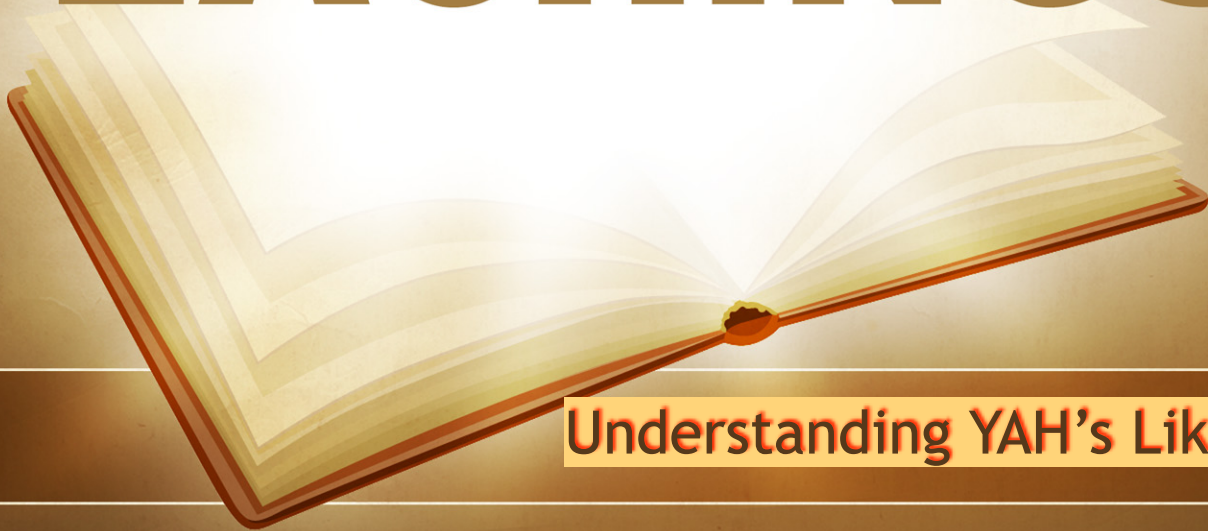


TORAH TEACHINGS



Understanding YAH's Likes and dislikes

#3 Lech-L'cha (לך-לך) *lek-*
ləḵā – Hebrew for “go!” or
“leave!”, literally “go for you”

—

Torah: Genesis 12:1-17:27
Haftarah: Isaiah 40:27-41:16

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Elohim speaks to Abram, commanding him, “Go from your land, from your birthplace and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you.” There, Elohim says, he will be made into a great nation. Elohim shows his great love and devotion to his bride Israel still in Abram’s loins saying, **“I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”**

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Abram and his wife, Sarai, accompanied by his nephew Lot, journey to the land of Canaan, where Abram builds an altar and continues to spread the message of a one Elohim.

A famine forces the first Hebrew to depart for Egypt, where beautiful Sarai is taken to Pharaoh's palace; Abram escapes death because they present themselves as brother and sister. A plague prevents the Egyptian king from touching her, and convinces him to return her to Abram and to compensate the brother-revealed-as-husband with gold, silver and cattle.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Back in the land of Canaan, Lot separates from Abram and settles in the evil city of Sodom, where he falls captive when the mighty armies of Chedorlaomer (pronounced Kedar-laomer) and his three allies conquer the five cities of the Sodom Valley. Abram sets out with a small band to rescue his nephew, defeats the four kings, and is blessed by Malki-Zedek (Shem) the king of Salem (Jerusalem).

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Elohim seals the **Covenant Between the Parts** with Abram, in which the exile and persecution (galut) of the people of Israel is foretold, and the Holy Land is bequeathed to them as their eternal heritage.

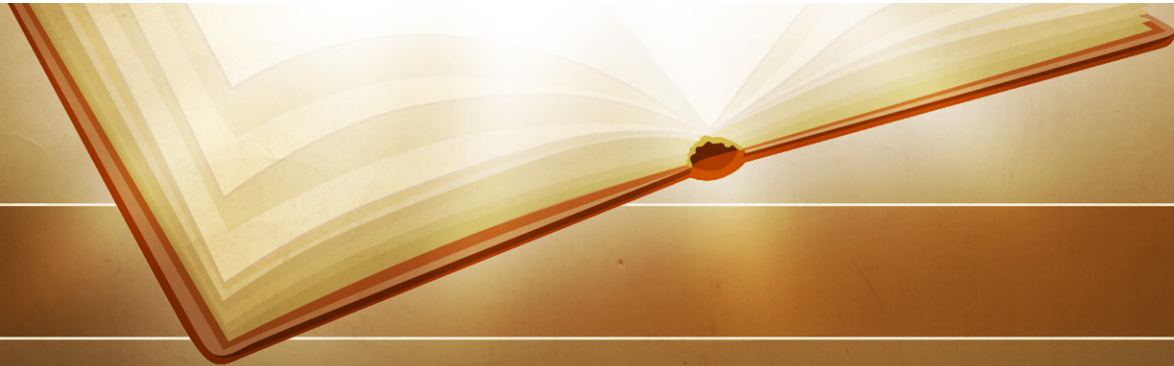
Still childless ten years after their arrival in the Land, Sarai tells Abram to marry her maidservant Hagar. Hagar conceives, becomes insolent toward her mistress, and then flees when Sarai treats her harshly; an angel convinces her to return, and tells her that her son will father a populous nation. Ishmael is born in Abram's eighty-sixth year.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Thirteen years later, God changes Abram's name to Abraham ("father of multitudes"), and Sarai's to Sarah ("princess"), and promises that a son will be born to them; from this child, whom they should call Isaac ("will laugh"), will stem the great nation with which Elohim will establish His special bond. Abraham is commanded to circumcise himself and his descendants as a "sign of the covenant between Me and you." Abraham immediately complies, circumcising himself and all the males of his household.

Gen 12:1 And יהוה said to Abram, “Go yourself out of your land, from your relatives and from your father’s house, to a land which I show you.



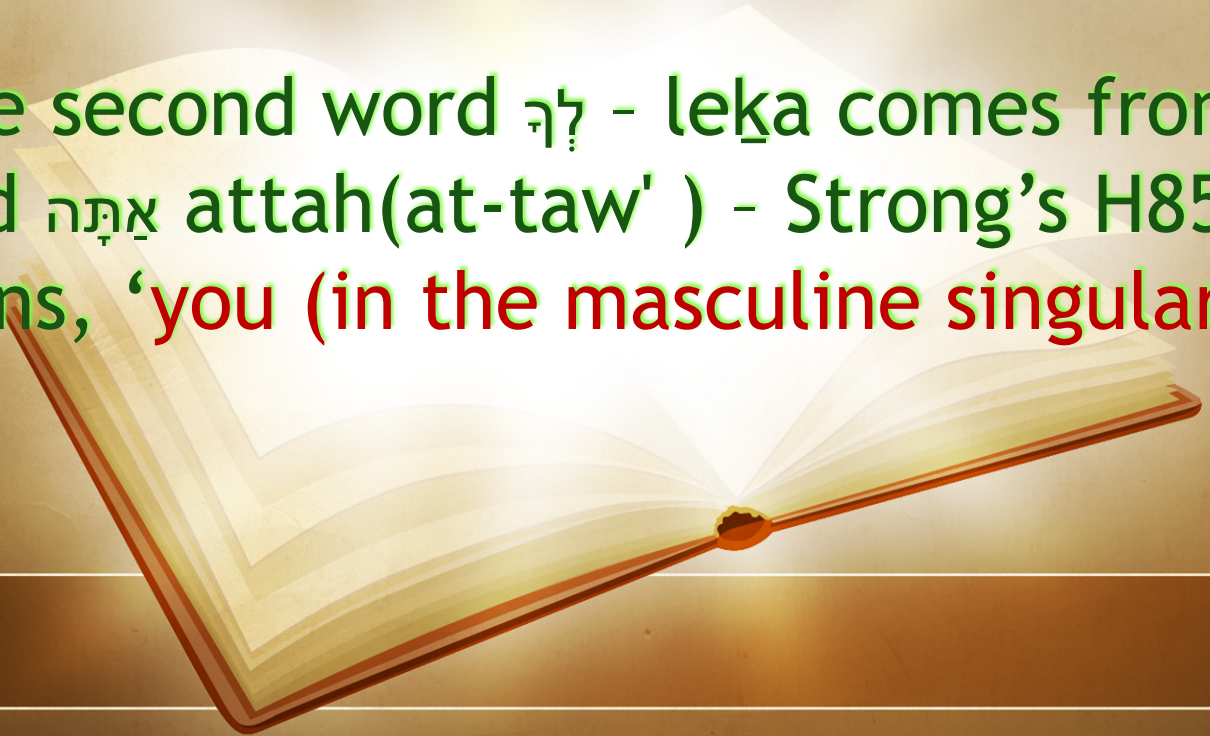
Verse 1

The name of this week's torah portion is based on the clear instruction that was given to Abraham by יהוה (YeHoVah)!

The literal command that was given to him was, "Go yourself out", which, in the Hebrew, is written as לְךָ-לְךָ - lek lek

This phrase renders the command "you go", or better put, "you walk", and comes from two root words:

1 - The first word לָךְ - lek comes from the root הָלַךְ halak (haw-lak') - Strong's H1980 which carries the meaning, *'to walk, to live, manner of life, cause to live'* and literally speaks of how one lives. It is used as a verb indicating that it is an active expression of one's life. This verb is written in the 'qal active' tense and therefore renders the meaning, *'to go, to walk, come, proceed, depart, move, go away, to die, live, manner of life (figuratively)'*.

2 - The second word לְךָ - leḵā comes from the root word אָתָּה attah('at-taw') - Strong's H859 which means, 'you (in the masculine singular form)'.


The command that Abraham was given by יהוה was a very clear one - and that was simply, to get up and leave his land, relatives and father's house! From this clear command we are able to learn a great deal and see the vital lessons contained in these words that need to be heard clearly today, as the call and command of Elohim to His Remnant Bride, to:

“Come out of her, My people!”, is being made abundantly clear!

We need to make it very clear that Abraham was already at this stage a man who knew יהוה (YeHoVah).

He did not just one day suddenly hear a random voice telling him to get up and leave, but rather, he knew the voice of יהוה (YeHoVah), and this is important for us to see; as so many today, claim to hear the voice of the Creator telling them what they must do, while they have no relationship with the Creator and do not walk in His ways!

What this phrasing could also render, is: 'walking you shall walk', as it expresses the urgency of walking in line with the instructions of Elohim and how it is through obedience to His Word that will cause and enable us to walk out from lies and traditions of man-made systems of worship.

When we look at the Hebrew word for 'walk' in the ancient pictographic script we can gain a better understanding of that which is required from us, as set-apart ones of the Most-High who walk, even as He did!

The Hebrew root word for walk - הָלַךְ **halak** -
Strong's H1980 in the ancient pictographic script,
looks like this:


The first pictographic symbol is a blue and black stylized letter 'ש' (Shin). It consists of three vertical bars on the left and a U-shaped base on the right.

The second pictographic symbol is a blue and black stylized letter 'ל' (Lamed). It is a simple, curved shape resembling a hook or a checkmark.


The third pictographic symbol is a blue and black stylized letter 'מ' (Mem). It is a simple, stick-figure-like shape with a horizontal top bar and two vertical legs.

Hey - הָ:




The ancient script has this letter pictured as , which is ‘**a man standing with his arms raised out**’. The meaning of the letter is “**behold, look, breath, sigh and reveal or revelation**”, from the idea of revealing a great sight by pointing it out. It also carries for us the meaning of surrender, as we lift up our hands and submit to יהוה as we lift our hands in praise, declaring His authority under which we humbly submit!

Lamed - ל:

The ancient script has this letter as , and is pictured as a '**shepherd's staff**', can give the meaning of '**to or toward**' and can represent that which pushes or pulls a flock in a direction, and can speak of **authority** or a yoke that is used to lead and guide, as well as the ability to bring back by Authority.

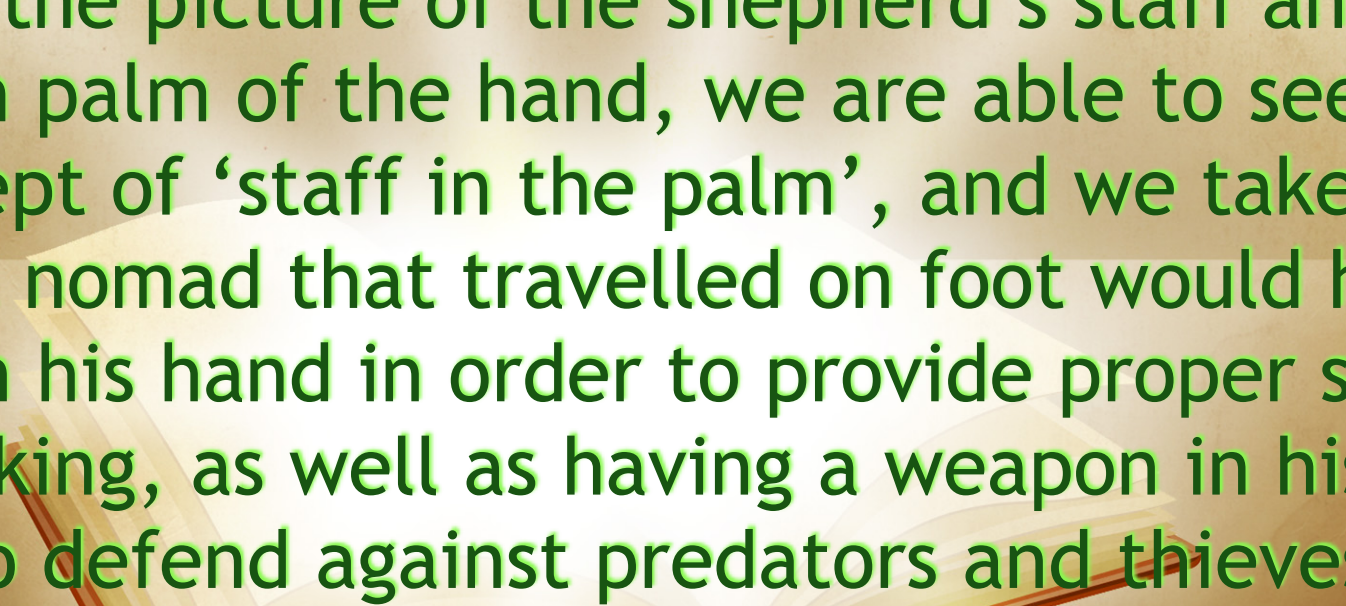
Kaph - קָ:

The ancient form of this letter is  - meaning **'the open palm of a hand'**. The meaning behind this letter is **'to bend and curve'** from the shape of a palm as well as **'to tame or subdue'** as one has been bent to another's will (under their hand), as an open hand symbolises submission. This also can picture for us a palm or palm branch from the curved palm shape. The hand also speaks of one's work, or under whose hand you submit and obey!

When we look at the letters that spell out the root word that for 'walk' we are able to see a great declaration:

BEHOLD THE STAFF IN THE PALM!





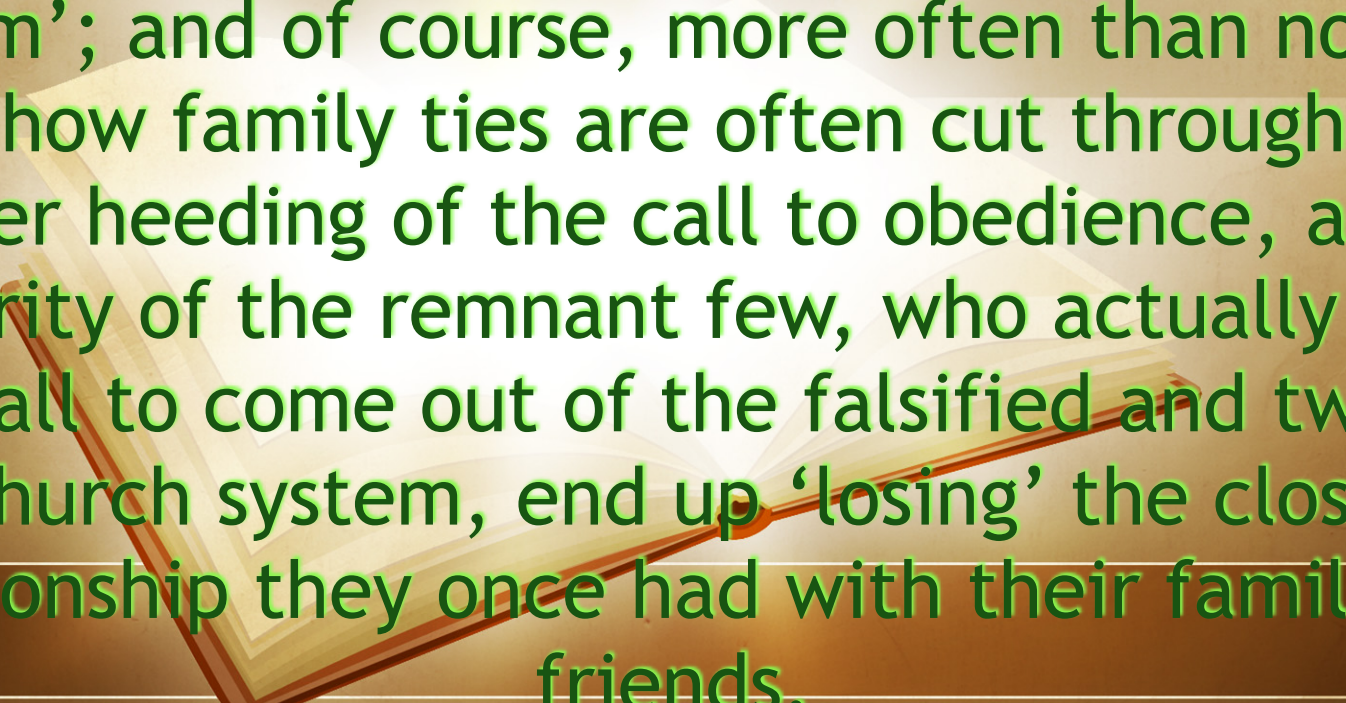
With the picture of the shepherd's staff and the open palm of the hand, we are able to see the concept of 'staff in the palm', and we take note that a nomad that travelled on foot would have a staff in his hand in order to provide proper support in walking, as well as having a weapon in his hand to defend against predators and thieves!

The call that is given here, to 'walk and come out', is a call that does come at a price!

It is a call that calls for you to come out and leave what you know and who you know, even close family, if need be!

‘Leaving the land’ can picture for us the ability of hearing the call to come out of the ‘things of the world/flesh’, or out of the ‘man-made systems’ of worship.

By that I mean, man made systems of worship practices that have been rooted in pagan traditions.

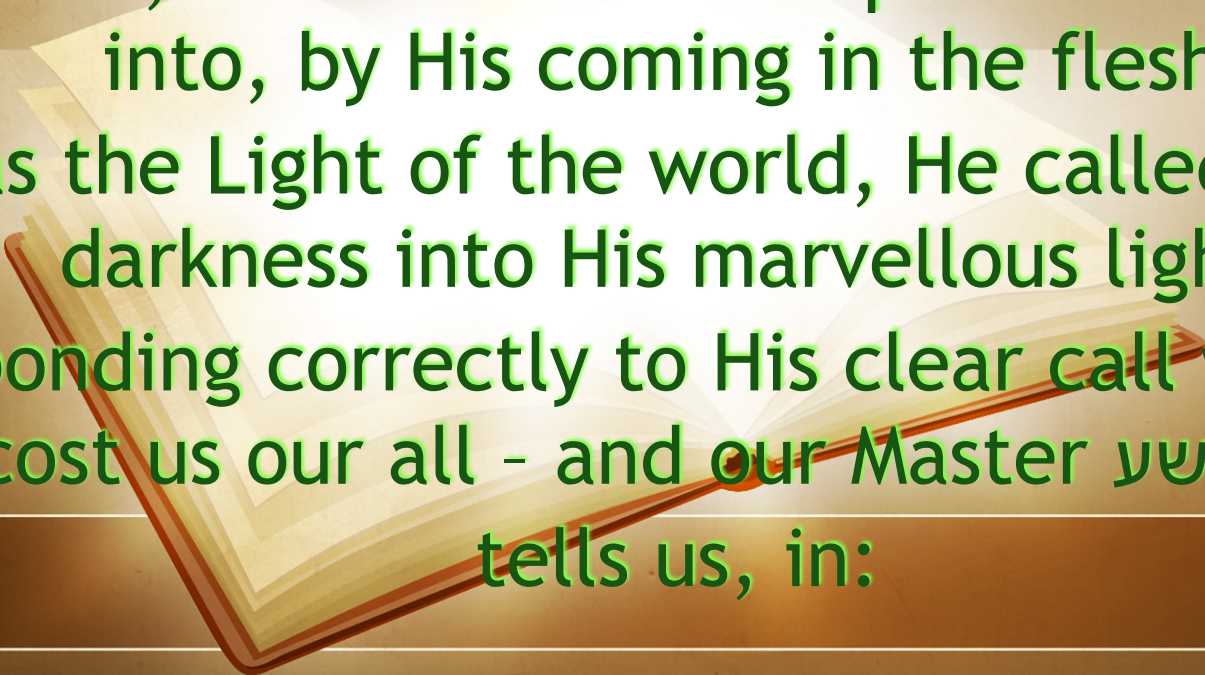


Leaving relatives and family, is a clear picture of leaving those people who were your ‘brothers and sisters’, so to speak, within the ‘corrupted system’; and of course, more often than not, we see how family ties are often cut through the proper heeding of the call to obedience, as the majority of the remnant few, who actually heed the call to come out of the falsified and twisted church system, end up ‘losing’ the close relationship they once had with their family and friends.

Abraham was not only told to leave, but he was told to leave “all”, in order to go to that which יהוה (YeHoVah) would show him. ‘Leaving all’ is certainly a huge part of the call to obedience, yet many do not recognise where they are to ‘go’ to next and so, they often end up forsaking all worship all together, or end up falling into another man-driven system of worship, possibly one that assumes the need to run after rabbinical insights, which they feel are necessary to understand Elohim - which too, is a part of the lies and traditions of man that are false and need to be ‘come out of’.

We are to get up and leave all the false ways of traditional man-made worship, in order to 'follow' the Truth; and the land which יהוה (YeHoVah) speaks of, is the Land He promised; and pictures for us the Land where His Kingdom rules apply.

In other words, we are to get out of the governance of false traditions and lies, in order to step into the Kingdom of Messiah, as we submit and surrender ourselves to walking according to His Torah (instructions)!!!

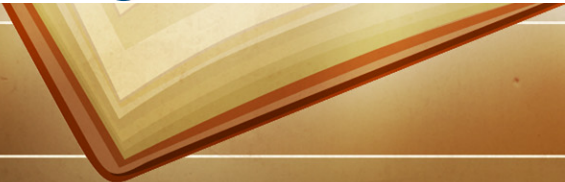


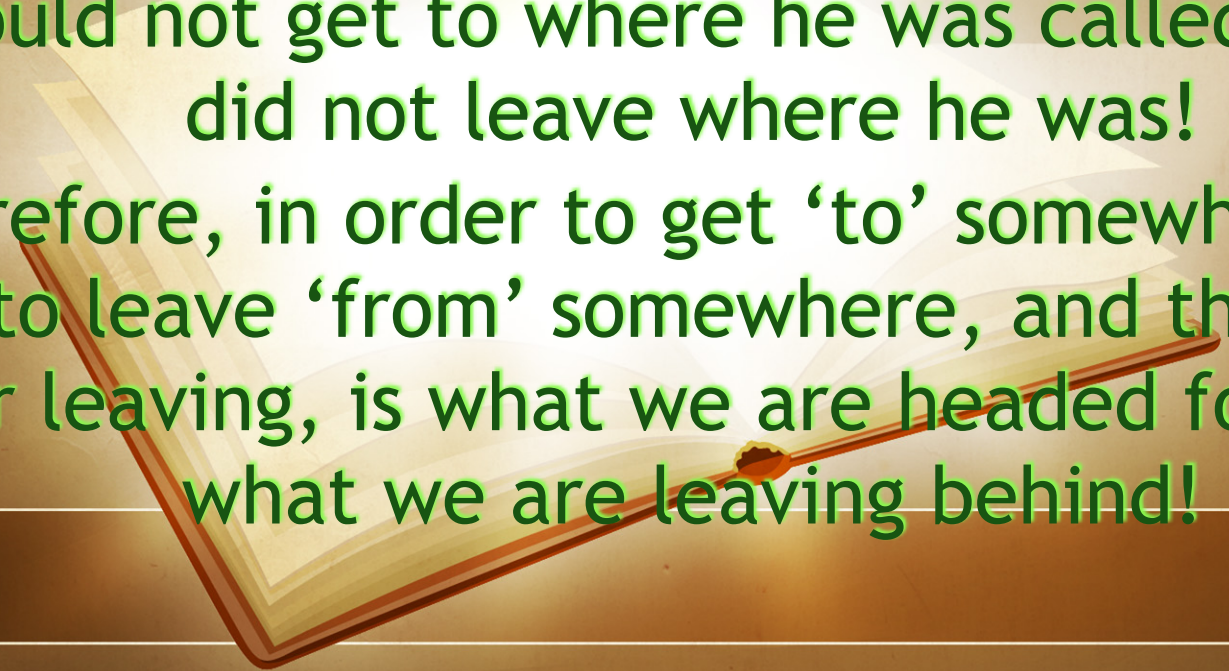
The Besorah (Good News) is all about the Kingdom of Messiah and His Word that equips us to become citizens of, which He came to proclaim and call us into, by His coming in the flesh!

And, as the Light of the world, He called us out of darkness into His marvellous light!

Responding correctly to His clear call will, and does, cost us our all - and our Master יהושע Messiah tells us, in:

Marqos/Mark 10:29-30 “יהושע said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for the sake of Me and the Good News, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come, everlasting life.”





“Get yourself walking away!” is another way of understanding what Abraham was called to do, as he could not get to where he was called to, if he did not leave where he was!

Therefore, in order to get ‘to’ somewhere, you have to leave ‘from’ somewhere, and the purpose of our leaving, is what we are headed for and not what we are leaving behind!

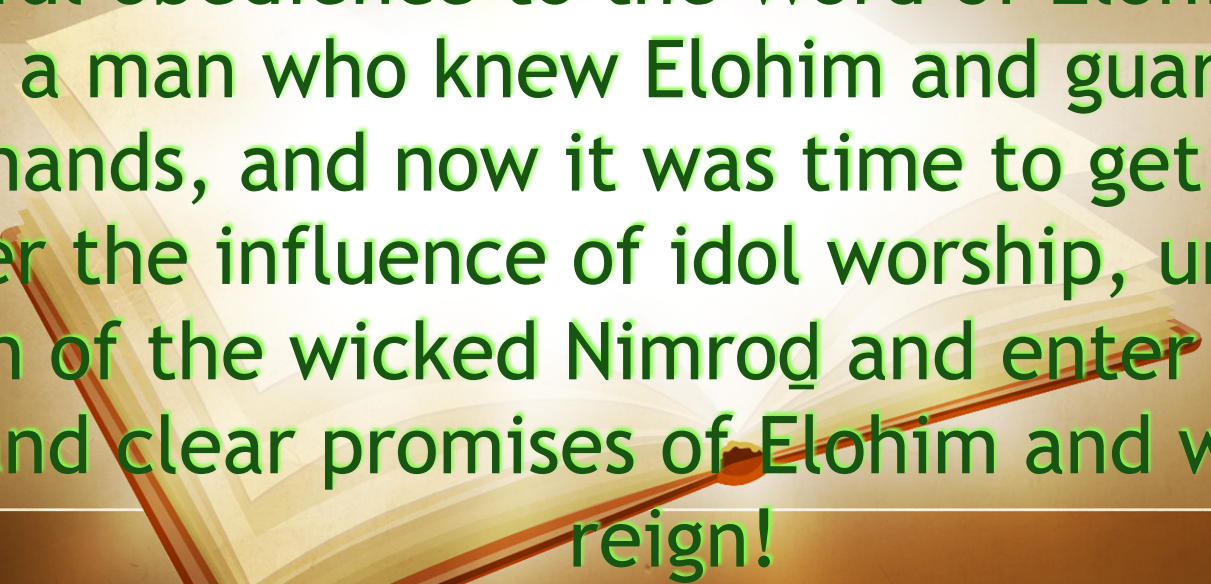
Sounds fairly simple, yet so many fail to 'leave' that which should be left behind and thrown off and, in the process, they end up being mixed and confused.

According to the writings we find in the Book of Yasher, we are told that Abraham's father, Terah, was an idol maker, and Abraham had destroyed his father's household idols before leaving, and challenges his father by saying that if the idols were real then they would have been able to save and repair themselves and so, he exposed the futility of his father's idols worship!

We are also told in the book of Yasher that from the of age 10 to 50 Abraham sat under the teachings of Noah and Shem:

BOOK OF YASHER Chapter 9:5-6a “5 And when Abram came out from the cave, he went to Noah and his son Shem, and he remained with them to learn the instruction of YeHoVah and his ways, and no man knew where Abram was, and Abram served Noah and Shem his son for a long time. 6 And Abram was in Noah’s house thirty-nine years, and Abram knew YeHoVah from three years old, and he went in the ways of YeHoVah until the day of his death, as Noah and his son Shem had taught him...”

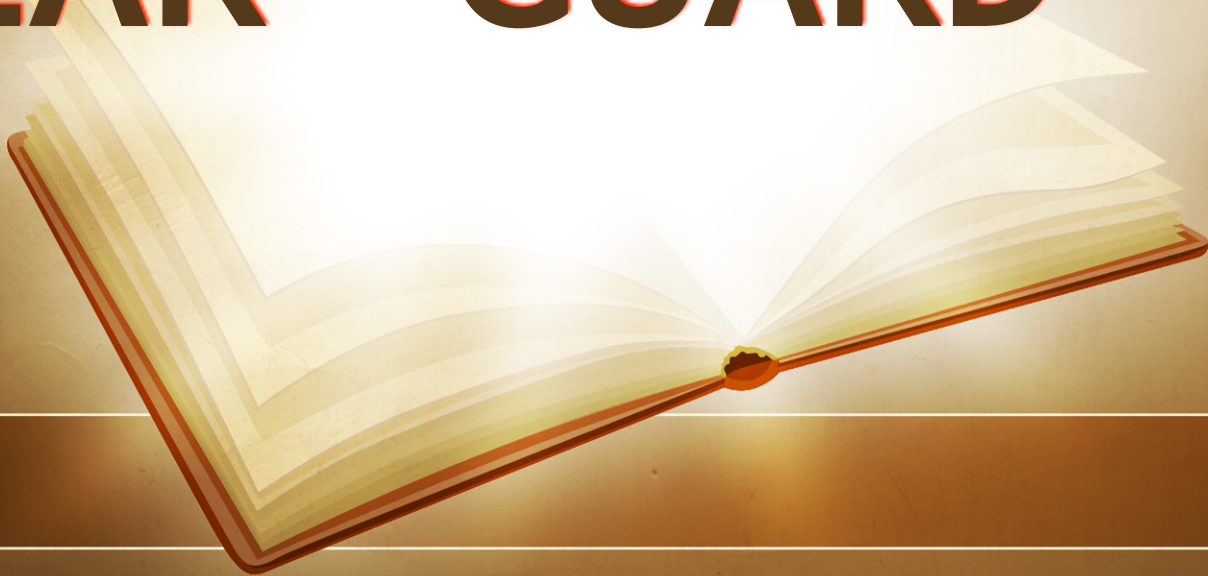
And so, from these writings we are able to further understand how Abraham could respond with true faithful obedience to the Word of Elohim, as he was a man who knew Elohim and guarded His commands, and now it was time to get out from under the influence of idol worship, under the reign of the wicked Nimrod and enter into the True and clear promises of Elohim and walk in His reign!

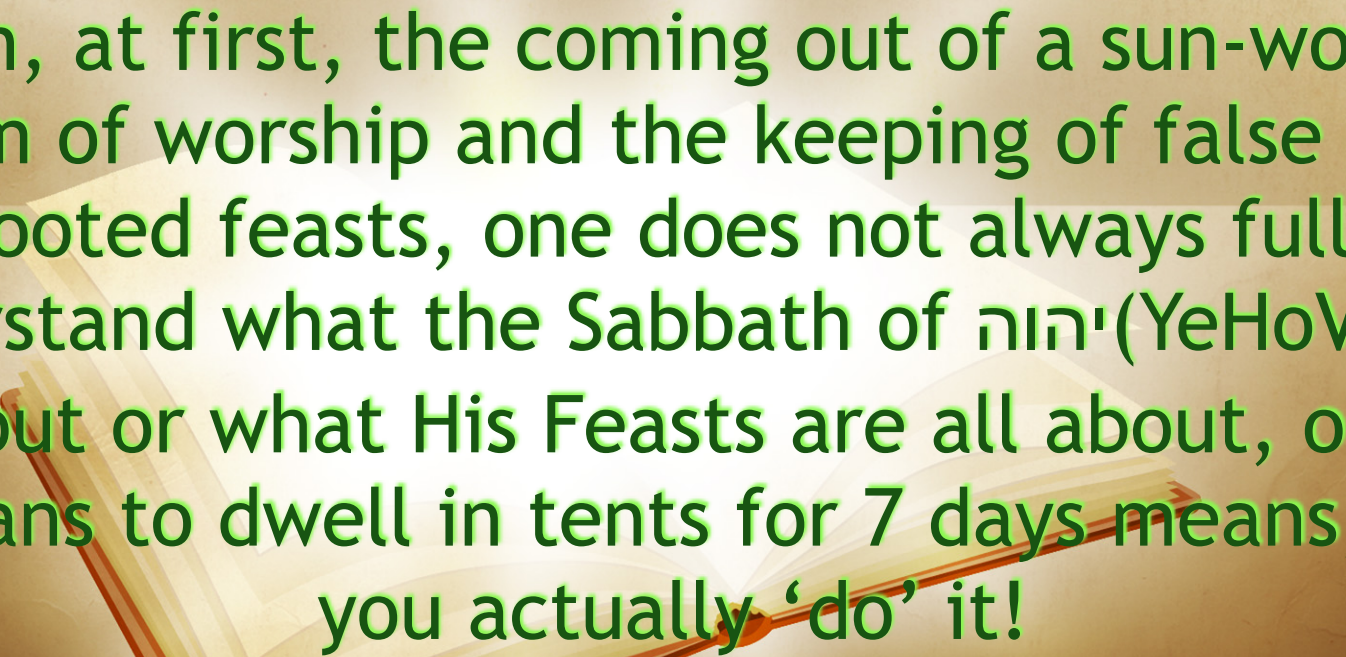


The call is the same for us today - which is simply this: “get out of the Nimrod worship system of paganised sun-worship and step into the reign and Kingdom rules of Messiah, our Saviour, Master and King!”

A true Hebrew is one who ‘crosses over’ and this always comes at a price and is risky at first sight, as one does not always know what is on the other side; and the true Hebraic mind-set, is one of recognising that ‘knowing and understanding’ comes in the ‘listening, obeying and doing’ of the instructions of Elohim:

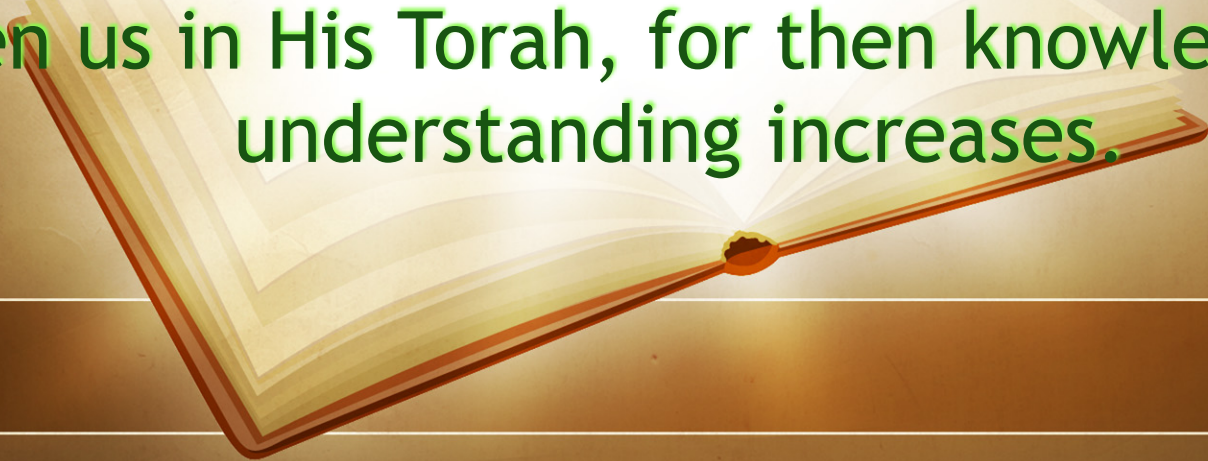
HEAR - GUARD - DO!





When, at first, the coming out of a sun-worship system of worship and the keeping of false pagan rooted feasts, one does not always fully understand what the Sabbath of יהוה (YeHoVah) is all about or what His Feasts are all about, or what it means to dwell in tents for 7 days means, until you actually 'do' it!

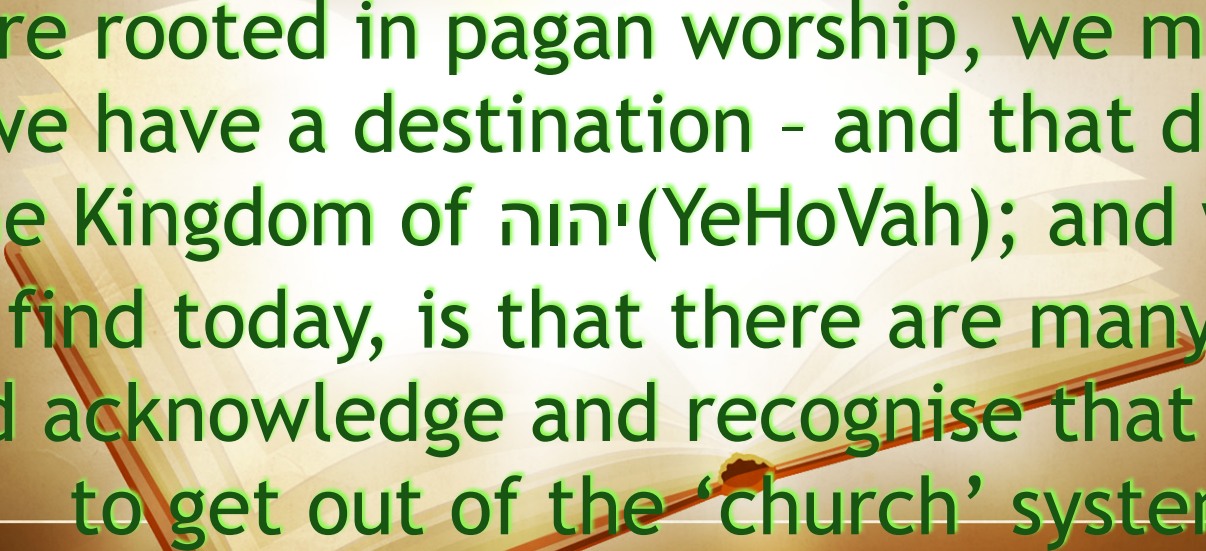
For therein lies the 'knowing' - as one applies the obedient action of 'doing' what is commanded by faith, which is the active expression of loving obedience, in following the clear instructions as given us in His Torah, for then knowledge and understanding increases.



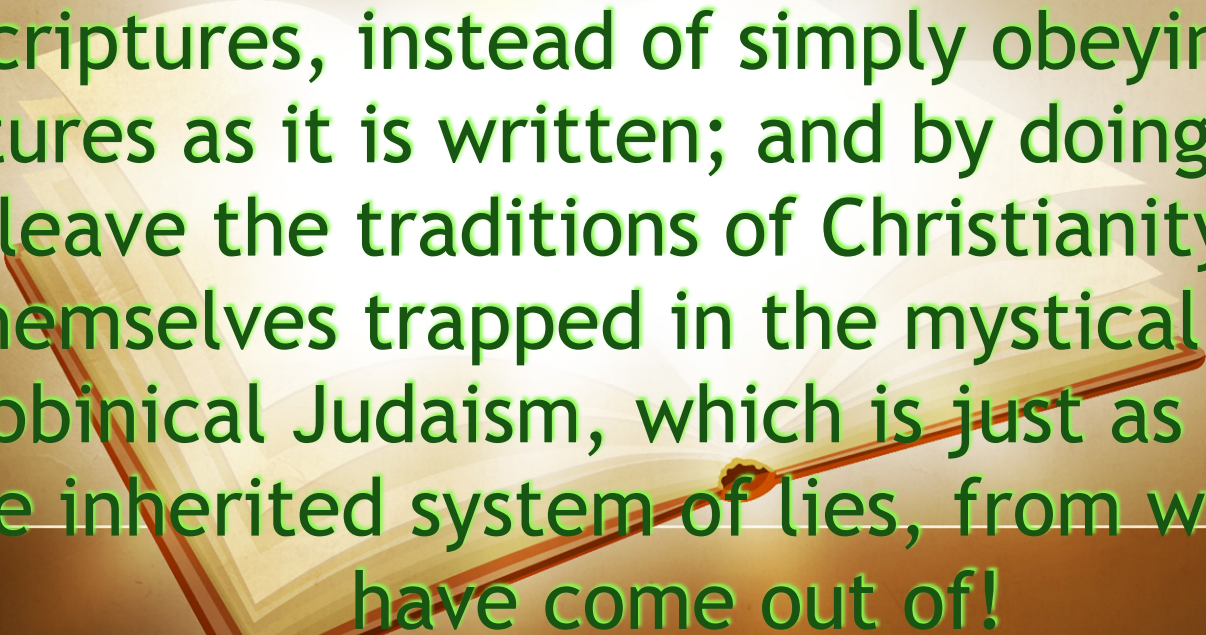
Abraham was not given the full details of what he was walking toward, yet he was told what to leave - and we also see this pattern being established for us too; as we can learn from Ma'asei/Acts 15, where the nations, who were turning to the Torah and entering into the Covenants of Promise by the Blood of Messiah, were clearly told what to stop immediately and then were instructed to go every Sabbath to where Mosheh was read.

In other words, they were told to stop all of their pagan rooted forms of worship immediately and then they were instructed to go every Sabbath and hear the Torah, for this is how they would learn to walk in Truth and have all lies properly stripped away, in the process of hearing, guarding and doing the commands of Elohim!

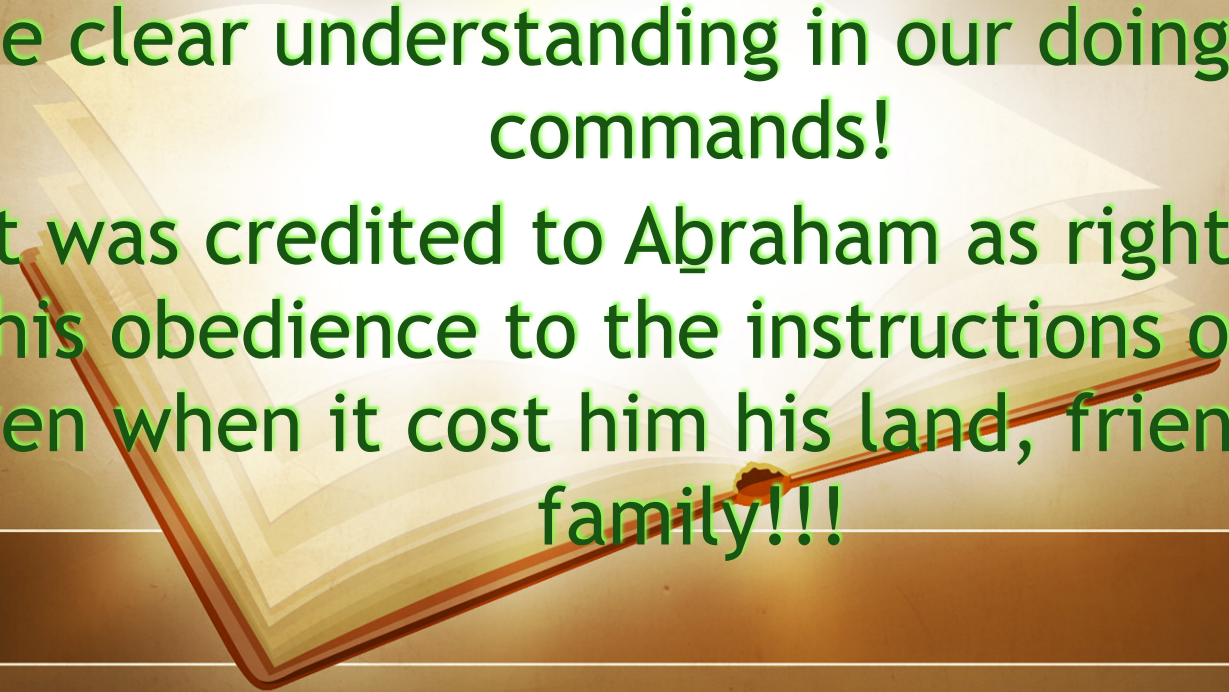




When leaving behind the inherited lies of our father's, handed down through twisted traditions that are rooted in pagan worship, we must realise that we have a destination - and that destination is the Kingdom of יהוה (YeHoVah); and what we often find today, is that there are many that may indeed acknowledge and recognise that they need to get out of the 'church' system,



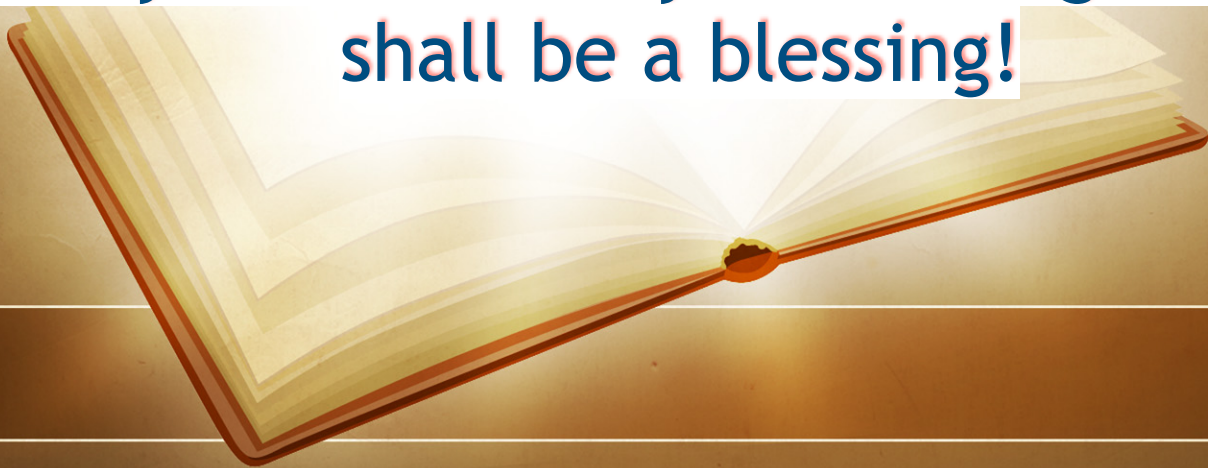
yet fail to see their need to follow the plain Truth of Scripture and therefore, many often fall into the trap of seeking an ‘interpretation’ of the Scriptures, instead of simply obeying the Scriptures as it is written; and by doing so, many who leave the traditions of Christianity behind, find themselves trapped in the mystical deception of Rabbinical Judaism, which is just as poisonous as the inherited system of lies, from which they have come out of!



We are to walk in the Truth, seek the Truth and simply obey the Truth and allow His Spirit to bring the clear understanding in our doing of His commands!

What was credited to Abraham as righteousness was his obedience to the instructions of Elohim, even when it cost him his land, friends and family!!!

Gen 12:2 “And I shall make you a great nation,
and bless you and make your name great, and you
shall be a blessing!



Verse 2

Obedience brings the blessing; and here we see a powerful promise being given to Abraham, in that יהוה would make his name great and cause him to be a blessing!

In total contrast to the tower of Babel, where men tried to make their own name great and got scattered, here יהוה (YeHoVah) gives Abraham the assurance of establishing him and his seed, as a people, as a result of his obedience!

Galatyiym/Galatians 3:6-9 “Even so Abraham “did believe Elohim, and it was reckoned unto him as righteousness.” 7 Know, then, that those who are of belief are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, having foreseen that Elohim would declare right the nations by belief, announced the Good News to Abraham beforehand, saying, “All the nations shall be blessed in you,” 9 so that those who are of belief are blessed with Abraham, the believer.”

The Greek word that is used here in verse 6 for 'believed' is πιστεύω pisteuō (pist-yoo'-o)- Strong's G4100 which is a verb that means, 'to trust, to be committed to, be entrusted with, be persuaded and placed confidence in to do', and comes from the root noun πίστις pistis (pis'-tis) - Strong's G4102 which means, 'faith, faithfulness, pledge, conviction of the Truth' which in turn comes from the primary root verb πείθω peithō (pi'-tho)- Strong's G3982 which means, 'to persuade, to put confidence in, to follow, have confidence and rely upon'.

When looking at these root terms, it is very clear, even in the Greek mind-set, that 'to believe' involves action and a confident response to the one you put your trust in and follow.

Abraham did exactly that - he trusted in and had total confidence in the Word of Elohim and obeyed it, even while it cost him his land, relatives and close family!

