

CHAPTER SIX

Mystery of The Holy Days

After the incident at the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, young Yeshua realized—in his zeal to enter prematurely into the plan—his parents had experienced some worry and pain. Riding along with his parents, on their way home, he considered the recent events. He would be more thoughtful. He realized his parents were more limited in their knowledge of his mission than he had hoped. He was aware of his mother as she glanced his way. He wished he could confide in her, but knew it would be unwise at this point. Thoughts ran through his mind. “The discussions with the elders and scribes have revealed many frightening things I have long desired to look into. Putting together what I have learned from Mama, Abba, the teachers, elders, and the revelations from my Heavenly Father, it is clear that I must wait for greater power, and understanding before I reveal myself to the world. Until that time I must learn to control the strong inward drives and changes I am undergoing. Changing from adolescence to manhood is a difficult time for young humans. It is not easy to resist the fleshly urge to make my own decisions and ignore parental authority. However, until I reach full maturity, I am required to honor them by respecting their wishes, and obeying with a cheerful and loving attitude. Yeshua realized he was still subject to his parents. However, his goals and ambitions would sometimes confuse them. He returned home with his parents determined to devote his every moment developing the spiritual strength he would need for the task ahead.

The following years found Yeshua happily working side-by-side with Yowceph in the well-established, growing carpentry business. When needful, he assisted his brothers with the care of the animals, and participated in the family’s agricultural efforts. When freed from his labors, he could be found alone, studying the sacred scriptures, praying and often fasting.

By the time Yeshua was eighteen years old he had become Yowceph’s full partner in the business, assuming mature responsibilities. Hard physical work gave him a sense of wellbeing. He loved the feel of his rippling muscles as he heaved heavy beams and massive stones. At the end of day, the delicious state of healthy physical exhaustion, and later, the relief of total relaxation gave way to deep, restful sleep. Physical exhaustion also helped temporarily to erase from mind his fearful future. He loved the satisfying exhilaration of a job well done. He took equal pleasure in the beauty of a finished building, a richly carved piece of furniture, or a clever toy designed and constructed by his talented hands.

Yowceph’s failing health eventually forced him to turn the business totally over to Yeshua and James.

Shortly after Yeshua was twenty years old Yowceph became very ill and died, thrusting Yeshua into taking over the family business, and into the role of head of the ready-made family. Yowceph’s death brought much sadness to the family. Only Yeshua knew this was part of the plan. He thought, “My

mission forbids me to experience the pleasures of a physical union with a woman. I shall never have my own physical children. As the firstborn, I have been given a rare opportunity to both physically and spiritually help my mother care for her family. I will gain much knowledge and experience as I gladly assume the support and guidance of my siblings.”

With Yowceph gone, Maria grew to depend more and more on Yeshua’s capable authority. Yeshua suddenly found himself in the difficult role of employer, provider, older brother—and father—to his younger brothers and sisters. His most immediate problem was dealing with the resentment of his two brothers nearest his own age. James, a replica of his father, was a quiet, serious, hard-working, responsible seventeen-year-old. While Yowceph was alive, he had managed to keep his smoldering resentment toward Yeshua under control. But now, accepting Yeshua as his superior, in place of his beloved father, was more than he could tolerate. Fifteen-year-old Jose was fast following in the footsteps of James, except he was not yet as openly defiant.

Preoccupied with concern over Yowceph’s illness, and later sorrow over the death of her beloved husband, Maria had given more and more of her responsibility of the children over to Yeshua. Jose, Simon, and Judas, ages fifteen, twelve and eleven, were energetic and mischievous. The nine-year-old twin girls were constantly bickering with Simon and Judas over trivial matters.

The challenge they presented drove Yeshua often to his Heavenly Father for special wisdom and guidance. “Father,” he prayed, “In your great wisdom you have placed me in this most serious position. Show me each step; grant me wisdom, love, and patience. Guide me in leading these precious ones by the power of your steadfast love.”

Spending time alone, getting acquainted, Yeshua patiently began building a one-on-one personal relationship with each individual member of the family. He knew it would take James and Jose a long time to accept his love. He was confident, in time, with the right example, and much patience, they would eventually be won over. He strove constantly for balance, availing himself of every opportunity to stress the importance of obedience to the ten spiritual commandments of love, joy, and peace. He proved the most effective way to make the greatest impression on the children was by showing a loving personal interest, communicating, sharing youthful experiences, playing active games, hunting, fishing, studying nature, and participating in active family gatherings. He stressed the importance of working together and giving each other family support.

Observance of the weekly Sabbath, worshipping at the local synagogue, learning the laws and ways of the Father was an accepted family tradition. Yeshua never missed an opportunity to expound on a lesson learned, or express the wonderful works of the Eternal Yahweh, giving praises to Him. Synagogue gatherings continued to be a major source of their social activities. In addition there were occasional wedding celebrations, dances, picnics, and many other joyful activities Yeshua shared with his family.

With his added responsibility, Yeshua slowly became aware of a tremendous power at his disposal. Motivated by a strong, compelling emotion of deep love and compassion, he relied more and more on the strength he could draw upon after spending time in deep communication with the Father. Then, simply by concentrating on the need at hand, he would be given the solution to any complex problem.

He was often given opportunity to help in family emergencies. One such afternoon he came home to find Maria nervously attempting to bandage little Betha's profusely bleeding wrist. "Yeshua, you must do something. The cut is so deep...I'm afraid she will bleed to death. She was helping me prepare vegetables when her knife slipped, she accidentally cut her arm. Hurry, do something," she pleaded.

Yeshua quietly reached out and touched the child's bleeding arm. To Maria's pleasant surprise, the flow stopped immediately. Another time, Judas, in spite of constant warning against climbing, had accidentally fallen from a towering sycamore tree. It was evident the boy was in severe pain, unable to move. Maria hurriedly sent for Yeshua. Upon arrival, he silently contacted the source of his power, then reached down and gently touched the lad's crumpled, twisted body. He then calmly stretched forth his hand over the lad and quietly commanded, "Jude, arise."

There were many such discreet occasions where the pain of a severe burn was soothed instantly, an injured eye healed, a raging fever cooled. Maria, surprised and astonished, gradually came to expect Yeshua to perform whatever she considered a necessary miracle. Occasionally his mother would request his help in severe cases for individuals outside their immediate family. At times he would grant her wishes. But at other times he explained, "I'm sorry, Mother, I fear this deed would arouse too much attention to myself. I must be careful not to reveal myself to the wrong people. True, The Father has performed a few miracles through me. He has given me a special power to heal the blind, the lame, the leper, the deaf and the afflicted. It is not yet time for me to show this special power to the world. I can only do those things which are hidden and unnoticed, and then only if The Father approves. My mission is not to acquire a great following by many works of miracles. When the time is right, The Father will show compassion unto whomever He will. In the meantime, I must prepare myself for my true calling—to fulfill the prophecies spoken of me in the pages of the scriptures, and to proclaim the good news of a better covenant."

Within time, under Yeshua's careful training and example, James and Jose proved to be responsible men, capable of handling the family finances and business. As the family grew less dependent, Yeshua devoted more time to intense prayer, fasting, and studying in preparation for his urgent and dreadful role in the awesome plan. Gradually his understanding reached maturity—enabling him to see clearly into his past life.

"When the time is right, The Father will call. It will not be a call to human glory. I will be ridiculed, rejected, scorned, betrayed, and die an agonizing death at the hands of my own people." Suddenly a painful realization emerged and he shuddered. "That's why I feel such frightening fear during each Passover supper. I am to literally fulfill the ritual of the sacrificial lamb with my own physical body. That ritual points to my becoming the physical sacrifice...I am the lamb...the Lamb of Yahweh! These are things my mother is unaware of...she thinks I will become a powerful king in the flesh, that I will somehow take over the Roman government and set up my own powerful rule in her life time. The plan is becoming much clearer to me now...and ever so frightening.

"The scriptures clearly reveal that I was to be born of a virgin, in Bethlehem, sojourn in Egypt, live in Galilee in the town of Nazareth. The prophet Jeremiah spoke of the massacre of the little children soon after my birth. All of these things have been fulfilled. I shall proclaim healing of the spirit, and freedom

from Satan's bondage, to both Israel and to the Gentiles. I shall use parables—not to make the meaning more clear—but to hide the truth from those who are not yet ready to accept my teachings. I will be disbelieved and hated, rejected by my own people.

“The scriptures tell many details of my death; for thirty pieces of silver I shall be betrayed by a close and trusted friend. I shall be reviled and spit upon. Like a lamb, I shall be led to slaughter, to die with criminals, given gall and vinegar, and pierced in the side. I shall be beaten so severely that my appearance cannot be recognized, yet, not a bone shall be broken. While I suffer the pains of death, my enemies shall gamble for my garment. And when my spirit returns to The Father, my body will rest with the wicked and the rich. It is written, after three days and three nights I shall rise. I must not discourage Mother by awakening her memory of these scriptures, nor will I tell her all that I have learned about the Elohim plan.”

After fasting, praying and meditating, memories of the past would flood the gates of his mind, events and scenes flashing through thousands of years of history and beyond the creation of the earth. He comprehended truths no human being had ever grasped. He, as “The Word” and “Spokesman”—a member of the Elohim—had from the very beginning experienced perfect harmony and understanding, sharing the heavenly universe with the Magnificent Author of the divine plan.

He could now, mentally, go back millions of years into the past when he had been a gloriously powerful, spirit being. He remembered designing, creating heavenly bodies, and working toward the future family of Elohim. “What joy we shared when we began to design the plan; when we created millions of angels and cherubim to rule over vast galaxies.” Yeshua loved to steal away where he could relive the memories of utopia. There was once a time when joy, peace and contentment prevailed in heaven and on a beautiful, perfect earth. “The earth was a delight, with its lush vegetation, its gardens of flowers and giant trees of splendor. The rolling hills, covered with many varieties of colorful grasses and flowering trees. Sweet springs of sparkling clear water moistened the thick growth and cascaded down into cool valleys of natural beauty. Gentle, mammoth-sized creatures roamed the earth, grazing at leisure among the cheerful sounds of smaller animals. The heavens were filled with colorful winged creatures, their many melodious calls vibrating through the clear sky. Brilliant colors reflected from their plumage as they soared beneath the shimmering warmth of the sun.”

Not all of Yeshua's memories were happy ones. There were sorrowful memories that came with the joyful. “O, Lucifer, Lucifer, bringer of light, how you have fallen,” he thought. “You were created in perfection, beauty and unlimited talent, rich rewards and rulership was yours to choose. You were instructed in the knowledge of right and wrong. In trusting love, you were given freedom to choose whether you would willingly live according to the perfect way of love. Only joy and happiness was planned for you and all the angels. You were one of the archangels as was Michael and Gabriel. Each were given a third of the angels to govern. The Father and I, before the foundation of the earth was laid, agreed to extend life and salvation to all of mankind. This could be done only through the sinless sacrifice of one of us, paying the death penalty, mankind would bring on through sin. The Father extended this wonderful and awesome privilege to me. Out of great love and loyalty to The Father, and to those whom I had helped to create, of my free will I consented, counting it a great honor. Once we

set the plan in motion, it was immutable, with no chance of failure. I emptied myself of the glory I had shared with The Father, to come in the flesh and live among earthlings until all the plan was accomplished.

Yeshua remembered with sadness the beautiful, talented Lucifer. “Yahweh created him full of wisdom and perfect beauty; he was covered with every precious jewel. Built within him were the notes of every musical sound. I stretched forth the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth—created it in splendor and beauty—and placed him in Eden, the largest and most beautiful of the earth’s many tropical gardens. I gave him power over his subjects, a third of the angels, and the planet earth. His character was blameless—he ruled his earthly kingdom with love and righteousness. His subjects gave him total trust and respect—until he embraced vanity. His vanity grew into resentment, greed and rebellion. In his conceit he deceived himself into believing he qualified to rule the universe—in place of The Great One. He cunningly deceived his kingdom of angels into following him in the great revolt against the heavenly powers of Elohim.”

Tears filled Yeshua’s saddened eyes, spilling onto his grave face as he remembered the tragic occurrence. “What destruction and havoc filled the universe! The heavens heaved and vomited; gas and brimstone spewed forth. Suns exploded, shooting forth belching flames into the universe; planets of beauty turned to charred, ash covered cinders. The turbulent heavens, once filled with brilliant, clear light, became blanketed with total blackness and deadly gasses. I watched in horror as Lucifer was cast down in wrathful rage and defeat. Like the blinding glow and deafening crack of lightening he fell back to the earth to replan his vengeful strategy. Once, we had harmony and joy; I gloried in his perfection. Now, he has become my constant enemy. Having never given up, he still seeks ways to destroy me, to unlawfully wrest away my power and forcefully take over the universe. He thinks to deceive me and destroy the wonderful plan of redemption for mankind by enticing me to follow his wicked rebellious ways. He refused to acknowledge that our plan became immutable the day the Ancient of Days and I Am agreed to fulfill it.

“With the destruction of the former perfect Earth, the first phase of the plan gave way to the second. I, as I Am, reshaped the earth and cleansed the thick darkness from the heavens. Exposing the earth once again to light and freshness was the beginning of the next step in the plan. The Great One directed as I divided the light from the darkness. I began the count of one full day to begin at evening and end the following evening. Each period of twenty-four hours was allotted a time of darkness called night, and a time of light called daylight, making one day of a seven day period. Then I divided the waters below from the waters above, and put a sky—called heaven—between the two waters. Another evening and morning passed.

“On the third day I separated the water from the land and called the dry land earth and the water seas. The Ancient One was pleased with what he saw and said, ‘Plant it with a variety of trees and vegetation, all bearing fruit.’ On the fourth day I blew the thick smoke, gasses, and pollution from the second heaven. The sun, moon, and stars were again allowed to nurture the earth. On the fifth day I brought forth living creatures, in the seas, on the earth and in the heaven. I commanded them to be fruitful and to multiply.

“On the sixth day, we proceeded with another very important and exciting part of the plan. We took from the red earth and fashioned a soul, a creature of flesh, with the potential of becoming like us. We put within it a brain superior to all other creatures’. We added a component of spirit to his brain to enable him to reason, to design, to communicate, to experience many shades of emotion, and to make decisions. We planned it so that the Holy Spirit could join with the spirit of man; he could then develop perfect character. Then, in his perfected state, he could be reborn from the physical form into spiritual—become a family member of the Elohim.

In his physical state the newly created man was not complete. To make his life richer, more satisfying, I took from his body a rib, and with it formed a vision of loveliness—a woman—which I presented to Adam to love, to cherish and to respect. I united them as one and placed the man, Adam and his wife, Eve, in the beautiful garden, Eden. I instructed them—for their minds were empty—in the ways of love, happiness and joyous compatibility, teaching them the perfect rules of life. Then I commanded them to begin the process of reproduction, beginning the first family of humans.

“Theirs was to be a physical replica of the spiritual family of Elohim. The woman, Eve, would bring forth children, begotten by Adam. Setting an example of love and harmony they were instructed to teach their children my laws, guiding them toward perfection. They were to grow into spiritual maturity—into our image—by the power of the spirit of Elohim. Had they continued loyal and obedient, we would have given them eternal life and shared with them and their families our joys and unspeakable pleasures. Their ultimate potential was to rule over innumerable, populated galaxies of the heavenly universe. Their first minor responsibility was to care for the garden and to exercise loving power over the many creatures of Earth.

“On the seventh day, beginning at evening, I created a twenty-four hour period from evening to evening, and hallowed it as my holy time. I instructed Adam and Eve, ‘This is my Sabbath of rest. Six days of seven I give to you for your personal physical activities of work. The seventh day you are to observe by resting, using the time for spiritual development—for fellowship and communicating with me. It will also serve as a sign to those who observe it, showing that they are my people and I am their Yahweh. If you will have eternal life you are to partake only of the fruits of the garden that I allow you to have. On the day that you disregard my instruction, within your body will commence the process of death...and you will surely die.’

“Adam and his wife disqualified themselves from attaining eternal life by listening to the lies of my old enemy who spoke to them through the serpent. He told them, ‘You will not surely die. The forbidden fruit will make you wise. You will be like Elohim to know right from wrong.’ And as he had planned, they chose to decide for themselves what was right and what was wrong. They disregarded my warnings of eminent death for disobedience, and subjected themselves to the curse of the law. I could not allow the man and his wife to continue in the lush garden, Eden, lest they begin to partake of the tree of life. If I allowed this, they would live on into eternity and produce untold suffering for themselves and all of creation, throughout their generations. Their disobedience resulted in their having to live in the undeveloped part of the earth, away from the tree of life. The man had to earn his

food in hardship, from a cursed land. Eve's punishment was to experience pain during child-birth, and become subservient to the desires of her husband.

"The Ancient One communicated, 'Since man has chosen to make his own decisions...to learn the hard way—by experience—we will allot the family of man necessary time to learn from their errors. We will not impose our righteous laws of life upon them against their will. They will be free to choose their own way. If, in making their own decisions they choose to follow the way of death, they, and their offspring will learn the results of wrong choices; they will suffer the consequences. We set before them the laws of life, health and happiness that they may choose life and not death.'

"The first age of mankind ended in total destruction. When I remember how degenerate generations of man became, constantly devising and practicing horrendous acts of violence, immorality, and perversions—how they polluted the beautiful Earth—my spirit cries out in pain. They left me no choice. Out of love and compassion, I had to put them out of their self-inflicted miseries. The earth had to be cleansed of its deadly pollution, and incurable, contagious diseases. For a hundred and twenty years, I pleaded with them through my servant, Noe, to change their destructive ways and live. They ridiculed and scorned my message. What grief the Ancient One and I suffered as we witnessed the great flood and the annihilation of our first family of humans.

"Because Noe listened to my instructions and lived according to my laws, hating the evil about him, we chose to save him and his family from the deluge of destruction. We would continue the process of human life through Noe's sons and their wives. From each of his sons and their wives mutations would develop a variety of races to fill the earth. A second age began with this one family.

"When the waters abated from off the earth, dry land appeared. I gave them the sign of the rainbow as a promise to never totally destroy mankind, or the earth, by flood again. Eventually, Noe's family began to repopulate the earth. Each son, with his wife, began various mutations, each family having its own color and characteristics. From Shem came a light race, from Japeth, a yellowish-tan race. From Ham came a dark race. The descendants of Noe grew into many great families. I set boundaries upon the earth and instructed each family of man to form separate nations. Again, they chose to disobey.

I resigned myself to mankind's continual, willful wickedness. For indeed, his thoughts are continually filled with evil fantasies. Under the leadership of one great, powerful rebel, Nimrod, they combined their efforts—in defiance against me—they proceeded to build a great tower city, ascending into the heavens. Their purpose was to defy the Eternal Creator by preparing for themselves a place of safety from Him. They thought to avoid punishment for their sins by escaping another flood. Such a short time—yet once again—they were blindly speeding toward global destruction.

We could not permit our beloved family to commit self-destruction again! The method we used to stop their madness was really very simple. We merely confused their tongue, giving each family a separate language." Yeshua smiled, remembering the city-wide pandemonium which followed for many months thereafter. "Many families did migrate and settle into separate locations of the earth. And they had no choice but to abandon the useless, destructive building plans.

“After Lucifer’s rebellion and defeat, he hated everything Elohim purposed. He especially hated our created family of humans. He would have destroyed them had we not kept his dreadful power under control. We concluded, ‘This powerful being, blinded by his own vanity, will become a valuable tool in developing perfect character in those humans who would answer the call to our special purpose.’”

His memories moved forward in time. “Throughout man’s history not one had attained the quality of righteous character that the man Job had. He used his many, gifted talents for only good toward the subjects of his peaceful and wealthy empire. He was well-known for his integrity and piety. Yet, he needed to learn that his righteousness was as filthy rags compared to The Great Eternal One. Job was more righteous than any man living at that time, but he obeyed out of obligation and fear. He had not acquainted himself with Yahweh or found the path to loving devotion. In spite of this obscure blemish, I had great love and respect for Job. I yearned to enlighten this dearly beloved man and make his character even greater and purer. Satan hated Job passionately and constantly accused him of wrongdoing, desiring to destroy him. Job was the perfect man with whom to test unsuspecting Satan’s use as a valuable refining tool. When the test proved positive, in the end, Job would be blessed abundantly both physically and spiritually; indeed, all of mankind would profit greatly. This would be a wondrous test for a righteous man. The Great One already knew who would win out in the end.

“I gave Satan permission to take away Job’s wealth, the lives of his children, and finally to afflict his person with painful, disgusting sores. Job’s friends came to discuss the reasons these things had befallen him. They, too, were ignorant of the purpose of his suffering. Job defended his righteousness; he claimed innocence to every accusation. Satan took great delight in his suffering, thinking to destroy him utterly. Job’s suffering forced him to ponder deeply the ways of Elohim. In the end, he looked upon Elohim as the loving, powerful being that He is. Satan’s persecutions conditioned Job to realize he could not rely on his own righteousness and works for salvation. When he compared himself to the Great Elohim he saw himself as nothing. In an effort to destroy Job Satan had gullibly proven himself to be invaluable in conditioning and humbling mankind, exposing his need for redemption and repentance. Satan has served well in this capacity for these thousands of years,” Yeshua thought.

Remembering another stage of the plan gave Yeshua a warm glow of pleasure. The memory of Abraham was among his favorites. “After hundreds of years I found a loyal man who chose to obey my perfect law of life. He withheld nothing from me, not even his own cherished child. It was through him and his children I began working in eager anticipation. Because of Abraham’s proven loyalty, I entered into a covenant with him. I promised him miraculous physical blessings; his family would become great—as numerous as the stars in the sky. From his family would grow a great company of nations and a single great nation. When the time was fulfilled they would emerge in prosperity and power. For many years they would have control over their enemies by possessing the sea gates of the world. The spiritual promise was the greatest; one of his descendants would be responsible for the ultimate salvation of the entire family of mankind. I, even myself, would become a descendant of his flesh by human birth. I would consent to be born into a world of death, to become the Saviour of mankind. I came as a shining light into a world of spiritual darkness.

“Abraham faithfully taught his son Isaac to reverence my laws. And Isaac, likewise, instructed his children in the ways of life. I changed Jacob’s name to Israel to be named upon his posterity. Israel’s favorite son, Joseph, and Joseph’s two sons were chosen to fulfill the special promises of power and physical greatness upon the earth. The birthright promise of spiritual blessings to the whole world would descend through an older son, Judah. We chose Isaac’s son, Jacob, and his twelve sons and their descendants to be one great single nation. As a special model family, through Israel—as they obeyed our instruction—we would demonstrate the wonderful benefits of righteous living. Nations could see and follow their example.

“When Israel’s family became enslaved to Egypt, I called my faithful servant, Mosheh, to lead them out of bondage, to a good land, flowing with abundance of fruit and vegetables, where cattle would grow fat and the people would grow wealthy; the time was right. I entered into a spiritual marriage covenant with them. I was a faithful, loving husband, a generous provider, and a strong protector. I offered them great material blessings if they would be faithful to me.

“I educated them in my perfect laws of righteous living. I prepared them for a special part of the plan. They will yet become my chosen nation of holy priests, spiritual leaders to the Gentile nations. At first they agreed to accept and live by my every word. I asked they do only those things that would lead them to contentment, joy, peace, and good health, for them and their children after them. My ten spiritual laws would lead them in the ways of love toward their creator and love toward each other. Of all the nations in the earth I dealt only with them, instructing them how to live a happy life of joy, peace, and prosperity.

“From the very beginning they proved weak and disloyal; they failed test after test. They scorned my weekly Sabbath and replaced my sacred holy days with pagan celebrations. Their zeal turned from me to lusting after the ways of the nations around them.

“I gave them my Sabbaths, and my holy days to observe, and new moons to know when to observe them, which, had they continued to keep would have revealed my plan not only for them, but for all of mankind. I gave them the Passover for a perpetual memorial. Had they observed my laws I would have opened their understanding to the mysteries of my festivals. The Passover, a shadow of the future, a picture of a future time when I would take upon myself a body of flesh, allow myself to become the sacrificial lamb, making it possible for all of mankind to be reunited with The Father. The slaughtered lamb was to impress upon their conscience that sin must be paid for with a life that sin always leads to death. I would pay their penalty of death, in their stead, for their past sins, if they would repent and begin to hear and obey The Father’s message He would speak through me.

“I gave them the memorial of the Passover, a night to be much observed, to keep them in memory of their Creator leading them, by his great power, out of the bondage of Egypt. This memorial pictured this same power that would deliver repentant man from the bondage of sin and its penalty of death. For until then all mankind, cut off from the Eternal, because of their sin, was destined to eternal death, for all have sinned and have earned the death penalty.

“I gave them the seven day festival of ‘the Days of Unleavened Bread.’ Putting leaving (which represents sin) from their premises for seven days, showing one must put sin out, from the day they accept my sacrifice, and repent of breaking my spiritual laws, until the end. They are to eat, each day, of the unleavened bread, which represents their partaking of my sacrifice and my life. Number seven is a number I chose to signify completeness. The first and last day of the seven days are holy Sabbaths picturing the beginning and ending of a complete, life-long struggle against the natural pulls of carnal, human nature. I gave my chosen family a total of seven annual holy days picturing my complete plan for mankind.

“The third holy day, ‘Pentecost’, pictures the out-pouring of the holy spirit. It will be available to all who answer The Father’s call to repentance, believe my words, and accept my sacrifice. I will deliver them from their bondage of sin. And the process of putting sin out for the remainder of one’s life begins. Then, the gift of the Holy Spirit is given freely.

“The fourth holy day, ‘Feast of Trumpets’, represents a a time of struggle, a call to war against the evil forces of the spirit world. This is a trumpet warning, a time of repentance for my church. During the seven trumpets there will be much suffering. Steadfastness, faith, and patience will be the weapons, until the end of this present age.

“Indeed, at the end of this third age mankind will have few men left alive when I take over their destruction and cleanse the earth for a future age. My chosen ones will know my voice when I call them from their graves. Those who give their lives, for my name’s sake, will meet me in the air. They will rule with me over the earth for the following thousand years.

“The fifth holy day, ‘Day of Atonement’, brings me joy and great anticipation. It represents Satan’s imprisonment for a thousand years. For the first time, deceived mankind will be freed of his evil influence. The spiritual blindness, that Satan has inflicted upon the world, will be removed; they will experience a thousand years of peace without Satan to influence them to engage in war. Those who survive will begin a new age.

“Following the day of Atonement, the sixth annual holy Sabbath day, is the first day of the ‘Feast of Tabernacles’. This exciting seven-day festival pictures the beginning of the new age for the whole earth. The glorious kingdom of Elohim shall be established on earth to rule over the nations for a thousand years. The age of the Gentiles will be a time of introducing my plan to them. The elect will teach them the way of peace and righteousness.

“Immediately after these days, the last of the seven annual holy Sabbaths is ‘The Last Great Day’. This day pictures a wonderful part of the plan when the whole house of Israel will resurrect to physical life. I will unite them as one nation again, planting them in their own land. And David will once again be their king. I will make an everlasting covenant of peace with them. I will become their Yahweh and dwell among them, in my sanctuary, forever. I will give to them freely my holy spirit and restore to them the wealth they will lose, when I send them into exile for their sins.

Once again I will guide them and help them, and give them my blueprint showing them how to rebuild my temple and learn the lessons they refused to learn before. The resurrected sons of Zadok shall come near to me as ministering priests. The people's sacrifices will be accepted. They shall all know me from the least to the greatest. These are my memorials, my seven holy annual Sabbaths that I have given Israel to picture our immutable plan. But now my people are dull of hearing, and refuse to see, lest they will know the truth, and have no excuse for their rebellion. They rather choose to be deceived, to embrace their excuses.

"Though I entrusted them with my spiritual laws, they would do no more than keep them by the letter. They had no desire to live by them; their sins were ever before me. Therefore, I did not open their minds to see into the deeper spiritual meanings of my wonderful holy days, lest they understand with their mind and scorn them from their heart.

"Because of their weaknesses and their inability to keep my perfect spiritual laws of life, I instructed them in detailed physical ordinances. I gave them priests and sacrificial rituals to remind them of the seriousness of their sins. Their stubborn refusal to allow me to lead them resulted in wars, famines, diseases, and death. In my loving patience, when they cried out to me, I repeatedly rescued them. I fought their battles and gave them victory over their enemies. And when they listened to my judges I blessed them with prosperity.

"Instead of being an example in righteousness to the earth's nations, they repeatedly followed the examples of pagan nations. How they grieved us! They rejected my rule through my appointed judges and demanded rulers like their Gentile neighbor nations. They chose kings of flesh. So I gave them human kings: Saul, David, Solomon, and others.

"I would have made Saul a great ruler of my people had he not been presumptuous, stubborn and disobedient. I replaced him with David, a man who, though full of carnal mistakes, yet his desire was to please me. He admitted and humbly repented of his every sin, struggling to overcome his many weaknesses. Time after time, David proved his faithfulness to me. I knew I could not find another who would better qualify to rule with me over the whole House of Israel, in my future kingdom. I am so looking forward to resurrecting my beloved David to a glorious, powerful, spirit being. We shall then truly be brothers, working together, leading the physical tribes of Israel out of their bondage, back to their homeland. During David's and Solomon's reign I was able to pour out lavish blessings upon my chosen family as they struggled to live according to my laws of love and righteousness. I look back to that period of time as one of closeness and happiness...however, it was short-lived.

"Soon after the death of David's son, Solomon, the one great family of Israel split into two separate nations. New kings rose up over the ten-tribe House of Israel. They went to war against their sister, the House of Judah.

"In the following years many kings came into power over the two nations, some righteous, some evil. Many of their kings led them into idolatrous worship of images and make-believe gods. They accepted pagan religious doctrines and methods of worship contrary to my instruction, that I find abominable.

“I sent my servants and prophets, pleading with the families of Israel to turn again and choose life; they refused to listen. In time, because of their total rejection of our righteous laws of love and life, I allowed them to go into captivity under the hands of cruel Gentile rulers. I hoped they would repent of their sins and turn again to me...let me lead them back to full, rich lives. The House of Israel fell into the hands of Assyria, which drove them out of their land. If only they would have heeded. But, alas, in time, they adopted the ways of nations about them. The succeeding generations eventually lost knowledge of my laws and my Sabbaths. They, and the world about them, think of the House of Israel as descendants of foreign nations. How sad...for the next two thousand years the world shall look upon the great nations of the House of Israel as Gentiles. They shall become ‘the lost tribes of Israel.’”

Yeshua shook his head in sorrow. His thoughts turned to the Jews. “Nor did Judah learn from her sister nation. Many years later, because of her sins, Judah, also, went into captivity...slaves of the Babylonians. In the course of time, I stirred up a righteous and loyal man, Nehemiah, to lead parts of Judah, Benjamin, and Levi back to their homeland. As little children, they eagerly groped their way out of spiritual darkness. The Great One and I were exceedingly pleased with their efforts and their attitudes. What tremendous joy we shared watching the progress of their beginnings...the revival of the physical family I would be born into as a human being. I patiently guided them as they carefully rebuilt my house of worship. I continued to reveal the laws of life to the tiny, struggling nation. What a wonderful experience, observing their spiritual awakening, as they rejoiced in their new-found understanding of my laws and my holy Sabbaths. This small remnant of the original twelve tribes, would become the only known nation from among the many great nations of Israel that would retain the name of their ancestral father, Israel.

“Through priests and prophets I instructed them in the forgotten laws that once governed Israel. I entrusted them with the responsibility of preserving the writings of my law. In these writings were prophecies of me, the future of great nations, of Israel and of all mankind. These writings spoke of me and of my mysteriously, profound mission during my brief visit as an earthling. They foretold my birth, my death, and my victory over death. They tell of my return to earth—in great power—as King of kings and Lord of lords, to establish the government of Elohim.

“The Great All Knowing One foresaw the future of both Judah and the whole House of Israel. Even while the House of Israel was in captivity, he saw the lost tribes growing into great and powerful nations. They would fulfill the promise made to Abraham, fulfilling the prediction concerning Joseph, voiced by my dying servant, Israel. He saw the descendants of Joseph’s sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, becoming a great, powerful commonwealth of nations and one greater nation which would own the sea gates of their enemies. At the height of their power they would strongly influence and exercise control over many nations of the earth. He saw them turning further and further away from the laws of life. We had their future history recorded and preserved, to warn them of their fall and captivity. These prophecies predict their fate if they refuse to turn from their idolatrous sins.

Yeshua turned his thoughts back to his present Jewish nation. “If only the small nation of Judah had continued living according to the righteous instructions they first received. Had they followed the examples of their fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; had they lived according to the laws of life, their

nation would have been a national leader over great nations of the world. They would now be enjoying abundant, lasting blessings. For a time they faithfully kept my laws; they grew and prospered. In time, new generations grew up who lost sight of the true meaning of my spiritual laws. Religious leaders—greedy for power and prestige—distorted my holy laws of love. They turned them into tools of rule and oppression, leading my people far from me.”

His thoughts brought him back to the present. Again he must wrestle with the ever-constant, frightful awareness of his unique mission; it cloaked his mind with somber dread. “When I look back into the glorious past life I once shared with the Great Eloha my body trembles. I shudder with dread at the fearful agreement we mutually entered into—to leave my original glory. I agreed to reside in the earthly body The Great Eternal would prepare for me, and embark upon the most difficult mission ever attempted. When I look ahead into this physical life, there are severe trials, persecution, agony, and a terrifying, degrading death.” His body shook; a dark cloud of heaviness threatened to overpower his thoughts.

He walked along a familiar trail into the hills. Secluded from the bustle of his neighborhood and family, he gave his whole being to seeking The Father’s will. Gradually the heaviness lifted and he felt a new source of power flowing through his inner being.

“There is no room nor time for doubts and fears. I will not allow discouragement to enter, nor dwell upon my human frailties for the Great Father Eloha is ever near. By His power I will overcome the fear of pain and death. I will constantly force myself to look beyond human weakness. When I look into the future—beyond this body of flesh—I see the plan fulfilled and my spirit soars through the infinite expanse of eternity. I see a phenomenal, unequaled reproduction of the Elohim family, berthing the universe with loving, fruitful spirit beings. Of growth and unspeakable joys there will be no end.” His lungs heaved a great gulp of fresh air in a sigh of renewed strength and firm resolve. “This is the glorious picture I shall plant deeply into my consciousness, reviewing it daily as I eagerly and forcefully battle against evil forces. I shall stand firm. With joy I shall be the victor; I shall reach my awesome goal! What shall I fear? Is not my Heavenly Father greater than all the powers of evil?”

End of chapter 6 edited 2013