

TORAH TEACHINGS



Understanding YAH's Likes and dislikes

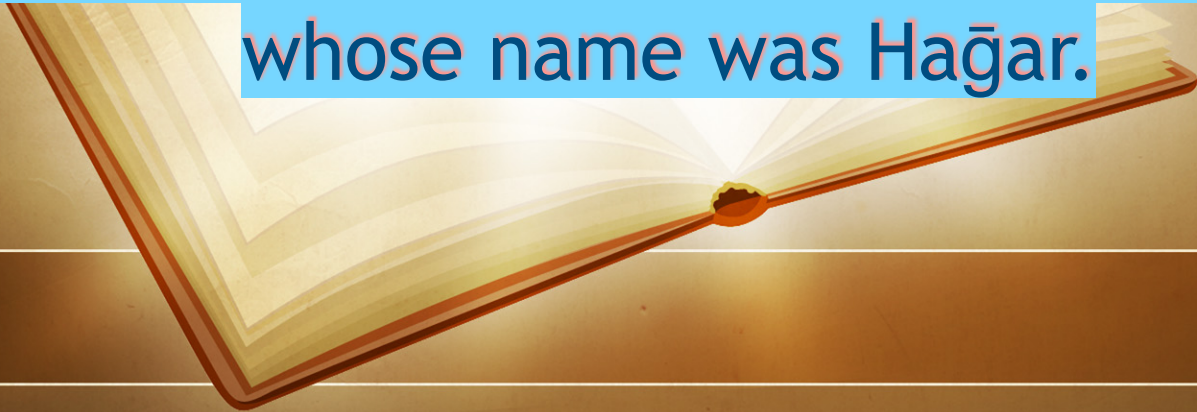
#3 Lech-L'cha (לך-לך) lek-
ləḵā – Hebrew for “go!” or
“leave!”, literally “go for you”

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

Sarai and Hagar

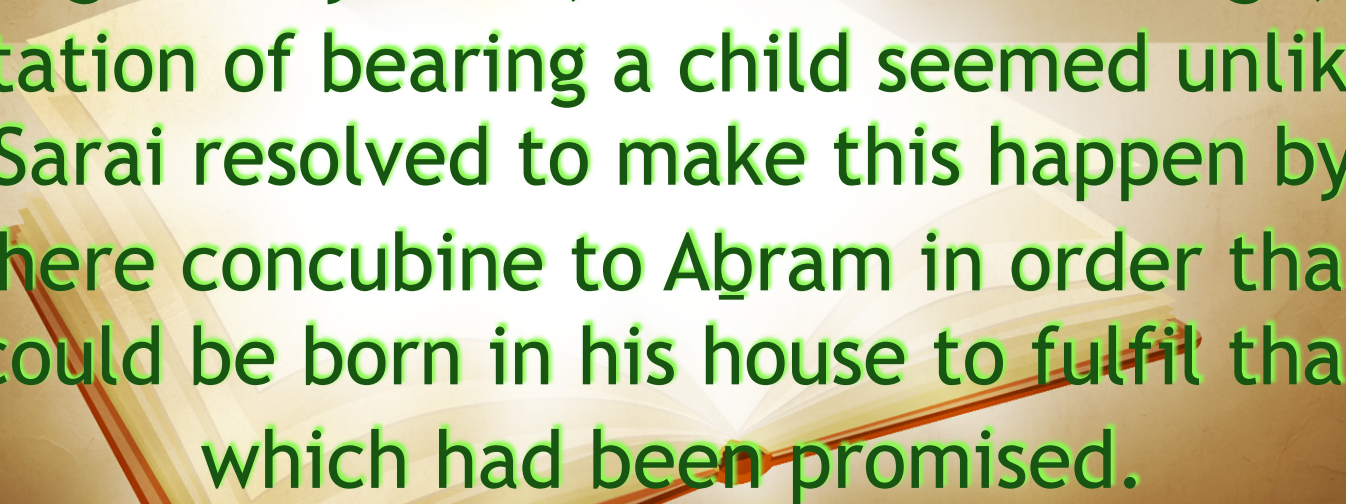
Gen 16:1 And Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no child. And she had a Mitsrian female servant whose name was Haḡar.



CHAPTER 16

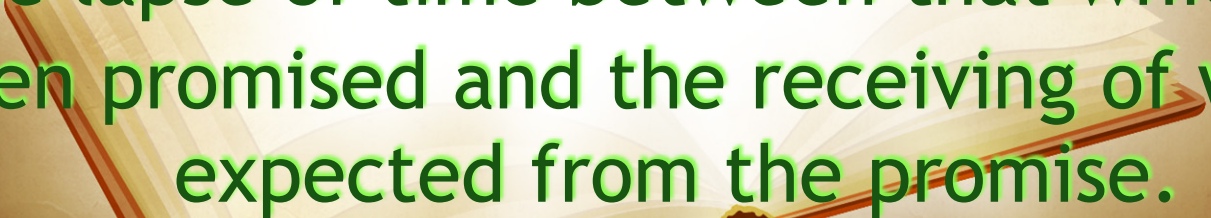
Ten long years had passed since יהוה spoke to Abram about having a child.

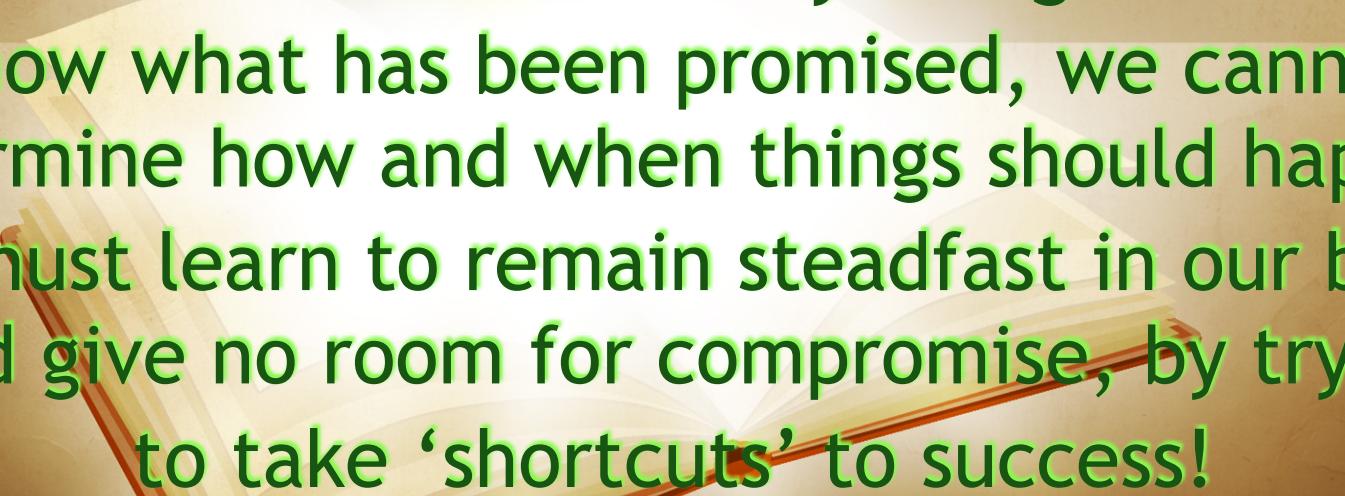
As Sarai had still not conceived, she concluded that יהוה had kept her from having children, and here now was a test of her faith!



The exact timing of the promised child had not been given by יהוה, and now at her age, the expectation of bearing a child seemed unlikely, so Sarai resolved to make this happen by giving her concubine to Abram in order that a son could be born in his house to fulfil that which had been promised.

A major lesson that we can learn, from these events in Abram and Sarai's life, is that we must learn to trust the Word of Elohim, despite the lapse of time between that which has been promised and the receiving of what is expected from the promise.





We cannot orchestrate what Elohim has planned for us and while we may recognize and know what has been promised, we cannot determine how and when things should happen, but must learn to remain steadfast in our belief and give no room for compromise, by trying to take 'shortcuts' to success!

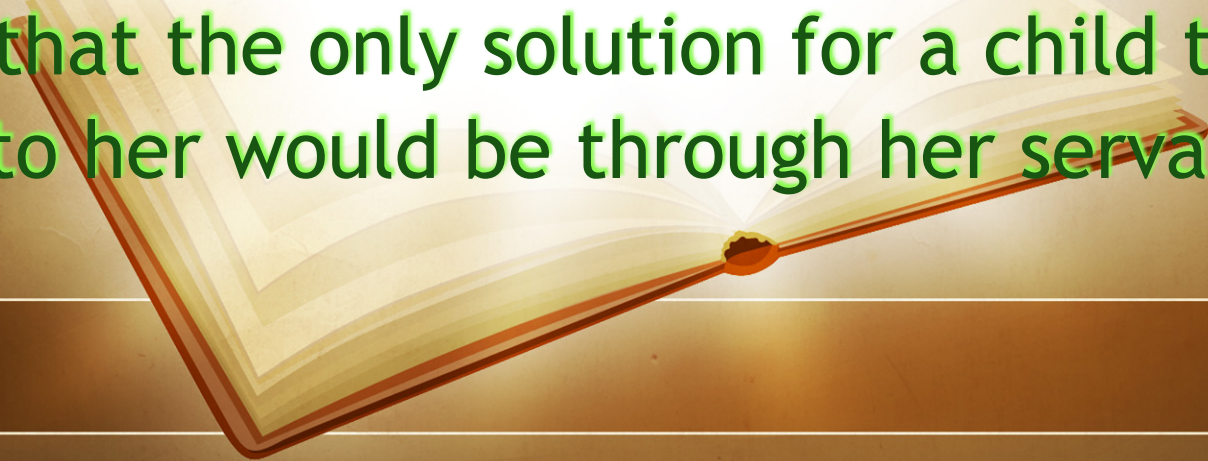
When we begin to doubt the Word, we set up major stumbling blocks in our hearts and minds that cause us to look to the flesh and the resolve of trying to 'work out' solutions that we by our own strength are unable to!

How do you respond to that which you know is the will of יהוה for you, yet the fruit of that which you are expectant of seems so far off and looks as if it will never happen?

We must recognize that 10 years had passed, since Abram had received the promise that he would have a child that would be his heir, and at their age, time was not something that was on their side.

Time can have a way of causing doubt to set in, or rather, the test of time is to see whether doubt will cause compromise or whether true faith and obedience will persevere!

Sarai had reckoned that it was getting too late for her to bear a child and that יהוה had caused her to remain barren and so she thought that the only solution for a child to be born to her would be through her servant, Hagar.



As we consider the accounts of Abram listening to the voice of his wife and having a child by his wife's servant, which was not in the perfect plans of יהוה for them we can recognize some key lessons from the choices and decision that were made and the results and consequences of making such decisions without seeking the will of יהוה.

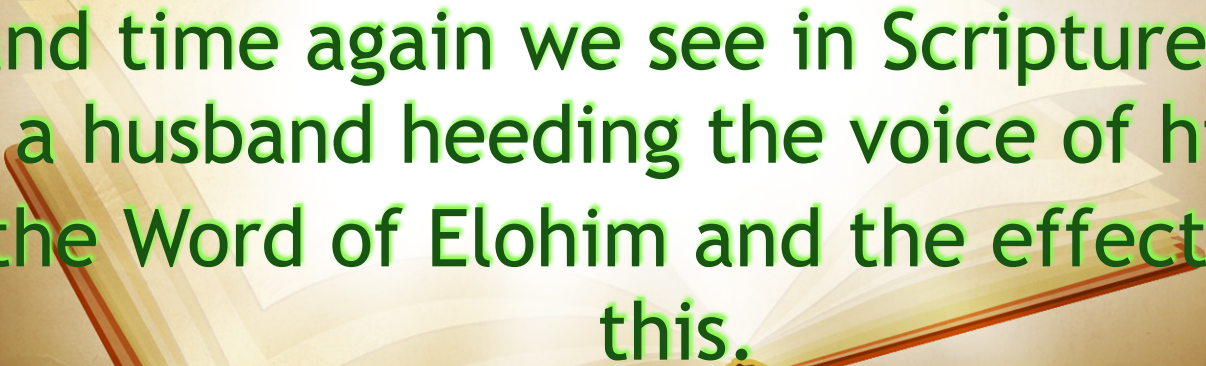
Gen 16:2 And Sarai said to Abram, “See, יהוה has kept me from bearing children. Please, go in to my female servant. It might be that I am built up by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.



Verse 2

Abram listened to Sarai!

Time and time again we see in Scripture the effect of a husband heeding the voice of his wife over the Word of Elohim and the effects of doing this.



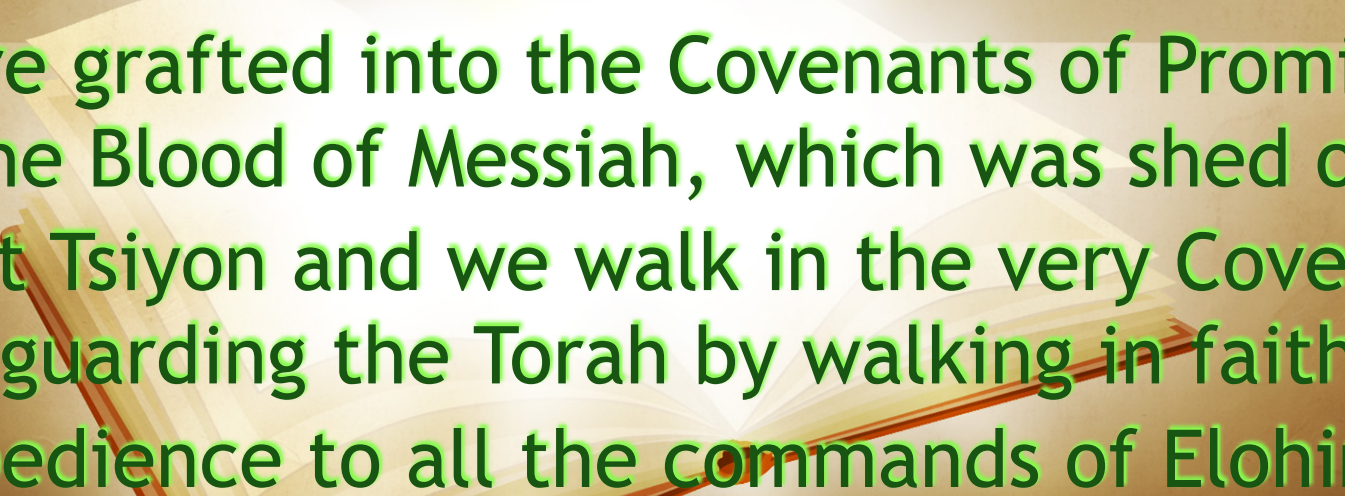
While we certainly recognize a time, in Scripture, where **יהוה** tells Abram that he should listen to his wife, for she was right - that being in **Berēshith/Genesis 21:12**, when she said that Yishma'ēl shall not inherit with Yitshāq, yet here in her decision to let her husband have sex with her servant, in order to try to gain a son in her house, who could receive that which **יהוה** spoke of, was not right, but rather, it was simply human logic, on her part, that tried to work out a solution to what had seemed to be a problem to her, which in the great plans and promises of **יהוה**, does not always carry much weight, for His ways are higher than ours - we have to simply trust and obey and persevere!

Sarai tried to create יהוה's will in her own strength; and while we can see from the events that unfolded, she was wrong, we would do well to learn not to do the same thing, in trying to create His will and plans to come to fruition by our own strength - we will most certainly fail and cause much heartache along the way!

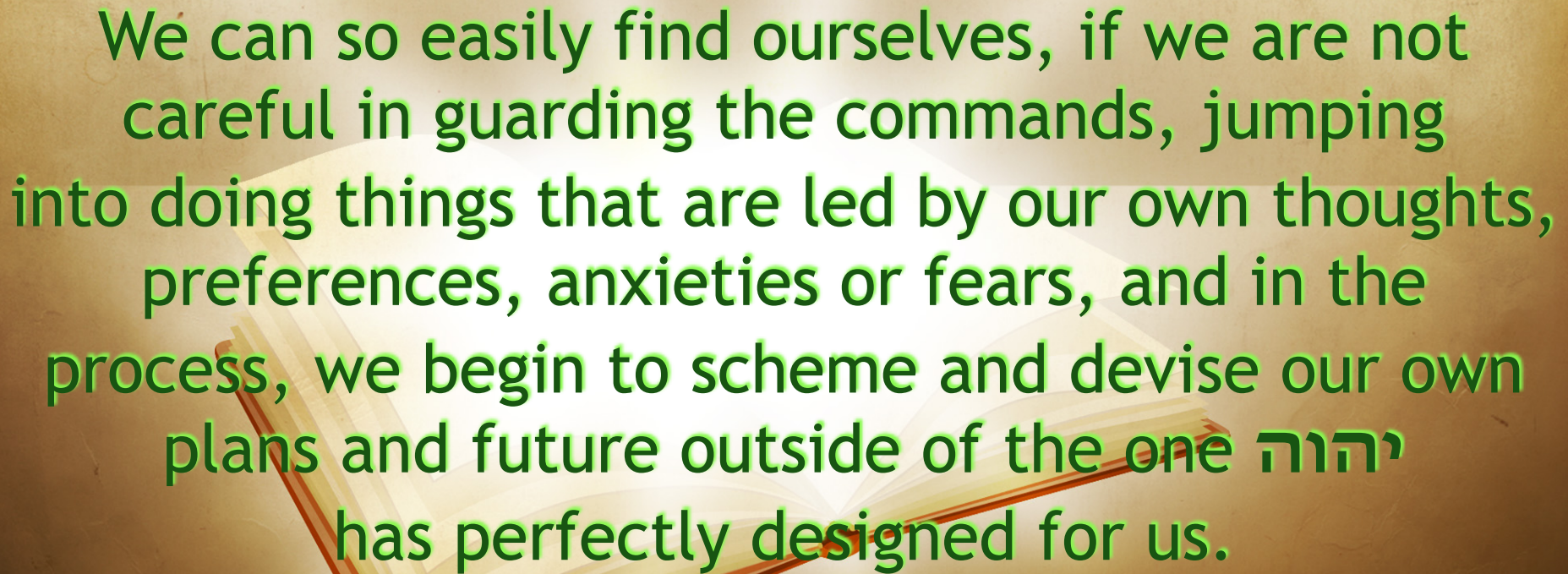
Yishma'el is a picture of that which is born of the flesh and represents the spirit of falsehood, whereas Yitshaq represents that which is of the Spirit of Truth!

Galatians 4:22-26 “For it has been written that Abraham had two sons, one by a female servant, the other by a free woman. 23 But he who was of the female servant was born according to the flesh, and he of the free woman through promise. 24 This is allegorical, for these are the two covenants: one indeed from Mount Sinai which brings forth slavery, which is Hagar, 25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Yerushalayim which now is, and is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Yerushalayim above is free, which is the mother of us all.”

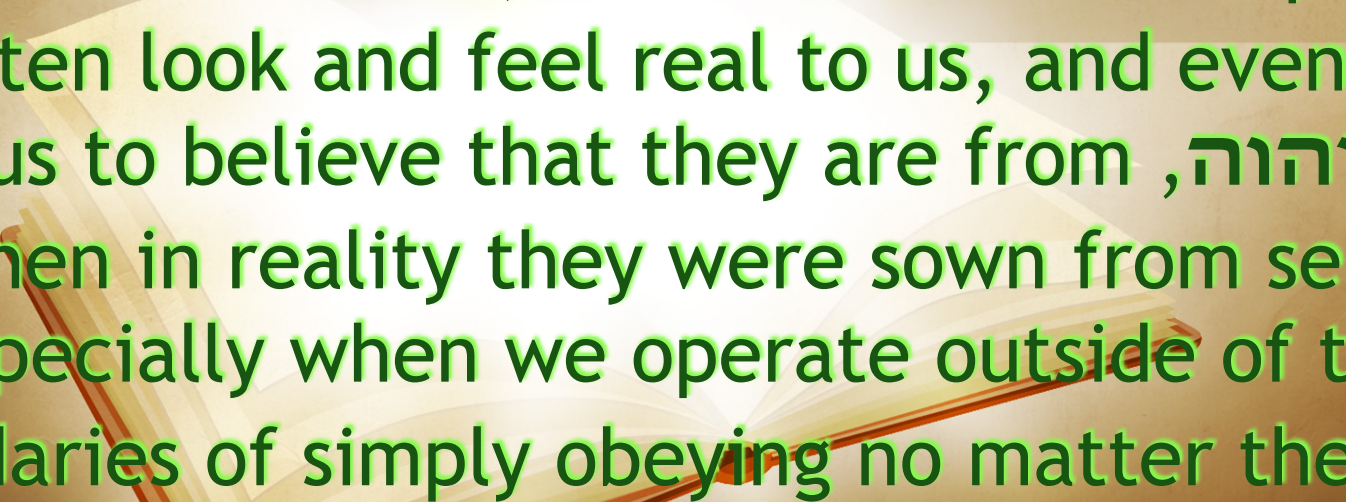
The Covenant was given to the ‘free woman’!



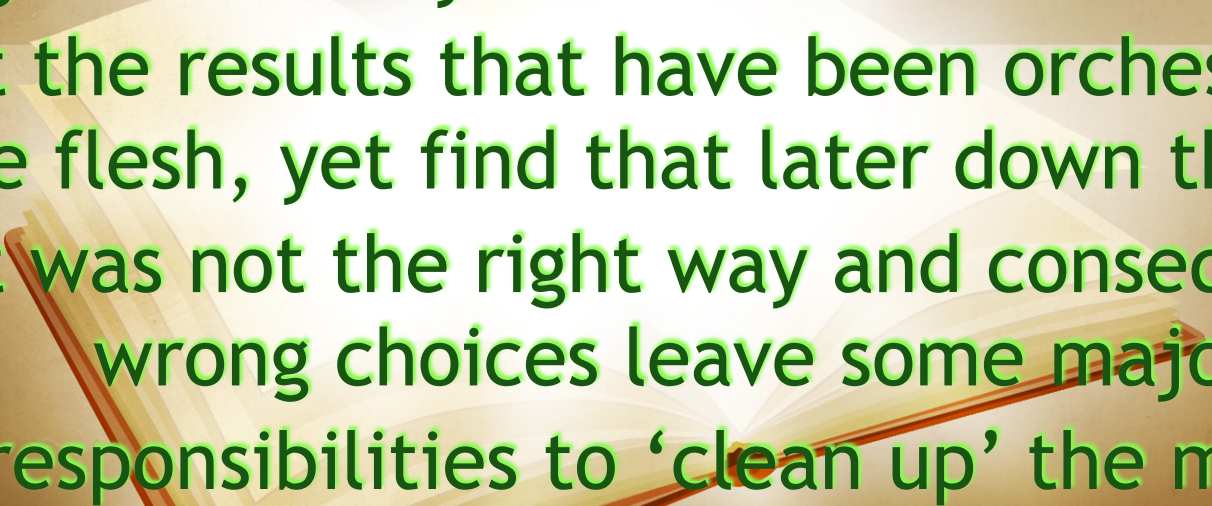
That is, the Torah was given to those of the promise and we are children of the Promise, as we are grafted into the Covenants of Promise by the Blood of Messiah, which was shed on Mount Tsiyon and we walk in the very Covenant, by guarding the Torah by walking in faithful obedience to all the commands of Elohim.



We can so easily find ourselves, if we are not careful in guarding the commands, jumping into doing things that are led by our own thoughts, preferences, anxieties or fears, and in the process, we begin to scheme and devise our own plans and future outside of the one יהוה has perfectly designed for us.



We can so easily get caught in the “counterfeit” plans of the flesh, so much so that our plans can often look and feel real to us, and even cause us to believe that they are from יהוה, when in reality they were sown from self, especially when we operate outside of the boundaries of simply obeying no matter the cost!



Many people will manipulate and control others to get what they want and even feel good about the results that have been orchestrated in the flesh, yet find that later down the line that it was not the right way and consequences of wrong choices leave some major responsibilities to 'clean up' the mess.

When we do things our own way, we can even become surprised or angry when our plans don't work out and only seem to crumble and fall apart.

We must always realize and know that יהוה timing is not always the way we think it should be - He is not slow as some think, but rather He is always perfect in His timing - to which we must learn to be in sync with by faith!

Perseverance is what matures us through the tough ‘waiting and lean’ periods in which we wrestle and struggle with many trials, and we must hold on to the joy that is set before us and learn to be content no matter the circumstances we find ourselves in, for His promises are sure and yes and Amēn in Messiah, so therefore there is no need to try to orchestrate a fleshly response to a spiritual command!

Mattithyahu/Matthew 26:41 “Watch and pray, lest you enter into trial. The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak.”

When doubt creeps in we must get back to the source of the Truth!


Sarai should have consulted Abram when she began to doubt and get reassured in the Truth of the prophecy over their lives instead of going to Abram with a preconceived fleshly solution to her lack of faith!

Abram listened to her without weighing her words up against the Word of Elohim and as a result a 'counterfeit seed' was born!

This counterfeit seed would result in many nations being birthed out of a 'work of the flesh' and Yishma'ěl too would become a great number of people - sons of the slave woman - an analogy for those who walk according to the flesh!

He would also have 12 sons just as Ya'aqob would and forever growing up alongside the promised seed of Yisra'ěl would be those of Yishma'ěl; and we therefore recognize that throughout all generations there would be the clear picture of a choice to make for all - whether to walk according to the flesh or according to the Spirit of Truth.

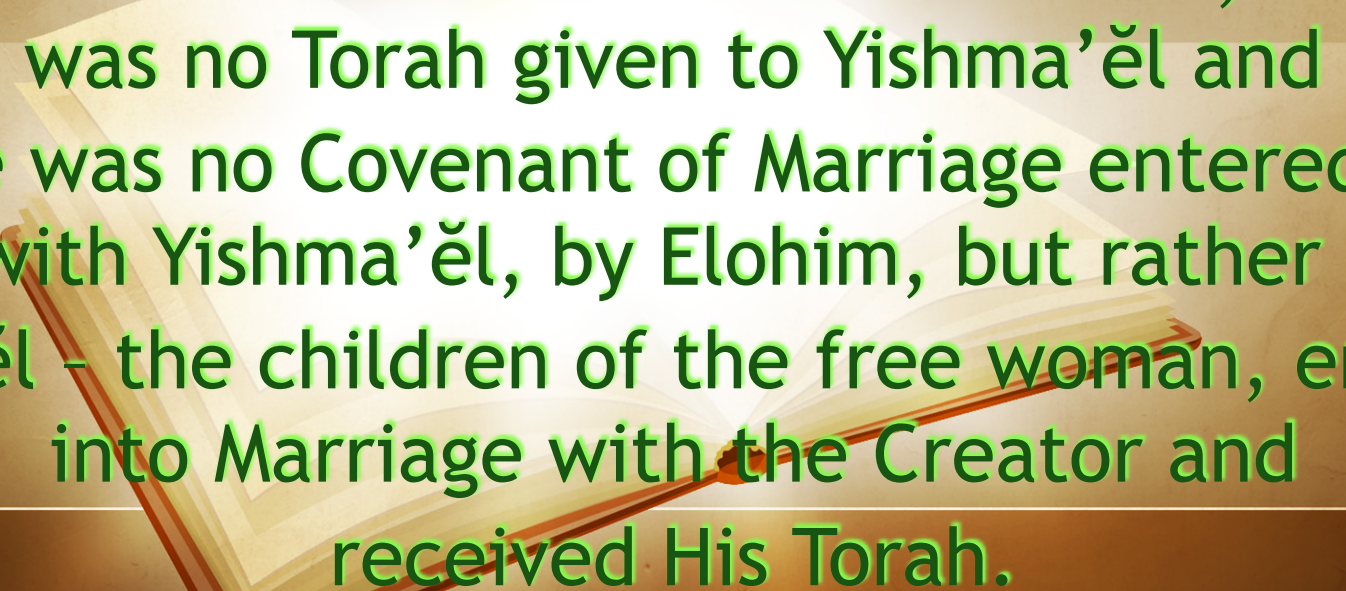
Another pattern that we see in Scripture, is how the false or counterfeit will always come before the True and Promised One, and so too we will see the anti-messiah rise up to lead many astray before our True Messiah returns.

An illustration of an open book with glowing, golden pages, set against a textured, parchment-like background. The book is positioned at the bottom of the frame, with its pages fanning out towards the center. The overall color palette is warm, featuring shades of gold, brown, and beige.

Galatiyim/Galatians 3:26-29 “For you are all sons of Elohim through belief in Messiah יהושע .

27 For as many of you as were immersed into Messiah have put on Messiah. 28 There is not Yehudite nor Greek, there is not slave nor free, there is not male and female, for you are all one in Messiah יהושע. 29 And if you are of Messiah, then you are seed of Abraham, and heirs according to promise.”

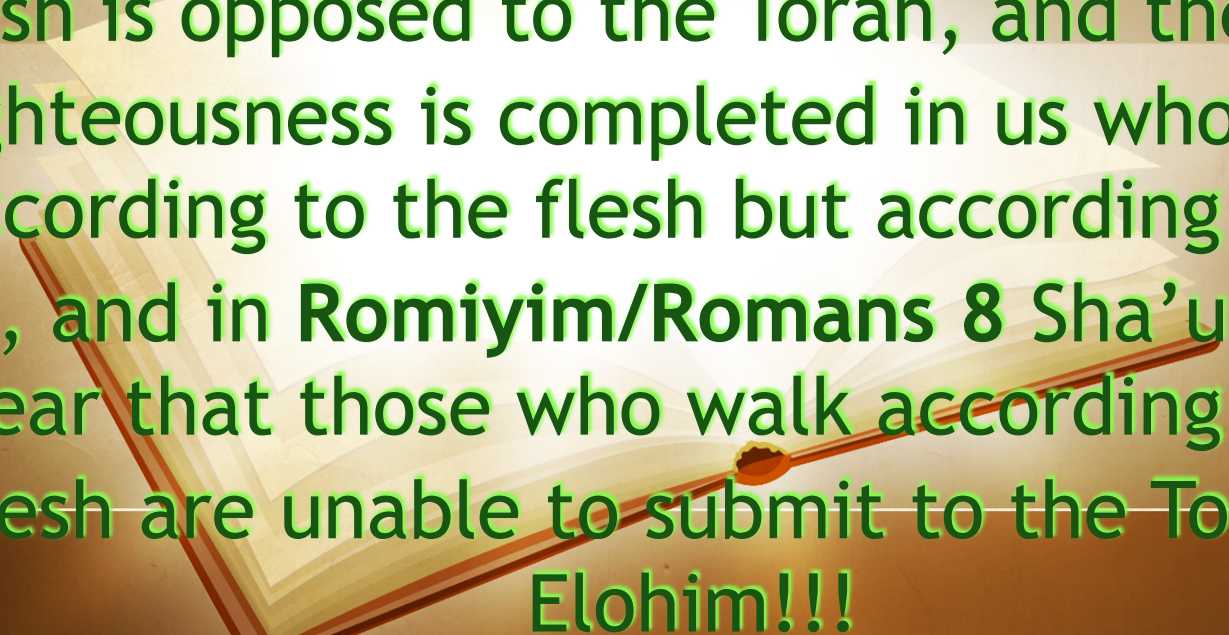
Galatiyim/Galatians 4:31 “Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the female servant but of the free woman.”



As I have already mentioned - it was the children of the free woman who received the Torah and not the children of the slave woman, for there was no Torah given to Yishma'ěl and there was no Covenant of Marriage entered into with Yishma'ěl, by Elohim, but rather - Yisra'ěl - the children of the free woman, entered into Marriage with the Creator and received His Torah.

Those who claim that the Torah is not applicable today and that there is no need to follow the Torah, position and make themselves children of the slave woman, for which there is no promise and no entrance into the Promised Land.



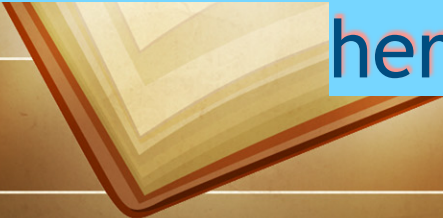


The Torah is spiritual, Sha'ul tells us in **Romiyim/Romans 7**, and that he delights in the Torah of Elohim according to the inner man, while the flesh is opposed to the Torah, and the Torah of righteousness is completed in us who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit, and in **Romiyim/Romans 8** Sha'ul makes it clear that those who walk according to the flesh are unable to submit to the Torah of Elohim!!!

Released from the Law


Rom 7:1 Or do you not know, brothers - for I speak to those knowing the Torah - that the Torah rules over a man as long as he lives?

Rom 7:2 For the married woman has been bound by Torah to the living husband, but if the husband dies, she is released from the Torah concerning her husband.




Rom 7:3 So then, while her husband lives, she shall be called an adulteress if she becomes another man's. But if her husband dies, she is free from that part of the Torah, so that she is not an adulteress, having become another man's.

Rom 7:4 So my brothers, you also were put to death to the Torah through the body of Messiah, for you to become another's, the One who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to Elohim.



Rom 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the passions of sins, through the Torah, were working in our members to bear fruit to death.

Rom 7:6 But now we have been released from the Torah, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in newness of Spirit and not in oldness of letter.



The Law and Sin

Rom 7:7 What, then, shall we say? Is the Torah sin? Let it not be! However, I did not know sin except through the Torah. For also the covetousness I knew not if the Torah had not said, “You shall not covet.” Exo 20:17, Deu 5:21.

Rom 7:8 But sin, having taken the occasion through the command, did work in me all sorts of covetousness. For apart from Torah sin is dead.


Rom 7:9 And I was alive apart from the Torah once, but when the command came, the sin revived, and I died.

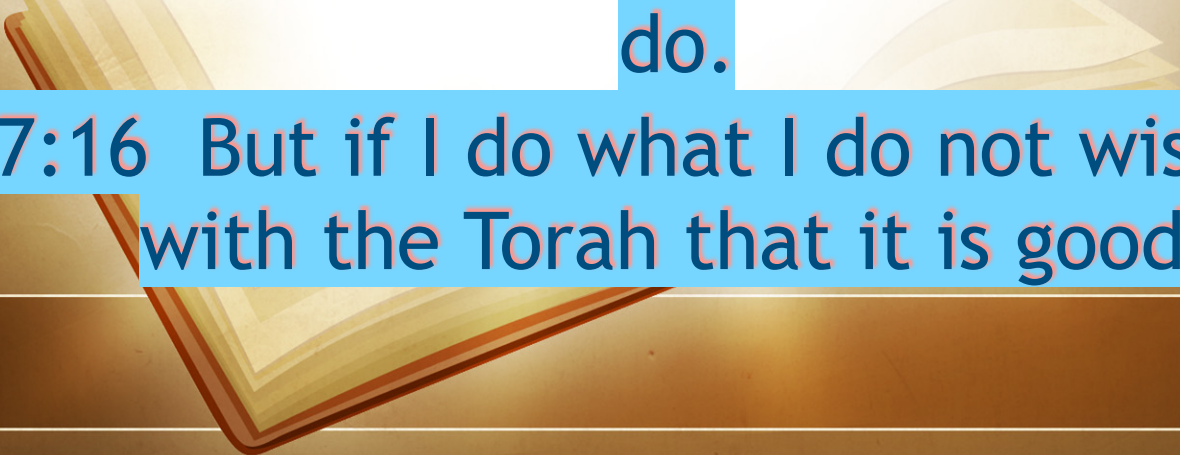
Rom 7:10 And the command which was to result in life, this I found to result in death.

Rom 7:11 For sin, having taken the occasion through the command, deceived me, and through it killed me.

Rom 7:12 So that the Torah truly is set-apart, and the command set-apart, and righteous, and good.

Rom 7:13 Therefore, has that which is good become death to me? Let it not be! But the sin, that sin might be manifest, was working death in me through what is good, so that sin through the command might become an exceedingly great sinner.





Rom 7:14 For we know that the Torah is Spiritual,
but I am fleshly, sold under sin.

Rom 7:15 For what I work, I know not. For what I
wish, that I do not practise, but what I hate, that I
do.

Rom 7:16 But if I do what I do not wish, I agree
with the Torah that it is good.

Rom 7:17 And now, it is no longer I that work it,
but the sin dwelling in me.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me, that is in my
flesh, dwells no good. For to wish is present with
me, but to work the good I do not find.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I wish to do, I do not
do; but the evil I do not wish to do, this I practise.

Rom 7:20 And if I do that which I do not wish, it is no longer I who work it, but the sin dwelling in me.

Rom 7:21 I find therefore this law, that when I wish to do the good, that the evil is present with me.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the Torah of Elohim(a) according to the inward man, Footnote: aSee Psa 119:16.

Rom 7:23 but I see another torah in my members,
battling against the torah of my mind, and
bringing me into captivity to the torah of sin which
is in my members.

Rom 7:24 Wretched man that I am! Who shall
deliver me from this body of death?

Rom 7:25 Thanks to Elohim, through יהושע
Messiah our Master! So then, with the mind I
myself truly serve the Torah of Elohim, but with
the flesh the torah of sin.

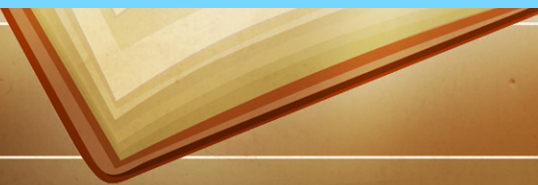
Life in the Spirit

Rom 8:1 There is, then, now no condemnation to those who are in Messiah **יהושע**, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Rom 8:2 For the torah of the Spirit of the life in Messiah **יהושע** has set me free from the torah of sin and of death.

Rom 8:3 For the Torah being powerless, in that it was weak through the flesh, Elohim, having sent His own Son in the likeness of flesh of sin, and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 so that the righteousness of the Torah should be completed in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.



Rom 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the matters of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the matters of the Spirit.

Rom 8:6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace.

Rom 8:7 Because the mind of the flesh is enmity towards Elohim, for it does not subject itself to the Torah of Elohim, neither indeed is it able,

Rom 8:8 and those who are in the flesh are unable to please Elohim.

Rom 8:9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of Elohim dwells in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Messiah, this one is not His.

Rom 8:10 And if Messiah is in you, the body is truly dead on account of sin, but the Spirit is life on account of righteousness.

Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of Him who raised יהושע from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Messiah from the dead shall also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit dwelling in you.

Heirs with Christ

Rom 8:12 So then, brothers, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

Rom 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of Elohim, these are sons of Elohim.

Rom 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

Rom 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of Elohim,

Rom 8:17 and if children, also heirs - truly heirs of Elohim, and co-heirs with Messiah, if indeed we suffer with Him, in order that we also be exalted together.

Future Glory

Rom 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the esteem that is to be revealed in us.

Rom 8:19 For the intense longing(a) of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of Elohim. Footnote: aLit. anxiously looking with outstretched head.

Rom 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not from choice, but because of Him who subjected it, in anticipation,

Rom 8:21 that the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage to corruption into the esteemed freedom of the children of Elohim.

Rom 8:22 For we know that all the creation groans together, and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.


Rom 8:23 And not only so, but even we ourselves who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, we ourselves also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Rom 8:24 For in this expectation we were saved, but expectation that is seen is not expectation, for when anyone sees, does he expect it?

Rom 8:25 And if we expect what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with endurance.

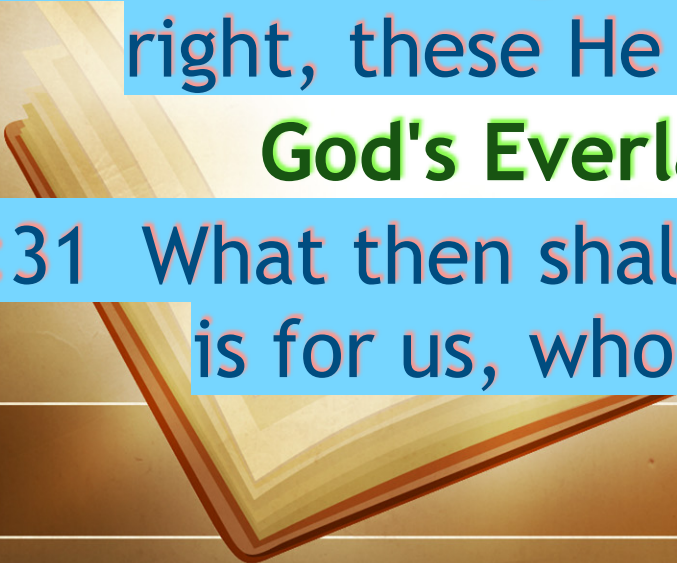
Rom 8:26 And in the same way the Spirit does help in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray, but the Spirit Himself pleads our case for us with groanings unutterable.

Rom 8:27 And He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the set-apart ones according to Elohim.



Rom 8:28 And we know that all matters work together for good to those who love Elohim, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Rom 8:29 Because those whom He knew beforehand, He also ordained beforehand to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, for Him to be the first-born among many brothers.



Rom 8:30 And whom He ordained beforehand, these He also called, and whom He called, these He also declared right. And whom He declared right, these He also esteemed.

God's Everlasting Love

Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to this? If Elohim is for us, who is against us?

Rom 8:32 Truly, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up on behalf of us all - how shall He not, along with Him, freely give us all else?

Rom 8:33 Who shall bring any charge against Elohim's chosen ones? It is Elohim who is declaring right.

Rom 8:34 Who is he who is condemning? It is Messiah who died, and furthermore is also raised up, who is also at the right hand of Elohim, who also makes intercession for us.

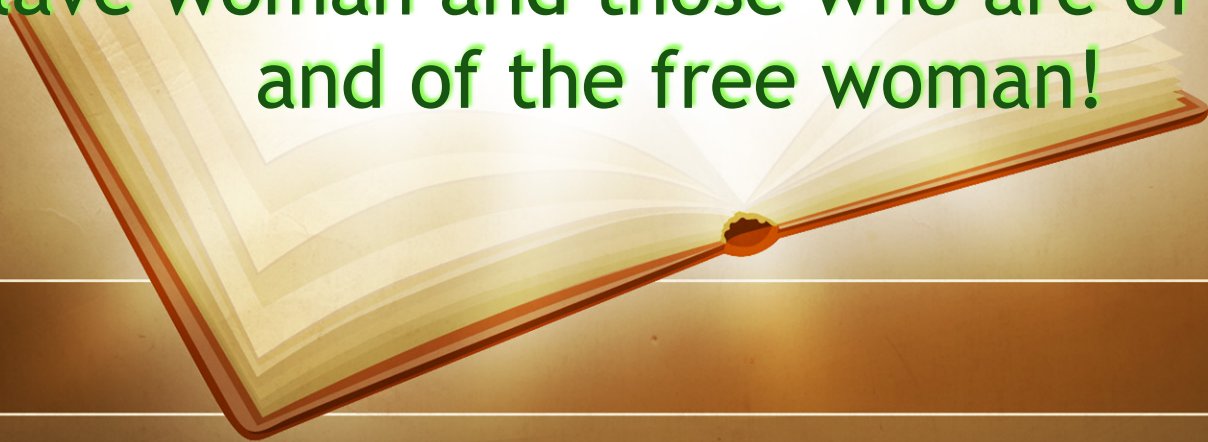
Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of the Messiah? Shall pressure, or distress, or persecution, or scarcity of food, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

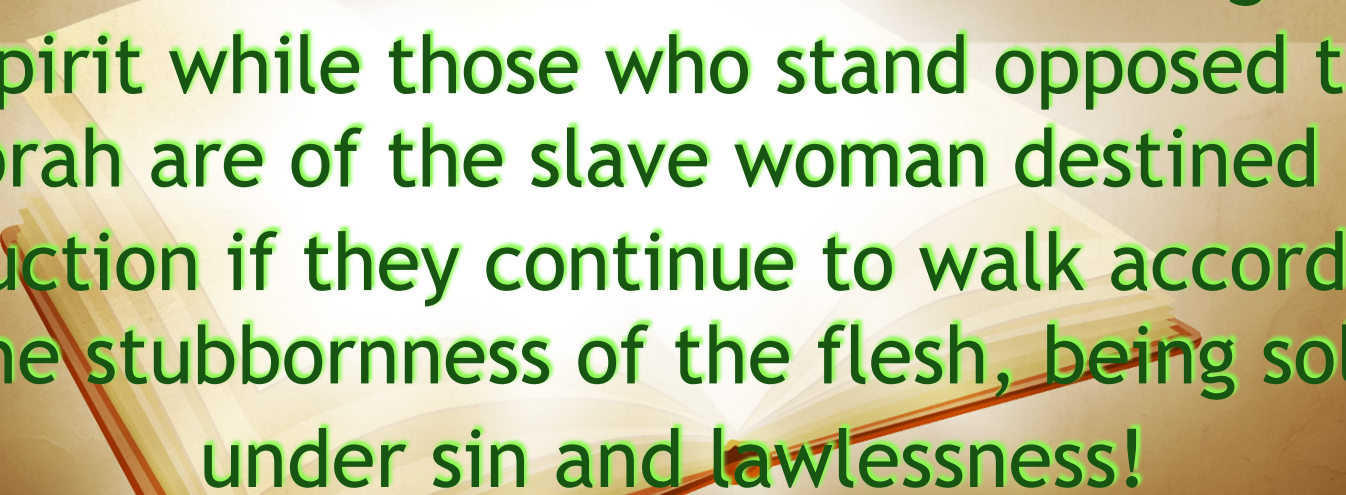
Rom 8:36 As it has been written, "For Your sake we are killed all day long, we are reckoned as sheep of slaughter." Psa 44:22.

Rom 8:37 But in all this we are more than overcomers through Him who loved us.

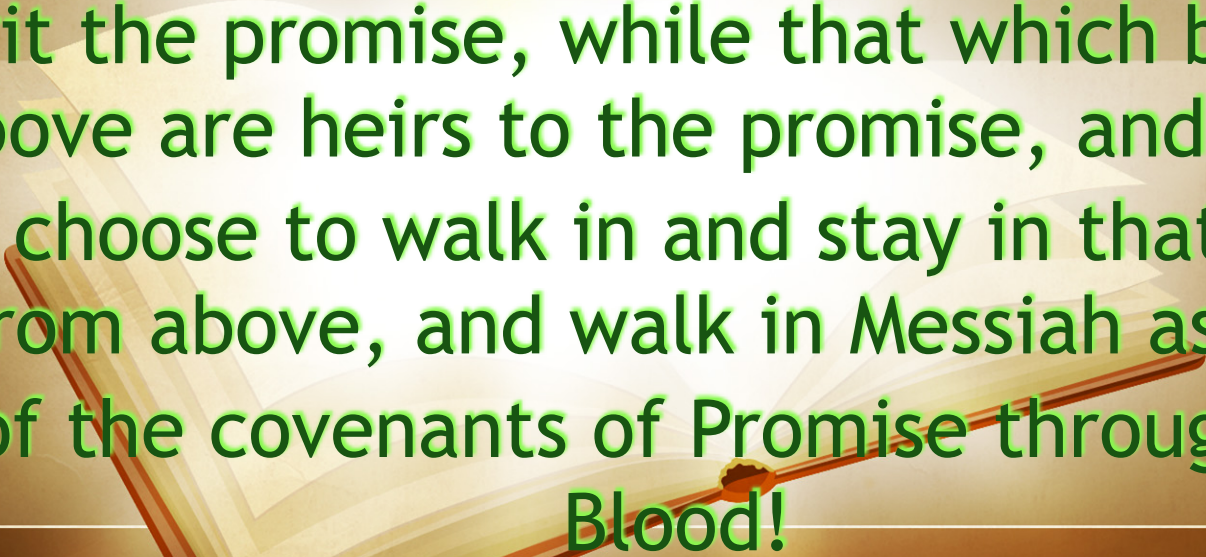
Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded that neither death
nor life, nor messengers nor principalities nor
powers, neither the present nor the future,
Rom 8:39 nor height nor depth, nor any other
creature, shall be able to separate us from the
love of Elohim which is in Messiah יהושע our
Master.

And so, it clearly makes for us a definite distinction between those who are of the flesh and the slave woman and those who are of the spirit and of the free woman!



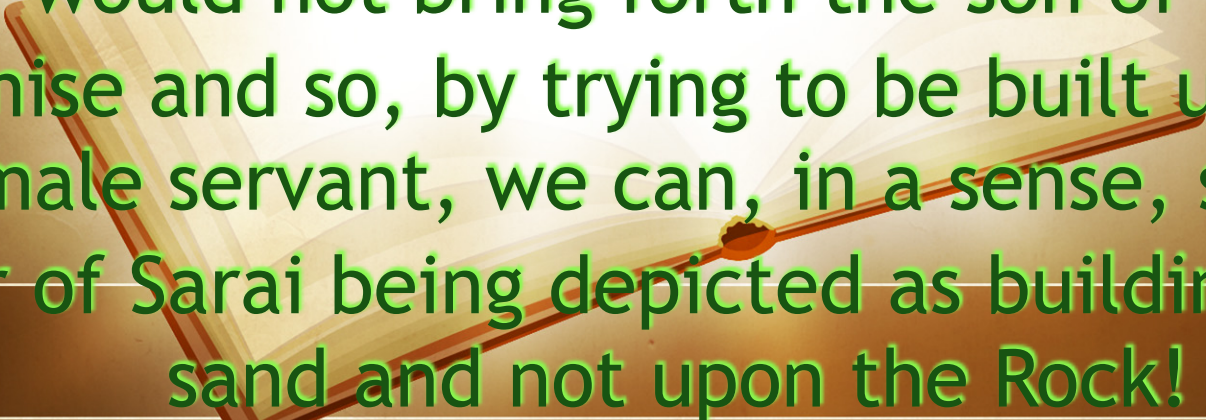


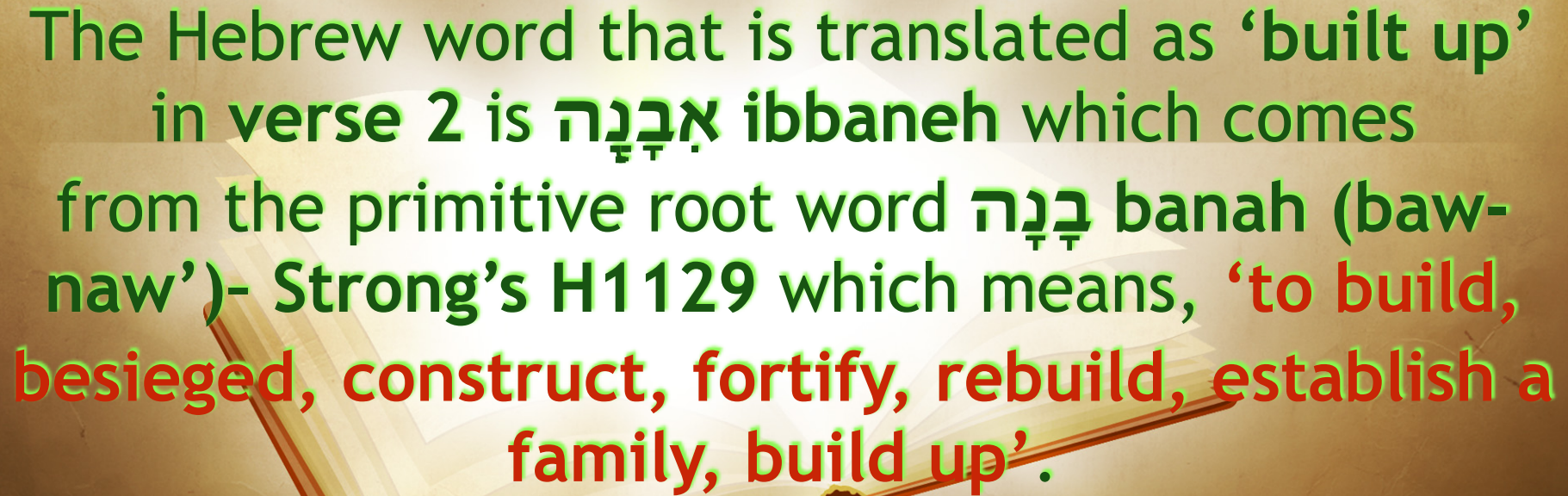
For those who submit to the Torah of Elohim are of the free woman and walk according to the spirit while those who stand opposed to the Torah are of the slave woman destined to destruction if they continue to walk according to the stubbornness of the flesh, being sold under sin and lawlessness!



This Chapter 16 presents to us the clear lesson on that which is born of the flesh will never inherit the promise, while that which born from above are heirs to the promise, and so we must choose to walk in and stay in that which is from above, and walk in Messiah as True heirs of the covenants of Promise through His Own Blood!

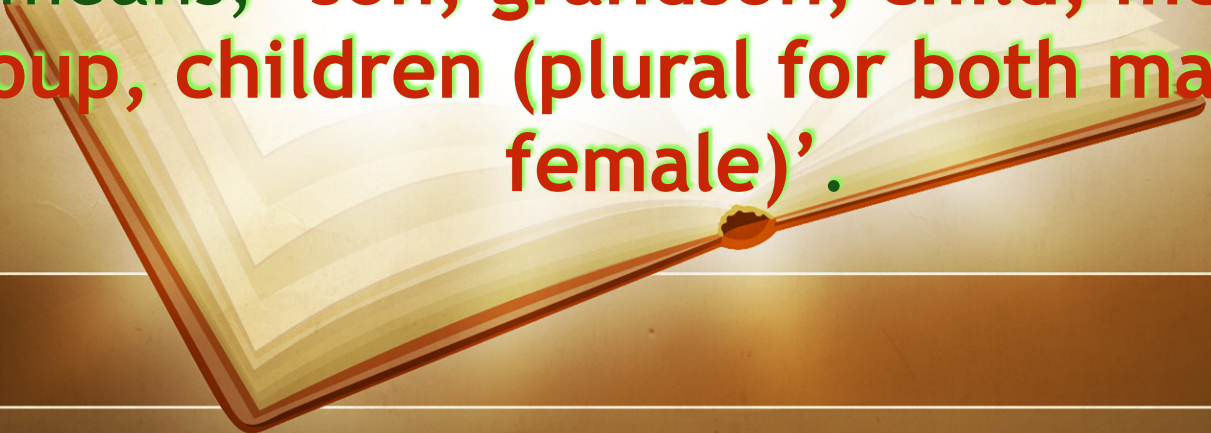
What is worth taking note of, is that with Sarai assuming that she would be built up by her female servant, we are able to see the wrong way of seeking to be built up as a spiritual dwelling place of the Master! The female servant would not bring forth the son of the promise and so, by trying to be built up by her female servant, we can, in a sense, see the error of Sarai being depicted as building on the sand and not upon the Rock!





The Hebrew word that is translated as ‘built up’ in verse 2 is **אִבְּנֶה** **ibbaneh** which comes from the primitive root word **בָּנָה** **banah** (baw-naw’)- Strong’s H1129 which means, ‘to build, besieged, construct, fortify, rebuild, establish a family, build up’.


Another word that is derived from the root verb
בָּנָה banah (baw-naw')- Strong's H1129 is the
Hebrew word is בֵּן ben (bane)- Strong's H1121
which means, 'son, grandson, child, member of a
group, children (plural for both male and
female)'.



In the ancient pictographic Hebrew alphabet, the word בֵּן ben - Strong's H1121 looks like this:



Beyt - בֵּית

This is the letter 'beyt' (בֵּית), which in the ancient script has this letter as , which pictures a tent floor plan and means, 'house' or 'tent'.

It represents family and the importance of those who are inside the tent as opposed to the tent structure itself and is the Dwelling Place of the Most-High, which we are, as we are as living stones being built up in Messiah.

Nun - :ן

This is the letter 'nun' (ן), which in the ancient

text is pictured as a , which is a

'spouting seed', and gives the idea of

'continuation or an offspring or an heir',

speaking of that which sprouts forth will be the

heir of the promise of continuation, and

represents one's life expectancy.

The combined meaning of these two letters
means:

THE CONTINUING OF THE HOUSE



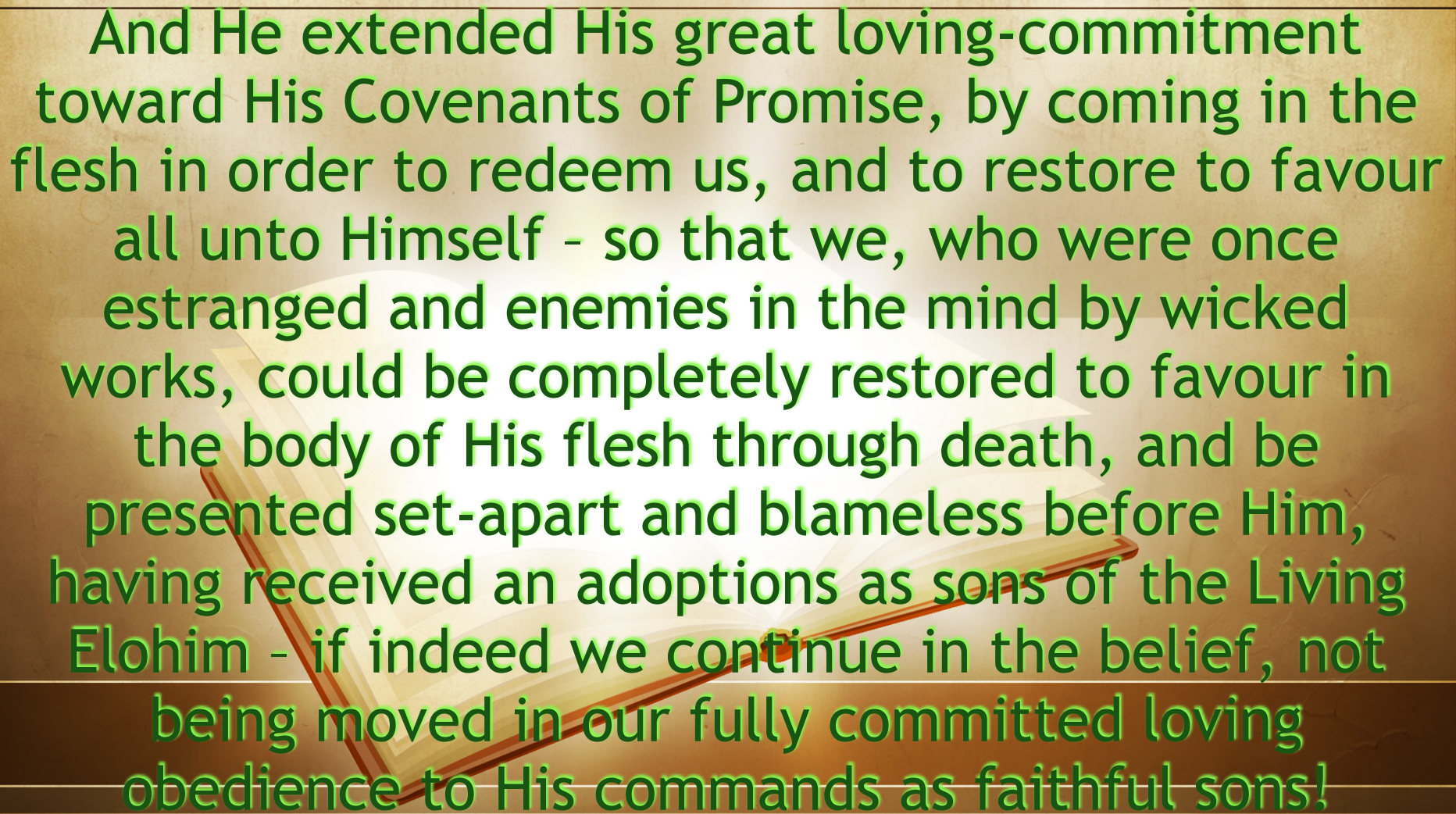
When I refer to son or son-ship, in reference to our relationship toward Elohim, I am collectively speaking of both male and female children (or sons and daughters) of the Most- High, as the Hebrew word for son - בֶּן ben - **Strong's H1121**, which is used over 5000 times, is not exclusively a reference to the male offspring of human parents. It is also used idiomatically for children generally, as well as for descendants, i.e., grandsons; and for people or items belonging in a category or group e.g., sons of prophets.

And we also recognize that, in Scripture, the term בן ben often specifies an intimate relationship between a father and his children. We see the plural of this word - בָּנִים - baniym being translated as **'children'** in:

Tehillah/Psalm 103:13 “As a father has compassion for his children, so יהוה has compassion for those who fear Him.”

Son-ship, in Scripture, is not always regarded to being a natural position based on physical bloodline, but rather, the son-ship of Elohim is that which is conferred to us by an act of Elohim.

Son-ship should not be understood as an assured son-ship, based on natural descent or merit; but rather it is based on Elohim's extended favour and mercy, that is received by faith in Messiah!



And He extended His great loving-commitment toward His Covenants of Promise, by coming in the flesh in order to redeem us, and to restore to favour all unto Himself - so that we, who were once estranged and enemies in the mind by wicked works, could be completely restored to favour in the body of His flesh through death, and be presented set-apart and blameless before Him, having received an adoption as sons of the Living Elohim - if indeed we continue in the belief, not being moved in our fully committed loving obedience to His commands as faithful sons!

When we consider how we are being built up as living stones in our Master, and are the Dwelling Place of Elohim, we see that we can only be built up in the One who is to be praised, and can only be built up according to His wisdom - the wisdom that He has already made clear and by which all is made, for wisdom has already 'built Her house'. In other words, the design and pattern and function has been given and the continuing of the House of Wisdom can only be done according to Her standards as set forth in the Word of Elohim!

This gives fuller meaning and clarity to us when we look at the word for built in the ancient text:

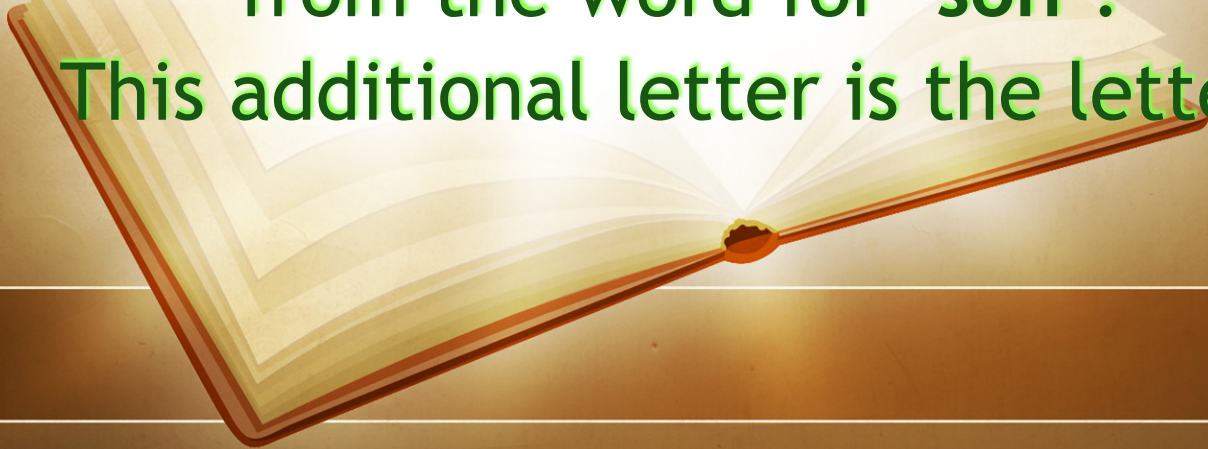
בָּנָה banah - Strong's H1129 meaning, 'to build, besieged, construct, fortify, rebuild, establish a family, build up', therefore, in the ancient pictographic script, it looks like this:

The image shows three pictographic symbols for the Hebrew word Banah (בָּנָה). The first symbol is a stylized human figure with arms raised, representing the letter 'Nun' (נ). The second symbol is a curved line, representing the letter 'Kaph' (כ). The third symbol is a square with a diagonal line, representing the letter 'Heh' (ה).


נ כ ה

You will notice that there is one additional letter that is added here to this word that differs from the word for 'son'.

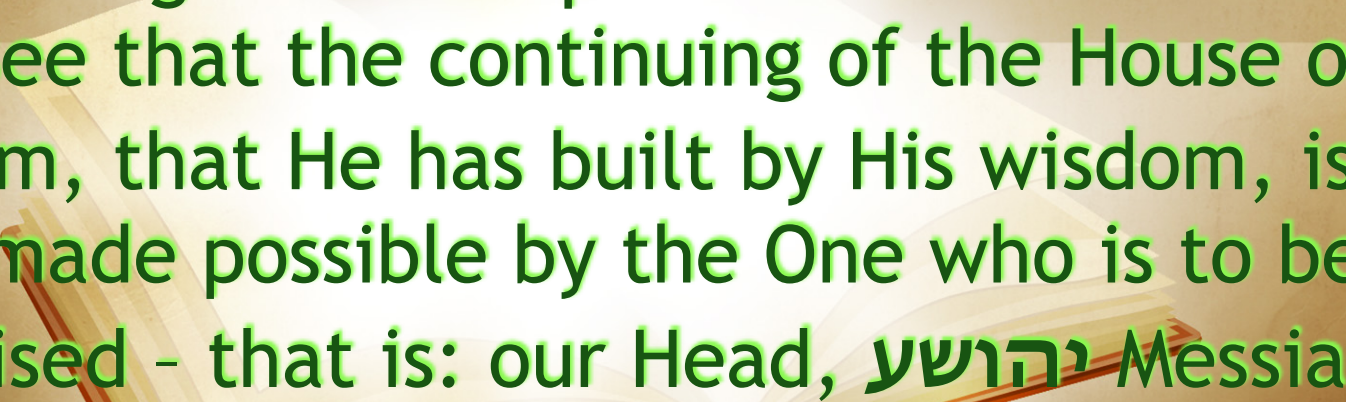
This additional letter is the letter:



Hey - ה

The ancient script has this letter pictured as , which is ‘a man standing with his arms raised out’.

The Hebrew word letter “hey” means “behold, breath, sigh”, as when looking at a great sight, and can also give the understanding of ‘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!



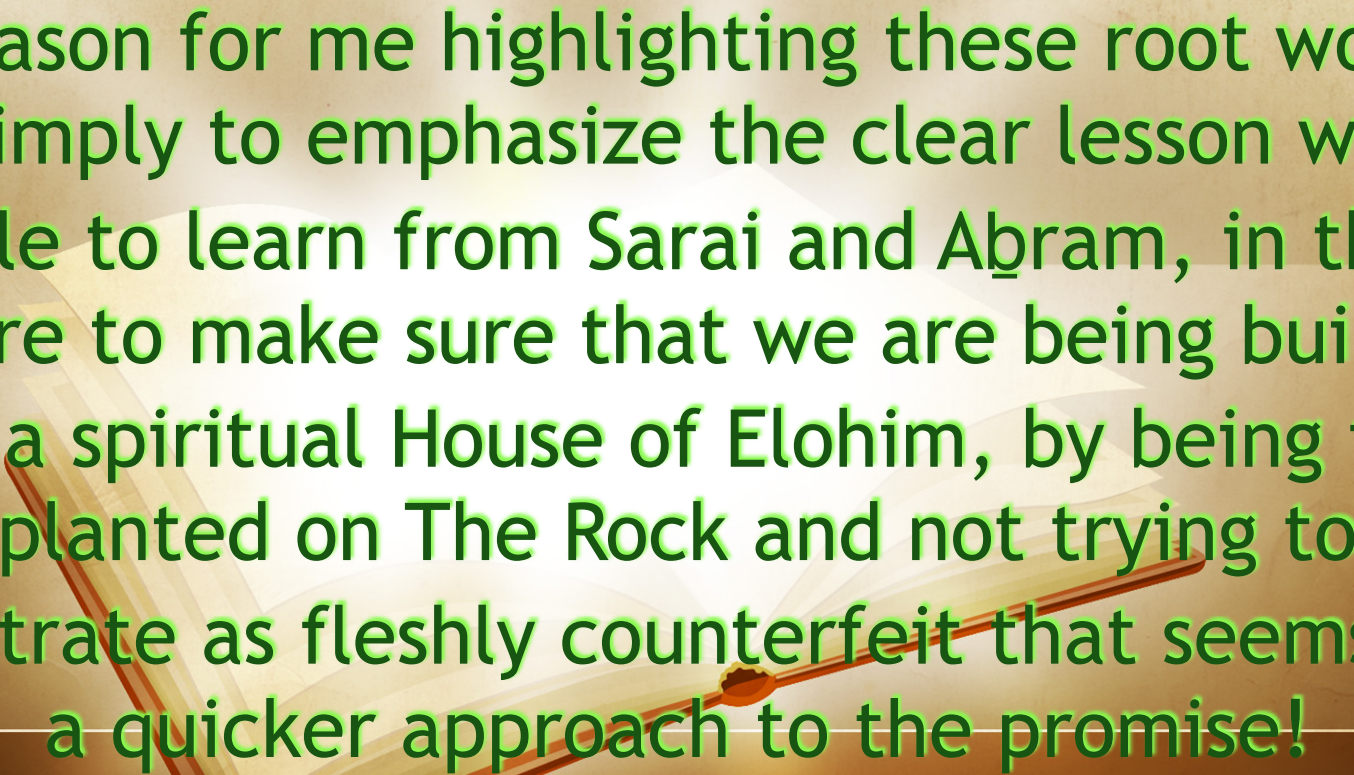
Recognizing the clear pictures of this word we can see that the continuing of the House of Elohim, that He has built by His wisdom, is only made possible by the One who is to be praised - that is: our Head, **יהושע** Messiah!!!

Galatyiim/Galatians 3:26-29 “For you are all sons of Elohim through belief in Messiah יהושע.

27 For as many of you as were immersed into Messiah have put on Messiah.

28 There is not Yehudite nor Greek, there is not slave nor free, there is not male and female, for you are all one in Messiah יהושע.

29 And if you are of Messiah, then you are seed of Abraham, and heirs according to promise.”



The reason for me highlighting these root words, is simply to emphasize the clear lesson we are able to learn from Sarai and Abram, in that we are to make sure that we are being built up as a spiritual House of Elohim, by being firmly planted on The Rock and not trying to orchestrate as fleshly counterfeit that seems to be a quicker approach to the promise!

We are built up in our Master, by His sure Word
and the promises that are yes and amen in
Him!

Any other way will only lead to us being built on a
foundation of sand that will be swept
away when the raging storm of His wrath comes
upon the sons of disobedience!

What we can clearly learn from this chapter is that Yishma'el was a fruit of the working of the flesh as opposed to being a son of the promise, according to the Spirit! He would not inherit the promises of the Covenant, and we take note that when we walk according to the flesh, we risk the reality of not being able to enter in to the reign!

Qorintiyim Aleph/1 Corinthians 15:50 “And this I say, brothers, that flesh and blood is unable to inherit the reign of Elohim, neither does corruption inherit incorruption.”

CHAPTER 17

At 99 years old יהוה appeared to Abram and made it clear that He is El Shaddai - and that Abram was to walk before Him and be perfect! 13 years had passed and once again we see that יהוה “appeared” to Abram!

Again, we see the same word as we saw in Chapter 12, which is the word וַיֵּרָא vayyeraḥ

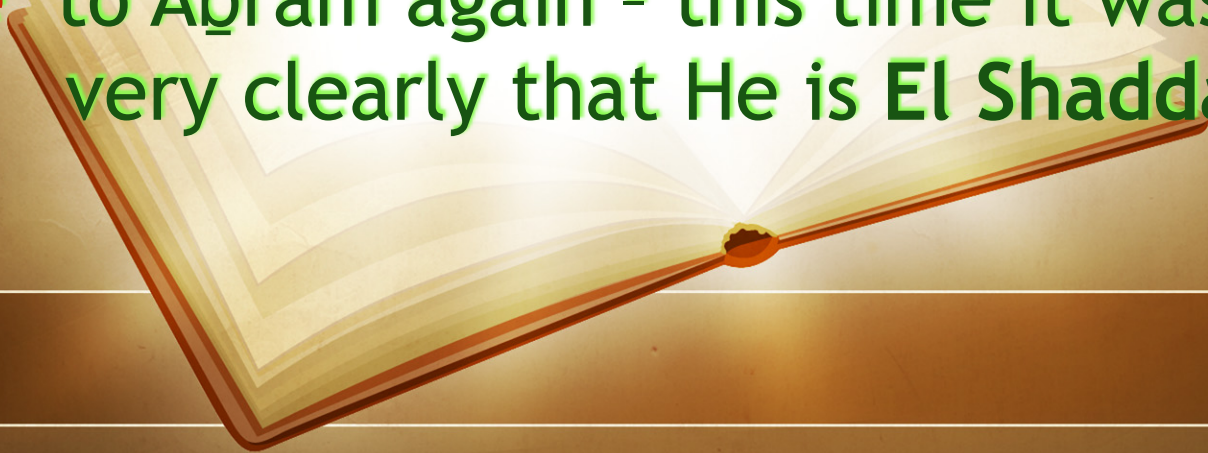
which comes from the root word רָאָה ra'ah (raw-aw')- Strong's H7200 - Strong's H7200 meaning,

'to see, look, observe, pay close attention, consider, appear, provide'.

This verb is written in the 'niphal passive' tense and therefore is understood as rendering,

'to appear, present oneself, to be seen, to be visible'.

What is very important for us to understand here is that יהוה literally **'made himself visible'** to Abram again - this time it was to tell his very clearly that He is El Shaddai!



The Hebrew word שַׁדַּי Shaddai (shad-dah'-ee)-
Strong's H7706 means, 'the Almighty' and
together with the word אֱלֹהִים Ēl - Strong's H410
which means, 'mighty one, shortened form of
Elohim', is a compound title used for Elohim!

And by declaring this to Abram, יהוה was making
it very clear that He was all powerful and
there was no one else who Abram would need!

The Hebrew root word from which שַׁדַּי Shaddai - Strong's H7706 is derived, is שָׁדַד shadad (shaw-dad')- Strong's H7703 which means, **'to deal violently with, despoil, devastate, completely destroy'** and so, here we can clearly see the context of the clear message to Abram.

The **ALL-POWERFUL ONE** was calling Abram to perfection; and we know that failure to heed His commands will result in the lawless receiving His wrath of destruction! After all the fiasco of the events around Yishma'ě, **יהוה** meant business with Abram and was being called to walk perfectly before **יהוה**, not that Abram had not been, but now it is made very clear to not be found making fleshly decisions anymore, but rather to be diligent in listening attentively to and obeying the Almighty - the One who can easily, and so quickly, destroy the lawless and disobedient, yet give great life and sure promises to those who walk before Him and are perfect!

He is Almighty and there is no one mightier than He, so as we walk humbly before Him, we need not fear anything else or any other enemy that tries to come against us!

Lucas/Luke 12:4-5 “But I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that are unable to do any more. 5

“But I shall show you whom you should fear: Fear the One who, after killing, possesses authority to cast into Gehenna. Yea, I say to you, fear Him!”

Walk before Me and be perfect!

Miḳah/Micah 6:8 “He has declared to you, O man, what is good. And what does יהוה require of you but to do right, and to love loving-commitment, and to walk humbly with your Elohim?”

What does יהוה require of us?

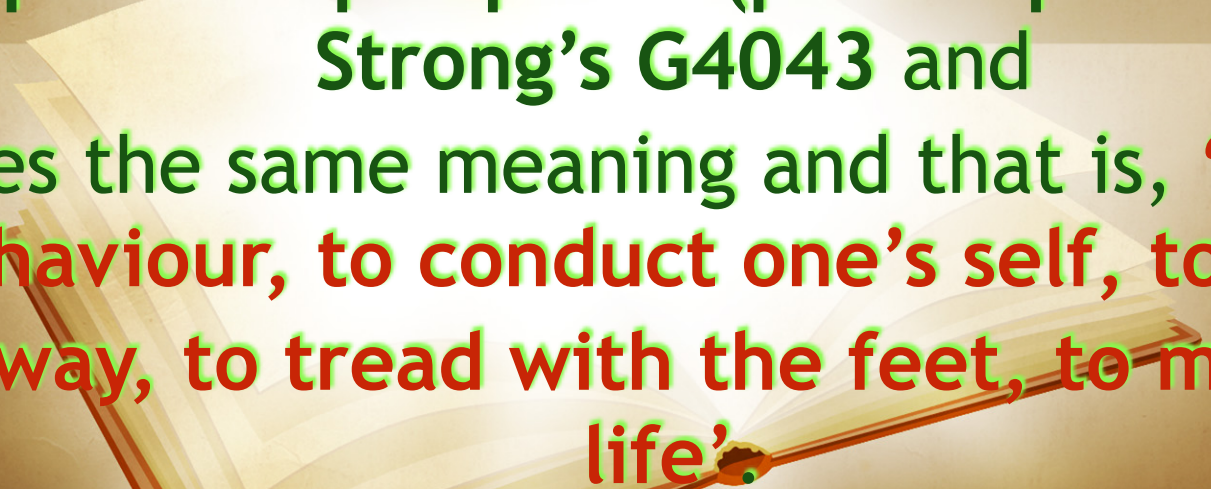
Well, as we see from **Miḵah/Micah 6:8**-it is to do right, love loving-commitment and walk humbly with our Elohim! The Hebrew word that is translated as 'walk' comes from the root word **הָלַךְ hā·lāk** (haw-lak')- **Strong's H1980** which means, 'to walk, to live, manner of life, cause to live' and this literally speaks of how one lives. It is used as a verb indicating that it is an active expression of one's life.

We are to be actively, and continually, walking in Messiah, and as Miḱah tells us, we are required to walk ‘humbly’ with Elohim.

The Hebrew word that is translated as ‘humble’ comes from the root word **טָנַף** tsana (tsaw-nah’)- Strong’s H6800 which means, ‘to be modest or humble’.

In Miḵah/Micah 6:8 it is expressed as follows:
וְהֵצַנְעַ לְכַת 've-ha-ts'nea lechet', which
literally expresses 'a making humble to walk' or
'showing a humble walk', again
emphasizing that our humility is seen in our walk -
that is, our walk of obedience, as we
clearly see and understand the words in:

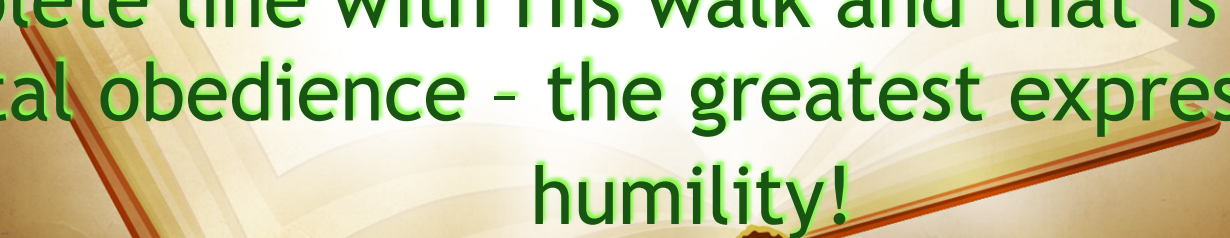
Yohanan Aleph/1 John 2:6 "The one who says he
stays in Him ought himself also to walk,
even as He walked."



The Greek word that is translated as 'walk' is
περιπατέω peripateō (per-ee-pat-eh'-o)-
Strong's G4043 and
carries the same meaning and that is, **'to walk,
behaviour, to conduct one's self, to make
one's way, to tread with the feet, to make one's
life'**.

Why all the definitions?

To clearly reiterate that to walk as *Messiah* walked involves action and that action is to be in complete line with His walk and that is a walk of total obedience - the greatest expression of humility!



In order to walk right, we must understand the fear of Elohim, or else we would not be able to walk straight and as Kěpha tells us, we are to pass the time of our sojourning in fear, as we realize that we have inherited lies and futility from our fathers:

Kěpha Aleph/1 Peter 1:17-18 “And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear, 18 knowing that you were redeemed from your futile way of life inherited from your fathers, not with what is corruptible, silver or gold”

Be perfect!

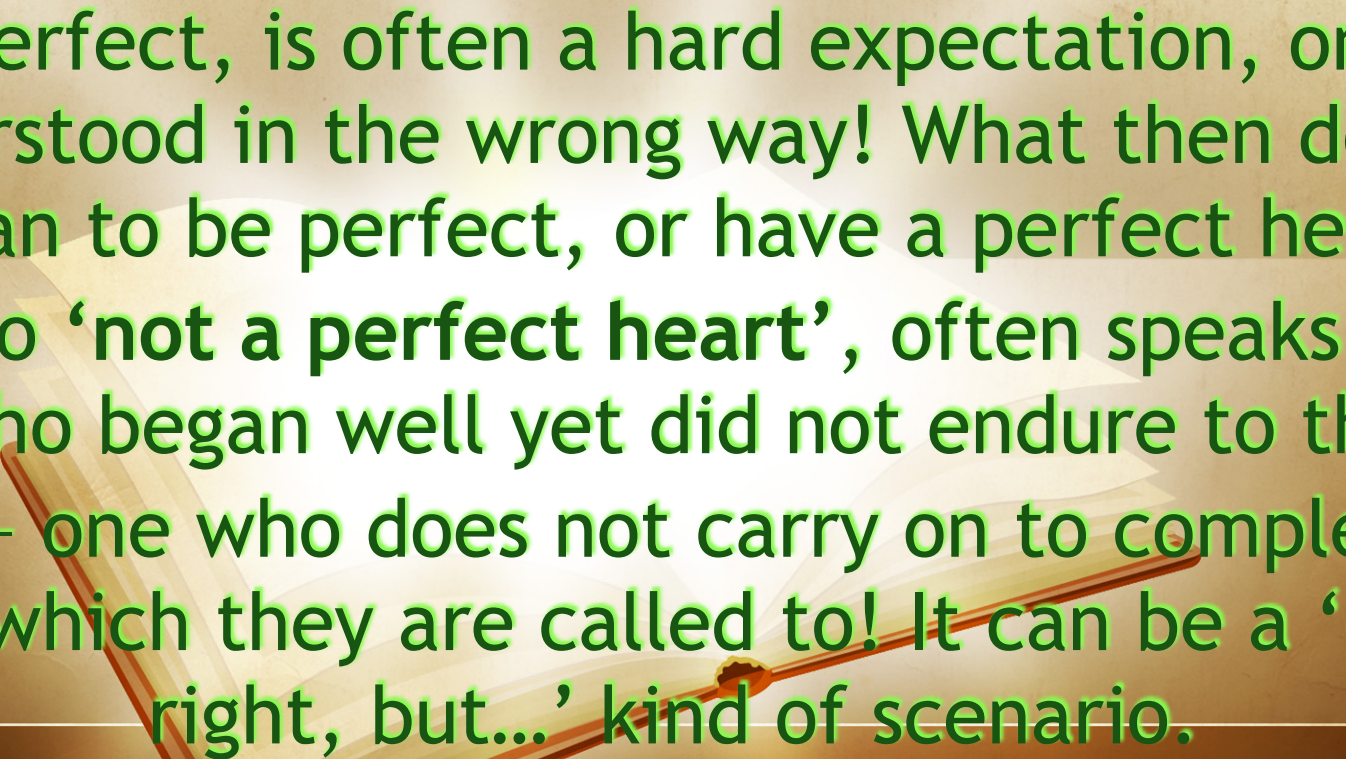
The Hebrew root word that is translated here as 'perfect' is תָּמִים tamiym - Strong's H8549 which means, **'complete, whole, sound, perfect, without blemish, blameless'**, and comes from the primitive root word תָּמַם tamam - Strong's H8552 meaning, **'to be complete, to be finished, be at an end'**.

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

‘But’, you may ask, ‘is it possible to serve יהוה with a perfect heart, are we not all sinners unable to be perfect?’

Our Master tells us, in:

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



Be perfect, is often a hard expectation, only if understood in the wrong way! What then does it mean to be perfect, or have a perfect heart? Well, to **'not a perfect heart'**, often speaks of one who began well yet did not endure to the end - one who does not carry on to completion that which they are called to! It can be a **'doing right, but...'** kind of scenario.

The major lesson we must learn is that there are
to be no 'buts' in our committed life unto

יהוה!

What does perfect mean?

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

In the Hebrew there are two words that are used,
for which we translate as perfect:

1 - שָׁלֵם Shalēm - 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 a
perfect heart:

Melakim aleph/1Kings 8:61 "Let your heart
therefore be perfect to יהוה our Elohim, to
walk in His laws and guard His commands, as at this
day."

2 - תָּמִים tamiyim - Strong's H8549 as described above - this is a verb that translates over 90 times as perfect, without blemish, complete or full:

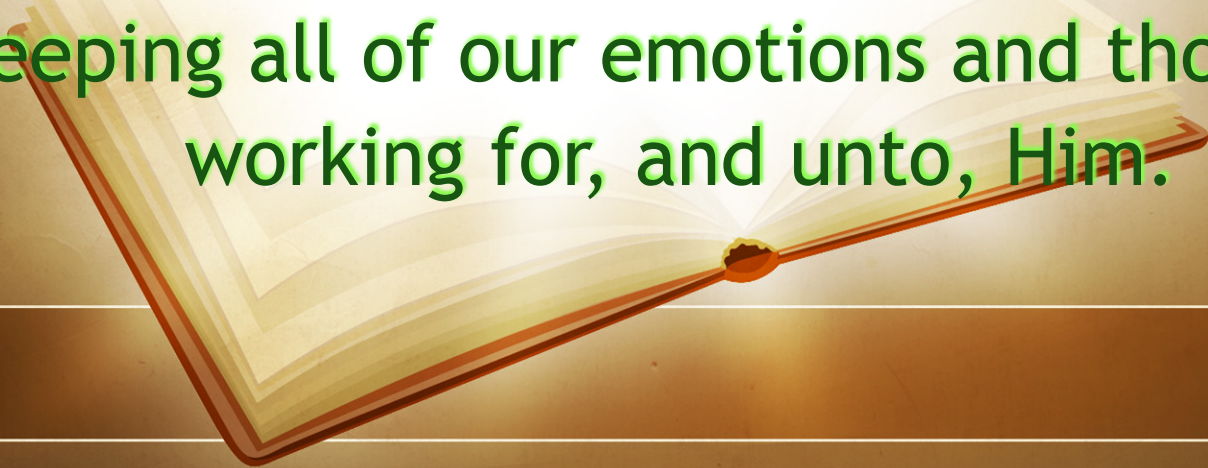
Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:13 “Be perfect before יהוה your Elohim”

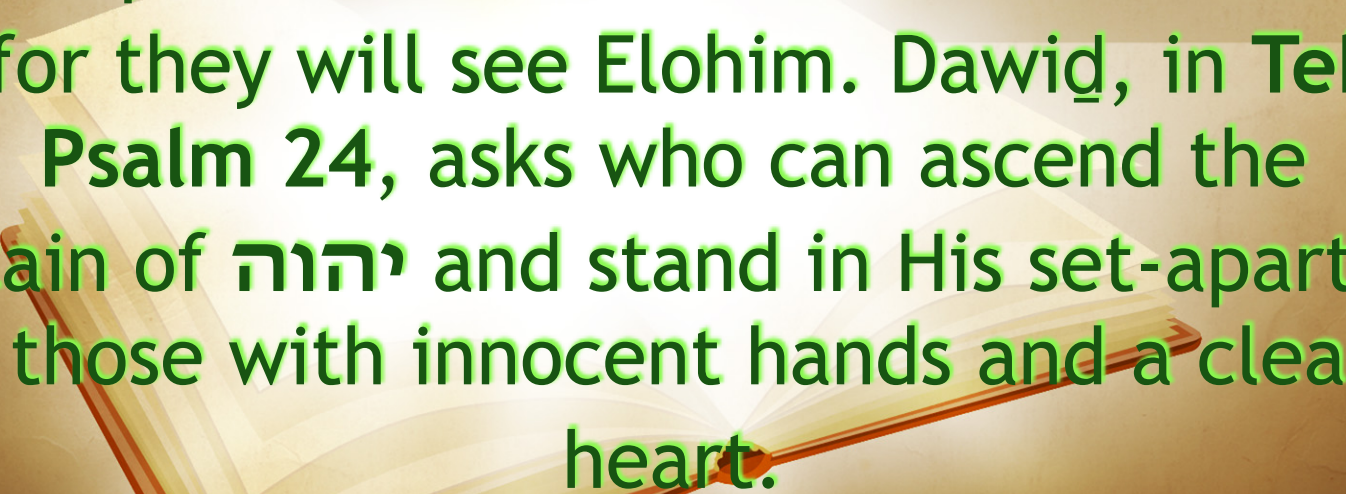
Understanding these two Hebrew words, used interchangeably throughout the Scriptures, in referring to perfection in serving יהוה, we can understand that the meaning is **to be upright, totally obedient, to finish what was started and have a constant obedience.**

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

In Hebrew, the word that is translated as 'heart' is **לֵבָב** **lebāb** (lay-bawb')- Strong's H3824 and the heart is not only seen as the seat of emotions, as we would understand it in our culture, but also as the seat of thoughts, whereas we see the brain as the seat of thoughts, the inner man, the mind the will and the heart. To the ancient Hebrew, the heart was the mind, which includes all thoughts and includes emotions.

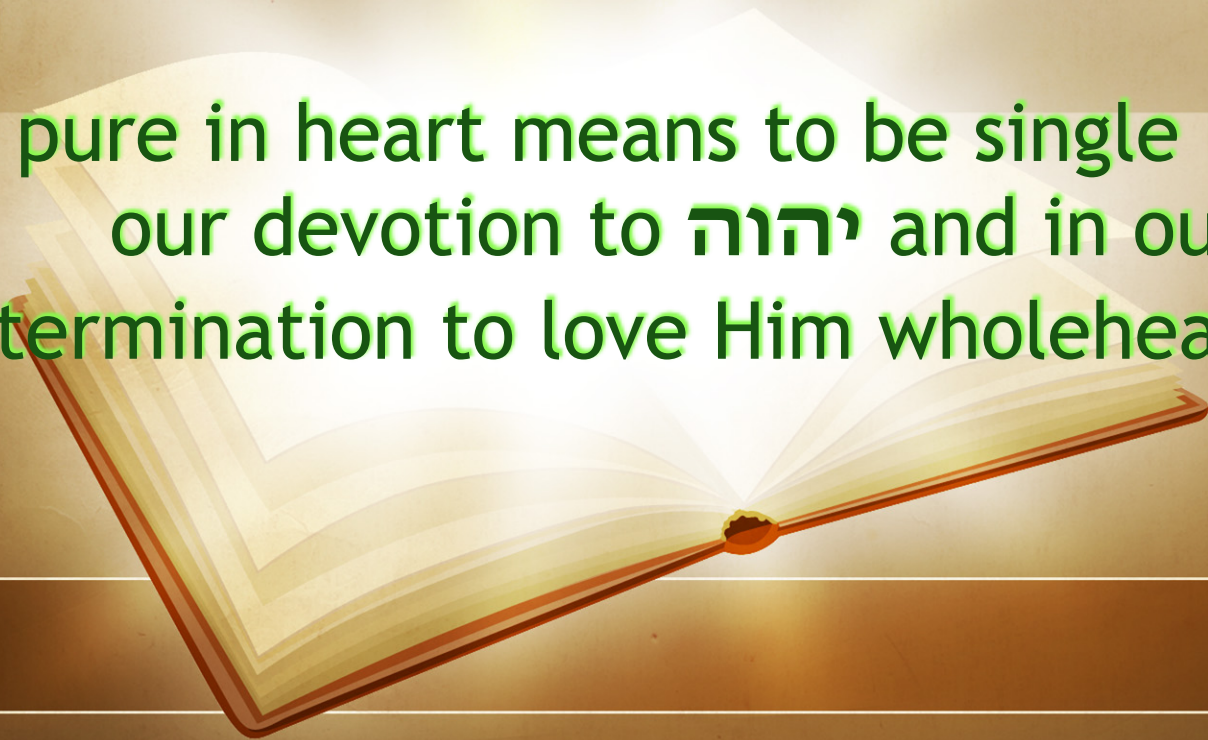
In other words, to love **יהוה** with all your heart is not simply speaking of an emotional love, but rather it us an exerted continual effort in keeping all of our emotions and thoughts working for, and unto, Him.





Mattithyahu/Matthew 5:8 tells us that blessed are the pure in heart or those with a clean heart for they will see Elohim. Dawid, in Tehillah/Psalm 24, asks who can ascend the mountain of יהוה and stand in His set-apart place - those with innocent hands and a clean heart.

To be pure in heart means to be single minded in our devotion to יהוה and in our determination to love Him wholeheartedly.

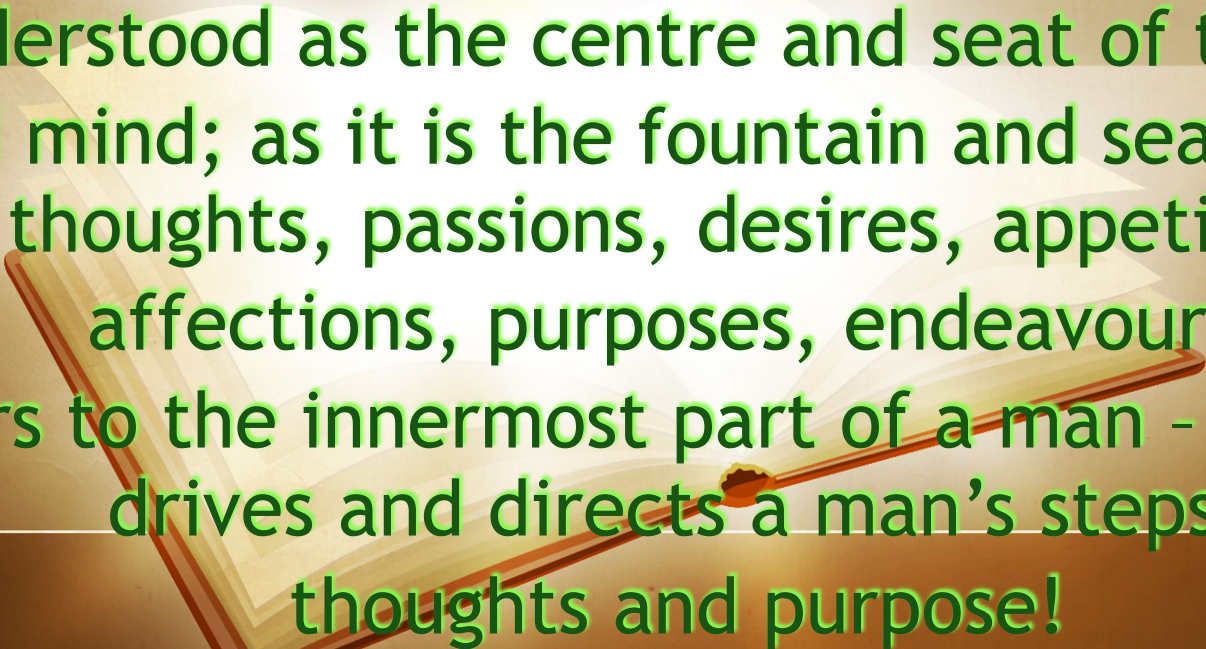


It is a heart thing - and obedience flows from the heart, and in a Psalm, that is all about the praise of the Torah and commands of Elohim, we see Dawid saying in:

Tehillah/Psalm 119:111-112 “Your witnesses are my inheritance forever, for they are the joy of my heart. 112 I have inclined my heart to do Your laws Forever, to the end.”

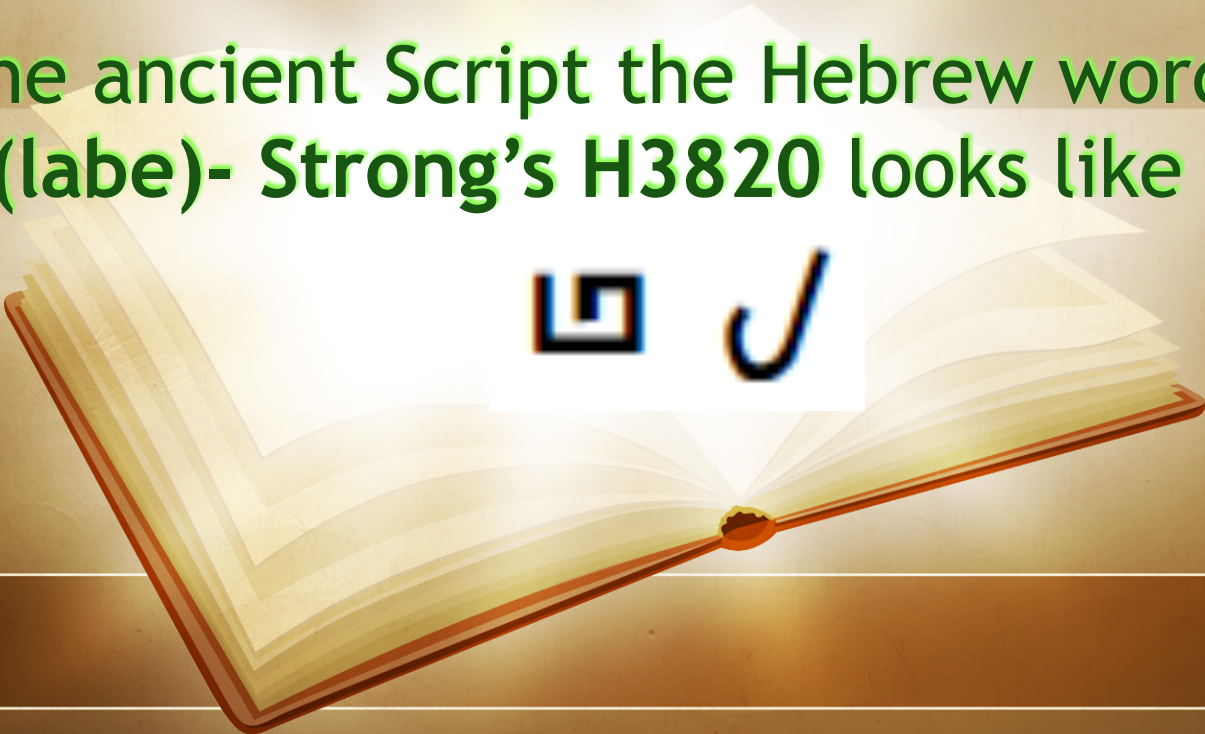
Romiyim/Romans 6:17 “But thanks to Elohim that you were servants of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of teaching to which you were entrusted.”

The Greek word for 'heart' is καρδία kardia (kar-dee'-ah)- Strong's G2588 and this word denotes the centre of all physical and spiritual life, and is understood as the centre and seat of the soul and mind; as it is the fountain and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours. It refers to the innermost part of a man - that which drives and directs a man's steps, thoughts and purpose!




The Hebrew word for 'heart' is לֵב **leb** (labe)- Strong's H3820 which means, **'inner man, mind, will thought'**, or, as mentioned, is often written as לֵבָב **lebab** (lay-bawb')- Strong's H3824 which means, **'inner man, heart, mind, understanding'**; and what is interesting to take note of here, is that these two letters for 'heart', in the ancient Hebrew pictographic Script, make it clear that the rule and authority of Elohim is to be upon our hearts!

In the ancient Script the Hebrew word לֵב leḅ
(labe)- Strong's H3820 looks like this:




לֵב

Lamed - לָ


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.

Bet - בְּ

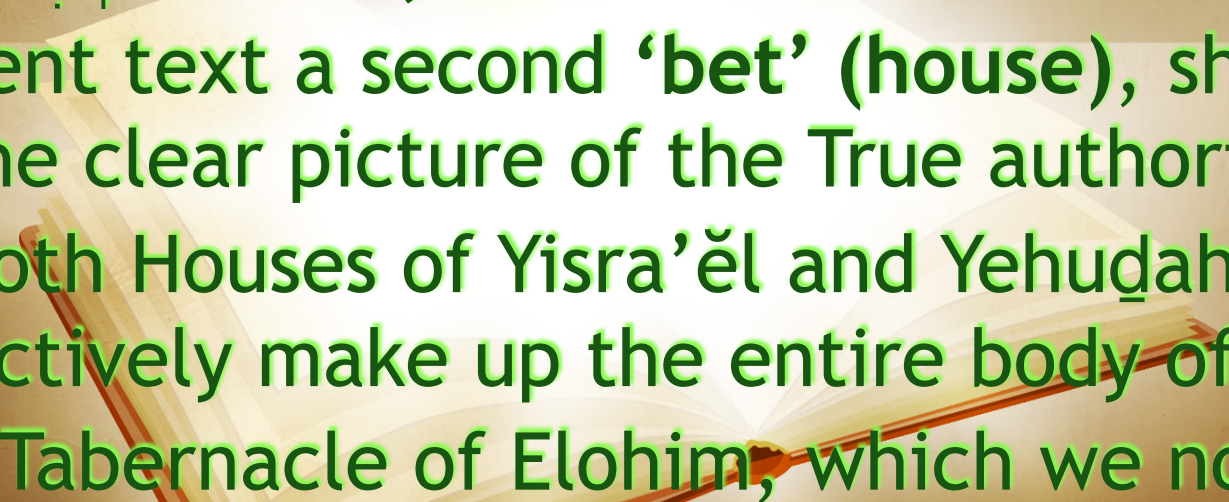
The ancient script has this letter as , which pictures a tent floor plan and means, **‘house’ or ‘tent’**. It represents family and the importance of those who are inside the tent as opposed to the tent structure itself.

In terms of these two pictures, representing the 'heart' or the inner man and the will and thoughts of man, we are able to see that a pure heart is one that submits to the authority of the Good Shepherd, having been grafted into His Body, that is the Tabernacle of Elohim, which in Messiah we now are. It can clearly be expressed as:

THE RULES OF THE HOUSE



And in recognizing this, we see that we, as legitimate sons and daughters of the Most-High, that have been grafted in by the Blood of Messiah, have upon our hearts His Torah, under which we submit to walking in - for His Torah are the rules of His House, WHICH He has written on the fleshly tablets of our hearts!




Even with the word for heart being expressed as
לֵבָבִי **lebab**, we are able to see in the
ancient text a second **‘bet’ (house)**, showing us
the clear picture of the True authority for
both Houses of Yisra’el and Yehudah, that
collectively make up the entire body of Messiah,
or Tabernacle of Elohim, which we now are!

Debarim/Deuteronomy 6:5-6 “And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your might. 6 “And these Words which I am commanding you today shall be in your heart”


To love Elohim with all your heart implies that His commands are written upon your heart, for true love for Elohim is to guard His commands; and if one does not think upon or meditate upon His Torah in order to walk in it, then it shall be very clear that the Truth is not in them!

יהוה knows what is in our hearts, while we may not; and He tests our hearts in order to see if we will obey Him or not:

Debarim/Deuteronomy 8:2 “And you shall remember that יהוה your Elohim led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, prove you, to know what is in your heart, whether you guard His commands or not.”



Debarim/Deuteronomy 10:12-13 “And now, Yisra’el, what is יהוה your Elohim asking of you, but to fear יהוה your Elohim, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, and to serve יהוה your Elohim with all your heart and with all your being, 13 to guard the commands of יהוה and His laws which I command you today for your good?”



Debarim/Deuteronomy 11:18 “And you shall lay up these Words of Mine in your heart and in your being, and shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.”

Debarim/Deuteronomy 30:14 “For the Word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart - to do it.”

The reason I am quoting all these verses, is to show that 'it is a heart thing' and the Word must be in our hearts and mouths, and not just a vain rendering of a corrupted lips service that has no heart or follow through with obedience and submission to doing the commands with joy! Guarding the good treasure and deposit of the Truth in our hearts will keep us from sinning and being lawless!

Tehillah/Psalm 119:11 "I have treasured up Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You."

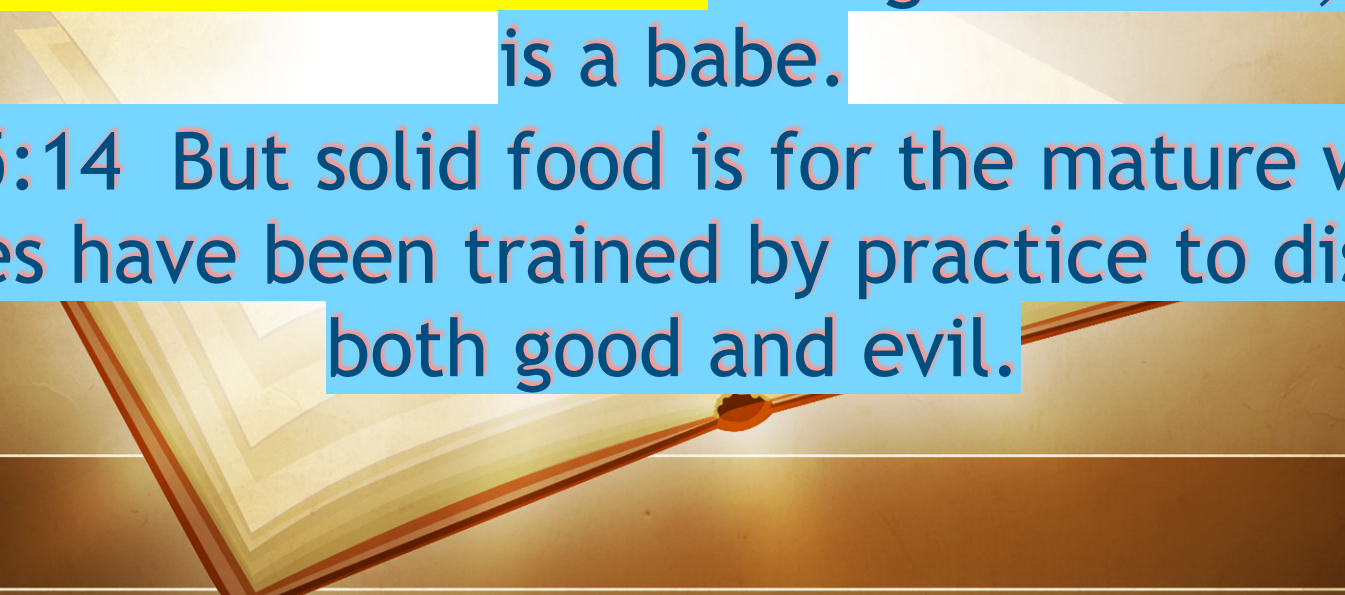
Although many ought to be teachers by now, they have not moved on to maturity in the Word and stumble continually in the man-made traditions that have held people captive on milk.

The church today is, in large, feeding people milk, and not even pure milk at that - but rather a 'formula' - which is man-made as opposed to the pure milk of a mother and never allows people to be weaned off from their constructed milk and think for themselves!

Warning Against Apostasy

Heb 5:11 concerning whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

Heb 5:12 For indeed, although by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first elements of the Words of Elohim. And you have become such as need milk and not solid food.



Heb 5:13 For everyone partaking of milk is inexperienced in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe.

Heb 5:14 But solid food is for the mature whose senses have been trained by practice to discern both good and evil.

We know that Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah tells us in
17:9 that the heart is deceitful above all
things - and perhaps that is why we can often so
easily say everything is ok, when it is not!

Yet Shemu'el Aleph/1 Samuel 16:7 tells us that
יהוה looks at the heart.

So as יהוה looks at your heart - what does He see?

So then, how do we keep a perfect heart before

יהוה?

It starts with being open before יהוה, allowing Him to deal with those imperfections that are in our heart:

Tehillah/Psalms 139: 23-24 “Search me, O Ėl, and know my heart; Try me, and know my thoughts; 24 and see if an idolatrous way is in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

Dawid was willing for יהוה to search him and try his heart: a perfect heart is a searchable heart, which means we allow יהוה to penetrate and examine deeply into our thoughts and emotions.

The false teachings today tell you that as long as your heart doesn't condemn you then you are ok and the Blood of **יהושע** has cleansed you, yet they fail to neglect what it says prior to this:

Yohanan Aleph/1 John 1:6-7 “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and are not doing the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of **יהושע** Messiah His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

His Blood cleanses us yes, but we are to be walking in the light as He is - we are to be walking in His instructions with a perfect heart inclining to walk in the perfect knowledge of His Loving Word!

Gen 17:2 “And I give My covenant between Me and you, and shall greatly increase you.”

Gen 17:3 And Abram fell on his face, and Elohim spoke with him, saying,

Gen 17:4 “As for Me, look, My covenant is with you, and you shall become a father of many nations.

Gen 17:5 “And no longer is your name called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, because I shall make you a father of many nations.

Gen 17:6 “And I shall make you exceedingly fruitful, and make nations of you, and sovereigns shall come from you.

Gen 17:7 “And I shall establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be Elohim to you and your seed after you.

Gen 17:8 “And I shall give to you and your seed after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Kena’an, as an everlasting possession. And I shall be their Elohim.”

Gen 17:9 And Elohim said to Abraham, “As for you, guard My covenant, you and your seed after you throughout their generations.”

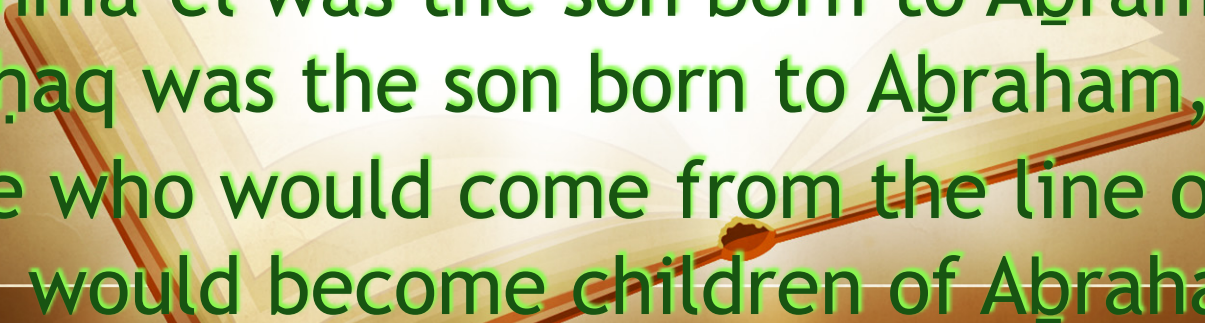
Verse 2-9

יהוה declares to Abram that He gives His Covenant between Himself and Abram and gives the sure promise of greatly increasing him, telling him that he will be the father of many nations!

It is here that Abram's name is changed to Abraham, and so, his name would no longer just mean, "exalted father", but now it would mean, "father of a multitude"!

And not only will the nations, through him, be fruitful, but sovereigns would come from him - ultimately of course, we see again the promise of the Reign of the Sovereign Messiah being given here!

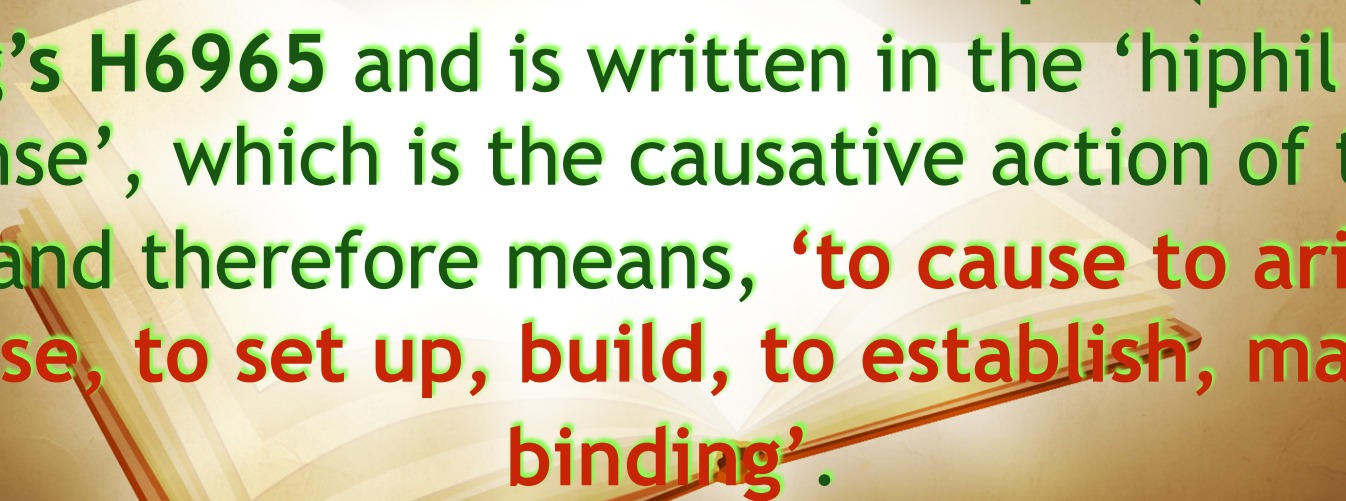
The I AM - the One who causes us to be, was telling Abraham that He would cause Abraham to be a fruitful father of many!



There was a great shift happening here, as we certainly recognize that a name change represented a change in ‘essence’ which was taken very seriously; and it is worth noting that Yishma’ēl was the son born to Abram, while Yitshāq was the son born to Abraham, and so, those who would come from the line of Yitshāq would become children of Abraham!

In **verse 7** we are able to see a powerful establishment of an everlasting covenant being made complete in the seed of Abraham!





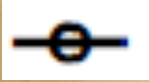
The Hebrew word that is translated as ‘establish’ comes from the root verb קוּם qum (koom)- Strong’s H6965 and is written in the ‘hiphil active tense’, which is the causative action of the root, and therefore means, ‘to cause to arise, to raise, to set up, build, to establish, make binding’.

As we consider this root word קוּם qum - Strong's H6965, in the ancient pictographic script, we are able to see how we have been caused to be built up and established in our Master, and it is pictures as follows:




Three pictographic symbols are shown in blue ink on a white rectangular background. From left to right: a wavy line representing a mountain or a building; a vertical line with a horizontal bar at the top, representing a person or a structure; and a circle with a horizontal line through its center, representing a sun or a moon.

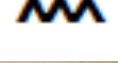
Quph - :ק

This is the letter 'quph', which is pictured as , and is a 'horizon' and depicts the elements of 'time', as it pictures the sun in its rising and setting. It therefore carries the meaning of 'circle' or 'to go around', representing for us both, appointed cycles or times as well as eternity and speaks of continual adherence to the Appointed Times.

Waw/Vav - ו

The ancient script has this letter pictured as , which is a 'peg or tent peg', which was used for securing or tying the tent or other items. The possibility of it having a Y-shape is to show that it prevents the rope from slipping off. The root meaning of this letter is 'to add, secure or hook'.

Mem - :D

The ancient script has this letter as and is pictured as  'water', and also carries the meaning of 'chaos' (from the storms of the sea) and can also picture that which is mighty or massive as well as the unknown. We are also able to understand this letter as representing the nations, for the nations are often likened to the seas in Scripture. This also carries for us the picture of washing, as we understand the function of water being that which cleanses us and sustains us, showing us how we are washed and sustained by the Living Waters of the Word! This letter also can represent any liquid, especially **blood** that flows!

With this picture representing the understanding of being established in Covenant, we are able to see the following meaning:

**CONTINUALLY/FOREVER
SECURED BY THE WASHING!**



This highlights how our Husband, **יהושע** Messiah, washes us through His Word, having shed His Blood for us, once for all time and therefore, we have been given access to His continual cleansing that establishes us and secures us as His set-apart and washed covenant bride!

Eph'siyim/Ephesians 5:25-27 “Husbands, love your wives, as Messiah also did love the assembly and gave Himself for it, 26 in order to set it apart and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, 27 in order to present it to Himself a splendid assembly, not having spot or wrinkle or any of this sort, but that it might be set-apart and blameless.”