By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it's April 12th of 2024, and the title of this message is called, "The Anatomy of a Lie." I'd struggled with the title, sometimes the title comes first and then you write the message, or study. And sometimes you do the study first and then you struggle for a title. So, I was having a bit of a problem with that. Even the "Power of a Lie" might be good title for what we are going to try to cover today, or at least start to cover, and we'll see that as the study actually develops.

0:00:36

Before getting into today's topic and study, I'd like to make a couple comments regarding Passover this year. I realize this is a very contentious topic and won't be solved until the kingdom is set up. Even then, it's likely that some will feel Yehovah has got it wrong, and that's not likely to work out really well.

0:01:00

This year, 2024, there were three start dates that appeared to be in the running for the folks; and I know folks in all of those camps, and consider them all brothers. If one expects their own decision to be respected, then extending the same courtesy to the others shouldn't be much of a stretch.

0:01:21

Being a Nicolaitan about these things would pose a problem, because we all know what Christ thinks about them, and since He's at one with the Father, the math isn't really hard to do.

0:01:35

One of the things I was most curious about is, when in the Holy Land, the lambs were actually born. I wanted to know that, because obviously that has an influence on things, and there's a scripture that is not often used in Church of God circles that I would like to use to set the tone for this, just these thoughts.

0:01:58

Deuteronomy 11, we're going to read verses 10 - 15, where it says here:

¹⁰For the land which you go to possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered it by foot, as a vegetable garden; ¹¹but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven, ¹²a land for which Yehovah your God cares; the eyes of Yehovah your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.

0:02:33

So, is He involved? Well, absolutely.

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¹³'And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love Yehovah your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹⁴then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. ¹⁵And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.'

0:03:05

So, I started to follow a site, and hopefully I can attach that for anybody who might be interested, to see what the climate was actually like over there in the Holy Land, because, honestly, I had no idea how their whole setup worked. Our climate and our latitude is completely different here where I live.

0:03:31

So, I thought that might be interesting to follow that to see the seasons change, how cold does it get over there, does it snow, when does it snow? These kinds of things I really wanted to know, based on Deuteronomy 11. And so there would be a logical thing, based on Deuteronomy 11 that the time there would be lots of grass for the animals to feed on.

0:03:54

And I found that by following it, the rains begin to come in the latter half of October; I guess that varies from year to year, but that's what happened this year. And so, during those months, when the rains begin, and there hasn't been any significant rains for months before then, all of a sudden the land becomes lush and green for the gestating lambs. (Ewes.)

0:04:47

We'll see how that actually works. The rains that came after the Feast of Tabernacles made the dry and arid place, lush and green. With plenty of grazing for the gestating moms. I learned that the gestation period of a sheep averages about 5 months, 147 days, if you prefer days to months. And the lambs were hatched, this year, 2024, in bulk, in a two-week period the week after the end of, sorry, either side of March the first.

0:05:01

So, they started the last week of February, and there was a whole bulge of them occurring up into the first part of March. So, we can see, ah, you know, if you were a sheep farmer over in the land, you would be a busy boy for those two weeks. And of course, there are always stragglers either side, so it could have even extended out to a month. But here was a bulge in the lamb population from the last week of February to the first week of March.

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That's just the way it works and the pictures that I saw, and it's great that we have all this information to process, the land was lush and green because of the abundance of rain, and the new life coming forth in the land and so on.

0:05:54

That would mean, in the case of the lambs, that conception would happen in October. The greening of the land would allow for the good food throughout the gestation period and for a couple months past the lambing season. Well, that would all fit. God is in charge, He does things in an orderly way, and it makes sense.

0:06:14

I, in the long past, regarded such timing as a coincidence. Yehovah, it seems, is pretty smart. I would really like to know what size the actual Passover lambs were back in the day? A one-month-old lamb, by all accounts I've looks at from people that actually raise them, is about 30 pounds, and a two-month lamb about 60 pounds. And you can convert that to kilos, if that's the language you speak.

0:06:47

I do not know what the phrase, "a lamb of the first year" means for sure. One month old or one year old could have been used. From anything I've looked at, a lamb becomes a sheep at the age of a year. If taken to market past one year, it would be sold as mutton, not as lamb.

0:07:04

We do know, and perhaps some do not know; I hadn't until last year that an animal can be given to God as an offering at 8 days of age onwards. I had no idea that that even was a thing, 40 some years in the faith and I didn't know that. It's there in Leviticus 22. We'll read it just so you can make a mental note if you haven't done it yourself. (Verse 26)

²⁶And Yehovah spoke to Moses, saying: ²⁷"When a bull or a sheep or a goat is born, it shall be seven days with its mother; and from the eighth day and thereafter it shall be accepted as an offering made by fire to Yehovah. ²⁸Whether it is a cow or ewe, do not kill both her and her young on the same day. ²⁹And when you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to Yehovah, offer it of your own free will. ³⁰On the same day it shall be eaten; you shall leave none of it until morning: I am Yehovah.

0:08:10

It's also repeated in the book of Exodus. Exodus 22 and verse 30. So, let's read that too, to see what else we can learn.

²⁹"You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me. ³⁰Likewise you shall do with your oxen

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and your sheep. It shall be with its mother seven days; on the eighth day you shall give it to Me.

I simply did not know that.

0:08:41

For this reason, the timing of the lambing, a February Passover date, did not work for me. The lambs had not been born off the moon of February. And also, the grain was nowhere near Abib and the historical timing of when the Jews and Christ kept it, simply did not fit.

0:09:06

Moving on to the next possibility, the new moon of March 11th and 12th, with the lambing in the rear-view mirror, that ticked a box for me, and it came to a consideration of Deuteronomy 16:9. We do live in an agricultural area here, so even though I'm not a farmer, I've certainly worked on farms and been around farms all of my life.

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There's a very key marker bed here in Deuteronomy 16:9, where it says:

⁹"You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain.

That is a key marker for the count toward Pentecost and which for me is a timing marker. The start of the grain harvest is the time for the count to Pentecost. The grain, the sickle was put to the grain, in the Holy Land this year, in the last week of March.

0:10:19

People that do not farm, generally they don't realize that harvest is a process, not a singularity. Starting and putting grain in the bin, can be separated by some weeks, given the conditions.

0:10:34

With the rains mostly stopping in the Holy Land, the weather there is something our farmers here, could only wish. Daytime temperatures there in the 80 deg Fahrenheit range, say 25C for those of you that aren't bilingual, and, you know, that is perfect for harvest. So, I was looking for that. When do the rains that God talked about in Deuteronomy. When do they stop? When does the weather change? I wanted to see by taking what we historically understood and apply it to this year just to see exactly what happens.

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The rain stopping and the weather warming up is probably just another coincidence. Ah, right. Here where I live, given the right weather, the harvest would take 3 – 4 weeks; and that's for all crops, barley, wheat, oats, peas and canola, which we see a lot of around here.

0:11:36

It tells us in the Bible, there is a time for everything. And we read that in Ecclesiastes 3; Ecclesiastes 3 and verses 1 and 2. So, let's read that just so we know. Ecclesiastes 3, verses 1 and 2.

¹ To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: ²A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted;

0:12:11

So, it's quite predictable actually. Locally here, for the grains, if I told you September first of any given year would be harvest time, it's not likely I'd be off a week either way for at least some of the grain crops, and it happens year in, year out.

0:12:30

Since we have such information available to us, we can go and see what's going on in the holy days, or as we approach them anyway. Through modern communications and the internet, the knocking down of the crops as I said, starting the harvest was underway in the last week of March, making Deuteronomy 16:9 a thing.

0:12:54

March 31st was the wave sheaf day of the March 11th and 12th crescent. We observed Passover on the timing this year for that reason. I continue to follow up on what is going on, as the calculated Hebrew calendar has Passover in late April this year, and the next wave sheaf day is April the 28th; four weeks after the March 31st previous possible date.

0:13:29

It is obvious from photos I've seen that both the barley and the wheat harvest will be largely completed by the next potential wave sheaf day on April the 28th. This year then, one would have completed the entire grain harvest by the end of April, gone to Jerusalem for the Days of Unleavened Bread, returned home with the harvest completed, wait another seven weeks past April 28th, and then return to Jerusalem for Pentecost.

0:13:58

That doesn't make sense to me when the rubber hits the road, that's why we did what we did. And it doesn't have to be what others will do.

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Another marker, since Pentecost would fall into May for us, instead of June. That would require that the wheat harvest be completed by then by May 19th of this year, and that's just not a problem.

0:14:28

By the end of April all of the grains in the Holy Land, for the most part, will be completely finished. This seems a given from any pictures I've looked at, making the Days of Unleavened Bread and Pentecost the book ends of the grain harvest this year, one for the start and one for the completion.

0:14:55

We should be able to answer for the things that lie within us. And looking to next year, it would appear as though the closest new moon to the equinox would be March the 31st, so we'll just have to see how that fits. Based upon this year, it would appear that the calculated Hebrew calendar and the closest new moon to the equinox would be in harmony and all be the same, and I'll be looking for, when do things actually fall there for next year.

0:15:24

If there was no information available, that is what we would use here. Next year appears to be very likely an intercalary year for us that did what we did this year, we are just going to have to see. I personally believe that the instructions given to Israel, such as Deuteronomy 11 and Deuteronomy 16 and the layout in Deuteronomy 11 were given in harmony with what God put in place in Genesis 1:14. So, there you have it. That's what we did, I hope that makes sense and we need to cut ourselves a little bit of slack that we do, do different things, and we need to respect that.

0:16:14

Walking through such musings as we did just above, it occurred to me to consider the scope of what we are told in Revelation 12, verse 9. Revelation 12, verse 9. For we see the condition that we actually live in. It says:

⁹So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

0:16:57

The word deceives here is the Greek word G4105, and it appears to be planao, (plan-ah'-o) and it is defined, as to wander, to cause to wander. And its usage is to lead astray, to deceive, and cause to wander. It goes on to say, get off course, to deviate from the correct path, roaming into error, wandering, being misled.

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It is the root word for the English word planet, which is a wandering body. From Helps Word Study, this term nearly always conveys the sin of roaming, with an exception being in Hebrews 11:38. So, let's take a look at that, where that same word is used, but is used to represent something completely different. It says:

³⁸of whom the world was not worthy.

Speaking of the ecclesia.

They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

0:18:16

And that's the same word wandering there. So, the wandering stars of Jude 1:13 might come to mind here as a comparison. The life of one of the ecclesia really becomes one of sorting out, or at least trying to sort out, the truth from the lie. Without an inherent love of the truth, and God is truth, there has to be a love of God, why would one ever bother?

0:18:47

So, take a human being, void of the way to direct their steps by design, as we have looked at; Yehovah could have given that, but He did not. Put him into a situation where a powerful invisible being, who can broadcast and does broadcast influence, and what would you have? Well, exactly what we see today, actually.

0:19:12

And we read about that in Ephesians 2. So, let's take a look at Ephesians 2, verses 1 – 10.

¹ And you (Speaking of the ecclesia) He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

0:19:41

We just went about our lives and really had no idea, at least I did.

³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. ⁴But (the) God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses,

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We sinned and faced the penalty of death.

made us alive together with Christ (His first-born Son) (by grace you have been saved),

I certainly didn't do anything to deserve it.

⁶and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

0:20:37

God supplies His Son to make the path available to us to take on an entirely different type of existence.

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of (the) God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which (the) God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

0:21:08

It describes the process that we are involved in pretty well, if we are part of the ecclesia. The web of deceit is incredibly deep, and I do not believe due diligence has been given to the extent of it. If we go back into the book of Isaiah, I'm going to read something that again describes the situation in which we find ourselves.

0:21:36

Let's go to Isaiah 59, and we'll read verses 1-5.

¹ Behold, Yehovah's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear. ³For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue has muttered perversity. ⁴No one calls for justice, nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies;

0:22:19

Which is the focus of this study.

they conceive evil and bring forth iniquity. ⁵They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; he who eats of their eggs dies, and from that which is crushed a viper breaks out.

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0:22:34

It's quite descriptive in this regard. There is more than one lie, and another is created to replace the one discovered. We really need to pick up our game once we realize the cunning and the capacity of those we are up against. Make no mistake, this is real. Ephesians 6; let's go to Ephesians 6 and we will read verses 12 - 18. Ephesians 6, and verses 12 - 18.

¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

0:23:29

That's where the battle is taking place.

¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God,

The Bible is God's revealed truth to us and without that armor, swimming in a sea of lies and deception, we don't have a chance.

that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, (God's word) having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

0:24:00

Unless we have God's word, we don't even know what that is.

¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

The knowledge of the different world to come.

¹⁶above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

0:24:22

So, expect to be bombarded with lies and deception at every possible turn. Unless we have an understanding and the knowledge of the truth of God, that battle will not be won.

¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

0:24:44

We have to know our bibles.

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¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—(

This passage has taken on a much deeper significance since doing the last studies on the Son of God, and our Father and Our God.

0:25:04

We are told to rightly divide the world of truth, and how could it be anything else, given what we are coming to understand? Let's read that in II Timothy; II Timothy 2, and we'll read verses 10 - 19. If God's word is truth, and we are swimming in a sea of lies, we better know what it says. II Timothy 2, and we are going to read verses 10 - 19.

¹⁰Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him. ¹²If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

0:26:08

If we don't believe what He says, that's not a good thing.

¹³If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself. ¹⁴Remind them of these things, charging them before LORD not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. ¹⁵Be diligent to present yourself approved to (the) God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

We need to be students of the Bible. We need to understand what the Father, or His Son, tells us.

¹⁶But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. ¹⁷And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past;

0:27:06

So, you know, there's always this stick handling, if I can call it that way, where things are twisted. Saying that the resurrection is already past is a lie and they warned about that.

and they overthrow the faith of some.

We have to know what God says. We have to believe what He says.

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¹⁹Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The L ORD knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

0:27:43

We see something similar in the book of Psalms; the book of Psalms. Let's take a look at Psalm 119 and verse 160. David was intimately aware of this. Psalm 119, and 160 where he simply stated:

¹⁶⁰The entirety of Your word is truth,

Not parts of it, all of it.

and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

0:28:13

We see something similar again in John 17:17, spoken by Christ himself, where He reiterated the same kind of thing. John 17:17; it says:

¹⁷Sanctify them

Speaking of the ecclesia.

by Your truth. Your word is truth.

0:28:35

And Christ knew that, David knew that, and the ecclesia will need to know that. That's something we need to laser in on. God's ecclesia are set apart by their ability to comprehend truth, a capacity given to them by God; because we would be defenseless unless that was so.

0:29:00

Do we understand it perfectly? We do not. But we understand to the degree where we are willing to believe the Father and Christ, who simply do not lie. Christ was a spokesman for the truth of God, as God sent Him, instructing Him as to what to say.

0:29:18

And we've looked at that before, but since we're in John, let's roll over a few pages here and look at that. John 12, and verses 49 and 50.

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⁴⁹For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know that His command is everlasting life.

Zoe, from previous studies.

Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

0:29:52

Well, you are going to have to have a pretty powerful memory to do those kinds of things. John 6, let's take a look at that. John 6 and we'll read verses 62 – 64. John 6, we read here:

⁶²What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.

0:30:29

So, even at that time folks heard the word of God and they simply did not believe it. And that is far more prevalent today than I think a lot of us realize. If Christ told them the truth and it wasn't believed, then we need to ask the question, what lie was it they believed, so that Christ's truth wasn't believed? That seems logical, doesn't it?

0:31:05

Christ sorted that out in His confrontation with the religious leaders of the day. And we read about that in John 8, and we are going to read verses 42 - 47.

⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.

0:31:39

Christ's word was truth, and they wouldn't hear of it, or hear of it.

⁴⁴You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.

They believed the lie, they believed the deception and they followed the prince of the power of the air.

He was a murderer from the beginning,

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These are the same people who plotted and murdered Christ.

and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it

0:32:23

He knows the truth, but speaks a lie.

⁴⁵But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

They liked the lie.

⁴⁶Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?

It's because they loved the lie.

⁴⁷He who is of God hears God's words; therefore, you do not hear, because you are not of God."

0:33:06

These folks loved the lies and couldn't stand the truth, just like their fathers. The confrontation reached another level in John 8:53-58 where the conversation went on, and ended like this:

⁵³Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Christ answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. ⁵⁵Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.

0:34:00

So, Christ was able to identify exactly who their father was and what they embraced. And they embraced the lies.

⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

The Jews had no doubt about what He was talking about here.

⁵⁷Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

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⁵⁸Christ said to them, "Most assuredly,

I'm not lying.

I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (I existed; I exist)

0:34:37

Well, that went over really well.

⁵⁹Then they took up stones to throw at Him but Christ hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

Christ knew if someone was a liar, who their father really was, and it wasn't Yehovah, who was Christ's Father.

0:35:02

Liar here is the Greek word G5583, and forgive my pronunciation, it's psetst'es (psyoostace') and its a (Look it up please) it's a person who falsifies, misrepresents, distorts, misleads. It's not a particularly flattering endorsement to be given.

0:35:39

In John 8:44 where this word is speaking directly of Satan.

⁴⁴... When he speaks a lie (G5579), he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar (G5583) and the father of it.

The word is G5579, and it's pseudos (psyoo'-dos) defined as false, falsehood, untruth, speaks a lie, he is a liar, where it's used here again it's G5583.

0:36:03

Christ set the bar for the ecclesia, and that would be you and I, if we count ourselves as part of that. Let's look at Matthew 5, verse 37. Matthew 5, verse 37 where it said:

³⁷But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these

Where you're not a man of your word, or woman of your word.

is from the evil one.

0:36:37

And have you ever run across anybody in the ecclesia whose word was, ah, a little loose?

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And at the same time when we crawled into the tank, and came out and promised God that we would walk in His ways. Have we always walked in His ways, and have we, in some ways, lied to God ourselves? We need to ask those kinds of questions.

0:37:11

In James 5:12 it says:

¹²But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your "Yes" be "Yes," and your "No," "No," lest you fall into judgment.

And you notice in Revelation 14 the 144,000, there is no deceit found in them.

⁵And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

0:37:39

They do not lie; their words are solid and consistent. And yet over time, I've come across people in the ecclesia who, you know, ah, it's fine to tell a wrong one here and there because, after all, I'm in the right church. I don't think that is going to work out really well at some point.

0:38:03

So, James tells us here, what is that that points to a judgment, what is that judgment? Are we told in scripture what that judgment is, if we in fact, prefer the lies. Well, let's take a look at that in Revelation 21, verse 8.

⁸But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

0:38:43

There shouldn't be a lot of misunderstanding for the ecclesia in this regard. Well, why would such a fate be such a certainty under those conditions? Well, actually we're told, we can do the math, in the book of Proverbs. Proverbs 6, verses 16 – 19. Proverbs 6, sorry about that, it's taking a bit longer here, Proverbs 6 where we can find out what our Father actually thinks about liars.

0:39:32

Proverbs 6, and we are going to read verses 16 - 19. Proverbs 6, verses 16 - 19.

¹⁶These six things Yehovah hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him:

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¹⁷A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, ¹⁹a false witness who speaks lies, one who sows discord among brethren.

0:40:08

As per usual, when one talks about something, it's a good idea to define it so everyone is on the same page. It might not be agreed with, but unless one knows where a speaker is coming from, in other words if your thinking apples while the speaker is talking about oranges, it can indeed be a circus.

0:40:31

So, let's take a look at some Hebrew words so we can begin to zero in on this topic. Ah, H3576, kazab (kaw-zab'), it means to lie, to deceive, to fail, lying, and be in vain. And we'll see where that word is used in Numbers 23:19. And keeping that definition in mind. Lied, deceive, fail, being in vain. And we learn something here. Numbers 23:19 says:

¹⁹ "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent.

0:41:26

So, we learn here that God does not lie. When we read something in the Bible, and it's repeated over, and over and over again, it's a pretty good sign that you're on the right track.

0:41:42

The next word that's translated that is H8267, shequer (Sheh'-ker), it means an untruth, a sham, without a cause, deceit, falsehood, wrongfully. And we see an example of that in the book of Jeremiah. And we are going to read Jeremiah 9; Jeremiah 9, verses 1 – 6. Jeremiah 9, verses 1 – 6.

¹ Oh, that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! ²Oh, that I had in the wilderness a lodging place for travelers; that I might leave my people, and go from them! For they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men. ³"And like their bow they have bent their tongues for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth.

0:42:48

As part of the ecclesia are we valiant for the truth?

For they proceed from evil to evil, and they do not know Me," says Yehovah. ⁴"Everyone take heed to his neighbor, and do not trust any brother; for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbor will walk with slanderers. ⁵Everyone will deceive his neighbor,

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They will tell lies.

and will not speak the truth; they have taught their tongue to speak lies; (H8267)

0:43:22

It's an acquired taste.

they weary themselves to commit iniquity. ⁶Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know Me," says Yehovah.

This is powerful stuff, and these are powerful words.

0:43:41

There's a couple more to look at, H3584, H3585, kachash (kaw-khash), means to be untrue in word, to lie, to feign, to disown or deed, to fail, to disappoint, cringe, deceive, deny, disassemble, deal falsely, be found liars.

0:44:08

And we go to the book of Hosea here where those words are used. Just trying to bring this out because this is a focus on destructiveness of this type of behavior, especially to the ecclesia. Hosea 10:13, we'll take a look there and see what it says. It says:

¹³You have plowed wickedness; you have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, (H3584) because you trusted in your own way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

0:44:41

This is a stinging indictment of Ephraim. They loved the lies, they fed on them. The ecclesia needs to feed on the truth of God. Going on in Hosea 11:12; Hosea 11:12 it says:

¹² "Ephraim (God's first-born son in the flesh) has encircled Me with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit; but Judah still walks with God, even with the Holy One who is faithful.

0:45:19

And you know, there's something here in the book of Nahum. You know, we talk all the time about, or reference what happened in Nineveh, but it's interesting, there's some more color and more detail for us here in the book of Nahum, and we'll look at Nahum 3 and just walk through a little bit of that. We are going to read verses 1 – 7. This is speaking of Nineveh directly, you know, they've repented.

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0:45:50

But what were they really like, what was the problem?

¹Woe to the bloody city!

This is speaking of Nineveh.

It is all full of lies and robbery. Its victim never departs. ²The noise of a whip and the noise of rattling wheels, of galloping horses, of clattering chariots!

Did these people walk according to the prince of the power of the air?

³ Horsemen charge with bright sword and glittering spear. There is a multitude of slain, a great number of bodies, countless corpses—they stumble over the corpses—⁴because of the multitude of harlotries of the seductive harlot, the mistress of sorceries, who sells nations through her harlotries, and families through her sorceries. ⁵"Behold, I am against you,"

0:46:44

This is a good spot for a, "Ya Think?"

says Yehovah of hosts; "I will lift your skirts over your face, I will show the nations your nakedness, and the kingdoms your shame. ⁶I will cast abominable filth upon you, make you vile, and make you a spectacle. ⁷It shall come to pass that all who look upon you will flee from you, and say, 'Nineveh is laid waste! Who will bemoan her?' Where shall I seek comforters for you?"

0:47:11

If we go to the Greek, what do we find? Well, there is a word, G5574, it's pseudomai (psyoo'-dom-ahee) and it means, utter an untruth, attempt to deceive by falsehood, or falsify, or lie. And there are examples of that where that particular word is used, and I hope that there is kind of a recognition when you come across that word, lie, liar, lying that all of a sudden, maybe our antenna should just tweak up a little bit about just how important this whole subject really is.

0:47:57

Paul speaking, (Romans 9:1)

my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit,

¹ I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying,

[&]quot;Well, when you are swimming in a sea of liars, which is exactly where we are at today."

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0:48:13

So, in contrast to the liars of the world, Paul represents himself as a teller of the truth. We see the same word, pseudomai, in II Corinthians 11; II Corinthians 11, verse 31, it says:

³¹The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.

0:48:39

So, when we speak, does our Father know that we are telling the truth? Does He know that? Because you could be sure that He is watching and looking to see what comes from our lips.

In Galatians 1:20, again, you can see he is referencing this.

²⁰(Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before (the) God, I do not lie.)

And that is something that just absolutely has to be in place.

0:49:12

Well, unfortunately, I'm running out of time here. We will carry on, there will be a part two. I'm certain all of you would be completely surprised by that, but we will pick it up here on the next message. I'll just bolt this one up for the moment, and pleasant Sabbath wishes to you all. Hope we'll get this out in time for the upcoming Sabbath and we'll be back to you soon.