

# Assemblies of Yahweh Ministries Newsletter

Oct. 2009 India 28th Issue

## Sukkot Tabernacles 2009

The new moon of the seventh month was seen over most of the world on Sept. 20 thus making Sept. 21 the first day of the seventh month, for those that start the month by the visible crescent. Yom Kippur will be on Sept. 30. Sukkot festivals dates would be from the end of Oct 4 to the end of Oct. 12.

An eight day festival will be observed at the following locations in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India:

**Kambotlapalem**, W.G. dt. – Pastors M. Hariem, M. David, V. Abino, K. Iesu Dass, G. Karunakar, K. Raja Rao, br. Alex Jay, contact numbers – 9951279199, 08814-227571, 08814-252478

**Hyderabad** – Pastor Y. Sunith Premanand – 9866485304

**Visakhapatnam** – br & sis. G. Raja Prasad, Pas. P.

Prakash, br. K. John Babu – 9705262146

**Eathakota**, E.G. dt. – br. M. Madhu Babu – 9959683503

**Malkapuram**, W.G. dt. – Pas. V. Nova - 9395313732

## AOYM Annual Body Meeting – 2009

The annual body meeting of the Assemblies of Yahweh Ministries will be held on **Oct. 25, 26** starting at 10am on Oct. 25. All body members are required to come, if you cannot come notify either President Raja Prasad or General Secretary Y. Sunith Premanand at the numbers above.

Current members of the body:

1. G. Raja Prasad, President, Visakhapatnam.;
2. MPS Raju, Reddy Polavaram Vice President, W.G. Dt.;
3. Y. Sunith Premanand, General Secretary, Hyderabad;
4. G. Sarojini, Joint Secretary, Vizak.;
5. Tony B. Suckla, Treasurer, Kambotlapalem, W.G. dt.;
6. M. Hariem, Joint Treasurer Palakol, W.G. dt.;
7. B. Aquilla, Lankapalem, W.G. dt.;
8. D. Devasahayam, Ayyapapagudem, W.G. dt.;
9. br. Vivek, Warangal dt.;
10. D. Samuel Paul, Rajamundry, E.G. dt.;
11. David Mandru, Abirajupalem, W.G. dt.;
12. M. Elijah, Khammam, Khammam dt.;
13. K. John Babu, Vizak.;
14. M. Madhu Babu, Gopalapuram, EG dt.;
15. N. Mani Kumar, Kakinada, EG dt.;
16. K. Moses, Manchili, W.G. dt.;
17. B. Prabhu Dass, Srikakulam dt.;
18. B. Prasad, Seethamcheruvu, W.G. dt.;
19. P. Premramanada, Vaddadi, Vizak dt.;
20. K. Raja Rao, Elamanchili, W.G. dt.;
21. M. Ranadhir, Illandu, Khamman dt.;
22. R. Ratna Paul, Rampuram, Khamman dt.;
23. V. Nova, Mandaville, Krishna, dt.;
24. G. Samson, Gorantla, Guntur dt.;
25. P. Solomon Raju, Palakolu, W.G. dt.;
26. V. Abino, Rajamundry, E.G. dt.;
27. Kakara Yadidiyah, Payakarao peta, Vizak dt.;
28. G. Karunakar, Tanuku, W.G. dt.;
29. DSVM Raju, Kambotlapalem, W.G. dt.;
30. K. Moshe, Mandavalle, Krishna dt.;
31. P. John Keats, Kambotlapalem, W.G. dt.;
32. P. Swarna Latha, Kambotlapalem, W.G. dt.;
33. Y. Jeremiah, Kalakota, Khamman dt.;
34. G. Vijay, Vizak.;
35. K. Iesu Dass, Tanuku, W.G. dt.;
36. P. Prakash, Vizak dt.;
37. M. Sam Roshan, Rajamundry

## Keeping Sabbath Holy

The fourth commandment instructs us to “Remember the Sabbath day, by keeping it holy(set apart)” Ex. 20:8. In Ex.31:12-17 and 35:2 Yahweh commanded death to be the punishment for someone who knowingly “worked” on the Sabbath day. Yahweh claims that keeping the Sabbath day set apart(holy) is the sign that we are His people, Ex.31:12-17; Eze.20:12,20. This is a serious issue that demands the attention of all. So how does one keep the Sabbath day holy?

The fourth commandment says, “the seventh day is a Sabbath to Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work”. The Hebrew word for “work” is “malawkah” and means in English - deputyship, non-servile work, property. These words include most works that someone could be involved with such as teaching in schools, computer programmers, bank workers, agricultural labors, construction, etc.... But, what about jobs that require attending to in order to save life? The priests in the temple were paid for the service they performed with the tithes of the people and the priests had to do their various works of sacrifices and ceremonies on Sabbath, see Num. 28:9,10. Also, some jobs such as doctors, nurses, firemen, and police require 24 hour workers in order to maintain life. Thus it is lawful to do some works upon Sabbath in order to maintain life, physically and spiritually.

## Sabbath Technicalities, Cooking food?

In looking at the following issues two people might have differing views on some of these verses, as they might not be 100% clear, so we should have tolerance for those holding a sincere but differing view.

In Ex. 16:5 Yahweh said, “And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.” In vs. 23 we read, “This is what Yahweh commanded: Tomorrow is to be a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahweh. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.”

On the sixth day of the week the Israelites were to bake or boil the manna, and any amount not eaten could be kept till the next day without spoiling, whereas normally the manna would spoil if kept till the next day. Yahweh rested on the Sabbath(Ex.20:11) and thus we should try to get all major food preparations done before the Sabbath, so that we also can rest.

Ex. 35:3 says, “You shall kindle no fire in any of your dwellings upon the Sabbath day.” The Hebrew word for kindle is “baar” and although the first meaning is “burn, consume”, an earlier meaning is “seek out, collect, glean”; this can be seen in the Briggs, Driver and Brown Hebrew Lexicon. This meaning is alluded to in Dt. 26:14; 2Sam.4:11; 1Kings 14:10.

So this verse is saying one should not gather or collect things for making a fire on the Sabbath day. This is what happened in Num. 15:32-36, “And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. <sup>33</sup>And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moshe and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. <sup>34</sup>And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. <sup>35</sup>And Yahweh said unto Moshe, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him

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with stones without the camp. <sup>36</sup>And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as Yahweh commanded Moshe.” This man was not put to death for starting a fire. He was put to death for (kindling) “gathering sticks” on Sabbath (which he would later use for making a fire), and this is what Ex. 35:3 specifically forbids. All unnecessary works with fire should be avoided on the Sabbath such as burning trash, grass, making bonfires, etc...but sometimes small fires are necessary for life on the Sabbath day, such as if the electricity suddenly goes off and a candle is needed, or for warming foods that were previously cooked and would spoil if not warmed on the Sabbath day, etc...

In Ex.16:29 Moshe wrote, “See, because Yahweh has given the Sabbath to you, therefore He is giving you two days of bread on the sixth day. Each one of you is to remain in his place, do not let anyone go out from his place on the seventh day” . Later, Yahweh commanded that on the Sabbath we should have a “*holy convocation*”, see Lev. 23:3. So it is permitted to travel on Sabbath to have a holy convocation.

### **Watching television, reading newspapers, playing sports, going to worldly entertainments on the Sabbath**

Isa. 58:13,14 says, “If you turn away your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day; and call the shabbat a delight, the holy of Yahweh, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words: <sup>14</sup>Then you shall delight yourself in Yahweh; and I will cause you to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.” Notice, we should not do our “own pleasure” on Shabbat, nor even speak our “own words”. This is a day to be set apart for Yahweh. When one engages in worldly activities on Shabbat, is he keeping Sabbath day set apart?

The Apostle Paul exhorts us, “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” How many television programs would meet this standard? Most television programs would not be suitable on any day of the week, much less Shabbat.

### **Within your gates**

“But the seventh day is a sabbath to Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shalt not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger that is within your gates:”

Ex.20:8 We are not accountable for what is outside our authority, but we are held accountable for what is within our dominion. The owners of property should be careful that the Sabbath day is honored by all residing on their premises; even animals, servants, and strangers were required to abstain from work on Shabbat.

### **Buying and selling on Sabbath day**

In the days of Nehemiah the Ysraelites were buying food and other items on Shabbat from the Gentiles around Yarushalem. What did Nehemiah think about this?

“There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbat unto the children of Yahudah, and in Yarushalem. <sup>17</sup>Then I contended with the nobles of Yahudah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day? <sup>18</sup>Did not your fathers thus, and did not our Elohim bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Ysrael by profaning the sabbath. <sup>19</sup>And it came to pass, that when the gates of Yarushalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day. <sup>20</sup>So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Yarushalem once or twice. <sup>21</sup>Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath.”

Neh. 13:16-21 So Nehemiah saw buying and selling of food and other items on Shabbat as a great evil that would bring the curses of Yahweh on the Ysraelites.

Isa. 56:1,2 says, “Thus saith Yahweh, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. <sup>2</sup>Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.” Yahweh pronounces blessings upon the one who diligently keeps the Sabbath, but great curses come to the one that knowingly transgresses. The Sabbath is the “sign” that shows that Yahweh is our

Elohim(Eze.20:20). Willful transgression of the Sabbath day is dishonor and disrespect to the One who created the Sabbath day. This issue has become a test of loyalty to the citizens of India as most government and private jobs and schools require attendance on the Sabbath day.

Yahweh does not require us to do something without providing a way to do it. He told the children of Israel to go into the wilderness where there was no food and water but Yahweh opened the door for them to be able to stay there and grow strong. He will do the same for us today. “Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of Yahweh.” Ps. 119:1

### **Nazarene Israel book in Telugu**

Br. K. John Babu from Visakhapatnam has recently translated the book Nazarene Israel into the language of Telugu. This book shows how that modern Christianity is a corrupted version of the true faith that was delivered to the Apostles of Yahshua. Furthermore, the book shows what the characteristics of the true faith are and how to join with Yahweh’s true people today. This book is available for Rs. 50 from the address listed below. The English version can be ordered at: nazareneisrael.org

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