



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
- Romans 9-11
- Ephesians 2

CRITICAL ROOTS THEORY

- One Root
- One Warning
- No Loopholes

There are a few perspectives that can explain ignorance of any matter. The first, and most obvious, is that you know what you don't know. The other, which is more insidious, is that you don't know what you don't know. So, as we launch into this teaching, pay attention, not only to what you are certain you don't know, but be on the lookout for things you didn't even know that you didn't know.

I called this teaching "Critical Roots Theory", obviously to play off the controversial Critical Race Theory. I would venture to say that regarding the latter there is so much that you don't know that you don't know about it. It's much like that beacon of light movement call "Something" Lives Matter. I am purposely leaving out the proper name as to not be censored. But, you all know that to which I am referring. That organization cares about anything

other than that for which it is named. Nevertheless, most people don't even know that, nor do they know that they don't know that.

And that leads us to our current topic at hand. You may not actually know the Hebrew roots of your faith, and you may have not even realized you don't know them. Moses looked forward and said it like this. "This covenant that was made between you and Yahweh, it's not just for you. It is also for everyone who will come after you." That's a powerful idea. Y'shua made a similar promise at His last meal before He was crucified. "My prayers today are for all these men sitting before Me, as well as all those who will come to faith because of what they are about to bring into the world."

There is an unbroken link between Christians today, and those who came before us, all the way back to Abraham. Paul even told the Corinthians that all of their forefathers passed through the sea, even though they were clearly of Greek origin and not Hebrews. What connected them? And why is it appropriate to say we are all from the same root? Did you even know we were; or better yet, did you even know that you didn't know how critical it was that you should know? And more so, what controversies have arisen over the centuries because of this ignorance? Hence, "Critical Roots Theory."

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

“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

“And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, **and with them became a partaker of the root** and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but **the root supports you.**” Romans 11:17-18 NKJV

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

“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

“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

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. 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 cannot be said any better than Yahweh's words in next week's portion: *"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)

Deuteronomy 29

2. **Confirmation of the Covenant:** keep the words of this covenant that you may prosper in all that you do.
3. Yahweh confirms His covenant of promise to establish a people for Himself and then reveals this prophetic declaration:
 - (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

4. This idea of the covenant extending into the future is beautifully confirmed in the New Testament by Y'shua and Paul:
- (a) **Y'shua at the Last Supper:** *"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
 - (b) **Paul to the Corinthian Church:** *"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
5. **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](#))
6. **And even worse, don't turn towards other gods and think this abominable thought:** *"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

7. 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

8. 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!”*
9. 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

Deuteronomy 30

10. **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.
11. 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.

12. 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.
13. **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*
14. **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](#))
15. Yahweh calls heaven and earth as a witness against them if they do not obey. They have ZERO excuses! Paul 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

16. Last year this teaching was part of a double portion and was taught under the title: [The Spiritual Detective](#)

ONE ROOT

1. 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 who He calls “A people for Himself”!

(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

1. Who was not standing there that day? That would be you! The people He called, with whom He made that covenant, was you. You are a participant in that covenant and it was not erased in Y’shua, but instead ratified in Y’shua.

a) **Ratified:** Confirmed, Approved, Accepted, Upheld. Or in Y’shua’s words “Fulfilled” (Strong’s 4137 pléroó). It literally means “to make full, to complete”.

b) *“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill [Strong’s 4137. pléroó]. 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 [Comes into being—Strong's 1096. ginomai].” Matthew 5:17-18 NKJV

2. Y'shua made a course correction for all those who had incorrect perceptions and applications of the Law and the Prophets. He teaches that we are to stay the course until everything is complete! Look around; we are not finished yet!

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. Do you see it? Y'shua was extending His work through His disciples to all who would come after. Paul was connecting these Greek converts to "their Hebrew fathers", who were those in the Exodus. He wants them to connect to their Hebrew roots!
2. Now these words make perfect sense: "*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 10:12-13 NKJV

C. Wake up from wokeness—let's take a short journey through Romans 11

- (1) It was God who blinded them
 - (a) "What then? **Israel has not obtained what it seeks**; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. Just as it is written: "**God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear**, To this very day." And David says: "Let their table become a snare and a trap, A stumbling

block and a recompense to them. Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see, And bow down their back always.”” Romans 11:7-10 NKJV

1. God had a plan to help connect Jews and Greeks (Israel and Gentiles). First He had to blind Israel (those of a bloodline) to show that the covenant He made when “He called a people to Himself” was not limited by a physical bloodline.

(2) Salvation has come to the Gentiles—because they were blinded

(a) “I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, **salvation has come to the Gentiles**. Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, **how much more their fullness!** For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, if by any means I may **provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?**” Romans 11:11-15 NKJV

1. It is clear that because salvation comes by faith, that those not of a bloodline (flesh) inheritance, who

become part of the covenant of promises, will cause jealousy in those who believed the promises were for them. In that process, God will separate some of those of that bloodline (the flesh) and save them too. And won't that be glorious!

(3) You do not support the root, but the root supports you...

(a) **“For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy;** and if the root is holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, **remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.”** Romans 11:16-18 NKJV

1. You see, the key to the entire plan is to be connected to the root that supports the whole thing. Of course, that root is Messiah. It matters not whether your branch comes from Israel or Gentile stock, as long as it is grafted in, you can share in all of the promises.

(4) Grafted in!

(a) “You will say then, **“Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.”** Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be

haughty, but fear. **For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either.** Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off. And they also, **if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.** For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, **who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?"** Romans 11:19-24 NKJV

1. Don't get cocky. Everyone who is connected to the root gets there the same way, by faith they are grafted in. It does not matter if you were broken off at first, or if you were never a part, everyone attached to the roots has to be grafted in!

(5) All Israel will be Saved

(a) "For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that **blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved,** as it is written: "The

Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”” Romans 11:25-27 NKJV

1. The blindness that seems persistent in those who were of the natural stock (Israel), those who got broken off, is all part of the plan. And it will remain as such until all those who will come to faith who were never part of the original stock (Gentiles) are grafted in. This entire section of Roman 11, thus far, gives clarity to what Paul taught earlier in Romans 9.

a) **Not all Israel are of Israel—but the seed of promise is!** *“But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. **For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham;** but, “In Isaac your seed shall be called.” That is, **those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed.**” Romans 9:6-8 NKJV*

b) **Only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham:** *“Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the*

works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” **Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.** And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.”
Galatians 3:5-9 NKJV

- c) **Seed Not Seeds!** “Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. **He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one,** “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.” Galatians 3:16 NKJV
- d) **In Messiah You are Abraham’s Seed—** “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **There is neither Jew nor Greek,** there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And **if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.**” Galatians 3:27-29 NKJV

2. Do you see it now? The plan all along was to identify the children of God by a “Faith Marker” not a bloodline marker. By faith you are the seed of promise and that is what connects you back to Abraham and to all of the covenants of promise.
 3. In other words—faith connects you to your Hebrew Roots!
- (6) Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
- (a) **It was His plan all along—** “Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but **concerning the election they are beloved** for the sake of the fathers. For **the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable**. For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For **God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all. 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?”** “Or who has first given to Him

And it shall be repaid to him?" For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen." Romans 11:28-36 NKJV

1. Can anyone say it better than Paul? As he realizes and appreciates what Yahweh's plan was the whole time, he says this, "***Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!***"
2. He then asks this interesting question, one that he also posed to the Corinthians. "*Who has known the mind of the Lord?*" He gives us the answer in his letter to the Corinthians. We do!!
3. "*For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.***"
I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV

D. The Merging of Two Peoples

(1) Once Gentiles

- (a) **The blood of Christ makes us part of the covenants of Israel—** "Therefore remember that you, **once Gentiles in the flesh**—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—that **at that time** you were without Christ, being **aliens from the commonwealth of Israel** and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without

God in the world. **But now in Christ** Jesus you who once were far off have been **brought near** by the blood of Christ.” Ephesians 2:11-13 NKJV

(2) One New Man

(a) **In Messiah we are ONE NEW MAN! And that new man has no enmity for the commandments contained in ordinances!** “For He Himself is our peace, **who has made both one**, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having **abolished in His flesh the enmity**, that is, **the law of commandments contained in ordinances**, so as to **create in Himself one new man** from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby **putting to death the enmity**. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.” Ephesians 2:14-18 NKJV

1. Those outside the covenants of promises, those once called Gentiles, have become part of the “Commonwealth of Israel” through faith in the blood of Christ. Remember, this is not a grafting into the bloodline of Israel, but an Israel that is made up of all

those who have come to faith in Y'shua. This brings perfect meaning to Paul's words in the "Sinner's Prayer"— "*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 10:12-13 NKJV

2. Those who have come into this commonwealth have a new appreciation for "the law of commandments contained in ordinances." What is this new perspective? There is no more enmity of God's commandments; hatred for the law has been put to death.
3. Can you say that is true in the Church? Can you say that is true in your life?

Summary: ONE ROOT

1. Who was not standing at the Jordan with Moses? That would be you! The people He called, with whom He made that covenant, was you. You are a participant in that covenant and it was not erased in Y'shua, but instead ratified in Y'shua.
2. Y'shua made a course correction for all those who had incorrect perceptions and applications of the Law and the Prophets. He

teaches that we are to stay the course until everything is complete! Look around; we are not finished yet!

3. Y'shua extended His work through His disciples to all who would come after. Paul connected Greek converts to "their Hebrew fathers" who were those in the Exodus. He wanted them to connect to their Hebrew roots!
4. God had a plan to help connect Jews and Greeks (Israel and Gentiles). First He had to blind Israel (those of a bloodline) to show that the covenant He made when "He called a people to Himself" was not limited by a physical bloodline.
5. It is clear that because salvation comes by faith, that those not of a bloodline (flesh) inheritance, who become part of the covenant of promises, will cause jealousy in those who believed the promises were for them. In that process, God will separate some of those of that bloodline (the flesh) and save them too. And won't that be glorious.
6. The key to the entire plan is to be connected to the root that supports the whole thing. Of course, that root is Messiah. It matters not whether your branch comes from Israel or Gentile stock, as long as it is grafted in, you can share in all of the promises.
7. Don't get cocky. Everyone who is connected to the root gets there the same way, by faith they are grafted in. It does not

matter if you were broken off at first, or if you were never a part, everyone attached to the roots has to be grafted in!

8. The blindness that seems persistent in those who were of the natural stock (Israel), those who got broken off, is all part of the plan. And it will remain as such until all those who will come to faith who were never part of the original stock (Gentiles) are grafted in.
9. The plan all along was to identify the children of God by a “Faith Marker” not a bloodline marker. By faith you are the seed of promise and that is what connects you back to Abraham and to all of the covenants of promise.
10. In other words—faith connects you to your Hebrew Roots!
11. Can anyone say it better than Paul? As he realizes and appreciates what Yahweh’s plan was the whole time, he says this, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!”
12. He then asks this interesting question, one that he also posed to the Corinthians. “*Who has known the mind of the Lord?*” He gives us the answer in his letter to the Corinthians. We do! We have the mind of Christ.
13. Those outside the covenants of promises, those once called Gentiles, have become part of the “Commonwealth of Israel” through faith in the blood of Christ. Remember, this is not a

grafting into the bloodline of Israel, but an Israel that is made up of all those who have come to faith in Y'shua. You see, there is no distinction between Jew and Greek.

14. Those who have come into this commonwealth have a new appreciation for “the law of commandments contained in ordinances.” What is this new perspective? They have no enmity for God’s commandments; hatred for the law has been put to death.
15. Can you say that is true in the Church? Can you say that is true in your life?

ONE WARNING

2. A Root Bearing Bitterness

A. I Do it My WAY—If you don’t know where you’ve been, you won’t know where you are going

- (1) I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart...
 - (a) “(for you know that we dwelt in the land of Egypt and that we came through the nations which you passed by, and you **saw their abominations and their idols** which were among them—wood and stone and silver and gold); 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.** **“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.”** Deuteronomy 29:16-20 NKJV

1. When you come to the faith, you are warned.
Remember the abominations from your old life—
DON'T GO BACK TO THEM!
2. If you do entertain your old idolatrous ways, a root of bitterness will take hold and you may end up with what we see so commonly today! *“I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart.”*
3. Yes, instead of the one root you should be attached to, Y'shua, you may attach to “foreign gods”—
idolatrous desires that inspire a world of self-interests

and self-deception. I can do things my way and God will still bless me!

4. Jeremiah prophesied about following the dictates of your own heart—WARNING, it always ends badly!

a) *“And the Lord said, “Because they have **forsaken My law** which I set before them, and have **not obeyed My voice**, nor walked according to it, **but they have walked according to the dictates of their own hearts** and after the Baals, which their fathers taught them,” therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: “Behold, **I will feed them, this people, with wormwood**, and give them water of gall to drink. I will **scatter them also among the Gentiles**, whom neither they nor their fathers have known. And I will send a sword after them until I have consumed them.””* Jeremiah 9:13-16 NKJV

b) *“And you have **done worse than your fathers**, for behold, **each one follows the dictates of his own evil heart**, so that no one listens to Me. Therefore I will **cast you out of this land** into a land that you do not know, neither you nor your fathers; and there you shall serve other gods day and night,*

where I will not show you favor.” Jeremiah

16:12-13 NKJV

- c) *“And they said, **“That is hopeless! [In the previous verses Yahweh is telling them to stop their evil ways and return to doing good!] So we will walk according to our own plans, and we will every one obey the dictates of his evil heart.”** Therefore thus says the Lord: “Ask now among the Gentiles, Who has heard such things? The virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing. Will a man leave the snow water of Lebanon, Which comes from the rock of the field? Will the cold flowing waters be forsaken for strange waters? **“Because My people have forgotten Me, They have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, From the ancient paths, To walk in pathways and not on a highway, To make their land desolate and a perpetual hissing; Everyone who passes by it will be astonished And shake his head. I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them the back and not the face In the day of their calamity.”**”*

Jeremiah 18:12-17 NKJV

5. **See Last Year's Teaching:** [The Spiritual Detective](#)

Section 3 "THE SOBERING TRUTH— What happens if you follow the dictates of your own heart and go after other gods?"

B. Yahweh will make an example of those who refuse to obey

(1) Sodom and Gomorrah...

(a) **"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, so that the coming generation of your children who rise up after you, and the foreigner who comes from a far land, would say, when they see the plagues of that land and the sicknesses which the Lord has laid on it: 'The whole land is brimstone, salt, and burning; it is not sown, nor does it bear, nor does any grass grow there, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, which the Lord overthrew in His anger and His wrath.'" Deuteronomy 29:21-23 NKJV**

1. Disobedience causes separation, and if it comes down to it, before you go too far astray, I want to remind you what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim—the whole land is brimstone, salt, and burning!

2. And if you think that the warning only applied in the Old Testament, you are in for a rude awakening. Peter warned those he was discipling by reminding them what happens to rebels; God did not spare the angels but cast them into hell; He flooded the ancient world because of their sins; and he burned Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes because of their ungodliness. And Peter teaches us that we are to view these as examples of what will happen to...“false prophets, false teachers, and those who secretly bring in destructive heresies and deceptive words.” II Peter 2:1-3 NKJV

a) **An example to those who afterward would live ungodly—** *“For if **God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell** and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and **did not spare the ancient world**, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in **the flood on the world of the ungodly**; and **turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes**, condemned them to destruction, **making***

them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;" II Peter 2:4-6 NKJV

C. Why?

(1) Why has the Lord done so to this land?

(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. Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against this land, to bring on it every curse that is written in this book.'" Deuteronomy 29:24-27 NKJV

(2) The Lord uprooted them from their land

(a) "And **the Lord uprooted them from their land** in anger, in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.'" Deuteronomy 29:28 NKJV

(b) **See last year!** [The Spiritual Detective](#) ""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

1. Why has Yahweh done this? It’s quite simple—
“Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord.”
2. And that brings us full circle to understanding our roots, and the covenants we are part of, and how destructive it is to not know you are part of them, or that you don’t even know that you don’t know you should be!

Summary: ONE WARNING

1. When you come to the faith, you are warned. Remember the abominations from your old life—DON’T GO BACK TO THEM!
2. If you do entertain your old idolatrous ways, a root of bitterness will take hold and you may end up with what we see so commonly today! *“I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart.”*
3. Instead of the one root you should be attached to, Y’shua, you may attach to “foreign gods”—idolatrous desires that inspire a world of self-interests and self-deception. I can do things my way and God will still bless me!

4. Jeremiah prophesied about following the dictates of your own heart—WARNING, it always ends badly!
5. **See Last Year's Teaching:** [The Spiritual Detective](#) Section 3 "THE SOBERING TRUTH— What happens if you follow the dictates of your own heart and go after other gods?"
6. Disobedience causes separation, and if it comes down to it, before you go too far astray, I want to remind you what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim—the whole land is brimstone, salt, and burning!
7. And if you think that the warning only applied in the Old Testament, you are in for a rude awakening. Peter warned those he was disciplining by reminding them what happens to rebels; God did not spare the angels but cast them into hell; He flooded the ancient world because of their sins; and he burned Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes because of their ungodliness. And Peter teaches us that we are to view these as examples of what will happen to...“false prophets, false teachers, and those who secretly bring in destructive heresies and deceptive words.”
8. Why has Yahweh done this? It's quite simple— “Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord.”
9. And that brings us full circle to understanding our roots, and the covenants we are part of, and how destructive it is to not know

you are part of them, or that you don't even know that you don't know you should be!

NO LOOPHOLES

3. Stop looking for wiggle room—It's not that hard!

A. Loopholes and Wide Roads—the many and the few

(1) Most who think they are—ARE NOT!

(a) ““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.” Matthew 7:13-14 NKJV

(b) “A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.” Proverbs 16:9 NKJV

B. 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

1. Let's pause for a moment and recap.
2. The road is narrow and few find it. And it seems that it is pretty easy to stray off the road when it is so slim!
3. And that is precisely what the people of Israel do. Moses knows they will cross into the land, stray off the path, and Yahweh must bring them back.
4. It is clear that you cannot stay on the narrow road unless you have a circumcised heart! Ah—that makes sense.
5. And look what that circumcised heart will yield! **“... obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law.”**
6. Now read Paul's take on this:
 - a) *“(for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, **but the doers of the law will be justified**; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, **who show***

*the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)... For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law? For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; **but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.**" Romans 2:13-15, 25-29 NKJV*

C. 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 [too difficult] 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, so don’t get hung up on “doing it” being too difficult!

(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

D. 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 Deuteronomy 30:11-14, which is where Moses writes about the righteousness of faith!)

(a) **[1] "But [And] the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, [2] "Do not say in your heart, [3] 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " [4] (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " [5] 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " [6] (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? [7] "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" [8] (that is, the word of faith which we preach):"**
Romans 10:6-8 NKJV

(b) **[1] "For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. [2] It is not in heaven, that you should say, [3] 'Who will ascend into heaven for us [4] and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' [5] Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us [6] and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' [7] But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, [8] that you may do it.**
Deut. 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. 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.

2. Israel was ignorant of God's righteousness because they were too busy establishing their own version of righteousness.
3. True righteousness is found only when Christ is your goal.
4. When Paul quoted Leviticus 18:5 in Romans 10:5, he was clearly teaching that the Law brings life!
5. Finally, Paul does a masterful job teaching that the beauty of a circumcised heart yields a desire to obey God's commandments. He brilliantly weaves the words of Romans 10:6-8 with Deuteronomy 30 11-14.
6. Paul ultimately 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!"

Summary: NO LOOPHOLES

1. The road is narrow and few find it. And it seems that it is pretty easy to stray off the road when it is so slim!
2. And that is precisely what the people of Israel do. Moses knows they will cross into the land, stray off the path, and Yahweh must bring them back.

3. It is clear that you cannot stay on the narrow road unless you have a circumcised heart! Ah—that makes sense.
4. And look what that circumcised heart will yield! "...obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law."
5. 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.
6. Israel was ignorant of God's righteousness because they were too busy establishing their own version of righteousness.
7. True righteousness is found only when Christ is your goal.
8. When Paul quoted Leviticus 18:5 in Romans 10:5, he was clearly teaching that the Law brings life!
9. Finally, Paul does a masterful job teaching that the beauty of a circumcised heart yields a desire to obey God's commandments. He brilliantly weaves the words of Romans 10:6-8 with Deuteronomy 30 11-14.
10. Paul ultimately 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!"

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. 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...

2. Explain using Y'shua's words in Matthew 5:17-18 how you are connected to the Law and the Prophets.

- A. Explain what it means that Y'shua came to fulfill the Law.

3. What does it mean that God had to blind Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in?

- A. Distinguish the difference between the covenant made with the flesh from the one made by faith.
- B. What does it mean that you do not support the root, but the root supports you?
- C. Why does everyone need to be grafted in?
- D. Explain: They are not all Israel who are of Israel.
- E. Relate the seed of Abraham to the Root!

4. Explain the following:

- A. You, as a Christian, were once aliens to the Commonwealth of Israel and the covenants of promise, but in Christ you are now part of them.

B. Christ has abolished the enmity of the Law.

C. There is no Jew and no Greek.

5. Explain why the following will cause a root bearing bitterness.

A. I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart.

B. What warnings were there in both Deuteronomy and II Peter if you decide to follow the dictates of your own heart?

6. 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?

B. Why are so many Christians looking for loopholes instead of desiring to be radically obedient to God?