

The Intellectual Messianics And The Christians They Condemn

“It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their [the communists'] terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy.”

— Richard Wurmbrand, Tortured for Christ

Shalom,

What I am about to share with you is a response, (in the form of a letter), to a comment received through The Well Trodden Road website on April 11th, 2014.

I chose not to reveal the name of the person(s) who wrote the comment/question, because it has no bearing upon the response. However, in the letter, I would like to refer to the person(s) who commented as, “Still Waiting.”

I am merely using this letter as a springboard to address all Messianics who have certain “concerns” with the Christian religion regarding the use (or lack of use) of the true Name(s) of the Creator.

In order to understand the motive behind what prompted this response letter/article, I feel it necessary to share the email exchange between The Well Trodden Road and “Still Waiting,” to ensure there are no misunderstandings on any part.

“Still Waiting” on April 11, 2014

*“Can you tell me please why you promote songs and music from The Sons of Korah, who are a Christian band? They sing not to Yahuah or Yahshua. They sing to jesus, lord, christ god..... etc. Spreading falsehood and lies. They do not follow Torah , His wonderful Feasts or His Shabbat. Interested in your reply.
Thank you,
Shalom,*

“The Well Trodden Road” on April 13, 2014

“Your note has sparked a new article. Stay tuned....”

“Still Waiting” on June 10, 2014

“So...what has happened?? You said this has sparked something and that there would be a reply in some sort of article. Still waiting....”

Dear “Still Waiting,”

I apologize for how long it has taken to get back with you regarding your comment on April 11, 2014. Today is July 27, 2014 and we are just now beginning to wind down through our transition to another country. It has been a long two months of working to close out life in the States and get to this point in our life. I do thank you for your patience.

If you will allow me, I would like to address your comment in four stages:

- 1) Your concerns with the Well Trodden Road promoting Sons of Korah
- 2) Your concern with the use of the names Jesus, Lord, God and Christ
- 3) Your understanding of what constitutes falsehood and lies
- 4) Your understanding of following Torah

Regarding Sons of Korah...

I find their music uplifting, honorable, and filled with the spirit of King David himself. In addition, through business dealings with their director/manager, I find the Christian group, Sons of Korah, of high integrity and full of humility.

I personally own approximately 80% of their music, and not once have I heard them use the name(s) Christ or Jesus. Their music is based upon the Psalms, so the use of Christ and/or Jesus would not be used. Maybe you have heard them sing those names, but I have only heard them use Lord and God, as those are the primary names/titles used throughout many translations of the Psalms. I have heard them use Yahweh in a few of their songs, because they use multiple translations in their music.

Personally, when they sing Lord and God, I simply sing right along with them (but replace the name/title with Yahuweh, Master and Elohim). The music they produce is quite anointed, though they “use the wrong names.” I will cover this later in the letter, but I wanted to say that there are hundreds of “Christian” artists out there, including

Chuck Girard (popular in the 70's and 80's), who use the "incorrect names" of our Creator. Another one of the "Christian" artists, Kent Henry, uses all of the "incorrect names," however, the beauty, simplicity and powerful anointing coming off the music cannot be ignored. Why is that? How can the Spirit of Yahuweh use music with the "wrong names"? Maybe, the same way He used a donkey to speak His Word?

Do I wish, (now that I have learned the real Names of our Creator), that the music can be remade so I wouldn't have to replace the names as I sing them? Of course I do. However, why is it that since the Torah was re-introduced in the mid 1990's, that you don't hear many artists use the "correct Names" of our Creator? Most certainly, I would love to listen to music that is anointed, AND that uses the "correct names"; however... I have found very few that do. I discovered one group that uses the correct names of the Savior, however, they also mix in, all various forms and ways of pronouncing them – including using the name of Jesus.

So, here I am in a dilemma. I cannot turn to the Orthodox Jews for music that uses the correct names because they do not even mention His Name. Nor, can I turn to Christian artists because they use all of the wrong names. So, who can I turn to? The Messianics? I would love to, however, they spend too much of their time criticizing others who do not think, believe and act like they do. Maybe they are too busy with their Torah portions each week to sit down and record any good music that uses the correct names.

So where does this leave me? Do I stop listening to praise and worship music because no one uses the correct names? I should say not. Nor will I stop promoting music that rides on the wind of Father's Spirit, such as the Sons of Korah and Chuck Girard. For who are we to say who Yahuweh can use and cannot use?

For more information about Sons of Korah, their studies and commentaries – see - <http://www.sonsofkorah.com>

I believe this one thing, and would almost bet my life upon it – That Yahuweh would rather have true Christians, the ones doing something for the Kingdom, to **not** come into the knowledge of the

Torah to prevent the pride of self that says “I have arrived now – I keep Torah).

He can do more with a Christian who is wholly submitted to His Spirit than a Messianic or Jew who looks down their nose in contempt upon those who also worship the One True Elohim of Israel (but may not have come into the full understanding of the “Names” yet).

Isaiah 66:1-2 says that Yahuweh only looks upon those of a humble and contrite heart; and those who tremble at His Word. Who are we to say who He can anoint and who He cannot? Who are we to tell the Creator of the universe when He should take the names of Baal out of their mouths and when He cannot?

As far as “falsehood and lies...” If you listen to the Sons of Korah as they sing word for word the Psalms – I would hardly call singing the Psalms with passion and simplicity of heart... “falsehood and lies.” You, nor myself, have any clue of how many lives have been touched by their music. How many broken hearts have been restored to Father Elohim because of them. The Psalms, (rather, Lord and God are used or not), carry the very presence and Spirit of Father Himself. To say that those who sing the Psalms using Lord and God, are promoting falsehood and lies...well, that is a place I do not want to tread upon.

I promote the Sons of Korah, and any other “Christian” group, who I sense deep in my spirit, touches the heart of Father. Isaiah 66:1-2 doesn’t say that Yahuweh looks upon those that call Him by His right name, but upon the lowly, broken and humble. In Psalm 51, King David wasn’t restored back to Yahuweh based upon the correct use of His Name (as David would of known the actual correct pronunciation of the Name of Yahuweh); No... He was restored because of his brokenness and his willingness to repent based upon his own admittance of his own sin.

I say all of this because we do not know what is in the hearts of people; especially those who are seeking the heart of “God” with every fiber of their being – not knowing yet, that His Name is Yahuweh.

Everyone is on a journey. However, it is not the journey that is of importance, but the road the journey takes place on. The narrow road

has no place for pride, haughtiness or arrogance. We see it time and time again throughout the Scriptures. Read Matthew 23 and Luke 18 to see what Messiah Yahushua had to say about those that thought more of themselves as they ought. Even Messiah said once, that unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees, you will not enter the Kingdom. Basically, He was condemning the Pharisees because they believed that through their “great keeping of the Torah” (as well as their own additions to it), that they were above the lowly tax collectors and sinners. We can never ever keep all of mans rules and regulations.

Messiah also said that unless you become as a little child, you cannot enter the Kingdom. So what does this tell us? It tells us that the Creator of the Universe is more interested in those that keep the Spirit of the Torah, versus mere duty to the Torah. Innocence goes a long way with Yahuweh, because it is through innocence that salvation comes.

Go back and read Luke 23, about the account of the two thieves. It was the thief who was broken because of his sin, who well admitted his deserved punishment, that entered into Paradise. All He asked was that the Master remember him in His Kingdom. That day, the thief would be in Paradise; not because he used all the right names and kept the festivals, but because of his brokenness over what he had done.

According to the book by Norman Willis, “Nazarene Israel,” Christianity has been a vehicle for thousands of years – carrying along those “early followers of the Way.” When the Torah and the “Hebrew/Messianic Movement” began moving strong throughout the 1990’s, people realized that Christianity was a nest, so to speak, for those who would eventually be called out to fly in these last days.

We know that the Creator of the universe is completely outside all of religion. However, it doesn’t mean that He cannot use the Christian religion as His vehicle to launch the final plans of His return in these last days. As a matter of fact.. He did.

If it wasn’t for the “Christians,” and their basic gospel message preached to those of us who have recently rediscovered Torah for

ourselves, we would not be where we are today. Yahuweh knew that in the last days, there must be a return of the true believers, back to the message that Messiah left His followers, in order for Messiah to return for a unified people with His nature.

In Malachi it says, that if Yahuweh does not find restoration between the fathers and the children, He will destroy the earth. Messiah also spoke and asked, “will I find faith on the earth when I return?”

So, what does this mean? It means that Christianity has been the vehicle, more specifically, the fuel tanks attached to either side of the space shuttle (Restoration to Torah). The fuel tanks and the shuttle are launched together. Once the tanks run out of fuel, they must fall away in order for the shuttle to continue on to reach orbit. A separation must occur in order to reach what He has planned for those whom He has called out.

Essentially, Christianity can only take those whom He is calling out - so far... With that said, we cannot disregard Christianity which served as a means to “launch” us in the right direction, and “carried” us until Abba Yahuweh began calling out those who would return to the ‘ancient ways’ (Jeremiah 6:16) – the ancient paths beyond (and outside) any religion of man.

So...how can we mock the vehicle that has brought us thus far? Were we born into a Messianic/Torah lifestyle? How can we forget where we came from? Do we have a right to condemn those who are walking behind us along the journey? Or should we lead by example?

As we were selling everything to leave the States, it was the Christians who helped us the most. One “Christian” man and his family came over to buy many of our items for sale in order to help us in our work for the Master. He began telling me his testimony of how he was delivered from a 30 year cocaine addiction through the power of “Jesus.” As tears flowed from his eyes, standing there in the kitchen, expressing the joy of being delivered and set free, I began to tear up. As we fellowshiped for nearly three hours, I was able to freely use the Hebrew Names of ‘God’, while he freely used the Christian Names of ‘God’. And guess what? It didn’t matter, because we were both

talking about the same ‘God’ – the One Who sent His only Son to die for OUR sins and set us free from bondage.

The man and his wife came back to our house about a week or so later to buy more things. As they entered our home, the man’s face was gleaming with joy, with such preciousness that he lit up the entire home. He simply looked me in the eyes and said, “Guess what I got to do today? I got to lead someone to Christ at my office!” All I could do was rejoice with him. You can’t tell me that I won’t see that man in the Kingdom. It’s the heart that matters. All Messiah has to do when He returns, is to say, “my Name is Yahushua,” and this is how I want to be worshiped. Those simple Christians like that man, who is in love with his Savior, and those persecuted believers throughout the world, will simply respond – “Oh, Ok.” It’s because their heart is tender, that they will simply embrace His real Name and learn the Torah.

You see, it is the spirit of religion that shuns people away, not whether or not His Name is Jesus or Yahushua. People are hurting, and if Yahuweh wants to use a simple Christian man who was broken, one who is willing to speak of how he was delivered, to bind up the brokenhearted; then so be it. Maybe Yahuweh uses the Christian because the Messianics are no where to be found.

What do the following names have in common?

John G. Lake
Charles Finney
Corrie Ten Boom
Richard Wurmbrand
George Mueller
Hudson Taylor
Smith Wigglesworth
Sadhu Sundar Singh

These handful of names have one thing in common – they are Christians.

I can also tell you that these powerhouse, simple, real believers, operated in an anointing unparalleled to anything seen today – even

amongst Messianics, Christians, and Jews. What made these people special?

Answer this one – How in the world can a man named Charles Finney, who used all of the wrong names, and did not “follow Torah” – walk through a factory where everyone of the workers fell down on their knees in repentance of their sins? How can the Spirit of Yahuweh indwell these Christians so much that 100’s of thousands received the Savior and were healed of all sorts of sicknesses and diseases? How can these suffer such persecution, and still not denounce the One who saved them? What happened to the Great Revivals of old?

These people were led by the Spirit, doing great exploits and STILL used all the wrong names, kept Christmas and Easter holidays, and went to church on Sunday. How then, could Yahuweh use these people in such a magnificent way? If Yahuweh used them to spread the truth of His Gospel, should we have told Yahuweh to stop using them because they were Christians who were spreading falsehood and lies? Yahuweh used them, because He didn’t have to cut through all the prideful garbage in their life because they thought they knew it all. They were emptied of self, carried the nature of Messiah Yahushua, and were filled with the power and anointing of the Spirit.

Following Torah has nothing to do with the outward keeping of the Festivals or even Shabbat – Following Torah is based upon the attitude of the heart. This is why Messiah was so hard on the Pharisees. Messiah came to show us how to walk out the Torah. He blew away the ‘white washed sepulchers’ and those that thought reading the weekly Torah portion was their duty as a “believer in Messiah.” The self righteousness of “Torah guarders” is revolting, because all they can see is their good works while their next door neighbor is going through a severe crisis in their life – desperately needing someone to reach out to them.

What these people I listed above had in common was this; though they called themselves Christians, they kept the Torah of the Spirit – the heart of the Torah. It was written upon their hearts and they didn’t even know it.

For you see, power comes through humility. When we are empty of ourselves, only then can Yahuweh fill us up and use us to the fullest. Charles Finney probably knew nothing of the Festivals, but that did not stop Abba from using Him to the fullest. If Finney knew about the Festivals and the “Torah,” maybe his pride would have swollen so much, that the power of the Spirit would have been completely unable to do any miracles or present the gift of repentance for salvation. Then, it could be possible that your great great great grandmother would never have been saved, because Finney wasn’t out preaching, but home on Friday night reading his Torah portion. Where would that of left you? Would you have grown up in a Christian home? I hope you see where I’m going with this.

The fact of the matter is, it wasn’t Abba’s plan to have Finney born during the time of the re-awaking to Hebrew roots and Torah. These Christians, who lived long ago, lived a basic Torah lifestyle already, and that is what is important to Father – the heart – not outward performance or appearance (Thank goodness, or King David would have never been king).

Lastly, I want to bring to mention the persecuted church throughout the world – the persecuted Christian church – more specifically, the persecuted Christians of the east. You see, there is a difference, as there is night and day, between the Christians of the west and the east. Christians who have come out of “Christianity” of the west and have stepped into the “Messianic” world – still live in a western religion if they haven’t forsaken all to follow the Master. In fact, they would be better off staying in the Christian religion, using all of the “wrong names.”

"While sitting on the bank of a river one day, I picked up a solid round stone from the water and broke it open. It was perfectly dry in spite of the fact that it had been immersed in water for centuries. The same is true of many people in the Western world. For centuries they have been surrounded by Christianity; they live immersed in the waters of its benefits. And yet it has not penetrated their hearts; they do not love it. The fault is not in Christianity, but in men's hearts, which have been hardened by materialism and intellectualism."

— Sadhu Sundar Singh

If a person's heart is not changed, then calling the Creator of the universe by His right Name, and "keeping the festivals," makes zero impact on one's relationship with Him. It is why I believe, that some Christians, who operate in a spirit of humility, and true devotion to their Beloved, will **never** be allowed to "find out His right Name" simply because the curse of the Messianics is a pharisaical pride that condemns anyone that is not like them. Isn't that who Messiah addressed most often, putting them in their place? And guess what they did? They killed Him. The pharisaical religious attitudes of His day is what put Messiah on the stake. Of course, Father allowed it, because how else would He have a family except by the sacrifice of His own Son! Praise His Name!

I am sad to say this, but you will not find many true followers of the Way, staying home on Friday night, reading their Shabbat Torah portion, but are out, preaching the Good News of Messiah. I am not putting down Torah portion readings, but when a person's righteousness is wrapped up in trying to be "Jewish," there is no room for the True Messiah and Elohim of Israel to operate. We must be careful in what we say about others, especially those who are doing their best to live a life pleasing unto the Master. We cannot pass judgment on anyone just because they use the "wrong names" because we cannot see into their hearts.

There was a time, I confess, that after I first learned the 'correct' Names, began keeping Shabbat and the Festivals, that I looked down upon those that still used all the wrong names. I couldn't understand why, until I began to realize that my journey is just that..."my" journey. I still held a great deal of pride.

It is the precious people of China and Indonesia who have only a half of a page of the book of John that are out risking their lives for the sake of the Gospel, that will enter the Kingdom. Who do you think are the people mentioned in Revelation 6, who CRY out – "How LONG till you avenge our blood?"

One of the believers in a Chinese church once said "It's nothing to die for the One Who died for me." Check out Open Doors with Brother Andrew, Voice of the Martyrs, and other organizations that 'voice' the

cries of those who are actually ‘doing’ the Gospel, and being killed for the sake of it.

If you go back and read the Scriptures, you will find that there are no true believers who were **not** persecuted for the sake of the Master. I find that reading about my persecuted brothers and sisters throughout the world encourages my own faith. Though I am surrounded with every kind of research material, Torah studies, Bibles, and a computer, in order to seek out the true “God” of the Bible, I fail miserably at times.

In North Korea the story is told of Christians who were hiding in the jungle from the vicious Communist regime. They were discovered, and the soldiers called for a tank. The parents of children had to lie face down in the dirt, while the tanks rolled over them from the feet upwards, crushing them to death. The children were shot after that. But before their parents died, they said to their children “we will see you in a few minutes.” The children knew that death was only a short separation between them and meeting their parents in the presence of their Savior.

A church leader from Sri Lanka was once asked about why ‘God’ allowed so many of his people to suffer persecution. The leader replied, “Maybe, so that people like you can see what true Christianity looks like.” (From the book – ‘Faith That Endures: The Essential Guide to the Persecuted Church’ by Ronald Boyd-MacMillan).

In closing, I want to share a letter written by a house church leader from the persecuted believers in China, to the believers in the west. But before I do, I want to encourage you to continue in your walk with Abba, learning more and more about the nature and character of the Elohim of Israel. It is something we all must do. Yes, we must keep His wonderful Festival times, and our identification with Him is in keeping the Shabbat. However, we must never forget the true believers and followers of the Way – regardless if they call themselves Christians or not. For we all know that it isn’t about what religion you belong to, what title you call yourself that matters – but will you endure to the end, with the witness of Messiah still upon your lips. I am confident that the true persecuted Christian believers across the world, who have forsaken all for the sake of the Master, will still have

His witness upon their lips when they breathe their last breath... Will you?



From The Church in China – How It Survives and Prospers Under Communism
by Carl Lawrence, pages 93-96.

“On behalf of the brothers and sisters in China, I send greetings to the members of the Body overseas! Today the church here is being greatly blessed by the Lord and the number of people being saved is increasing daily...The growth in the life of the church has been promoted even by the servants of the devil...For if Jesus had not been crucified, then true faith would not become apparent; and if there were no testing by fire, then true faith would not become apparent; and if there were no training, we could not become instruments used by the Lord. If the rock is not split open, the water of life cannot flow forth. So difficulties are the means for promoting life and revival in the churches.

Recently the gospel here has been greatly promoted because ten brothers and sisters were imprisoned, beaten and bound, for preaching the gospel fearlessly. They regarded their sufferings for the Lord as more precious than the treasures of Egypt.

They started to preach the gospel in the poorest and most barren areas. They preached with tears streaming down, causing the passers by and street sellers, Christians and non-Christians to stand still and listen. Even the fortunetellers were moved by the Holy Spirit and burst out crying. Many people hearing the Word forgot their food, their work, or even to return home.

This went on until evening and still people had not dispersed. The brothers and sisters preached until they were exhausted, but the crowd would not let them leave. When the shops and factories closed, their employees also listened. However, then the authorities made a move and laid hands on them, dragging them away one by one, binding them with ropes and beating them with electric-shock poles. They also slapped their faces with shoes and knocked them unconscious. But, when they came to, they continued to pray, sing, and preach to the by-standers.

There was one little sister, age 14, and when she revived after having been beaten senseless, she saw that many people were sympathetic to them in their persecution, so she again began to preach. Her words were few and her voice love, but the people could not stop themselves from crying out and then they repented and believed in Jesus.

When the young girl and her friends were bound and beaten by the authorities, many people noticed a strange expression on their faces, and the crowd saw to their amazement that they were smiling. Their spirit and appearance were so lively and gracious that the people asked them why they did not fear ashamed. They were so young. When the believers in that area saw the young preachers bound and forced to kneel on the ground for more than three days without food and water, and beaten with sticks until they were covered with blood, with their hands made black by the ropes, but still praying, singing and praising the Lord, they too, were cut to the heart and wished to share their persecution and be bound with them and cast into prison.

In men's eyes, this is an unfortunate happening, but for Christians, it is like a rich banquet. This lesson cannot be learned from books...This rich life does not exist in a comfortable environment.

Dear brethren, these saints who have gone down into the furnace, far from being harmed, have had their faces glorified and the spirits filled with power and greater authority to preach the Word and a far more abundant life. The Lord will have the final victory in their bodies...Finally, Satan had no way of making them renounce their faith and they were released.

God has placed us in these last days to wage war so that the number of those saved will increase through us, and that His will shall be fulfilled through us in this generation. He desires us to advance into glory with Him. So making the most of the very short time left, let us continually do the work of the Lord...Let no one be lazy or idle...May God give you a heart faithful to death until He comes. All who have such a heart will obtain a great reward. The Lord will come soon. Lord Jesus, I desire for you to come. Dear fellow workers, may the Lord give us hearts to pray for each other, so that we may all be faithful... Emmanuel!"

This letter is simply signed "From a weaker member of the Body, May 6, 1982".

Carl Lawrence concludes: "From my padded pew, in my air-conditioned sanctuary, holding my computerized mailing list, an ad for a new version of the Bible, subscription reminders for three Christian magazines, and several invitations to 'giant spiritual rallies' I withhold comment—not because of a lack of words, but an inability to speak".