



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 21:1-24:18
- I John 2:15-29

FAKE NEWS

- False Testimony Mob Rule
- Honorable Mention

It's amazing how the Bible remains so relevant every day of our lives. Even though the following ideas were written almost 3500 years ago, just meditate on how relevant they are at this very moment. "Do not spread fake news. Do not help a guilty person by being a lying witness. Do not follow the mob mentality into doing what is wrong. When you give testimony in any legal matter, do not pervert justice by taking sides in favor of the mob mentality."

Yes, we stand at a crossroads in history. Will you bend to the expedient pressures of the day? Will you conform to the ways of the world or, in other words, the mob mentality? Or will you hold fast to the truth? Many key moments in history were defined by what the leaders of the day had done. Did they do what was right or did they follow the crowd? Today's crowd shows up as a new breed of "democracy." The mob rules in the way of Mainstream Media; Social Media; Hidden Agenda Groups; Virtue Signaling; Institutional

Brow Beating; Faith-Based Complacency; and Cognitive Dissonance.

But, all is not lost for those in Christ. You have in you the call to practice righteousness and the anointing to know the truth. And for those who hate Christ, well, there is a different fate; Yahweh will arraign them and set His accusations against them. That is what is in store for those who pervert justice in favor of the mob!

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

““You shall not circulate [accept, spread, repeat] a false report [a lying voice or rumors, or Fake News]. Do not put your hand [join, plot, help] with the wicked [criminal, evil, impious] to be an unrighteous witness [lying or malicious witness, give false or perjured testimony, provide false evidence]. You shall not follow a crowd to do evil [take sides with important people to do wrong; allow the popular view to sway you into offering testimony, agree with dishonest authorities]; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many [the majority opinion] to pervert justice [stand in the way of justice, stretch the truth].” Exodus 23:1-2

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

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the

world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” 1 John 2:15-17 NKJV

Let’s Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The first three chapters of this Torah portion deliver a legal code of laws and commandments that form a nucleus for the Torah's laws. The last chapter tells the story of how the people of Israel consented to keep these laws as they entered into a marriage covenant relationship with God through a series of rituals conducted by Moses.
2. **The Law Concerning Hebrew Servants [Slaves]:** Right from the start, this portion reveals one of the most prophetically significant and relevant scriptures for all those who would come to know Y’shua as the Messiah.
3. A Hebrew servant is in bondage for six years and is then permitted to go out for free without cost in the seventh year. But there are some important stipulations:
 - (a) If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself;
 - (b) If he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him;

- (c) If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, **and he shall go out by himself;**
 - (d) But if the servant loves his master, wife, and children, he can choose to stay a servant [**and keep his wife and children**];
 - (e) If the slave makes a decision to stay, **it is a permanent** and it is witnessed by the judges and consummated with a piercing.
 - (f) What and who does this sound like? A hebrew servant has the option to go free, but he chooses instead to stay, so he can keep the bride he was given while in slavery!
 - (g) Because he has chosen to stay, his master shall bring him to the judges. Then he shall bring him for a piercing and he shall serve his master forever.
4. Then we see the laws of a female servant and how they differ from males.
 5. **The Law Concerning Violence:** (violence against another person)
 6. **Animal Control Laws:** (Man vs. Animal, Animal vs. Man, Animal vs. Animal)
 7. **Responsibility for Property:** (Theft, Fire, Neighbor's Crops, Money and goods, Trespassing, Lost things, Borrowed things)
 8. **Moral and Ceremonial Principles:** (Enticing virgins, Sorcery, Relations with animals, Sacrifices to any god but Yahweh,

Treatment of strangers, Widows and Orphans, Laws of lending, Interest and Pledges, Cursing Yahweh and Rulers, First Fruits and Firstborns, Meat from animals killed in the wild.)

9. **Justice for All:** (No false reports, Do not follow a crowd to do evil; Do not testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice; No partiality to a poor man in his dispute; Help for your enemy's animal; Do not pervert the judgment of the poor in his dispute; Keep yourself far from a false matter; Do not kill the innocent and righteous; Take no bribe; Do not oppress a stranger because you were strangers in the land of Egypt.)
10. **The Law of Sabbaths:** (Sabbath rest for the land; Do not gather your crops in the seventh year but let the poor and beasts eat from your land freely that year; Six days of work and on the seventh day you shall rest, even beasts and servants.)
11. Be circumspect and make no mention of the name of other gods, nor let it be heard from your mouth.
12. **Three Annual Feasts:** "Three times [seasons] you shall keep a feast to Me in the year; Three times in the year all your males shall appear before Yahweh [ultimately in Jerusalem]: (1) Passover (with Unleavened Bread and First Fruits), (2) Feast of Weeks (Shavuot or Pentecost—This is why we have this seen in Acts 2, SEE POINT #13), and (3) Feast of Tabernacles.

13. *“When the Day of **Pentecost** had fully come, they were all with **one accord in one place.**” Acts 2:1* [They were keeping the command to appear before Yahweh for the feast of Shavuot, and not just Jews but everyone who identified as followers of Yahweh, just like the audience he is speaking to in Exodus, a mixed multitude who came out with Israel (Exodus 12:38)]
*“And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, **from every nation [a mixed multitude]** under heaven.” Acts 2:5*
14. **The Angel and the Promises:** Yahweh will send an angel before them to keep them in the way and to bring them into the place which He has prepared. Beware of Yahweh and obey His voice; then He will be an enemy to their enemies and an adversary to their adversaries. He will bless their bread and water. He will take sickness away, miscarriages and barrenness in the land; He will fulfill the number of their days. He will slowly defeat their enemies before their very eyes.
15. He will set their ancient boundaries from the Red Sea to the sea, Philistia, and from the desert to the River.
16. Yahweh instructs the people to make no covenant with His enemies, nor with their gods.
17. **Israel Affirms the Covenant (a marriage covenant):** Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the people answered with one voice and said, **“All the words which**

the Lord has said we will do.” And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, **“All that the Lord has said we will do, and be obedient.”** And Moses took the **blood**, sprinkled it on the people, and said, **“This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you according to all these words.”** [Key prophetic point; the marriage covenant is a blood covenant. It takes Faith plus Blood. That is why Y’shua shed His blood so we could be His bride forever.]

18. **On the Mountain with God:** Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, **and they saw the God of Israel. And He did not lay His hand on them.** Then Yahweh said to Moses, “Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them.” So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. The cloud covered it six days. **And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.** The sight of the glory of Yahweh was like a **consuming fire** on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

19. **Bonus:** *“For you **have not come to the mountain** that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: “And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.” And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”) **But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem,** to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and **church of the firstborn** who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.”*
Hebrews 12:18-24 NKJV

FALSE TESTIMONY MOB RULE

1. **A definitive statement on popular views: Ancient words that could have been written yesterday!**
 - A. **A few versions for your reading pleasure!**
 - (1) New King James Version

- (a) “You shall **not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked** to be an **unrighteous witness. You shall not follow a crowd** to do evil; **nor shall you** testify in a dispute so as to **turn aside after many to pervert justice.**” Exodus 23:1-2 NKJV

(2) New International Version

- (a) “Do not spread **false reports. Do not help a guilty person** by being a **malicious witness. “Do not follow the crowd** in doing wrong. When you give testimony in a lawsuit, **do not pervert justice by siding with the crowd,**” Exodus 23:1-2 NIV

(3) Catholic Public Domain Version

- (a) “You shall not accept a **lying voice**. Neither shall you join your hand so as to give **false testimony on behalf on the impious. You shall not follow the crowd** in doing evil. **Neither shall you** go astray in judgment, by **agreeing with the majority opinion, apart from the truth.**” Exodus 23:1-2 CPDV

(4) Common English Bible

- (a) “Don’t spread **false rumors. Don’t plot with evil people to act as a lying witness. Don’t take sides with important people** to do wrong. When you act as a

witness, **don't stretch the truth to favor important people.**" Exodus 23:1-2 CEB

(5) Complete Jewish Bible

- (a) "You are not to repeat **false rumors; do not join hands with the wicked by offering perjured testimony. Do not follow the crowd** when it does what is wrong; and **don't allow the popular view to sway you** into offering testimony for any cause **if the effect will be to pervert justice.**" Exodus (Sh'mot) 23:1-2 CJB

(6) Contemporary English Version

- (a) "Don't spread **harmful rumors or help a criminal by giving false evidence.** Always tell the truth in court, **even if everyone else is [or the authorities are] dishonest** and stands in the way of justice." Exodus 23:1-2 CEV

(7) Good News Translation

- (a) "Do not spread **false rumors**, and **do not help a guilty person by giving false testimony. Do not follow the majority** when they do wrong or when they give testimony that **perverts justice.**" Exodus 23:1-2 GNT

(8) Lexham English Bible

- (a) "You will not spread a **false report. Do not lift your hand with the wicked to be a malicious witness. You**

will not follow a majority for evil, and **you will not** testify concerning a legal dispute to **turn aside after a majority to pervert justice.**” Exodus 23:1-2 LEB

(9) International Children’s Bible (Can it get any simpler?)

- (a) “You must not **tell lies**. You might be a witness in court. **Don’t help a bad person by telling lies.** “You must not **do wrong just because everyone else is doing it**. You might be a witness in court. Then you must not **ruin a fair trial**. You must not tell lies **just because everyone else is.**” Exodus 23:1-2 ICB

(10) Dr. Jeff Version

- (a) “Do not spread fake news. Do not help a guilty person by being a lying witness. Do not follow the mob mentality into doing what is wrong. When you give testimony in any legal matter, do not pervert justice by taking sides in favor of the mob mentality.” DJV

B. False Testimony

- (1) Testimony for hire or pay for play: “And **you shall take no bribe**, for a **bribe blinds** the discerning and **perverts the words** of the righteous.” Exodus 23:8 NKJV
- (a) Stephen—lie about a brother so I can have him taken out!

1. **False Reports:** “And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. **And they were not able to resist the wisdom** and the Spirit by which he spoke. **Then they secretly induced men** to say, “**We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.**” And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council. **They also set up false witnesses** who said, “This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us.” And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel.” Acts 6:8-15 NKJV
- (b) Balak and Balaam—prophecy what I want to hear for some cash!
- (a) **Pay for Play:** “Then Balak again sent princes, more numerous and more honorable than they. And they

came to Balaam and said to him, “Thus says Balak the son of Zippor: ‘Please let nothing hinder you from coming to me; for **I will certainly honor you greatly, and I will do whatever you say to me.**’ ” Then Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, “**Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the word of the LORD my God,** to do less or more.” Numbers 22:15-18 NKJV

1. Read the whole story in Numbers 22-25. Balaam’s heart was never right as he was in constant battle with this temptation.

(c) Judas—betray the Master for 30 pieces of silver

1. **The Ugly Deal:** “Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “**What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?**” And they counted out to him **thirty pieces of silver.** So from that time **he sought opportunity to betray Him.**” Matthew 26:14-16 NKJV
2. **The Ugly Deed:** “And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the

chief priests and elders of the people. **Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him.”** Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.” Matthew 26:47-49 NKJV

(2) Other False Testimony Scriptures (the legal argument)

(a) “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” Exodus 20:16 NKJV

(b) **Seven abominations—Look at how these played out in the narrative about Stephen, Balaam, and Judas:**

1. “These **six things the LORD hates**, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.” Proverbs 6:16-19 NKJV

(c) **The consequences:** “A false witness **will not go unpunished**, And he who speaks lies **will not escape...** A false witness will not go unpunished, And he who speaks lies **shall perish.**” Proverbs 19:5, 9 NKJV

1. You can read Stephen’s entire testimony in his defense against the false witnesses in Acts 7, and how

Paul was the leader presiding over this heinous scheme.

- a) *“and they cast him [Stephen] out of the city and stoned him. **And the witnesses** laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man **named Saul**. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”” (Acts 7:58-59 NKJV) **“Now Saul was consenting to his death.** At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.” Acts 8:1 NKJV*

2. Paul accepted false witness testimony to have a man executed! And the consequences. Once converted in Acts 9, Paul spends his ENTIRE ministry being falsely accused of things he is NOT teaching. There is no single better example than this:

- a) **False Reports:** *“And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. On the following day **Paul went in with us** to James, and all the elders were present. When he had greeted them, **he told in detail those things which God***

*had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law; **but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses**, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs."* Acts 21:17-21 NKJV

- b) **Stephen accused of forsaking Moses:** "They also set up false witnesses who said, "**This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law;**" Acts 6:13 NKJV

3. **Balaam is eventually killed for his iniquity:**

- a) "The children of Israel also killed with the sword Balaam the son of Beor, the soothsayer, among those who were killed by them." Joshua 13:22 NKJV

4. **Judas, in remorse, eventually hangs himself on his own sword:**

- a) "Then Judas, His betrayer, ***seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought**

back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it! " Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." [not lawful to put the bribery money back into the treasury? That is thoroughly ironic!] And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day." Matthew 27:3-8 NKJV

- b) ***Note:** it seems that Judas was remorseful but it also seems he no longer had the ability to repent as he had committed the "unpardonable sin." See full teaching: [The Sin that Lead to Death](#)

C. Mob Rule—the problem with “democracy”

- (1) Democracy: control of an organization or group by the majority of its members. Hint: “...***don’t allow the popular view or majority opinion to sway you*** into offering

testimony for any cause if the effect will be to pervert justice.” Exodus 23:2

- (a) Quote: “**A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government.** It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury [liberally distribute the money]. From that moment on, **the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy,** always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence: From **bondage** to spiritual faith; From **spiritual faith** to great courage; From **courage** to liberty; From **liberty** to abundance; From **abundance** to selfishness; From **selfishness** to apathy; From **apathy** to dependence; From **dependence** back into **bondage.**” — Alexander Fraser Tytler

- (b) **Alexander Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee:** Born in Edinburgh, Scotland October 15, 1747. Died January 05, 1813. He was a Scottish lawyer, writer, and professor. Tytler was also a historian, and for some years

was Professor of Universal History, and Greek and Roman Antiquities, in the University of Edinburgh.

D. Mob Rule—what happens when the masses influence the leader's decision?

(1) The Golden Calf—notice the stark contrast between Moses and Aaron as leaders!

- (a) **“Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, [the mob was dissatisfied so they came to the bad leader with some demands] “Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” And Aaron said to them [the bad leader acquiesces to the mob], “Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!” [the mob rewrites history to match its mob**

mentality] So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.” **[the bad leader acquiesces to the mob’s new normal]** Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. **[God will not acquiesce to mob democracy]** And the LORD said to Moses, “Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’ ” And the LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.” **Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, [the true leader does not acquiesce to the mob, but does aim to redirect—a true prophet]** and said: “ LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought

out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " **So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people. [God gives the mob a chance to get it right]** And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written. Now the tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets. And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." But he said: " **It is not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, But the sound of singing I hear.**" **[the**

mob is shameless in their open display of violating Yahweh's truth] So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. **[the true leader destroys all object of rebellion of the mob]** So Moses' anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. **Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire,** and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it. **And Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?"** So Aaron said, **"Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. [the bad leader blames it on the mob—admits democracy is a bad idea!]** For they said to me, 'Make us gods **[Mob Mentality demands]** that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' And I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.' **[and the bad leader will offer the most ridiculous excuse!]** So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out." Now when Moses saw that **the people were unrestrained (for**

Aaron had not restrained them, **[Mob rule democracy influence and takes over the leader]** to their shame among their enemies), then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, “Whoever is on the LORD’s side — come to me!” And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. And he said to them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel **[the mob will pay a consequence]**: ‘Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.’ ” So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about **three thousand men of the people fell that day**. Then Moses said, “Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, that He may bestow on you a blessing this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother.” Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, **[a truly great leader will right the ship!]** “You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, “**Oh, these people** have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold!

Yet now, **if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.**”

[Christ-like love] And the LORD said to Moses,
“Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book. Now therefore, go, lead the people **[get rid of the this mob democracy mindset and take back control]** to the place of which I have spoken to you. Behold, My Angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit for punishment, **I will visit punishment upon them for their sin.**” **[there is always a price to pay]** So the LORD plagued the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made.”

Exodus 32:1-35 NKJV

- (2) Saul—a weak king will acquiesce to the mob’s demands!
 - (a) **Saul—the quintessential bad leader:** “Samuel [the Prophet] also said to Saul [the King], “The LORD sent me to anoint you king over His people, over Israel. **Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the LORD [direction of the prophet].** Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. Now go and attack Amalek, and **utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them.** But kill both

man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.' " So Saul gathered the people together and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand men of Judah. And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley. Then Saul said to the Kenites, "Go, depart, get down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is east of Egypt. **He also took Agag king of the Amalekites alive**, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. **But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of [violation of direction]** the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed. Now the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, **"I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments."** **[the King exercised his own choice rather than obeying**

Yahweh] And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the LORD all night. So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, “**Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; [to spread Fake News]** and he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal.” Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, “**Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD.**” **[the Fake News]** But Samuel said, “**What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?**” **[False Reports]** And Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites; **for the people [the mob] spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.**” **[the weak leader acquiesces to the mob]** Then Samuel said to Saul, “**Be quiet!** And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night.” And he said to him, “Speak on.” So Samuel said, “When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel? Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against

them until they are consumed.’ **Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD?** Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?” And Saul said to Samuel, **“But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.”** [Self-deception—disobedience while claiming obedience—the height of rebellion—and false reporting] So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. **For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,** And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. **Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”** [the personal penalty for bad leadership] Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. [cared more about the

mob's opinion than God's commands—a typical democratic downfall] Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD.” But Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel.” And as Samuel turned around to go away, Saul seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. So Samuel said to him, **“The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, [the corporate penalty for bad leadership acquiescing to the mob]** and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.” Then he said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God.” So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD. **Then Samuel said, “Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me.” [the true leader rights the ship!]** So Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, “Surely the bitterness of death is past.” But Samuel said, “As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be

childless among women.” And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal. Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.” I Samuel 15:1-35 NKJV

(3) Four Accounts of a mob screaming to get their way...Mob Mentality —“Crucify Him!”

- (a) **Matthew 27:15-26** “Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to **the multitude** one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” **For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. [the leader knows that the mob is corrupt]** While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, **[WARNING!] “Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.” But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes [here comes the mob]** that

they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" **They** said, "Barabbas!" Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" **They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"** Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" **But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"** [can you recognize the mob mentality?] When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it." [the weak leader acquiesces to the mob] And all the people answered and said, "His blood be on us and on our children." [the mob will pay the consequence] Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified." Matthew 27:15-26 NKJV

- (b) Excerpts from Mark 15:8-15 "...Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" **So they cried out again, "Crucify Him!"** Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" **But they cried**

out all the more, “Crucify Him!” So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, [the weak leader acquiesces to the mob] released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified.” [See Mark 15:8-15 NKJV]

- (c) Excerpts from Luke 23:13-25 “...But they were insistent, demanding with loud voices that He be crucified. And the voices of these men and of the chief priests prevailed. So Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they requested. [the weak leader acquiesces to the mob] And he released to them the one they requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; but he delivered Jesus to their will.” [See Luke 23:13-25 NKJV]

- (d) Excerpts from John 18:28-40 “...“What accusation do you bring against this Man?” They answered and said to him, “If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you.” Then Pilate said to them, “You take Him and judge Him according to your law.” Therefore the Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,” ...“Are You the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered him, “Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?”

Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? **Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. [mob mentality]**

What have You done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth.

Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" **[no excuses!]** And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. **[the weak leader acquiesces to the mob even when he knows they are wrong!]** "But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" **Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!"**

Now Barabbas was a robber." [See John 18:28-40 NKJV]

E. Information Oligarchy

(1) Oligarchy

- (a) A small group of people having control of a country, organization, or institution. Who are they?
- (2) Cultural Manipulation (**Dr. Jeff's definitions...**)
 - (a) **Mainstream Media:** TV, Radio, Networks, Movie Studios, News Papers, Magazines and Tabloids, Opinion writers who pose as journalists, etc.
 - (b) **Social Media:** FaceBook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Google (and other search engines and social apps); and all other digital communications outlets, etc.
 - (c) **Hidden Agenda Groups:** Social terrorist organizations who use something true to gain momentum, while at the same time having zero interest in achieving that for which it says it stands. Their actual goals are devoid of their namesake or stated mission. Example: Black Lives Matter. Yes, OF COURSE black lives matter, and all lives matter. But the organization is in name only as it promotes absolutely nothing that has anything to do with black lives mattering.
 - (d) **Virtue Signaling:** A decadent, happily manipulated, zombie-like populace takes on a self-proclaimed newly defined moral high road, while they look down their noses at all those who hold to any Judeo-Christian family values and any semblance of inalienable rights

endowed by THE CREATOR. Those who don't blindly fall in line with the moral flavor of the day are bad and should be publicly exposed and punished.

- (e) **Institutional Brow Beating:** Government Branches and Agencies, Mega-corporations, Educational Institutions and their Intellectual Elite, Professional and College Sports, and the Entertainment Industry (Music and Hollywood and the like), all champion the lowest common denominator of morality. They routinely promote any policy or movement, which at its very core is against the God of the Holy Bible and Jesus Christ!
- (f) **Faith-Based Complacency:** A church that has become more interested in remaining free of conflict with civil authorities in order to maintain its **man-given rights**, which then results in routine acceptance of things that are fundamentally opposed to the tenets of the faith itself. In other words, Christians and what they stand for, believe in, and how they live, wind up looking little different than the rest of the world.
- (g) **Cognitive Dissonance:** intellectual and emotional incongruence, disparity, discrepancy, disagreement, tension, inconsistency, and contradiction to reality at such a high level that a person becomes too exhausted

to further contemplate it or even spend one more minute trying, thereby ceding to a level of passive acceptance that would otherwise be impossible.

F. Non-Conformity

(1) In other words...NOT acquiescing to the crowd!

(a) “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” — Edmund Burke

1. Edmund Burke was an Anglo-Irish statesman and philosopher. Born in Dublin, Burke served as a member of parliament between 1766 and 1794 in the House of Commons of Great Britain with the Whig Party after moving to London in 1750. Born: January 12, 1729, Dublin, Ireland Died: July 9, 1797, Beaconsfield, United Kingdom

(b) [Quote investigator](#): A history of the quote has some links to John Stuart Mill, who said in 1867:

1. “Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends, than that good men should look on and do nothing.”
2. Both men produced apothegms that are loosely similar to the quotation under investigation but are unmistakably distinct.

(2) THE WILL OF GOD—Do not be conformed to this world!

- (a) “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
- (3) But instead, be a Peculiar People!
- (a) “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **His own special [peculiar] people**, that you may proclaim the praises of Him **who called you out of darkness** into His marvelous light;” I Peter 2:9 NKJV
1. Peculiar: special, belonging exclusively to...
- (4) THE WILL OF GOD—Do not love this world!
- (a) “**Do not love the world or the things in the world.** If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—**is not of the Father but is of the world.** And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; **but he who does the will of God** abides forever.” I John 2:15-17 NKJV

G. Truth vs. Lies

(1) Deception in the times in which we live—we should know the truth! [Continuing in I John 2]

(a) “Little children, **it is the last hour**; and as you have heard that the **Antichrist is coming**, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. **They went out from us, but they were not of us; [Who are they? Tares: those who say they are Christians but are not!]** for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, **that none of them were of us**. But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. **I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”** I John 2:18-23 NKJV

1. Deception is not just from the outside which should be obvious.

2. Deception is from inside, from those who claim to be Christians, who might actually even believe they are Christians, but do not know the truth.
 3. Question: is that not completely obvious to you, the true believer, simply by what they stand for?
- (2) The anointing in you should make you a discerner of truth and lies
- (a) “Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. **These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. [so you can spot them and expose them—stop cowering in the swamp of political correctness and stand up and exclaim the truth!]** But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; **but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things [you have a built-in truth meter which will help you discern truth from lies—simply pay attention]**, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.” I John 2:24-27 NKJV

(3) Practice Righteousness

- (a) “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, **you know that everyone who practices righteousness** is born of Him.” I John 2:28-29 NKJV

(4) Become a slave to righteousness

- (a) “And having been set free from sin, you became **slaves of righteousness.**” Romans 6:18 NKJV
- (b) **Pursue Righteousness:** “But you, O man of God, flee these things and **pursue righteousness**, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.” I Timothy 6:11 NKJV
- (c) **Pursue Righteousness:** “Flee also youthful lusts; but **pursue righteousness**, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” II Timothy 2:22 NKJV
- (d) **Instruction in Righteousness:** “and that from childhood you have **known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction in righteousness**, that the man of God

may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Timothy 3:15-17 NKJV

H. Truth Wins!

- (1) Yahweh will **arraign the guilty** and set His accusations against the wicked propagators of fake news and the mob mentality; and He will **deliver those who practice righteousness**
 - (a) **"But to the wicked person, God says:** "What right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant on your lips? You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you. **When you see a thief, you join with him;** you throw in your lot with adulterers **[joining in with the wicked and guilty]**. You use your mouth for evil and harness your tongue to deceit **[Fake News]**. You sit and testify against your brother and slander your own mother's son **[False Witnesses]**. When you did these things and I kept silent, you thought I was exactly like you. **But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you. "Consider this, you who forget God [to support the mob majority], or I will tear you to pieces, with no one to rescue you:** Those who sacrifice thank offerings honor me, and to the blameless **[those who practice righteousness]** I will show my salvation."" Psalms 50:16-23 NIV

Summary: FALSE TESTIMONY MOB RULE

1. The Scriptures are clear: spreading fake news and teaming up with the wicked to give false testimony will end very badly. Plus, following the crowd to appease the majority opinion is a horrible idea, especially when doing so to pervert justice!
2. Money blinds people. There is a temptation to pervert the truth when money is involved. Just think of Balaam and Judas. Judas sold out the King of the Universe for 30 pieces of silver.
3. And don't be mistaken, there are serious consequences for bearing false witness.
4. We also learn that "Mob Rule" never works. And frighteningly, this is what a democracy is, the belief that appeasing the majority is a good idea.
5. Historically, democracies don't work. They will always collapse as the majority will eventually vote for themselves all the money in the treasury.
6. The progression looks something like this: from bondage, to spiritual faith, to great courage, to liberty, to abundance, to selfishness, to apathy, to dependence, and back into bondage.
7. We looked at three biblical narratives that witness what happens when leaders acquiesce to mob mentality
 - a) Aaron and his willingness to appease the people with a Golden Calve.

- b) Saul and his refusal to destroy Agag and his stuff.
 - c) Pilot wanting to gratify the crowd gave in and had Y'shua crucified.
8. Then we reviewed what today's information oligarchy looks like: Mainstream Media; Social Media; Hidden Agenda Groups; Virtue Signaling; Institutional Brow Beating; Faith-Based Complacency; and Cognitive Dissonance.
 9. And finally we looked at the power of non-conforming—NOT acquiescing to the crowd! "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."
 10. We saw that the will of God is for us to know the truth and NOT be conformed to this world. Instead we should practice righteousness.
 11. In the end, the truth will always prevail!

HONORABLE MENTION

2. **This portion has so many deep things to consider. Each one could be a sermon unto itself, so in this section I will just make honorable mention of a few other (not all). I am sure in the future each one of these will inspire a full teaching. One already did last year!**

A. The Law of the Hebrew Servant

- (1) He shall serve him forever

- (a) “If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh he shall go out free and pay nothing. If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master’s, and he shall go out by himself. But if the servant plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,’ then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him forever.”

Exodus 21:2-6 NKJV

- (2) The Law of the The Hebrew Servant is critical to understand as a Christian.

- (a) You can see the teaching on this part of the Portion here: [Bondage & Bondservants](#)

B. Y’shua Teaches from Exodus

- (1) Eye for eye, tooth for tooth

- (a) ““If men fight, and hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely, yet no harm follows, he shall surely be punished accordingly as the woman’s husband imposes on him; and he shall pay as the judges

determine. But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, **eye for eye, tooth for tooth**, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe." Exodus 21:22-25 NKJV

(2) Garments

- (a) ""If you lend money to any of My people who are poor among you, you shall not be like a moneylender to him; you shall not charge him interest. **If you ever take your neighbor's garment as a pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down.** For that is his only covering, it is his garment for his skin. What will he sleep in? And it will be that when he cries to Me, I will hear, for I am gracious." Exodus 22:25-27 NKJV

(3) The Sermon on the Mount

- (a) ""You have heard that it was said, '**An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.**' But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take away your **tunic**, let him have your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to **borrow** from you do not turn away." Matthew 5:38-42 NKJV

C. Pilgrimage Feasts

- (1) Exodus 23:14-19 teaches of the three pilgrimage feasts:
 - (a) To see an entire series of teachings on the Feasts of the Lord and their accompanying notes, go here: [The Feasts of Yahweh](#)

D. A God of perfect timing!

- (1) Little by Little
 - (a) “I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you. **Little by little I will drive them out from before you,** until you have increased, and you inherit the land.” Exodus 23:29-30 NKJV
- (2) Wait for it...things won't happen in your timing
 - (a) “I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected. Then the LORD answered me and said: “Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. **For the vision is yet for an appointed time;** But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. **Though it tarries,** wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.” Habakkuk 2:1-3 NKJV

- (b) **See entire Habakkuk series here:** Habakkuk [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)
(each number is a link to a separated chapter teaching!)

E. Relationships with sin

(1) A snare!

- (a) “You shall make no covenant with them [inhabitation of Canaan], nor with their gods. They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against Me. For if you serve their gods, **it will surely be a snare to you.**”

Exodus 23:32-33 NKJV

(2) Easily Ensnared!

- (a) “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us**, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,” Hebrews 12:1

NKJV

F. The marriage Covenant of Yahweh and Israel

(1) The offer and the “I do”

- (a) “So Moses came and **told the people all the words of the LORD** and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “**All the words which the LORD has said we will do.**”” Exodus 24:3

NKJV

(2) The Marriage Ketubah (Certificate)

- (a) “**And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD.** And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel.” Exodus 24:4 NKJV
- (3) Marriage Consummated in Blood
 - (a) “**And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD.** And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel.” Exodus 24:4 NKJV

G. Can you see God?

- (1) They saw the God of Israel
 - (a) “Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, **and they saw the God of Israel.** And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and **it was like the very heavens in its clarity.** But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. **So they saw God,** and they ate and drank.” Exodus 24:9-11 NKJV
- (2) No one has seen God at any time
 - (a) “And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **No one has seen God at any time.** The only begotten Son, who is in the

bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." John
1:16-18 NKJV

- (b) **"No one has seen God at any time.** If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us." I John 4:12 NKJV
- (c) "But He said, **"You cannot see My face;** for no man shall see Me, and live... Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but **My face shall not be seen."**" Exodus 33:20, 23 NKJV

Summary: HONORABLE MENTION

1. The Law of the Hebrew Servant
2. Y'shua Teaching from Exodus
3. Pilgrimage Feasts
4. A God of perfect timing!
5. Relationships with sin
6. The marriage Covenant of Yahweh and Israel
7. Can you see God?

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. How are false reports and mob rule showing up in today's world?

- A. How is it that the guilty seem to be getting away with their lies?
- B. How can we be certain that in the end they will not escape God's judgment?

2. Describe how false witnesses played a role and the consequences for those who lied in each of the following:

- A. The stoning of Stephen
- B. The prophecy of Balaam
- C. The betrayal of Y'shua

3. Compare mob rule with governance by democracy.

- A. How does history prove that all democracies fail?

4. Describe how mob rule played out in the following biblical narratives:

- A. The Golden Calf
- B. The Kingship of Saul
- C. The Crucifixion of Y'shua

5. Describe how each of the following is involved in cultural manipulation:

- A. Mainstream Media

- B. Social Media
- C. Hidden Agenda Groups
- D. Virtue Signaling
- E. Institutional Brow Beating
- F. Faith-Based Complacency
- G. Cognitive Dissonance

6. How and why are Christians called to be non-conformist?

- A. Explain: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." And "Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends, than that good men should look on and do nothing."
- B. How does the call to practice righteousness and the anointing that comes with knowing Christ protect you from deception?