Red Letter Edition

What did Jesus Say?



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The **Red Letter** Edition-



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WHO IS IN CHARGE HERE?

ow is it that ye can discern the face of the sky ... but ye cannot discern the signs of the time?

THE DAY OF TRUMPETS IS NOW PAST (Sunset 9/17-9/18/6012)

The chodesh, the renewed moon, is named so for the idea of *renewal*. The average protestant who teaches on the "New Covenant" prophesied in Jeremiah 31:31, "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a **new** covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah...", does so from a frame of understanding that YHVH will make a brand new covenant with His people. This idea comes from the lack of understanding about what a covenant IS.

A RENEWED COVENANT IS A NEW COVENANT!

A promise or covenant is FOREVER. A broken covenant is not renegotiated; rather it is either broken and ended in disgrace, or it is *RE*newed with fresh assurances of compliance on both parts. Jehovah had no interest in creating a *new* covenant; His interest was to *RE*new the covenant that was broken by *our* non-compliance. There was nothing wrong with the old covenant. The plan to redeem us by faith in Jehovah, coupled with the design to cleanse us by the sacrifice of Messiah, was fully capable to save us and make us as we should be, but *we* were not able to fulfill it.

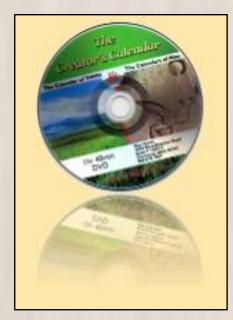
This is the *good news* of the Gospel. Jesus came to make changes within us. He "... hath made us meet (able) to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints..." (Colossians 1:12).

So, why make a NEW covenant? HE didn't. HE *renewed* the same covenant He made with Abraham centuries before. This is the idea in the word "chadash" {khaw-dawsh'} it is a *RE*newal of something preexisting. The idea is to refresh, or to make the same new again!

What we call the "New Testament" is, in Hebrew, the Brit (Covenant) Chadasha (Renewed). This is another subject for another day.

Notice the similarity in the words "chadash" and "chodesh". These words are related in *definition* as well. The chodesh is a *RE*newal of the *same* moon. We are not given a brand new

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moon each month, but a reappearance of an old moon that has departed the sky. It comes, grows, then, as the month passes, it becomes smaller and smaller until it finally becomes invisible to us. It remains invisible for several days, and then it renews and comes back into view. The initial sighting of this renewed moon is the *chodesh*. The appearance of the chodesh is the beginning of each month.

Exodus 12:2, "This month (chodesh = crescent) shall be unto you the beginning of months..."

IT IS A QUESTION OF AUTHORITY

It all comes down to a matter of authority. *WHO* says *WHEN* the Feasts begin and end?

You see, there are a lot of people who *do not trust* their relationship with their God. YHVH gave us a calendar to live by. The "church" has swindled the calendar's divine calculation and made it their own. The Catholic Church made *their* own calendar and the Jews made *their* own calendar.

For years, the calendar was perfectly understandable by man. We did not need mathematical know-how or highly capable computers, or a team of men to work out the "errors" in order to know the times and seasons or of the year. We simply looked upwards. The calendar has always there in the sky for us – and it remains there to this day!

The religious leadership decided that we do not have the right or privilege to make the determination of days and months and years. THEY would do it for us.

BUT, WHY WOULD YHVH GIVE US APPOINTMENTS, HOLD US ACCOUNTABLE FOR KEEPING THEM, AND THEN MAKE US DEPENDANT UPON SINFUL MEN TO TELL US WHEN THESE DAYS WERE?

He wouldn't!

BUT, DO WE REALLY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO CALCULATE AND LIVE BY THE CALENDAR GIVEN BY THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE?

Yes, you do!

It is plainly outlined in the Scripture. Again, it is a matter of **authority**. Here's a great example:

The Catholic Church, via Father Enwright (instructor at Redemptress College of America), perfectly demonstrates the Catholic Church's authority by stating, "It was the Holy Catholic Church that **changed** the day of rest from Saturday to Sunday, the first day of the week. And it not only compelled all to keep Sunday Sabbath, but it urged all persons to labor on the seventh day under pain of anathema (a curse of excommunication). **Protestants profess great reverence for the Bible, and yet, by their solemn act of keeping**

Sunday, they acknowledge the power of the Catholic Church. The bible says remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. But the Catholic Church says, "Keep the first day of the week'. And, lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church."

So, although there is not a shred of Scripture to verify the Sabbath has changed from Saturday to Sunday, by the very fact that nearly *ALL* of Christendom keeps the first day of the week rather than the seventh, as the Scriptures plainly declare, the average Christian proves the **authority of the Pope to change the Scripture**, all the while shouting "Sola Scriptura!" (The Scriptures only.)

If this principle is brought forward to the subject of the calendars, we, by keeping the days the Jews, Catholics or other men, declare authority *other than that of YHVH*. If we keep any other calendar, we succumb to their authority and disrespect the God whose authority has never been relegated.

The Red Words, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." (Matthew 24:36)

The Catholic Church cannot tell us the day. The Jewish leadership cannot tell us the day. NO MAN can tell us the day. Jesus said there is a day approaching that "...no man knows." Wouldn't it be a shame that "no man knows" simply because no man bothered to obey His printed instructions?

THE LAST TRUMP

In these last days we will see what no one has ever seen. It is very likely that we will see the *Day of the LORD* and we will hear the *Last Trump*!

What are we looking for? A DAY! What are we listing for? THE LAST TRUMP!

Has it occurred to you yet? It will be the Day of Trumpets! Doesn't make sense to use the calendar that Jehovah gave us for that very purpose?

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT (Sundown, 9/26-9/27/6012)

The Day of Atonement is upon us again. Set aside this day before the Lord YHVH for fasting and affliction.

What do you think when you think about *your* atonement? Many people do not even know what atonement means. It is commonly confused with forgiveness, or the payment for sin. In actuality, there is no payment for sin. The idea for sin payment comes from the false doctrine commonly known as the "Eternal Security of the Believer" which, they say, means that our sins have been paid for past, present and future. Though this idea is commonly preached from nearly every pulpit there is not a shred of Scripture to bear this out. Rather the Scriptures teach exactly the *opposite*:

Paul states in Romans 3:25, "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his

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righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God...."

John writes in His first epistle, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1:9) and "... if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous...And he is the **propitiation** for our sins..."(2:1-3)

Here it is plain that the sins of the *past* are covered by propitiation and the sins that are present are as well. But, why didn't these Apostles mention the sins of future? Because propitiation cannot cover what has yet to be.

Before we delve into the meaning of propitiation, consider for a moment the idea of prepayment for sin. How did this idea become so universal? Prepayment for sin was not uncommon in Martin Luther's day. If you remember church history you will recall that *indulgence* was the subject igniting the fire that burned in Martin Luther resulting in the 95 theses being hammered to the door of the Roman Church. Indulgences were sins, bought and paid for *IN ADVANCE*!

All this being said, how does propitiation (Greek hilasterion {hilas-tay'-ree-on}) fit into our holy Day of Atonement? It turns out that in the Septuagint version of the Hebrew Scriptures these words (hilasterion and epikalupto) were used in conjunction to form the thought of a covering that facilitates forbearance of judgment. They were translated "mercy seat" or "favor covering."

WHAT?

In plain language, the words were typified in the mercy seat — which was a covering (Kapereth {Hebrew} and epikalupto {Greek}) of the Ark of the Covenant. This covering was not only intended to *keep safe* the tablet of stone in the ark, but held the Law from view (so-to-speak).

This Law condemned us who would otherwise have no communion with YHVH at all.

"Atonement" has nearly the same meaning. No, what you likely learned in Sunday School that atonement means at-ONE-ment has no validity at all! Atonement does not make us "at one" with the LORD but merely *covers* our sinfulness until we are eventually and finally redeemed.

Romans 4:7, "... Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered."

In addition "... we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ ... So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." (Romans 14:10-12.)

Even the words of Messiah Himself leave no room for doubt that even our speech will be judged one day, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." (Matthew 12:36)

It becomes clear that although we may be forgiven and have been reconciled to our God and great Judge in this life, we have YET to be saved from destruction. I know this is hard for the religious to hear, but it is borne upon many Scriptures and sets as truth in the ears and hearts of believers whose faith is rooted in truth. We all know that this doctrine is true.

This brings us to the Day of Atonement. The Hebrew name of this day is Yom (Day) [of] Kippur (Covering). Notice the similarity of the words "Kappereth" and "Kippur". They are from the same word root which *means* covering. Kippur is translated in the Old Testament as "atonements." (Should we call it Day of Atonements?)

In order to put us in the right frame of mind for atonement, the LORD YHVH gave us this day of affliction. This is a day of no comforts – no food – no pleasure – no ease. We are to physically put ourselves in the frame of mind that we are awaiting judgment and have hope (but only *hope*) of our salvation.

Have you ever heard said, "I couldn't go to hell if I wanted to"?

Although we may never be so bold (or stupid) to say such a thing, we should remember that our salvation is based in love – His love for us – not our love for Him (for that is severely wanting in many areas) and not for our *faith* in Him (for that is proven daily to be weak as water) but for the lone fact that He loved us and gave Himself for us.

The Day of Atonement is a day of humility and fear. Humility, because we do not deserve it – fear, because our forgiveness and atonement is out of our control. These are the very characteristics that should show themselves predominant in our lives and speech. They should also be found in our attitude about our own salvation.

On that great Day of Atonement in our future, we will wait in anxiety and fear. Our stomachs will growl for food has been made low priority. Our own comfort and convenience has been placed on hold, and our very lives will hang in the balance. No one will be proud on that day. No one will have the assurances they brag about now, but "every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess to God."

Salvation is based in His love and is totally outside of your own will. Those who have "accepted Jesus" will one day (that great Day of Atonement) wonder ... "Has He accepted me?"

Read Ephesians 2:1-22 with a renewed sense of appreciation of HIS salvation:

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air ... But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved) And hath raised us up together, and

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made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his **grace** in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by **grace** are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh ... at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye ... are made nigh by the blood of Christ ... that he might reconcile both unto God For through him we have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone..."

THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES (Sunset, 10/1 – 10/8/6012) "And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always. ... Then shalt thou turn it [your Tithe] into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household," (Deuteronomy 14:23-26)

REPENT AND REPLACE

Clear instructions were given to remove places, signs and symbols of any other gods or methods of worship that might enable anything other than the way HE instructed.

"Ye shall utterly destroy all the places, wherein the nations which ye shall possess served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under every green tree: And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place." (Deuteronomy 12)

Contrary to the clear instruction of Jehovah to the children of Israel, the outcome must have been like, "Hey I have an idea -- instead of destroying all these pretty Christmas ornaments, let's offer them to YHVH! We can learn how the pagans worship their gods and do it for OUR GOD!"

"But when ye go over Jordan ...take heed to thyself ... Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever, take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise [to my God]."

"Thou shalt not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods ..."

"What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

Are the Feasts of the Lord YHVH for those who continue to keep the pagan holidays?

THE LAST GREAT DAY (Sunset, 10/8 – 10/9/6012)

Zephaniah 1:14-18, "The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land."

John 7:37, "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."

Jude 1:6, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."

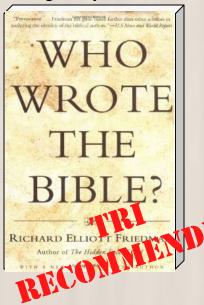
Revelation 6:17, "For the **great day of his wrath is** come; and who shall be able to stand?"



"Ye shall **not** do so unto the LORD **your** God."

Who Wrote the Bible? Richard Elliott Friedman

Have you ever considered why there are so many contradictory stories in the Bible? In fact, you don't have to look any further than the first two chapters of Genesis for a clear example. Genesis chapter one declares that Elohim created the heavens and the earth, then the plants and animals, and finally man and his help-meet, woman. On the other hand, in chapter two Jehovah fashions man FIRST, then the plants and animals, and ultimately woman out of man's rib. So which story is correct? Does it matter to you that both accounts are completely opposite of one another? I remember when this question was asked of me. I was sitting in my Western Civilization class in college and my Philosophy



professor put those same two chapters from Genesis up on the overhead for closer inspection. He then proceeded to systematically ruin the faith of every student in the room. Let's face it... if we can't defend our belief in Jehovah and the Scriptures, we are dead in the water.

I recently read the book Who Wrote the Bible? by Richard Elliott Friedman, and this book helped me to understand why discrepancies such as these exist. This book was so compelling and so well written that I literally could not put it down. With clarity and insight, Mr. Friedman explains several theories concerning who wrote the first five books of the

Bible. He concludes early on in his ten year study that Moses certainly could NOT have written the Torah, as is believed by mainstream Christianity and Judaism. Fried-

man contends that there are actually four separate authors of the Torah, with a fifth person acting as an editor to compile the books in the order that we read them now. You will have to read to discover who these men and women may be and how both the political and religious philosophies of Ancient Israel have shaped their writings. Whether or not you agree with the findings of his book, Mr. Friedman challenges us to make sense of what we read in the Bible and to continue to have faith in Jehovah, whose Spirit unequivocally inspired the Scriptures we know today.

~ A ThINKer

Letters to Don & Pam

I am a Pentecostal Preachers kid. My sister was introduced to your site and has been talking to me about it. Can you tell me where on your site to start researching the information that would make the best sense? When my sister and I speak I feel like she is flooding me with information and in no particular order. Thank you. (NM)

Thank you for your wonderful calendar. Although I have been pondering Messianic Faith for a few years, I have recently decided it's time to starting walking the walk and am going to start observing the Biblical Festivals/ Holy Days. It has been difficult finding a calendar looking forward that gives a reasonable estimate of what the new lunar months in Israel will be, and [a friend] referred me to your site. I look forward to exploring your site and ministry! Thanks again! (CO)

... We love truth and we love learning from all your materials and learning to hear His voice. Its been a lonely walk but wouldn't have it any other way. Truth is more important than belonging. Love you all! (MT)

I listen to [NAME] teachings through drop box, since I live to far away to attend his fellowship, in the Atlanta, Georgia area. I have heard him mention you in his teachings. Thank you so much for what I have already discovered. I hope to learn and discover more. (IN)

We live in 'the middle of no-where' in Ireland, and only have an 'online' community. We as a family really appreciate your online videos, thank you very much. God Bless you all, (IRELAND)

We pray that Don heals quickly and perfect PEACE for both of you during this time!! (KS)

We heard you on GLC for awhile and then got side tracked with Bible study (no good) and attended a local church with friends, left them and attended another church. Lots of love - but starving. We got out our Red Letter Questions and came to your web site and thank you. We feel so fed and loved. We would like to ask for the end times series. We have several of your other materials. Thank you, Jesus, for the red letter ministry in the two of you. Love (CO)