



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 10:1-13
- Leviticus 18:1-5
- Deuteronomy 30:1-14

Title:

COGNITIVE DISSONANCE

- Misplaced Righteousness
- The Writings of Moses
- What did you Confess?

SEED:

"Therefore **keep the words of this covenant**, and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do. {14} 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 29:9, 14-15 NKJV

"I do not pray for these alone, **but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;**" John 17:20 NKJV

FRUIT:

"**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**): 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." Romans 10:8-10 NKJV

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

When your behavior does not align with your values or beliefs, that discomfort you feel in your inner being is known as cognitive dissonance. Cognitive dissonance is a psychological phenomenon experienced as an unpleasant emotion or mental conflict. It is the result from simultaneously contemplating two contradictory beliefs, attitudes, values, or behaviors. It also occurs when persistent ingrained beliefs or assumptions are contradicted by new information. People tend to seek consistency in their attitudes and perceptions, so this type of conflict causes uncomfortable feelings and unease.

When you are exposed to new information that is inconsistent with what you think, know and believe, and yet you remain unwilling to change your behaviors and beliefs, even when you know it is true, you are forced to do something that will allow you to maintain your position. This motivates a response that will help minimize feelings of discomfort. People attempt to relieve the tension from exposure to new threatening information with various reactions: rejection, rationalization, dismissal, or total avoidance. Or, you might just be humble enough to adopt the new way of thinking and change because of it. Everyone

experiences cognitive dissonance to some degree, but it's not always easy to recognize. Cows are my favorite animal and I enjoy eating meat, and meat comes from cows—so, I just can't think about it. It's a silly little example that you might find easy to recognize.

One potential source of cognitive dissonance that is poignant to today's lesson sounds something like this. I was saved by grace through faith from the death caused by my sin. Sin is defined by God's law and I am no longer in bondage to sin, which means I am empowered by Christ to obey God's law. And, yet I am also taught that God's laws are not applicable to Christians because Jesus abolished them and now all I need is faith. But, Jesus actually said He did not abolish the law; instead He empowered me with a new perspective and new abilities. God's laws are not anymore too difficult to obey. And Paul said that faith does not nullify the law, but to the contrary establishes it. Christian history tells me that all I must do to be saved is to confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that Jesus is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. But, the Bible teaches that the very confession that saves me concludes that with Christ, I am now empowered to obey God. So what exactly am I to obey if sin is lawlessness and I am no longer a slave to sin, but simultaneously obeying God's laws is no longer required of me?

Can you feel the cognitive pressure building in your brain? When persistent ingrained beliefs or assumptions are contradicted by new information, it creates unpleasant emotions and mental conflict. This is cognitive dissonance. This type of conflict makes people uncomfortable, and as such they seek to realign their attitudes and perceptions. You've just been exposed to new threatening information. What will you do to resolve the conflict? Choose one: rejection, rationalization, dismissal, total avoidance, or perhaps change.

What can remove the conflict between your old beliefs and this new information? What can inspire new behaviors in the face of old habits? What can dismantle your desire to reject, rationalize, explain away, invent loopholes, or downright ignore novel ideas that demand a verdict? The love of truth will! Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

MISPLACED RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. Paul's Genetic Brethren

A. Legalistic Tendencies

- (1) Paul knows so well because he was one of them.
 - (a) Paul reflects on his heartfelt desire that they all come to the same conclusion as he.
 1. "Brethren, my heart's desire and **prayer to God for Israel** is that **they may be saved.**"
Romans 10:1 NKJV
- (2) The Perfect Witness
 - (a) Zeal without Knowledge
 1. "For I bear them witness that they have **a zeal for God**, but **not according to knowledge.**" Romans 10:2 NKJV

2. *"As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a **light shone** around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "**Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?**" And he said, "**Who are You, Lord?**" Then the Lord said, "**I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.**"*
" Acts 9:3-5 NKJV

B. Righteousness Issues

(1) Righteousness vs. Righteousness (Israel vs. Israel)

- (a) Paul begins with the contrast between what God sees as righteous and what natural Israel sees as righteous.

1. *"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 of the law** for righteousness to everyone who believes." Romans 10:3-4 NKJV*
2. *"For we are the **circumcision**, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, though I also might have confidence in the flesh. **If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised** the eighth day, of the **stock of Israel**, of the tribe of Benjamin, a **Hebrew of the Hebrews**; concerning the **law, a Pharisee**; concerning **zeal, persecuting** the church; concerning the **righteousness** which is in the **law, blameless**." Philippians 3:3-6 NKJV*
3. *"But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as **rubbish**, that I may gain Christ **and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith**;" Philippians 3:7-9 NKJV*
4. ***have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness.** Why? Because they **did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law.** For they stumbled at that stumbling stone." Romans 9:30-32 NKJV*
5. *"Therefore by the **works of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin." (Romans 3:20)*
6. *"and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;"*
(Philippians 3:9)
7. *"What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? **For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about**, but not before*

God. For what does the Scripture say? **“Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness {Gen. 15:6}.”** Romans 4:1-3 NKJV

8. *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which **Christ has made us free**, and do not be entangled again with a **yoke of bondage**.”* Galatians 5:1 NKJV
9. *“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, **“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**”* John 8:31-32 NKJV
10. *“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that **the genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, **though it is tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you **rejoice with joy inexpressible** and full of glory, **receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.**”* I Peter 1:6-9 NKJV
11. *“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to **fulfill [Strongs 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—Strongs 1096. ginomai]**.”* Matthew 5:17-18 NKJV

C. Source Material

(1) What better way to learn than to go directly to the source, the law and the words of Moses.

(a) If you don't believe Moses, you won't believe Christ!

1. *“Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For **if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?**”* John 5:45-47 NKJV

(b) Christ preached the doctrine of Moses (from the Father). The problem was not Moses, but their disobedience to (or ignorance of) what Moses taught.

1. *“Jesus answered them and said, **“My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?”**”* John 7:16-19 NKJV
2. *“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, **“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**”* John 8:31-32 NKJV

3. *“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 3:30-31 NKJV

THE WRITINGS OF MOSES

2. Establish the Law

A. Leviticus

- (1) Paul says, “Pay attention to Moses.” And Y’shua agreed!
 - (a) “For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.” John 5:46 NKJV
 1. “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
 2. *“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

B. The Deuteronomy On-ramp

- (1) Not with You Alone!
 - (a) We will begin a bit earlier in Deuteronomy to better understand the context of Moses’ words.
 1. “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
 2. The covenant is for you and all those who come after you who God will call His people; *Enter into this covenant...that He may establish you today as **a people for Himself...*** (Deuteronomy 29:12-13)
- (2) Y’shua and Paul knew!
 - (a) Y’shua was looking ahead into our future as He sat with His disciples at the Last Supper (on the day of [Preparation for the Passover](#)) in the Upper Room.
 1. “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
- (3) Paul was looking back and knew that the covenant was not with Israel 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

1. "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

2. "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

(4) Let's set the stage by continuing with our on-ramp in Deuteronomy.

(a) You will rebel, be scattered, and God then will bring you back!

1. "Now it shall come to pass, when all these things 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

(b) What is going to change? (This is where it gets MOST relevant for us who were not there that day.)

1. "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

2. "**obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law...**" Deuteronomy 30:10

3. "(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** [the Circumcised Heart], their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)... {25} **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

4. **[Soil #3]** "And **some fell among thorns**, and the thorns sprang up and **choked them**.
" Matthew 13:7 NKJV
 5. **[Reference]** "...**Break up your fallow ground, And do not sow among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, And take away the foreskins of your hearts...**"
" Jeremiah 4:3-4 NKJV
 6. **[Soil #4]** "But **others fell on good ground** [the circumcised heart] and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. **He who has ears to hear, let him hear!**"
" Matthew 13:8-9 NKJV
 7. "For **the hearts of this people have grown dull**. ...Lest they should **understand with their hearts** and turn, So that I should heal them." Matthew 13:15 NKJV
 8. "But he who received seed on the **good ground** is he who **hears the word and understands** it, who indeed **bears fruit** and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." Matthew 13:23 NKJV
 9. "And the disciples came and said to Him, "**Why do You speak to them in parables?**" He answered and said to them, "**Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**, but to them it has not been given." Matthew 13:10-11 NKJV
 10. "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; **for he wrote about Me.**" John 5:46
 11. "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 10:6 NKJV
- (c) The Fruit (according to Moses)! If/Then
1. "And **you will again obey the voice of the Lord and do all His commandments** which I command you today. 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 30:8-10 NKJV

- (d) What exactly will that look like and how does it relate to Romans 10?
1. **"For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious [too difficult] for you, nor is it far off [beyond reach].** It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and **bring it [the law]** to us, that we may **hear it [the law]** and **do it [the law]**?' Nor **is it [the law]** beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and **bring it [the law]** to us, that we may **hear it [the law]** and **do it [the law]**?' But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may **do it [the law].**" Deuteronomy 30:11-14 NKJV
 2. You will ultimately recognize and agree that with a circumcised heart God's commands are not too difficult for you to obey!
- (5) This is consistent with Y'shua's and Paul's teaching throughout the New Testament.
- (a) His burden is light, so don't get hung up believing that obedience (doing it) is too difficult!
1. **"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
- (b) Obedience to what?
1. If you love Me, **keep My commandments.**" John 14:15 NKJV
 2. **"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.** And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."
" John 14:21 NKJV
- (c) Why is obedience the hallmark of Christian living?
1. **"Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness."** I John 3:4 NKJV
- (d) Is obedience even possible?
1. **"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. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as **He is righteous. He who sins is of the devil,** for the devil has sinned from the beginning. **For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.** Whoever has been born of God **does not sin,** for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." I John 3:5-9 NKJV

2. "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." Romans 6:6-7 NKJV

(e) Is Obedience too difficult?

1. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. **And His commandments are not burdensome.** For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—**our faith.**" 1 John 5:2-4 NKJV

C. Back to Romans

(1) What Paul does here is extremely telling.

(a) He connects three consecutive verses from Deuteronomy 30 with these three verses in Romans 10.

1. "**But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way,** "Do not say in your heart, '**Who will ascend into heaven?**' " (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, "**Who will descend into the abyss?**" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 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 10:6-8 NKJV

D. Rewind Romans 10:6-8

(1) Let's go back and break down each of the three verses separately.

(a) This first verse is where the culprit lives as you just witnessed...

1. "**But the righteousness of faith** speaks in this way, "**Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'**" (that is, **to bring Christ down from above**)" Romans 10:6 NKJV
2. ""**Do not think in your heart,** after the Lord your God has cast them out before you, saying, [#1] '**Because of my righteousness** the Lord has brought me in to possess this land'; but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is driving them out from before you. [#2] **It is not because of your righteousness** or the uprightness of your heart that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord your God drives them out from before you, and that He may fulfill the word which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Therefore understand that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to possess [#3] **because of your righteousness,** for you are a stiff-necked people." Deuteronomy 9:4-6
3. **[Reminder]** "*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. {6} 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 30:2-3, 6 NKJV

4. "'For this commandment which I command you today is **not too mysterious** for you, nor is it far off.'" Deuteronomy 30:11 NKJV
5. "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?**'" Deuteronomy 30:12 NKJV

(b) Second Verse

1. "or, " '**Who will descend into the abyss?** ' " (that is, **to bring Christ up from the dead**).
" Romans 10:7 NKJV
2. "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?**'" Deuteronomy 30:13 NKJV

(c) Third Verse

1. "**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
2. "But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, **that you may do it.**" Deuteronomy 30:14 NKJV
3. "For this is the love of God, **that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.** For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—**our faith.**" I John 5:3-4 NKJV

E. Bonus: Line-by-line Comparison (Romans 10 and Deuteronomy 30)

(1) **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) **[Deuteronomy 30:11-14] [1] "For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. [2] It [the law] is not in heaven, that you should say, [3] 'Who will ascend into heaven for us [4] and bring it [the law] to us, that we may hear it and do it?' [5] Nor is it [the law] 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 [the law] is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, [8] that you may do it.**
- (b) **[Romans 10:6-8] [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):"**

WHAT DID YOU CONFESS?

3. True Confessions

A. **"To do it" is the word of faith Paul was preaching!**

(1) The Sinner's Prayer

(a) What follows immediately, The Sinner's Prayer."

1. "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." Romans 10:9-10 NKJV

(2) Paul then completes his carpet bombing of your theology with Isaiah and Joel.

(a) From Isaiah

1. "For the Scripture says, "**Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.**" " Romans 10:11 NKJV
2. "Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a **precious cornerstone**, a sure foundation; **Whoever believes will not act hastily.**" Isaiah 28:16 NKJV
3. "What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness** {From Gen. 15:6}." " Romans 4:1-3 NKJV

(3) The final touch places the punctuation on this ongoing controversy.

(a) Bloodline does not determine your heavenly inheritance.

1. "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. "I make this covenant and this oath, **not with you [Israel/Jews] alone**, but with him who stands here with us today before the LORD our God, **as well as with him [Greeks/Gentiles] who is not here with us today**" Deuteronomy 29:14-15
3. ""And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. {32} **And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.** For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls." Joel 2:28-32 NKJV