5. ACTS

(Version 6.4: 10-28-17)

Chapter 1

Acts 1:1 This is the first account I have made, oh friend of YAHWEH.

of all that YAHUSHUA began, both doing and teaching,

Theophilus – friend of "God".

This is not likely to be the name of an individual. It's difficult to ascribe The Book of Acts as being written to only one person.

It seems far more likely this is a metaphor for anyone who is a "friend of YAHWEH".

YAHUSHUA is the personal name of The Messiah.

It means YAH saves or delivers; YAH is deliverance.

It's a duplication of the name, Joshua, Yehoshua. (More correctly, Yahoshua.)

Indeed, in Acts 7.45, Col. 4.11, and Heb. 4.8 there are errors involving this very name. There, "Jesus" is substituted for "Joshua" **incorrectly** in the King Ya'akob Version of The Bible. (And many others.) (Ya'akob is James in most English "translations".) This reveals the error.

The Messiah's name was NEVER "Jesus",

which in Greek is lesous.

The Hebrew Messiah

would NEVER have been given a Greek name!

Acts 1:2 until the day in which He was taken up, having given instructions by means of a Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH to the ambassadors whom He had chosen

pneumatos hagiou - by tradition "The Holy Spirit".
Literally it means. - a breath sacred.
(There is no article before it in the Greek text.).

Holy means to be sacred, to be set apart for a special purpose, sanctified.

pneumatos - a current of air, i.e. breath or breeze.

hagion - sacred (physically pure, morally blameless or religious, ceremonially consecrated)

Since the Book of Acts is central to the concept of "the pouring out of The Holy Spirit" it's vital to identify the terms used and to give their correct meanings.

This will seriously challenge most "traditional" believers.

It means "The Holy Spirit" is something DIFFERENT than what we've been taught by the traditions of men. What is normally translated as "The Holy Spirit" IS NOT CORRECT!

pneumatos means "breath", not "spirit".'Spirit;' is a Greek creation.It is never found in Hebrew thought.They had no idea what a 'spirit' was.

It's only inserted in English texts as a result of the use of Greek texts, and Greek concepts not found in Hebrew thought.

To understand what this represents it's crucial to know how the Hebrews understood the breath.

It was considered to be "the wind of man", and since it came from within, it represented the person's nature, their character.

What we have in the text is a "sacred breath". The only source for such a breath is YAHWEH, for He alone is Holy - Sacred!

What's portrayed here is:

- His divine breath
- His divine character
- His nature, or "nature".

A thorough study of the original languages and the terms used will clearly demonstrate there is no separate "person" known as "The Holy Spirit".

The reference is to the "sacred breath", or the Divine Nature of YAHWEH".

Unlike YAHUSHUA, you cannot have a meeting with "it" (usually translated as "Him", but the pronoun allows for the use of either).

Furthermore, a "person" cannot live inside another person. So how can "The Holy Spirit" live inside your body if it's a "person"?

On the other hand, it's quite possible for the "character" of YAHWEH, The Divine Nature - His "nature" - to become a part of your life, if you permit it to happen.

Tradition has lied to us!

Read the accounts carefully.
Pay very careful attention
to what the "nature" does and does not do.

Scripture itself will teach you The Truth - if you're willing to "hear" it.

apostolos – a delegate, ambassador – apostle.
Personal legal representatives of The Messiah.
Acts 1:3 whom He also stood beside,
He Himself being alive following His suffering
by many convincing proofs,
being seen by them through forty days,
and speaking to them
concerning The Kingdom of YAHWEH.

Acts 1:4 And being assembled together with them He charged them, saying, "Do not depart from Yerushalaim but instead wait for the promise of The Father which you have heard from Me Acts 1:5 because Yahonathan indeed baptized with water but you will be baptized with a Divine Nature of YAHWEH not many days following these."

baptizo - to immerse, submerge.

I've added of YAHWEH in italics to emphasize that it is His nature that they were to be immersed in.

Note: they were NOT being baptized again in water. They were going to be immersed, submerged, in the divine nature itself.

Yerushalaim means complete teaching of deliverance. Yahonathan means given by YAH. (This is John.)

Acts Acts 1:6 Therefore having indeed been called together they were asking Him saying, "Master, will You at this time restore The Kingdom to Yisra'el?" Acts 1:7 Then He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which The Father has placed in His own authority. Acts 1:8 But on the other hand,

you will receive miraculous power at the coming upon you of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH and you will be witnesses for Me even in Yerushalaim, and in all Yahudah and Shomeron and to the end of the earth."

dunamis - force; specially, miraculous power.

The article does appear with "set apart" in this portion of the Greek text. In this instance it is specific.

Note that this "sacred breath" is coming upon, or over, them. It is not standing in front of them or beside them as a "person" would do.

This is the "bestowing" of "the new man" - the new birth - which is non-carnal.

The "new nature" is The Divine Nature. It replaces the "old nature".

Yahudah means YAH will be praised. Shomeron means guardianship. (This is "Samaria".)

Yahudah and Shomeron encompasses ALL of the nation of Yisra'el (the proper Hebrew name).

Yahudah was the Southern Kingdom and Shomeron was The Northern Kingdom in previous times.
A split still existed in the days of The Messiah between these two groups.

Acts 1:9 And having spoken these things they were watching as He was taken up. And a cloud lifted Him up from beneath, away from their eyes.

Eyes is a key word in Scripture. It's used repeatedly in The Old Covenant. It's important to keep the concept of the eyes and "seeing" visible in the text since it's such a significant part of The Hebrew Scriptures.

Acts 1:10 And as they gazed intently into the skies as He was traveling, behold!

Two men in white apparel stood beside them,

Behold is a very important term.

Every time it's used

it's in the imperative form - emphatic!

AH means, Pay Attention!

Acts 1:11 who also said, "Men of Galil,

why are you standing gazing up into the skies?

This same YAHUSHUA,

Who has been taken up from you into The Heaven likewise will come in a similar manner as you have intently watched Him traveling into the skies."

Acts 1:12 At that time they returned to Yerushalaim from the mountain called Olivet which is near Yerushalaim, a Sabbath Day's distance.

about 1/2 mile

Acts 1:13 And when they had entered they went up into the upper room where they were staying, including Peter, Ya'akob, Yahonathan and Andrew, Philip and Bar Talmay and Mattiyah,

Ya'akob, *son* of Alphaeus, and Shim'on the Zealot,

Ya'akob, son of Alphaeus, and Shim'on the Zealot, and Yahudah son of Ya'akob.

Peter means a stone. To'am means a twin. (This is "Thomas".) Ya'akob means heel catcher. (This is "James".) Yahonathan means given by YAHWEH. (This is "John.")
Andrew means manly.
Philip means lover of horse
Bar Talmay means son of my furrows.
(This is "Bartholomew.")
Mattiyah means gift of YAHWEH.
(This is "Matthew.")
Shim'on means one who hears.
(This is "Simon" or Simeon.)
Alphaeus means produce; grain.
Yahudah means Yah is praised.
(This is "Yahudah", or "Judas.")

Acts 1:14 These all were unanimously in earnest with prayer and supplication, together with the women and Miryam, the mother of YAHUSHUA and with His brothers.

Miryam means their rebellion.

Acts 1:15 And during those days Peter stood up in the midst of the students. (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), And he said,

mathetes - a learner.

Acts 1:16 "Men, brothers, it was necessary that this Scripture be fulfilled which The Divine Nature of YAHWEH predicted by means of the mouth of David concerning Yahudah, who became a guide

to those who arrested YAHUSHUA,

David means beloved.

Acts 1:17 because he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry."

Acts 1:18 Therefore indeed, this same one acquired a field from the wages received for the injustice. And falling head first he burst open in the middle. And all his entrails poured forth.

Acts 1:19 And it became well known to all the residents of Yerushalaim.

Therefore that field is called, in their own dialect,

Acts 1:20 Indeed, it is written in the Book of The Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place become desolate, and let no one live in it.'

(Psa. 69.25)

and, 'Let another take his office.'

Akeldama, that is, The Field of Blood.

(Psa. 109.8)

Acts 1:21 Therefore of these men who have associated with us all the time that The Master, YAHUSHUA, came in and went out among us, Acts 1:22 beginning from the baptism of Yahonathan even until that day that He was taken up from us, one must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

Acts 1:23 And two were stood up; Yoseph, called Bar Tsaba, who was surnamed Justus, and Mattiyah.

Yoseph means he will add. Bar Tsaba means son of pleasing Justus means just one. It is of Latin origin. Mattiyah - the same as Mattiyah. (Mathias)

Acts 1:24 And they prayed and said,
"You, YAHWEH, Who know the hearts of all,
indicate which of these two You have chosen
Acts 1:25 to take part in this ministry and commission
to which Yahudah became contrary,
having gone into his own place."

Acts 1:26 And they cast their lots. And the lot fell on Mattiyah. And he was numbered with the eleven ambassadors.

Chapter 2

Acts 2:1 And as the Day of Shavuot was coming to fulfillment

every one was of the same mind concerning it.

Shavuot is a Hebrew Festival, known as Pentecost because it took place 50 days after the presentation of the First Fruits during Passover week (The Feast of Unleavened Bread). Pentecost is the Greek term.

It's generally believed that on this same date YAHWEH gave The Torah to Yisra'el at Mount Sinai.

Acts 2:2 And suddenly a loud noise came out of the skies

being carried by violent wind.

And it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Acts 2:3 And they observed divided tongues,

as if they were flames,

sitting upon absolutely every one of them.

Note that this happened only to those who were believers in The Messiah, those who were gathered together in the house. It did not happen to "non-believers".

Acts 2:4 And absolutely every one was filled with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH. and began speaking with different languages just as The Divine Nature was giving to them, enunciating plainly.

This was not a "person". It came as "tongues of fire".

This is what Yahonathan The Baptist prophesied (Matt 3.11, Luke 3.16), a baptism with "fire".

Languages literally means tongues. It can refer to distinct languages or to differing dialects.

Acts 2:5 Now there were Yisra'elites dwelling in Yerushalaim,

devout men from every race under the skies.

Yisra'elites - This is the proper Hebrew term.

Most modern versions use "Jews".

This is not correct.

It's not correct because the term "Jew" is taken from "Judah".

But "Judah" is, properly, YAHUDAH.

There is no "J" in the Hebrew language. In fact the letter "J" did not exist until roughly 1500 A.D. The Germans created it.

Thus "Jew" represents only one tribe out of the 13 tribes of Yisra'el. (Most traditional accounts erroneously omit the tribe of Levi.) It entirely dismisses the other eleven tribes.

Only human tradition has been responsible for this drastic error. The thirteen tribes still exist.

They have never been "lost".

devout - careful of thought. ethnos - tribe, nation, race, Gentiles.

Acts 2:6 And when this sound occurred the large crowd assembled together and were thrown into disorder because everyone was hearing them speaking in his own dialect.

> The large crowd consists of those who were not in the room with the assembly of believers.

While "language" is typically used here, it seems more appropriate to use "dialect", since even within each language there are many dialects that occur.

The point is being made that no one who was there

did not understand what was being said.

Acts 2:7 Indeed, everyone was astounded and wondered,

saying to one another, "Behold! Are not all these who are speaking Galil'ans? Acts 2:8 And how are we hearing, each in our own dialect into which we were born. Acts 2:9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Yahudah and Cappadocia, Pontus, and Asia, Acts 2:10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, Mitsraim and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Yisra'elites and proselytes, Acts 2:11 Cretans and Arabs?

We hear them speaking in our own languages of the magnificent things of YAHWEH.'

Please recognize the great territory covered by these people - who would go back and report what they had experienced.

Parthian means of a pledge. Mede means a measure. Elam means of their heaps. Mesopotamia means exalted. Cappadocia means branded unreal. Pontus means the sea. Asia means slime; mire. Phrygia means parched. Pamphyllia means all types; all tribes. Mitsraim means double straits, trouble. This is Mitsraim. Libya means afflicted. Cyrene means supremacy of the bridle. Rome means strength. Cretans means of flesh. Arabs means ambushes.

Acts 2:12 Indeed, everyone was astounded and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" Acts 2:13 Others jeering said, "They are intoxicated with new wine."

Acts 2:14 But Peter, having stood up with the eleven, raised his voice.

And he declared to them,

"Men of Yahudah and all who dwell in Yerushalaim, let this be well known to you and listen to my speech. Acts 2:15 Indeed, these are not drunk as you presume, because it is only the third hour of the day. Acts 2:16 But rather this is what was spoken by the prophet Ya'el:

Ya'el means YAH is El (God). This is Joel.

Acts 2:17 "And it will come to pass afterward that I will pour out of My Divine Nature upon all flesh.

Your sons and your daughters will prophesy.

Your young men will see visions.

Your old men will dream dreams.

Acts 2:18 And on My menservants

and on My maidservants

I will pour out of My Divine Nature in those days.

And they will prophesy.

Acts 2:19 I will show wonders in the skies above

and signs in the earth beneath:

blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

Acts 2:20 The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood,

before the coming of the great and awesome Day of YAHWEH.

Acts 2:21 And it will come to pass

that whoever calls on the name of YAHWEH will be delivered."

(Joel 2.28-32)

Note: This passage from Joel is crucial. It declares that one is "saved" by calling upon the name of YAHWEH.

To call upon His name

is equivalent to calling upon His authority and His character.

It is to acknowledge your willingness to be placed under His authority.

You are proclaiming that He is your King!

This is directly tied to The Messiah, YAHUSHUA, Who has YAHWEH's name "in" Him - YAHU-Shua.

Also note that YAHWEH will pour out (spill forth) "of My nature" - portions of it, and not a "person".
You cannot pour out (spill forth) a "person".

This entity, traditionally referred to as "The Holy Spirit" **NEVER** is identified by a personal name, as YAHWEH is, and as YAHUSHUA is.

Acts 2:22 "Men of Yisra'el, listen attentively to these words! YAHUSHUA, The Nazarene, a man exhibited by YAHWEH to you through miraculous powers, and wonders, and signs which YAHWEH was doing through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves also understand, Note that it is YAHWEH

Note that it is YAHWEH
Who was doing the work
through (by means of) YAHUSHUA.

Nazarene means branch.
Acts 2:23 this One, the one delivered
by the determined will and forethought of YAHWEH,
Whom you took with lawless hands,
having murdered Him by crucifixion,
Acts 2:24 YAHWEH has raised up,
having released Him from the pangs of death
because it was not possible
that He could be held by it!

Acts 2:25 Indeed, David says concerning Him: "I foresaw YAHWEH always before my face, for He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. Acts 2:26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad.

Acts 2:27 Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope, for You will not leave my life in She'ol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. Acts 2:28 You have made known to me the ways of life. You will make me full of joy in Your presence."

(Psa. 16.8-11)

Acts 2:29 Men, kindred!

I would speak freely among you concerning the patriarch David because he is dead and has been buried.

And his tomb is with us to this day.

Acts 2:30 Therefore being a prophet and understanding that YAHWEH had sworn by an oath to him that from the fruit of his loins according to the flesh He would establish The Messiah, sitting up on his throne,

Acts 2:31 having foreseen this he spoke concerning the resurrection of The Messiah, that His life was not left in she'ol nor did His flesh see corruption.

Two things are to be noted.

psuche - life, breath.This is different than pneumain that it represents one's life breath,one's life itself, not one's character or essence.

First is the reference to the *psuche*, of The Messiah.

Second is *she'ol*. In Hebrew thought this is the place of departed beings, the dead. It is not "hell".

Acts 2:32 This YAHUSHUA YAHWEH has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

Acts 2:33 Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of YAHWEH, and having also received from The Father the promise of that which is set apart, that which is a Divine Nature of YAHWEH, He has bestowed this which you now see and hear.

ekcheo - to pour; to pour forth; figuratively, to bestow. You do not bestow a "person".

What was poured out was The Divine Nature. This is the very first instance of "the new birth".

This is "the power from on high" that the students were to wait for in Yerushalaim.

It is not "a person". It is the very Divine Nature of YAHWEH Himself!

Acts 2:34 Indeed, David has never ascended into The Heavens. But he himself says,

"YAHWEH said to my Master, 'Sit at My right hand, Acts 2:35 until I make Your enemies Your footstool." (Psa. 110.1)

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Yisra'el know assuredly

that YAHWEH has made this same YAHUSHUA whom you have crucified both a Sovereign and The Messiah."

kurios - Lit. -supreme in authority, i.e. controller; Master. A sovereign. Translated improperly as "the Lord".

Translated improperty as "the Lord".

Note that YAHUSHUA has been caused to fulfill three different roles. He is a King, a Sovereign, AND The Messiah.

This is a crucial message to Yisra'el. They have just killed their long hoped for "King", AND their long promised Messiah!

Note the response in the very next verse.

Acts 2:37 Now having heard they were agitated violently in the heart! And they said to both Peter and the rest of the ambassadors, "Men, kindred! What shall we do?" The heart in Hebrew thought is the center of one's being

where the mind, the intellect resides.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them,

"Reconsider and be baptized, each one of you,
in regard to the name of YAHUSHUA, The Messiah,
for the sake of the pardon of offenses.

And you will receive the free gift
of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH

metanoeo - to think differently or afterwards; to reconsider.

Since YAHWEH's name is in The Messiah one is ultimately to be baptized (immersed) in the name of YAHWEH!

He alone is the one Who "saves" us. Psa. 3:8 Salvation belongs to YAHWEH.

Keep in mind that the name represents the authority and character of the person.

To be baptized is to be immersed in the authority and character of YAHUSHUA, The Messiah! YAHWEH's name "is in His name", in Him.

hamartia - a sin; an offense. It's tied to "missing the mark" which represents going off the path.

It represents a refusal to follow the teaching of YAHWEH concerning His will for us. It is an act of rebellion which results in offending YAHWEH because we have rejected His desire in favor of our own.

The penalty for such action is DEATH!

Now, one does not receive a "person" as a free gift?
A gift of the divine nature, however, is receivable.

Acts 2:39 because the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as might be called by YAHWEH, our Elohim!"

Acts 2:40 And with many other words he gave evidence. And he encouraged them saying, "Be delivered from this perverse generation!"

Acts 2:41 Therefore indeed, those who with pleasure accepted his message were baptized.

And that very day about three thousand lives were added.

Acts 2:42 Indeed, they persevered in the ambassadors' instruction and partnership, in the breaking of bread and in prayers.

Acts 2:43 Now fear came upon every life. And many wonders and signs existed by means of the ambassadors.

Acts 2:44 Indeed, all who believed were together.
And they held everything in common.
Acts 2:45 And they sold their possessions and property.
And they distributed them among everyone,
according to what any had need,
Acts 2:46 accordingly persevering daily
with one mind in The Temple,
and breaking bread according to households,
sharing their nourishment
with much joy and simplicity of heart,
Acts 2:47 praising YAHWEH,
and having favor with all the people.
And YAHWEH added to the assembly daily
those who were being delivered.

Chapter 3

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and Yahonathan went up together to The Temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

The ninth hour is the hour of prayer. It is 3 PM.

Acts 3:2 And a certain man having been lame from his mother's womb was carried in whom they placed daily at the gate of The Temple which is called Beautiful to beg for compassion from those who were entering The Temple, Acts 3:3 who having seen Peter and Yahonathan intending to enter The Temple begged for compassion.

Acts 3:4 Now Peter intently looking at him together with Yahonathan said, "Look at us." Acts 3:5 And he gave them his attention,

anticipating receiving something from them.
Acts 3:6 Then Peter said,
"Silver and gold I do not have.
But what I do have I give to you.
In the name of YAHUSHUA,
The Messiah from Nazareth
Stand up and walk!"
Acts 3:7 And he grabbed him by the right hand.
And he raised him up.
And instantly his feet and ankles were stabilized.

Acts 3:8 And leaping up he stood and walked about. And he entered with them into The Temple, walking, leaping, and praising YAHWEH.

Acts 3:9 And all the people saw him walking and praising YAHWEH.

Acts 3:10 And they even recognized that it was he who sat begging for compassion at The Beautiful Gate of The Temple.

And they were filled with astonishment and excitement at what had happened to him.

Acts 3:11 Now the lame man, having been healed, seized Peter and Yahonathan.

All the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Shelomoh's, utterly astounded.

Shelomoh means peaceableness.

Acts 3:12 But Peter having seen *this* responded to the people,
"Men of Yisra'el, why do you marvel at this?
Or why look so intently at us as though by our own ability or reverence we had made this man walk?
Acts 3:13 The Elohim of Abraham, Yitzhak, and Ya'akob The Elohim of our forefathers, has honored His servant, YAHUSHUA, whom you betrayed and rejected in the presence of Pilate, that one Pilate had determined to release.

Abraham means father of a multitude

Abraham means father of a multitude. Yitzhak means laughter Ya'akob means he will take by the heel. Pilate means compressed (like felt).

Acts 3:14 But you rejected the set apart and just One! And you begged for a murderer to be granted to you, Acts 3:15 And you killed The Prince of Life whom YAHWEH has raised up out of *being* dead of which we are witnesses.

If you explore the Gree and the root word for "prince" you discover it refers to "the beginning", or "the first".

This phrase, as given in the Greek text, suggests the meaning:
The Beginning of Life.
This is in direct keeping with John 1.1-4.

Dead is an adjective describing His condition. There is no article in the text. To accurately interpret this one would literally say, "has raised out of deadness.

Acts 3:16 And His name, through trust in His name, has stabilized this one whom you observe for yourself and recognize.

And the trust which exists by means of Him has given him this physical wholeness in front of all of you.

The Greek term for name, just as the Hebrew term for name, does not simply mean a proper name. It could refer to a title, or to one's authority or character.

It seems most appropriate in referring to YAHUSHUA, to always keep His authority as The Son of YAHWEH within our perspective of His "name".

Furthermore, in this instance, the reference to "His name" is a reference to YAHWEH, the One Who raised up The Messiah, YAHUSHUA.

The Greek term *pistis*, means (according to James Strong) persuasion, i.e. credence; moral conviction; or by extension the system of religious truth itself.

It's translated as: assurance, belief, believe, faith, and fidelity.

The Greek term, *pisteuo* is essentially the verbal action form of *pistis*. It's defined as meaning: to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), i.e. credit; by implication, **to entrust**. It is translated as: believe(-r), commit (**to trust**), **put in trust with**.

Given these definitions it's difficult to separate faith, belief, and trust. Without trust you have neither faith nor belief.

Acts 3:17 And now, brothers,
I understand that you did it because of ignorance,
exactly like your rulers also.
Acts 3.18 But those things
which YAHWEH had predicted
through the mouth of every one of His prophets,
the suffering of The Messiah,
He has in this manner fulfilled.

Acts 3:19 Reconsider therefore and be turned back for the sake of obliterating your offenses, so that times of revival might come from the presence of YAHWEH.

Acts 3:20 And He will send YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, who was proclaimed to you in advance,

Acts 3:21 whom The Heaven must truly receive until the times of restitution of everything, of which YAHWEH has spoken through the mouth of all His set apart prophets since eternity past.

This is normally translated.

"since the world began".

But that's not what the Greek says. It says, literally, "since an age" (*aion*, or eon in English).

It's a reference to the previous earthly existence alluded to in Genesis in the "creation story".

This is a subject avoided by most because they don't know how to deal with it effectively.

However, that there was a previous existence that was also destroyed by a flood (long before the flood of Noah) is confirmed by numerous Scripture passages.

It's believed that it was during that period that Lucifer was cast out of The Heaven of YAHWEH because of his rebellion, resulting ultimately in the destruction of the first creation and the state of things that existed as Genesis begins the story of the "creation" of this portion of world history.

Acts 3:22 Indeed, Moshe truly said to The Fathers, "YAHWEH, your Elohim, will raise up for you a prophet even like me out of your brothers.

Him you will listen to according to everything, whatever He says to you.

Acts 3:23 And it will happen that every breathing creature

who will not listen to that prophet will be utterly destroyed from among the people.' (Deut. 18.15,18-19)

Acts 3:24 And indeed all the prophets from Shemu'el and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also predicted these days.

Shemu'el means his name is from EI (God)

Acts 3:25 You are sons of the prophets

and of The Covenant

which YAHWEH established with our forefathers. saving to Abraham,

> "And in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed."

(Gen. 22.18, 26.4, 28.14)

Acts 3:26 To you first YAHWEH, having raised up His child, YAHUSHUA, set Him apart, blessing you by turning back each one of you from your depravities.

Chapter 4

Acts 4:1 Now as they were speaking to the people the priests, the captain of The Temple, and the Sadducees stood before them Acts 4:2 being greatly disturbed that they were teaching the people and proclaiming in YAHUSHUA the resurrection from the dead. Acts 4:3 And they laid hands on them. And they put them in custody until the morning because it was already evening.

Acts 4:4 However many of those who heard the message believed. And the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

Acts 4:5 And it was now on the next day. They were gathered at Yerushalaim by their rulers, elders, and scribes, Acts 4:6 and Annas, the great priest, Caiaphas, Yahonathan, and Alexander, and as many as were from the kindred of the great priest. Acts 4:7 And having placed them in the middle they asked, "With what kind of power or by what name have you done this?"

dunamis - force, especially miraculous power. From a root meaning ability or possibility.

"or name" - in other words, by who's authority.

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, having been filled with a Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Yisra'el, Acts 4:9 if we this day are investigated on behalf of a good deed to a helpless person as to how he was delivered Acts 4:10 let it be well known to you all and to all the people of Yisra'el that in the name of YAHUSHUA of Nazareth, The Messiah, whom you crucified, whom YAHWEH has raised up from being dead, through Him this man stands in your presence healthy. Acts 4:11 This is the

"stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' (Ps. 118.22)

Acts 4:12 And there is no deliverance in any other because there is not another name under the skies given unto human beings by which we might be delivered."

The only name that truly fits this statement is YAHWEH.

Keep in mind that YAHUSHUA has this name upon Himself, YAHU meaning YAHWEH, and His entire name means YAHWEH delivers!

Acts 4:13 Then having observed the boldness of Peter and Yahonathan and having perceived that they were illiterate and ignorant persons, they marveled, also recognizing that they had been with YAHUSHUA.

Acts 4:14 And seeing the person who had been healed standing with them they could not refute it.

Acts 4:15 However, having ordered them to go aside out of The Sanhedrin they conferred among themselves, Acts 4:16 saying, "What shall we do to these persons? Indeed, that a notable sign has been created through them is apparent to all who dwell in Yerushalaim. And we are not able to deny it. Acts 4:17 On the other hand, in order that it spreads no further among the people let us severely threaten them to speak no longer to any person concerning this name."

The only name

that was forbidden to be spoken by the elders, scribes and Pharisees was YAHWEH.

To speak it carried the death penalty under the traditions they had established.

This was **never** part of The Torah of Moshe, and this is plainly confirmed by any review of the Psalms.

There the name of YAHWEH is to be remembered, praised, blessed, honored, etc.

Wherever "the LORD" occurs in your Bible in most cases in the original text is YHWH -YAHWEH!

Acts 4:18 So they called them.
And they ordered them not to speak at all nor to teach concerning the name of YAHUSHUA.
Acts 4:19 But Peter and Yahonathan responded saying to them,
"Whether it is right before YAHWEH
to listen to you more than to YAHWEH, you decide
Acts 4:20 because we are not able not to speak about the things which we have seen and heard!"

Acts 4:21 And having threatened them further they released them, finding not even one way to punish them because of the people, because everyone honored YAHWEH concerning what had been done.

Acts 4:22 Indeed, the man was over forty years old upon whom this sign of healing had been done.

Acts 4:23 Now having been released they went to their own. And they announced everything that the chief priests and elders had said to them. Acts 4:24 And having heard this they lifted up their voice to YAHWEH with one mind and said, "YAHWEH, You are The Elohim Who has made the skies and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them, Acts 4:25 Who through the mouth of Your child, David, has said: "Why did the pagans rage and the people plot vain things? Acts 4:26 The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against YAHWEH and against His Messiah.' (Psalm 2.1-2)

Acts 4:27 Indeed, for the sake of truth concerning Your set apart child, YAHUSHUA, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Yisra'el, have been gathered together Acts 4:28 to do whatever Your hand and Your choice determined in advance to happen.

Acts 4:29 And now, YAHWEH, regard their threats! And give to Your slaves every boldness to speak Your Word

doulos – a slave (literal or figurative, voluntary or involuntary).

Translated, improperly, as "servant".

It appears this was done to blunt the reality of slavery in the minds of the readers of the King James Version of The Bible, and it has been maintained ever since – by the "traditions of men".

\There are different Greek terms for servant: oiketes – a menial domestic. diakonos – an attendant, waiter, (pastor or teacher), deacon.

There's a difference between one who is "owned" as a slave, and one who serves for pay, or other compensation.

Acts 4:30 by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders might be done through the name of Your set apart child, YAHUSHUA."

Acts 4:31 And having begged,
the place where they
were assembled together was shaken.
And they were each filled
with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH.
And they spoke the word of YAHWEH with boldness.

logos - word.
Can also mean message,
and that is most likely the intent in this verse.

Acts 4:32 Now the large crowd of those who trusted were of one heart and one being.

And not even one said that any of the things he possessed was his own, but instead absolutely everything was shared by all.

Acts 4:33 And with great power the ambassadors gave witness to the resurrection of The Master, YAHUSHUA. And great favor was upon them all. Acts 4:34 Indeed, not any of them were deficient because all who were owners of lands or houses sold them, bringing the proceeds of what was sold Acts 4:35 and placing them at the ambassadors' feet. Then distribution was made to each as any had a need.

While this may have been a literal act, it should also be recognized that this phrase is symbolic of placing these proceeds under the authority of the ambassadors.

Being at someone's feet in Eastern culture represents submission to their authority.

This is a very significant concept, missed by most Westerners.

Acts 4:36 And Yosiah, who was also named Bar Nabas by the ambassadors (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus,
Yosiah means established by YAH.
Bar Nabas means son of prophecy or consolation.
Cyprus means love; a blossom.
Acts 4:37 having land, sold it bringing the money and placing it at the ambassadors' feet.

Chapter 5

Acts 5:1 Now a certain man named Hananiah, with Sappir, his wife, sold a possession.

Hananiah means favored by YAHWEH.

In Hebrew it is Hannanyah.

Sappir means a sapphire.

Acts 5:2 And he kept back *part* of the proceeds, his wife also being aware.
And having brought a certain part he placed it at the ambassadors' feet.

Acts 5:3 But Peter said,
"Hananiah, why has The Adversary
filled your heart to lie
to The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH
and to keep back part of the price of the land?
Acts 5:4 While it remained
was it not indeed still your own?
And after it was sold
was it not still under your own authority?
Why have you placed this thing in your heart?
You have not lied to human beings,
but rather to YAHWEH."

Note the characterization here. Traditionally according to v. 3 he lied to "The Holy Spirit".

But here the "nature of YAHWEH" and YAHWEH are equated - the very same. This affirms the concept of a "nature", and not a "person".

Acts 5:5 Then Hananiah, hearing these words, fell down and expired.
And great fright came upon all those hearing these things.

Acts 5:6 Then the young men stood up, wrapped him up, and carried him out to bury.

Acts 5:7 Now it was about three hours later and his wife came in, not understanding what had happened. Acts 5:8 And Peter spoke to her, "Tell me if you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much."

Acts 5:9 Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test The Divine Nature of YAHWEH? Behold!

The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door.

And they will carry you out."

Lit. - to test the breath of YAHWEH.

While **pneuma** is typically translated as "spirit" it means breath.

it must be noted that spirit is a Greek creation. It did not exist prior to Greek culture.

It is not a Hebrew concept.

Acts 5:10 Then she fell down instantly at his feet and stopped breathing.

And the young men coming in found her dead.

And they carried her out to bury by her husband.

Acts 5:11 And great fright

came upon the whole assembly

and upon everyone hearing these things.

Acts 5:12 Now through the hands of the ambassadors many signs and wonders

were being done among the people.

And they were all with one mind in Shelomoh's Porch.

Acts 5:13 But none of the rest dared join them.

However, the people esteemed them highly.

Acts 5:14 And large numbers of both men and women were trusting in The Master.

Acts 5:15 Therefore they brought the sick

out into the streets.

And placed them on couches and mattresses

in order that perhaps the shadow of Peter passing by

might cast a shadow on some of them.

Acts 5:16 Now a large crowd assembled also

from the towns surrounding Yerushalaim

bringing sick people

and those who were tormented by unclean natures.

And absolutely all of them were healed.

These are the same thing as 'demons'.

They are defiled natures.

Defiled means "unclean"

in the religious sense.

Nothing unclean was permitted in the presence of YAHWEH.

Acts 5:17 Then the great priest stood up

and everyone with him

being the party of the Sadducees,

having been filled with indignation.

Sadducees means the righteous, or just.

Acts 5:18 And they laid their hands on the ambassadors.

And they put them in the public prison.

Acts 5:19 But during the night a messenger of YAHWEH opened the prison doors and brought them out,

even saying to them,

aggelos, from which we get the term "angel", means messenger, deputy; one sent by another.

Where YAHWEH is not directly referenced this will be noted as a YAH-messenger.

Acts 5:20 "Go!

Stand in The Temple and speak to the people all the sayings concerning this way of life."

Acts 5:21 Now having listened they entered The Temple at sunrise

and were teaching.

But the great priest and those with him came.

And they called together The Sanhedrin and all the elders of the children of Yisra'el. And they sent to the prison to have them brought. Acts 5:22 But when the officers came near they did not find them in the prison. And having returned they announced it, Acts 5:23 saying, "We truly found the prison shut securely, and the sentries standing outside in front of the door. But having opened it we found no one inside!"

Acts 5:24 Now when the great priest, the captain of The Temple, and the chief priests heard these things they were completely at a loss concerning what would become of this.

Acts 5:25 But one came near. And he announced to them saying, "Behold! The men whom you put in prison are standing in The Temple and teaching the people!"

Acts 5:26 Then the captain with the officers went and brought them without force because they feared the people lest they might be stoned.

Acts 5:27 Now having brought them they stood them in the middle of The Sanhedrin. The great priest asked them,

Acts 5:28 saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach concerning this name?

And behold!

You have filled Yerushalaim with your instruction.

And you intend to bring upon us this human being's blood!"

Literally - charge with a crime.

Acts 5:29 But Peter and the ambassadors responded saying, "We must obey YAHWEH rather than human beings. Acts 5:31 The Elohim of our fathers has raised up YAHUSHUA, whom you killed by hanging on a tree. This One YAHWEH has exalted to His right hand, a Prince and a deliverer, giving reconsideration to Yisra'el, even pardon of offenses. Acts 5:32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and also to The Set Apart Divine Nature which YAHWEH has given to those who listen attentively to Him."

Acts 5:33 Now having heard they were exasperated. And they resolved to kill them. Acts 5:34 But one in The Sanhedrin stood up, a Pharisee named Gamali'el, a teacher of The Torah, respected by all the people. And he ordered them to put the ambassadors outside for a little while.

Pharisee means the separated. Gamali'el means my compensator is El.

Acts 5:35 Then he said to them,
"Men of Yisra'el, you yourselves pay attention
to what you intend to practice concerning these men
Acts 5:36 because prior to these days Theudas rose up,
declaring himself to be somebody.

Theudas means gift of God.

A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed.

And all who were convinced by him were scattered and brought to nothing.

Acts 5:37 After this a man, Yahudah of The Galil, rose up in the days of the census and drew away many people after him. He also was destroyed. And all who had been convinced by him were dispersed.

Acts 5:38 And now I say to you keep away from these persons and let them alone because if this purpose or this work is from human beings it will be demolished. Acts 5:39 But if it is from YAHWEH you are not able to demolish it lest you even be found to be an opponent of YAHWEH."

Acts 5:40 Now they were convinced by him. And having called the ambassadors and having flogged them, they ordered that they should not speak concerning the name of YAHUSHUA. And they released them.

Acts 5:41 Therefore they departed from the presence of The Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they had been counted worthy to suffer shame on behalf of His name. Acts 5:42 And daily in The Temple and in every house they did not stop teaching and proclaiming YAHUSHUA as The Messiah.

Chapter 6

Acts 6:1 Now in those days, the number of students having multiplied, there came to be a grumbling of the Hellenists toward the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily services. Acts 6:2 Then the twelve called for the multitude of the students and said, "It is not proper that we should abandon the word of YAHWEH and wait upon tables. Acts 6:3 Therefore, brothers, select from yourselves seven men having a good witness full of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH and wisdom whom we may appoint over this business. Acts 6:4 But we will persevere in prayer and the ministry of the word."

Acts 6:5 And the saying was agreeable before the whole multitude.

And they chose Stephen, a man full of trust and The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,

Stephen means a crown.
Philip means lover or horses.
Prochorus means leader of the dance; or of praise.
Nicanor means untimely victory.
Timon means honorable.
Parmenas means one who abides.
Nicolas means conqueror of the people.
Antioch means driven against.

Acts 6:6 whom they set before the ambassadors. And having prayed they laid hands on them.

Acts 6:7 Then the word of YAHWEH grew. And the number of the students increased greatly in Yerushalaim. Even a great group of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Acts 6:8 And Stephen, full of trust and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

Acts 6:9 Then some stood up from what is called The Synagogue of the Freedmen (also Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia) disputing with Stephen.

Acts 6:10 But they were not able to oppose the wisdom and The Divine Nature of YAHWEH by which he spoke.

Acts 6:11 Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous rhetoric against Moshe and YAHWEH."

Moshe means drawing out.

Acts 6:12 They even incited the people, the elders, and the scribes.

And they assaulted him, seized him,

and led him to The Sanhedrin.

Acts 6:13 They also set up false witnesses who said, "This man does not stop speaking blasphemous rhetoric against this set apart place and The Torah.

Acts 6:14 Indeed, we have heard him say that this YAHUSHUA of Nazareth, will demolish this place and alter the customs which Moshe entrusted to us."

Acts 6:15 Now absolutely everyone who was sitting on The Sanhedrin, looking intently at him, saw his face as if it was the face of a YAH-messenger.

Chapter 7

Acts 7:1 Then the great priest said, "Are these things so?" Acts 7:2 And he said, "Brothers and fathers, listen. The Elohim of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia prior to his dwelling in Haran.

Mesopotamia means exalted. Haran means their mountain.

Acts 7:3 And He said to him,

"Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you."

(Gen. 12.1)

Acts 7:4 Then he came out of the land of the Chaldeans and dwelt in Haran.

And from that place, after his father had died, He moved him to this land in which you now are dwelling.

Chaldeans means clod breakers.

Acts 7:5 But He gave him no inheritance in it, not even to set his foot upon.

Yet He promised to give it to him for a possession,

and to his descendants after him, he having no child.

Acts 7:6 And YAHWEH spoke in this way, that his descendants would be aliens in a foreign land, and that they would bring them into bondage

and do harm to them four hundred years. Acts 7:7 "And the nation

to whom they will be in bondage I will judge,' (Gen. 15.14)

said YAHWEH,

'and after that they will come out and serve Me in this place.' (Ex. 3.12)

Acts 7:8 And He gave to him the covenant of circumcision.

And in this way he fathered Yitzhak.

And he circumcised him on the eighth day.

And Yitzhak fathered Ya'akob.

And Ya'akob fathered the twelve patriarchs.

Yitzhak means laughter.

Ya'akob means heel catcher; restrainer.

Acts 7:9 But the patriarchs having been jealous,

sold Yoseph into Mitsraim.

But YAHWEH was with him.

Yoseph means he will add.

Mitsraim means dual straits, trouble. Mitsraim is a son of Ham, son of Noah.

It's important to note this connection.

Acts 7:10 And He delivered him out of all his troubles.

And He gave him favor and wisdom

in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Mitsraim.

And he established him as governor over Mitsraim

and over his entire house.

Pharaoh means his nakedness.

Acts 7:11 Now a famine came

upon the whole land of Mitsraim

and Kena'an, even great trouble.

And our forefathers found no food.

Acts 7:12 And Ya'akob having heard

grain existed in Mitsraim

sent out our forefathers first.

Acts 7:13 And on the second occasion

Yoseph made himself known to his brothers.

And Yoseph's kindred became known to the Pharaoh.

Acts 7:14 Then Yoseph sent.

And he summoned his father,

Ya'akob, and all his relatives,

seventy-five people.

Acts 7:15 And Ya'akob went down to Mitsraim.

And he died, he and our forefathers.

Acts 7:16 And he was carried back to Shekem

and laid him in the tomb

that he bought for a sum of money

from the sons of Hamor of Shekem.

Genesis 33 records the purchase of land

from Hamor by Ya'akob,

not Abraham,

after his return from Aram.

but it does not mention a tomb.

Shekem means ridge.

Hamor means an ass.

Acts 7:17 Now just as the time of the promise

which YAHWEH had sworn to Abraham drew near

the people grew and multiplied in Mitsraim

Acts 7:18 until a different king stood up

who was not aware of Yoseph.

Acts 7:19 This one dealt treacherously with our people.

And he oppressed our forefathers,

making them expose their babies

so that they might not live.

Acts 7:20 At this time Moshe was born.

And he was handsome to YAHWEH.

And he was brought up in his father's house

for three months.

Acts 7:21 But when he was exposed

Pharaoh's daughter took him and adopted him.

And she brought him up as her own son.

Acts 7:22 And Moshe was educated

in all the wisdom of the Mitsraites.

And he was capable in words and in deeds.

Acts 7:23 Now when he was a full forty years old it rose up upon his heart to visit his brothers,

the children of Yisra'el.

Acts 7:24 And having seen one suffer wrong

he defended and avenged him

who was being oppressed,

striking down the Mitsraite.

Acts 7:25 Now he thought his brothers

might comprehend that YAHWEH

was giving to them a deliverance

by means of his hand, but they did not comprehend it. **soteria** - rescue, safety

- deliver, health, save, salvation.

It's interesting how the term is the same, but salvation is somehow not typically used for this story.

Acts 7:26 Then the next day
he appeared to two of them
as they quarreled.
And he was reconciling them into peace saying,
'Men, you are kindred.
Why do you do wrong to one another?'
Acts 7:27 But he who did his neighbor wrong
pushed him away saying,
'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?
Acts 7:28 Do you want to kill me
as you killed the Mitsraite yesterday?'

Acts 7:29 Then Moshe fled at this saying.

And he became a dweller in the land of Midyan where he fathered two sons.

Midyan means contention.

Acts 7:30 And forty years having been completed, there was seen by him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, a messenger of YAHWEH in a blazing fiery bush.

Sinai means my thorns.

Acts 7:31 Now Moshe having seen it wondered at the spectacle. But as he approached to observe it fully the voice of YAHWEH came to him, Acts 7:32 saying,

"I am The Elohim of your fathers. The Elohim of Abraham, The Elohim of Yitzhak, and The Elohim of Ya'akob.'

(Ex. 3.6, 15)

And Moshe became terrified. And he dared not look at it fully.

Note how in this passage the messenger seems also to actually be The Elohim, YAHWEH, Who speaks to Moshe personally.

What we tend to miss is that a messenger was sent as a deputy, an ambassador, of the one who sent him.

As such he carried with him the authority of the one who sent him.

Thus when he speaks it is the same as if the person who sent him is speaking.

Acts 7:33 Then said to him,

'Put off your sandals from your feet, because the place on which you stand is consecrated ground.

Acts 7:34 I have surely seen

the oppression of My people who are in Mitsraim.
I have heard their groaning and I have come down to rescue them. And now come here.
I will send you into Mitsraim."

(Ex. 3.5,7-8, 10)

Acts 7:35 This Moshe whom they rejected saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?' (Ex. 2.14) is the same one YAHWEH sent

to be a ruler and a redeemer by the hand of the messenger

who appeared to him in the bush. Acts 7.36 He led them forth having done wonders and signs in the land of Mitsraim, and in The Reed Sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

Acts 7:37 This is the same Moshe who said to the children of Yisra'el,

'YAHWEH, your Elohim, will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. Him you will listen to attentively."

(Deut. 18.15)

Acts 7:38 This is the same one who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the messenger who spoke to him at Mount Sinai and to our forefathers, the one who received the living utterance to give to us, Acts 7:39 to whom our forefathers decided not to listen attentively, but rather pushed him away from them. And in their hearts they had turned back to Mitsraim, Acts 7:40 saying to Aharon,

"Make us gods to go before us. As for this Moshe who brought us out of the land of Mitsraim, we do not know what has become of him.'

(Ex. 32.1, 23)

Acts 7:41 And they fabricated the image of a bullock in those days, offered sacrifices to the image, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

Acts 7:42 And YAHWEH turned around and surrendered them to worshipping the host of heaven. even as it is written in the book of the Prophets: "Did you offer Me slaughtered animals and sacrifices during forty years in the wilderness, O house of Yisra'el? Acts 7:43 ou also took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god, Remphan, images which you made to worship. Now I will carry you away beyond Babylon.' (Amos 5. 25-27)

> Moloch means a king. Remphan means the lifeless. Babylon means confusion.

Acts 7:44 The Tent of The Testimony existed among our fathers in the wilderness just as He had arranged, telling Moshe to make it according to the pattern which he had seen, Acts 7:45 which our forefathers having received it in turn also brought in with Yahoshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles whom YAHWEH expelled from the presence of our fathers until the days of David,

Special Note: Many English texts place the name "Jesus" here.

For two reasons this is very informative: First. Joshua. of the OT. was certainly not "Jesus", nor was he ever known as such.

In Hebrew his name was Yahoshua. It means YAH is deliverer, or salvation.

Second, this reveals the error of calling The Messiah "Jesus". This is a Greek name, not a Hebrew name.

It is not, and has never been, His proper Hebrew name.

It's a perversion of the text that has been intentionally perpetuated by terrible scholarship on the part of translators for centuries now!

See also Col. 4.11, Heb. 4.8.

Acts 7:46 who found favor in the presence of YAHWEH and asked to find a dwelling for YAHWEH in Ya'akob.

Acts 7:47 Now Shelomoh built Him a House. Acts 7:48 However The Most High does not dwell in temples of human construction just as the prophet says:

"Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool.

Acts 7:49 What house will you build for Me? says YAHWEH,

Or what is the place of My rest?

Acts 7:50 Has My hand not made all these things?' (Is. 66.1-2)

Acts 7:51 Stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears!
You always oppose
The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH!
As your forefathers were so are you!
Acts 7:52 Which of the prophets
did your forefathers not persecute?
They have even killed those
who predicted the coming of The Just One,
of Whom you have now become
the betrayers and murderers;
Acts 7:53 those who received The Torah
by the arrangement of messengers,
yet have not preserved it!"

Acts 7:54 Now having heard these things they were exasperated in the heart. And they grated their teeth at him.

Acts 7:55 But he, being full of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, stared into The Heaven.
And he saw the splendor of YAHWEH, and YAHUSHUA standing at the right hand of YAHWEH. Acts 7:56 And he said, "Behold!
I see The Heavens being opened and The Son of Man standing at the right hand of YAHWEH!"

Acts 7:57 And they yelled with a great noise, plugging their ears.
And they ran upon him violently with one mind. Acts 7:58 And they ejected him from the city. And they stoned *him*.

And the witnesses set aside their garments at the feet of a young man named Sha'ul.

Sha'ul means requested.

Acts 8:1(a) Now Sha'ul was in favor of his killing.

NOTE: The last verses of Chapter 7 and the first verses of Chapter 8 appear to be fragments that are not placed in their proper order. This affects the chapter break, which is not properly located.

For the sake of thought continuity they have been rearranged here. Acts 7:59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling out and saying, "Master, YAHUSHUA, receive my life." Acts 7:60 Then he knelt down.

And he cried out with a loud voice, "Master, do not charge them with this offense." And having said this he died.

Chapter 8

(See note above on verse arrangements)
Acts 8:2 And devout men carried Stephen away.
And they made a great mourning over him.
Acts 8:1 (b) Now at that time
there became a great persecution
upon the assembly which was at Yerushalaim.
And everyone was scattered abroad
throughout the regions of Yahudah and Shomeron
except the ambassadors.
Acts 8:4 Therefore those who were scattered
were traveling everywhere,
announcing the good news of the word.

Acts 8:3 Now Sha'ul was mistreating the assembly, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.

ekklesia – a calling out, i.e. a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation (Hebrew synagogue or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both).

This was an **assembly** of people. There was **no "church"** in Yisra'el. The only concept they had was that of an assembly.

Church is a religious term created much later. It's an improper concept. It does not agree with The Word of YAHWEH, even though it's been placed there by terrible scholarship created by "the traditions of men".

Acts 8:5 But Philip went down to the city of Shomeron. And he proclaimed The Messiah to them. Acts 8:6 And the crowds with one mind paid close attention to the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the signs which he did. Acts 8:7 Indeed, many of those were having unclean natures which were crying with a loud voice come out of them. Notice the contrast between unclean natures and the set apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH.

Here you have the concept of the clean (set apart, pure) and the unclean, which runs throughout Scripture.
It really points to the undefiled and the defiled.

Now many who were paralyzed and crippled were healed.

Acts 8:8 And there was great joy in that city.

mageuo – to practice magic - use sorcery.

Acts 8:10 to whom they all paid attention from the least to the greatest saying,
"This man is the great power of The Elohim."

Note: Not just "a god".

Acts 8:11 And they paid attention to him

because for a long time he had astonished them with his magic practices.

Acts 8:12 Now when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the things concerning The Kingdom of YAHWEH and the name of YAHUSHUA,

The Messiah, they were baptized,

both men and women. Acts 8:13 And Shim'on himself also believed. And having been baptized he was with Philip. And he was astounded. watching both the signs and wonders which were happening.

Acts 8:14 Now when the ambassadors who were at Yerushalaim heard that Shomeron had received the word of YAHWEH they sent Peter and Yahonathan to them, Acts 8:15 who having come down prayed concerning them in order that they might receive The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, Acts 8:16 because as yet it had fallen upon none of them. They merely had now been baptized into the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA. epipipto - to embrace (with affection) or seize with violence)

The concept is that of being bestowed upon them.

Acts 8:17 At that time they laid hands upon them. And they received

- fall into/upon, lie on, press upon.

The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH. Note that with the laying on of hands these people received the nature of YAHWEH. They did NOT see or meet any "person".

Acts 8:18 Now when Shim'on saw that through the laying on of the ambassadors' hands The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH was given, he offered money to them Acts 8:19 saying, "Give this authority even to me also so that anyone upon whom I lay hands may receive The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH."

Acts 8:20 But Peter said to him, "Your money be destroyed with you because you have thought that the gift of YAHWEH is acquired through money!

Note the concept of a gift. One does not give a "person" as a gift.

And a gift is something one retains for their own use/benefit.

Acts 8:21 You are neither part nor parcel in this matter because your heart is not right before YAHWEH. Acts 8:22 Reconsider your actions therefore

concerning this depravity of yours!

And beg YAHWEH

if perhaps the purpose of your heart might be forgiven you Acts 8:23 because I discern clearly

that you are poisoned by bitterness and controlled by injustice."

Acts 8:24 But Shim'on answered and said,

"Beg The Master for me in order that none of the things which you have uttered come upon me."

Acts 8:25 Therefore having witnessed thoroughly and having spoken the word of YAHWEH,

they returned to Yerushalaim also proclaiming the good news

in many villages of the Shomeronites.

Acts 8:26 Then a messenger of YAHWEH spoke to Philip saying, "Arise and travel toward the south upon the road which goes down from Yerushalaim into Azzah."

(This is a desert.)

Azzah means strong.

This is modern day Gaza.

Acts 8:27 And he arose and traveled.

And behold!

A man of Ethiopia, a eunuch,
an official of Candace, Queen of the Ethiopians,
who was over all her treasure
who had come into Yerushalaim to worship

Ethiopia means black.

Candace means a sting.

Acts 8:28 was returning.

And sitting in his chariot
he was reading Yeshay'yah the prophet.

Acts 8:29 Then The Divine Nature *of YAHWEH* said to Philip,
"Approach and join up with this chariot."
Acts 8:30 So Philip ran to him.
And he heard him reading the prophet Yeshay'yah, And he said, "Do you know for certain what you are reading?"
Acts 8:31 Then he said,
"How can I unless someone shows me the way?"
And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Acts 8:32 Now the passage in The Scripture which he was reading was this:

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

Acts 8:33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation?

For His life is taken from the earth."

(ls. 53.7-8)

Acts 8:34 And the eunuch responding to Philip said, "I beg you concerning whom does the prophet say this; of himself or of some other man?" Acts 8:35 And Philip having opened his mouth, and beginning at this same Scripture, proclaimed the good news of YAHUSHUA to him.

This is noteworthy!
Beginning with Isaiah,
Philip proclaimed
the "gospel of YAHUSHUA!

Oh that we might be so well versed in Scripture that we could do the very same thing!

Acts 8:36 Now as they traveled on the road they came to some water.
And the eunuch said, "Behold! Water.
What prevents me from being baptized?"
Acts 8:37 Then Philip said,
"If you trust with your whole heart it is proper."
Trust is the essence of faith or belief.
It is only through placing
your trust 100% in YAHWEH
that you or anyone else
will ever be granted deliverance.

This is a point missed by many who seem to that simply believing God exists will somehow cause them to be "saved".

True "faith" takes a full commitment to YAHWEH - a covenant sealed by the blood of YAHUSHUA. Then he responded saying, "I believe that YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, is The Son of YAHWEH!"

Acts 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stand still. And they went down into the water,

both Philip and the eunuch. And he baptized him.

Acts 8:39 Now when they had come up out of the water The Divine Nature of YAHWEH seized Phillip. And the eunuch saw him no longer. Indeed, he traveled on his way rejoicing.

harpazo means to seize. It comes from a term that means to take for oneself; to choose.

In this instance The nature of YAHWEH grabbed Phillip and took him away.

Acts 8:40 But Phillip was found at Azotus.

And traveling through he proclaimed the good news in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Azotus is the same as Ashdod, which means I will spoil.

It's quite some distance away from the road Phillip and the had been traveling upon.

Chapter 9

Acts 9:1 Now Sha'ul, still breathing threats and murder toward the students of The Master, went to the great priest.

kurios – supreme in authority, i.e. controller, Master. – God, Lord, master, Sir.

It's very easy to see by this "definition" and the identified forms of translation, why it's so confusing.

Each time it occurs one would have to stop and ask to which one of these it applies.

This is particularly problematic when it's assigned to "God", or to "The Lord (as "Jesus").

In this passage it refers
to YAHUSHUA, The Messiah.
But since He is not referred to by "name"
the term Master has been used.
Acts 9:2 And he requested letters from him
to the assemblies of Damascus so that if he found any
who were of "The Way", whether men or women,
he might lead them bound to Yerushalaim.

YAHUSHUA is The Way - Yahonathan 14.6. His followers were known as "The Way" at this point in history.

Damascus means sackcloth weaver.

Acts 9:3 Now as he was traveling he was approaching Damascus.

And suddenly a light flashed all around him from the skies.

Acts 9:4 And he fell upon the ground.

And je heard a voice saying to him, "Sha'ul! Sha'ul!

Why are you persecuting Me?"

Acts 9:5 And he said, "Who are You, Master?"

Then The Master said, "I am YAHUSHUA, whom you are persecuting. It is difficult for you to kick against the goads." recalcitrate - be in stubborn opposition; sharp points, or, the divine impulse

Acts 9:6 He, both trembling and being astonished, said, "Master, what do You desire me to do?"
Then The Master *said* to him, "Get up and enter into the city!
Then you will be told what you need to do."

Acts 9:7 Now the men who were traveling with him stood speechless, indeed hearing the voice, but observing no one.

Acts 9:8 Then Sha'ul got up off the ground.

But having his eyes open he saw not even one thing.

Then they led him by the hand.

And they brought him into Damascus.

Acts 9:9 And he existed three days without seeing.

And he neither ate nor drank.

Acts 9:10 Now there was a certain student at Damascus named Hananyah.

And The Master spoke to him in a vision,
"Hananyah!"

And he said, "I am here, Master."

Acts 9:11 Then The Master said to him, "Get up!
Go upon the narrow way which is called Straight and seek one named Sha'ul of Tarsus of the house of Yahudah because, behold, he is praying to YAHWEH.

See Matt. 7.14
to grasp the significance of this instruction.

Tarsus means a flat basket.
Acts 9:12 Also he has seen in a vision a man named Hananyah entering in and laying hands upon him so that he might recover his sight."

Acts 9:13 Then this Hananyah responded, "Master, I have heard from many concerning this very man, how much harm he has done to Your set apart ones in Yerushalaim. Acts 9.14 And in this place he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon Your name."

Acts 9:15 But The Master said to him,
"Go, because this one is a chosen vessel of Mine
to lift My name before Gentiles, kings,
and even the children of Yisra'el.
Acts 9:16 Indeed, I will reveal to him
how much he must endure
for the sake of My name."

Lit. - under his eyes,
or "right before his own eyes",

in the vernacular.

Acts 9:17 Then Hananyah went.
And he entered into the house.
And laying his hands upon him he said,
"Brother Sha'ul, The Master, YAHUSHUA,
whom you saw on the road as you were coming
has sent me so that you might recover your sight

and be filled with The Divine Nature of YAHWEH."

Acts 9:18 And immediately there fell off from his eyes as if it were scales.

And his sight was restored instantly.

And he got up and was baptized.

Acts 9:19 And when he had received food he was strengthened.

Then Sha'ul spent some days with the students at Damascus.

Acts 9:20 And immediately he proclaimed The Messiah in the assemblies, that He is The Son of YAHWEH.

Acts 9:21 Now all who were listening were astounded and said, "Is this not he who was ravaging those who were calling upon this name in Yerushalaim,

and has come here for that same thing in order that he might lead them bound to the chief priests?"

Acts 9:22 And Sha'ul was empowered more. And he confounded the Yisra'elites who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this One is The Messiah Himself.

Acts 9:23 Now after sufficient days were accomplished the Yisra'elite leaders plotted to kill him.

Acts 9:24 But their plot became known to Sha'ul.

They even watched the gates day and night, to kill him.

Acts 9:25 But the students took him by night.

And the lowered him down through the wall in a large basket.

Acts 9:26 Now when Sha'ul had come to Yerushalaim he attempted to join the students.
But they were all afraid of him.
And they did not believe that he was a student.
This is an important thing to note.
It verifies that Sha'ul
was not taught by these people
concerning The Messiah.

Acts 9:27 Then Bar Nabas grabbed him. And he brought him to the ambassadors. And he related fully to them how he had seen The Master on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had spoken boldly at Damascus in the name of YAHUSHUA. Acts 9:28 And he was among them at Yerushalaim, coming in and going out. Acts 9:29 And he spoke boldly in the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA.

And he disputed against the Hellenists.
And they undertook to kill him.
Acts 9:30 But having recognized it
the brothers brought him down to Caesarea.
And the sent him away to Tarsus.
Acts 9:31 Therefore the assemblies
throughout all Yahudah,
Galil, and Shomeron had peace.
And they were being built up.

And traveling in the fear of The Master and in the encouragement of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH they were increasing.

Acts 9:32 Now it was as Peter

traveled through everywhere. And he also came down to the set apart ones who were dwelling in Lydda. Lydda means travail. Acts 9:33 And there he found a certain person named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years. And he was paralyzed. Aeneas means to praise. Acts 9:34 And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, cures you. Stand up and make your bed!" And he stood up immediately. Acts 9:35 And all who were dwelling at Lydda and Sharon observed this. And they turned to The Master. Sharon means observation.

Acts 9:36 Now there was at Yoppa

a certain student named Tabitha. which is translated Dorcas.

> Yoppa means fair to him. Tabitha means a gazelle. Dorcas means the same.

This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. Acts 9:37 But it happened in those days that she became sick and died.

And having washed her they laid her in an upper room.

Acts 9:38 Now Lydda was near Yoppa. And the students having heard that Peter was there sent two men to him inviting him to not delay in coming to them.

Acts 9:39 Then Peter arose and went with them. Having arrived they brought him to the upper room. Now all the widows stood beside him sobbing and displaying the tunics and robes which Dorcas had made while she was with them. Acts 9:40 Then Peter put them all outside.

And he knelt down.

And he prayed to YAHWEH. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, get up!" And she opened her eyes.

And having seen Peter she sat up.

Acts 9:41 Then he gave her a hand and stood her up. And having called the set apart ones and widows he presented her alive.

Acts 9:42 Now it became well known throughout all Yoppa. And many believed concerning The Master. Acts 9:43 And it happened that he stayed sufficient days in Yoppa with Shim'on, a tanner.

Chapter 10

Acts 10:1 There was a certain man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion who was in the squad called Italian:

Cornelius means pitiless self-satisfaction. Acts 10:2 a devout man and one who revered YAHWEH

with all his household;

who gave many good things to the people and petitioned YAHWEH continually.

Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day

he saw clearly in a vision

a messenger of YAHWEH coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"

Acts 10:4 And having gazed intently at him

he became frightened and said, "What is it, Master?" Then He said to him,

"Your prayers and your kindnesses to the poor have come up as a reminder before YAHWEH.

Acts 10:5 Now also, send men to Yoppa

and summon Shim'on whose surname is Peter.

Acts 10:6 He is a guest with a certain Shim'on, a tanner,

whose house is beside the sea.

He will tell you what you must do."

Acts 10:7 Now when the messenger who spoke to Cornelius had departed he called for two of his household servants and a well respected soldier of those who served him diligently. Acts 10:8 And having explained everything to them he sent them to Yoppa.

Acts 10:9 Now the next day as they traveled and were approaching the town Peter had gone up on the housetop to pray to YAHWEH about the sixth hour.

Acts 10:10 And he became intensely hungry.

And he wanted to eat.

But while they were preparing
he fell into a state of ecstasy.

Acts 10:11 And he observed the skies being opened up
and a certain object descending toward him
like a great linen cloth bound at the four corners
and lowered upon the earth.

Acts 10:12 In it were all kinds
of four footed animals of the earth,
even wild animals, and crawling things,
and birds of the sky.

**therion* – a dangerous animal. – wild beast.

Acts 10:13 And a voice came to him

Acts 10:13 And a voice came to him,
"Stand up, Peter! Kill and eat!"
Acts 10:14 But Peter said,
"By no means, Master,
because I have never eaten anything common."
Something common is profane
or ceremonially unclean - defiled.

Acts 10:15 And a voice *spoke* to him again the second time.

"What YAHWEH has cleansed

you must not call common."

Acts 10:16 Now this happened three times.

And the object was taken up into the skies again.

Acts 10:17 And while Peter was perplexed within himself what this vision which he had seen might mean, behold! The men who had been sent from Cornelius had inquired concerning Shim'on's house.

And the stood before the entrance.

Acts 10:18 And they called.

And they asked whether Shim'on, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there.

Acts 10:19 While Peter was perplexed in himself about what the vision might mean
The Divine Nature of YAHWEH said to him, "Behold! Three men are seeking you.

Acts 10:20 Arise therefore and go down.

And travel with them hesitating at nothing in as much as I have sent them."

Acts 10:21 Now Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius. And je said, "Behold! I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?"

Acts 10:22 Then they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a just man and one who reveres YAHWEH and has a good reputation among the whole nation of the Yisra'elites was called upon by a set apart messenger to invite you to his house and to hear a message from you."

Acts 10:23 Then he invited them in.
And he made them guests.
Now on the next day Peter departed with them.
And some brothers from Yoppa accompanied him.
Acts 10:24 And the following day they entered Caesarea.
And Cornelius was waiting for them.
And he had called together
his relatives and close friends.

Acts 10:25 Now as Peter was coming in Cornelius met him.
And he fell down at his feet and worshiped.
Acts 10:26 But Peter lifted him up saying, "Stand up. I myself am also a human being."

Acts 10:27 And as they conversed he entered.

And he found many who had assembled.

Acts 10:28 Then he said to them,
"You comprehend that it is illegal for an Yisra'elite man
to associate with or to approach one of another nation.
Yet YAHWEH has shown me
that I should not call any person common or unclean.
Acts 10.29 Because of this I came without question,
having been invited.
I ask therefore for what reason you have invited me?"

Acts 10:30 So Cornelius said,
"Four days ago I was fasting until this hour.
And at the ninth hour
I was praying to YAHWEH in my house.
And behold!
A man stood before me in radiant clothing.
Acts 10:31 And he said,
'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your kindnesses to the poor are remembered in the presence of YAHWEH.
Acts 10:32 Send therefore to Yoppa and summon here Shim'on, whose surname is Peter.
He is a guest in the house of Shim'on, a tanner, by the sea.
Having arrived he will speak to you.'

Acts 10:33 Therefore I sent to you immediately. And you have done well to have come. Now therefore we are all present before YAHWEH to hear everything directed to you by YAHWEH.

Acts 10:34 Then Peter opening his mouth said, "Because of truth I comprehend that YAHWEH shows no partiality, Acts 10:35 but rather in every nation whoever reveres Him and does right acts is accepted by Him. Acts 10:36 The word which He sent to the children of Yisra'el proclaiming good news of peace through YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, - He is Master of everything that message you understand. Acts 10:37 It was proclaimed throughout all Yahudah, even beginning from Galil, according to the baptism which Yahonathan proclaimed. Acts 10:38 how YAHWEH anointed YAHUSHUA of Nazareth with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH and with miraculous power. He traveled about doing good and curing all who were oppressed by The False Accuser because YAHWEH was with Him.

Acts 10:39 And we are witnesses of everything which He did, both in the land of the Yisra'elites and in Yerushalaim. Him they murdered, hanging Him upon a tree. Acts 10:40 This One YAHWEH raised up on the third day. And He caused Him to become visible, Acts 10:41 not to all the people. but to witnesses chosen in advance by YAHWEH; to us who ate and drank with Him after He had been raised up from being dead. Acts 10:42 And He instructed us to proclaim to the people, and to testify that it is He who was appointed by YAHWEH as a judge of living and dead.

Acts 10:43 To Him all the prophets give witness that through His name whoever is trusting in Him

will receive pardon of offenses."

Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH embraced every one of those listening to the message.

epippito - to embrace (with affection) or seize.

A "person" cannot fall upon everyone at once.

Acts 10:45 And the faithful of the circumcision were astounded, as many as had come with Peter, that the gift of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH had been bestowed upon the Gentiles also.

The importance of this event cannot be overstated! This event clearly establishes The New Covenant, because it reaches beyond Yisra'el to The Gentiles (non-Yisra'elites).

Acts 10:46 Indeed, they heard them speaking with tongues and magnifying YAHWEH.

Then Peter responded, Acts 10:47 "Can anyone forbid water so that these might not be baptized who have received The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH exactly like us?"

Acts 10:48 And he directed them to be baptized in the name of YAHWEH.

Then they asked him to remain certain days.

Here, is another instance of the gross confusion caused by the use of "The Lord".

It is the name of YAHWEH into which we are to be baptized, not "The Lord".

YAHUSHUA Himself was baptized by Yahonathan and most assuredly would **not** have been baptized in His own name.

He would have been baptized in (or into) the name of YAHWEH.

This is the **only name** into which a believer ought to be baptized.

YAHUSHUA came, not to do His own will, but to do that of The Father. He did not serve Himself, He served YAHWEH.

We are to do as He did.

Chapter 11

Acts 11:1 Now the ambassadors and brothers who were in Yahudah heard that the Gentiles had also received The Word of YAHWEH.

A reminder: *logos* = Word.
Clearly The Logos,
as revealed in the opening verses of John,
is The Messiah.
It was not merely the message
(word) of YAHWEH
that was received,
but The Messiah.

Acts 11:2 And when Peter went up to Yerushalaim those of the circumcision contended with him Acts 11:3 saying,

"You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!"

Acts 11:4 But Peter explained to them in order from the beginning saying,
Acts 11:5 "I was in the town of Yoppa,
praying to YAHWEH.

And in a state of ecstasy I saw a vision, a certain object descending like a great linen cloth lowered out of the skies by four corners. And it came to me. Acts 11:6 Having gazed intently at it I contemplated it. And I saw the four footed animals of the earth, wild animals, creeping things, and birds of the sky. Acts 11:7 And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter! Kill and eat!' Acts 11:8 But I said, 'Not so, Master, because nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.' Acts 11:9 But the voice responded to me once more from skies, 'What YAHWEH has cleansed you must not call common.' Acts 11:10 Now this was done three times. And everything was drawn up again into the skies. Acts 11:11 And behold! Immediately three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea.

Acts 11:12 Then The Divine Nature of YAHWEH told me to go with them without hesitation. Moreover, these six brothers went with me. And we entered the man's house. Acts 11:13 And he declared to us how he had seen a messenger standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Yoppa, and summon Shim'on, whose surname is Peter, Acts 11:14 who will explain the matter to you by which you and all your household will be delivered.'

Acts 11:15 Now as I began to speak The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH came upon them exactly as upon us at the beginning.

Acts 11:16 Then I remembered the saying of The Master, how He said, 'Yahonathan indeed baptized with water but you will be baptized with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH.'

Acts 11:17 If therefore YAHWEH has given to them the same gift as to us who are trusting concerning The Master, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, who was I to be able to stop YAHWEH?"

Acts 11:18 Now having heard these things they kept still. And they honored YAHWEH saying, "Without a doubt YAHWEH has also given to the Gentiles reconsideration into *Eternal* Life."

Acts 11:19 Those indeed who therefore had been scattered because of the persecution that happened concerning Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one but the Yisra'elites only.

Phoenicia means palm land.
Cyprus means love; a blossom.
Antioch means driven against.

Acts 11:20 And some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene who having come to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists proclaiming The Master, YAHUSHUA. Acts 11:21 And the hand of YAHWEH was with them. And a great number were believing. And they turned to The Master.

Acts 11:22 Now word concerning these things was being heard in the ears of the assembly at Yerushalaim.

And they sent out Bar Nabas to travel as far as Antioch, Acts 11:23 who having arrived and having seen the favor of YAHWEH was happy.

And he encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with The Master.

Acts 11:24 Because he was a good man, and full of The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH and of faith, even a significant group was added to The Master.

Acts 11:25 Then Bar Nabas departed for Tarsus to seek Sha'ul. Acts 11:26 And when he had found him he brought him to Antioch. Now it happened that for a whole year they gathered with the assembly. And they taught a significant group. Also, the students were first called Christians in Antioch. This is most unfortunate.

This is most unfortunate. Early believers were, first and foremost Hebrews, not Gentiles.

It was to them that The Messiah was promised, and delivered.

History records that this (Christian) was actually intended as a derogatory term not a favorable one.

It was used by the Gnostics, a group of Yisra'elites in Antioch, who sought to discourage other Yisra'elites from following YAHUSHUA.

Also, the term "Christ" is a Greek creation, not a Hebrew term.
While it also means "anointed", it should never have replaced **Messaias**, the proper Greek word for The Messiah.

Believers in The Messiah should **NEVER** have been referred to as "Christians". **It is heresy!**

Antioch means driven against.

Acts 11:27 And in those days prophets came from Yerushalaim to Antioch.

Acts 11:28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and indicated through The Divine Nature of YAHWEH that there would be a great famine upon the whole land, even like happened in the days of Claudius Caesar.

Agabus means a grasshopper. Claudius means whining.

Caesar means severed.

Acts 11:29 Now the students, each according to his means, determined to send relief to the brothers dwelling in Yahudah.

Acts 11:30 This they also did.

And they sent it to the elders by the hands of Bar Nabas and Sha'ul.

Chapter 12

Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out a hand to injure some from the assembly. Acts 12:2 Now he killed Ya'akob, the brother of Yahonathan, with a sword. Acts 12:3 And having seen that it was pleasing to the Yisra'elite leaders he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Acts 12:4 And having arrested him he put him in prison, delivering him to four squads of soldiers to watch him, intending to bring him out to the people during Passover. Acts 12:5 Peter therefore was guarded in the prison. And fervent prayer was offered to YAHWEH for him by the assembly.

Acts 12:6 Now when Herod was about to bring him out, that very night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers bound with two manacles. And the sentries in front of the door were guarding the prison. Acts 12:7 And behold! A messenger of YAHWEH was present. And a light shone in the prison. Then he nudged Peter on his side. And he awakened him saying, "Stand up quickly!" And his manacles fell off his hands. Acts 12:8 The messenger also said to him, "Gird yourself and tie on your sandals!" And so he did. And he said to him, "Put on your garment and follow me!" Acts 12:9 And he went out following him, And he did not understand that what was done by the messenger was real. And it seemed he was seeing a vision. Acts 12:10 Now having passed the first and the second guard posts they came to the iron gate that leads into the city which opened up to them automatically. And they went out. And they proceeded down one street. And immediately the messenger departed from him.

Acts 12:11 And Peter having come to himself said, "Now I truly understand that YAHWEH has sent His messenger.

And He has rescued me out of the hand of Herod and all the anticipated harm of the people of the Yisra'elite leadership."

Acts 12:12 Then having contemplated he went to the house of Miryam, the mother of Yahonathan, whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together and praying to YAHWEH.

Mark means a defence.

Acts 12:13 Now as Peter was knocking at the door of the gate a girl named Rhoda approached to listen.

Rhoda means a rose.

Acts 12:14 And having recognized Peter's voice because of her delight she did not open the gate. But she ran in announcing that Peter was standing in front of the gate. Acts 12:15 But they said to her, "You are raving like a maniac!" But she confidently affirmed that it was so. Then they said, "It is his messenger."

This is likely a scribal correction.

This is likely a scribal correction. More likely, they would have said, "It is his ghost.".

Acts 12:16 But Peter continued knocking. Then having opened and having seen him they were astounded.

Acts 12:17 And motioning to them with his hand to keep silent he related fully to them how YAHWEH had brought him out of the prison.

And he said.

"Report these things to Ya'akob and to the brothers." And he departed, traveling to another place.

Acts 12:18 Now daytime having happened there was no small disturbance among the soldiers about what had become of Peter.

Acts 12:19 And Herod having searched for him and not having found him interrogated the guards.

And he commanded they be put to death.

And he went down from Yahudah to Caesarea and stayed.

Acts 12:20 Now Herod had been very angry with the people of Tzor and Tzidon. But they drew near to him with one mind. And having befriended Blastus, at that time the king's personal aide, they asked for peace because their country was supplied with food by the king's *country*.

Acts 12:21 Now on an appointed day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne. And he gave a public speech to them. Acts 12:22 And the people shouted, "The voice of a god and not of a human being!"

Acts 12:23 Then instantly a messenger of YAHWEH struck him because he did not give the honor to YAHWEH. And he became diseased with maggots and died.

Acts 12:24 And the Word of YAHWEH grew and increased.

Acts 12:25 Then Bar Nabas and Sha'ul returned from Yerushalaim having fulfilled *their* ministry. And they also took with them Yahonathan, surnamed Mark.

Chapter 13

Acts 13:1 Now in the assembly that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Bar Nabas, Simeon, who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen, who had been brought up with Herod, the tetrarch, and Sha'ul.

Bar Nabas means son of consolation.
Simeon means attentive listening.
Niger means black.
Lucius means light; bright.
Cyrene means supremacy of the bridle.
Manaen means comforter.
Sha'ul means requested.

Acts 13:2 And as they were ministering to YAHWEH and fasting,

The Set Apart Divine Nature of **YAHWEH** said, "Now separate to Me both Bar Nabas and Sha'ul for the work to which I have called them." Acts 13:3 Then having fasted and having prayed, and having laid hands on them they sent them away.

Acts 13:4 Therefore having been sent away by The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, they went down into Seleucia.

And from there they sailed to Cyprus.

Acts 13:5 And when they came into Salamis they proclaimed the word of YAHWEH in the assemblies of the Yisra'elites.

They also had Yahonathan as an assistant.

Acts 13:6 Then having traveled over the island as far as Paphos,

they found a certain magician, a false prophet, an Yisra'elite whose name was Bar jesus,

Seleucia means white light. Cyprus means love; a blossom. Salamis means a surging. Paphos means suffering. Bar-Jesus means Son of Jesus. But this man was an Yisra'elite, so more correctly his Hebrew name was Bar-Yahoshua, or son of Joshua.

Note that he is identified as a false prophet. Acts 13:7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a perceptive man.

This man summoned Bar Nabas and Sha'ul, desiring to hear the word of YAHWEH.

Sergius means earth-born. Paulus means little.

Acts 13:8 But Elymas, the magician (because thus his name is translated) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul

away from belief. Elymas means a wizard.

Acts 13:9 But Sha'ul, who is also Paul, filled with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, looked intently at him.

Acts 13:10 And he said,

"Oh full of every deceit and every reckless act, son of The Adversary, enemy of all right acts,

you will not stop perverting

the straight paths of YAHWEH.

Acts 13:11 And now behold!

The hand of YAHWEH is upon you!

And you will be blind.

not seeing the sun until the proper time."

And instantly there fell upon him

dimness of sight and obscurity.

And he went around seeking someone

to lead him by the hand.

Acts 13:12 Then the proconsul

having seen what happened believed,

being astonished at the teaching of YAHWEH.

Acts 13:13 Now Sha'ul and those around him, having set sail from Paphos, came to Perga of Pamphylia. But Yahonathan, departing from them, returned to Yerushalaim. Acts 13:14 Then having traveled from Perga, they arrived in Antioch of Pisidia and having entered into the assembly on The Sabbath Day, sat down.

Pisidia means right persuasion. Acts 13:15 And after the reading of The Torah and The Prophets the rulers of the assembly sent to them saying, "Men, brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people speak."

Acts 13:16 Then Sha'ul stood up. And motioning with a hand he said, "Men of Yisra'el, and you who revere YAHWEH, listen attentively! Acts 13:17 The Elohim of this people, Yisra'el, chose our forefathers and exalted the people living as foreigners in the land of Mitsraim. And with a raised arm He lead them forth from there. Acts 13:18 And for a time of about forty years He endured their habits in the wilderness. Acts 13:19 And having demolished seven nations

in the land of Kena'an
He apportioned their land to them by lot.

Acts 13:20 After that He gave judges for about four hundred and fifty years until Shemu'el, the prophet.

Shemu'el means his name is from El.

Acts 13:21 And afterward they asked for a king.

And YAHWEH gave them Sha'ul, the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.

Kish means a snare.

Benjamin means son of the right hand.

Acts 13:22 And having deposed him

Acts 13:22 And having deposed him He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He testified saying,

"I have found David, the son of Yishai, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will." (Psa. 89.20, 1Sam. 13.14)

Acts 13:23 From this man's seed according to a promise YAHWEH raised up for Yisra'el a deliverer, YAHUSHUA, Acts 13:24 Yahonathan having proclaimed His coming in advance by a baptism of reconsideration to all the people of Yisra'el.

Acts 13:25 Now as Yahonathan was finishing his career he said, 'Who do you think I am? I am not He.
But on the other hand, behold!
One comes after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to loosen.'

Acts 13:26 Men, brothers, sons of the offspring of Abraham, and those among you who revere YAHWEH, to you the word of this rescue has been set apart. Acts 13:27 Indeed, those dwelling in Yerushalaim and their rulers, having not known Him, have fulfilled even the voices of the Prophets which are being read according to every Sabbath Day, condemning Him.

Acts 13:28 Yet having found no cause for death, they asked Pilate to kill Him.

Acts 13:29 Now when they had fulfilled absolutely everything that was written concerning Him, they lowered Him from the tree and placed Him in a tomb.

Acts 13:30 But **YAHWEH** raised Him up from being dead.

Lit. deadness, a noun, with no article in the Greek. Acts 13:31 He was observed over many days by those who came up with Him from The Galil to Yerushalaim.

These are His witnesses to the people.

Acts 13:32 And we announce good news to you, that the promise which was made to the forefathers Acts 13:33 YAHWEH has accomplished entirely for us, their children, in that He has raised up YAHUSHUA, even as it is written in the second Psalm:

"You are My Son. Today I have begotten You.' (Psa. 2.7)

Acts 13:34 Now because He has been raised up from the state of being dead, no longer to return to decay, He has spoken in this manner:

"I will give you the sure mercies of David."

(ls. 55.3)

Acts 13:35 Therefore He also says in another place: "You will not allow Your Set Apart One to see corruption." (Psa. 16.10)

Acts 13:36 Indeed, David, having served his own generation by the will of YAHWEH, died.

He was also placed with his forefathers and saw decay.

There is a tradition of placing the bones of a dead person in an ossuary, or box, with the bones of one's ancestors.

Acts 13:37 Yet He whom YAHWEH has raised up

has seen no decay.

Acts 13:38 Therefore let it be well known to you, brothers,

that through this One is proclaimed to you

the pardon of offenses.

Acts 13:39 And in Him everyone who trusts

is rendered innocent

from everything from which you were not able to be justified

by The Torah of Moshe.

Acts 13:40 Watch out therefore
lest what has been spoken
by the prophets comes upon you:
Acts 13:41 'Behold you despisers, marvel and perish!
For I work a work in your days,
a work which you will by no means believe,
though one were to declare it to you."

(Hab. 1.5)

Acts 13:42 Now the Yisra'elites having gone out of the assembly, the Gentiles encouraged that these matters might be told to them on the next Sabbath. Acts 13:43 Then the assembly having dissolved many of the Yisra'elites and devout proselytes accompanied Sha'ul and Bar Nabas, who, talking to them, persuaded them to continue in the favor of YAHWEH.

persuaded them to continue in the lavor of TATIVE

Acts 13:44 Now the next Sabbath having come, almost the whole city came together to hear the word of YAHWEH.

Acts 13:45 But the leaders of the Yisra'elites, having seen the crowds were filled with jealousy. And they disputed the things spoken by Sha'ul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Acts 13:46 Then Sha'ul and Bar Nabas became bold, saying,
"It was necessary that the word of YAHWEH was spoken to you first.
But since you reject it and are distinguishing yourselves as not worthy of Eternal Life, behold!
We are turning to the Gentiles!
Acts 13:47 Indeed, in this manner
YAHWEH has directed us,
"I have set you as a light to the Centiles."

'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for deliverance to the ends of the earth.'

(Is. 49.6)

Acts 13:48 Now the Gentiles having heard this were happy.
And they honored the word of YAHWEH.
And as many as were disposed toward Eternal Life believed.
Acts 13:49 And the word of YAHWEH was being carried through the whole region.

Acts 13:50 But the leaders of the Yisra'elites having stirred up the respected and prominent women and the chief men of the city aroused persecution against Sha'ul and Bar Nabas. And they ejected them out of their region.

Acts 13:51 And they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium.

Iconium means image-like.

Acts 13:52 And the students were filled with joy and with The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH.

Chapter 14

Acts 14:1 Now it happened at Iconium concerning them that they entered the synagogue of the Yisra'elites. And they spoke so that a great number both of the Yisra'elites and of the Greeks believed. Acts 14:2 But the disbelieving Yisra'elites stirred up and exasperated the minds of the Gentiles against the brothers. Acts 14:3 However they stayed there a long time speaking concerning YAHWEH Who was bearing witness to the message of His favor, granting signs and wonders to be done through their hands. Acts 14:4 And the great number of the city was divided. And some were with the Yisra'elites, and some were with the ambassadors.

Acts 14:5 Now an assault was about to happen by both the Gentiles and Yisra'elites with their ruler insulting and throwing stones at them. Acts 14:6 They observed it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and into the surrounding region.

Lystra means ransoming.

Derbe means tanner of skins.

Lycaonia means wolf like.

Acts 14:7 There also they proclaimed the good news.

Acts 14:8 And a certain man at Lystra with useless feet was sitting, having existed as lame from his mother's womb who had never walked.

Acts 14:9 This same one listened to Sha'ul speaking who looking at him intently and perceiving he had faith to be healed,

Acts 14:10 said with a loud voice,

"Stand up straight upon your feet!"

And he jumped up and walked about.

Acts 14:11 Now the people having seen what Sha'ul had done raised up their voices saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of human beings!"
Acts 14:12 And Bar Nabas they called Zeus, but Sha'ul Hermes since he was the primary speaker. Note the astral references

Note the astral references related to the worship of the sun, moon and stars.

Since many are inclined to think in terms of the mythological beings of Greece this concept is often lost, because it is associated with a "personage" rather than the objects in the skies.

Regardless, these are "idols", false "gods". Zeus = Jupiter. Hermes = Mercury. Acts 14:13 And the priest of Zeus who was over their city brought bulls and wreaths to the gates intending to sacrifice with the crowd.

Acts 14:14 But having heard of it Bar Nabas and Sha'ul tore their clothing, rushed in among the crowd shouting Acts 14:15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men like you. Even we proclaim good news to you so that you might turn from these profitless things to The Living Elohim Acts 14:16 Who has made the sky, the earth, the sea, and everything that exists in them, Who in bygone generations permitted all nations to walk in their own ways. Acts 14:17 And yet indeed, He did not leave Himself without witness by doing good, giving us rain from the sky and fruitful seasons. filling our hearts with food and happiness." Acts 14:18 And with these sayings they with difficulty restrained the crowd from sacrificing to them.

Acts 14:19 But Yisra'elites arrived from Antioch and Iconium.
And they were persuading the crowds.
And having stoned Sha'ul they dragged him out of the city regarding him to be dead.

There's a particularly interesting point in the Greek term used for "regarding". Properly, it means "to do by law".

The implication is that they were acting as though they were somehow fulfilling The Torah by getting rid of this "heretic".

Please note also that they stoned Sha'ul, and left him, believing he was dead – which indeed he probably was.

There is evidence to suggest this in other things Sha'ul has written.

It means Sha'ul also experienced a resurrection.

Acts 14:20 Now the students having surrounded him, he was raised up.
And he went into the city.
And the next day
he departed with Bar Nabas into Derbe.

Some 30 miles away

Some 30 miles away. Amazing for one who had just been stoned to death. And he did not travel by car.

Acts 14:21 And when they had proclaimed the good news to that city and made many students they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, Acts 14:22 further supporting the lives of the students, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much pressure enter into The Kingdom of YAHWEH.

Acts 14:23 Now having appointed elders for them for every assembly, and having prayed with fasting, they committed them to The Master in whom they had trusted.

Acts 14:24 And having traveled to Pisidia they came to Pamphylia.

Acts 14:25 And having spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

Attalia means gentle father.

Acts 14:26 From there they sailed to Antioch from where they had been committed to the favor of YAHWEH for the work which they had completed. Acts 14:27 And having arrived and gathered the assembly together, they reported all that YAHWEH had done with them, and that He had opened up the door of faith to the Gentiles. Acts 14:28 Now they stayed there a long time with the students.

Chapter 15

Acts 15:1 And some came down from Yahudah to teach the brothers that unless they were circumcised according to the custom of Moshe they were not able to be delivered.

Acts 15:2 Therefore a controversy happened and no small dispute against Sha'ul and Bar Nabas. They determined that Sha'ul and Bar Nabas and certain others of them should go up to Yerushalaim to the ambassadors and elders concerning this debate.

Acts 15:3 Therefore having been sent on their way by the assembly, they traveled through Phoenicia and Shomeron, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles. And they caused great joy for all the brothers.

Acts 15:4 Now having arrived at Yerushalaim they were received gladly by the assembly and the ambassadors and the elders.

And they announced how much YAHWEH had accomplished among them.

Acts 15:5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who were believing rose up saying that it was necessary to circumcise them, commanding them also to keep The Torah of Moshe.

Acts 15:6 Now the ambassadors and elders had come together to consider this matter.

Acts 15:7 Then having had much discussion
Peter stood up and said to them,
"Men and brothers,
you understand that a long time ago
YAHWEH chose among us
that through my mouth the Gentiles should hear
the word of the good news and believe.
Acts 15:8 And YAHWEH, knower of hearts, gave witness
giving to them The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH,
even as to us.
Acts 15:9 And He made no distinction
between us and them,
cleansing their hearts by faith.

Acts 15:10 Now therefore why do you test YAHWEH, placing a yoke on the neck of the students which neither our fathers nor we could bear?

Acts 15:11 On the contrary, through the favor of The Master, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, we believe, being delivered, which is the same means for them."

Acts 15:12 Then the entire multitude kept silent. And they listened to Bar Nabas and to Sha'ul rehearsing how many signs and wonders YAHWEH had accomplished among the Gentiles through them.

Acts 15:13 Now after they had become silent
Ya'akob began speaking saying,
"Men, brothers, listen attentively to me!
Acts 15:14 Shim'on has rehearsed how YAHWEH
at the beginning inspected the Gentiles
to take from them a people for His name.
Acts 15:15 And with this the words of the prophets agree,
just as it is written,
Acts 15:16 "'After this I will return
and will rebuild the tabernacle of David
which has fallen down.
I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up,
Acts 15:17 so that the rest of mankind may seek YAHWEH,
even all the Gentiles who are called by My name,'
says YAHWEH Who does all these things."

(Amos 9.11-12)
Acts 15:18 Known to YAHWEH from eternity are all His works.
Acts 15:19 Therefore I judge that we should not harass them any further since the Gentiles are turning to YAHWEH,
Acts 15:20 instead writing to them to abstain from the defilement of idols, and sexual immorality, and things strangled, and blood.

Acts 15:21 Indeed, Moshe from ancient generations, has had those who proclaim him out of every city, being read in the assemblies every Sabbath."

Acts 15:22 Then the ambassadors and elders, with the whole assembly decided to send chosen men of their own to Antioch with Sha'ul and Bar Nabas, Yahudah, who was also named Bar Saba, and Silas, leading men among the brothers, Acts 15:23 having written by their own hands in this manner:

Greetings.

Acts 15:24 Since we have heard that some who went out from us have stirred you up with words, upsetting your lives, telling you to be circumcised and to keep The Torah, to whom we gave no such instruction, Acts 15:25 it seemed good to us, having become of one mind, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Bar Nabas and Sha'ul, Acts 15:26 men who have surrendered their lives for the name of our Master, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah. Acts 15:27 We have therefore sent Yahudah and Silas who are also reporting the same things by saying them.

Acts 15:28 Indeed, it was thought by The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH and by us to impose upon you no greater burden than these necessities:

Acts 15:29 that you abstain from sacrificing to idols, and blood, and things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these you will do well. Farewell.

Acts 15:30 Therefore having been dismissed they went to Antioch.
And having gathered the multitude together they delivered the letter.
Acts 15:31 Now having read it they rejoiced over its encouragement.

Acts 15:32 Now Yahudah and Silas, themselves being prophets also, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words.

Acts 15:33 And having been there a while they were released with peace from the brothers to the ambassadors.

Acts 15:34 But Silas decided to remain there.

Acts 15:35 Now Sha'ul and Bar Nabas stayed in Antioch teaching and announcing the good news, the word of YAHWEH, among many others also.

Acts 15:36 And some days later Sha'ul said to Bar Nabas, "Let us now go back and examine how our brothers are doing in every city where we have proclaimed the word of YAHWEH.' Acts 15:37 Now Bar Nabas advised taking with them Yahonathan called Mark. Acts 15:38 But Sha'ul did not consider it good taking the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, having not gone with them to the work. Acts 15:39 Therefore a dispute happened so that they separated from one another. So Bar Nabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus, Acts 15:40 but Sha'ul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brothers to the favor of YAHWEH. Acts 15:41 Then he went through Syria and Cilicia. strengthening the assemblies.

Chapter 16

Acts 16:1 Then he arrived at Derbe and Lystra. And behold!

A certain student was there named Timothy, son of a certain believing Jewish woman, but his father a Greek.

Acts 16:2 He was well spoken of by the brothers who were at Lystra and Iconium.

Acts 16:3 Sha'ul wanted to have him go on with him. And he took and circumcised him because of the Yisra'elites who were in that place, because they all understood that his father was Greek.

Acts 16:4 Now as they went through the cities they delivered to them the decrees to be observed which had been determined by the ambassadors and elders at Yerushalaim.

Acts 16:5 And accordingly the assemblies were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.

Acts 16:6 Now having traveled through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were prevented by The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH from speaking the message in Asia.

Galatia means milky. Asia means mire.

Acts 16:7 Having come down to Mysia they endeavored to travel into Bithynia.

But The Divine Nature of YAHWEH did not permit them.

Mysia means obscure. Bithynia means violent rushing.

Acts 16:8 Then having arrived at Mysia they went down into Troas.

Troas means a Trojan.

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Sha'ul in the night. A man of Macedonia was standing and inviting him saying,

"Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Macedonia means tall.

Acts 16:10 And after having seen the vision immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that YAHWEH had called us

to proclaim the good news to them. Acts 16:11 Therefore sailing from Troas we sailed directly to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, Samothrace means a sign of rags.

Acts 16:12 and from there to Philippi, which is the chief city

of that part of Macedonia, a colony.

Neapolis means new city. Philippi means lover of horses.

Now we were staying in that city for some days.

Acts 16:13 And on The Sabbath Day

we went out of the city to the riverside,

where prayer was customarily made.

And we sat down.

And we spoke to the women who were assembling.

Acts 16:14 Now a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped YAHWEH listened attentively. The Master opened her heart

to pay attention to that which was spoken by Sha'ul.

Lydia means travailing; labor pains. Thyatira means odor of affliction.

Acts 16:15 And after she and her household were baptized she invited us saying, "If you have judged me to be trusting in The Master come to my house and stay." And she compelled us.

Acts 16:16 Now it was as we traveled to prayer. And a certain slave girl having a nature of divination met us who furnished her masters much profit by fortune telling.

Divination is "fortune-telling". It's a counterfeit of YAHWEH's ability o accurately predict the future.

A believer is not to be involved in such things.

Acts 16:17 This girl followed Sha'ul and us.

And she cried out saying,

"These human beings are the slaves

of The Supreme One, YAHWEH,

who proclaim to us the way of deliverance."

Note: This ungodly entity knows YAHWEH. It also knows that Sha'ul and the other believers with him are slaves of YAHWEH.

This reveals the level of knowledge found in such entities.

Acts 16:18 Now she did this over many days.

But Sha'ul being annoyed,

turned and said to the nature,

"I direct you in the name of YAHUSHUA, The Messiah,

to come out of her."

And it came out that very moment.

Acts 16:19 Now her masters, seeing that their expectation of profits was gone, seized Sha'ul and Silas, dragging them into the marketplace to the rulers. Acts 16:20 And having brought them to the chief leaders they said, "These men being Yisra'elites exceedingly trouble our city. Acts 16:21 And are teaching customs which are not right for us to accept nor to practice being Romans." Acts 16:22 And the crowd rose up together against them. And the chief leaders, having torn off their clothes.

commanded them to be beaten with rods.

Acts 16:23 And having imposed many strokes upon them

threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely, Acts 16:24 who having received such a mandate threw them into the inner prison and made their feet secure in the stocks.

Acts 16:25 Now at midnight Sha'ul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to YAHWEH.

And the prisoners listened to them.

Acts 16:26 Then unexpectedly a great earthquake happened so that the foundations of the prison were shaken.

And instantly all the doors were opened.

And everyone's shackles were loosed.

Acts 16:27 Now the jailer being awakened from sleep and seeing the prison doors open drew his sword and was about to kill himself thinking that the prisoners had fled.

Acts 16:28 But Sha'ul called with a loud voice saying, "Do yourself no harm because we are all here."

Acts 16:29 Then he, having asked for a light, rushed in. And having become terrified he prostrated himself before Sha'ul and Silas.

Acts 16:30 And having brought them out he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be delivered?"

Acts 16:31 And they said, "Trust in The Master, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, and you will be delivered, also your household."

Acts 16:32 And they spoke the word of YAHWEH to him and to all who were in his house.

This short passage is another prime example of the confusion caused by the use of the Greek term, kurios. Within three verses we have three possible renderings of the same term. In v. 30 sirs, in verse 31 The Lord, referring to YAHUSHUA., in traditional texts. This is clarified by the use of His name and the identification of Him as The Messiah. Then in verse 32 we have reference to "the word of The Lord". This verse is not so clear. It may be that the message of YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, is what's being identified. Yet in the broader context of Scripture this phrase is distinctive in its reference to The Word of YAHWEH, which is all of Scripture, but is especially used in reference to the predicted coming of The Messiah. It seems likely that the word spoken by Sha'ul to these people included far more that the "word of YAHUSHUA", in that he regularly used The Old Covenant Scriptures to demonstrate that YAHUSHUA was in fact The Messiah whom YAHWEH had promised to send to earth. Sha'ul would was an expert in The Scriptures.

Acts 16:33 And he took them the same hour of the night to wash off their wounds.

And immediately he and all his family were baptized.

Acts 16:34 And having brought them into his house he set a table before them.

And he rejoiced with his entire household having believed in YAHWEH.

Acts 16:35 Now when it was day the chief leaders sent the officers saying, "Release those human beings."
Acts 16:36 And the jailer announced these words to Sha'ul saying, "The chief leaders have sent to release you. Now therefore depart and travel in peace."

Acts 16:37 But Sha'ul said to them, "They have beaten us human beings publicly without a legal trial being Romans and have thrown us into prison. And now do they eject us secretly? No indeed! Instead let them come themselves and bring us out."

Acts 16:38 Then the officers told these words to the chief leaders.
And they were frightened having heard that they were Romans.
Acts 16:39 And they came comforting them and bringing them out, asking them to depart from the city.

Acts 16:40 Then they went out of the prison. And they entered *the house of* Lydia. And having seen the brothers they comforted them and departed.

Chapter 17

Acts 17:1 Now having traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia they came to Thessalonica where there was a synagogue of the Yisra'elites.

Amphipolis means around the city. Apollonia means utter destruction. Thessalonica means victory over the tossing of law; or, victory over lies.

or, victory over lies.

Acts 17:2 Then Sha'ul according to his custom entered in among them.

And for three Sabbaths he reasoned with them from The Scriptures

Acts 17:3 explaining and demonstrating that it was necessary for The Messiah to suffer and be raised again from being dead, and saving.

"This same YAHUSHUA whom I proclaim to you is The Messiah!"

Acts 17:4 And some of them were persuaded. And they joined together with Sha'ul and Silas, even a great number of the respected Greeks, and not a few of the foremost women.

Acts 17:5 But the Yisra'elites who disbelieved, having become jealous, took to themselves some of the evil men from the marketplace. And gathering a mob they set the whole city in tumult, even attacking the house of Jason. And they sought to bring them out among the people. Jason means healer. Acts 17:6 But not having found them they dragged Jason and some brothers to the town officers crying out. "These who have turned the world upside down have come here also, Acts 17:7 whom Jason has hosted. And these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king, YAHUSHUA." Acts 17:8 And they stirred up the crowd and the town officers having heard these things. Acts 17:9 And when they had taken security from Jason

Acts 17:10 Now the brothers immediately sent Sha'ul and Silas away by night into Berea. Having arrived they went into the synagogue of the Yisra'elites.

Berea means the pierced.

and the others they released them.

Acts 17:11 Now these were more noble

than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, scrutinizing The Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. Acts 17:12 Therefore many of them believed and also prominent women of the Greeks and not a few men.

Acts 17:13 But when the Yisra'elites from Thessalonica learned that the word of YAHWEH was being proclaimed by Sha'ul at Berea they came there also and stirred up the crowds.

Acts 17:14 Now at that time the brothers immediately sent Sha'ul away to travel upon the sea. But both Silas and Timothy still remained there. Acts 17:15 And those conducting Sha'ul brought him as far as Athens. And having received a charge for Silas and Timothv to come to him as quickly as possible they departed. Athens means uncertainty.

Acts 17:16 Now while Sha'ul was waiting for them at Athens his nature was provoked within him, having observed that the city was totally idolatrous. Acts 17:17 Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Yisra'elites and with the religious people and in the marketplace each day with those who happened to be there. Acts 17:18 Now some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers dialogued with him. And some said, What does this gossiper want to say now? He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign deities.", because he proclaimed to them the good news concerning YAHUSHUA and His resurrection. Epicurean means helper: defender.

Stoic means of the doorway.

Acts 17:19 And they took him. And they brought him to the Areopagus saying, "May we know what this new instruction is of which you speak Areopagus means a martial peak. Acts 17:20 because you are bringing some strange things to our ears? Therefore we want to know what these things mean." Acts 17:21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing other than either telling or listening to some new thing.

Acts 17:22 And Sha'ul stood in the middle of the Areopagus saving. "Men of Athens, I observe that in all things you are more religious than others Acts 17:23 because as I was traveling about and considering the objects of your worship I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD, whom therefore you are worshipping without knowing. This same One I proclaim to you, Acts 17:24 YAHWEH, Who has made the world and everything in it. He who is Master of the skies and the earth does not dwell in temples of human construction. kurios - supreme in authority, lord. Note the confusion created once more by the repeated use of this term "lord"

in traditional texts.

Acts 17:25 Neither is He served with men's hands

as though He needed something. He gives life to everything, even all the breathing.

Acts 17:26 And He has made from one blood every race of human beings dwelling upon the face of the earth, having determined the prescribed seasons and the boundaries of their dwellings, Acts 17:27 to seek YAHWEH, if perhaps they might search for Him and find Him. And yet, indeed, He is not far from each one of us, Acts 17:28 because in Him we live, and move, and have our life, as even some of your own poets have stated, 'Indeed, we are also His offspring.'

Acts 17:29 Therefore since we exist as the offspring of YAHWEH we ought not think godlikeness exists in a likeness of gold, or silver, or stone, engraved by art and man's deliberation.

Acts 17:30 Truly times of ignorance YAHWEH is overlooking, at present directing all human beings everywhere to reconsider your actions
Acts 17:31 on the very account that He has established a day in which He will judge the world with justice by The Man whom He has specified having provided assurance to everyone, having raised Him up from the state of being dead."

Acts 17:32 Now having heard of the resurrection of the dead, on the one hand some mocked, but others said, "We will hear you again concerning this." Acts 17:33 And in this manner Sha'ul departed from among them.

Acts 17:34 Now some men clung to him having believed, among them Dionysius, the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Dionysius means a devotee of Bacchus, god of wine.

Damaris means a yoke-bearing wife.

Chapter 18

Acts 18:1 Now after these things
Sha'ul departed from Athens
and went to Corinth.
Acts 18:2 And he found a certain Yisra'elite named Aquila,
born in Pontus, having recently come from Italy
with his wife Priscilla because Claudius
had ordered all the Yisra'elites to depart from Rome.
And he approached them.

Aquila means I shall be nourished. Pontus means the sea. Priscilla means little old woman. Claudius means whining.

Acts 18:3 And because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked because by occupation they were tentmakers. Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath.

And he persuaded both Yisra'elites and Greeks.

Acts 18:5 When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia Sha'ul was compelled by The Divine Nature of YAHWEH. And he attested to the Yisra'elites that YAHUSHUA is The Messiah.

Acts 18:6 But having opposed him

and having blasphemed he shook his garments saying to them, "Your blood *is* upon your heads! I am clean!

From now on I will go to the Gentiles!"

This is a major event in the history of believers. Sha'ul's mission was first and foremost to the Yisra'elites. While he was also teaching the Gentiles this was not his primary mission - until now. This marks a major turning point in his ministry, and in the impact his ministry has had upon the rest of the nations of the world.

Acts 18:7 And he departed from there. And he entered the house of a certain one named Justus, who worshiped YAHWEH, whose house was next door to the synagogue. Acts 18:8 Now Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, trusted in The Master with his whole household. And many of the Corinthians hearing trusted and were baptized.

Crispus means crisp; curly haired. Corinthians means satisfied ones.

Acts 18:9 Now The Master spoke to Sha'ul in the night through a vision, "Do not be afraid!
But speak, and do not keep silent,
Acts 18.10 because I am with you!
And not even one will attack you to hurt you because I have many people in this city."

Acts 18:11 And he stayed a year and six months teaching the word of YAHWEH among them.

Acts 18:12 Now when Gallio was acting as proconsul of Achaia the Yisra'elites with one mind rose up against Sha'ul. And they brought him to the judgment seat, Gallio means a eunuch.

Achaia means wailing. Acts 18:13 saying, "This man

incites men to worship YAHWEH contrary to The Torah."

Acts 18:14 Then Sha'ul being about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Yisra'elites, "If it were a matter of wrongdoing or morally wrong wicked behavior, Yisra'elites, there would possibly be a reason why I should put up with you.

Acts 18:15 But if it is a question of words and names and concerning your own Torah look *to it* yourselves because I do not want to be a judge of these *matters*." Acts 18:16 And he dismissed them from the judgment seat.

Acts 18:17 Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the judgment seat.
But Gallio was concerned about none of these things.

Sosthenes means saving strength.

Acts 18:18 And Sha'ul remained after this a good while. Saying farewell to the brothers he sailed for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila, having his hair cut off at Cenchrea because he had taken a vow.

Cenchrea means granular.

Acts 18:19 Then having arrived at Ephesus and having left them there, he himself entered into the synagogue and reasoned with the Yisra'elites.

Ephesus means full purposed. Acts 18:20 But having asked him

to stay a longer time with them he did not consent,
Acts 18:21 but rather bid them farewell saying,
"I must by all means keep this coming feast at Yerushalaim.
But I will return again to you, if YAHWEH determines."
And he sailed from Ephesus.

Acts 18:22 And having arrived at Caesarea and having gone up and greeted the assembly he went down to Antioch.

Acts 18:23 And having been some time *there* he departed and traveled the regions of Galatia and Phrygia consecutively, strengthening all the students.

Acts 18:24 Now a certain Yisra'elite named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man being very capable in the Scriptures, arrived at Ephesus.

Apollos means destroyer.
Alexandria means man defender.
Acts 18:25 This man had been indoctrinated in The Way of The Master.
And being fervent in The Divine Nature of YAHWEH, he spoke and taught accurately concerning The Master, understanding only the baptism of Yahonathan.

Acts 18:26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue.
But having heard him Aquila and Priscilla took him aside and explained to him the way of YAHWEH more accurately.

Once again we encounter potential confusion through the use of *kurios*. (Lord) in verse 25. Was he speaking concerning YAHWEH? Or are these references to YAHUSHUA? The text is not clear. We're left to speculate. It could be either.

Acts 18:27 Now wanting to travel to Achaia the brothers wrote encouraging the students to receive him. And when he arrived he greatly helped those who had believed because of favor, Acts 18:28 because he vigorously refuted the Yisra'elites publicly, showing through The Scriptures that YAHUSHUA is The Messiah.

Chapter 19

Acts 19:1 Now it happened while Apollos was at Corinth that Sha'ul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus.

And having found some students
Acts 19:2 he said to them, "Have you having believed received The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH?"
But they said to him,

"We have not even heard whether there is a Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH."

Note that there is no indication of any "person" being involved in this. It does not say "we've not heard of him" or refer in any manner to a separate being.

Acts 19:3 And he said to them,
"Into what then were you baptized?"
And they said, "Into Yahonathan's baptism."
Acts 19:4 Then Sha'ul said,
"Yahonathan indeed baptized
with a baptism of reconsideration, telling the people
they should believe on Him who was coming after him,

that is, on The Messiah, YAHUSHUA." Acts 19:5 Now having heard they were baptized in the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA. Acts 19:6 And Sha'ul having laid hands upon them, The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH came upon them.

And they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

The Greek term used for "upon"
could mean to, toward, over, etc.
These are not terms that give

any indication of this being a "person".

Acts 19:7 Now the men were about twelve in all.

Acts 19:8 Then he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning The Kingdom of YAHWEH.

Acts 19:9 But when some were obstinate and disbelieved, speaking disrespectfully concerning The Way in the presence of the multitude, he withdrew from them, separating the students, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Tyrannus means absolute rule.
Acts 19:10 Now this happened for two years so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the message of The Master, YAHUSHUA, both Yisra'elites and Greeks.

Acts 19:11 And YAHWEH worked unusual signs by the hands of Sha'ul Acts 19:12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick. And the diseases were removed from them. And the unclean natures departed from them.

Acts 19:13 Now some of the itinerant Yisra'elite exorcists took it upon themselves to name the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA, over those who had unclean natures, saying, "We adjure you by the YAHUSHUA whom Sha'ul proclaims."

Acts 19:14 Now there were seven sons of Sceva, an Yisra'elite chief priest, who did this.

Sceva means mind reader.

Acts 19:15 But the unclean nature responded saying, "YAHUSHUA I know absolutely, and Sha'ul I recognize. But who are you?"

Again we see the knowledge level of these entities. They know without a doubt who The Messiah is. They also recognize Sha'ul as one of His followers.

But the seven sons of Sceva, even though they are sons of a Jewish great priest, do not acknowledge as even being followers of YAHWEH.

Acts 19:16 And the human being in whom they the unclean nature existed leaped upon them. And he exercised dominion over them having power against them so that they fled from that house naked and wounded.

Acts 19:17 Now this became well known even to all Yisra'elites and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus. And fear fell upon them all.
And the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA, was made great.

Acts 19:18 Now many of the believing came acknowledging and reporting their practices. Acts 19:19 Also many of those who had practiced magic

brought their books together to burn them in front of everyone.

And they counted up the value of them.

And *it* totaled fifty thousand *pieces* of silver.

Acts 19:20 In this manner the word of YAHWEH grew mightily and prevailed.

Acts 19:21 Now having fulfilled these things in this manner
Sha'ul was appointed by The Divine Nature of YAHWEH, having traveled through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Yerushalaim having said that,
"After I have been there I must also see Rome."

Acts 19:22 Then he sent into Macedonia two of those who assisted him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself being detained in Asia for a time.

Timothy means honoring YAHWEH.

Erastus means beloved.

Acts 19:23 And about that time there arose no small disturbance about The Way,
The Way refers to those
who are following The Way, YAHUSHUA, following His teachings and instructions.

Acts 19:24 because one named Demetrius, a silversmith making silver shrines of Diana which brought no small profit to the craftsmen Demetrius means of mother earth.

Diana means complete light.

Acts 19:25 whom he called together with the workers of this sort also said,

"Men, you recognize that we have our wealth from this trade.

Acts 19:26 And you see and hear that not only at Ephesus

but almost in all Asia, this Sha'ul has persuaded and turned away ample crowds

saying that they are not gods which are made with hands.

Acts 19:27 Now not only is this trade of ours

in danger of coming into disrepute but also the temple of the great goddess Diana

may become despised and even her splendor is about to be demolished

whom Asia and the whole world worship." Acts 19:28 Now having heard *this*

and becoming full of indignation they cried out saying.

"Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"

Acts 19:29 So the whole city was filled with disorder and rushed into the theater with one mind,

having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Sha'ul's travel companions.

Gaius means on earth. Aristarchus means best ruler.

Acts 19:30 Now when Sha'ul wanted to go in to the people the students would not allow him. Acts 19:31 And even some of the officials of Asia who were his friends sent to him encouraging him not to venture into the theater.

Acts 19:32 Different ones cried one thing and some another because the assembly was in an uproar. And most of them did not understand why they had come together.

The term, **ekklesia**, does not mean "church". It means an assembly.

This is clearly not a "church" in this instance.

To call it such is to politicize the term to fit one's theology.

Acts 19:33 And they forced Alexander out of the crowd,

the Yisra'elites pushing him forward.

Then Alexander motioned with his hand,

wanting to make his defense to the people.

Acts 19:34 But when they recognized

that he was an Yisra'elite

everyone with one voice

cried out for about two hours,

"Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"

Acts 19:35 But the town clerk

having quelled the mob said, "Men of Ephesus,

what human being is there who does not know

that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper

of the great goddess Diana

and of that which fell from the sky?

Acts 19:36 Therefore since these things are indisputable

you must calm down and do nothing rashly.

Acts 19:37 Indeed, you have brought these men here

who are neither robbers of temples

nor blasphemers of your goddess.

Acts 19:38 Therefore if Demetrius

and his fellow craftsmen

have a case against anyone

the market place is open and there are proconsuls.

Let them bring charges against one another.

Formal legal charges.

Acts 19:39 But if you have any other inquiry to make

it will be determined in the lawful assembly.

Acts 19:40 Indeed, we are even in danger

of being called to account for today's uproar,

there being no reason which we may give

to account for this disorderly gathering."

Acts 19:41 And having said these things

he dismissed the assembly.

Chapter 20

Acts 20:1 After the uproar had stopped

Sha'ul called the students to himself.

And having embraced them he departed,

traveling to Macedonia.

Acts 20:2 Now having traveled through that region

and encouraging them with many words

he went to Greece.

Greece means unstable; the miry one.

Acts 20:3 And he stayed three months.

The Yisra'elites having plotted against him

as he was about to sail to Syria,

he decided to return through Macedonia.

Acts 20:4 Now Sopater of Berea

accompanied him to Asia,

also Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians,

and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and Tychicus,

and Trophimus of Asia.

Sopater means saving father.

Berea means the pierced.

Secundus means second.

Tychicus means fortunate. Trophimus means nourishment.

Acts 20:5 These men having gone before

waited for us at Troas.

Acts 20:6 Then we departed by ship from Philippi

after the Days of Unleavened Bread

and in five days joined them at Troas

where we stayed seven days.

Acts 20:7 Now on the first of the Special Sabbath

This refers to a **shabbathown**,

the Hebrew term for a special sabbath,

or day of rest.

There were two of these during Passover.

One was at the very beginning,

the other was seven days later - and they were not necessarily on the seventh day of the week.

This means they were not on The Sabbath Day, which is Saturday. It could be any day of the week.

The first of sabbaton, the Greek term, simply refers to the first day following the Special Sabbath.

This means the resurrection did NOT, of necessity, occur on "Sunday".

Indeed, it makes it highly probable that it did not occur on a "Sunday", "the first day of the week".

Lit. - one or first of the Special Sabbath.

This story repeats the fact that there was a Special Sabbath as part of The Feast of Unleavened Bread. It was this very feast that is the focus of this story.

It would be extremely unlikely that this was a "Sunday"

the students having come together to break bread, Sha'ul reasoned with them intending to leave the next day and continuing his message until midnight.

Acts 20:8 Now there were many lamps in the upper room where they were gathering together. Acts 20:9 And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep. Sha'ul reasoning extensively concerning much he fell down from the third story. And he was picked up dead. Eutychus means well off.

Acts 20:10 But Sha'ul went down, grabbed him, and embracing him said, "Do not be troubled because his life is in him."

Acts 20:12 Then they brought the young man in alive. And they were not a little comforted.

It appears the order of verses 12 &13 has been reversed.

It makes more sense

to put verse 12 after verse 10.

Acts 20:11 Now coming up and having broken bread and having eaten, he talked a long while, even until daybreak.

In this manner he departed.

It's quite phenomenal to consider that this resurrection occurred on "the first of The "Sabbaton", Special Sabbath.

It places it on the anniversary of the resurrection of The Messiah.

Acts 20:13 Then we went ahead to the ship and sailed to Assos, there intending to take Sha'ul on board because so he had arranged, intending himself to go on foot. Assos means nearer. Acts 20:14 But having met us at Assos we took him on board and went to Mitylene. Mitylene means curtailed.

Acts 20:15 We sailed from there and the next day arrived opposite Chios. The following day we arrived at Samos and stayed at Trogyllium.

The next day we came to Miletus

Chios means unlucky throw of the dice. Samos means a sign.

Trogyllium means a cache.
Miletus means cared for.

Acts 20:16 because Sha'ul had decided

to sail past Ephesus

so that he would not linger in Asia

because he was hurrying

to be at Yerushalaim if possible

on the Day of Shavuot. Pentecost

Acts 20:17 Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, calling for the elders of the assembly.

Acts 20:18 Now when they had come to him he said to them.

"You understand from the first day that I arrived in Asia

how I have been among you at all times

Acts 20:19 serving YAHWEH

with all humbleness of mind,

with many tears and trials which happened to me

by the plotting of the Yisra'elites,

Acts 20:20 how I withheld nothing that was helpful,

but declared it to you

and taught you publicly and from house to house

Acts 20:21 testifying to Yisra'elites and also to Greeks

reconsideration toward YAHWEH and trust which is in our Master YAHUSHUA, The Messiah.

Acts 20:22 And now behold!

I am traveling bound in The Divine Nature of YAHWEH, to Yerushalaim.

not perceiving the things that will happen to me there

Acts 20:23 except that

The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH

testifies in every city saying that shackles

and troubles await me.

Acts 20.24 However, none of these things move me

nor do I hold my life as valuable to myself

so that I may finish my race with joy

and the ministry which I received

from The Master, YAHUSHUA,

to testify to the good news of the favor of YAHWEH.

Acts 20:25 And indeed now I know that you all among whom I have come proclaiming

The Kingdom of YAHWEH, will see my face no more.

Acts 20:26 Therefore I am led

to affirm among you this day

that I am innocent of the blood of all.

Acts 20:27 Indeed, I have not failed to declare to you

all the will of YAHWEH.

Acts 20:28 Therefore take heed to yourselves

and to all the flock over whom

The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH

has made you superintendents,

to shepherd the assembly of YAHWEH

which He has purchased with His very own blood.

Because the Greek uses *tou theou* (the God) it appears Sha'ul actually taught that it was the blood of YAHWEH that purchased our redemption.

This term is often translated as "The Lord", presenting great confusion in the text by its lack of clarity.

There are historical evidences of changes being made at certain points in the texts by scribes to alter the implications of what was being taught, seeking to discredit believers in The Messiah by doing so, or seeking to promote a particular "theology".

Read carefully the very next verses, where Sha'ul actually prophesies this will happen.

Acts 20:29 Indeed, I perceive this, that after my departure savage wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

Acts 20:30 Also **from among yourselves** men will rise up, speaking perverse things, drawing away the students following them.

Acts 20:31 Therefore keep awake, remembering that for three years I did not stop warning each one of you night and day with tears.

Acts 20:32 And now, brothers,
I present you to YAHWEH
and to the message of His favor
which is able to build you up
and to give you an inheritance
among everyone who is being consecrated.

hagiazo - to make holy, i.e. purify or consecrate.
 Being made "holy" is always tied
 to being "set apart"
 for a special purpose for YAHWEH,
 within Scriptural contexts.

Acts 20:33 I have longed for no one's silver, or gold, or apparel.

Acts 20:34 Moreover you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.

Acts 20:35 In everything I have demonstrated to you that laboring like this you must support the weak even remembering the words of The Master, YAHUSHUA, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

Acts 20:36 And having said these things he knelt down and prayed to YAHWEH together with all of them. Acts 20:37 Then they all wept greatly and falling upon Sha'ul's neck kissed him, Acts 20:38 grieving most of all for the words which he spoke, that they would see his face no more. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Chapter 21

Acts 21:1 Now it was as we had been dragged away from them. And having set sail we ran directly to Cos, then the following *day* to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. Acts 21:2 And having found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia we went aboard, sailing away.

Cos means a thorn.
Rhodes means rosy.
Patara means suffering it seems.
Phoenicia means palm land.

Acts 21:3 When we had sighted Cyprus we passed it on the left, sailed to Syria, and landed at Tyzor because there the ship was to unload her cargo.

Acts 21:4 And having located the students we stayed there seven days.

They said to Sha'ul through The Divine Nature of YAHWEH that he should not go up to Yerushalaim.

Acts 21:5 When we had come to the end of those days

we departed and took our journey, them sending us on our way with wives and children until we were outside the city.

And we knelt down on the shore and prayed to YAHWEH.

Acts 21:6 And having embraced one another we walked up into the ship.

And they returned to their own homes again.

Acts 21:7 And having finished *our* voyage from Tzor we arrived at Ptolemais.

And we embraced the brothers.

And we stayed with them one day.
Ptolemais means warlike.

Acts 21:8 Now on the next *day*we who were Sha'ul's companions departed.

And we went to Caesarea and entered the house of Philip, the evangelist, who was *one* of the seven.

And we stayed with him.

Acts 21:9 Now this man had four unmarried daughters who prophesied.
Acts 21:10 And having stayed many days a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Yahudah.
Acts 21:11 And having come to us he lifted up Sha'ul's belt, binding his own hands and feet and said, "Thus says The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH, 'Thus will the Yisra'elites at Yerushalaim bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"

Acts 21:12 Now having heard these things both we and the residents encouraged him not to go up to Yerushalaim. Acts 21:13 But Sha'ul responded, "What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? Indeed, I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Yerushalaim for the sake of the name of The Master, YAHUSHUA."

Acts 21:14 And when he would not be persuaded we kept still saying, "The will of YAHWEH be done."

Acts 21:15 Now after those days
we packed up our baggage
and went up to Yerushalaim.
Acts 21:16 And some of the students from Caesarea
also went with us.
And they brought with them a certain Mnason of Cyprus,
an original student, with whom we were to lodge.
Mnason means solicitor.
Acts 21:17 Now having come to Yerushalaim
the brothers received us gladly.

Acts 21:18 On the following *day*Sha'ul entered in with us to Ya'akob.
And all the elders were present.
Acts 21:19 And having embraced them he declared in every detail those things which YAHWEH had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

Acts 21:20 Now having heard they honored The Master, even having said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Yisra'elites there are who have believed.

And they are zealous for The Torah.

Acts 21:21 But they have been informed concerning you that you are teaching all the Yisra'elites who are among the Gentiles to abandon Moshe, saying they ought not circumcise *their* children

nor to walk according to the customs.

Acts 21:22 What is this therefore?

The multitude must certainly convene
because they will hear that you have come.

Acts 21:23 Therefore do what we tell you.

We have four men
who have taken a vow upon themselves.

Acts 21:24 Join them! And be purified with them!

And pay their expenses
in order that they may shave their heads
and that all may know that those things
of which they have been informed
concerning you are nothing,
but rather that you yourself also walk in conformity
and are keeping The Torah.

Acts 21:25 Now concerning the Gentiles who believe we have written and determined they should keep no such thing, except that they should keep themselves from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality."

Acts 21:26 Then Sha'ul joined the men. The next day, having been purified with them, they entered The Temple to declare the completion of the days of purification at which time an offering was offered for each one of them.

Acts 21:27 Now when the seven days were about to be completed the Yisra'elites from Asia, having seen him in The Temple, stirred up the whole crowd.

And they laid hands upon him, Acts 21:28 crying out, "Men of Yisra'el, help!

This is the human being who teaches everyone universally against the people, The Torah, and this place. And furthermore he also brought Greeks into The Temple, even defiling this set apart place."

Acts 21:29 Indeed, they had previously seen Trophimus, the Ephesian, with him in the city, whom they thought that Sha'ul had brought into The Temple.

Acts 21:30 So the whole city was disturbed.

And the people ran together, seized Sha'ul, and dragged him out of The Temple.

And immediately the doors were shut.

Acts 21:31 Now as they were seeking to kill him news went up to the commander of the garrison that all Yerushalaim was in an uproar.

Acts 21:32 He immediately took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them.

Now having seen the commander and the soldiers they quit beating Sha'ul.

Acts 21:33 Then the commander came near.
And he seized him.
And he ordered him to be bound with two manacles.
And he asked who he was and what he had done.
Acts 21:34 Then some among the multitude shouted one thing and some another.
Then, not being able to know for certain because of the tumult,
he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.
Acts 21:35 And when he reached the stairway

he had to be picked up by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd. Acts 21:36 Indeed, the multitude of the people followed after crying out, "Away with him!"

Acts 21:37 Then Sha'ul, about to be led into the barracks, said to the commander, "May I speak to you?"
He replied, "Can you speak Greek?
Acts 21:38 Are you not the Mitsraite
who in former days created an uproar
and led out four thousand into the wilderness
who were murderers?"

Acts 21:39 But Sha'ul said,
"I am a human being,
an Yisra'elite from Tarsus, in Cilicia,
a citizen of no insignificant city.
Now I beg you, allow me to speak to the people."

Acts 21:40 Then having given him permission Sha'ul stood on the stairway.

And he motioned with his hand to the people. And when there was a great silence he spoke in the Hebrew language saying,

Chapter 22 Acts 22:1 "Brothers and fathers,

hear my defense before you now."

Acts 22:2 And having heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language they kept all the more silent. Then he said,

Acts 22:3 "I am indeed an Yisra'elite, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamali'el, educated according to the exactness of The Torah of our fathers.

And I was zealous for YAHWEH, just as you all are today.

just as you all are today.

Gamali'el means my rewarder is El.

Acts 22:4 I persecuted this Way as far as death binding and delivering into prisons both men and women

Acts 22:5 as even the great priest bears me witness, and all the council of the elders, from whom I also received letters concerning the brothers.

And I traveled to Damascus to bring those who were bound there to Yerushalaim to be punished.

Acts 22:6 Now it was as I traveled. And I came near Damascus at about noon. Suddenly a great light from the skies shone around me. Acts 22:7 And I fell to the ground. And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Sha'ul! Sha'ul! Why are you persecuting Me?' Acts 22:8 Then I answered, 'Who are You, Master?' And He said to me. 'I am YAHUSHUA of Nazareth Whom you are persecuting.' Acts 22:9 Now those who were with me truly observed the light and were terrified. But they did not hear the voice of Him who was speaking to me. Acts 22:10 Then I said, 'What shall I do, Master?' And The Master said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus! And there you will be told concerning all things which are prepared for you to do.' Acts 22:11 Now since I could not see because of the splendor of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me,

I came into Damascus.

Acts 22:12 Then a certain Hananyah, a devout man according to The Torah, having a good testimony from all the Yisra'elites who dwelt there, Acts 22:13 came to me. And he was standing saying to me, 'Brother Sha'ul, look up!' At that same instant I looked up at him. Acts 22:14 Then he said, 'The Elohim of our fathers has chosen you that you might know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth, Acts 22:15 because you will be His witness to all human beings of what you have seen and heard. Acts 22:16 And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized! And wash away your offenses calling upon the name of YAHUSHUA.'

tou kuriou - Lit. the supreme in authority. The term is traditionally translated as "The Lord", but which "lord"?

In many instances it is a reference to YAHWEH. In many others it refers to YAHUSHUA.

The result is uncertainty and confusion. Only by reviewing the context can one get a reasonable sense of which one is noted.

Acts 22:17 Now it happened to me, having returned to Yerushalaim, as I was praying in The Temple, that I came into ecstasy.

Acts 22:18 And I saw Him speaking to me, 'Hurry and get out of Yerushalaim quickly because they will not accept your testimony concerning Me.'

Acts 22:19 But I said,
'Master, they comprehend
that I was imprisoning and beating in every synagogue
those who were trusting concerning You.
Acts 22:20 And when the blood
of Your witness, Stephen, was shed
I was even present and assenting to his death,
even guarding the clothes
of those who were murdering him.'
Acts 22:21 Then He said to me,
'Go, because I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

Acts 22:22 Now they listened to him until this word. And raising their voices they were saying, "Remove this sort from the earth because it is not fitting that he should live!", Acts 22:23 and crying out and throwing down their garments and throwing dust into the air.

Acts 22:24 The commander ordered him to be brought into the barracks.

And he said that he should be examined by scourging in order that he might recognize why they shouted so against him.

Acts 22:25 But as they tied him prostrate with straps Sha'ul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it right for you to scourge if a person is a Roman and is without a trial?"

Acts 22:26 Now the centurion having heard went and told the commander saying, "Discern clearly what you are about to do because this person is a Roman."

Acts 22:27 Then the commander came and said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?"
He said, "Yes."
Acts 22:28 The commander responded, "With a large sum I obtained this citizenship."
But Sha'ul said, "But I was born a citizen."

Acts 22:29 Then immediately those who were about to examine him withdrew from him. And the commander was also afraid having recognized that he was a Roman and because he had bound him.

Acts 22:30 The next day, because he wanted to know for certain why he was accused by the Yisra'elites, he released him from *his* shackles. And he ordered the chief priests and all their council to come. And he brought Sha'ul down and set him among them.

Chapter 23

Acts 23:1 Then Sha'ul, looking intently at The Sanhedrin said, "Men and brothers, I have lived in all good conscience before YAHWEH up to this very day."

Acts 23:2 Then the great priest, Hannanyah, ordered those who stood beside him to strike his mouth. Acts 23:3 Then Sha'ul said to him, "YAHWEH will strike you, you white washed wall! You even sit to judge me according to The Torah, but you order me to be struck contrary to The Torah."

Acts 23:4 Now those who stood beside him said, "Do you revile the great priest of YAHWEH?" Acts 23:5 Then Sha'ul said, "I did not understand, brothers, that he was the great priest. Indeed, it is written, 'You are not to speak badly concerning a ruler of your people.'"

Acts 23:6 Now Sha'ul, knowing absolutely, that one part were Sadducees but the other part Pharisees, cried out in The Sanhedrin, "Men and brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee. Concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged!"

Acts 23:7 And having said this a dissension happened between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the group was divided Acts 23:8 because Sadducees say there is no resurrection, nor YAH-messenger, nor Divine Nature, but the Pharisees acknowledge all.

Acts 23:9 Then a great tumult happened. And the scribes of the Pharisees' portion stood up and fought fiercely saying, "We find no intrinsic worthlessness in this human being. Now if a Divine Nature or a YAH-messenger has spoken to him let us not resist YAHWEH."

Acts 23:10 Now great dissension having happened, the commander fearing lest Sha'ul might be pulled to pieces by them ordered the soldiers to go down and seize him out of the midst of them and bring him into the barracks.

Acts 23:11 Now the next night The Master stood beside him saying, "Have courage, Sha'ul. Indeed, as you have testified concerning Me in Yerushalaim, so you must also be a witness at Rome."

Acts 23:12 Now day having happened, some of the Yisra'elites conspired together. And they vowed themselves with an oath, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Sha'ul. Acts 23:13 Now there were more than forty who had formed this plot. Acts 23:14 They went to the chief priests and elders saying, "We have vowed a great oath that we will eat nothing until we have killed Sha'ul. Acts 23:15 Now you therefore, together with The Sanhedrin, reveal it to the commander so that he brings him down to you in the morning so that you could know more exactly concerning him. But we are prepared to kill him before he arrives."

Acts 23:16 And when Sha'ul's sister's son heard of their ambush he went and entered into the barracks. And he told Sha'ul.

Acts 23:17 Then Sha'ul called one of the centurions to him and said, "Take this young man to the commander because he has something to tell him."

Acts 23:18 Therefore he took him. And he brought him to the commander and said, "Sha'ul, the prisoner, called me to him. And he asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to say to you."

Acts 23:19 Then the commander took him by the hand. And they went aside by themselves, he asking "What is it that you have to tell me? Acts 23:20 Then he said, "The Yisra'elite leaders have agreed to ask that you bring Sha'ul down to The Sanhedrin in the morning so they might inquire more fully concerning him. Acts 23:21 However do not trust them because more than forty of them lie in wait for him, men who have vowed themselves with an oath that they will neither eat nor drink until they have killed him. Even now they are prepared, waiting for an announcement from you."

Acts 23:22 Therefore the commander dismissed the young man having warned him, "Tell no one that you have revealed these things to me."

Acts 23:23 And he called for two centurions saying, "Prepare two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen to go to Caesarea at the third hour of the night Acts 23:24 also providing animals to set Sha'ul upon. And bring him safely to Felix, the governor."

Acts 23:25 He wrote a letter in the following manner: Acts 23:26 Claudius Lysias
To the most excellent governor, Felix.
Greetings.

Felix means delusive

Felix means delusive.
Acts 23:27 This man was seized

by the Yisra'elite leaders and was about to be killed by them. I came with the troops and rescued him having learned that he was a Roman. Acts 23:28 Now desiring to know the reason they accused him I brought him into their Sanhedrin. Acts 23:29 I found that he was accused concerning questions of their law but had nothing charged against him deserving of death or shackles.

Acts 23:30 Now it having been revealed to me that the Yisra'elite leaders were lying in wait for the man I sent him immediately to you. And I also commanded his accusers to state before you the charges against him. Farewell.

Acts 23:31 Therefore the soldiers, according to what was ordered for them, took Sha'ul and brought him by night to Antipatris.

Antipatris means against one's country.

Acts 23:32 The next day they allowed the horsemen to travel on with him.

And they returned to the barracks.

Acts 23:33 These horsemen having entered Caesarea also delivered the letter to the governor.

And they presented Sha'ul to him.

Acts 23:34 Now the governor having read it asked what province he was from.

And when he determined that he was from Cilicia,
Acts 23:35 he said,
"I will hear you when your accusers have also arrived."

And he ordered him to be guarded in Herod's Praetorium.

Chapter 24 Acts 24:1 Now after five days

Hannanyah the great priest came down with the elders and a certain orator, Tertullus. These gave evidence to the governor against Sha'ul. Tertullus means triple-hardened. Acts 24:2 Now having been called upon, Tertullus began to accuse him saying, "Seeing that through you we enjoy great peace and prosperity is being brought to this nation through your foresight, Acts 24:3 we accept it always and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness. Acts 24:4 Now in order not to be tedious to you any further, I beg you to hear, by your courtesy, a few words from us. Acts 24:5 Indeed, we have found this man a plague, a creator of dissension among all the Yisra'elites throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.

Acts 24:6 He even tried to desecrate The Temple. We seized him.

And we wanted to judge him according to our law. Acts 24:7 But the commander, Lysias, arrived and with great force took him out of our hands, Acts 24:8 ordering his accusers to come before you. By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him."

Acts 24:9 Now the Yisra'elite leaders also concurred, asserting that these things were so.

Acts 24:10 But Sha'ul, the governor having nodded to him to speak, responded, "For many years I understand you have been a judge of this nation.
Cheerfully I defend myself
Acts 24:11 because you can understand that it is no more than twelve days since I went up to Yerushalaim to worship.
Acts 24:12 And they neither found me in The Temple disputing with anyone nor stirring up the crowd, not even in the synagogues nor in the city;
Acts Acts 24:13 nor can they prove the things concerning which they now accuse me.

Acts 24:14 But this I acknowledge to you, that according to The Way, which they call a heresy, in this manner I worship The Elohim of my fathers, believing all that is written in The Torah and in The Prophets.

Acts Acts 24:15 I have hope in YAHWEH, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

Acts 24:16 Now in this I train myself always having a conscience without offense toward YAHWEH and human beings.

Acts 24:17 Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation,
Acts 24:18 in the midst of which some Yisra'elites from Asia found me purified in The Temple,
neither with a crowd nor with a disturbance.
Acts 24:19 They ought to have been here before you to object if they had anything against me.

Acts 24:20 Or else let those who are here say whether they found any wrongdoing in me while I stood before The Sanhedrin Acts 24:21 unless it is for this one statement which I cried out standing among them, 'Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged by you this day.'"

Acts 24:22 Now Felix, having heard these things, having more accurate knowledge of The Way, dismissed them saying, "When Lysias the commander comes down I will ascertain exactly concerning your case." Acts 24:23 So he appointed a centurion to guard Sha'ul and to let him have liberty. And he told him not to forbid any of his friends to provide for or visit him.

Acts 24:24 Now after some days, Felix having arrived with his wife Drusilla, who is an Yisra'elite, he sent for Sha'ul.

And he listened to him concerning his trust in The Messiah.

Drusilla means dewy.

Acts 24:25 Now as he reasoned concerning justification, self-control, and the judgment which is coming, Felix became frightened.
And he responded, "Go away for now.
At an acceptable time I will call for you."
Acts 24:26 At the same time he also was anticipating that money might be given him by Sha'ul so that he might release him.
Because of this he sent for him frequently and conversed with him.
Acts 24:27 But after two years

Porcius Festus succeeded Felix. And Felix, wanting to do the Yisra'elite leaders a favor, left Sha'ul bound.

Porcius means swinish. Festus means told out.

Chapter 25

Acts 25:1 Now Festus having arrived in the province, after three days he went up from Caesarea to Yerushalaim.

Acts 25:2 Then the great priest and the chief men of the Yisra'elites informed him concerning Sha'ul.

And they petitioned him,

Acts 25:3 asking a favor concerning him so that he would send him to Yerushalaim, setting an ambush along the way to kill him.

Acts 25:4 However Festus responded that Sha'ul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself was going there shortly. Acts 25:5 He said, "Therefore let those among you who are able go down with me and accuse this man, to see if there is any fault in him." Acts 25:6 Then having remained among them more than ten days he went down to Caesarea. The next day sitting upon the judgment seat he ordered Sha'ul to be brought.

Acts 25:7 Now having arrived the Yisra'elite leaders who had come down from Yerushalaim surrounded him. And they brought many serious charges against Sha'ul which they were not able to prove, Acts 25:8 while he answered for himself, "Neither against The Torah of the Yisra'elites, nor against The Temple, nor against Caesar have I offended in anything."

Acts 25:9 But Festus, wanting to do the Yisra'elite leaders a favor, responded to Sha'ul saying, "Are you willing to go up to Yerushalaim, there to be judged before me concerning these things?" Acts 25:10 Then Sha'ul said, "I stand at Caesar's judgment seat where I ought to be judged. To the Yisra'elites I have done no wrong as you very well recognize. Acts 25:11 Indeed, if I am an offender or have committed anything deserving of death I do not object to dying. But if there are none of these things of which these men accuse me no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar."

Acts 25:12 Then Festus, having conferred with The Sanhedrin, responded, "You have appealed to Caesar? To Caesar you shall go!"

Acts 25:13 Now after some days
King Agrippa and Bernice
came to Caesarea to greet Festus.
Agrippa means horse hunter.
Bernice means carry the victory.
Acts 25:14 When they had been there many days,
Festus set forth Sha'ul's matter before the king saying,
"There is a certain man left a prisoner by Felix

Acts 25:15 concerning whom the chief priests and the elders of the Yisra'elites informed me when I was in Yerushalaim, asking for judgment against him. Acts 25:16 To them I answered that it is not the custom of Romans to deliver any human being to destruction before the accused meets the accusers face to face and has opportunity to answer for himself concerning the alleged offense. Acts 25:17 Accordingly when they had come together, without any delay, the next day I sat on the judgment seat and ordered the man to be brought in. Acts 25:18 The accusers having stood up brought no accusation concerning him of such things as I supposed. Acts 25:19 but had some questions against him concerning their own religion and concerning a certain YAHUSHUA, who died, whom Sha'ul asserted is alive.

Acts 25:20 Now being at a loss concerning such questions
I asked if he was willing to go to Yerushalaim and there be judged concerning these matters.
Acts 25:21 But when Sha'ul had appealed to be protected until an examination by Augustus I ordered him to be guarded until I could send him to Caesar."

Acts 25:22 Then Agrippa said to Festus, "I also desire to hear the man myself." "Tomorrow," he said, "you will hear him."

Acts 25:23 Now the next day Agrippa and Bernice having arrived with great pomp, and having entered the auditorium with the commanders and the prominent men of the city, at Festus' command Sha'ul was brought in. Acts 25:24 And Festus said, "King Agrippa and all the men who are now present with us, you see this very one concerning whom the whole assembly of the Yisra'elite leaders conferred with me, both at Yerushalaim and here, crying out that he was not fit to live any longer. Acts 25:25 But having found that he had committed nothing deserving of death and that he himself had appealed to Augustus I decided to send him. Acts 25:26 I have nothing certain to write to my sovereign concerning him. Therefore I have brought him before you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after the examination has taken place I might have something to write. Acts 25:27 Indeed, it seems to me unreasonable to send a prisoner and not to specify the charges against him."

Chapter 26

Acts 26:1 Then Agrippa said to Sha'ul, "You are permitted to speak for yourself."
Then Sha'ul defending himself stretched out his hand, Acts 26:2 "Concerning everything with which I have been accused by the Yisra'elites, King Agrippa, I consider myself happy being ready to defend myself before you today Acts 26:3 especially because you are an expert understanding all customs and questions pertaining to the Yisra'elites.

Therefore I beg you to hear me patiently.

Acts 26:4 My manner of life from my youth which has happened from the beginning among my own nation at Yerushalaim all the Yisra'elite leaders know, Acts 26:5 knowing of me from the beginning if they were willing to testify that according to the strictest sect of our religion I lived as a Pharisee. Acts 26:6 And now I stand being judged for the hope of the promise established by The Elohim of our fathers. Acts 26:7 Unto this promise our twelve tribes earnestly worshipping YAHWEH night and day hope to attain. On behalf of this hope, King Agrippa, I am accused by the Yisra'elite leaders.

Acts 26:8 Why should it be judged incredible by you that YAHWEH raises the dead? Acts 26:9 Indeed, I myself truly thought it was necessary to do many things antagonistic to the name of YAHUSHUA of Nazareth. Acts 26:10 This I even did in Yerushalaim. And many of the set apart ones I shut up in prison having received authority from the chief priests. Then as they were being put to death I cast my vote against them. Acts 26:11 And I punished them frequently in every assembly, compelling them to blaspheme, even being exceedingly enraged against them. I persecuted them even to foreign cities. The only crime of blasphemy

The only crime of blasphemy for which one could be tried and put to death was to speak the name, YAHWEH.

Under the **traditions of men**, established by the priests and scribes, one was to be stoned to death for speaking the name.

Only the priests were allowed to do so - by their own determination, **not** by any instruction from YAHWEH.

Acts 26:12 And being in this *mode* as I traveled to Damascus

to whom I now am sending you

with authority and permission from the chief priests, Acts 26:13 at midday, Oh king, along the road I saw a light from the sky brighter than the sun shining all around me and those who were traveling with me. Acts 26:14 Then everyone having fallen to the ground I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew dialect, 'Sha'ul! Sha'ul! Why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' This appears to be a Hebraism, indicating that it is not wise to oppose the divine will or purpose. Acts 26:15 Then I said, 'Who are You, Master? Then He said, 'I am YAHUSHUA Whom you are persecuting. Acts 26:16 However get up and stand upon your feet because I have appeared to you for this purpose. to make you a servant and a witness of both what you have seen and what I will yet reveal to you Acts 26:17 selecting you out of this people, and out of the Gentiles

Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, and from the authority of The Adversary to the authority of YAHWEH, that they may receive pardon of offenses and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by trust in Me.'

Implied in this verse is "the authority of".

Only under the authority of YAHWEH can one receive pardon of offenses. He alone can pardon those who have rebelled against His instructions - which is the very essence and definition of sin.

Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I did not become disobedient to the Heavenly vision Acts 26:20 but rather declared it first in Damascus and *then* in Yerushalaim, and also throughout all the region of Yahudah, and to the Gentiles, that they should reconsider, turn to YAHWEH, and practice works suitable for reconsideration.

Acts 26:21 For these reasons the Yisra'elite leaders seized me in The Temple and tried to kill me.

Acts 26:22 Therefore, having obtained help from YAHWEH I am standing to this day witnessing both to small and to great saying nothing other than those *things* which the prophets and Moshe said would come, Acts 26:23 that The Messiah would suffer, that He would be the first one resurrected from being dead, and would proclaim light to this people and to the Gentiles."

Acts 26:24 Now as he thus made his defense Festus said with a loud voice, "Sha'ul, you are a raving maniac! Much learning is driving you crazy!"

Acts 26:25 But he said,
"I am not a raving maniac, most noble Festus,
but rather speak plainly words of truth and sanity.
Acts 26:26 Indeed, the king before whom
I even speak boldly knows about these things.
I truly am convinced that none of these things
are hidden from you since this thing
was not done in a corner.

Acts 26:27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I perceive that you do believe."
Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said to Sha'ul,
"You almost persuade me
to become a follower of The Messiah."

Acts 26:29 Then Sha'ul said, "I wish that not only you, but also all who are listening to me today, would become both almost and altogether the same as I am except for these bonds."

Acts 26:30 And having thus spoken the king stood up and the governor, and Bernice, and those who were seated with them.

Acts 26:31 And having gone aside they talked among themselves saying that this human being is doing nothing deserving of death or chains.

Acts 26:32 Then Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free

if he had not appealed to Caesar."

Chapter 27

Acts 27:1 And when it was decided that we should sail to Italy they delivered both Sha'ul and some other prisoners to one named Julius.

a centurion of the Augustan Regiment.

Julius means palm hairy.

Acts 27:2 Then having boarded a ship of Adramyttium we put to sea meaning to sail along the coasts of Asia. Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, was with us.

Adramyttium means not in the race.

Acts 27:3 And the next day we moored at Tzidon.

And Julius treated Sha'ul kindly

giving him liberty to go to his friends

having an opportunity to refresh himself.

Acts 27:4 And having sailed from there

we sailed under the shelter of Cyprus

because the winds were contrary.

Acts 27:5 Then having sailed through the sea

which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia,

we came to Myra, a city of Lycia.

Acts 27:6 There the centurion

found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy,

putting us on board.

Acts 27:7 But having sailed slowly many days,

and having arrived with difficulty off Cnidus,

the wind not permitting us to proceed,

we sailed under the shelter of Crete off Salmone.

Cnidus means nettled.

Crete means fleshy.

Salmone means from the surging.

Acts 27:8 Then passing it with difficulty we came to a place called Fair Havens,

which is near the city of Lasea. Fair Havens means good ports.

Lasea means shaggy.

Acts 27:9 Now much time having elapsed and sailing now being dangerous because The Fast was already over Sha'ul advised them,

The Fast is The Day of Atonement.

Acts 27:10 saying, "Men, I discern that this voyage is about to end with much injury and much damage. not only of the cargo and ship but also our lives."

Acts 27:11 However, the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship

than what was spoken by Sha'ul.

Acts 27:12 Now because the harbor was not suitable to winter in the majority advised to set sail from there also if by any means they could arrive at Phoenix, a harbor of Crete which looks toward south and toward north, to winter there.

Phoenix means immortality.

Acts 27:13 Then the south wind having blown softly thinking they had obtained their desire, they departed ,sailing very close to Crete. Acts 27:14 But not long after a tempestuous wind

arose called Euroclydon.

This wind is a typhoon. Acts 27:15 Then the ship having been caught and not being able to face into the wind we surrendered her, being driven.

Acts 27:16 Then running under the shelter of an island called Clauda, struggling with much difficulty we secured the skiff Acts 27:17 which having taken on board we used ropes to undergird the ship. And fearing lest they should run aground on a shoal, they lowered the sail thus being driven.

Acts 27:18 Then we, being exceedingly tempest tossed, the next day worked at lightening the ship. Acts 27:19 On the third day we threw the ship's tackle overboard with our own hands.

Acts 27:20 Now neither sun nor stars being visible for many days, and no small storm being upon us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up. Acts 27:21 And after a long abstinence from food, then Sha'ul, standing in the midst of them said, "Men, you should have followed my advice not having sailed from Crete and incurred this injury and damage. Acts 27:22 But now I urge you to cheer up because there will be no loss of life among you, only the ship.

Acts 27:23 Indeed, there stood beside me this very night a messenger of YAHWEH, to whom I belong and whom I worship Acts 27:24 saying, 'Do not be afraid, Sha'ul. You must be brought before Caesar. And indeed, YAHWEH has granted you all those who sail with you.' Acts 27:25 Therefore men cheer up because I trust in YAHWEH that it will be just as it was told to me. Acts 27:26 However we must be driven off course into a certain island."

Acts 27:27 Now when the fourteenth night had come as we were being driven up and down in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors surmised that they were drawing near some land. Acts 27:28 And taking some soundings found it to be twenty fathoms. And having gone a little farther, they took soundings again and found it to be fifteen fathoms. Acts 27:29 And being alarmed lest we should run aground on the rocks they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for the coming of day.

Acts 27:30 Now the sailors were plotting to escape from the ship and had lowered the skiff into the sea pretending they were casting out anchors from the prow. Acts 27:31 Sha'ul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay in the ship you cannot be saved."

Acts 27:32 Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the skiff and let it drop away.

Acts 27:33 Now as day was about to dawn Sha'ul encouraged every single one of them to take food saying, "Today is the fourteenth day you have waited and continued without food and eaten absolutely nothing.

Acts 27:34 Therefore I urge you to take nourishment. Indeed, this is for your safety because not a hair will fall from the head of any of you."

Acts 27:35 Now having said these things he took bread and gave thanks to YAHWEH in front of everyone. And having broken it he began to eat. Acts 27:36 Then they all became cheerful, also taking food.

Acts 27:37 Now everyone in the ship

was two hundred and seventy six persons. Acts 27:38 Then having eaten enough they lightened the ship. And they threw out the wheat into the sea.

Acts 27:39 Now when it became day they did not recognize the land but they observed a certain bay which had a beach onto which they resolved if possible to run the ship. Acts 27:40 And having cast off the anchors committing them to the sea at the same time having loosed the rudder ropes, and hoisting the mainsail to the wind they held on until the beach. Acts 27:41 But falling into a place where two seas met they ran the ship aground, the prow of the ship having stuck fast and remaining immovable. Now the stern was being broken up under the violence of the waves.

Acts 27:42 Now the soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners lest any of them should swim away and escape. Acts 27:43 But the centurion, wanting to save Sha'ul, kept them from their purpose. And he ordered that those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land Acts 27:44 and the rest, some on boards, but others on some parts of the ship. And so it was that everyone was brought safely to land.

Chapter 28

Acts 28:1 And having escaped they then recognized that the island was called Melita.

Melita means from honey.

Acts 28:2 Now the non-Greeks

showed us unusual kindness.

Indeed, they kindled a fire showing us all hospitality

because of the rain that was falling

and because of the cold.

Acts 28:3 Now Sha'ul, having gathered

a bundle of dry twigs

and laying them on the fire,

a viper came out because of the heat

and fastened on his hand.

A viper is a poisonous snake.

Acts 28:4 Now when the non-Greeks

saw the dangerous animal hanging from his hand

they said to one another,

"No doubt this human being is a murderer

whom having escaped the sea

justice does not permit to live."

Acts 28:5 However, he shook off the dangerous animal into the fire and experienced no harm.

Acts 28:6 Now they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead.

But having watched for a long time and observing no harm come to him they changed their minds and said he was a god.

Acts 28:7 In that region there was an estate of the leading citizen of the island whose name was Publius, who entertained us as guests, hosting us with kindness for three days.

Publius means popular.

Acts 28:8 Now it happened that the father of Publius lay sick with a fever and dysentery,

to whom Sha'ul went in,

and praying laid his hands upon him and healed him.

Acts 28:9 Therefore this having happened, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed.
Acts 28:10 They also honored us with many honors. And when we sailed away they provided such things as were necessary.

Acts 28:11 Now after three months we sailed away in an Alexandrian ship which had wintered at the island whose figurehead was the Twin Brothers.

Acts 28:12 And landing at Syracuse we stayed three days.

Acts 28:13 From there we circled round and arrived at Rhegium.

And after one day the south wind blew.

The next day we came to Puteoli Puteoli means little mineral springs.

Acts 28:14 where we found brothers who encouraged us to stay with them seven days.

And in this manner we came to Rome.

Acts 28:15 And the brothers having heard about us from there came out to meet us from as far as Appii Forum and Three Inns, whom Sha'ul having seen them thanked YAHWEH, taking courage.

Acts 28:16 Now when we had come to Rome the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard.

But Sha'ul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

Acts 28:17 Now it happened after three days that Sha'ul called the leaders of the Yisra'elites together. Then having come together he said to them, "Men and brothers, having done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers I was delivered as a prisoner from Yerushalaim into the hands of the Romans, Acts 28:18 who having examined me wanted to release me because there was no reason for putting me to death. Acts 28:19 But the Yisra'elite leaders having spoken against me I was compelled to appeal to Caesar, not that I had anything of which to accuse my nation. Acts 28:20 For this reason therefore I have called for you to see you and to speak with you because for the hope of Yisra'el I am bound with this chain."

Acts 28:21 But they said to him, "We neither received letters from Yahudah concerning you, nor have any of the brothers who have come reported or spoken any hurtful thing concerning you. Acts 28:22 But we desire to hear from you what you think, because concerning this sect we know that it is spoken against everywhere."

Acts 28:23 Now having arranged a day for him many came to him at his lodging to whom he explained and solemnly testified concerning The Kingdom of YAHWEH, persuading them concerning YAHUSHUA from both The Torah of Moshe and The Prophets, from morning until evening.

Acts 28:24 And some believed the things being spoken. But some disbelieved.

Acts 28:25 Then having not agreed among themselves

they were departing, Sha'ul saying one thing, "The Set Apart Divine Nature of YAHWEH spoke well through Yeshay'yah, the prophet, to our forefathers Acts 28:26 saying, 'Go to this people and say, "Hearing you will hear, but will not understand; and seeing you will see, but not perceive, Acts 28:27 because the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears; lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them.'

(Is. 6.8-10)

Acts 28:28 Therefore let it be known to you that the deliverance of YAHWEH has been sent to the Gentiles! And they will hear it!" Acts 28:29 And having said these words the Yisra'elites departed. And they had much disputing among themselves.

Acts 28:30 Now Sha'ul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house. And he received all who came in to him, Acts 28:31 proclaiming The Kingdom of YAHWEH and teaching the things concerning The Master, YAHUSHUA, The Messiah, with all boldness, no one hindering him.