

The Blessed Hope!

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;” –(Titus 2:13)

Diamond & Nugget #58

On Monday, April 12, 2021, I sent out the following e-mail to approximately 135 individuals relative to the Second Passover.

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All:

This could be important, and would fit with Matthew's statement that no knows the day of the Rapture.

I will share it since someone asked me about it.

God's favorite day in the Bible is Nisan 17/18. I recently reposted it for those who are unfamiliar with it.

In the Torah, the Israelites would also observe a second Passover date, a month later than the first. This year it will be April 27th. Now, you are not familiar with this but it is found in the book of Numbers 9:6-14 and 2nd Chronicles 29:1-27. This was allowed for Israelites who were away in battle somewhere or were unable to go to Jerusalem to observe their most holy day.

God's favorite day in the Bible is Nisan 17/18, so there is a possibility that the Rapture would be the same day as the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. So, Nisan 17/18 will occur on Friday, April 30, which is a Jewish Sabbath as well. The article I wrote years ago "God's Special Day!" is now at the top of page 3 on my web page.

The "Theme" of Nisan 17/18 is "Deliverance" in case you missed that point if you did read it. No one knows as Jesus is recorded to have said in Matthew 24. What is significant to me is that God is the master mathematician and does things in patterns or follows a master design. A central tenet of Scripture is "Prologue = Pattern = Prophecy."

The "Theme" of "Deliverance before Judgment" is found over 300 times from Genesis to Revelation. Although we have been wrong before, I would have to answer for not sharing this with you. As such I pray that this will be a blessing for you, my body can't go much longer. I know believers are anxious and so keep an open mind and a grateful heart.

That said, it is Biblical, mathematical, thematically, Typology is something the universal church abandoned in 1910 and following ever since. In my way of thinking that has led to a falling away.

Pastor Bob

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For many Christians this is something new, and it is also given tacit recognition by Jews as well, According to the Bible, Passover is a seven-day holiday. The first and last days are "sacred occasions" on which work is Biblically prohibited. The **seder** meal is held on the first sacred occasion. But many Diaspora Jews celebrate the first two days as a sacred occasion and hold two **seders**.

The reason for this is because in ancient times the rabbis certified the start of each Jewish month on the basis of two witnesses reporting they had seen the new moon. Once their testimonies had been established, messengers were dispatched to inform Jewish communities when the new month had begun. Jewish communities outside Israel often didn't receive the news immediately, which in turn generated confusion about exactly when the holidays fell out on the calendar. As a result, the custom arose of celebrating two days just in case, a practice known as "**yom tov sheni shel galuyot**" — a "second Diaspora festival day."

On Passover, Jews in Israel hold a **Seder** only on the first night of Passover, while outside Israel the traditional practice is to observe the first two days as sacred occasions — hence, two **Seders**.

The Reform Judaism movement eliminated this practice for its congregations in the United States, which today observe only one day of Passover and other festivals and therefore often only have one **Seder**. But among Orthodox and most Conservative Jews, the practice of two **seders** is the standard.

There is some question about how many **seders** should be held by Israeli tourists observing the holiday abroad, or by non-Israeli Jews who are visiting the Jewish state for the holiday. Common practice is for tourists to observe the practice of the place where they permanently reside, so an Israeli in New York for Passover would observe only one **seder** while an American in Jerusalem would observe two. Traditionally, only immigrants adopt the customs of their new homes.

Regardless of how many **Seders** you have, the rituals are largely the same. Passover is the second most important holy day of the Jewish year. Jewish families gather for a ritual meal called a **Seder** (SAY-dur), during which specific elements recount the history of Israel and retell the story of God's dramatic deliverance of their ancestors.

1. God delivered the Jewish people from 400 years of slavery.

Four hundred years before the Passover, God saved the Jewish people from a deadly famine by bringing them to Egypt, the only nation prepared with storehouses of food. By God's sovereignty, Joseph, one of Israel's 12 sons who were sold as a slave by his brothers, had risen to second in command over Egypt. When the Israelites faced starvation, Pharaoh welcomed them into the land because of Joseph. But after Pharaoh died, his successor put the Jewish people to work as slaves. They lived in bondage until God called Moses as His instrument to deliver them 400 years later – to the day – at Passover. **"If God had not delivered us,"** the Passover Haggadah (HAH-gah-dah) reads, **"we would still be slaves."**

2. God showed His power through the miracles surrounding Passover.

Pharaoh recoiled at the idea of letting the Hebrew slaves leave Egypt. If they departed, he would lose a million laborers. He refused to let them go and, in so doing, opened the door for God to reveal His power to all of Egypt. After each of Pharaoh's obstinate denials, God brought a supernatural plague upon the nation of Egypt. From locusts to frogs to boils to water-turned-to-blood, God displayed His power throughout the whole land.

All who endured the plagues recognized that the God of Israel was mighty and determined to liberate His people. Israel, too, observed the God of their fathers intervene for their rescue. The miracles continued after their departure. When Pharaoh's armies pursued, the Israelites walked on dry ground right through the middle of the Red Sea as the waters created a high wall on either side of them. Through the Passover and Exodus, the God of Israel was manifested and glorified for all to see.

3. God reaffirmed His covenant with Abraham and further set apart the Jewish people as His Chosen People.

For generations, slavery was all the Jewish people knew. They were born into bondage and died in bondage. When God stepped in to extricate them as a people, He conveyed to them that He had not forgotten them. The God of Israel is faithful to keep His covenant with their father, Abraham. He would not forsake His promise. God's intervention to free the Children of Israel told them that they were still His people, and He was still their God. He raised them up from a subjugated people and reminded them that they were a called and chosen people.

4. God called the Jewish people out to give them a Land of their own.

The Israelites didn't know where they were going, but they knew their God had set them free and had promised to give them **"a good and large land"** in which to dwell as a nation -(Exodus 3:8). No longer would they serve Pharaoh. They would live in the Land given to them directly by God. Israel was on her way to becoming a nation with a homeland of her own. The impact of that land grant reverberates through the centuries, standing strong and true despite various exiles over the years or dissenting opinions today. Passover opened the door to receiving the Promised Land.

5. God established a watershed for the Jewish people and an inheritance of faith to pass on.

Passover is known as the watershed event in Jewish history. It was a turning point, a defining moment for the Jewish people. Everything changed for them with Passover. God rescued, preserved, and called them out to be His people in their own land. Immediately upon their departure from Egypt, He instituted the Feast of Passover as an everlasting memorial to the astounding feat of their deliverance. God set an annual appointment for Israel to intentionally remember what He had done for them in the Passover and Exodus. Thousands of years later, Jewish people commemorate this and tell their children, passing on a legacy of faith in the one true God, just as He commanded them.

6. God revealed a prophetic glimpse of the promised Messiah's sacrificial death.

By God's sovereign design, the Feasts of Israel established in Leviticus 23 contain a prophetic shadow of God's redemptive plan for mankind. Within Passover is the picture of the Messiah's death to deliver us from the bondage of sin.

The final plague in Egypt was the death of the firstborn of all households. God revealed to Israel the one way they would be spared: They were to sacrifice an unblemished lamb and brush its blood on the lintel and doorposts of their homes. Only then would the Angel of Death pass over their homes and spare their firstborn.

1st Corinthians 5:7 tells us that **"Messiah, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed."** Yeshua's (Jesus') shed blood covers our sin, and His sacrificial death on our behalf – when received in faith – delivers us from the bondage of sin.

As Jewish families come together at Passover, they remember and teach the next generation about the event that delivered them as God's people. As Messianic Jews celebrate Passover, they also celebrate the eternal deliverance provided by Messiah Yeshua.

"Pesach Sheni" occurs every year on the fourteenth day of **Iyar**. This date is exactly one month after the fourteenth of Nisan, the day before Passover when the Paschal lamb was selected for the holiday observance.

Pesach Sheni literally means “**Second Passover**” and was instituted in the Law to provide an opportunity for those who were unable to participate in the Passover earlier. Some of the events are the same: the roasted meat, the matzo and bitter herbs, and that left overs are to be burned. The **Hallel** is again recited during the offering.

During ***Pesach Sheni***, it is not necessary to remove all leaven from the home. The festival is only one day this time, rather than seven.

Dates for ***Pesach Sheni***

Hebrew Dates: 14 Iyar 5781

Gregorian Dates: (begins sundown, the evening before) April 26, 2021 through April 27th, until sundown.

The celebration of a second Passover finds its roots in the teaching of the Scriptures. A year after the exodus from Egypt, God instructed the Israelites to remember the night of the Passover of the death angel of any Jewish home that had been sprinkled with the lamb's blood. They were to celebrate the feast and bring an offering to God in its honor. They were to eat of the roasted lamb, together with matzah and bitter herbs, as they had done the previous year when they left Egypt.

Numbers 9:6-7 recounts that certain individuals had become ritually unclean and could not participate in the Passover. Some of the men approached Moses and Aaron and were concerned that they were going to be deprived of the chance to be right with God. They asked what should be done, and in response, God allowed for a “second chance” for the celebration of the Passover a month later.

Customs and Rituals

According to Numbers 9:9-13, a Jew may participate in ***Pesach Sheni*** if (s)he is ritually impure due to contact with a dead body or were on a distant journey or in battle with one of the many enemies of the Israelites. Over the years, the definition of “distant journey” has been interpreted very liberally by the rabbinic tradition. Anyone who had any type of ritual impurity would also be included in the ceremony.

The particulars of the sacrifice and meal would be the same as Passover. The differences would include the shifting from a seven day festival to a one day event. Another difference would be the acceptance of leaven in the household, though it still would be absent from the bread that day. The overriding theme of the day is that God allows second chances for His people. This is extremely significant

Funerals, Shiva, and Jewish Mourning during “***Pesach Sheni***”

Jewish teaching provides specific guidelines for how the deceased should be properly mourned by the family through defined Periods of Mourning in Judaism.

The Jewish burial has unique and specific requirements; most notably, the burial usually takes place within a couple of days after the death. It is usually a time of stress and busyness for the family, as many decisions and details surrounding the funeral must be considered.

After the burial, the first a period of mourning begins. **Shiva** (meaning “seven”) consists of seven days of mourning during which family members remain in their home.

Since **Pesach Sheni** is a one day event, those holding a burial and funeral [learning-center/death-and-mourning/burial] or participating in the practices, rituals and traditions of Jewish mourning would treat the day as a Sabbath. Therefore, if the burial took place on the Friday morning, the family would mourn until two and a half hours before sunset and then prepare to go to the synagogue for service. He/she is allowed to bathe and change clothing.

The mourner may go to the public service, but is not to lead in any of the events. He/she is allowed to sing praises on the Sabbath. At the conclusion of the service, he/she is to remove his shoes. Once he/she is back home, one should immediately change back into the clothing worn for the shiva mourning period.

Because of the sensitive nature of the time of loss, a Rabbi would be consulted for proper procedures for mourning during Passover. The Rabbi will take into account the circumstances, traditions and Scripture and offer guidance.

At the close of the day of **Pesach Sheni**, there is a prescribed time to commemorate, honor and reflect on deceased loved ones. The **Yizkor** (also **Yiskor**) is a special memorial service held four times a year. Passover **Yizkor** was one of the four services. **Yizkor** is the Hebrew word for “remembrance.” This dedicated part of the service is considered one of the most recognized times to remember the deceased.

Because Jewish festivals contain moments of remembrance and family, the minor holiday of **Pesach Sheni** is an appropriate time to honor deceased family members as well. Lasting tributes such as contributions to charities, hospitals or hospices, synagogues or other organizations provide meaningful memorials for departed loved ones.

The tradition of inscribing one’s name in the ‘book of life’ is a common occurrence in the Jewish faith. Families may visit the cemetery and place a stone at the graveside, plant a tree in Israel or dedicate a name plaque. Other meaningful and appropriate ways to memorialize a loved one include the creation of a Plaque and Memory page online through the National Jewish Memorial Wall (NJMW.org). The inclusion on a memorial or **yahrzeit** wall is a meaningful way to show honor and respect for the deceased.

Did you ever celebrate Passover in the Baptist – Methodist – Catholic – Lutheran church?

I didn't! Not to the extent it was intended in Scripture. The first I learned of Passover was through J.R. Church and Gary Stearman's presentation of the Feast Days of the Lord in 1996. Later that year, my District Superintendent arranged for one of United Methodist Churches in the District to host and present their presentation of the Passover Seder.

The Passover celebration is traditionally considered a Jewish holiday.

It is not as familiar to many Christians as the history behind it.

However, the story is well-known to many people, even those who aren't part of the church. Some may have heard the story as a child in Vacation Bible School or a reference to it in a TV show or casual conversation.

But still, some may ask: What is Passover and how can we celebrate it?

The Story of Passover

The story begins with the 10 plagues in Egypt, culminating in the release of the Jewish people from captivity after the night of Passover. We know this well as the story of the exodus.

God's chosen people had been enslaved in Egypt for 400 years. The Jewish people suffered greatly and cried out to the Lord. He heard them and sent Moses to speak on their behalf. At the end of mass devastation, culminating in the night of Passover, Pharaoh released the Israelites.

What happened to cause a change of heart? All the first-born males in Egypt died. The exception was those in the Jewish population.

As God often does, though, He commanded His people to participate in the rescue of their children. Their part is what is known as Passover.

What is Passover?

Before the last plague God swept across the plains of Egypt, God instructed each family within the Jewish community to sacrifice an unblemished lamb or goat.

They smeared the blood on their door frames as a sign for the Lord to pass over that house. The plague of death would not touch the Jewish people. Instead it "passed over" them.

The Lord commanded the Israelites to celebrate the day He rescued them – creating the ‘Jewish’ holiday. His people have obeyed these instructions for thousands of years by celebrating Passover.

However, this celebration is not a ‘Jewish’ celebration. Instead, it was written to be a Feast of our Lord. Leviticus 23 hastens to make that clear. In addition, the Passover serves as a reminder of God’s faithfulness to all His followers. Thus, it is a Christian celebration!

When Does Passover End?

While the original instance of the Passover occurred on one night, Passover was combined with the Feast of Unleavened Bread and celebrated for seven days. God gave specific instructions for His people to observe rituals of remembrance for a whole week.

The first and last days were set aside for a holy assembly. These holy days were to be days of rest and preparation. During the Festival of Unleavened Bread, God directed the Israelites to eliminate all yeast from their homes and cooking for the full seven days.

Why Do Christians Celebrate Passover?

Most denominational churches do not celebrate Passover. This is the result of the Christian community parting ways with Judaism during the late 1st century AD. This split of Christianity and Judaism took place during the first century AD forever. While the First Jewish–Roman War and the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 AD were main events, the separation was a long-term process transpiring over about three centuries.

Because of the freedom we have gained through faith in Jesus Christ, Passover has not always been maintained within the church. Some believers aren’t familiar with the celebration. Some don’t see taking the time to remember the Exodus from Egypt as beneficial. There are those who denied it ever happened. Sadly, they were wrong. For others, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus overshadows the Old Testament festival. Yet – Jesus is the fulfillment of this celebration and the resurrection is a continuation of the story.

Some Christians believe God has released His people from the obligation of observing Passover referring to the verse Colossians 2:16-17, yet this verse have been incorrectly interpreted and shaded the full meaning. Paul clarified the reason for not allowing such matters to be a basis for judgment concerning their standing in Christ. Such things were only a shadow -(Hebrews 10:1) of what was to come. The transitory items should be discarded in favor of the "body" or reality they now knew in Christ.

According to this interpretation, Paul is telling the Colossian believers not to let the false teachers, who are unbelievers and not part of the body, judge them for how they are celebrating the festivals, new moons, and Sabbaths, but rather leave judgment to those within the body, who are guided by the Scriptures, the Word of God, and not by man's traditions.

This is consistent with other letters where Paul tells the body of Christ to judge in certain matters.

We have 5 Significant Reasons to Celebrate Passover?

Now that you know what Passover is, let us talk about the reasons why you should celebrate it. Here are 5 reasons:

1. It grounds you to your spiritual roots.

The God of the New Testament is the same as the God of the Old Testament. Every detail He's provided us in His Word is for His glory and our good. The stories of the Jewish people are our spiritual roots and we understand more about God when we understand more about how He has worked in the past.

2. Passover is a reminder of the value of Scripture.

There are parts of the Bible that are harder to read than others. However, God didn't include anything arbitrarily. Thus, it helps to take the time to reflect on special events like the story of the exodus. By doing so, it reminds us of the value of all the Sacred Word.

3. The feast of Passover connects you to Jesus.

Jesus celebrated Passover. He was a Jewish man according to His human parentage. God chose the Jews to deliver his message of Salvation!

Moreover, He lived in the culture of the Jewish population. As you participate in celebrations that Jesus also participated in, this links you to who He was while He walked on earth.

4. It helps us understand the need for sacrifice.

The original Passover required sacrifice. The Israelite families had to slaughter a lamb or goat to have the blood to spread on the doorways. The blood bought their lives. The blood of Jesus purchased our lives. He is the final Passover Lamb.

5. It enhances your gratitude.

Can you imagine how grateful the Israelites must have been when the Passover occurred? Gratitude and appreciation is a core teaching, and many times throughout the day I will say “*Thank you Jesus*”. It may be an intuitive answer to something I might be working on, and it is my last words before I fall off to sleep.

God knows that humans are fickle and we have short memories. Thus, His command was to commemorate His miraculous salvation every year. Every time we pause to ground our faith and celebrate God’s love, we are reminded of everything He has done for us.

How Can We Celebrate Passover?

There are many specifics in decorations, meals, recipes, and rituals that enhance the celebration of Passover. Too many to cover in this post! Instead, we’re going to cover general ideas that bring the Passover story to life and make the details more meaningful.

1 – Reenact Passover as it’s told in Exodus.

Obviously, your family isn’t going to kill a lamb or goat and spread its blood on your doorway. You can have a stuffed animal present, though. The **seder** meal is important, too. Other ideas include having everyone be fully dressed, have a walking stick, and dip a sprig of greenery in water and use it to brush your doorway. We gain a clearer understanding of what the Israelites lived through when we take part in the activities. Passover will also become much more memorable.

2 – Recount the story.

Reading the story told in Exodus 12 gives us solid facts to serve as a foundation for the celebration. Reading the account of Jesus’ death makes the connection of Him being the fulfillment of Scripture and the acts of God in the Old Testament which were a “shadow of things to come.”

3 – Remember God’s plan for redemption.

Recounting and reenacting the Passover/Exodus story reminds us that God’s delivery of the Jewish community from Egypt was a foreshadowing of His delivery of us from the slavery of sin through Jesus. We tend to be short-sighted and easily forget. God, on the other hand, has had a plan for redeeming His people from before He spoke the world into being.

4 – Read the Scripture in context.

When Bible stories are read, they are interpreted based on the information we have. We also understand events based on our culture. When we study scripture not just in the context of other scripture, but also in the context of the setting and Jewish culture in

which they took place, the words become more alive. For example, when we think 3 days and 3 nights, we translate that into 72 hours. For this reason, Jesus was not crucified on Friday and raised on Sunday morning at day break. The traditional sunrise service is a pagan custom worshipping the Sun, not the Son!

There is no way to count 3 days and 3 nights – just as Jonah was in the belly of the fish. This dating was based on a Friday Sabbath and not the High Holy Day associated with the Feast of Unleavened Bread which included 2 High Holy Days. Culture and context will help us see the true timeline and significance.

We can also learn that the Passover celebration took place at twilight. Because of the need for light, Passover coincided with a full moon. This is why both the celebrations of Passover and of Jesus' Resurrection shift on the Gregorian calendar we use.

5 – Reflect on God's deliverance of sin.

Prayer is essential to any spiritual celebration. Through prayer, we meditate on God's abundant grace. It reminds us of what God did for us when He stood in as the final Passover lamb. The people of Israel took part in God's deliverance, but it wasn't the act of brushing blood on doorways that saved them. Their salvation came by the grace of God. We, too, have been transferred from death because of sin to life ~ because of His grace.

A Time to Celebrate Passover

While celebrating Passover is not common, joyfully participating will bless us as we worship the Lord and exhibit reverence for His plan. This year (2021), Passover began at sunset on Saturday, March 27 and ends on Sunday evening, April 4.

Celebrating Passover is a wonderful way to prepare for Easter, better known as Resurrection Day. The Lord picked Passover for His sacrifice and overcoming death through His resurrection, and there's great blessing in celebrating these two events that bridge the Old Covenant to that of the New. Passover was uprooted by the Covid two years running. My Jewish friends felt a great loss.

Jews are in the midst of the Jewish community's "first second" of the pandemic. Granted, they have been celebrating Shabbat week after week. Last year, however, Passover was the first major hurdle to overcome during the shutdown. And now we've reached Passover again.

Jews have been in this bubble for so long that we sometimes forget what it was like at the grocery stores in March and April 2020 — when curbside pickup was in its infancy, when Instacart was mounting weeklong advance checkout times, when toilet paper (and matzah) hoarding was hitting its peak.

The proximity of the shutdown to Passover last year led to the cancellation of Seder invitations and truncating of menus and meals. Still, it also led to the novel idea of Zoom Seders. Family members who most certainly would not have been together for Seder pre-pandemic, joined each other at the Seder table by way of tablets and laptops. Grandparents across the miles beamed into dining rooms; parallel menus were planned; and telegenic smiles and virtual hugs replaced the smells of their grandparents' kitchens. There was hope and a sense of redemption. As Barna Research has recently stated, upwards of a third to a half of church members have not returned after lockdowns were lifted, it is likely that the various branches of Judaism have experienced similar losses.

But now Jews celebrate their second Passover in the "wilderness." Though Zoom at the dining room table has become commonplace. This is what a Jewish friend told me (*"I have Shabbat dinner with my parents every week now over Zoom), the feeling of novelty for Passover is gone. Whereas last year felt as though we were rushing out of Egypt, braving a new world on our path to a future Promised Land, this year feels as though we have been lost in the desert for 40 years."*)

*"During the Seder there are songs each family sings — and have for centuries. **Dayenu** (literally "it was enough for us") is perhaps the most famous of these songs. Each verse is a different conditional statement: Had God (only) brought us out of Egypt, it would have been enough for us! Had God (only) given us the Torah, it would have been enough for us! Had God (only) given us Shabbat, it would have been enough for us!"*

*"Though this song long predates Jews in the U.S., **Dayenu** has a strong passive-aggressive air to it. More this year than any other, I feel deeply and strongly that it would not have been enough."*

"With the chaotic state of the world, we each have been left wanting and needing more this year. So much more!"

*"He said I gave thanks to God when I received my COVID-19 vaccinations and I made the difficult decision to travel to New Jersey to be with my parents for Passover. But, lo **dayenu**, it was not enough."*

"We as parents are in the business of creating positive memories for our children — and in the Jewish community, they like us create positive Jewish memories for our children. That is our primary job and it is emphasized and re-emphasized on Passover. My children have finally reached the age when Passover is no longer a "vacation" distraction from the chaos of the outside world. It is a charge to engage in it and add order (seder) — and bring justice to it."

"Some of the questions asked by the children at Seder this year: Do you think Derek Chauvin will be found guilty? How many people are not receiving their food or their medicines because of the Ever Given? Can we go to Atlanta to hand out water during the next election? Do we know why that man in Colorado killed those people? What is a

border and what is happening there? Do you think next year we won't have to wear masks with our cousins?"

"No questions about matzah. No questions about bitter herbs. No questions about reclining. The Covid genocidal agenda recalls memories of those who wore the 'yellow' star on their clothing in Europe during the Nazi regime."

"My little ones had all of the answers (and questions) about slavery and oppression and hate and inequality and racism in the world beyond the aroma of our matzo ball soup. It was not enough and is not enough — and it's not all on God. We have to do more and partner with the forces for good to do more."

"We may end our Seder traditionally by saying "Next year in Jerusalem" and some this year quipped "Next year in person." My hope and our charge is "next year together" — and that's not about physical space. That is a plea for us to live and work and love together, united."

My friend's remarks were just short of seeing this as demonic spiritual warfare, but his words spoke silently this message. We can empathize with the Jews who could not observe their second most important holy day, two years running, but in many ways it is a Segway to the Resurrection. The 17th/18th day of Nisan is the most frequently mentioned date in the Bible. Now it is true that most people do not study their Bible in such detail, and most pastors are not so inclined to go too such depth and detail to make their point. These kinds of details become the burden of people that are mathematicians. For the past twenty years I have contended that mathematicians and computer experts have done more to teach faith for the church than all of the theologians in the 20th century.

The text that was used to give us the King James Bible has hidden within it a "DNA" all of its own and its obscurity only became known in the 18th century by a small group of Jewish mathematicians. Most Christians are unaware of this concept called Gematria. This concept is revealed in the text that I call the Heptadic Design Feature. I will not take time here to discuss this, something which I have written about elsewhere. My point here is that nothing in the Bible is there by accident. Every letter, number, word is put there as proof of its Creator. Scripture is multi-layered in concepts, themes, topics, patterns, and a good example is that the Covenant number of "7" which is applied throughout Scripture at "nine" different application levels. It reveals an integrity that is not of human minds and hands.

Biblical literacy most certainly has declined in the past century. Denominations that came out of the Reformation of 1517, with exception the doctrine of Justification have largely perpetuated the errant doctrines of the Latin branch of the church of Rome. It has led to the community or Bible church movement beginning in the mid-1960s. In recent weeks I have been sensing the world closing in on Christians. Canada has gone jack-boot crazy, this past Sunday, the Canadian government sent 200 armed police officers to shut down and fence off a church. What is taking place is not legal, yet is a

sign of the global coup I was talking about fifteen months ago. I monitor over a hundred news sites from around the world and what I read is typical of the New World Order, I used to monitor a thousand sites at one time but began two years ago to eliminate duplicate reports and sites that were merely repeating things a week later. I'm getting tired and 12-14 hours a day of writing and researching is catching up with me. Also, now with the censoring by AOL and others, I actually get a couple hours more a day to keep up with my reading areas. This brings me to my Segway thought.

The Coronavirus or Covid-19 does not exist. It was a classic example of the Hegelian Dialectic being used to manipulate people, on a global scale. Follow closely my analysis:

It's not a virus to begin with. It never was, it was a bioweapon. It was intended to trick people into wanting and begging for a vaccine. This is known as the Hegelian Dialectic in classical form.

- Create the problem - scream fire in a theater by claiming a virus pandemic was loose in the wild.
- Study the reaction - fear takes hold and the public calls on government to save them.
- Offer the solution - we have a vaccine that will save the world. However, the vaccine is the "kill" shot. You take it thinking you will live. This is how they intend to kill seven billion people. They told us their plan with the Georgia Guidestones.

It's like using a Judas Goat to lead the sheep to follow the Judas Goat to slaughter. It works all the time.

Health agencies around the world keep requesting slide samples of Covid-19 since a year ago, but the CDC says they don't exist. If they don't exist there is no virus proof. Are you aware that Life Insurance Rates have remained unchanged since this scam was hatched upon the public. Insurance companies are the best place to find mortality information because their business depends on accurate mortality rates. If life insurance companies increase their rates, their sales go down and, if they increase their reserve levels, then dividends go down, so they have to be brutally honest. Insurance companies have not made any changes in their reserve structure. It has been 13 months since COVID-19 came on the scene, but rates have not changed from last year. Age and obesity are the #1 risk factor for dying from (or with) the alleged COVID-19 and, if a person is under 70 and not obese, there is no material change in mortality rates.

The Second Passover, ***Pesach Sheni*** this year is April 27th, beginning the night before. In theory, the 17th/18th of Nisan would begin on sunset April 30th to sunset April 31st. In the history of God's people beginning with the Israelites, God follows a Mathematical

pattern. The highpoint of Nisan 17th/18th was the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and it is typologically the “theme” for Resurrection, Deliverance, and Completion. The major events on this theme are the focus of Robert W. Faid’s mathematical analysis.

When I did my work on **“God’s Special Day”** back around 1999 or 2000, we find that there are at least there are more events in this picture. I became good friends with a Jewish Rabbi who has his PhD in “contextual Hebrew studies”. So, we became remote classmates and friends over two decades in exploring this theme. I listed them at the bottom of my original work and have put them at the close as a “pattern” confirmation. Prologue = Pattern = Prophecy.

The point is that God does provide us “Diamonds & Nuggets” for more reasons than I might think. First, God does this to get our attention. Second, He does this to emphasize and stress something of great importance. Third, it is His way of getting His children to read and study further His Word. Fourth, I see it as His way to communicate to us that He is in control. As my father said so often when I was growing up, *“You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make him drink.”* Another one I heard a zillion times, *“Get a good education, use your mind and not your back.”* He modeled Socrates well for a man who only went to the fifth grade, and raised a family driving a truck for a living. But he did love Jesus and the Bible. Socrates is famous for his philosophy, *“I can’t teach anyone, all I can do is to get you to think.”* I will come back to my Segway “diamond & nugget” shortly.

In the event you are one of the skeptics that doubt we are in the last days, perhaps you should think about the reasons we are clearly in the last days of civilization as we know it. There are a lot more of those skeptics these days as polls taken show that those who hold to Christianity in the U.S. is now less than half of the country in numbers. That should tell you a whole lot about the current state of America.

1. Increasing instability of nature. (Matthew 24:7 & Luke 21:11)
2. Increasing lawlessness and violence. (Matthew 24:12)
3. Increasing immorality. (Matthew 24:37)
4. Increasing materialism. (2 Timothy 3:2)
5. Increasing Hedonism. (2 Timothy 3:4)
6. Increasing influence of Humanism. (2 Timothy 3:2)
7. Depraved entertainment. (2 Timothy 3:4)
8. Calling evil good and good evil. (2 Timothy 3:3 & Isaiah 5:20)
9. Increasing use of drugs. (2 Timothy 3:3)
10. Increasing blasphemy. (2 Timothy 3:2)
11. Increasing paganism. (2 Timothy 3:1-4)
12. Increasing despair. (2 Timothy 3:1)
13. Signs in the heavens. (Luke 21:11,25)
14. Increasing knowledge. (Daniel 12:4)
15. Increasing travel. (Daniel 12:4)
16. The explosion of cults. (Matthew 24:11)
17. The proliferation of false christs. (Matthew 24:5)

18. Increasing apostasy in the Church. (2 Timothy 4:3-5)
19. Increasing attacks on Jesus. (Romans 1:18-19)
20. Increasing attacks on the Bible. (Romans 1:18-19)
21. Increasing persecution of Christians. (Matthew 24:9)
22. Increasing occultism. (1 Timothy 4:1)
23. Wars and rumors of wars. (Matthew 24:6)
24. Weapons of mass destruction. (Luke 21:26)
25. Increasing famine. (Luke 21:11)
26. Increasing pestilence. (Luke 21:11)
27. Computer technology. (Revelation 13:7)
28. Television. (Revelation 11:8-9)
29. Satellite technology. (Revelation 11:8-9)
30. Virtual reality. (Revelation 13:14-15)
31. Unification of Europe. (Daniel 2 & 7)
32. Far Eastern military powers. (Revelation 9:16 & 16:12)
33. Movement toward world government. (Daniel 7:23-26)
34. Regathering of the Jews. (Isaiah 11:10-12)
35. Re-establishment of Israel. (Isaiah 66:7-8)
36. Reclamation of the land of Israel. (Ezekiel 36:34-35)
37. Revival of Biblical Hebrew. (Zephaniah 3:9; Jeremiah 31:23)
38. Re-occupation of Jerusalem. (Luke 21:24)
39. Resurgence of the Israeli military. (Zechariah 12:6)
40. Re-focusing of world politics on Israel. (Zechariah 12:3)
41. Russian threat to Israel. (Ezekiel 38 and 39)
42. Arab threat to Israel. (Ezekiel 35 and 36)
43. Denial of the Second Coming. (2 Peter 3:3-4)
44. Denial of creation by God. (Romans 1:18-22)
45. Outpouring of the Holy Spirit. (Joel 2:28-29)
46. Translation of the Bible into many languages. (Matthew 24:14)
47. Preaching of the Gospel worldwide. (Matthew 24:14)
48. The revival of Messianic Judaism. (Romans 9:27)
49. The revival of Davidic praise worship. (Amos 9:11)
50. The understanding of Bible prophecy. (Daniel 12:8-9)

Then a few days ago the Pentagon announced their new “implantable” microchip to detect Covid, but there is much more to this “implantable” microchip than a virus. Historically, the government always has conducted their social engineering on the military guinea pigs first before introducing their diabolical projects into the general public. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has developed a green tissue-like gel that contains a microchip. You place it under your skin and it analyzes the chemical reactions in your body. Through this process, it can detect if you are becoming infected by a virus; by the way a virus that has yet to be proven to exist. The CDC still has not provided proof evidence for research labs around the world. So they say, but there is no mention of CRISPR-CAS9, and how it modifies your DNA through transcription. Let’s demand the Center for Disease Creation to put up or shut up! Let’s see the proof evidence based upon the Koch Postulates.

It sounds like science fiction, but its science fact.

God's Special Day

Nisan 17 Odds: **One in 783,864,876,960,000,000**

If that does not impress you as significant, you are oblivious to the power of God to orchestrate events with a Typology theme of "Deliverance".

The Bible records many miracles occurring on Nisan 17. No other day except Passover is mentioned as many times in the Bible. According to the Torah and traditional Jewish interpretation, other events that occurred on Nisan 17 include the following:

- ✓ Nisan 17, Noah's Ark safely rested on Mt. Ararat -(Genesis 8:4) Note that the seventh month was later designated as the first month at the time of the Exodus - (Exodus 12:2).
- ✓ Nisan 17, Hebrews entered Egypt -(Exodus 12:40-41) 430 years before deliverance.
- ✓ Nisan 17, Moses led the Israelites through the Parting of the Red Sea -(Exodus 3:18, 5:3).
- ✓ Nisan 17, Israel entered and ate the first fruit of the Promised Land -(Joshua 5:10-12).
- ✓ Nisan 17, The cleansing of the Temple by Hezekiah (eight hundred years after entering the promised land. -(2nd Chronicles 29:1-28).
- ✓ Nisan 17, Queen Esther saved the Jews from Elimination -(Esther 3:12, 5:1).

- ✓ Nisan 17, The Resurrection of Messiah (think about it).

The odds of just two of these events both happening accidentally on the same day of the Hebrew year (360 days) are one in 129,600.

The odds of these seven events all happening coincidentally on the same day of the Hebrew year are One in 783 quadrillion, 864 trillion, 876 Billion, 960 Million.

(783,864,876,960,000,000). This number is determined by multiplying the seven major events occurring on the same day of the Hebrew year. In mathematics this is known as compound probability. In the realm of science and advanced mathematics, any number larger than one in 150,000,000,000-billion is considered to be the result of intelligent design and therefore impossible as the result of coincidence or random chance occurrence.

These stats are from 'A Scientific Approach to Biblical Mysteries' by Robert W. Faid, a former nuclear engineer who holds a Master's degree in theology. Robert W. Faid was an agnostic in his early life and converted to Christianity after recovery from cancer.

Robert Faid was awarded the Nobel Prize for Mathematics. Robert W. Faid is listed as the inventor on two 1977 U.S. patents relating to improvements in the construction of concrete structures such as containment buildings for nuclear power plants.

Key Notes From My Research:

1. Noah's Ark

The Hebrew New Year begins in the month of Nisan (March/April of the contemporary calendar). However, there is another calendar used to account for the days of the Flood. This account is documented in an ancient Jewish commentary on the Genesis passage. You can explore the details if you wish, but the net result is an amazing statement of God's engineering of history.

According to this ancient calendar, the ark rested on the mountain on precisely the same day that Jesus was resurrected from the tomb. Yes, that's right. Thousands and thousands of years before the resurrection, God engineered history to point toward the pinnacle event of salvation. Just as the ancient judgment ended on the day the ark touched ground, so the judgment of the restored world ended on the same day of the year when the tomb could not hold Him.

Genesis 8:4 the seventh month was later designated as the first month at the time of the Exodus -(Exodus 12:2). Israel learned of the Nisan-years calendar system by Abraham, who came out of Ur of Chaldees, and used it consistently through the time of Moses and David. However, since David became the king of Judah (the southern two tribes) before he became the king of Israel (the northern ten tribes), and the day of ordination seemed to be Tishri 1, the first day of the seventh month, later the southern kingdom Judah used another calendar system, the Tishri-years. The tradition was still kept by the modern Jews, and they extended it to the time of creation. (Edwin R. Thiele, 'The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings', rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Kregal Publications)

2. Entered Egypt

The Hebrews entered Egypt 430 years to the day they exited (see #3 below). The scripture gives us a time-line:

14th of Nisan at sunset – Passover begins which officially makes it the 15th as well.

15th of Nisan at sunset – Children of Israel flee or go from Egypt.

16th of Nisan at sunset – They went from Succoth to Etham -(Numbers 33:6 ***“And they departed from Succoth, and pitched in Etham”***)

17th of Nisan at sunset – They went from Etham to Pihahiroth -(Numbers 33:7 ***“And they removed from Etham, and turned again unto Pihahiroth”***)

□18th of Nisan at sunset – The red sea crossing, note also that this was at NIGHT...that is the night that started the 18th! -(Numbers 33:8 ***“And they departed from before Pihahiroth, and passed through the midst of the sea”***)

We can see clearly, just as Jesus was ***“3 days and 3 nights in the belly of the earth”***, God led the children of Israel to the Red Sea by guiding them by pillar by day, and fire by night!!! So, their journey totaled 3 days!

Israel eats the first fruits of the promised land -(Joshua 5:10-12). Nisan 16 last day God rained Manna. On Nisan 17 Israel ate the first fruits of the promised land.

3. Crossing the Red Sea

Moses recorded the fact that Israel crossed over the Red Sea and physically left the land of Egypt on the 17th of Nisan in Numbers 33:1-8:

1. These are the journeys of the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron.
2. And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD: and these are their journeys according to their goings out.
3. And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; (Nisan) on the morrow after the Passover (still the 15th) the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians. (Remember,
4. Israel's days start at sunset) For the Egyptians buried all their firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.
5. And the children of Israel removed from Rameses, and pitched in Succoth. (Evening of the 15th)
6. And they departed from Succoth, and pitched in Etham, which is in the edge of the wilderness. (Evening of the 16th)
7. And they removed from Etham, and turned again unto Pi-hahiroth, which is before Baal-zephon: and they pitched before Migdol. (Evening of the 17th)
8. And they departed (morning of the 17th) from before Pi-hahiroth, and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness, and went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and pitched in Marah.”

4. Ate Fruit in Promised Land

According to “Timeline of the Bible”, Nisan 17 in 1445 B.C.; on this very same day, Israel makes first camp at Succoth beginning the Exodus and their first day out of Egypt on the evening of Friday Nisan 17 as stated in Exodus 12:37-39. On this same date, 40 years later, Joshua would meet “the Commander of the army of the Lord” which begins Day 1 of the 7 day Battle for Jericho according to Joshua 5:13-6:5. On Nisan 16 last day God rained Manna. On Nisan 17 Israel ate the first fruits of the Promised Land.

5. Hezekiah

Immediately upon becoming king, Hezekiah commenced a great religious reform. In eight days they had re-opened the great Temple of Solomon and cleansed it of defilement -(2nd Chronicles 29:1-17). The cleansing of the temple was not completed until the sixteenth day of the first month (Nisan).

6. Queen Esther

Haman had convinced the king to sign a decree to destroy the Hebrews. -Esther 3:1-12). The decree went out on the 13th Nisan -(Esther 3:12). Esther then proclaimed a three day fast -(Esther 4:16) for the 14th, 15th and 16th. On the 3rd day -(5:1) Esther approached the king saying to herself 'If I perish, I perish!' (an attitude of death or resurrection... it's in God's hands!) On the 17th Nisan, the tables were turned on the enemy Haman and instead of the Jews being destroyed, his own life was taken!

7. Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The resurrection of Jesus is important for several reasons. First, the resurrection witnesses to the immense power of God Himself. To believe in the resurrection is to believe in God. If God exists and if He created the universe and has power over it, then He has power to raise the dead. If He does not have such power, He is not worthy of our faith and worship. Only He who created life can resurrect it after death, only He can reverse the hideousness that is death itself, and only He can remove the sting and gain the victory over the grave -(1st Corinthians 15:54–55). In resurrecting Jesus from the grave, God reminds us of His absolute sovereignty over life and death.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is also important because it validates who Jesus claimed to be, namely, the Son of God and Messiah. According to Jesus, His resurrection was the “sign from heaven” that authenticated His ministry -(Matthew 16:14). The resurrection of Jesus Christ, attested to by hundreds of eyewitnesses -(1st Corinthians 15:3–8), provides irrefutable proof that He is the Savior of the world.

Another reason the resurrection of Jesus Christ is important is that it proves His sinless character and divine nature. The Scriptures said God's “Holy One” would never see corruption - (Psalm 16:10), and Jesus never saw corruption, even after He died -(see Acts 13:32–37). It was on the basis of the resurrection of Christ that Paul preached, “Through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin” -(Acts 13:38–39).

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not only the supreme validation of His deity; it also validates the Old Testament prophecies that foretold of Jesus' suffering and resurrection -(see Acts 17:2–3). Christ's resurrection also authenticated His own claims that He would be raised on the third day -(Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:34). If Jesus Christ is not resurrected, then we have no hope that we will be, either. In fact, apart from Christ's resurrection, we have no Savior, no salvation, and no hope of eternal life. As Paul said, our faith would be “useless,” the gospel would be altogether powerless, and our sins would remain unforgiven -(1st Corinthians 15:14–19).

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life” -(John 11:25), and in that statement claimed to be the source of both. There is no resurrection apart from Christ, no eternal life. Jesus does more than give life; He is life, and that’s why death has no power over Him. Jesus confers His life on those who trust in Him, so that we can share His triumph over death -(1st John 5:11–12). We who believe in Jesus Christ will personally experience resurrection because, having the life Jesus gives, we have overcome death. It is impossible for death to win -(1st Corinthians 15:53–57).

Jesus is “the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep” -(1st Corinthians 15:20). In other words, Jesus led the way in life after death. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is important as a testimony to the resurrection of human beings, which is a basic tenet of the Christian faith.

Unlike other religions, Christianity possesses a Founder who transcends death and promises that His followers will do the same. Every other religion was founded by men or prophets whose end was the grave. As Christians, we know that God became man, died for our sins, and was resurrected the third day. The grave could not hold Him. He lives, and He sits today at the right hand of the Father in heaven -(Hebrews 10:12). As Russ Breault of “Shroud Encounters”, in a recent video has asked: *“Could the Shroud of Turin Be A Receipt?”* *“Is the linen burial cloth a record of a transaction between God and man? Could it be a proof of purchase? Does the human race possess an itemized receipt documenting the extreme price that was paid?”* Russ has spent 30 years of his life researching and lecturing on the Shroud of Turin.

The Word of God guarantees the believer’s resurrection at the coming of Jesus Christ for His church at the Rapture. Such assurance results in a great song of triumph as Paul writes in 1st Corinthians 15:55, “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” -(cf. Hosea 13:14).

The importance of the resurrection of Christ has an impact on our service to the Lord now. Paul ends his discourse on resurrection with these words: ***“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain”*** -(1st Corinthians 15:58).

Because we know we will be resurrected to new life, we can endure persecution and danger for Christ’s sake (verses 30–32), just as our Lord did. Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, thousands of Christian martyrs through history have willingly traded their earthly lives for everlasting life and the promise of resurrection. The resurrection is the triumphant and glorious victory for every believer. Jesus Christ died, was buried, and rose the third day according to the Scriptures -(1st Corinthians 15:3–4). And He is coming again! The dead in Christ will be raised up, and those who are alive at His coming will be changed and receive new, glorified bodies -(1st Thessalonians 4:13–18). Why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ important? It proves who Jesus is. It demonstrates that God accepted Jesus’ sacrifice on our behalf. It shows that God has

the power to raise us from the dead. It guarantees that the bodies of those who believe in Christ will not remain dead but will be resurrected unto eternal life.

Other Hebrew known Biblical events that occurred on the 17th of Nisan include:

- ✓ Hag ha-Matza - Third day. –(Exodus 12:17-20)The Omer, day 2.
- ✓ Water swells on the earth in the days of Noah. Day 107. –(Genesis 7:24)
- ✓ Abraham returns to his family in Beer Sheva. –(Genesis 22:19)
- ✓ Yocheved hides Moses after a 6 month and one day pregnancy - day 40. – (Artsroll Mesorah on Shavuos, page 61.)
- ✓ Moses saw the burning bush in 2447 – Day 3 of 7. –(Exodus 3:2, Bahya, Bo, Midrash Rabbah - Leviticus XI:6)
- ✓ Israelites leave Succoth and arrive at Etham. –(Exodus 12:48-51 Our heritage, Eliyahu Kitov)
- ✓ Moses collects Joseph's bones. –(Exodus 13:19)
- ✓ Joshua and the Israelites march around Jericho – day 3. –(Joshua 6:1ff)
- ✓ Haman's plans came to naught. –(Esther 3:12, 4:16, 5:1, 7:2-9)
- ✓ Resurrection Sabbath. Yeshua rose from the dead, at the end of the third day. It is a Sabbath. –(Matthew 12:48)
- ✓ Yeshua heals the man with a withered hand on the Sabbath after Pesach. –(Luke 6:6-11)
- ✓ Peter is arrested and imprisoned by Herod. –(Acts 12:3)
- ✓ Torah section is Exodus 13:1-16; Numbers 28:19-25. There is no Haftarah.

In this list of Hebrew events on the 17th/18th note the Resurrection was on a Sabbath but it was technically Sunday as well. The Resurrection occurred at the close of a Sabbath at approximately 6:15-6:30 PM Jerusalem time. What does this tell us? Jesus was in the tomb for 72 hours or 3 full days and 3 full nights, So Rome and all the daughter churches (denominations) were wrong about a Friday crucifixion and so many other things as well. They all are guilty of teaching church tradition, but it is based on errant understanding, and yet they will not repent and correct their deceptive teachings, and thus their moral authority and lack of credibility becomes a black eye to the Christian faith.

This year ***Pesach Sheni***, (Second Passover) is on Wednesday, April 27th, and the 17th/18th of Nisan is on a Sabbath, Friday/Saturday of April 30th/31st. Looking at this from the position of Matthew 24:36, we might be living that verse ***“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.”***

C.J. Lovik's video, posted a few days ago, suggests the Tribulation Period or Daniel's 70th Week begins later this fall. That would mean the Rapture is very close. We have to be wide awake now as we see the world around us go to hell in a hand basket. Joe Biden threatens Vladimir Putin in the Ukraine, the world of the dollar is about to be taken down by the globalists and their cashless economy. The jack-booted tyranny of Klaus Schwab and pervert Bill Gate seem to have a choke hold control along with the Center of Disease Creation is planning a number of viruses under the SARS-PANDEMIC 2025-2028. Israeli Mossad damaged the Nuclear power plant at Natanz in an effort to

sabotage their uranium enrichment program. Three days later, Iran struck a Mossad base in Iraq, and hit an Israeli ship near the Straits of Hormuz at a United Arab Emirate port.

The last prophecy in the Bible is our assurance that the Rapture is still on God's time table and we should not panic. ***"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."*** -(Revelation 3:10). The Israelite's crossed the Red Sea in what appeared to be a victory for Pharaoh, but in the critical moment God snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. This was my theme for "Blessed Hope #7" last year. We have assurance that God will repeat another "type" of the Red Sea event, just as spectacular as delivering Moses and a million and a half Israelites. God does these huge Charlton Heston style events like "The Ten Commandments" to get our attention, so that He gets all the glory and honor. We have less than five months until the ***"Harpazo"*** and that may be as short as the end of April, 2021!

Be of good cheer and thankful that God has never defaulted on any of His Promises.

Blessings, be watching and stay alert!

Pastor Bob, EvanTeachr@aol.com
www.pastorbobreid.com
<http://jesusisthewaythetruththelife.com/node/22>