 12:34

Isaiah gave clues that the suffering Servant was the Messiah. In fact this faithful prophet repeatedly foretold that Messiah would be the righteous, suffering Servant (*see Isaiah 42:1-9; 49:1-12; 50:4-9; and 52:13-53:12*). These prophecies clearly connect Messiah with the suffering Servant, for both would:

- be anointed by the Spirit of **Yahweh** (*Isaiah 11:2; 42:1*)
- bring justice (*Isaiah 9:7; 42:1; Jeremiah 23:5*)
- be righteous (*Isaiah 42:6; 53:11; Jeremiah 23:5*)
- make others righteous (*Isaiah 53:11; 61:3; Jeremiah 33:15-16*)
- bring peace (*Isaiah 9:6-7; 53:5; Ezekiel 34:24-25*)
- bring Israel back to **Yahweh** (*Isaiah 49:5; Jeremiah 23:3-5*)
- be part of a new Covenant (*Isaiah 42:6; Ezekiel 34:24-25*)

Yahshua fulfilled the prophecies about the suffering Servant. The Gospel record plainly tells us that He was crucified with the wicked and buried in a rich man's tomb, undeniably



Large, stone pots, such as would have been used in **Yahshua's** miracle of turning water to wine

fulfilling the prophecies of the suffering Servant (*Isaiah 53:8-9 cf. Luke 23:32-33,50-53*). But the next two verses of the prophecy reveal something remarkable. The Messianic prophecy doesn't end with His suffering:

“Yet it was the Will of *Yahweh* to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His Soul makes an Offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the Will of *Yahweh* shall prosper in His Hand. Out of the anguish of His Soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the righteous One, My Servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:10-11

The prophet Isaiah foretold that though the Servant, Messiah died, He would prolong His days! in other words, the prophecy also contained the assurance that the suffering Servant would come back to life, which is exactly what **Yahshua** did! Because **Yahshua** conquered Death as the suffering Servant, He reigns as Messiah forever and has earned the legal right to come again as the conquering King!

As we have seen, there are six main categories of Prophecy Mythology, which are, as follows:

- **#1—Focusing prophecy on the literal nation of Israel—prophecy is actually focused on Spiritual Israel, who are the true Seed of Abraham.**
- **#2—Misunderstanding prophetic details—even with thorough Bible study, the actual fulfillment of a prophecy will always look different than we had thought, at least in some of the details.**
- **#3—Rejecting a Spiritual Fulfillment of a prophecy—*Yahweh* is Spirit, and those who worship Him, must do so in Spirit and in Truth. Spiritual realities are the focus of Heaven and prophecy.**
- **#4—Seeing is fulfilling—Common knowledge and wide publication is not required for a prophetic fulfillment to take place** (*consider how many people knew of Yahshua's Birth or of the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration—both of which were huge prophetic fulfillments, yet were revealed to a very small group of people.*)
- **#5—Exalting Judaism—*Yahshua* Himself did not endorse the man-made aspects of Judaism with its *Talmud*. *Yahshua* upheld the Old Path of *Torah*-based doctrine, followed by Abraham and Moses.**
- **#6—Inverting the Timelines—*We must take care not to misapply prophetic details out of order in the prophetic timeline. To aid us in the correct placement of prophetic details, we should study with the five keys that correctly unlock Bible Prophecy, which are:***
 - The *TORAH*** (*Isaiah 8:20*)
 - The *PROPHETS*** (*2 Peter 1:20*)
 - The *FEASTS*** (*Leviticus 23*)
 - The *MAZZAROTH*** (*Job 38:32 & Genesis 1:14*)
 - The *SABBATICALS & JUBILEES***

How pervasive a problem is Prophecy Mythology? In this examination of the Messiah's fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies, we find that in nearly every way, **Yahshua** appeared radically different than the expected beliefs of the Jews' Prophecy Mythology!

Notably also, it wasn't only the Jewish leaders, who had to grapple with their Prophecy Mythology in order to accept **Yahshua as Messiah**. The expectation that Messiah would establish an earthly kingdom was pervasive among the common people as well. Even the disciples expected **Yahshua** to set up an earthly kingdom exalting the literal nation of Israel, which was a viewpoint they expressed when they asked Him, “Master, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (*Acts 1:6*).

As is recorded in John chapter seven, the vast majority of sincere and well-meaning Jewish people wrestled with the six areas of Prophecy Mythology. And how they handled their own mythology, when it became exposed in light of Messiah's Presence, determined whether they accepted or rejected Messiah.

“Some of the people said, ‘This really is the Prophet.’ Others said, ‘This is the Christ’ (*Messiah*).” John 7:40-41

Aspects of Prophecy Mythology even troubled John the Baptist, who **Yahshua** called the “greatest” of the prophets (*Matthew 11:11*)! In prison just before he was beheaded, faithful John found himself struggling with his misconceptions and previously held beliefs about what Messiah would do when He appeared.

(continued on page 12...)

(continued from page 11) ...Because the details of **Yahshua's** fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies was different than even he had expected, John actually asked **Yahshua**, "are you the Christ (*Messiah*), or should we look for another?" (*Matthew 11:2-3*).

Clearly, Prophecy Mythology is a pervasive problem which manifests in sincere believers and prideful hypocrits alike! It tends to show up in strongly-held beliefs which we have formed based upon our interpretation of actual Bible prophecies. But even though one's beliefs are based upon the Bible prophecies, our understanding of all the **details** of what will happen when they are fulfilled, may prove wrong more often than not.

We can do our due diligence with proper Bible study and with searching things out using the five keys (page 11). This is exactly what we all must do, following the godly example of the Bereans and the injunction of Paul:

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of Truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

But we need to handle our understanding of the prophecies in a humble manner. Proper Bible study is vital, but its purpose is not to make a full list of strongly held details, which we will not adjust, even with the fulfillment staring us in the face. The fruit of proper study isn't a complete list of prophetic details all nailed down in every nuance centuries before the fulfillment plays out.

Through humble prayer, proper Bible study and the Heaven-prescribed use of the five keys, we may not now understand every detail correctly, but when the fulfillment is happening before our



eyes, we'll recognize it as clearly as the Babylonian Wisemen who came to find and worship Messiah at His Birth. And, like the disciples did, we'll then adjust the areas of detail of our former beliefs to align with the actual prophetic events.

To demonstrate this, consider the recent COVID-19 "vaccine" mandates and the related events of 2020. Many conservative believers in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, held a long-established belief that the Mark of the Beast was the national Sunday Law. This teaching, found in the writings of Ellen G. White, was further stressed in SDA literature, such as the 1983 book by A. Jan Marcussen, titled: **National Sunday Law**.

When the COVID-19 "vaccines" were released, those who had studied the prophecies on the Mark of the Beast quickly noted how this "vaccine" and its mandates fit every Bible prophecy on this topic. For example, the mRNA aspect of the "vaccines" altered the 10-5-6-5 gapping sequence in the DNA of the "vaccinated". 10-5-6-5 is Y-H-W-H (**Yahweh**). Thus, the Creator's Name was being effectively erased from the human genome. This fit the prophecy of the Beast's Mark (Revelation 13:17), giving those injected the DNA markings from man, instead of the Creator.

The next prophecy regarding the Mark of the Beast, which quickly manifested in the COVID-19 "vaccines", was the mandate (Revelation 13:16-17). Under

the guise of conscientious healthcare, people all around the world were pressured—even forced—to take the injections. Stores and public facilities barred the unvaccinated and employment venues fired employees who resisted "the jab". Retirement centers cast out the elderly who would not get the mandated prick. And travel opportunities and borders were closed to all "unvaccinated" dissidents.

Thus, even though the specific details were quite a bit different than we had long-expected, sincere prayer and years of Bible study bore fruit in many conservative believers being able to recognize the elements of the Mark of the Beast, even though they manifested in an unexpected manner. And recognizing how the prophecies fit the mRNA "vaccine", such believers declined the injection, even when it cost some of them their livelihoods and homes.

We should add here that we personally believe there is more to the Mark of the Beast than this "jab" alone. But, we certainly agree with making the connection between the COVID-19 mRNA "vaccines" as containing the foretold elements of the Mark of the Beast. Prophetically speaking, if it looks like a duck, walks like a duck, quacks like a duck, etc. we should recognize it to be a duck. In other words, when we examine the Scriptures containing the details of a prophetic event against what is taking place in front of us, if the Scriptures fit what we see taking place, we should recognize it as a fulfillment—even if it looks different than expected.

For many Church-goers, however, the idea that the Mark of the Beast could manifest in a "vaccine" was just too far from what they'd always believed. As did many well-meaning Jews in **Yahshua's** time, they ignored the

concerning evidence and took the injection, comforting themselves by taking a firm mental grip on their long-held beliefs regarding the Mark of the Beast. But, just having believed something sincerely and firmly for a long time doesn't mean that what we believe is the truth. And if the example of how religious leaders and common people alike were blinded from accepting Messiah by their strongly-

held Prophecy Mythology, it seems that a serious warning is warranted.

In *Yahshua's* Day, the Rabbis and Pharisees were blinded by Prophecy Mythology. But it also troubled the sincerest of believers, including both the disciples and even the "greatest prophet", John the Baptist. In fact, Prophecy Mythology was a troubling issue for *everyone*, in the First Advent of Messiah. Is it any less of

an issue today?

No! Just as it did to the people in *Yahshua's* Day, Prophecy Mythology blinds people today. Notably also, the threat comes to us in the same six categories. Now, more than ever, we need to study Scripture humbly and prayerfully. And as the events unfold, we must not be blinded by our expectations.

Prophecy Mythology: Then and Now

The 6 Categories of Prophecy Mythology	How Prophecy Mythology Manifested in <i>Yahshua's</i> Day	How Prophecy Mythology May Be Manifesting Now
Focusing prophecy on the LITERAL NATION of ISRAEL	The Jews expected Messiah to Reign on the Throne of David—Breaking Israel's Subservience to Rome	Are people now also looking for an exaltation of the literal nation of Israel?
Misunderstanding PROPHETIC DETAILS	Nothing about Messiah fit the Jews' pre-conceived beliefs of what Messiah would do.	Could prophetic details of Messiah, the Mark of the Beast, the Beast and other prophecies look different than expected, in the Last Days?
Rejecting a SPIRITUAL FULFILLMENT of a prophecy	The Jews expected literal Moses and Elijah to come. They came, publically, in a spiritual fulfillment—in <i>Yahshua</i> and John the Baptist	Could there be a spiritual fulfillment of the Two Witnesses? In the Last Days prophecy often has <i>both</i> a literal and a spiritual fulfillment.
Believing that SEEING IS NECESSARY for a prophetic fulfillment to have occurred	Moses and Elijah <i>did</i> appear, literally, but only 3 people saw them... Clearly, prophetic details can be fulfilled outside the scope of public view and common knowledge.	Could the Beast begin his reign out of public sight? Could prophecies happen without common knowledge again?
EXALTING JUDAISM - expecting that this religion is "right"	<i>Yahshua</i> did not exalt the religion of Judaism, and its <i>Talmud</i> teachings. He exalted and restored <i>Torah!</i>	Are people exalting Judaism today? Is Judaism really the "Old Path" of Jeremiah 6:16? There is an older way! <i>Torah!</i>
INVERTING the TIMELINES - misapplying prophetic details out of order	The Jews expected Messiah at the first Advent to do the work of His Second Advent.	Do people now also invert the timelines? Do we now misapply the order of prophetic details?

Counting the Omer

In the time of Counting the Omer, we are preparing for the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit—the Latter Rain. What should be our focal point for effective preparation? Scripture says, “ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss that ye may consume it upon your lusts” James 4:2-3.

We ask amiss when we seek the outpouring of the Holy Spirit because we desire to feel some heightened sense of euphoria, or so that we can impress others by our great spiritual power. It is also asking amiss to seek the Spirit so that we can speak in tongues, somehow confirming our spiritual efficacy through miraculous signs.

Having the right focal point or motivation, according to Scripture makes all the difference in the world. So what is the right motivation, which is the Kingdom Leaven that we are to be seeking in these final preparatory days? The motivation for seeking the Spirit’s outpouring should be love for **Yahweh** and wholehearted desire for His Kingdom to come, in us, and to this world.

“But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
Matthew 6:33

Whole-hearted and rightly motivated seeking, is to be going on now...

Waiting for the Rain

by Shauna Manfredine

We’re waiting for the Rain we say,
 We’re praying it will fall.
 But do we stand submitted?
 Is **Yahshua** King of all?

We need the Latter Rain to come,
 We can’t afford to miss.
 But is our motivation right?
 Or do we ask amiss?

We’re waiting for the Rain we say,
 But daily time with God is tough.
 We just aren’t hungry for the Word,
 Isn’t time in church enough?

We need the Latter Rain to fall,
 This world is dimming dark.
 The Gospel must go forth in power.
 So where is Heaven’s Spark?

But lightning doesn’t start above,
 It begins on the ground.
 For lightning flows down “channels”,
 Where an upward lead is found.

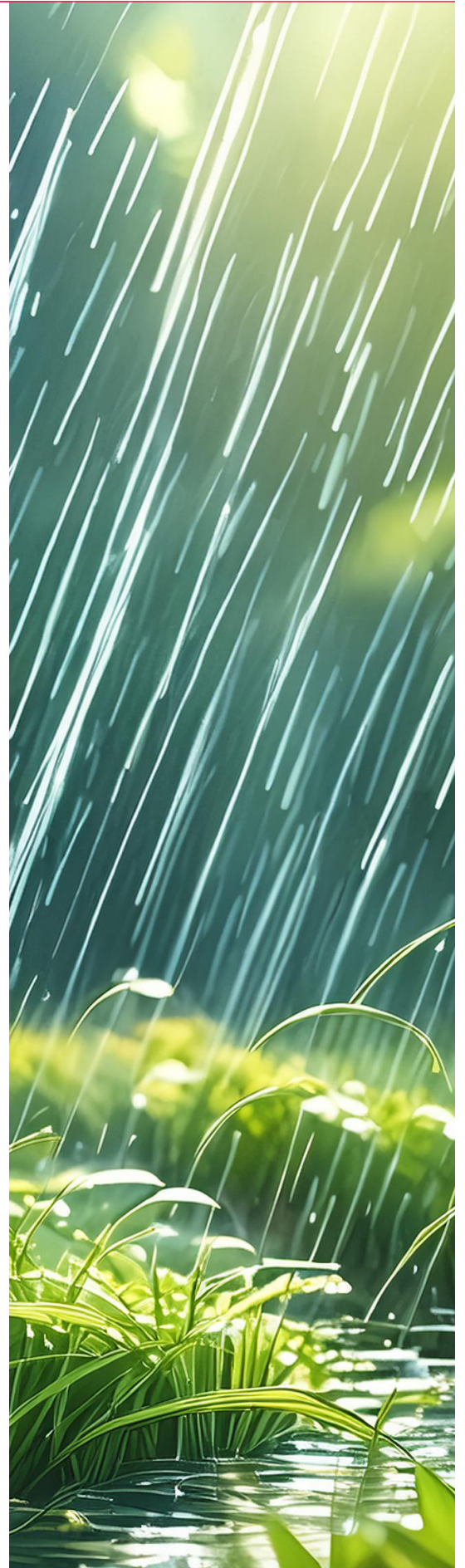
Are we becoming lightning rods?
 Or unblocked channels of Grace?
 Or are our hatches battened down,
 “Insulation” well in place?

We say we want the Lightning Fire,
 The Spirit’s Rain in Power!
 But are we really seeking God,
 Preparing for the Shower?

Dear Ones, we seek the Latter Rain,
 “Thy Kingdom come,” we pray,
 But seeking is an action,
 That is more than what we say.

Oh the Latter Rain is Promised,
 And it’s coming soon we know.
 The question isn’t “if” it’s “when”,
 And where the Rain will go.

Will it fall upon you, Friend?
 Or fall on other “grain”?
 It all depends on what you do,
 While waiting for the Rain.



Pentecost Weekend-2024

Join Us Online or In Person—June 14-16

For those attending in person, there is no charge to attend this Pentecost gathering with us. For traveling guests, overnight accommodations must be arranged with local hotels or campsites. Please RSVP to insure that we have sufficient food, handouts and seating!

If you cannot come in person, you can join us online! We will be broadcasting the 4 sessions of the *Life in the Spirit* series—but not the prayer sessions. To join us online, you can always go to our website to get the video links. Go to: www.lightedway.org. Each day, during this special weekend, the video links will be on our website homepage.

Friday, June 14, 2024: Counting the Omer Day 48

5:00 PM - Soup and *Challah* Bread Supper (at Manfredine's)
6:30 PM - Broadcast: "Life in the Spirit - Session 1: Breath of Heaven"
 8:00 PM - Sundown Worship & Prayer Session 1 (no broadcast)

Sabbath, June 15, 2024: Counting the Omer Day 49

1:00 PM - Fellowship Lunch (at LWM Ministry Center/Studio)
2:00 PM - Broadcast: "Life in the Spirit - Session 2: Fruit of the Spirit"
 5:00 PM - Light Fellowship Supper (at Manfredine's)
6:30 PM - Broadcast: "Life in the Spirit - Session 3: Walk by the Spirit"
 8:00 PM - Sundown Worship & Prayer Session 2 (no broadcast)

Sunday, June 16, 2024: Day of Pentecost

11:00 AM - Prayer Session 3 (no broadcast)
 1:00 PM - Fellowship Lunch (at LWM Ministry Center/Studio)
2:00 PM - Broadcast: "Life in the Spirit - Session 4: Thy Kingdom Come"
 5:00 PM - Light Fellowship Supper (at Manfredine's)
 6:30 PM - Prayer Session 4 (no broadcast)

There will be a printed handout to accompany the *Life in the Spirit* series. Copies will be provided to all who attend in person. For those joining us online, a link to the pdf file of the handout will be provided on our website, allowing you to print the necessary copy(ies).

Shalom and we join you in praying for *Shavuot* Blessings!

Shavuot Blessings





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The Lighted Way News Magazine



ONLINE PRAYER MEETING - WEDNESDAYS NIGHTS @6 (PST)

Be connected with others in Messiah's Body and help to raise up the Praying Church / Ezekiel Bone Army! Join LWM's Wednesday evening PRAYER MEETING—online on Zoom. To join us go to the Zoom link on our website: www.lightedway.org.

WE ACCEPT



PRE-REGISTER: ONLINE CLASSES-ON ZOOM

Pre-register (free) for upcoming classes:

Prophecy Class with Shauna Manfredine—In Prophecy Club, we study Bible Prophecy in-depth.

We prayerfully plan to start classes for next term on Sept 2, 2024. Details at: www.shaunamanfredineprophecyclub.blogspot.com.

Torah Class with Shauna Manfredine—We prayerfully plan to continue studying Torah after a summer break. Shauna plans to begin classes for next term on Monday, Sept 2, 2024. For more information, please visit the class blog at www.shaunamanfredine.blogspot.com.

PENTECOST WEEKEND: JOIN US ONLINE OR IN PERSON

June 14-16, 2024 - Join us (online or in person) for Pentecost Weekend! There are many inspiring things coming your way for this important, spiritual time! Weekend information and meeting schedule inside this magazine. Each day's broadcasts can be viewed online on our website: www.lightedway.org. Join us on our Youtube Channel or our Vimeo Channel at: <https://vimeo.com/channels/lightedwayministries>.

SURGE MESSIANIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, IN WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS: REGISTER NOW!

June 27-30, 2024 - Shauna Manfredine is scheduled to be a guest speaker at this upcoming conference. For more information, go to: www.younityfitness.com/conferences/

