

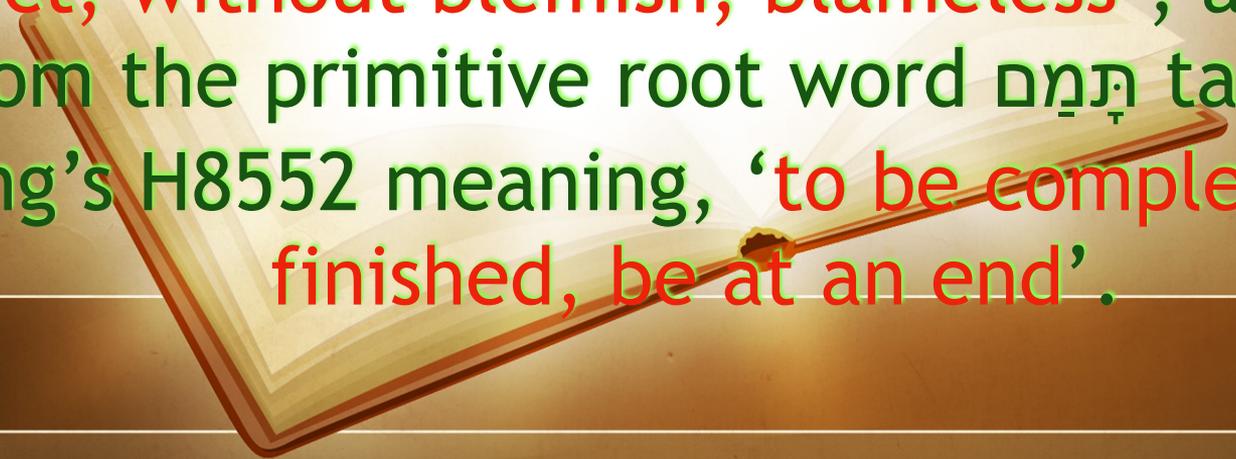
TORAH TEACHINGS



Understanding YAH's Likes and dislikes

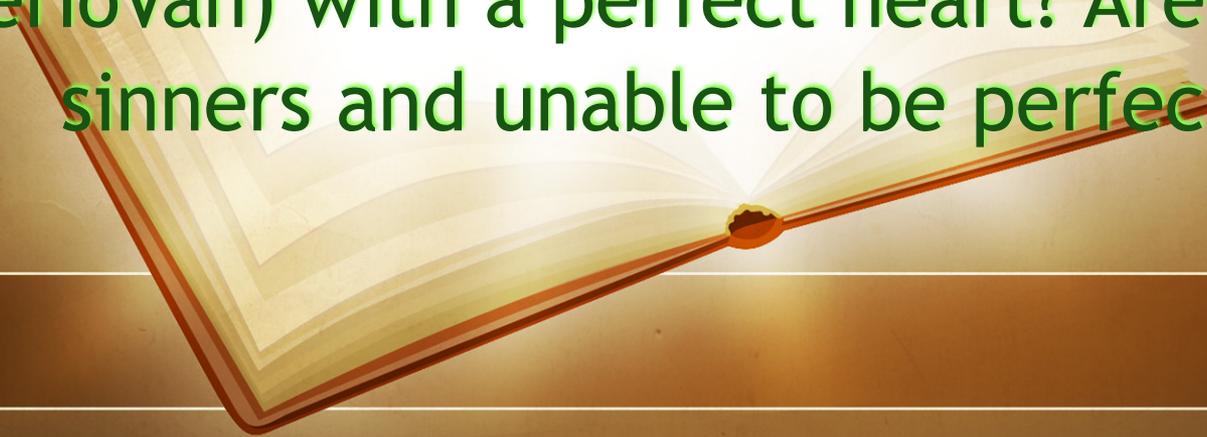
2 - He was 'perfect' in his generations!

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'perfect' comes from the root word תָּמִים tamiym - Strong's H8549 which means, 'complete, whole, sound, perfect, without blemish, blameless', and comes from the primitive root word תָּמַם tamam - Strong's H8552 meaning, 'to be complete, to be finished, be at an end'.



The Word calls for us to serve יהוה (YeHoVah) with a perfect heart!

“But”, you may ask, “is it possible to serve יהוה (YeHoVah) with a perfect heart? Are we not all sinners and unable to be perfect?”

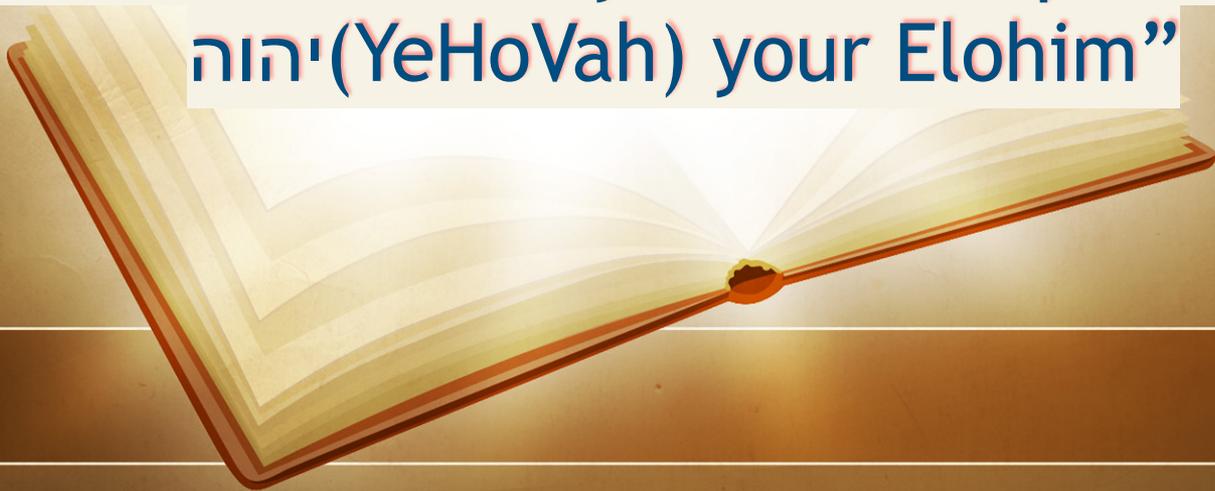


Berēshith/Genesis 17:1 “And it came to be when Abram was ninety-nine years old, that יהוה (YeHoVah) appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am Ĕl Shaddai - walk before Me and be perfect.”



BE PERFECT:

Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:13 “Be perfect before
יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim”



This is often seen as a hard expectation, if understood in the wrong way!

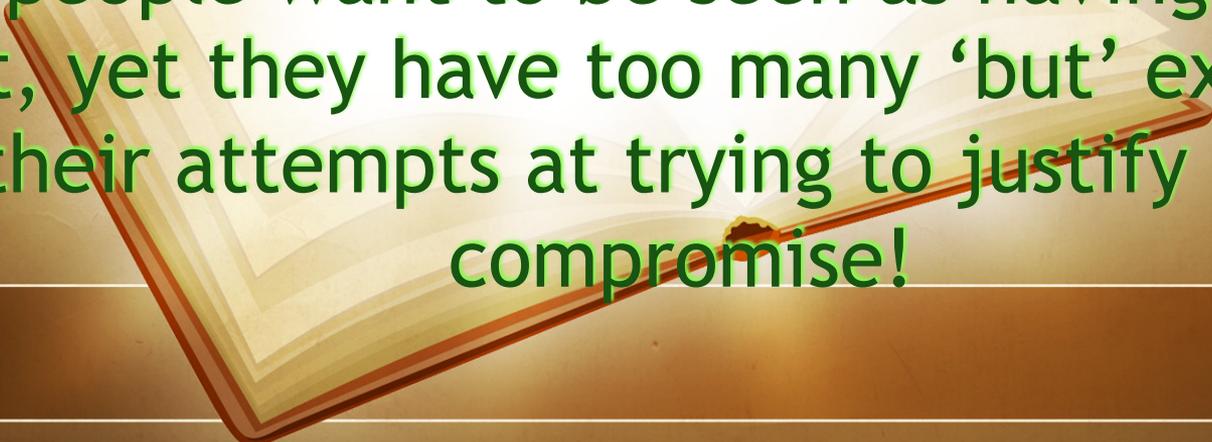
What does it then mean to be perfect or to have a perfect heart?

When considering the phrase, 'Not a perfect heart/ not with a perfect heart' we take note, that this often speaks of one who began well yet did not endure to the end or one who does not carry on to completion that which they are called to or one who simply does not do anything that is required and does not even try!

To serve with a heart that is not perfect, can be a, 'doing right, but...' kind of scenario.

There are to be no 'buts', so to speak, in our committed life unto יהוה (YeHoVah)!

Many people want to be seen as having a perfect heart, yet they have too many 'but' excuses, in their attempts at trying to justify their compromise!

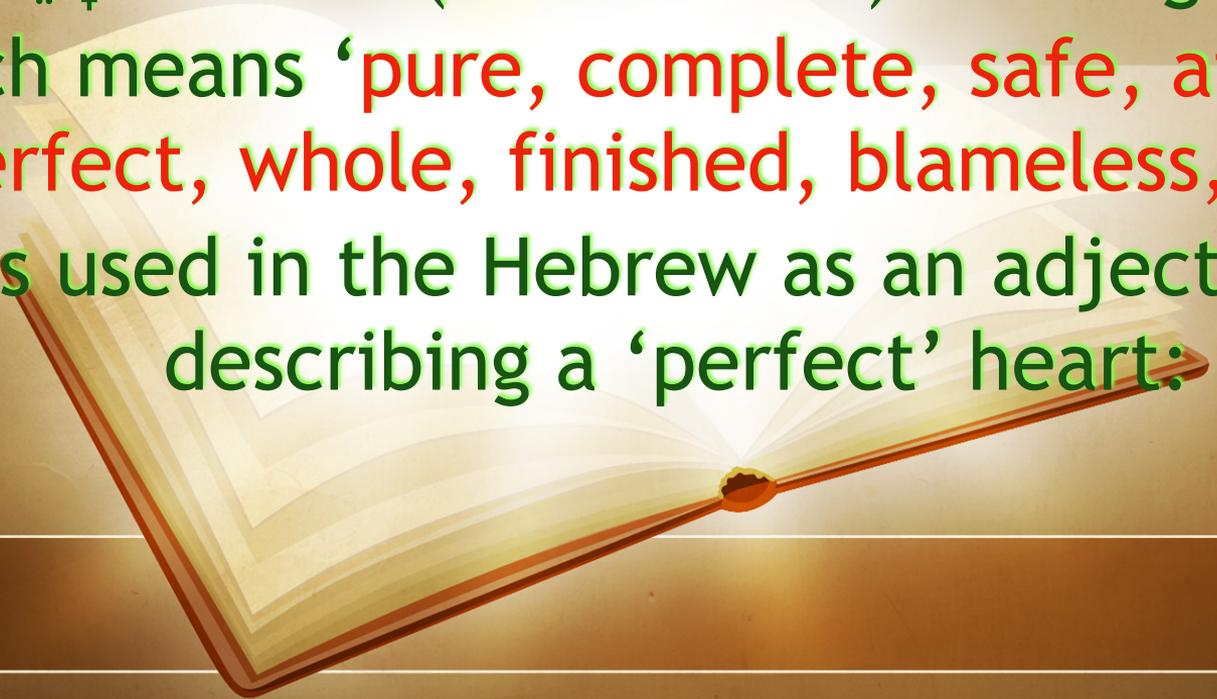


What does the word 'perfect' mean?

It can mean, flawless as in a flawless diamond, accurate, faithfully reproducing the original, pure complete, mature etc.

In the Hebrew language, there are two words that we find, in the Scriptures, which we see being translated as 'perfect':

1 - שָׁלֵם shalēm (shaw-lame') - Strong's H8003
which means 'pure, complete, safe, at peace,
perfect, whole, finished, blameless, full'.
This is used in the Hebrew as an adjective, as in
describing a 'perfect' heart:



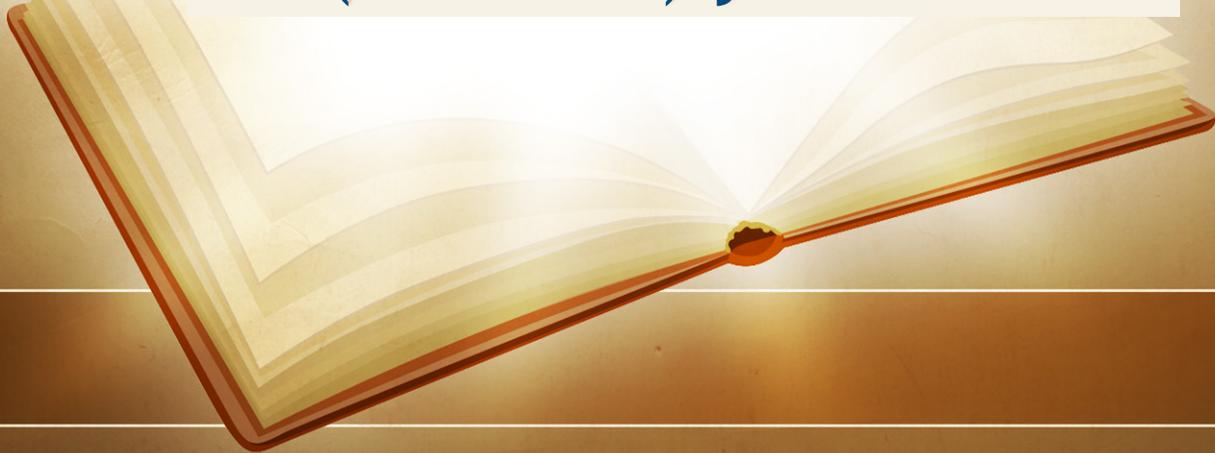
Melaḳim Aleph/1Kings 8:61 “Let your heart therefore be perfect to יהוה (YeHoVah) our Elohim, to walk in His laws and guard His commands, as at this day.”

Dibre haYamim Bět/ 2 Chronicles 16:9 “For the eyes of יהוה (YeHoVah) diligently search throughout all the earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is perfect to Him. You have acted foolishly in this, so from now on you shall have battles.”

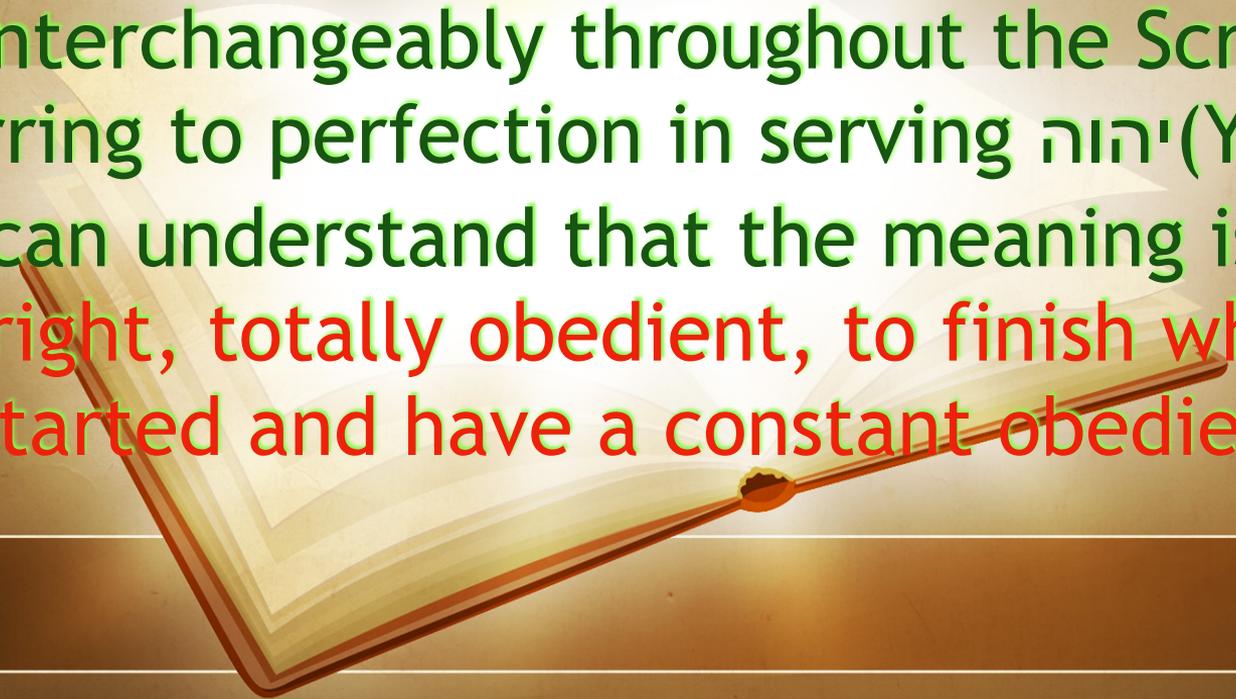
2 - תָּמִים tamiym (taw-meem') - Strong's H8549 is the word we have already discussed and described above - this is a verb that translates over 90 times as 'perfect, without blemish, complete or full':



Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:13 “Be perfect before
יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim”

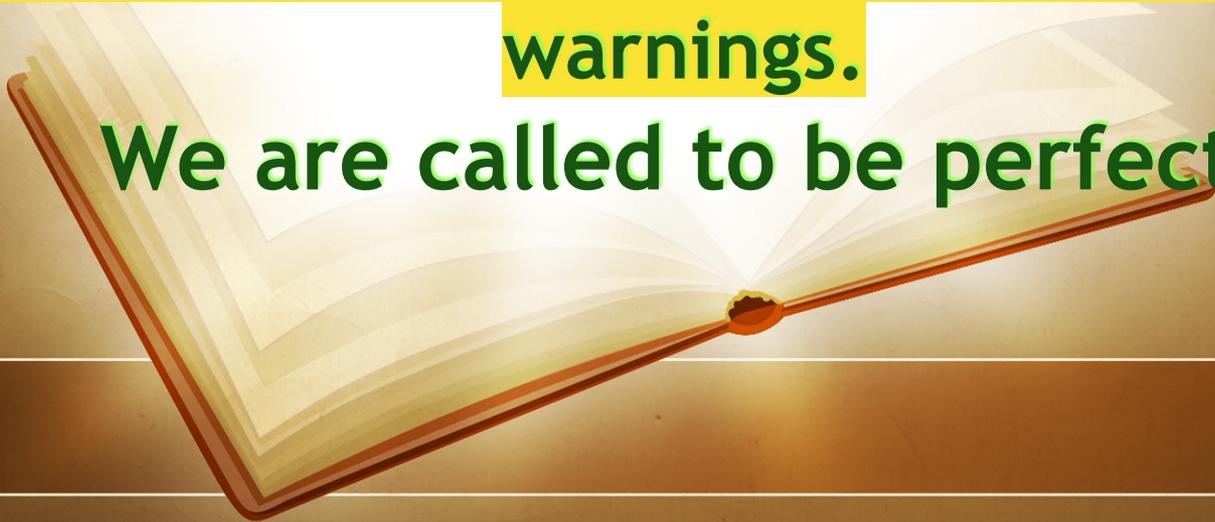


Understanding these two Hebrew words that are used interchangeably throughout the Scriptures, in referring to perfection in serving יהוה (YeHoVah), we can understand that the meaning is, 'to be upright, totally obedient, to finish what was started and have a constant obedience'.



Having a perfect heart, is having a responsive heart - one that answers quickly to יהוה's (YeHoVah's) call, His whisperings and His warnings.

We are called to be perfect:



This command to be perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah), is made very clear to all of Yisra'el and as we consider the context of these words, we are able to understand the need to take heed of this command, as we do our utmost to be faithful ambassadors of the coming Reign of our Master and Elohim!

In order to grasp the urgency of what is being commanded here, let us look at the passage that this verse comes from:

Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:9-14 “When you come into the land which יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim is giving you, do not learn to do according to the abominations of those gentiles. 10 Let no one be found among you who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practises divination, or a user of magic, or one who interprets omens or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.

12 For whoever does these are an abomination to יהוה (YeHoVah), and because of these abominations יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim drives them out from before you. 13 Be perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim, 14 for these nations whom you are possessing do listen to those using magic and to diviners. But as for you, יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim has not appointed such for you.”

This instruction/command to be perfect is clearly emphasised by making it clear that the children of Elohim are not to do the abominable practices that the world does, for this has not been appointed for us!



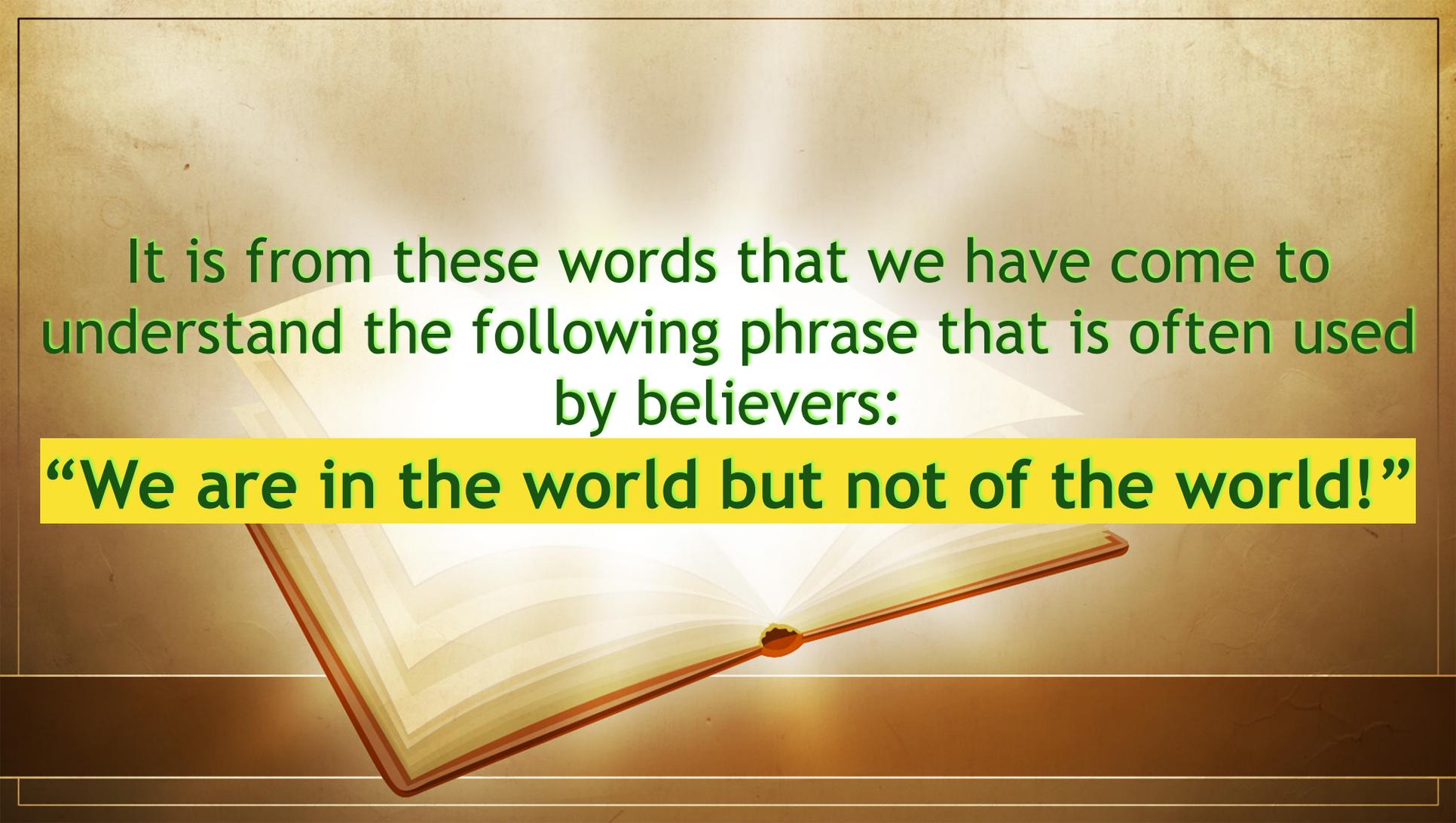
Being perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah), entails that we make sure that we guard to do all he has commanded us to and cling to His Truth that sets us apart and not be swayed by the depravity of lawlessness, no matter how attractive it may be presented, as something that is acceptable according to the corrupt standards of the world.

When our Master יהושע (Yehshua) prayed to the Father, which is recorded in Yoḥanan/John 17, we see the following:



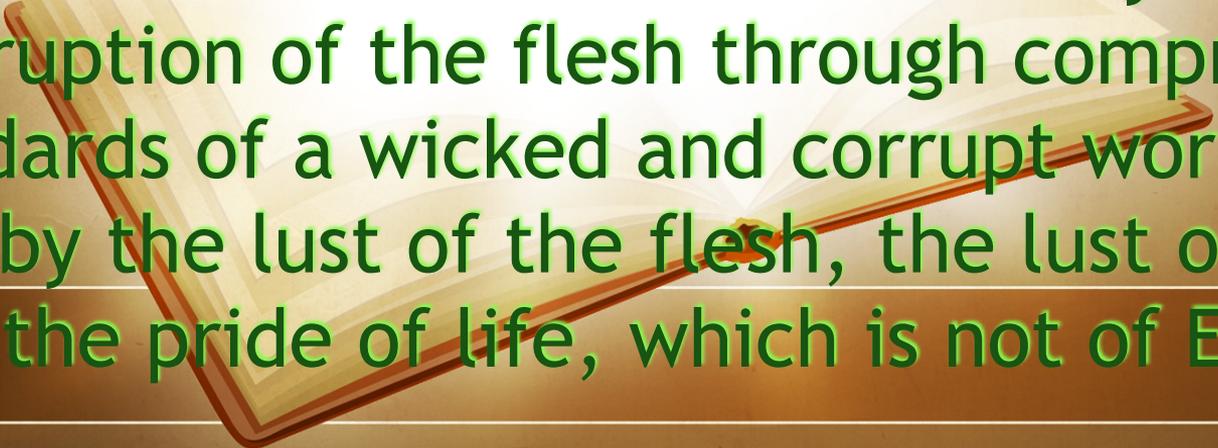
Yohanan/John 17:14-17 “I have given them Your Word, and the world hated them because they are not of the world, as I am not of the world. 15 “I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the wicked one. 16 “They are not of the world, as I am not of the world. 17 “Set them apart in Your truth - Your Word is truth.”



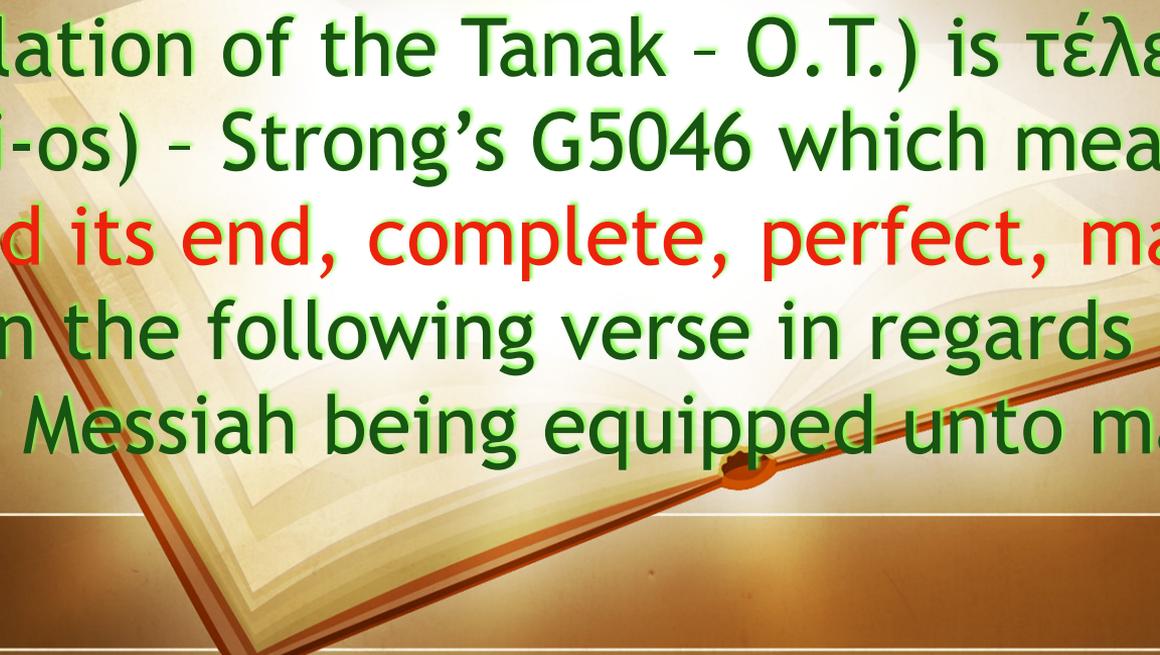


It is from these words that we have come to understand the following phrase that is often used by believers:

“We are in the world but not of the world!”



As we can see from these words of our Master, the way we guard ourselves from the wicked ways of a sinful world is to be set-apart in the Truth, which we are able to do as we allow the Word of Elohim to be that which sets us apart and equips us to be perfect before Him and not be swayed by the corruption of the flesh through compromised standards of a wicked and corrupt world that is ruled by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, which is not of Elohim!!!



The Greek word that is translated here as ‘perfect’ in the LXX (Septuagint - Greek translation of the Tanak - O.T.) is τέλειος teleios (tel’-i-os) - Strong’s G5046 which means, ‘**having reached its end, complete, perfect, mature**’ and is used in the following verse in regards to the body of Messiah being equipped unto maturity:

Eph'siyim/Ephesians 4:13 “until we all come to the unity of the belief and of the knowledge of the Son of Elohim, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the completeness of Messiah”



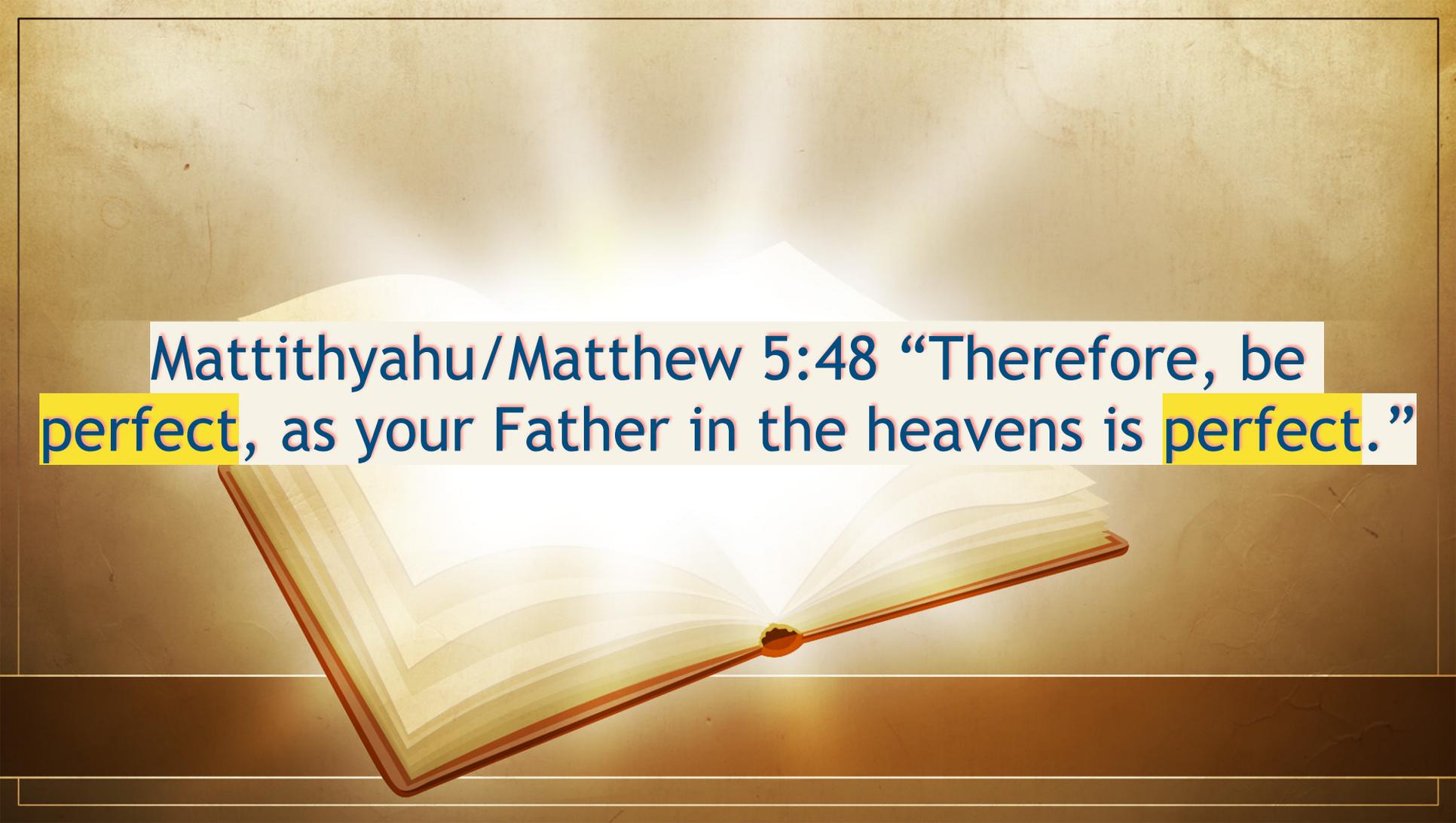
This word τέλειος teleios (tel'-i-os) - Strong's G5046 is also used in:

Ya'aqob/James 1:25 “But he that looked into the perfect Torah, that of freedom, and continues in it, not becoming a hearer that forgets, but a doer of work, this one shall be blessed in his doing of the Torah.”



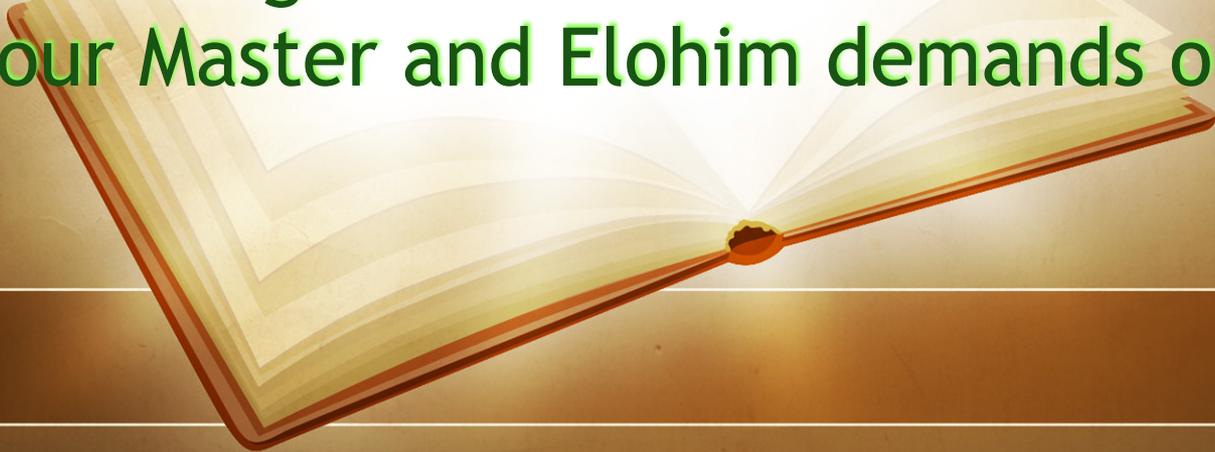


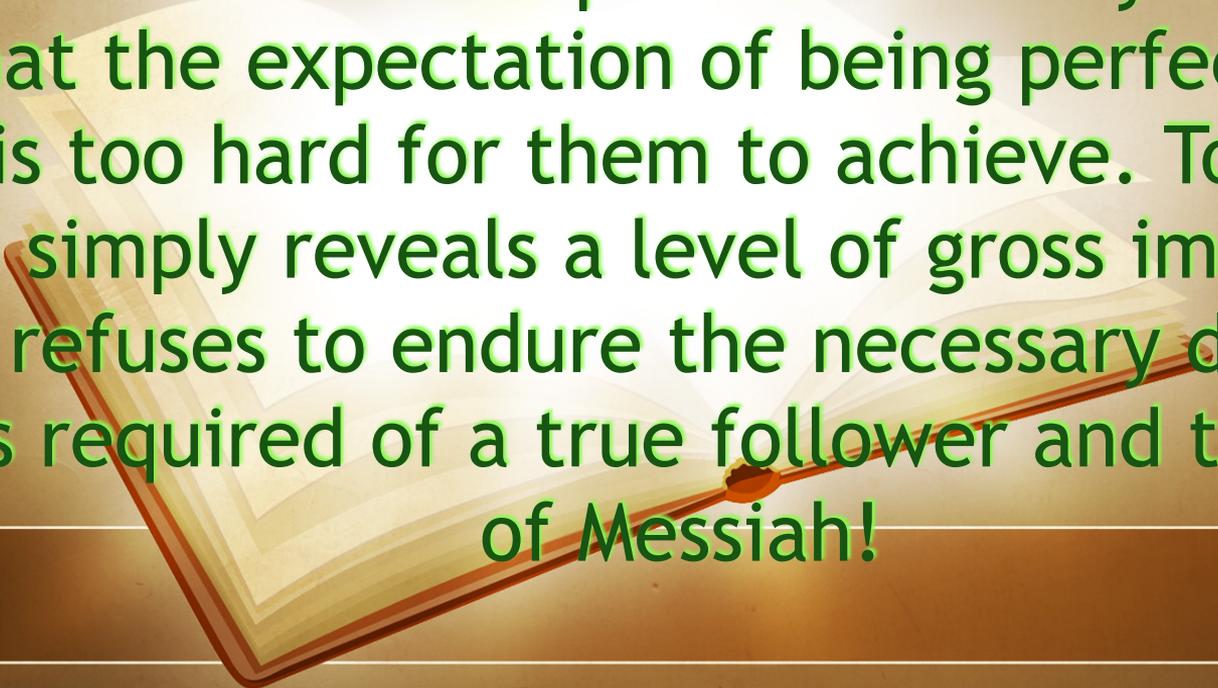
Looking into the 'perfect' Torah and continuing in it - that is to be one who guards to do what is instructed in it - shall be blessed - for it is the Perfect Torah that perfects our set-apartness! Our Master also tells us very clearly to be perfect:



Mattithyahu/Matthew 5:48 “Therefore, be perfect, as your Father in the heavens is perfect.”

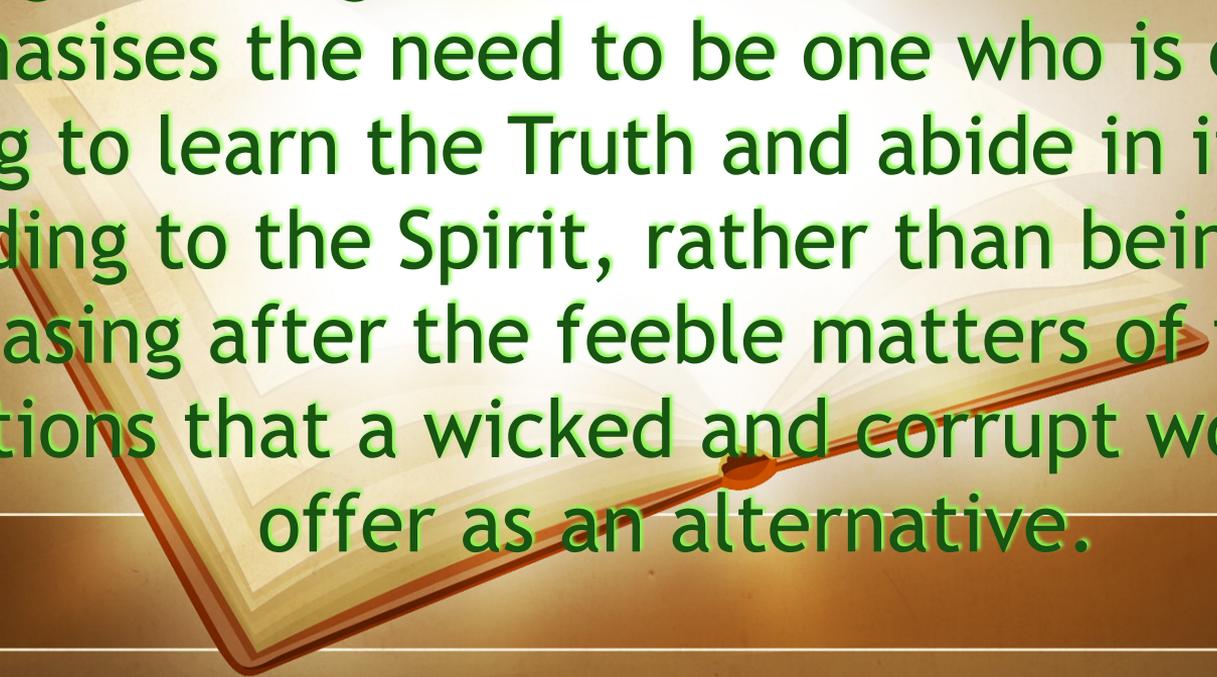
The idea, or concept, of being perfect is often misunderstood by so many, due to a lack of proper understanding in what this word entails and what our Master and Elohim demands of us.

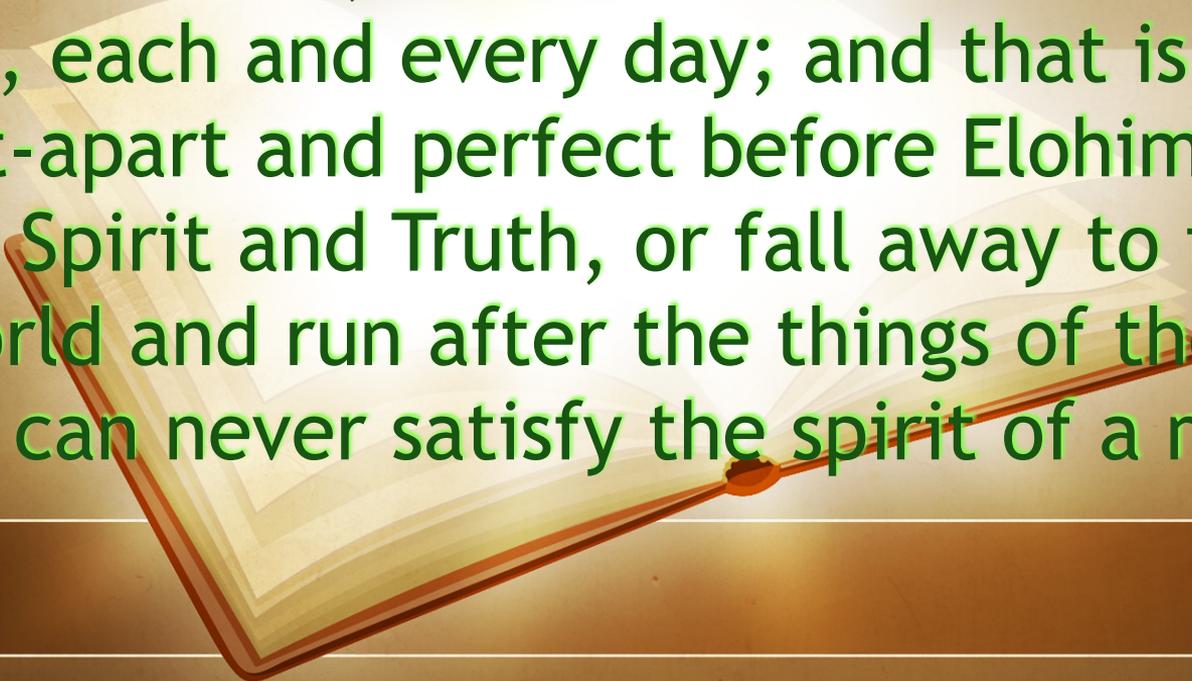




Many may deem it impossible to be perfect and therefore relegate themselves to finding vain excuses for their compromised lifestyles, as they find that the expectation of being perfect is a task that is too hard for them to achieve. To think as such, simply reveals a level of gross immaturity, that refuses to endure the necessary discipline that is required of a true follower and taught one of Messiah!

This Hebrew word תָּמִים tamiym - (taw-meem')
Strong's H8549 carries with it the more expanded
meaning of being mature, whole and complete and
emphasises the need to be one who is earnestly
seeking to learn the Truth and abide in it and walk
according to the Spirit, rather than being childish
and chasing after the feeble matters of the fleshly
attractions that a wicked and corrupt world has to
offer as an alternative.



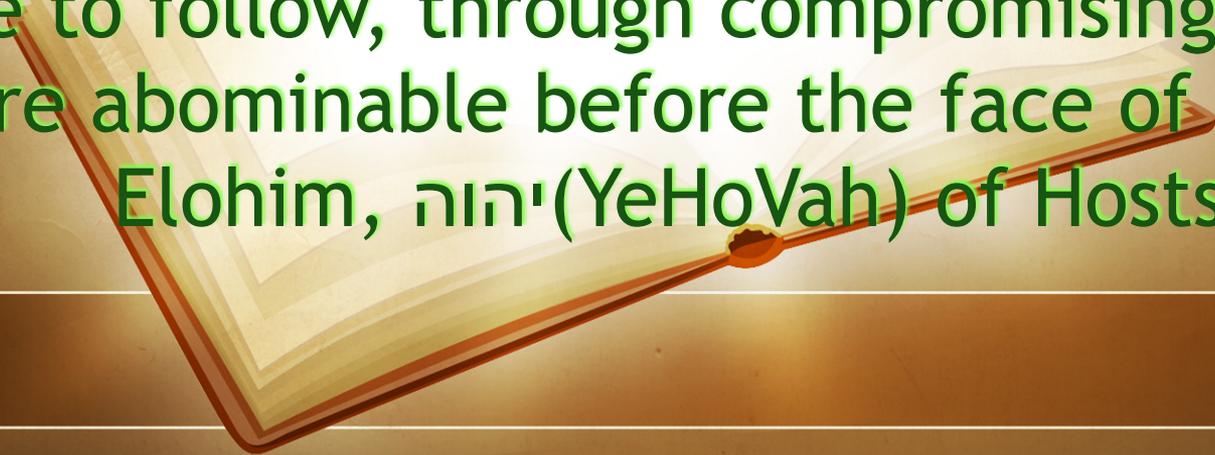


What becomes clear, as we grow in the knowledge of our Master, is that we all have a choice to make, each and every day; and that is: to either be set-apart and perfect before Elohim and serve Him in Spirit and Truth, or fall away to the ways of the world and run after the things of the flesh that can never satisfy the spirit of a man!

The Hebraic understanding, or concept, of being perfect before Elohim, entails one being fully committed to Elohim with their all, having their heart and mind in the right place, exercising true belief through works of righteousness and not being double-minded and unstable!



In other words, to be properly perfect before Elohim, means being loyal to Him while living in the midst of an unstable and wicked world that presents many corrupt 'alternative options' for people to follow, through compromising standards that are abominable before the face of our Mighty Elohim, יהוה (YeHoVah) of Hosts!



Many may reckon that it is impossible to be perfect in an imperfect world and while they try to present an argument that they deem as a valid one, the fact is that we either obey the Word of Elohim or not and our Elohim calls us to be perfect and that we must be, if we do want to see His face one day and live!

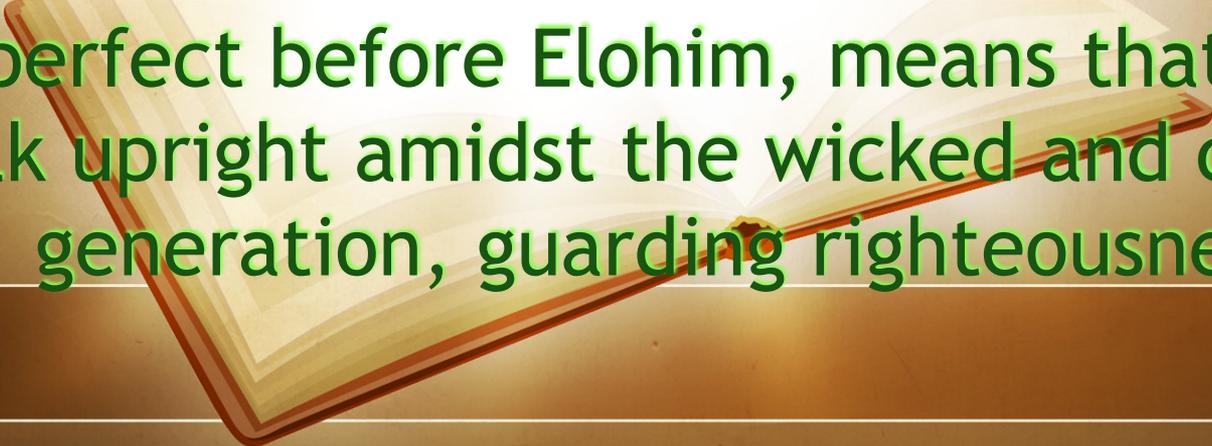


Scripture is full of examples of those who were perfect, as well as many who were not and so we must take the lessons that we are able to learn from Scripture and make sure that we grow in our knowledge of our Master and grow in our set-apartness and be perfect before Him.



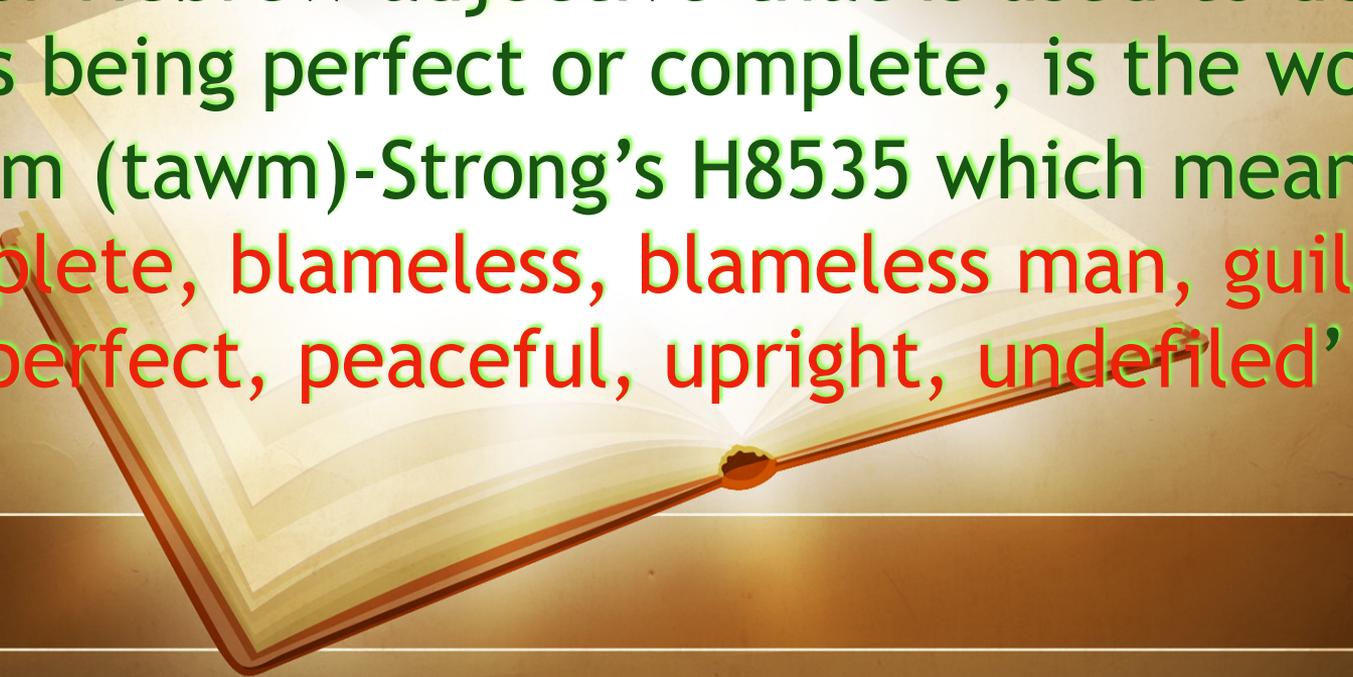
Being perfect before Elohim means **that you will hold fast to Elohim and His Word and guard to do all He has commanded us to, despite what others are doing and despite the wickedness that we are surrounded by day in and day out!**

To be perfect before Elohim, means that we are to walk upright amidst the wicked and crooked generation, guarding righteousness:



Mishlě/Proverbs 2:20 “So walk in the way of goodness, and guard the paths of righteousness.”





Another Hebrew adjective that is used to describe one as being perfect or complete, is the word תָּמִים tam (tawm)-Strong's H8535 which means, 'complete, blameless, blameless man, guiltless, perfect, peaceful, upright, undefiled'.

This word can be used to describe one who is morally and ethically pure and the first time that we see this root word being used, and translated as 'complete', is in:



Berēshith/Genesis 25:27 “And the boys grew up. And Ěsaw became a man knowing how to hunt, a man of the field, while Ya‘aqob was a complete man, dwelling in tents.”

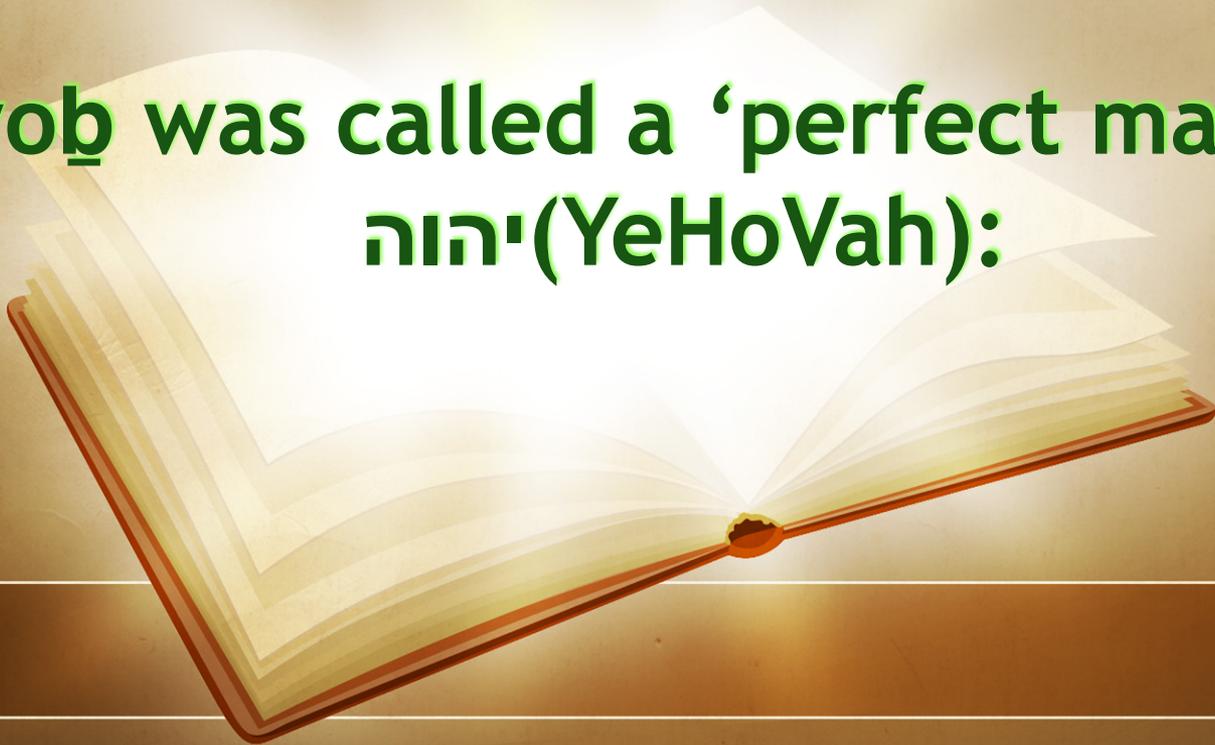


It is also used to describe lyob:

lyob/Job 1:1 “There was a man in the land of Uts, whose name was lyob. And that man was perfect and straight, and one who feared Elohim and turned aside from evil.”



lyob was called a 'perfect man' by
יהוה (YeHoVah):

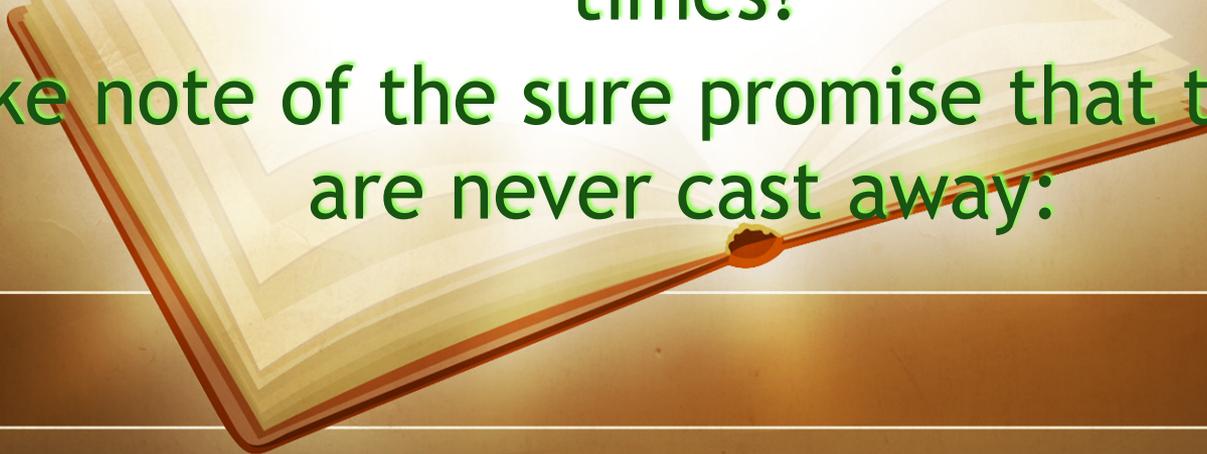


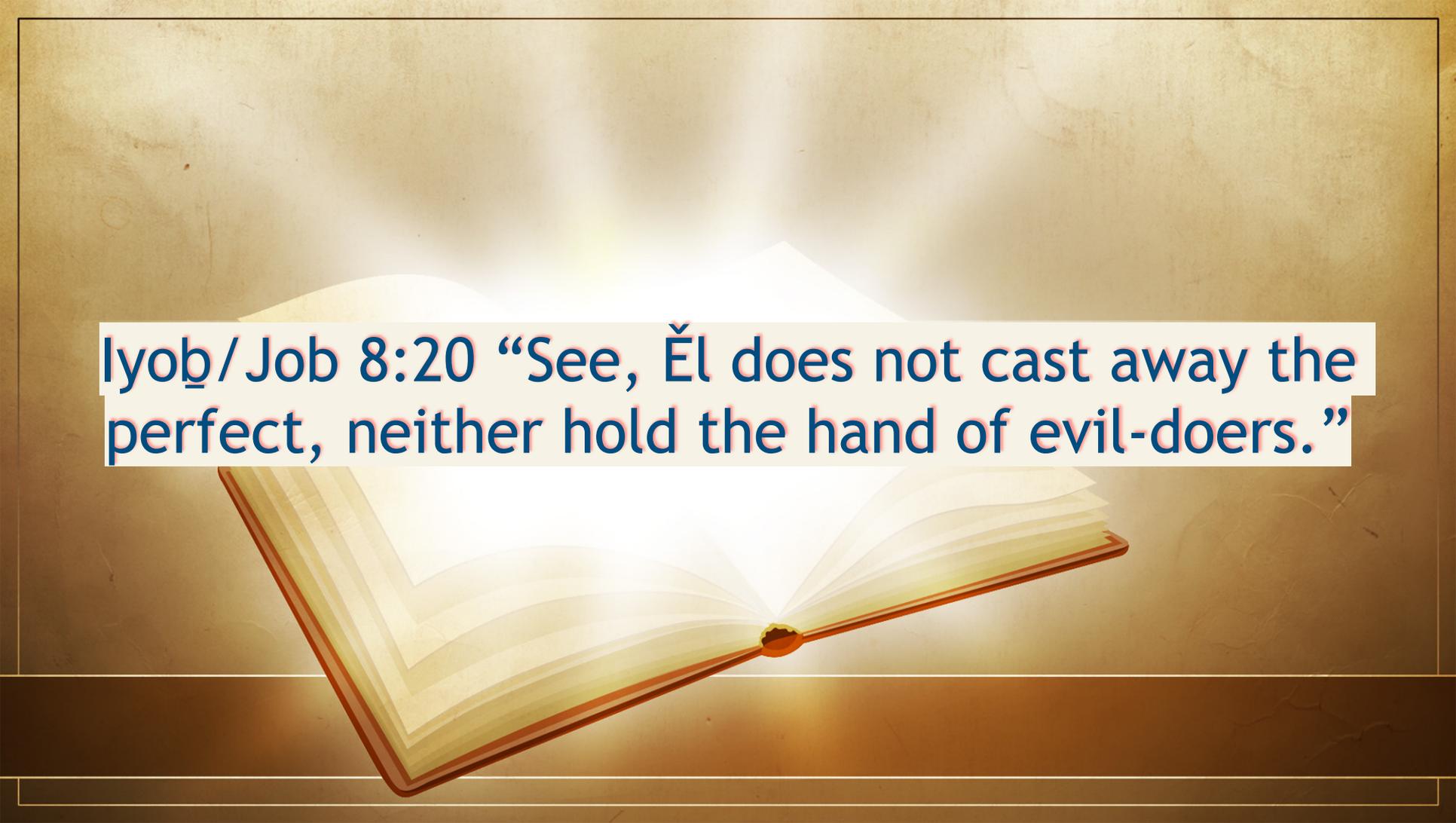
Iyob/Job 1:8 “And יהוה (YeHoVah) said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Iyob, that there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and straight man, one who fears Elohim and turns aside from evil?”

Iyob/Job 2:3 “And יהוה (YeHoVah) said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Iyob, that there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and straight man, one who fears Elohim and turns aside from evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause.”

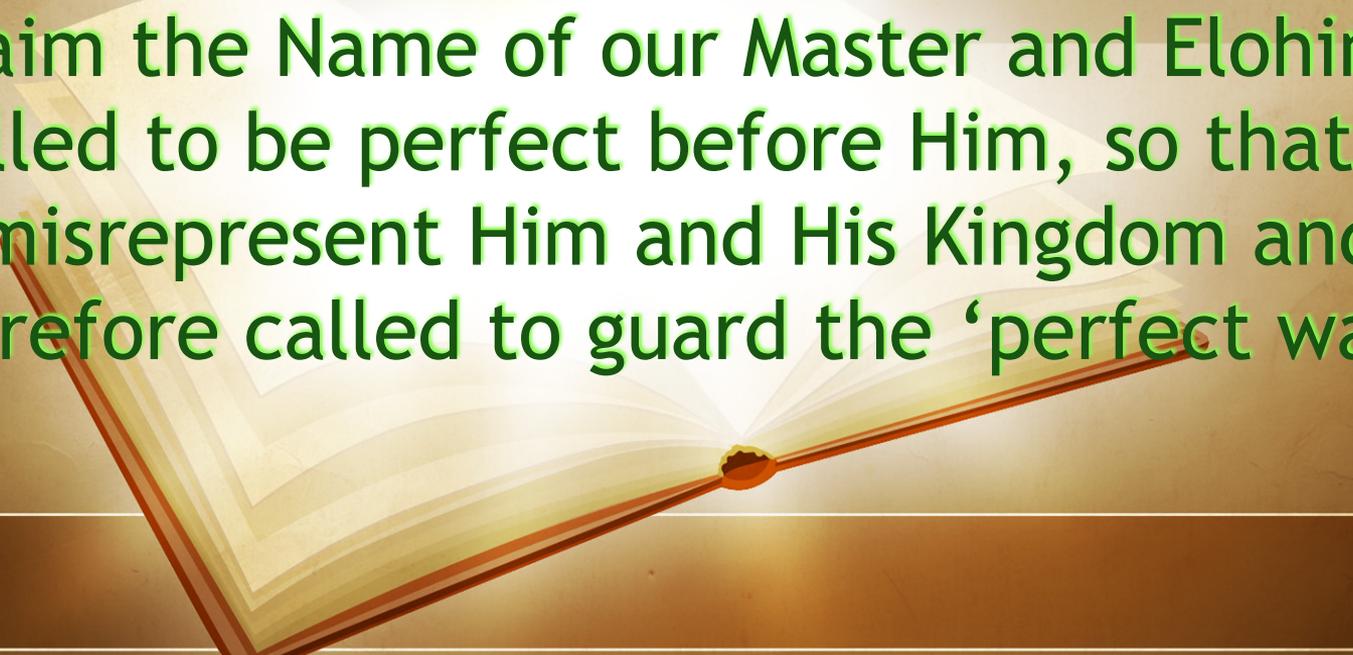
Of the 13 times that this root word טָם tam (tawm)- Strong's H8535 is used in Scripture, we take note that it is used in the Book of Iyob/Job 7 times!

We take note of the sure promise that the perfect are never cast away:



An open book is shown from a low angle, with its pages fanned out. The pages are a warm, golden-yellow color, and a bright light emanates from the center of the book, creating a soft glow. The background is a textured, golden-brown surface. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular box in the center of the image.

lyob/Job 8:20 “See, Ěl does not cast away the perfect, neither hold the hand of evil-doers.”

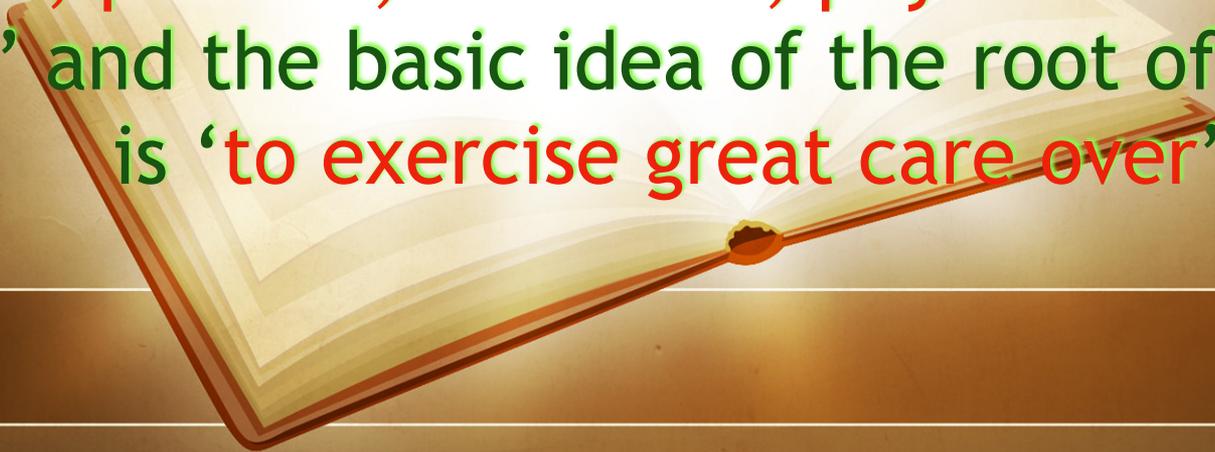


As faithful servants that bear witness to and proclaim the Name of our Master and Elohim, we are called to be perfect before Him, so that we do not misrepresent Him and His Kingdom and are therefore called to guard the 'perfect way'!

Tehillah/Psalm 37:37 “Watch the perfect, and observe the straight; for the latter end of each is peace.”

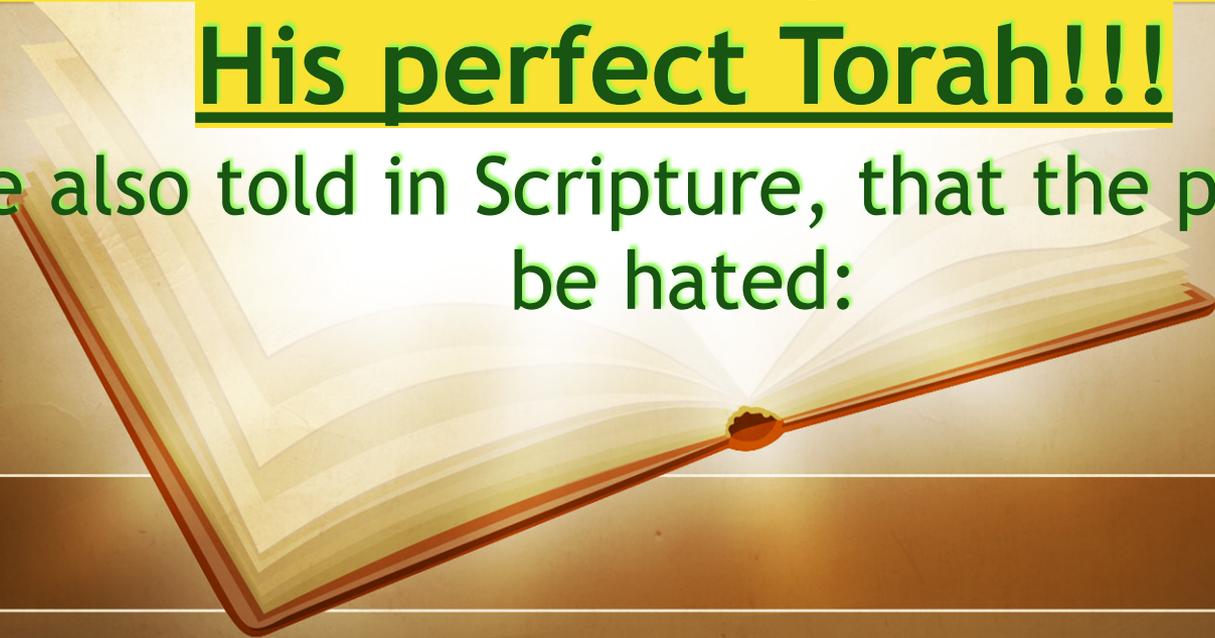


○ The Hebrew word that is translated here as ‘perfect’ comes from the root word שָׁמַר shamar (shaw-mar’) - Strong’s H8104 which means, ‘keep, watch, present, attend to, pay close attention, guard’ and the basic idea of the root of this word is ‘to exercise great care over’.



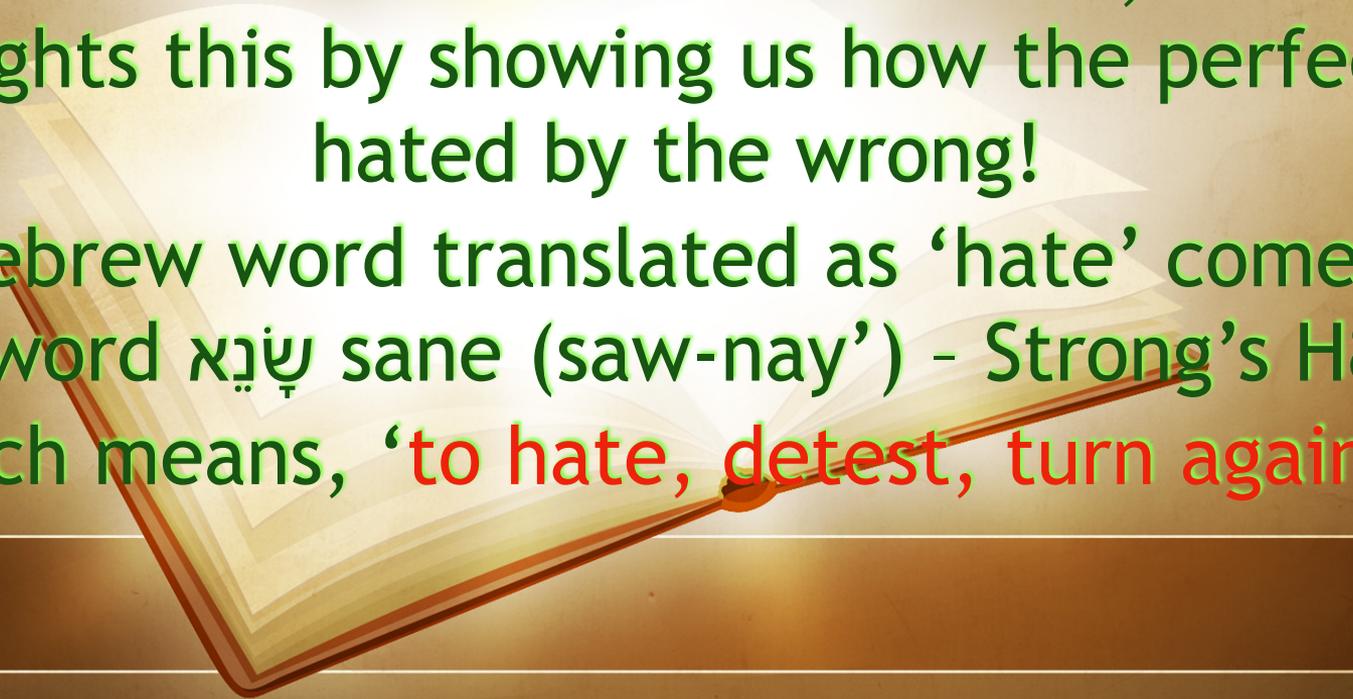
We are to exercise great care over
His perfect Torah!!!

We are also told in Scripture, that the perfect will
be hated:



Mishlě/Proverbs 29:10 “Bloodthirsty men hate the perfect, and seek the life of the straight.”

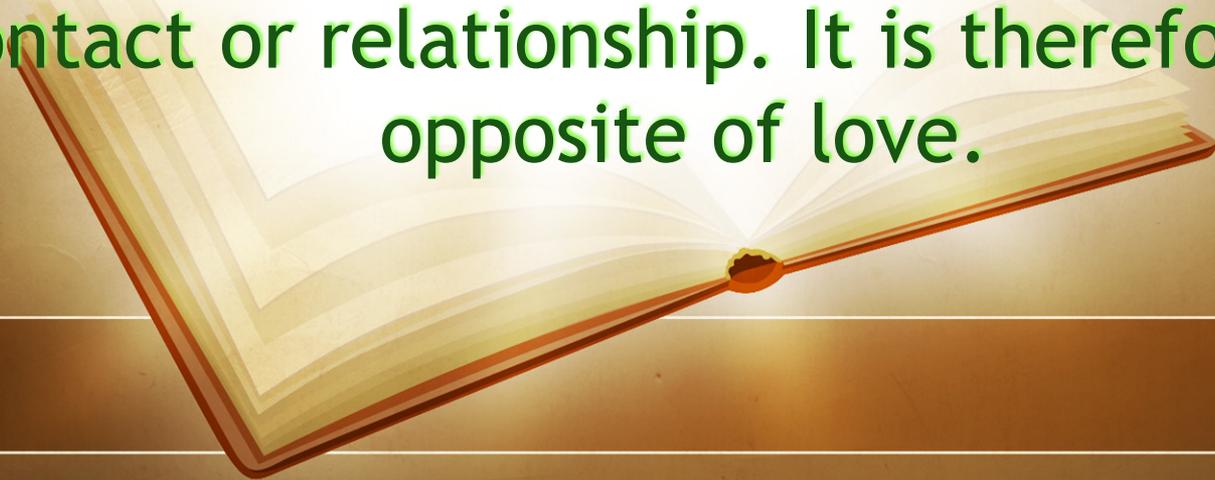




Men who are ‘bloodthirsty’ are men who want to take the life out of others and here, Shelomoh highlights this by showing us how the perfect are hated by the wrong!

The Hebrew word translated as ‘hate’ comes from the word שָׂנֵא *sane* (saw-nay’) - Strong’s H8130 which means, ‘to hate, detest, turn against’.

Hate expresses an emotional attitude toward people and things which are opposed, detested, despised and with which one wishes to have no contact or relationship. It is therefore the opposite of love.



**Tehillah/Psalm 34:21 “Evil does slay the wrong,
and those who hate the righteous are guilty.”**



Those who are 'bloodthirsty' have no regard for a righteous man's life and therefore have no regard for Elohim and we take note that our Master warned us against those that would hate us!



Yoḥanan/John 15:18-23 “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 “If you were of the world, the world would love its own. But because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, for that reason the world hates you. 20 “Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they shall persecute you too. If they have guarded My Word, they would guard yours too.

21 “But all this they shall do to you because of My Name, because they do not know Him who sent Me. 22 “If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 “He who hates Me hates My Father as well.”

