

A look at the first century “church”

TITLE PAGE 1

- A look at the first century “church”.
- And what is:
 - “KEHILA KHAVERUT” , translated as :
THE ASSEMBLY OF CALLED OUT ONES
- This presentation provides an overview of the topics studied in a 12 part Bible study and fellowship meetings held at the Berning’s during the summer 2013 - River Falls, Wisconsin.

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- The 12 part Bible study can be downloaded from:
- Link: http://bobberning.ws/BBM_Inc._2

- A copy of this presentation can be downloaded from
- Link: www.grafted-promise.net
 - See “Andy’s Corner”
 - ◆ .pdf for Adobe Reader
 - ◆ .ppt power point slide presentation,
 - ◆ File format: Microsoft PowerPoint 97 SR-1

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Bible references:

- Scripture references are taken from the KJV and NKJV, and “e-Sword” which is a free Bible software supported by donations.
- E-Sword Includes the Strong’s Concordance module.
- Many other language modules are available.
- Link: <http://www.e-sword.net/downloads.html.net>

A look at the first century church 0-01

This study series will deal with questions like:

- When do most Christians believe the “church” started?
- What does the word “church” really mean?
- When was it introduced and where does it’s concept originate?
- What do the words “holy”, “living in holiness”, “righteousness”, and “covenant” really mean?

A look at the first century church 0-02

Study series questions - continued (2)

- What were 1st Century congregations like?
- When did they meet?
- How did they operate and what was it's structure?

reference 1st cent. Church manuscript article by Robert D. Heidler, published in Sid Roth's newsletter Messianic Vision, March 2006. Title: "A visit to the early Church".

- How did the congregations with followers of Yeshua (Jesus) grow and spread out from Jerusalem?
- How common was it for the followers of Yeshua to experience miracles?

A look at the first century church 0-03

Study series questions - continued (3)

- What is included in “living to do the commandments of God”?
- Are the Covenants in the Torah, The Prophets, and The Writings, still valid for the Christian today?
- When were churches and the recognition of church buildings introduced?
- For what purpose were buildings as churches introduced?
- What Scriptures were available to the early believers?

A look at the first century church 0-04

Study series questions - continued (4)

- When were the Jewish things removed?
- What was the reason that anything Jewish was removed from the early church?
- What things were newly introduced into the early church, and by whom were they added?
- What are God's commands regarding "mixing"?
- How common was it for **the 4th – 15th century believers** in Jesus (Yeshua) to experience miracles?

A look at the first century church 0-05

Topics: Part 1

■ Word study:

- ◆ **Ekklesia**, Strongs Index 1577 εκκλησία ekkleṣia *ek-klay-see'-ah*
- ◆ **Synagogue**, Strongs Index 4864 συναγωγή sunagoḡē *soon-ag-o-gay'*
- ◆ **Kehilah**, Strongs Index 6951 קהלה qahal *kaw-hawl*
- ◆ **Khaverut**, “fellowship” similar to the Greek Ek-klay-sia (Ecclesia): “fellowship, Assembly”
- ◆ old English “*churche*”, Church,
- ◆ “Truth”.
- ◆ William Tyndale translation of “church”.

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Topics: Part 2

- Where and how did the 1st Century church conduct it's "services"?
- Constantine the Roman Emperor introduced the recognition of buildings as churches (visible object)
- Question: What was the reason that anything Jewish was removed from the church?
- Syncretism defined.
- Why were church councils still fighting to stamp out these influences seven hundred years later?

A look at the first century church 0-07

Topics: Part 3

- The sources used and taught from by Jesus and His disciples.
- Where did Jesus get His answers?
- What were the only "Scriptures" that existed before the 5th century?
- Paul taught everything he knew from the Old Testament, (Tanach - The Torah [five books of Moses], The Prophets, and The Writings).

A look at the first century church 0-08

Topics: Part 4

- Structure (or lack thereof), “flow of events” during a time of fellowship.
- Early June 2013 post - conference event, River Falls, WI.
- Acts Chapter 6 and 7: ALL QUOTES ARE FROM THE JEWISH SCRIPTURES - Tanach, (Old Testament).
- The yearly **biblical** feasts cycle: spring, summer, and fall.

A look at the first century church 0-09

Topics: Part 5

- The 1st century churches had NO New Testament, only the Hebrew Scriptures.
- The Greek word for Scripture(s)
- Jesus taught from the (O.T.) Hebrew Scriptures, Deut 6:5, Lev 19:18
- The traditions of the Pharisees and Scribes and the resulting additions to the scriptures, (“fences around fences”).

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Topics: Part 5 - continued

- A look at **Peter** - about twisting, misconstrue, distort, and misinterpretation of the Scriptures.
- A look at **Paul** - proving by the Scriptures (Tenach), that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah).
- A look at **James** - fulfill the royal Law in accordance with the Scripture, Lev 19:18.

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Topics: Part 5 continued

- A more detailed focus and examination of “the Commandments of God vs. the traditions of man”.
- "Theology" vs. “receiving the Scriptures by faith”. (*“Athens mindset” vs. “Jerusalem mindset”*).
- A look at the word: "pharmaceutical", the Greek word *farmakeia*, and BOTH applications in our day.

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Topics: Part 6

- The Scriptural definitions of 3 words:
 - ◆ Righteousness,
 - ◆ Covenant,
 - ◆ Holiness.
- God revealing Himself, and how He expects us to behave.
- Covenants establish the foundation of our walk with God.

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Topics: Part 6 continued

- God (not man), initiated the covenant(s) with mankind.
- Holiness and the opposite of holy.
- What opens the door to the supernatural?
- The requirement to walk in "honor", and examples of honor.
- Why do so few believers honor the things that God Himself has deemed Holy?

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Topics: Part 7

- A review of part 1 thru 6.
- A look at the word “Scripture” and “Scriptures” in O.T. and the N.T.

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Topics: Part 8

- **The Biblical feasts of the Lord:** Covenant, and the festivals and the God ordained form of worship.
- **Sabbath:** Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. The day begins at sunset. *(established during the week of creation).*
- **Spring Feast**
 - ◆ Passover
 - ◆ Unleavened Bread
 - ◆ First fruits

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Topics: Part 8 - continued

- **Pentecost** - End Barley Harvest, begin Wheat harvest, The Word, Holy Spirit.
- **Fall Feasts** -
 - ◆ Trumpets
 - ◆ Atonement
 - ◆ Tabernacles

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Topics: Part 8 - continued

- The cycles are:
 - ◆ First Month Passover Spring time
 - ◆ Third Month Pentecost Summer
 - ◆ Seventh Month Tabernacles Fall time
- The feasts correspond to the three courts in Moses' tabernacle.
 - ◆ Outer Court
 - ◆ Holy Place (Veil)
 - ◆ Holy of Holies

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Topics: Part 8 - continued

- During a later time **two more feasts** were celebrated by the Jews: **Chanukah and Purim**.
- The book of the Maccabees gives a historical account of Chanukah and the book of Ester for Purim.
- Both feasts have powerful prophetic meanings for the end times.
- Yeshua did observe Chanukah, the “Feats of Lights”, the re-dedication of The Temple.
- Some Bible scholars believe that Yeshua was conceived during the “Feast of Lights”, (*“the Light of the World”*), which certain years also happens to fall nine months before the feast of Tabernacles.

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Topics: Part 9

■ Rosh HaShannah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles

◆ Rosh Hashanah

- ◆ Feast of Trumpets, blowing of trumpets (Tishri 1)
- ◆ Jewish New year, (“head of the year”)
- ◆ Celebration of spiritual birthday of the world.
- ◆ Coronation of the King

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Topics: Part 9 - continued

- Yom Kippur
 - ◆ Day of Atonement (Tishri 10)
 - ◆ Holiest day in the Jewish year
 - ◆ The day EACH individual can receive forgiveness
 - ◆ The High priest entered Holy of Holies to make Atonement for whole nation
 - ◆ Sacrificial animals include two goats (Scapegoat)

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Topics: Part 9 - continued

■ Sukkot

- ◆ Feast of Tabernacles/Booths Tishri 14–21 (7 days)
- ◆ Temporary dwellings are called "sukkot" in Hebrew.
- ◆ Commemorates the time when Israel traveled in the wilderness as God led them.
- ◆ The first day of Feast of Tabernacles - same day that Solomon dedicated the first temple.
- ◆ *This first day and the eighth day of Feast of Tabernacles may also very well be Yeshua's (Jesus) birthday and circumcision into the blood covenant with Abraham.*
 - ◆ *John 1:14 ... He dwelt or Tabernacled among us...").*

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Topics: Part 10

- **PASSOVER** is 1st of the 3 “connected” feasts.
- A big part of the Seder is “**THE TELLING**” before the Pesach Meal is served -- Shulchan Orech
- Meaning of “Pesach”: to "leap over and show mercy".
- Three things are important in the Pesach story
 - ◆ The Matzah,
 - ◆ The Maror,
 - ◆ The Pesach Lamb.

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Topics: Part 10 - continued

- At Pesach, we celebrate by drinking from our cups four times.
 - ◆ The first cup is **Sanctification**,
 - ◆ The second cup is **Deliverance**,
 - ◆ The third is **Redemption**,
 - ◆ The fourth is the **Praise** cup.

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Topics: Part 10 - continued

- The third cup, **Redemption**, is taken **after Pesach Meal has been served -- Shulchan Orech.**
- The Gentile Church celebrates the 3rd cup, commonly called “**communion**”.
- After the meal, the hidden Afikomen is located and broken.
- In the broken Matzah we see a picture of Yeshua HaMashiach, born in the "house of bread", Beit Lechem.

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Topics: Part 11

■ Shavuot or Pentecost

- ❖ Pentecost (Shavuot) is **still** remembered in Christianity.
- ❖ Countdown of 49 days from day after the Sabbath of First Fruits of the Barley harvest
- ❖ 50th day is the appointed time of the Festival of Pentecost.
- ❖ Shavuot is also called the festival of **Mattan Torah**, the "Giving of the Torah" on Mt. Sinai.
- ❖ Voice of God speaking in every language known to man, (Rabbinic lore), 70 mother languages.

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Topics: Part 11 - continued

- **The Spirit and the Torah**
- Shavuot draws a line of **connection between Exodus 19 and Acts chapter 2.**
- The festival **superimposes** the giving of the Spirit in Jerusalem in living hearts, over the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai to stony hearts.
- 3000 perished at the giving of the TORAH. (“the letter of the Law killeth”).
- 3000 were added into Yeshua on the day of Shavuot. (the Spirit brings life).
- These two events are forever **inseparably linked.**
- The Torah and Holy Spirit are substantially of the same essence.

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Topics: Part 11 - continued

- ◆ Jeremiah 31:31-33: "Behold, I will make a new covenant.., Hebrew meaning is: **RENEW** My Covenant . . . (**RENEW the Covenant that already is in existence.....**).
- ◆ I will put **My Torah within them** and **on their heart**.
- ◆and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (Jeremiah 31:33)
- ◆ Ezekiel 36:27: “ I will put **My Spirit within you**to observe My ordinances.”

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Topics: Part 12

- **Review** of part 1 thru 12.

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End - Index to Study