



Acts Chapter 9 Continued

Last week we spoke about the word “Christian” and the scriptural fact that people who were followers of the Messiah Yahshua were not called “Christians” back in those days. They were called followers of “The Way” or they were called “The Sect of the Nazarens”.

We also broke down the word Christian and found that it's meaning is “Anointed One” or “Mashiach” which means “Messiah.”

We also spoke about the fact that there are no Gentiles found up to this point in the book of Acts. And this is important information for every Christian to know and to understand.

To many denominational charters of men wrongly teach and preach that the book of acts is all about the birth of a new “Christian” church.

The truth is that the book of Acts is simply the continuation and fulfillment of what was already prophesied in the Torah and the Tanakh (also known as the “Old Testament”).

So far what we're seeing is several factions of Judaism fighting over whether or not Yahshua was indeed the Messiah or not. We find several different man made, man created, man fabricated factions of Judaism.. all battling for supremacy and authority over the people of that time.

And these new found followers of “The Way” are threatening the very authority of the already established Jewish hierarchy, and their man made, man created, man fabricated religious system that they have cobbled together for themselves.

Now... I want to stop for just a moment here, and I want to show you a short news article of what this very same “Sanhedrin” is doing in Israel today. And as we look at this news article that was just posted on the 29th of August (which is just from two days ago) from brother Steven Ben Denoon.. who does an excellent job of keeping us abreast of whats happening in Israel.

I want us to remember that there is no “Sanhedrin” found in the Torah, and that according to the Torah.. the Cohen Hagadol aka the (High Priest), must be from the blood line of Aaron who was the brother of Moses. So keep that in mind as we take a look at this article.

<http://www.breakingisraelnews.com/74772/sanhedrin-appoints-high-priest-preparation-third-temple/#K4hadJq22KL1t4hA.97>

Now we've spoken about the authority of these men through out our study in the book of Acts and elsewhere through out our study in the book of Romans and in the book of Galatians.. and it's important to remember that these men really have no authority to be doing what they're doing.

They have no authority according to scripture to be appointing a “High Priest” especially one who has no blood relation to Aaron as prescribed in the Torah that they say that they hold fast to and believe in.

First and foremost there should be no animal sacrifices being made for sin any longer because their Messiah has already come, and secondly there is no need for a “Third Temple” because we already know that this earth and everything on it is going to be made new again, and we know that when our Messiah comes he will also be bringing a new Jerusalem and a new Temple with him.

And once again my friends this will not be a Temple made with human hands.

It's important to take note of the fact that God our Father never commanded or required anywhere.. that a “Temple” be made for him to live in. The idea of a man made, man created “Temple” was purely a man made idea that God our Father allowed because David was a man after Gods own heart, and it was David who wanted to build a “Temple” for God.

Isa 66:1 Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?"

Isa 66:2 All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

Act 7:48 Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says,

Act 7:49 "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?"

Act 7:50 Did not my hand make all these things?'

So once again.. God himself never commanded that man would build him a “Temple”, and this 3rd Temple is not commanded by God either, even though we do see it or something like it in the book of Revelations and in Daniel and other places where it speaks of the abomination of desolation.. and that's another whole study.

So lets be clear.. the idea that God commands that there be a “3rd Temple” is found no where in scripture. The idea of a “3rd Temple” being built on Earth is purely a man made, man created, man fabricated venture. And I just want us to be clear on that biblical and scriptural fact.

So.. we already know that this “Temple Authority” really has no authority to be doing what they're doing, but we also know that God will allow it to be done, and we also know what this points to in Biblical prophesy...

Clearly the re-naming of a Cohen Hagadol aka a (High Priest).. and the re-building of a “3rd Temple” are signs of the end times that we are now living in.

And I also believe.. that another very notable sign... one even more important than the “3rd Temple” being built is also occurring right before our very eyes this very day.. and that is the out pouring of Gods Ruach Hakodesh upon his people today.

I would say from right around 2009.. there has been a great movement of Gods people that are now coming out of today's modern day man made version of Christianity... and are moving back to his original Torah, and the original Gospel message of our Messiah.

In fact.. there has been a documentary that has just come out that speaks to this very outpouring of Gods spirit upon his people. This documentary is called “The Way”.. and we'll be discussing this documentary more on our next “7th Day Sabbath” broadcast this next coming Saturday morning at 9am Eastern Standard Time... and you can join us for that broadcast this next Saturday morning on September the 3rd 2016 by simply going to our website at HolyImpactMinistries.com and clicking on the “7th Day Sabbath” banner on the front page.

But with all of that being said... lets now move back into the 9th chapter of the book of Acts to see what else we can discover in our study of the “History of Christian Origins”.

THE CONVERSION OF PAUL?

Now... getting back to Acts chapter 9.. most biblical scholars will proudly proclaim that Acts chapter 9 verses 1 through 19 is all about the “Conversion” of Paul.

And it's important that we recap what we've already learned much earlier in our study in the book of Acts.

The word “Conversion” is intellectually misleading.. and I believe that the very word “Conversion” was used in the King James Translation on purpose, to give credence to the idea that a new Christian church was being planted to uproot and replace the original Jewish Faith.

None of which could be farther from the truth.

To “Convert” means to change, to metamorphosize. It means to become something entirely different, and this is not at all what our Messiah ever said, or taught any where in his ministry, or his Gospel message.

The very word “Convert” is Anti Semitic on it's face my friends. There is no “Conversion” for a Jewish person to make when accepting his Messiah.

For those of you who are still bogged down in the bondage of “Once Saved Always Saved” or “Dispensational Grace” or “Gods Laws are all nailed to a tree” or “Replacement Theology, or any of the other man made, man created, man fabricated modern day Christian doctrines, or philosophical understandings out there floating around today... let me make it very clear and very concise right here and right now..

Paul... nor any of the other Apostles, nor any of their Jewish followers ever had to “Convert” to anything.

We are still commanded to keep the feasts, we are still commanded to keep his commandments, we are still commanded to keep his appointments, we are still commanded to keep his precepts, we are still commanded to keep his Sabbaths, we are still commanded to love him with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength.

There is no “Conversion”... there is only believing that he did what he said that he was already going to do through his Son Yahshua the Messiah!

For those of you who believe that all of Gods laws are nailed to the cross and we don't have to be bothered with any of them anymore because Jesus did it all for us... which is found no where in the scripture by the way.. let me explain the truth of what our Messiah came to teach and preach.

Lets start with Matthew 5:17

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Mat 5:18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Mat 5:19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees,

you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Our Messiah Yahshua Hamashiach came not to destroy or change the law but to re-enforce the law. Yahshua Jesus was the law in the flesh:

Joh 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

Joh 1:13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Joh 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Our Messiah came not to abolish the law but to re-establish the law and give his Ruach Hakodesh that would lead us into all understanding concerning the things of his fathers law and the prophets who came to proclaim him.

Here is what our Messiah taught with his own breath, his own words, and with his own tongue he said this:

Mat 5:21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'

Let me ask you my friends.. does this sound like we don't have to worry or be bothered with his laws? How about the very next verse?

Mat 5:22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

Does this sound even vaguely.. like our Messiah was teaching and preaching against the law of God?

How about divorce? Does our Messiah say do as you please concerning divorce? Or does he re-establish the law already given by Moses?

Mat 5:31 "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'

Mat 5:32 But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Once again... I ask you.. does this sound anything like the laws of God the Father are irrelevant,

or out of date, or to be abolished?

These commandments from our Messiah in no way did away with or nullified the law.. they simply re-enforced the law that Moses had already given, and our Messiah was explaining how to correctly interpret the law that we had already been given. He did not come to do away with his fathers law... just as he already told us in Matthew 5:17.. he did not come to abolish or do away with one crossing of one “T” or the dotting of one “i” of his fathers law.

And this is why it's important to understand who Paul was and what it was exactly that he came to preach and teach about his Messiah. Paul never taught against the laws, or commandments of God the Father.

Once we understand Paul... once we get a grip on who he was, once we understand where he came from, once we understand what he believed, and the fact that even James and the elders in Jerusalem proclaimed that Paul always kept the law in Acts chapter 21 verses 23 and 24... then and only then... can we begin to understand the many different “Laws” that Paul was teaching and preaching about.

PAULS AWAKENING FROM BLINDNESS:

Moving forward... lets take a look at verses 3 through 16 here we find Paul on his way to Damascus to round up more followers of “The Way” so that they could be persecuted... and he sees this bright light that blinds him and knocks him to the ground.

Now I want us to notice something very profound here. In the book of Luke we're told that the voice that Paul hears actually calls him by his Hebrew name which was Shaul.

So lets be clear... Yahshua was clearly speaking to Paul in his native tongue of Hebrew... not Greek, not Aramaic, not English, French, or Spanish.. Yahshua spoke to Paul in the Hebrew language, and used his Hebrew name... Shaul.

Now for more clarification on this, all we need to do is move up farther in the book of Acts and take a look at Acts chapter 26 verses 12 through 15 where Paul is explaining this very same event to King Agripa, lets read Paul's own version of the story:

Act 26:12 "In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests.

Act 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me.

Act 26:14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against

the goads.'

Act 26:15 And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.'

Act 26:16 But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you,

*Act 26:17 delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you
Act 26:18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'*

So Acts 26:14 tells us very clearly that Yahshua spoke the “Hebrew” language when speaking to Paul. Once again... my friends there is no conversion going on here.. this is nothing more than the continuation of the revelation that had already been given by Moses clear back in the Torah in the book of Deuteronomy.. what dose our own Messiah tell us in John chapter 5 verses 44 through 47?

Joh 5:44 How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

Joh 5:45 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope.

Joh 5:46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.

Joh 5:47 But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

Once again my friends... Yahshua was a Hebrew Jew. His disciples did not call him “Jesus” they called him “Yahshua” and his coming had nothing to do with a Jewish person “converting” but rather continuing in what they had already had known, and in what had already been promised to them.

The coming of our Messiah was foretold over and over again in the Torah and the writings of the prophets and we've covered a few of them already in our study into the book of Acts.. and there's a whole study that we could get into here but for times sake, let us move forward with the understanding that Yahshua was the fulfillment of what God the Father said he was already going to do.

There was no need.. and is no need.. for a Jew to “Convert” into something different.. but rather to come back to the truth. And for those who had always been following him properly.. they need not “Convert” to “Christianity” they only need to continue in their obedience to God the Father because this my friends is what the love of God is all about:

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Not that we abandon the commandments, precepts, appointments, and Sabbaths of his Father.. but that we continue to keep them, not to be saved... but because we are saved, and out of love and respect for him and all that he has done for us.

1Jn 2:2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1Jn 2:3 And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

He came to be our example.. he was the only one with out sin.. and we are commanded to walk as he walked.. and yet we do everything opposite of what he did, and what he commanded us to do.

We follow after pagan things rather than Holy things, we follow after men rather than after God, we worship our money, our sports hero's our movie hero's our music hero's our video games our entertainment industry... we follow after our politically correct governments, and our self proclaimed man made denominational charters of men, we bow the knee to every filthy perverted and abomination that comes from out of the mouth of men..

And we boastfully proclaim that we are all "Once saved always saved!" Hallelujah! Lets all hold hands and sing "Kumbyah"!

We put God our Father in the back seat and his son in the front seat rather than being seated at the right hand of God the Father where he truly is according to scripture.

We make void the Word of God in order to hold onto our own traditions honoring him with our lips while our hearts are far from him!

And this is why the book of Acts is so vitally important to the Christian today.

It's this book that shines the light on the "History of Christian Origins" and allows us to see, know, and understand the truth of not only our Messiah.. but also his Apostles and what the original Gospel message really was and still is today.

Now I want us to also notice something else in verse 7. The men that were traveling with Paul heard the voice.. but that they saw no one. Notice that the men were not struck blind like Paul was even though Paul tells us in Acts 26 verse 13, that the men who were with him also saw the

light and that it surrounded them all.

So I want us to take notice that it was not the light that blinded Paul.. because the other men were not blinded by the light. Only Paul was struck blind.

Paul's physical blindness was Yahshua's way of teaching him how blind he had been... knowing the Torah, knowing the prophesies, of the prophets, knowing what Moses had wrote about Yahshua, knowing that God the Father had told his people that he was going to send them a Messiah from with in their own camp in Deuteronomy 18:18 and 19.. and yet still being so blind that he could not see what was right in front of him.

Paul physical blindness... was a direct result of his spiritual blindness, and his blatant disregard for the things of God the Father in order to follow after the commandments and teachings of men.

And I want us to notice something very profound in verse 16 where we're told that Yahshua told Ananias that he would show Paul how much he would have to suffer for his names sake.

So the question then begs... did Paul have to suffer for the sake of the name of the Messiah? And I think that we all know that he in fact did have to suffer.. in fact he suffered a great deal.. but just to clarify how much Paul had to suffer for the name of his Messiah lets turn to 2nd Corinthians 11:23 through 28:

2Co 11:23 Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death.

2Co 11:24 Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.

2Co 11:25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;

2Co 11:26 on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;

2Co 11:27 in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

2Co 11:28 And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

Clearly... Paul was shown how much that he would have to suffer for the name of his Messiah.. and clearly.. he ran his race well.. and even he.. had to endure to the end. Paul went to his grave contending for the faith.

Another thing that I want us to notice is what our Messiah says for the first time.. concerning the Gentiles in Acts chapter 9 verse 15 what does Yahshua tell Ananias?:

Act 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.

It is now, and only now, at this point in time.. that our Messiah had died, was buried, and was resurrected.. and because of his work at the cross.. it was only now.. that it was possible for the two houses.. the two kingdoms.. (the Northern Kingdom of Ephraim, and the Southern kingdom of Judah) to come forward in faith in their Messiah.. that they could once again be healed and the two sticks of Israel could once again become one stick in the Fathers hand.

And it was now and only now.. that all the nations of the Earth could once again be joined back into the "House of Israel". One stick.. in the Fathers hand.

And once again this was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Ezekiel chapter 37: verses 16 through 38 for those of you who have no idea what we're talking about here.

And we will soon see in the book of Acts.. the Gentiles finally being grafted into the Olive Tree that is "The House of Israel".

Moving forward we find In verse 19 that Paul was with the Disciples in Damascus... and boy don't you wish you could have been a fly on the wall during that little get together.

Here was the man who was just a few days ago gathering them all up to be rounded up and taken back to Jerusalem to be persecuted, and to be put to death, and now here he is after being baptized and filled with the Ruach Hakodesh ready to run the race with them instead of against them.

What do you suppose Paul and the Apostles talked about during Paul's short stay with them? Do you suppose they talked about the Gospel and the man made commandments of the Halal?

Do you suppose they spoke about the differences between mans hybrid religious system and Gods true ordained scripture, and Yahshua's Gospel message?

Do you suppose they blessed one another after seeing once again.. the power of God to bring into the flock even the most sinful people of all?

Do you suppose that they all had finally realized that if God was willing to forgive the wickedness of Paul.. he was surly willing to forgive the sins of the whole world?

How many tears do you suppose were shed during Paul's stay with the Apostles?

It's no surprise to me that we find Paul immediately heading for the Synagogues to preach and

teach the good news in verse 20. How could you possibly hold it in, or hide what they had all been given?

Boldly contending for the faith knowing that there were still men out there willing to take Paul's place in rounding up these new followers of "The Way" and to drag them back to Jerusalem to be murdered for their faith in their Messiah.

Knowing that by boldly contending for the faith... they were putting their very lives in danger.

I want us to understand.. that there was nothing our adversary could possibly do.. to stop these men from bringing this Gospel message to the world.

Of course we'll read about false Apostles, and wolves in sheep's clothing. We'll read about these so called "Super Apostles" that Paul has to do battle with in the very near future. We'll read about the persecutions of many of our brothers and sisters who laid their lives down in the name of our Messiah so many years ago.

But in the end.. our adversary lost the battle. He could not stop this Gospel message from spreading like wildfire, and the more they persecuted his followers the faster the Gospel message spread, and the more that came to believe.

And even to this very day.. his original Gospel message continues to be taught by those who love him, and even to this day our adversary can do nothing to stop his Gospel message from marching on through time and space.

Rom 10:15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Rom 10:16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

Rom 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

NOTICE!!! IT DOES NOT SAY.. "faith comes from those who practice their denominational charters man made understanding". It says "faith comes from hearing the Word of the Messiah".

As we continue on in the book of Acts we'll begin to see exactly what Paul did and did not teach about his Messiah and the law and the prophets of God his Father, and I would submit to you my friends that for many Christians.. the chains that we will break here in this study will stun and amaze most modern day professing Christians today.

The story only gets more interesting and intriguing from here on out. The "History of Christian Origins" has only just begun.. and the true message of our Messiah will soon begin to come to life in ways unexpected by most.

What was the original message? What did Paul preach concerning the laws of God exactly? And what impact does this original Gospel message have on the world today?

Find out.. as we read from the book that was originally entitled: “The History of Christian Origins”.