Double Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30
- Proverbs 25:2-3
- I Cor. 2:7-17; 15:51-53
- John 16:12-15; 17:20-21
- Rom. 11:33-34; 12:1-2; 10:1-13
- II Cor. 10:4-6; 13:1-2
- Philippians 2:5-8
- Isaiah 40:12-25
- Matthew 13:11-17; 16:17-19
- Job 42:1-6
- Revelation 10:5-7; 11:3-10
- I Corinthians 10:1-4
- Malachi 1:7-9; 2:17; 3:13-14
- Mark 3:28-30; Mat. 12:30-32
- I John 5:5-8, 16-17
- Ephesians 4:29-32
- Hebrews 6:4-6: 10:26-31
- Leviticus 18:1-5

Title:

THE SPIRITUAL DETECTIVE

- The Spiritual Detective
- The Mind of Christ
- The Deep Things of God
- Keys to the Kingdom
- Not with You Alone
- The Sobering Truth
- Dictates of Your Own Heart
- Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
- Looking for Loopholes
- The Circumcised Heart
- The Word of Faith
- The Righteousness of the Law
- The Righteousness of Faith
- A Scroll and a Song
- Two Witnesses
- Heaven and Earth
- Water and Blood
- Y'shua and Obedience

You are royalty, so start acting like it. Maybe it's just me, but I think it's horribly presumptuous to think you can keep doing your own thing and God will just bless you anyway. Besides, if you really grasped how awesome the promises are to His royal family, you'd not be so quick to follow the dictates of your own heart. I promise, if you tune into the depth of what is being offered you in God's word, it is not likely you would so easily exchange those promises for some cheap substitutes. "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God." (I Corinthians 2:9-10) Do a little spiritual detective work; trust me, the payoff is worth a thousand times your investment.

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE
"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things
which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that
we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29 NKJV

"It is the **glory of God to conceal a matter**, But the **glory of kings is to search out a matter**." Proverbs 25:2 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

"He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him." Matthew 13:11-12 NKJV

"But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory," I Corinthians 2:7 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The Torah is divided into 54 weekly readings meant to be explored throughout each biblical calendar year called the annual Torah cycle. Yet, the normal length of a biblical year is counted by lunar (moon) cycles, not a solar (sun) cycle, and has only 354 days, which yields only 50 or 51 sabbaths on which to do those readings. The biblical "leap year" adds an extra month every 3 years which then adds 4 sabbaths for reading. In addition, a few of the readings each year are meant to be read on biblical feast days and not on the weekly sabbath. So to insure that each year all of the portions are read, some weeks

- have double portion readings. This can happen up to 7 times in any Biblical calendar year, differing dependent on when the feasts days fall and if we are in a leap year. This week calls for one of those double portion readings.
- 2. **Portion One:** In this portion, Moses invites the entire assembly of Israel to take on the covenant. He warns them that if they sin, they will go into exile, and he predicts that is precisely what they will do. But, he also says in the future they will repent and God will return them to the land of Israel. Keep in mind, he is prophesying that in the future they will go into exile, being taken from the land of promise, and yet, they have NOT even crossed into the land! This is not said any better than Yahweh's words in the second portion today: "I know the inclination of their behavior today, even before I have brought them to the land of which I swore to give them. "(Deuteronomy 31:21)
- 3. **Confirmation of the Covenant:** keep the words of this covenant that you may prosper in all that you do.
- 4. Yahweh confirms His covenant of promise to establish a people for Himself and then reveals this prophetic declaration.
- 5. "I make this covenant and this oath, not with you alone, but with him who stands here with us today before the LORD our God, as well as with him who is not here with us today."

 Deuteronomy 29:14-15 NKJV

- (a) This idea of the covenant extending into the future is beautifully confirmed in the New Testament by Y'shua and Paul.
- (b) "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me." John 17:20-21 NKJV
- (c) "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." I Corinthians 10:1-4 NKJV
- 6. **Warning:** you saw the paganism in Egypt: don't let your heart turn toward other gods! If you do, you will inherit the curses written in this Book of the Law that Yahweh warned you about in Deuteronomy 28. (See Sermon: Looking Good)
- 7. And even worse, don't turn towards other gods and think this abominable thing: "and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of

- my heart'— as though the drunkard could be included with the sober." Deuteronomy 29:19 NKJV
- 8. What precedes this abomination in verse 18 is the warning to not turn your heart toward the worship of foreign gods which is the equivalent of swallowing a deadly poison (Again See Sermon: Looking Good); what follows in verse Deuteronomy 29:20 is why the poison results in death. And the two New Testament references here also seem to point to this unforgivable sin.
 - (a) "The Lord will never be willing to forgive them; his wrath and zeal will burn against them. All the curses written in this book will fall on them, and the Lord will blot out their names from under heaven." Deuteronomy 29:20 NIV
 - 1) "Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin." He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."" Mark 3:28-30 NIV
 - 2) "If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should

- pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death." 1 John 5:16-17 NIV
- 9. When the nations wonder why God's chosen people are suffering the curses that were intended for the pagans, the answer is this: "because they have forsaken the covenant and served other gods!"
- 10. Then we have one of the most amazingly prophetic verses in the Torah, one vitally relevant for every Christian today.

 Consider why Yahweh has declared that He wills to reveal His secrets to His people: "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29 NKJV
- 11. **The Blessings of Returning to God:** The people were warned in Deuteronomy 28 about the horrific curses that would befall anyone disobeying Yahweh's commands. Israel WILL BE scattered into pagan nations for doing just that. But, Yahweh will bring them back from captivity.
- 12. He will circumcise their hearts and the hearts of their descendants who will then become obedient, and then He will turn the curses on their enemies.

- 13. Yahweh will rejoice over them again, if they obey His voice and keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law.
- 14. **Life or Death:** These four verses might be the most relevant words of Moses if you desire a deeper understanding of Christian salvation (redemption). They are the bedrock of Paul's message in Romans 10:1-13, so commonly referred to in Christianity as the "Sinner's Prayer!"
 - (a) ""For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it." Deuteronomy 30:11-14 NKJV
- 15. **Choose Life:** Yahweh has set before you today life and good, death and evil, choose life! But if your heart turns and you worship other gods you shall perish. (Again See Sermon Looking Good)
- 16. Yahweh calls heaven and earth as a witness against them if they do not obey. They have ZERO excuses! Pauls reiterates this witness in Romans 1.

- (a) "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse," Romans 1:20 NKJV
- 17. **Portion Two:** In this short portion, Moses commands an assembly for a public Torah reading and covenant renewal once every seven years. He then finishes writing the scroll of the Torah and has it deposited in the Holy of Holies next to the ark of the covenant.
- 18. **It's Time for Joshua to Take Over:** Moses is one hundred and twenty years old and he knows he shall not cross over the Jordan. Yahweh will cross over before them and Joshua will be their leader in the Promised Land.
- 19. The people are encourage to be strong and of good courage, and to not fear nor be afraid, as Yahweh will destroy their enemies just as He promised. He will not leave them nor forsake them. This exact promise is later extended to Joshua, personally, as he takes over.
 - (a) **Moses commissions Joshua:** Joshua, Yahweh will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.
- 20. **Read the Law every Seven Years:** Moses wrote the law and delivered it to the priests, and commanded them to read it to

- the people at the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles.
- (a) Read it aloud so the people and their children would learn to fear Yahweh and carefully observe all the words of the law.
- 21. **Predicted Rebellion:** Joshua is inaugurated and is informed that this people will rebel and play the harlot with the other gods. They will forsake Yahweh and break His covenant. Yahweh warns that He will then hide His face from them because of the evil of turning to other gods.

22. **Two Witness:** A Song and a Scroll

- (a) Moses is given the words for a song that the people can sing as a reminder of Yahweh's fulfilled promises and it will serve as a witness against the children of Israel. When the evil of their doings brings curses on them, this song will testify against them as a witness.
- (b) Moses wrote the song and taught it to the children of Israel. Then He inaugurated Joshua.
- (c) When Moses had completed writing the words of the law in a book, he commanded the Levites to put the Book of the Law beside the ark that it may be there as a witness against them in their coming rebellion.

- 23. Moses predicts that because the people have been so rebellious, even while he was alive, they will certainly be worse after his death!
- 24. The Song of Moses is Introduced to End the Portion: "Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were ended:" Deuteronomy 31:30

SECRET THINGS

- 1. You are Meant to be a Spiritual Detective
 - A. Who can know the mind of Yahweh?
 - (1) Yahweh wants to reveal things to you.
 - (a) ""The **secret things** belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are **revealed** belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29 NKJV
 - (2) The Glory of Kings
 - (a) "It is the **glory of God** to conceal a matter, But the **glory of kings** is to search out a matter. As the heavens for height and the earth for depth, So the heart of kings is **unsearchable**." Proverbs 25:2-3 NKJV
 - (3) The deep things of God are there for us to uncover

- (a) "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory," I Corinthians 2:7 NKJV
- (b) "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God." I Corinthians 2:9-10 NKJV
- (c) "These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ." I Corinthians 2:13-16 NKJV
- (d) ""I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears

He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you." John 16:12-15 NKJV

(4) Putting on the Mind of Christ

- (a) "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?"" Romans 11:33-34 NKJV
- (b) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 NKJV
- (c) "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought** into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being

- ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." II Corinthians 10:4-6 NKJV
- (d) "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV
- (e) "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be **spiritually minded** is life and peace." Romans 8:6 NKJV
- (5) Who has known the mind of the LORD (this is where it comes from)
 - (a) "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, Measured heaven with a span And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance? (13) Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has taught Him? (14) With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding? Isaiah 40:12-14

- (b) **To whom then will you liken God?** Or what likeness will you compare to Him? Isaiah 40:18
- (c) "**To whom then will you liken Me,** Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One." Isaiah 40:25 NKJV
- B. Eyes to See and Ears to Hear the Mysteries of the Kingdom
 - (1) Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven
 - (a) After the Parable of the Soils: "He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown **dull.** Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.' But

blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." Matthew 13:11-17 NKJV

(2) But now my eyes see!

(a) "Then Job answered the LORD and said: "I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."" Job 42:1-6 NKJV

(3) Keys to the Kingdom!

(a) "Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (19) **And I will give you the keys of**

the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."" Matthew 16:17-19 NKJV

C. The Secrets are Finished

(1) The Last Trumpet

(a) "Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." I Corinthians 15:51-53 NKJV

(2) When are the mysteries ended? At the last trumpet.

(a) "The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel [seventh and last trumpet], when he is about to sound, the mystery of

God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets." Revelation 10:5-7 NKJV

- 1. Summary of Secret Things:
- 2. You are called to be a spiritual detective.
- 3. You have the mind of Christ.
- 4. The heart of Kings is unsearchable (Pr. 25:2-3); the heart of Yahweh is unsearchable (Ro. 11:33-34). You are Royalty—you get it?
- 5. **To whom then will you liken God?** Or what likeness will you compare to Him? (Is. 40:18)
- 6. You are royalty and you can know the mysteries of the Kingdom.

YOU ARE PART OF A LEGACY

2. Not with You Alone!

A. One Continuous People

- (1) Enter and Keep this covenant so that Yahweh may establish you today as a people
 - (a) "Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do. **All of you stand today before the LORD your God:** your leaders and your tribes and your elders and your officers, all the men of Israel, your little ones and your wives—also the

stranger who is in your camp, from the one who cuts your wood to the one who draws your water— that you may enter into covenant with the LORD your God, and into His oath, which the LORD your God makes with you today, that He may establish you today as a people for Himself, and that He may be God to you, just as He has spoken to you, and just as He has sworn to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." Deuteronomy 29:9-13 NKJV

(2) The covenant is for you and all those who come after you!

(a) "I make this covenant and this oath, **not with you alone**, but with him who stands here with us today before the LORD our God, **as well as with him who is not here with us today"** Deuteronomy 29:14-15 NKJV

B. Y'shua and Paul Knew!

- (1) Y'shua Looking Ahead into our Future
 - (a) "I do **not pray for these alone**, **but also for those who will believe in Me through their word**; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me." John 17:20-21 NKJV
- (2) Paul Looking back and knowing that the covenant was not with them alone, but with all who are part of the lineage

of those whom Yahweh would establish as a people for Himself.

- (a) Enter into this covenant...that He may establish you today as a people for Himself... Deuteronomy 29:12-13
- (b) "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." I Corinthians 10:1-4 NKJV
 - 1. Summary of You are Part of a Legacy:
 - 2. One continuous people.
 - 3. According to Moses, the covenant at Sinai was for those who were there at the time and all those who would come after.
 - 4. According to Y'shua, the covenant at the table of the last supper was for those who were there at the time and all those who would come after.
 - 5. According to Paul, all of us who came after the events of the exodus and wilderness are the descendants of those who actually experienced them.

THE SOBERING TRUTH

- 3. I can go after other gods and Yahweh will bless me anyway
 - A. **Heart Blindness**
 - (1) I will bless myself anyway!
 - (a) "so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations, and that there may not be among you a root bearing bitterness or wormwood; and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart'— as though the drunkard could be included with the sober." Deuteronomy 29:18-19 NKJV
 - (2) The deception of thinking Yahweh will accept you even while you violate Him! (Having peace about it in your own heart!)
 - (a) ""You offer defiled food on My altar, But say, 'In what way have we defiled You?' By saying, 'The table of the LORD is contemptible.' And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you

- favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts. "But now entreat God's favor, That He may be gracious to us. While this is being done by your hands, Will He accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts." Malachi 1:7-9 NKJV
- (b) "You have wearied the LORD with your words; Yet you say, "In what way have we wearied Him?" In that you say, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, And He delights in them," Or, "Where is the God of justice?"" Malachi 2:17 NKJV
- (c) ""Your words have been harsh against Me," Says the LORD, "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?' You have said, 'It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, And that we have walked as mourners Before the LORD of hosts?" Malachi 3:13-14 NKJV
- (3) What happens if you follow the dictates of your own heart and go after other gods?
 - (a) "The LORD would not spare him; for then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy would burn against that man, and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him, and the LORD would blot out his name from under heaven. And the LORD would separate him

- from all the tribes of Israel for adversity, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this Book of the Law," Deuteronomy 29:20-21 NKJV
- (b) What precedes this abomination in verse 18 is the warning to **not turn your heart toward the worship of foreign gods** which is the equivalent of swallowing a deadly poison; what follows in verse 20 is WHY the poison results in death.
- (c) The NIV says it this way: "The Lord will never be willing to forgive them; his wrath and zeal will burn against them. All the curses written in this book will fall on them, and the Lord will blot out their names from under heaven." Deuteronomy 29:20 NIV
- B. What could you possibly do that Yahweh would never forgive?
 - (1) Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit; Grieving the Holy Spirit; Insulting the Holy Spirit
 - (a) Mark: "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation" because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."" Mark 3:28-30 NKJV

- (b) Matthew: "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad. "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come." Matthew 12:30-32 NKJV
- his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death." I John 5:16-17 NKJV
- (d) Paul—Grieving the Holy Spirit: "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one

- another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:29-32 NKJV
- (e) **Hebrews—Do no insult the Spirit of grace:** "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the **testimony of *two or three witnesses.** Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Hebrews 10:26-31 NKIV (*Who are the witnesses: see Section 5 in these notes—Two Witnesses: A Song and a Scroll)
- (f) Look at these two categories of people: **Believers with bad doctrine** and **Non-believers who think they are believers AND NEVER WERE!**

- 1) Believers with Bad Doctrine: ""Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:17-19 NKJV
- Non-believers who think they are believers AND

 NEVER WERE: "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad

fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Matthew 7:13-23 NKJV

3) They were NEVER "enlightened": "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame." Hebrews 6:4-6 NKJV

C. Why has the Lord done this?

(1) The Common Denominator: serving other gods and insisting that Yahweh will be okay with it!

- (a) "All nations would say, 'Why has the LORD done so to this land? What does the heat of this great anger mean?' Then people would say: 'Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt; for they went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods that they did not know and that He had not given to them." Deuteronomy 29:24-26 NKJV
 - 1. Summary of the Sobering Truth:
 - 2. There is a sin witnessed in the Torah and the Prophets in which the heart of a rebellious people goes too far, even for Yahweh.
 - 3. That sin looks like this; "I can do whatever I want, even go after other gods, and even be warned that I am about to cross the point of no return, and still act as if Yahweh will bless me anyway."
 - 4. There is a sin that Yahweh Himself considers unforgivable. And Y'shua, John and Paul all expose this sin in the New Testament—Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.
 - 5. There are some who believe they are in the family of God but they are NOT: How do you recognize them?

STOP LOOKING FOR LOOPHOLES

4. Stop complaining—It's Not that Hard!

A. You will rebel and I will bring you back!

(1) Exiled and Brought Back

(a) ""Now it shall come to pass, when all these thing come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, that the LORD your **God will bring you back from** captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you. Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers." Deuteronomy 30:1-5 NKJV

(2) The Circumcised Heart

- (a) "And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live." Deuteronomy 30:6 NKJV
- (b) (See Teaching WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS)

(3) **If / Then**

(a) "The LORD your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the LORD will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul."
Deuteronomy 30:9-10 NKJV

B. Then What?

- (1) You Will Ultimately Admit that the Commands are not too hard!
 - (a) "For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it [the Commandments] to us,

that we may hear it [the Commandments] and do it [the Commandments]?' Nor is it [the Commandments] beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it [the Commandments] to us, that we may hear it [the Commandments] and do it [the Commandments]?' But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it [the Commandments]." Deuteronomy 30:11-14 NKJV

(2) His Burden is Light!

(a) "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV

C. Romans 10 and Deuteronomy 30

- (1) It—"the Commandments", is what you are confessing is not too difficult when you confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that Y'shua is Lord.
 - (a) "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own

righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end [goal] of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." Romans 10:1-4 NKJV

(2) The Righteousness of the Law

- (a) "For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, *"The man who does those things shall live by them." Romans 10:5 NKJV
- (b) Where does Moses say, "The man who does those things shall live by them?"
 - 1. "Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'I am the LORD your God. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, *which if a man does, he shall live by them: I am the LORD."

 Leviticus 18:1-5 NKJV

- (3) The Righteousness of Faith (Look at the numerical cross references between Romans 10:6-8 and Deut. 30:11-14)
 - (a) "But [And] the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, [1a] 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " [1b] (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " [2a] 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " [2b] (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? [3a] "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" [3b] (that is, the word of faith which we preach):" Romans 10:6-8 NKJV
 - (b) Where does Moses write about the righteousness of faith?
 - 1. "For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, [1a] 'Who will ascend into heaven for us [1b] and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' [2a] Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us [2b] and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' [3a] But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, [3b] that you may do it."

 Deuteronomy 30:11-14 NKJV
- (4) What is the word of faith Paul is preaching?

- (a) "But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, **that you may do it**." Deuteronomy 30:14 NKJV
- (b) "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):" Romans 10:8 NKJV
- (c) "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."" Romans 10:9-13 NKJV
 - 1. Summary of Stop Looking for Loopholes:
 - 2. The argument that Yahweh's Commands are too difficult and, as a Christian, you cannot possibly keep them all, has been dismantled by Moses, Paul and Y'shua Himself.
 - 3. Paul makes the quintessential argument that your confession of faith as a born-again Christian includes

the declaration that "Yahweh's Laws are in my heart to do them!"

TWO WITNESSES: A SONG AND A SCROLL

5. Two Witnesses

A. A Witness Against You

- (1) The Legal Precedent for Two or Three Witnesses
 - (a) ""One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established." Deuteronomy 19:15 NKJV
 - (b) "This will be the third time I am coming to you. "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established." I have told you before, and foretell as if I were present the second time, and now being absent I write to those who have sinned before, and to all the rest, that if I come again I will not spare—" II Corinthians 13:1-2 NKJV
 - (c) "Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses." Hebrews 10:28 NKJV
 - (d) "This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And

it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are **three that bear witness in heaven**: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are **three that bear witness on earth:** the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one." I John 5:6-8 NKJV

(2) Life and Death

- (a) "See, I have set before you today **life and good, death** and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess."

 Deuteronomy 30:15-16 NKJV
- (b) "For our transgressions are multiplied before You, **And our sins testify against us**; For our transgressions are with us, And as for our iniquities, we know them: In transgressing and lying against the LORD, And departing from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood." Isaiah 59:12-13 NKJV (See teaching LOOKING GOOD)

(3) Heaven and Earth

(a) "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;" Deuteronomy 30:19 NKJV

B. Two Witnesses: Y'shua and Obedience

(1) Two Prophets

- (a) "And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. [Elijah-like] And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls [Elijah-like] in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood [Moses-like], and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. Revelation 11:3-6
 - 1. Elijah prays for no Rain (1 Kings 17)
 - 2. Moses prays for Plagues (Exodus 7-11)
- (b) And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another,

- because **these two prophets** tormented those who dwell on the earth." Revelation 11:10 NKJV
- (c) "Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, **Moses and Elijah** appeared to them, talking with Him." Matthew 17:1-3 NKJV

(2) Y'shua and Obedience

- (a) "And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17 NKJV
- (b) "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12 NKJV

C. One Witness: Write the Law; Read the Law; Place the Law

(1) Write the Law and Read it to the People

(a) Read the Law every Seven Years: "So Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel. And Moses commanded them, saying: "At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time

in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles, when all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses, **you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing**." Deuteronomy 31:9-11 NKJV

(2) They have to hear it to know it!

(a) "Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the LORD your God and carefully observe all the words of this law, and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess."" Deuteronomy 31:12-13 NKJV

(3) They will rebel.

- (a) "And the LORD said to Moses: "Behold, you will rest with your fathers; and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go to be among them, and they will forsake Me and break My covenant which I have made with them." Deuteronomy 31:16 NKJV]
- (b) As predicted they will choose the curses ofDeuteronomy 28: "Then My anger shall be aroused

against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured. And many evils and troubles shall befall them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?'" Deuteronomy 31:17 NKJV

(4) Put the law near the ark as a witness!

(a) "Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there as a witness against you; for I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. If today, while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the LORD, then how much more after my death?" Deuteronomy 31:26-27 NKJV

D. Another Witness: Write the Song, Teach the Song

- (1) Write the song as a reminder and a witness against them in their rebellion—no excuses!
 - (a) "Now therefore, write down this song for yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel; put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for Me against the children of Israel." Deuteronomy 31:19 NKJV
- (2) Moses writes the song and then inaugurates Joshua

(a) "Then it shall be, when many evils and troubles have come upon them, that this song will testify against them as a witness; for it will not be forgotten in the mouths of their descendants, for I know the inclination of their behavior today, even before I have brought them to the land of which I swore to give them. ""

Deuteronomy 31:21 NKJV

(3) Teach it to the Children

(a) "Therefore Moses wrote this song the same day, and taught it to the children of Israel. Then He inaugurated Joshua the son of Nun, and said, "Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the children of Israel into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you."" Deuteronomy 31:22-23 NKJV

(4) The Song of Moses is Introduced to End the Portion

- (a) "Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were ended:"

 Deuteronomy 31:30 NKJV
- (b) Nine times The Rock is mentioned in the Song
 - 1. Summary of Two Witnesses: A Song and a Scroll
 - 2. The law requires at least two witnesses to establish a truth.

- 3. The Blood and the Water and the Spirit; heaven and earth; The two prophets, the testimony of Christ and the keeping of the Laws of God; The Scroll of the Law and the Song of Moses.
- 4. It is interesting to consider that the Song of Moses as "the testimony" as it talks about the Rock, and the Scroll which is the Book of the Law.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. The Mysteries of the Kingdom:

- A. Why does Yahweh reveal His deep mysteries to His people?
- B. Relate the mind of Christ to the mysteries of God.
- C. Why did Y'shua give Peter the "keys to the kingdom" and why is it relevant to you?

2. Discuss your connection to those who came before you:

- A. Those who passed through the sea...
- B. Those with whom the covenant at Sinai was made...
- C. Those who wandered in the wilderness...
- D. Those who sat at the Last Supper table with Y'shua...

3. The Unforgivable Sin:

A. Discuss the conditions that make up that which leads to the unforgivable sin.

- 4. Relate the message of Moses in Deuteronomy 30 to Paul's teaching in Romans 10 that is so often called "the Sinner's Prayer."
 - A. What is the "word of faith" Paul is preaching?
- 5. The Scriptures say, "by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established."
 - A. Relate this law to the scroll Moses was instructed to place next to the Ark of the Covenant and the Song of Moses he was instructed to teach the people.