



Tuesday Night Training
Restoration: Returning the Torah of God to the Disciples of Jesus
 Spring Quarter (May 5 – June 9, 2015)

I. COURSE PURPOSE: To gain a greater understanding of the foundational application of the neglected Hebraic roots of the Scriptures

II. COURSE LOGISTICS

A. Time: Winter Quarter: Tuesday evenings from 6:15 – 7:05 PM

B. Primary Instructor: Peder Olsen

C. Coursebook: *Restoration* by D. Thomas Lancaster

D. Class Schedule

Material Due Date	Reading	Subject Covered
May 5	Prologue; Chapter 1	Class Introduction
May 12	Chapters 2-4	Our Journey Away from Torah
May 19	Chapters 5-7	The Torah
May 26	Chapters 8-10	The Sabbath & the Festivals
June 2	Chapters 11-13	Difficulties in the Torah
June 9	Chapters 14-15	Paul's Call For Restoration

E. Homework

For each weekly homework assignment, each student is expected to read the assigned materials and to make notes with their comments and questions from reading the material.

III. THE ANCIENT PATHS

A. My Introduction to the “Messianic Movement”

B. Lighthouse Implementation: Lick the lollipop vs. spit out the cyanide: We as a body of Believers in the Lighthouse have a calling to live out our understandings of Scripture in primarily a *positive* way in our lifestyles and endeavor to emphasize the main and plain teachings of Scripture.

C. It's Ancient: *Thus says Yahweh, "Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'*
 Jeremiah 6:16

1. *Roots of Our Faith:* The roots of our faith are not 2000 years old but 3500 years old

D. It's a Mystery: The Gentile inclusion in the “Jewish” salvation story is presented as a mystery in the Scriptures.

1. Definition: Any action, affair, or thing that arouses curiosity or suspense because it is not fully revealed

2. Ephesians 3:3-7

a. the Gentile inclusion Paul records as a mystery

b. something kept secret in the past but now being revealed

3. Paul's speech in Jerusalem (Acts 22:21-22). The unbelieving Jews did not get upset over the Gospel of Yeshua but rather the truth that this Gospel was for the nations.

E. Controversial Perspectives

1. Non-Jewish Inclusion: Those from the nations (non-Jews) are only comprehended in the Biblical covenants (which includes the New Covenant described in Jeremiah 31:31-35) by their relationship with Israel and the God of Israel.

a. All the major covenants from Abraham on were made with Israel (and including the house of Judah).

- 2. Sanctification is a Life-long Process** (and it affects every area of our lives): It was God's intent that we as Believers would become more Biblical (i.e., would appear Jewish-looking) as we learn more about walking out our salvation.
- a. Implementing God's ways/commandments will a) affect every area of our life; b) make us distinct from the world around us; and c) is designed to be a testimony of Yahweh's wisdom, blessing, and power.
 - b. Lifelong process of discipleship. Obedience to the Bible affects the following (and many other areas):
 - i. Calendar/schedule
 - ii. Clothing/appearance
 - iii. Diet
 - iv. Hygiene
 - v. Sexuality
 - vi. Giving/Finances
 - vii. Relationships/Child raising
 - c. Much of the western civilization has been built on the Judeo-Christian foundation and has been blessed in those areas as we have followed these biblical ways.
- 3. Covenant Status Primary:** Ethnic status (ethnically being a Jew or non-Jew) is not of great significance but covenant status is of primary importance: are we connected covenantally to God through our faith in Yeshua's sacrifice and are we committed to growing into our understanding of what these covenants mean for us?

IV. WEIGHTIER/LIGHTER COMMANDMENTS

A. Initial Scriptures

Matthew 23:23 ²³ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

Matthew 5:19

1. Greatest Commandment: Loving God

Mark 12:28-31 ²⁸ One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?" ²⁹ Yeshua answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! YAHWEH OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; ³⁰ AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH'. ³¹ "The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

a. Action Item: How are we doing on loving Him?

2. Second-Greatest Commandment: Loving Others

Matthew 5:44 ⁴⁴ "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Luke 10:25-29 ²⁵ And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" ²⁷ And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE YAHWEH YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." ²⁸ And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE." ²⁹ But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

3. Place of obedience (John 14:15, 23; 15:10)

John 14:15 ¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

a. Sometimes obey commandments for wrong reasons/motives:

- i. like a laundry list out of fear
- ii. to try to earn God's love
- iii. as a badge that we use to judge others
- b. Admonished to focus the bulk of our time and energy on the weightier commandments

B. Principles

1. Weightier to Lighter (Matthew 23:23)
 - a. What we'll emphasize (weightier)
 - b. What we won't emphasize but we won't discourage (lighter)
2. Who decides the weightier/lighter issues within the congregation?
 - a. Elders/leadership with input from Scripture, prayer, and the community
 - i. Biblically, a stronger punishment is enacted for breaking a more important commandment.
3. Won't do something if there is a clear biblical prohibition; we will allow things unless there is a clear biblical prohibition
 - a. "That's not in the word of God" or
 - i. Automobiles, toilet paper, driver's license, etc.
 - b. "That's not specifically prohibited by the Word of God"
4. Elders interaction with a person's implementation of "lighter" issues:
 - a. Elders will encourage a person to follow their conscience as it relates to obedience to their understanding of the Word of God.
 - b. Elders will discourage a person from being too vocal on another person's (or the community's) obedience or disobedience to "lighter" issues.
 - c. Elders will encourage a person (and the community) to assess themselves related to the "weightier" issues.
5. Used to assess progressive growth (John 16:12; Hebrews 5:11-6:1)

John 16:12 ¹² "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now.

Hebrews 5:11 - 6:2 ¹¹ Concerning him we have much to say, and *it is* hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. ¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. ^{6:1} Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.
6. Justice, mercy, faithfulness
 - a. Justice (*krisis*): being righteous; fairness; rightfulness; reward or penalty as deserved; the use of authority to uphold what is proper, lawful, and deserved; the rendering of what is due or merited; upholding righteous things and working to make wrong things right
 - b. Mercy (*eleos*): mercy, pity, compassion; a disposition to forgive or be kind
 - c. Faithfulness (*pistis*): loyal, conscientious, accurate, reliable
7. Many Messianic Congregations Miss the Heart of God and Major on Minors
 - a. We must deal with our pride
8. Lifelong process of discipleship. Obedience to the Bible effects:
 - a. Calendar/schedule
 - b. Clothing/appearance
 - c. Diet
 - d. Hygiene
 - e. Sexuality
 - f. Giving/Finances

- g. Relationships/Child raising
- 9. Where do I start?
 - a. Big 2
 - b. Big 10: specifically the Sabbath
 - c. Biblical Festivals (Leviticus 23: they are My festivals)
 - d. God has written the torah on your heart (Jer. 31:33)
 - i. Read the Word
 - ii. Obey the Word
 - iii. Stay involved in a biblical, life-giving community

V. THE CALL TO CHANGE

A. Controversial Issues: The Hebraic roots of our faith calls each one of us to change

1. **Jews need Yeshua** for their salvation and the Jewish people (or any other people) are not saved by keeping the torah.
 - a. Rabbinic Judaism: this form of Judaism arose after the temple was destroyed in 70CE and has as it's foundation the rejection of Yeshua as the Messiah.
 - b. Biblical Judaism vs. cultural Judaism: we in the Lighthouse are espousing a return to a primarily biblical practice and not an adherence (in more than a very tertiary way) to cultural Jewish practice.
 - c. The ancient Jewish commentaries (targums) which preceded Yeshua's first-coming showed their belief in a divine Messiah that was yet to come.
2. **Traditional Believers in Yeshua Have Veered from Yahweh's Path**
 - a. *Unbiblical foundations:* Believers need to come to terms with the unbiblical baggage that we have embraced in place of the Bible's commandments. A significant sub-strata (primarily their calendar) of traditional Christianity is not based on the Bible. These keep us from greater blessings from God and He is calling His people out of these unbiblical foundations (Revelation 18:4)
 - b. *Anti-semitism* is at the roots of much of the traditional Christian faith
 - i. Christian history: Many horrendous things done in the name of Jesus towards the Jewish people
 - c. *Neglected Priorities:* A significant part of Yahweh's ways are neglected within the lives of all Believers and is something that He desires to restore to His Bride
 - i. We as Messianic Believers have significant theological overlap within evangelical Christianity