

Assemblies of יהוה

Ministries Newsletter

יהוה = Yahweh; ישוע = Yahshua

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Executive Body Meeting, Visakhapatnam, Dec. 14

On Dec. 14 at 10am in the morning there will be an Executive Body meeting for the Assemblies of יהוה Ministries. During this time we will distribute official ordination certificates to all the pastors on our body.

Pastor Requirements

Num. 4:46,47 states that the sons of Aaron that were involved in the care of the Tabernacle in the wilderness had to reach thirty years of age before entering the work of the sanctuary. Num 8:23,24 states that the general Levites that were not Aarons sons could start the service at the age of 25. There needs to be some time for a person to grow and become somewhat experienced in life before entering the service of יהוה, thus the necessity of the age requirements.

Someone might be doing the work of a pastor before the age of thirty but we will give an ordination certificate only to those having reached the age of thirty. This was the age ישוע Mashiach started His ministry, Lk.3:23. A Levite or priest was to be one that knew and lived the Law of יהוה and was to be an example to the others in word and deed, thus the Pastors that are leading congregations today should have an exemplary life of Torah obedience, especially to the Ten Commandments.

In 1Tim. 3:1-7 the apostle Paul gave some good counsel for elders in the Assembly. He said, "... If a man desire the office of a bishop(elder), he desires a good work. ²A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, of sound mind, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; ³Not given to wine, not violent, not greedy of money; but reasonable, not quarrelsome, not covetous; ⁴One that rules well his own house, having his children in subjection with all reverence; ⁵(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Assembly of Elohim?) ⁶Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall, as the devil did, into condemnation. ⁷Moreover he must have a good report of them which are outside; that he fall not into reproach, and into a snare of the devil."

All pastors desiring an ordination certificate should bring a passport size photo with them, which will be attached to the certificate.

The statement of beliefs of the Assemblies of יהוה Ministries will be listed on the back of the ordination certificate and the pastors must sign their name in agreeance with those principles.

Ordination is man's recognition of יהוה's calling on someone's life. This ordination certificate can be used by our pastor's to obtain a marriage license from the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Shofar's available

Ps. 81:3, 4 says, "At the new moon, sound the shofar, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day. ⁴For this was a statute for Ysrael, and a law of the Elohim of Yacob."

In Num. 10 יהוה commanded two silver trumpets to be blown during the new moon day celebrations, and other celebrations, by the priests of Ysrael. But the word "shofar" in Ps. 81 refers mainly to a curved animal horn such as a ram. Thus it appears that the common people had a practice of blowing a curved horn during the special worship days.

Br. D. Karunakar from Tanuku, W.G. dt. has made some rams horn shofars that he is selling for 600 rupees a piece. The shofars can be ordered by contacting the address at the end of this newsletter.

Telugu Sacred Name song and worship CD's

The Assembly of יהוה in Visakhapatnam owns and runs their own recording studio and they have recently recorded a third CD entitled "Scriptural praise songs". This new CD plus their two previous CD's, Yarushalema and Springs in the Desert are available on one CD for 100Rs., plus postage and packing in India would be 30Rs. This would be a total of 23 songs and musicals in all. Contact the address at the end of this newsletter for ordering.

Hebrew Roots Telugu Bible-Parishuda Lekhanamulu

Get the new Telugu Bible "Parishuda Lekhanamulu" while supplies last. This is a ten book version containing the books of Gen.-Dt. and Matt. – Acts. This Bible uses the Hebrew letters for the Name of the Father and Son; and many common Hebrew words are used in the text such as: Torah, Shalom, Shabbat, etc... plus the names of all people and places are transliterated into Hebrew. 100Rs per copy plus postage.

Eighth day Circumcision, why?

In Gen.17:10-12 יהוה told Abraham, "This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your seed after you; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. ¹¹And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant between Me and you. ¹²And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of your seed."

The eighth day was given by יהוה El Shaddai as the day in which circumcision of a young male was to be performed, ישוע Mashiach Himself was circumcised on the eighth day in accordance with Lev.12:1-3; but why the eighth day? Why not the third, fourth or fifth day? Is there any scientific reason why it should only be on the eighth day? Modern science has discovered the reason why יהוה required this operation on the eighth day.

Dr. S.I. McMillen, M.D., in his book, None of these Diseases, explains how that the blood clotting ability of a newborn child does not start to develop until about the fifth day of a newborns life, and on the eighth day the blood clotting ability shoots up 110%, so the eighth day is the best time for any operation.

The American Medical Association recommends circumcision for all newborn males as it has been shown that circumcised boys are ten times less likely to get urinary tract infections or other such problem than uncircumcised males.

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If circumcision is healthy to do, then why did יהוה give males a foreskin to begin with? יהוה could have made men without a foreskin.

In the beginning when man was created we did not wear clothes as we do now, and thus the foreskin was a necessary protection in that area. But from the time Adam and Chawah(Eve) sinned יהוה gave clothes for man to wear. Because of the clothes we now wear the foreskin is not necessary and unless cared for properly that area of a man can get infected and cause problems. Circumcision is also good for the wife of a man; this is shown by the fact that Jewish ladies have the lowest incidence of the female types of health problems of all groups of people. One reason for the low incidence of female health problems is that Jewish ladies husbands are usually circumcised. Another reason for this low incidence of female health problems is that Jewish couples will generally follow the counsel of Lev. 15:19-28 that requires them to abstain from sexual relations for seven days out of each month from the time that the lady starts her monthly period.

The child that was circumcised on the eighth day had made no decision to neither follow the Creator nor keep His commandments, so circumcision was more than just a sign of the covenant as the child did not even know the covenant of יהוה on the eighth day of his life. Circumcision was then also a health law.

Wearing clothes is necessary for us now in this world, thus circumcision is a good healthy practice for all men today. In the new heaven and earth יהוה will restore all things back to the original plan for earth and we will get new bodies, see Rev. 21:4,5; Micah 4:8; Job 19:25-27; 1Cor.15:51-54. Then, all circumcised men will probably get their foreskins back at that time.

Circumcision and the New Testament Assembly

In Acts 15 the issue of circumcision caused a major debate in the early Mashianic Assembly. Some the Yahudites that had accepted ישוע as Mashiach demanded that the Gentile believers must also be circumcised and keep all the Torah of Moshe before being added to the Assembly. The apostles and leading elders met in Yahrushalem to discuss this issue.

Finally, they decided on a judgement, they declared, *“that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to Elohim: ²⁰But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. ²¹For Moshe of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbat.”* Acts 15:19-21

Thus, neither circumcision nor the observance of all the minute precepts of the Torah of Moshe were mandatory upon the new Gentile believers before they could join the Mashianic Assembly of יהוה. Neither were the Yahudites required to stop their observance of all the Torah of Moshe. Slowly but surely as the Gentile believers kept coming for Shabbat services each week, the Torah would be read and they would eventually have the opportunity to incorporate all of יהוה's goods precepts into their lifestyle. But, how did someone join the Mashianic Assembly of יהוה?

In Acts 2 when many were assembled in Yahrushalem to keep the festival of Shavuot, Kepha and the other disciples preached ישוע as יהוה's Mashiach to the Yahudites that were gathered there. Upon hearing Kepha's words the people asked “brother, what shall we do?” Kepha replied, *“Repent, and be immersed every one of you in the Name of ישוע Mashiach for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”* and *“those who accepted his message were immersed, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.”* vs. 37, 38, 41. Thus we see that new believers were added to the Mashianic Assembly through immersion in water in ישוע Mashiach's Name.

To learn and practice the Torah of יהוה is the work of a lifetime and none were to be prematurely pushed into complete Torah compliance. As they slowly started to learn, grow and ask questions they were to be instructed and encouraged even as a small plant that is very fragile and needing support at first, eventually after many years will grow into a strong tree.

“The path of the righteous is as the shining light, that shines more and more until the perfect day.” Proverbs. 4:18

Working in the Gulf and Sabbath keeping

In India today it is common for many people to go and work in the gulf countries as the salaries are much higher. So many Indians are doing all types of work ranging from menial labor jobs to higher paid technical jobs. The conditions for doing such jobs will usually be by contract for extended periods of time, taking up to several years.

This Gulf labor has helped so many families to put their children through college, build nice houses etc... But for a worshipper of יהוה is this labor in the gulf appropriate?

All of the gulf countries that Indians are working in are Islamic and Sabbath keeping is generally not allowed. I have talked to one man whose daughter was working in Kuwait and he told me that she gets off on Saturday, but this is the only incident I have ever heard of anyone being able to keep Sabbath in their gulf labors. Everyone else that I have talked to that has worked in the gulf has told me that they either have to work seven days per week or will only get Sunday off.

The enticement of a large salary at home or abroad has lead many Assembly members to knowingly transgress the fourth commandment and thus forfeit the blessing of יהוה. יהוה stated in Yeshayah 56:1,2 *“for My salvation is near to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. ²Blessed is the man that does this, and the son of man that lays hold on it; that keeps the shabbat from polluting it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.”*

To obtain the blessing of יהוה should be the most important goal of our life. If we lose the blessing of יהוה we have lost everything. It is Satan studied aim to get us to transgress the Commandments of יהוה. Once we knowingly consent to transgress יהוה's commandments we have lost all in the battle of life and will be numbered with the unrighteous, unless we repent and forsake our sin.

Assemblies of יהוה Ministries contacts:

G. Raja Prasad	bro. Matithyah
9-9-43 Mangapuram Colony	email - Yahweh@vsnl.com
Vishakapatnam, A.P. 53001	www.sevendayweek.com
0891-2575569 or 9848112403	9951816038