



Portion:

Title:

## SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 18:1-20:26
- Genesis 15:7-18
- Romans 6-8
- John 2:19-22
- Luke 14:25-35

## CANCELLATION POLICY

- Converted
- Informed
- Accepted
- Verified
- Ratified

*If more people could recognize how many things in our everyday lives were copied from the Holy Scriptures, less people would resist the truth about the one and only God. For instance, think about the seven day week. The whole world agrees to it, organizes everything around it, and is willing to run their personal lives and businesses by it, and yet they fail to recognize it comes directly from the Bible. Even the most staunch evolutionists, who abhor the idea of creation, blindly and comically submit to a seven day week. It's really hysterical when you think about it.*

*This is true in other areas as well. Take the legal world, for instance. It copies concepts straight from the Bible. For example, in contract law you must have a valid offer and acceptance. All parties*

*involved must have the capacity, legal standing, and soundness of mind to enter the agreement. And what will be exchanged between parties must be deemed fair and equitable in advance. In addition, many types of contracts include a three-day cooling-off period, so those entering the agreement have a way to back out of their commitment without recourse, after they've had adequate time to consider all the obligations and ramifications that would be included in their commitment. Can you believe it? You have three days to make sure you have entered an agreement you are willing to keep? Why three days? Where have we seen that before? Oh, right here at Mount Sinai.*

*First, God reminds the people what He has done for them to bring them to this place and that they are His chosen, so it's well established that they have the mental capacity and legal standing to enter an agreement with Him. They had a legal offer on the table; had already agreed it was beneficial, and had already accepted. That should have been enough to seal the deal! But instead, God says, "Go tell the people to get ready, because on the third day I am coming down to ratify our agreement!" And, after you've had three days to consider all the ramifications, if you still say yes, then there is no backing out!*

*To simplify, there are two sides to every agreement. God's side is locked-in and guaranteed from the start, but you have three days*

*to really think about what you are committing to, and if you want to opt out during that period—fine. But, if you don't, then the contract is set in stone, and you will be held accountable for your side of the bargain.*

### **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

**“Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods;** for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them.”

Exodus 18:11 NKJV

**“You have seen what I did** to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.” Exodus 19:4

NKJV

“Then all the people answered together and said, **“All that the Lord has spoken we will do.”** So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.” Exodus 19:8 NKJV

“Then the Lord said to Moses, **“Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow,** and let them wash their clothes. And let them be ready for the third day. **For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.”** Exodus 19:10-11 NKJV

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

“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, **nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39 NKJV

“Then they said to Moses, **“You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.”** And Moses said to the people, **“Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.”** So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was. Then the Lord said to Moses, **“Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.** You shall not make anything to be with Me—gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves.” Exodus 20:19-23 NKJV

## Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The portion tells the story of Jethro's visit to the camp of Israel, then recounts the physical manifestation of God to man (a theophany) at Mount Sinai. This is when and where Yahweh gives Israel His commandments and the Ten Commandments

(the bullet point summary of the commandments) are written on two stone tablets. God then invites the people to enter a special covenant relationship with Him.

2. **Special Note:** When you read Exodus Chapter 20 in a Torah or the Complete Jew Bible (CJB), you will discover only 23 verses. In all other English translations of the Bible you will find 26 verses. **The content is the same** but the verses are separated differently toward the end of the chapter. For our purposes we use the 26-verse versions.

### **Exodus 18**

3. Moses reunites in the wilderness with his father-in-law Jethro, and his wife Zipporah and with his sons.
4. During the conflict with Egypt, Zipporah and the children were staying with Jethro.
5. Jethro acknowledges that Yahweh is the one true God as he recounts Israel's deliverance. He then offers a burnt offering to Yahweh. It would seem this is Jethro's moment of conversion.
6. Then Jethro witnesses Moses dealing with the people morning and night, and handling all inquires and difficulties (remember there are a few million of them).
7. "When they have a difficulty, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and I make known the statutes of God and His laws." Exodus 18:16

8. Jethro then counsels Moses, as he warns him that this approach will wear him out. He insures Moses that Yahweh will bless a new approach.
9. He advises Moses to select God-fearing men to help him, and to make leaders over groups of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.
10. He tells him to reserve only the most difficult cases for himself and Moses does exactly as advised.

### **Exodus 19**

11. Then in the third month, Israel arrives at Mt. Sinai. The Law and the Holy Spirit were “given” at the same time in relationship to Passover. Here in Exodus the Law is given in relationship to the first Passover and the exodus from Egypt and in Acts the Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost in relationship to the Passover for which Y’shua was the Lamb of God.
12. Yahweh reminds Moses all He has done to bring them there and tells Moses He wishes to make a covenant with the people.
13. He promises Moses that if Israel will obey His voice and keep His covenant: He will make them a special treasure above all people, and they will be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.
14. This is a marriage proposal to Israel for them to become Yahweh’s bride. And they accept. “All that the LORD has spoken we will do.” Exodus 19:8

15. Yahweh tells the people to consecrate themselves and that in three days He is coming “down on the mountain.” And He warns the people not to step foot on the mountain.
16. On the third day Yahweh calls Moses and tells him to set boundaries around the mountain, lest the people come near, and then he calls Moses and Aaron to come up.

### **Exodus 20**

17. Then Yahweh speaks the Ten Commandments to Moses (Exodus 20:2-17).

- I. You shall have no other gods before Me.
- II. You shall not make for yourself a carved image [no idolatry]—you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.
- III. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God [Yahweh or Y’shua] in vain [bring it to nothing]—for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who does.
- IV. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy—the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh your God.
- V. Honor your father and your mother, so you may live a long life.
- VI. You shall not murder.
- VII. You shall not commit adultery.
- VIII. You shall not steal.

IX. You shall not bear false witness.

X. You shall not covet.

18. The people hear the thunderous interaction from down below and they tremble.
19. They tell Moses to speak to them for Yahweh as a go between as they fear a direct encounter.
20. Moses explains that Yahweh has come to test them so that they may not sin.
21. At the end of the portion Yahweh warns the people not to make any type of idol to use as a way to get close to Him.
22. Yahweh teaches them how to make an altar and promises that every place where He records His name He will come to them and bless them.
23. See [Rock Paper Scissors](#) to study last year's teaching on this portion.

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. The Basic Elements of a Contract

#### A. The basic elements required for an agreement to be a legally enforceable contract (also see [Bicycles Don't Have Reverse](#)):

- (1) **Mutual Assent:** Agreement by both parties to a contract. Mutual assent must be proven objectively, and is often established by showing **an offer and acceptance** (e.g., an



offer to do X in exchange for Y, followed by an acceptance of that offer.)

- (2) **Valid Offer:** A valid offer is an expression of **the desire to enter into a contract that is beneficial to both parties** involved in the agreement.
- (3) **Adequate Consideration:** Adequate consideration refers to **a price which is equal in value for an act or a thing for which it is given.** The price can be in the form of money, property, and or the promise to do or not to do an act.
- (4) **Capacity:** The ability, capability, or fitness to do something; a legal right, power, or competency to perform some act. An ability to comprehend both the nature and consequences of one's acts. Capacity relates to **soundness of mind and to an intelligent understanding and perception of one's actions.**
- (5) **Legality:** Legality can be defined as **an act, agreement, or contract that is consistent with the law** or state of being lawful or unlawful in a given jurisdiction, and the construct of power. The attachment to or observance of law.

## **B. Your Opt-out Period**

- (1) There is a three day right to cancel. It involves a number of federal laws that are referred to as cool-off rules that give

signers the right to cancel a contract after a few days of signing them. There are many types of contracts that this three day right to cancel can apply to.

- (2) The Cooling-Off Rule gives you three days **to cancel certain sales made at your home, workplace, or** dormitory, or at a seller's temporary location, like a hotel or motel room, convention center, fairground, or restaurant. The Rule also applies when you invite a salesperson to make a presentation in your home.
- (3) The Seller Must Tell You About Your Right To Cancel. By law, the seller has to tell you at the time of the sale about your right to cancel.
- (4) The contract must explain your right to cancel.
- (5) The contract or receipt must be in the same language that's used in the sales presentation.
- (6) You don't have to give a reason for canceling. You have a right to change your mind.

### **C. Contracts with God**

- (1) God is willing to do the heavy lifting!
  - (a) **Abram experienced how Yahweh is willing to infuse the power into both sides of an agreement:** "Then He said to him, "I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, **to give you this land** to inherit it." And

he said, **“Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?”** So He said to him, “Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” Then he brought all these to Him and **cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other;** but he did not cut the birds in two. And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. Then He said to Abram: **“Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers** in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. **But in the fourth generation they shall return here,** for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.””

Genesis 15:7-16 NKJV

1. I will give you this land.
2. There will certainly be some complications along the way.

3. But I guarantee, in the end, you will have what I promise!

(2) He is willing to uphold both halves!

(a) **God signs on the dotted line!** “And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and **a burning torch that passed between those pieces.** On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—” Genesis 15:17-18 NKJV

1. Notice how with Abram, Yahweh is the ONLY ONE “keeping the covenant.”

2. He empowers BOTH SIDES of the contract!

(3) He Predestined—He Called—He Justified—He Glorified

(a) **It always works out great for God’s chosen!** “And we know that **all things work together for good to those who love God,** to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, **He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son,** that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom **He predestined,** these He also called; whom **He called,** these He also justified; and whom **He**

**justified**, these **He** also **glorified**.” Romans 8:28-30

NKJV

1. Notice that it is Yahweh who guarantees the end result.
  2. Notice it is He who is the final arbiter of your predestination, conforming, calling, justification and glorification.
- (4) Unwavering—Nothing will stop the fulfillment of His end of the agreement!
- (a) **Nothing can ever separate us from God’s agreement over our lives! “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?** He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” **Yet in all these things we are**

**more than conquerors through Him who loved us.** For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, **nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**" Romans 8:31-39

NKJV

1. If God is on our side, it matters not who is against us!
2. Nothing can break the covenant we have!
3. When we have trials, we don't only overcome, but we are victorious beyond our imagination.
4. There is nothing real or imagined than can ever break the covenant contract we have with God!

## **Summary: INTRODUCTION**

### **1. The Basic Elements of a Contract**

- A. The basic elements required for an agreement to be a legally enforceable contract.
  - (1) Mutual Assent: an offer and acceptance
  - (2) A Valid Offer
  - (3) Adequate Consideration
  - (4) Capacity
  - (5) Legality

## B. Your Opt-out Period

- (1) There is a three day right to cancel many types of contracts
- (2) The Cooling-Off Rule.
- (3) You don't have to give a reason for canceling. You have a right to change your mind.

## C. Contracts with God

- (1) God is willing to do the heavy lifting!
  - (a) Abram experienced how Yahweh is willing to infuse the power into both sides of an agreement:
    1. I will give you this land.
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  - (a) It always works out great for God's chosen!
    1. Notice that it is Yahweh who guarantees the end result.

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## CONVERTED

### 2. The Power of Testimony— Jethro’s Conversion

#### A. Testimony!

- (1) Your Personal Testimony is Powerful
- (a) “And **Moses told his father-in-law all that the Lord had done** to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, all the hardship that had come upon them on the way, and how the Lord had delivered them.” Exodus 18:8  
NKJV



(2) Tell the Story!

(a) **How will they know? “How then shall they call on Him** in whom they have not believed? And **how shall they believe in Him** of whom they have not heard? And **how shall they hear** without a preacher? **And how shall they preach unless they are sent?** As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!””

Romans 10:14-15 NKJV

(b) **The Lamb of God:** “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “**Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**” John 1:29 NKJV

(c) **For God so love the world:** “For God so loved the world that **He gave His only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have **everlasting life.**” John 3:16 NKJV

(d) **Christ Crucified:** “And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. **For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**” I Corinthians 2:1-2 NKJV

1. Moses told his testimony to Jethro.

2. And how will anyone know of your testimony unless you go tell them!
3. Tell them about the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world; the Son of God who came to give them everlasting life; and do it with the simple and power words of “Christ crucified”!

## **B. The Impression!**

- (1) Jethro recognized what had happened!
  - (a) **Jethro’s rejoiced at the testimony!** “Then Jethro **rejoiced for all the good which the Lord had done** for Israel, whom He had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.” Exodus 18:9 NKJV
- (2) Impressions make a difference!
  - (a) **The disciples preached the resurrection and many believed!** “Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them, being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and **preached in Jesus the resurrection** from the dead. And they laid hands on them, and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. However, **many of those who heard the word believed;** and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.” Acts 4:1-4 NKJV

- (b) **There was great joy over the testimonies of conversions!** “So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, **describing the conversion of the Gentiles;** and **they caused great joy** to all the brethren.” Acts 15:3 NKJV
- (c) **A great multiple were persuaded after demonstrating Christ’s testimony!** “Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, **explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead,** and saying, “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.” **And some of them were persuaded;** and **a great multitude** of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas.” Acts 17:2-4 NKJV
- (d) **Some will resist, some will join. Your job is to testify!** “Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ...And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, **some mocked,** while others said, “We will hear you again on this matter.” So Paul departed from among them. However, **some men joined him and believed,** among them Dionysius the

Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them." Acts 17:22, 32-34 NKJV

(e) **Sometimes it does not stick! Your job is still to testify!**

(Read the entirety of Acts 26): "Then Agrippa said to Paul, **"You are permitted to speak for yourself."** ...**So Paul stretched out his hand and answered** for himself: Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!" ...Then Agrippa said to Paul, **"You almost persuade me to become a Christian."**" Acts 26:1, 24, 28 NKJV

1. Jethro rejoiced at Moses' testimony.
2. The disciples preached and people believed.
3. People rejoiced at the testimony of conversions.
4. Great multitudes will be persuaded by your testimony.
5. Some will resist and some will simply say no! Either way, your job is to testify!

**C. The Acknowledgment!**

(1) This God you follow really saved you!

- (a) **Jethro Blessed be the Lord...** "And Jethro said, **"Blessed be the Lord, who has delivered you** out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, **and who**

**has delivered the people** from under the hand of the Egyptians." Exodus 18:10 NKJV

(2) Bless the Lord!

(a) **Bless Him who has made us born again! "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." I Peter 1:3-5 NKJV

1. Jethro acknowledged that Yahweh is and blessed Him.
2. We Acknowledge the Father and the Son and Bless Him!

#### **D. The Admission**

(1) Now I know who is the One and Only God!

(a) **Jethro admits that Yahweh is the true God! "Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods;** for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them."" Exodus 18:11 NKJV

(2) You are God and there is no other!

(a) **Peter declares there is no other God!** “From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” But Simon Peter answered Him, **“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”**”  
John 6:66-69 NKJV

1. There is no other God but Yahweh!
2. No one else has the words of eternal life!

#### **E. The Worship**

(1) Praise Him now that you know He is God!

(a) **The natural thing to do at this point is to worship!**  
“Then Jethro, **Moses’ father-in-law, took a burnt offering and other sacrifices to offer to God.** And Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law before God.” Exodus 18:12  
NKJV

(2) He believed and he worshiped Him.

(a) **The blind man who had been rejected by the Pharisees after being healed by Y’shua.** “Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, **“Do you believe in the Son of God?”** He answered

and said, **“Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”** And Jesus said to him, **“You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”** Then he said, **“Lord, I believe!”** **And he worshiped Him.**” John 9:35-38 NKJV

1. It is natural to now worship the one and only God once you have had the revelation of who He is!

**Summary:** CONVERTED

## **2. The Power of Testimony—Jethro’s Conversion**

### A. Testimony!

(1) Your Personal Testimony is Powerful

(2) Tell the Story!

(a) How will they know unless they are sent?

(b) Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

(c) For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son

(d) I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

1. Moses told his testimony to Jethro.

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(1) Now I know who is the One and Only God!

(a) Jethro admits that Yahweh is the true God!

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(a) Peter declares there is no other God!

1. There is no other God but Yahweh!

2. No one else has the words of eternal life!

#### E. The Worship

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(a) The natural thing to do at this point is to worship!

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(a) The blind man who had been rejected by the Pharisees after being healed by Y'shua.

1. It is natural to now worship the one and only God once you have had the revelation of who He is!

## INFORMED

### 3. Governance for God's People

#### A. What are the Old Testament standards by which to rule?

(1) How do you rule when there is an inquiry...

(a) "And Moses said to his father-in-law, "**Because the people come to me to inquire of God.**" Exodus 18:15 NKJV

(2) We use God's laws to judge...

(a) **I make known the statutes of God and His laws...**

"When they **have a difficulty**, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and **I make known the statutes of God and His laws.**" Exodus 18:16 NKJV

(b) Then we get all the advice from Jethro about how to structure a leadership team and make decisions and judgements—Exodus 18:17-27

1. When you have to make a ruling among God's people, you must base your decisions on His statutes and laws

#### B. What are the New Testament standards by which to rule?

(1) When there is an inquiry...first ask this...**What is sin?**

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness.**" I John 3:4 NKJV

(a) **How do you rule when there is a difficulty? “What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you **obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.** And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so **now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.** For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. **But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God,** you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:15-23 NKJV

(b) **It's best that you know the law! "Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion** over a man as long as he lives? For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, **she is released from the law of her husband.** So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, **she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.** Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. **But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter."** Romans 7:1-6 NKJV

(2) We use God's laws to judge...

(a) **What is sin?** "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness."** I John 3:4 NKJV

(b) **The law reveals sin! “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law.** For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “You shall not covet.” But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. **For apart from the law sin was dead.** I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. **For sin, taking occasion by the commandment,** deceived me, and by it killed me. **Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.”** Romans 7:7-12 NKJV

(c) “Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that **a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.** Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. **Do we then make void the law through faith?**

**Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”**

Romans 3:27-31 NKJV

1. What are we judged by as Christians? Does grace give his a free pass to sin? Of course not.
2. And let's get a clear definition of sin so there is no confusion. Sin is lawlessness!
3. You are responsible to live by the doctrine which you have received as your standard of living.
4. Before, you were a slave to sin, now you are a slave to God, holiness and righteousness.
5. The law both defines sin and what will release you from sin and its penalties.
6. How ironic it is to think that in Christ you have no obligations to the very law that defines how Christ can cover your sin.
7. The law states within the law that you have the right to be released from being bound to Satan and then to become bound to Christ.
8. In other words, the law has a clause in it that allows you to be delivered from your bondage to sin and to now serve God in a new life.
9. If you get rid of the law, you get rid of the provision that allows this very deliverance. You get it?

10. So, sin is lawlessness. The law defines sin because without it, you would not even know what sin is. In other words, sin would not exist without the law telling you it was sin.
11. Here is the bottom line. Sin was codified by God giving us His commandments, which makes the commandments a very good thing. It makes the law holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.
12. The critical difference between obeying the law in a way that is pleasing to God and “deeds of law”, which is legalism, is the faith factor.
13. So, faith does not nullify the law. Oh, quite the opposite. It actually establishes the law!

**Summary:** INFORMED

### **3. Governance for God's People**

- A. What are the Old Testament standards by which to rule?
  - (1) How do you rule when there is an inquiry...
  - (2) We use God's laws to judge...
    - (a) I make known the statutes of God and His laws.
      1. When you have to make a ruling among God's people, you must base your decisions on His statutes and laws.

B. What are the New Testament standards by which to rule?

(1) When there is an inquiry...first ask this...What is sin?

(a) How do you rule when there is a difficulty?

(b) It's best that you know the law!

(2) We use God's laws to judge...

(a) What is sin? Sin is lawlessness.

(b) The law reveals sin!

(c) Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

1. What are we judged by as Christians? Does grace give his a free pass to sin? Of course not.

2. And let's get a clear definition of sin so there is no confusion. Sin is lawlessness!

3. You are responsible to live by the doctrine which you have received as your standard of living.

4. Before, you were a slave to sin, now you are a slave to God, holiness and righteousness.

5. The law both defines sin and what will release you from sin and its penalties.

6. How ironic it is to think that in Christ you have no obligations to the very law that defines how Christ can cover your sin.



7. The law states within the law that you have the right to be released from being bound to Satan and then to become bound to Christ.
8. In other words, the law has a clause in it that allows you to be delivered from your bondage to sin and to now serve God in a new life.
9. If you get rid of the law, you get rid of the provision that allows this very deliverance. You get it?
10. So, sin is lawlessness. The law defines sin because without it, you would not even know what sin is. In other words, sin would not exist without the law telling you it was sin.
11. Here is the bottom line. Sin was codified by God giving us His commandments, which makes the commandments a very good thing. It makes the law holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.
12. The critical difference between obeying the law in a way that is pleasing to God and “deeds of law”, which is legalism, is the faith factor.
13. So, faith does not nullify the law. Oh, quite the opposite. It actually establishes the law!

ACCEPTED

#### 4. You really want in?

##### A. You have all the proof you need!

(1) You already have proof of how I operate!

- (a) **Remember how I handled your enemies and how I chose you!** “And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: ‘**You have seen what I did** to the Egyptians, and how **I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.**” Exodus 19:3-4 NKJV

(2) The Proposal

- (a) **Here’s the deal. If you want in, you will have to obey Me and keep My rules!** “Now therefore, **if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant**, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.” Exodus 19:5-6 NKJV

1. **The proposal relayed to the people...** “So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and **laid**

**before them all these words which the Lord commanded him.” Exodus 19:7 NKJV**

(3) The Answer

(a) **Okay, here is the people’s initial response! We are in!**

“Then all the people answered together and said, **“All that the Lord has spoken we will do.”** So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.” Exodus 19:8 NKJV

1. **The answer relayed to Yahweh...**“And the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever.” **So Moses told the words of the people to the Lord.”** Exodus 19:9 NKJV

**B. You too, as a Christian, have all the proof you need!**

(1) I Chose you!

(a) **It’s pretty obvious that you did not choose God, but**

**God chose you! “You did not choose Me, but I chose you** and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. **These things I command you, that you love one another.”**

John 15:16-17 NKJV

(2) Behold the Lamb of God

(a) **It's pretty obvious you have all the evidence you need!**

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He** of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.” And John bore witness, saying, **“I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.** I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”” John 1:29-34  
NKJV

(3) Let's me make sure I am not missing something!

(a) **Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?**

“Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, **“Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?”**” Luke 7:18-19 NKJV

(4) Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?

- (a) **Miracles abound!** “When the men had come to Him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, **‘Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?’** ” And that very hour **He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight.**” Luke 7:20-21 NKJV
- (5) You already have proof of how I operate!
- (a) **Just like God told Moses to reminded the people—“*You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.*”**  
“Jesus answered and said to them, **“Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard:** that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them.” Luke 7:22 NKJV
1. First God tells Moses to remind the people of all He has done for them and to their enemies, and how HE CHOSE THEM!
  2. Then He tells them that if they want in, they are going to have to do things His way.
  3. The people make an immediate decision and say they want in.
  4. In Christ we too are reminded that He chose us!

5. And it is glaringly obvious that He has shown us who He is.
6. And even when we question Him so we can be certain, He overwhelmingly demonstrates who He is and what He has done for us and to our enemies!

**Summary:** ACCEPTED

#### **4. You really want in?**

A. You have all the proof you need!

(1) You already have proof of how I operate!

(a) Remember how I handled your enemies and how I chose you!

(2) The Proposal

(a) Here's the deal. If you want in, you will have to obey Me and keep My rules!

1. The proposal relayed to the people...

(3) The Answer

(a) Okay, here is the people's initial response! We are in!

1. The answer relayed to Yahweh...

B. You too, as a Christian, have all the proof you need!

(1) I Chose you!

(a) It's pretty obvious that you did not choose God, but God chose you!

- (2) Behold the Lamb of God
  - (a) It's pretty obvious you have all the evidence you need!
- (3) Let's me make sure I am not missing something!
  - (a) Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?
- (4) Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?
  - (a) Miracles abound is your answer!
- (5) You already have proof of how I operate!
  - (a) Just like God told Moses to reminded the people—*“You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.”*
    1. First God tells Moses to remind the people of all He has done for them and to their enemies, and how HE CHOSE THEM!
    2. Then He tells them that if they want in, they are going to have to do things His way.
    3. The people make an immediate decision and say they want in.
    4. In Christ we too are reminded that He chose us!
    5. And it is glaringly obvious that He has shown us who He is.
    6. And even when we question Him so we can be certain, He overwhelmingly demonstrates who He is and what He has done for us and to our enemies!

VERIFIED

## 5. The Opt-Out Period

### A. You have three days to make your final decision!

(1) On the Third Day!

(a) **Go get ready. Prepare yourself, because you are going to be required to make a final decision!** “Then the Lord said to Moses, **“Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.”** Exodus 19:10-11 NKJV

(b) Prophetic Picture—the wedding dress of the marriage supper of the Lamb

1. **Arrayed in fine linen!** “Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, **for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**” And **to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright,** for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:7-8 NKJV

2. **A bride adorned for her husband!** “Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,



coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**” Revelation 21:1-2  
NKJV

(2) Get ready...

(a) **Set Boundaries and Don't touch (First WARNING):**

**“You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, ‘Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death.** Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow; whether man or beast, he shall not live.’ When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain.” So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes.” Exodus 19:12-14 NKJV

(3) It's time to meet Yahweh

(a) **Let's go meet with Yahweh to ratify this thing!** “**And**

**Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God,** and they stood at the foot of the mountain.

Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. And when the blast of the trumpet

sounded long and became louder and louder, **Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.**" Exodus 19:17-19 NKJV

(4) SECOND WARNING

- (a) **You already told us to set boundaries...** "Then the Lord came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. And the Lord said to Moses, **Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the Lord, and many of them perish.** Also let the priests who come near the Lord consecrate themselves, lest the Lord break out against them." But Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; **for You warned us, saying,** 'Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.' " Then the Lord said to him, **"Away! Get down and then come up, you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, lest He break out against them."** So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them." Exodus 19:20-25 NKJV

**B. A few others irresistible ultimatums...Opt in or out?**

- (1) Elijah

(a) **Pick God or god!** “And Elijah came to all the people, and said, “How long will you falter between two opinions? **If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.**” But the people answered him not a word.”  
I Kings 18:21 NKJV

(2) Joshua

(a) **Choose who you will serve!** ““Now therefore, **fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers** served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. **Serve the Lord!** And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,** whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**” So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. And the Lord drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in

the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." But Joshua said to the people, **"You cannot serve the Lord, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God;** He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good." And the people said to Joshua, **"No, but we will serve the Lord!"**" Joshua 24:14-21 NKJV

### C. Make a decision...

(1) On the third day!

(a) **You have three days to decide if you want to opt out!**

"Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and **no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.** For as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matthew 12:38-40 NKJV

1. "A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and **no sign shall be given to it except the sign**

**of the prophet Jonah.”** And He left them and departed.” Matthew 16:4 NKJV

- (b) **After the resurrection you will realize that your three day opt out period has ended!** “Jesus answered and said to them, **“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”** Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” **But He was speaking of the temple of His body. Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them;** and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.” John 2:19-22 NKJV

(2) Meet the real God

- (a) **You forgive, He forgives!** ““For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”** Matthew 6:14-15 NKJV

(3) WARNING

- (a) **Don’t fill your heart with temporary treasures!** ““Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,

where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**" Matthew 6:19-21 NKJV

(4) SECOND WARNING

- (a) **Protect you eyes!** ""The lamp of the body is the eye. **If therefore your eye is good,** your whole body will be full of light. **But if your eye is bad,** your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matthew 6:22-23 NKJV

(5) If He is the lord!

- (a) **Don't be deceive. You cannot serve two masters!** ""**No one can serve two masters;** for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and mammon.**" Matthew 6:24 NKJV

1. God to Israel—Get ready and prepare yourself, you have three days to make your final decision.
2. Don't try to preempt the process by breaking through where you do not belong. This is so important, that the people get two warnings.
3. Both Elijah and Joshua gave ultimatums—chose who the real God is and stick to it.

4. And this is so serious that it is why you have these three days to decide.
5. As believers you also have a three-day period that represents the valley of decision.
6. What that looks like is this. You believe Y'shua is Lord and you believe He resurrected after three days. That is the one and only sign needed! Once you come to that conclusion, you have past your opt-out period.
7. What life looks like from there on is this:
  - a) Forgive as you want to be forgiven
  - b) Stop chasing earthly treasures
  - c) Protect your life from being invaded with the world.
  - d) Pick one Master; you cannot serve two.

**Summary:** VERIFIED

## **5. The Opt-Out Period**

- A. You have three days to make your final decision!
  - (1) On the Third Day!
    - (a) Go get ready. Prepare yourself, because you are going to be required to make a final decision!
    - (b) Prophetic Picture—the wedding dress of the marriage supper pf the Lamb

1. Clean fine linen
  2. A bride adorned for her husband
- (2) Get ready...
- (a) Set Boundaries and Don't touch (First WARNING):
- (3) It's time to meet Yahweh
- (a) Let's go meet with Yahweh to ratify this thing!
- (4) SECOND WARNING
- (a) You already told us to set boundaries...
- B. A few others irresistible ultimatums...Opt in or out?
- (1) Elijah
    - (a) Pick God or god!
  - (2) Joshua
    - (a) Choose who you will serve!
- C. Make a decision...
- (1) On the third day!
    - (a) You have three days to decide if you want to opt out!
      1. No sign shall be given to you except the sign of the prophet Jonah.
    - (b) After the resurrection you will realize that your three day opt out period has ended!
  - (2) Meet the real God
    - (a) You forgive, He forgives!
  - (3) WARNING



- (a) Don't fill your heart with temporary treasures!
- (4) SECOND WARNING
  - (a) Protect you eyes!
- (5) If He is the lord!
  - (a) Don't be deceive. You cannot serve two masters!
    1. God to Israel—Get ready and prepare yourself, you have three days to make your final decision.
    2. Don't try to preempt the process by breaking through where you do not belong. This is so important, that the people get two warnings.
    3. Both Elijah and Joshua gave ultimatums—chose who the real God is and stick to it.
    4. And this is so serious that it is why you have these three days to decide.
    5. As believers you also have a three-day period that represents the valley of decision.
    6. What that looks like is this. You believe Y'shua is Lord and you believe He resurrected after three days. That is the one and only sign needed! Once you come to that conclusion, you have past your opt-out period.
    7. What life looks like from there on is this:
      - a) Forgive as you want to be forgiven
      - b) Stop chasing earthly treasures

- c) Protect your life from being invaded with the world.
- d) Pick one Master; you cannot serve two.

RATIFIED

## 6. The Final Contact Presented

### A. You're in...this is what you've agreed to!

(1) The Ketubah (The Marriage Covenant)

(a) The Ten Commandments Exodus 20:1-17

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image [no idolatry]—you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God [Yahweh or Y'shua] in vain [bring it to nothing]—for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who does.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy—the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh your God.
5. Honor your father and your mother, so you may live a long life.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.

9. You shall not bear false witness.

10. You shall not covet.

(2) The three day cancellation clause expired

(a) **Yahweh will now hold you to your commitment to NOT SIN!** “Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off. Then they said to Moses, **“You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.”** And Moses said to the people, **“Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.”** So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was.” Exodus 20:18-21 NKJV

(b) **You said yes from the onset, but then you witnessed that I spoke from heaven!** “Then the Lord said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: **‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. You shall not make anything to be with Me—gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves.’**” Exodus 20:22-23 NKJV

1. You have made your final choice to adhere to the covenant. Your three day cooling off period has expired.
2. Your commitment is...NO MORE SIN!
3. You have witnessed God's voice from Heaven.
4. There is no turning back.

**B. A few others irresistible ultimatums... Opted in or out?**

(1) Elijah—the end of the Story

- (a) **If you choose the wrong side, you are toast! “Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!” And Elijah said to them, “Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!” So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.”** I Kings 18:38-40 NKJV

(2) Ratified by Joshua

- (a) **You've made your final decision to choose Yahweh, and that is now a witness for or against you! “So Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord for**

**yourselves, to serve Him.”** And they said, “We are witnesses!” “Now therefore,” he said, **“put away the foreign gods** which are among you, and incline your heart to the Lord God of Israel.” And the people said to Joshua, **“The Lord our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!”** So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. Then Joshua **wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God.** And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord. And Joshua said to all the people, **“Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us,** for it has heard all the words of the Lord which He spoke to us. **It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God.”**” Joshua 24:22-27 NKJV

1. Those who choose the wrong god are executed...  
Ouch!
2. Joshua teaches us that your very final choice will actually be the witness against you.
3. In other words you will be held accountable for your choices!

**C. ...so that you may not sin...You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven...**

(1) The Final Contract Ratified

- (a) "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin."
- (b) "You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. You shall not make anything to be with Me."

(2) What is sin? Do not Sin!

- (a) **You now know what sin is, so stop doing that!**

"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness**. And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him **does not sin**. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him." I John 3:4-6  
NKJV

(3) Is it possible? (Read all of Romans 6!)

- (a) **It Certainly is! You are free to NOT SIN!** "What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not!** How shall we who died to sin **live any longer in it?** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even **so we also should walk in newness of life**. For if we have

been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.**

For he who has died **has been freed from sin.** ...

Therefore **do not let sin reign** in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts." Romans 6:1-7, 12 NKJV

(4) All in!

- (a) **Once you are in, there is NO TURNING BACK!** "Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, that someone said to Him, **"Lord, I will follow You wherever You go."** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Then He said to another, **"Follow Me."** But he said, **"Lord, let me first go and bury my father."** Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God." And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house." But Jesus said to him, **"No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."**" Luke 9:57-62 NKJV

(b) **Discipleship can cost you everything!** ““If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, **yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ...So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.** “Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”” Luke 14:26, 33-35 NKJV

1. For followers of Christ, we too must recognize that sin in lawlessness.
2. We cannot live in sin any longer, and that grace is not to be used as an excuse to keep sinning.
3. As a matter of fact, our old man was crucified so that sin might be done away with!
4. And if that seems difficult, too bad! That is the price for being a disciple!

**Summary:** RATIFIED

## **6. The Final Contact Presented**

- A. You're in...this is what you've agreed to!
  - (1) The Ketubah (The Marriage Covenant)



- (a) The Ten Commandments
- (2) The three day cancellation clause expired
  - (a) Yahweh will now hold you to your commitment to NOT SIN!
  - (b) You said yes from the onset, but then you witnessed that I spoke from heaven!
    1. You have made your final choice to adhere to the covenant. Your three day cooling off period has expired.
    2. Your commitment is...NO MORE SIN!
    3. You have witnessed God's voice from Heaven.
    4. There is no turning back.
- B. A few others irresistible ultimatums... Opted in or out?
  - (1) Elijah—the end of the Story
    - (a) If you choose the wrong side, you are toast!
  - (2) Ratified by Joshua
    - (a) You've made your final decision to choose Yahweh, and that is now a witness for or against you!
      1. Those who choose the wrong god are executed...  
Ouch!
      2. Joshua teaches us that your very final choice will actually be the witness against you.

3. In other words you will be held accountable for your choices!

C. ...so that you may not sin...You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven...

(1) The Final Contract Ratified

(a) "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin."

(b) "You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. You shall not make anything to be with Me."

(2) What is sin? Do not Sin!

(a) You now know what sin is, so stop doing that!

(3) Is it possible?

(a) It Certainly is! You are free to NOT SIN!

(4) All in!

(a) Once you are in, there is NO TURNING BACK!

(b) Discipleship can cost you everything!

1. For followers of Christ, we too must recognize that sin in lawlessness.

2. We cannot live in sin any longer, and that grace is not to be used as an excuse to keep sinning.

3. As a matter of fact, our old man was crucified so that sin might be done away with!

4. And if that seems difficult, too bad! That is the price for being a disciple!

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### **1. What is unique about the covenant Abram made with Yahweh in Genesis 15:7-18?**

- A. How does this give us confidence in God's promises?
- B. Relate the promise, the struggle and the ultimate outcome in Genesis 15:7-18 to Romans 8:28-39.

### **2. Describe the power of Moses' testimony to his father-in-law Jethro in Exodus 18:8-12.**

- A. How does the testimony relate to Romans 10:14-15; John 1:9 and I Corinthians 2:1-2?

### **3. Think about the impression Moses' testimony made on Jethro:**

- A. Compare that to the message and testimonies about Christ we see in the book of Acts. (See Acts 4:1-4, 15:3, 17:2-4, 22-34, 26:1, 24-28)

### **4. What is Jethro's reaction in Exodus 18:10-12?**

- A. Name three specific things. (Hint: one in each verse)
- B. How should we respond in a similar fashion? (Hint: I Peter 1:3-5; John 6:66-69; John 9:35-38)

- 5. What is Moses using to judge God's people? (See Exodus 18:15-16)**
- A. How is this same standard being reflected in Romans 6:15-23 and Romans 7:1-16?
  - B. Define sin! (See I John 3:4)
  - C. Describe how the law was actually codified to expose sin. (See Romans 7:7-12)
  - D. Discuss the proper relationship between faith and law. (See Romans 3:27-31)
- 6. What proof did God use to remind the people of who He is and who they are to Him? (See Exodus 19:3-4)**
- A. How does He do the same for you? (See John 15:16-17; John 1:29-34; Luke 7:18-22)
- 7. In Exodus 19:10-11 we see an extraordinary technique God uses that gives the people a way to opt-out of the commitment they made in Exodus 18:10-12...**
- A. How might that same option be demonstrated in our faith as Christians? (Hint: Matthew 12:38-40; John 2:19-22)
  - B. Why is it accurate to say that your opt-out period has already expired?
- 8. Review the narratives in I Kings 18:21-40 and Joshua 24:14-27...**
- A. What options were the people given?

- B. What choices did they make? Describe the outcome in each?
- C. What does Joshua mean when he informs the people that the choice they make will be used as a witness against them?

**9. In the end, the people of Israel opt-in. (See Exodus 20:18-23)**

- A. To what standard will they be held?
- B. To what standard are you held, since you have also opted-in?  
(See I John 3:4-6; Romans 6:1-12; Luke 9:57-62; Luke 14:25--35)