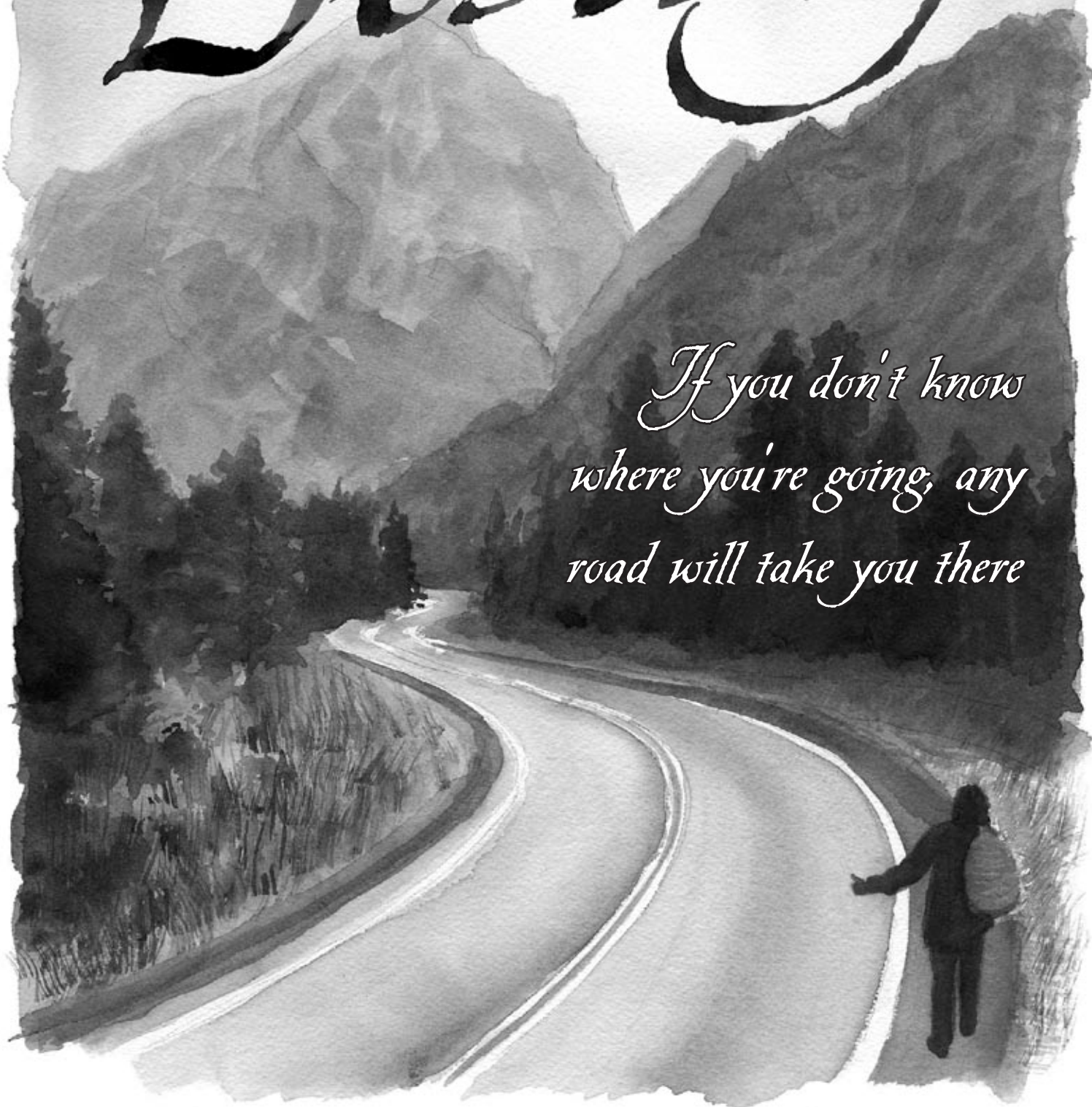


FREE

Destiny

*If you don't know
where you're going, any
road will take you there*





*So nice to see you after such a long time.
Where have you been,
tell me what did you find?
Did you ever make it to the end
of your rainbow?
I was watching for you at the door,
hoping you'd find your way home.*

In 1987, a young man from one of our communities named Daniel began to talk about the Grateful Dead scene and how he felt like there were many there who were searching for life. At first we didn't know what to think about it. Most of us had come from different walks of life, although many of us were part of the '60s movement and had at least a little familiarity with the Grateful Dead. But Daniel was very persistent in his desire to reach out to the Deadheads, so we took on Daniel's faith.

We found a bus, well actually two buses. We spent many long days and nights putting the top half of one bus on the bottom of the other, as well as finishing the inside to be a warm place of hospitality. We were so thankful to have a comfortable place for people to come and get to know us. We built a kitchen in the back to make cookies and tea for the new friends we would make.


Then we wrote articles, drew

pictures for a special *freepaper*, and worked many days and nights putting the publication together. We were almost ready to go. But what would we do there? What would our Master Yahshua do there? Well of course, He would go and serve, so that's what we did!

We decided that we would send our First Aid people and make ourselves available to those who needed emergency medical care. We also sent musicians, singers and dancers to give people a taste of the life we had back at home. When everything was ready, we went out, full of excitement and hope... It wasn't long before we understood Daniel's heartfelt desire.

For nine years we went out on the tours, mostly on the East coast, with our maroon and cream, double-decker bus: the "Peacemaker." Perhaps you met us. Did you see us dancing in a circle? We may have taken glass out of your foot, or cleaned up the scrape on your knee. Perhaps you sat and talked with us

on the bus while you came down from a bad trip. Do you remember? We might have helped you find your friends. We laughed with you and cried with you, folk-danced with you, and sang songs to you. Many of you came home with us for a visit. Some fell in love and never left. Many promised to return someday. We have prayed for you and hoped you would find your way home.

We're here because we haven't forgotten about you and hope you haven't forgotten us. We are still together growing in our love for each other and our Master Yahshua.* We made this special paper for you. We have woven together poems and stories and articles to help you understand what we are also beginning to understand — the love of our awesome Creator. Prepare yourself for an adventure! Find a quiet place and discover the truth that will set you free. It could change your eternal destiny... 

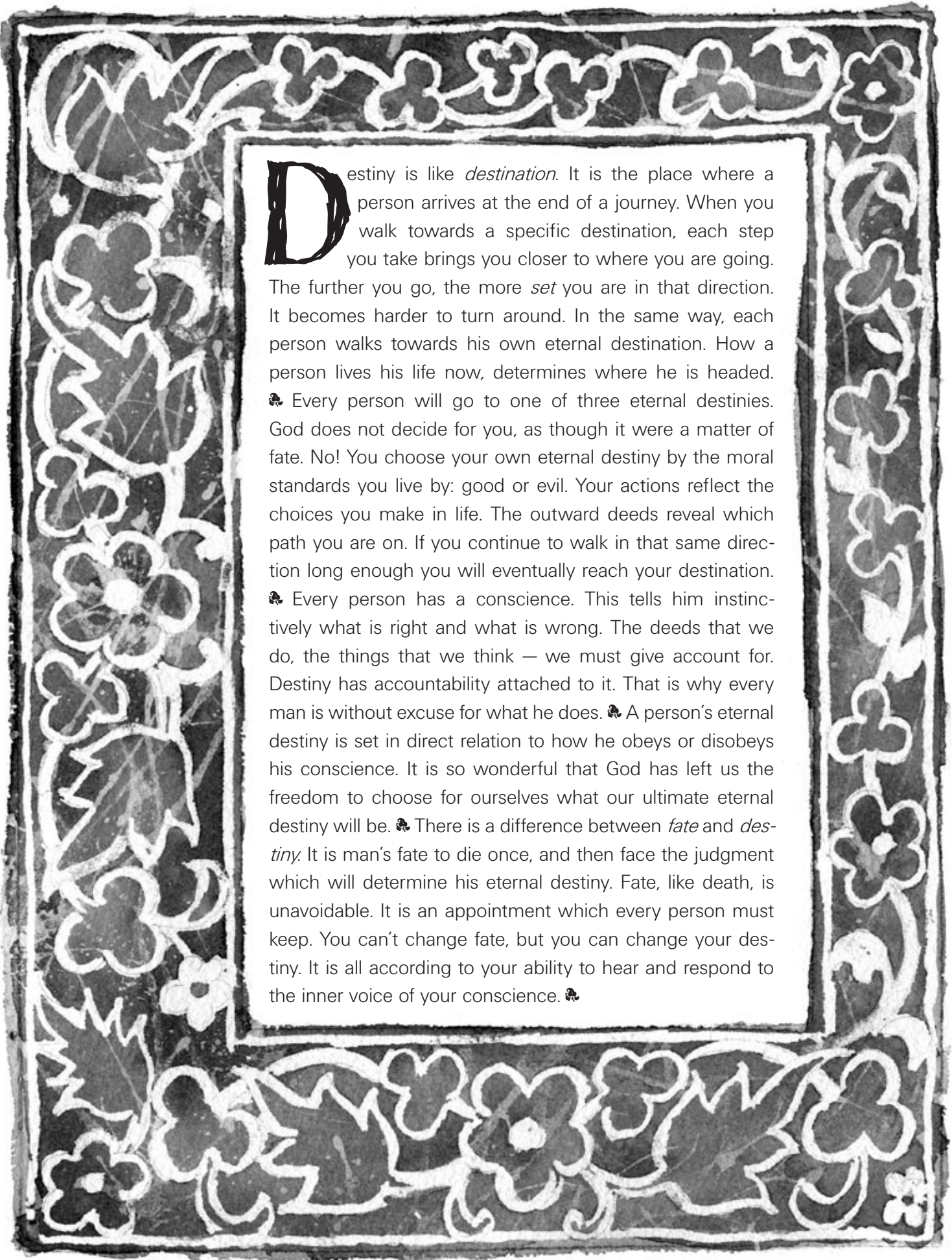
**(See page 5 for more on this name.)*



DESTINY



"GOD IS GOOD! GOOD PEOPLE ARE GOING TO
HAVE A GOOD DESTINY. BAD PEOPLE ARE GOING
TO HAVE A BAD DESTINY. IT'S THAT SIMPLE."



Destiny is like *destination*. It is the place where a person arrives at the end of a journey. When you walk towards a specific destination, each step you take brings you closer to where you are going.

The further you go, the more *set* you are in that direction. It becomes harder to turn around. In the same way, each person walks towards his own eternal destination. How a person lives his life now, determines where he is headed.

♣ Every person will go to one of three eternal destinies. God does not decide for you, as though it were a matter of fate. No! You choose your own eternal destiny by the moral standards you live by: good or evil. Your actions reflect the choices you make in life. The outward deeds reveal which path you are on. If you continue to walk in that same direction long enough you will eventually reach your destination.

♣ Every person has a conscience. This tells him instinctively what is right and what is wrong. The deeds that we do, the things that we think — we must give account for. Destiny has accountability attached to it. That is why every man is without excuse for what he does. ♣ A person's eternal

destiny is set in direct relation to how he obeys or disobeys his conscience. It is so wonderful that God has left us the freedom to choose for ourselves what our ultimate eternal destiny will be. ♣ There is a difference between *fate* and *des-*

tiny. It is man's fate to die once, and then face the judgment which will determine his eternal destiny. Fate, like death, is unavoidable. It is an appointment which every person must keep. You can't change fate, but you can change your destiny. It is all according to your ability to hear and respond to the inner voice of your conscience. ♣



Construction

Creation is a delicate construction — full of little things and momentous forces at work. As unnerving as these forces beyond our control may seem, we live our short lives in trust. Most of us only experience a certain gentleness in nature. We take it for granted. Granted by Whom?

m

arch did not come in like a lion this year. The snow melted off in a matter of days, and I noticed an unusual sight for so early in the year. There in my front yard was a crocus, three inches tall, heaving itself up out of its winter cradle. I had been expectantly waiting for months to see this herald of spring, and in my excitement I mentioned it to a friend. Hardly had the words left my mouth before she bounded out of the house to share in this miracle. A few minutes later, I told an old man who had sat down to eat, and as if I'd cast a spell on him, he leapt up and began peeking out the windows, fascinated by the spectacle.

*WE CALL OUR MASTER BY HIS HEBREW NAME, YAHSHUA, WHICH MEANS YAHWEH [THE NAME OF GOD] IS MIGHTY AND POWERFUL TO SAVE. THIS IS WHAT HIS MOTHER MIRIAM (MARY), AND HIS FOSTER FATHER YOWCEPH (JOSEPH), CALLED HIM. THIS IS ALSO WHAT HE CALLED HIMSELF WHEN ADDRESSING SAUL (PAUL), ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS, HE SPOKE NOT IN THE GREEK, BUT IN THE HEBREW LANGUAGE (ACTS 26:14-15). JOHN 5:43. HIS FATHER'S NAME IS YAH (PSALM 68:4). HIS SON'S NAME IS YAHSHUA (YAHWEH SAVES). (JOHN 17:11-12 IN THE NIV IS VERY CLEAR).



The moon's mighty grip we comprehend as the crashing of the ocean waves. Seemingly so aggressive, yet once they've pounced upon the shore they shyly slide back into the deep. Although loud and strong, we never feel threatened by the tides. They are a witness of the Creator's strength, but gentleness toward us.

Why is it that this little green sprig invokes such an appreciation in the young and old alike? You must know what I mean. Did you have the same thing happen to you this year? No matter how long you've lived, and how many times you've seen it year after year, you can't resist this inborn wonder. Everyone stoops down, as if in reverence, to acknowledge this little plant that somehow enchants the whole human race.

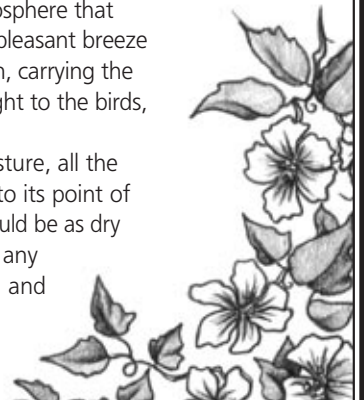
But really, the annual appearance of this flower signifies something much greater, something so big that we can't really grasp it. It marks the return of the earth to a specific point in the solar system in its 365-day trek around the sun. This might not seem so long to us, but if we realized the rocket-like speed we travel to accomplish this distance in this amount of time it would literally blow our socks off. We hardly think of it this way, though. Being such little people in a large world we don't walk around aware of the momentous forces that are at work, balancing and perpetuating one another. What we've been given to notice are the things small like us, such as the crocus. These powers have been masterfully woven together, thoughtfully and with precise care. Certainly creation is a delicate construction.

Let me try to paint you a picture of what I know about these invisible forces. It will probably turn out to be more like a finger-painting, knowing that the details of creation are unsearchably vast.

Starting with the sun, it jars one to think that if the earth were an inch further or closer to it (proportionally speaking) then everything would perish. All life would freeze instantly like statues, or vaporize without a trace. Yet here we are, perfectly set on some unseen track around the sun and have been for countless years, somewhat like an acrobat walking a tightrope without a net underneath him.

The sun warms the air, but here we're talking about all at once in massive global quantities. From the equator to the poles and back down again, fearfully powerful streams of atmosphere that we only detect as a soothing and pleasant breeze have been set in unyielding motion, carrying the dandelion seed, giving graceful flight to the birds, ushering in the spring rains.

Without the wind to carry moisture, all the rainfall would dump right back into its point of origin, the ocean, and the land would be as dry as a cracker. Incapable of birthing any life, the landscape would be a still and



silent nothingness. Fortunately, the wind carries rain to us for our crops as if it was always considering our need. So the sun revisits day after day, recalling the dew from the fields and delivering it on the wind back to the ocean again in its perpetual cycle.

The atmosphere is astounding. The wind churns and mixes it like a special brine that all of earth's life borrows from. The right proportions of gases not only give us our vital breath, but also blanket the entire planet, capturing its warmth until the sun emerges again just in time before things cool off too much.

We owe the timely reappearance of the sun to the rotation of the planet. Who is it anyway that set the well-calculated spin on the earth? If it were too fast would it fling us off like a slingshot or knock everything down? It's remarkable, the perfect size of the planet. Its density keeps it rolling along, but also swaddles the gaseous atmosphere to itself by the force called gravity. It gently holds all things to its surface, which if it were a little different we would all be flat — or nowhere to be found.

And, of course, earth's gravity is affected by the moon. It exerts its own pull, powerful enough to make the earth slightly bulge like a water balloon, being that our planet's innards

are made up of an unfathomable depth of molten putty.

Now consider the ground you securely walk around on. It's just a shell like that of an egg, suspended on this unstable substance. Yet, all this violent pushing and pulling doesn't break it all to pieces. This crust, aside from the flight of birds and the dives of fish, houses a thin veneer of life, teeming and swarming with several millions of plant

and animal species. All of them are affected in their habits and attitudes by these forces that balance and harmonize each other and life as we know it.

As unnerving as these forces beyond our control may seem, we live our short lives in trust. Most of us only experience a certain gentleness in nature. We take it for granted. Granted by Whom?

The fury of the sun we behold as royally colored sunsets, and its terrible flames we feel as its morning rays caressing our skin; witnessing the Creator's warmth and affection.

The moon's mighty grip we comprehend as the crashing of the ocean waves.

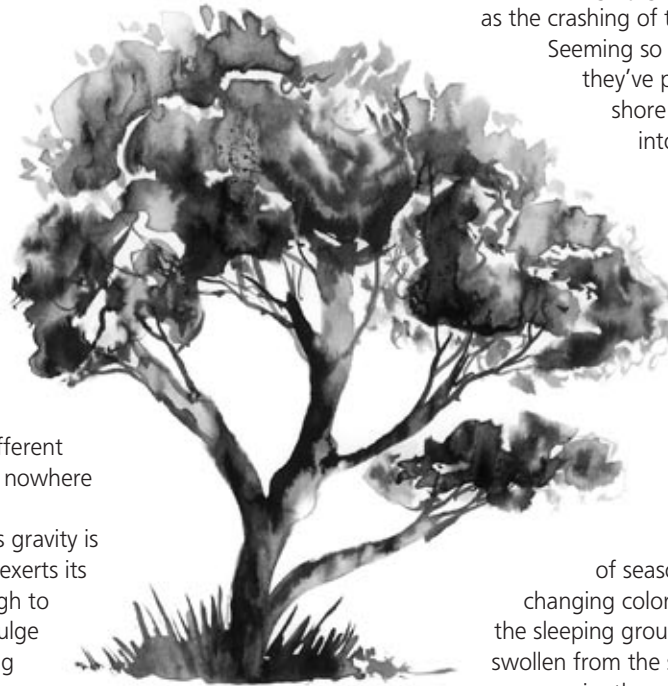
Seeming so aggressive, yet once they've pounced upon the shore they shyly slide back into the deep. Although loud and strong, we never feel threatened by the tides. A witness of the Creator's strength, but gentleness toward us.

We experience the earth barreling around the sun as the gradual change of seasons: the leaves changing color, the snow muffling the sleeping ground, the streams swollen from the spring thaw, and once again, the crocus lifting itself up

from a long slumber. That flower, so small, but a sign of the working of great and marvelous things. A sign everyone can

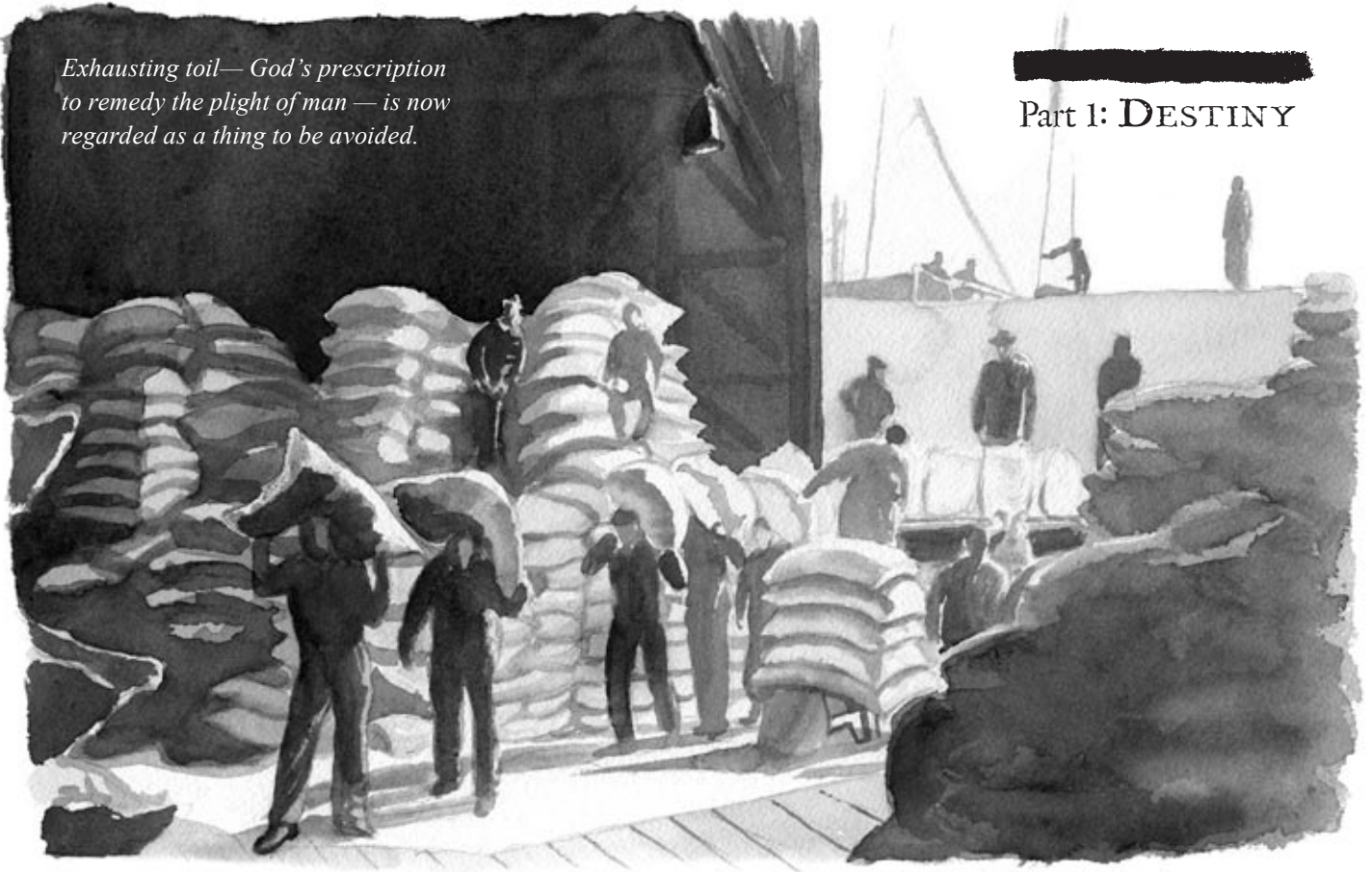
We experience the earth barreling around the sun as the gradual change of seasons: the leaves changing color, the snow muffling the sleeping ground, the streams swollen from the spring thaw, and once again, the crocus lifting itself up from a long slumber.

read, no matter what language one speaks, literate or not. So listen to what it's saying. It's beckoning you to take notice, not of itself, but of Him who is aware of something far more powerful, and far greater, and far more important than all of these things. He's aware of you.



*Exhausting toil— God's prescription
to remedy the plight of man — is now
regarded as a thing to be avoided.*

Part 1: DESTINY



The Three Eternal Destinies of Man

*From the beginning, man's
three eternal destinies
have been clearly
seen. In the
Garden of Eden, our
Creator placed the
tree of the knowledge
of good and evil and
the tree of life. These
two trees foretold the
three eternal destinies
of mankind.*

Adam and Eve were given the freedom to choose which tree to eat from — the tree of the knowledge of good and evil or the tree of life. Which would you choose?

God made a covenant with Adam and Eve (which we refer to as the *first covenant*), and placed them in the Garden of Eden. They were to *rule for Him* over all creation.² God said they were to freely eat from any of the trees of the garden, but for their own good, He instructed them *not* to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil — “for in that day you will surely die.”

Adam and Eve were given the *freedom* to choose to obey His instruction or to disregard it. This was a test to see what they would do with their freedom. It was our Creator’s desire from the very start to know what was in the heart of His highest creation — *man*.

Would they trust Him and obey?

He wanted to know what was in the *will* of Adam and Eve once they were tested. Ultimately, what a person *does* comes from the inner judgments of his mind and heart.³ The will of the man *is* the man himself.

Alone, with no one to know what she would do, the serpent came to Eve to test what was in her heart towards her husband and the Creator (*see box following page*). Would she trust them and obey? The serpent appealed to Eve through her reasoning and led her astray. He asked, “Has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’” Ignoring the voice of authority within her own heart, she made the choice to do what she already “knew” was not right⁴ and followed the serpent to the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*. Again he said, “You surely shall not die! For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

¹He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”

Revelation 22:11

²Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

Genesis 1:26

³“For from the inside, from your heart, come the evil ideas which lead you to do immoral things, to rob, kill, commit adultery, be greedy, and do all sorts of evil things; deceit, indecency, jealousy, slander, pride, and folly— all these evil things come from inside you and make you unclean.”

Mark 7:21-23

⁴Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’”

Genesis 3:1-3



Since few of us grow our own food we seldom stop to consider how much man must depend on God to send the rain.

What have you done?

*God holds all men accountable for what they say and do.
Nothing escapes His notice. Even as the smallest act of
kindness will be rewarded, all selfishness that hurts others
will be punished.*

In a grove of trees a man and his wife stood together looking with revulsion at the bitten fruit lying at their feet. The sweetness lingering in their mouths only sharpened the wretched feeling that swept over them — guilt. Their consciences raged, “Why didn’t you listen to me? Why did you rebel? Why didn’t you trust and obey?”

They knew that they had turned against their loving Creator by doubting His words and not heeding His instructions. They had left the secure place of total dependence on His words and put themselves in a vulnerable, independent state. As they stared at one another with wide and frightened eyes, they became aware of something else, something that wasn’t new, but that they hadn’t noticed before — they were naked!

As the sickening sensation of guilt filled their beings, they both had one simultaneous impulse. “We need to hide!! We need to cover ourselves! Surely our Maker will come here soon, desiring to meet with us. We cannot let Him see our nakedness!”

Adam approached one of the fruit-bearing trees, a fig tree heavy with purple fruit. Breaking off some of its big green leaves, he gave them to his wife, who then sewed them together into coverings large enough for themselves. Fearfully they awaited the approach of their Maker...

Adam and Eve had just been freshly created; their consciences were still totally sensitive, the way their Maker had created them to be. As soon as that bite of fruit entered their mouths, they knew immediately — overwhelmingly — that they were guilty and naked, in need of covering. They knew that they were unfit in their naked state to come into the presence of God.

Today, we human beings have become used to living in a state of guilt and independence from our Creator. Our consciences have become dull, desensitized. We need to be told in order to realize that we are guilty and become aware of our nakedness before God.



All through the ages God has been speaking through the conscience of every man and woman on the face of the earth. If only we would listen and face our condition, we would see how desperately we need a covering!

But what was wrong with the fig-leaf covering that Adam and Eve covered themselves with? Why was it that when their Maker finally appeared, they still hid themselves from Him, even though they were now covered?

They had covered themselves, in an attempt to *hide* their shame. They did not want their guilt to be exposed and laid bare, so they desperately sought to make themselves presentable. But somewhere deep inside, they knew that they were still unfit to come into the presence of God — they were still naked and guilty.

When their God finally came in search of them, they had hidden themselves in the trees of the garden. And when He called to them and then questioned them, their responses to Him showed that they were still afraid of freely exposing their guilt, as they both put the blame onto someone else. But our Maker’s heart was to provide mankind with a true covering: a *sacrifice*.

Adam and Eve finally had to remove all their fig leaf coverings and expose their true state of nakedness so that they could receive the garments God provided for them, taken from an animal that had shed its blood to cover them in the very first physical death creation had ever seen. Even way back then it was in our God’s heart to provide a sacrifice to cover mankind’s sin.

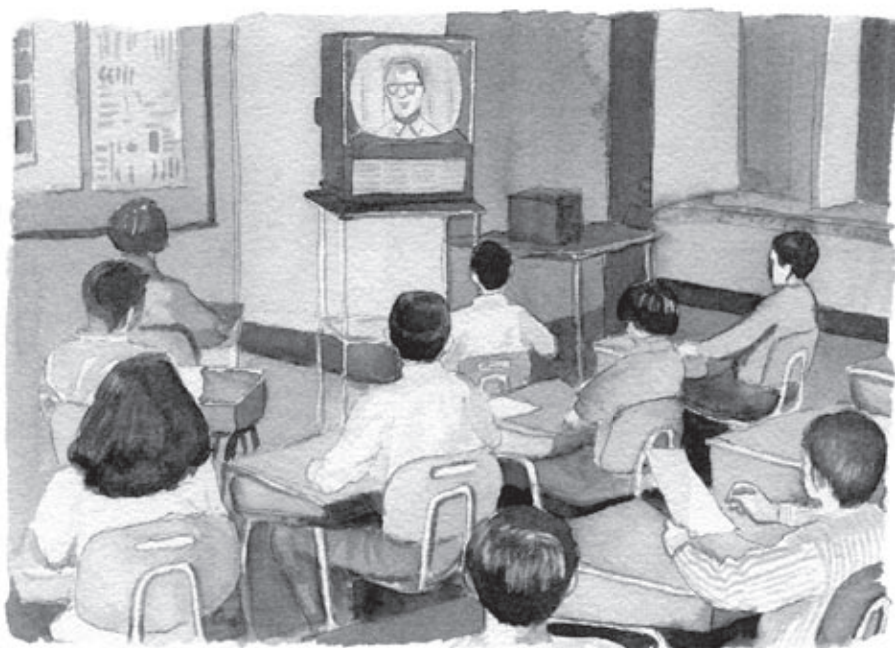
From the beginning God had a plan. In His amazing love, He would send His only begotten Son, Yahshua, the Lamb of God, to be slain and to shed His blood so that we could be clothed in white garments and be restored to being found worthy to walk with Him as He had always desired. He was well aware of what He was going to do when He asked them the question: “What have you done?”



Drawn away by the seduction of his cunning and craft, she then ate from the "forbidden fruit." Weakened by doubt and the serpent's accusations against her Creator, Eve was enticed with the desire to be *like God, knowing good and evil*. There was nothing inherently wrong with this desire (for Adam and Eve were created in God's very own likeness and image), but Eve was made to think that God was withholding hidden knowledge and wisdom from her. God wanted Adam and Eve to have this knowledge, yet without having to experience evil themselves.

To have this knowledge of "good and evil" with un-fallen nature was always God's intent for mankind. However, Eve was deceived into thinking that she did not yet have this knowledge, and could not have it through trust and obedience alone. As a result, she transgressed the boundaries where love could protect her — the love of her husband and Creator.

Every man and woman will have to give account before his or her Creator for what they have *done* — whether *good or evil*.⁵ They will be judged on the basis of the *deeds* which they have committed during their lifetime.⁶ A person's deeds will be examined in relation to the highest standard of knowledge within his conscience. Conscience is the built-in power of our minds⁷ to pass moral judgment on ourselves, approving or disapproving our actions, thoughts, and plans.⁸ It tells us whether what we are going to do or have done already, is right or wrong, good or evil.⁹



True intelligence is knowing the difference between good and evil. Instead of developing our moral faculties, public school and higher education have degraded this most important aspect of our humanity.

Every man's conscience judges by the highest standard it knows.

⁵The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil. *Ecclesiastes 12:13,14*

^{6a}For God will reward every man according to what he has done. Some people keep on doing good, and seek glory, honor, and immortal life; to them God will give eternal life. Other people are selfish and reject what is right, in order to follow what is wrong; on them God will pour out his anger and fury. *Romans 2:6-8*

^{6b}And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Also another book was opened, the book of life. And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and all were judged according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire; and anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:12-15*

⁷For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them [in their conscience]. *Romans 1:18,19*

⁸[When those who] do not have the Law do by instinct what the Law commands, they are their own law, even though they do not have the Law. Their conduct shows that what the Law commands is written in their hearts. Their consciences also show that this is true, since their thoughts sometimes accuse them and sometimes defend them. And so, according to the good news I preach, this is how it will be on that day when God through Yahshua Messiah will judge the secret thoughts of all. *Romans 2:14,15*

⁹Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin. *James 4:17*



The righteous care for even their animals and would not exploit them for their own selfish gain.

¹⁰Revelation 20:12-15; see footnote 6b.

¹¹...Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever." *Genesis 3:22*

¹²It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment. *Hebrews 9:27*

Obeying the conscience helps to remedy fallen man's plight of being separated from his Creator and his inability to carry out the purpose he was created for. Giving to man the covenant of conscience was done with the hope that he would be restored one day to the original covenant his Creator made with men and women. If in this life they would rule over themselves then in eternity they would be restored to their rightful rule over creation.¹⁰ Within the boundaries of conscience, a man can choose his own eternal destiny. He can choose *blessing* or *calamity*— *an eternal second life* or *an eternal second death*.¹¹

Adam and Eve chose to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, forfeiting their right to the tree of life. Since that time it has been appointed for all men to die *once*¹² as

The Unjust

Lying, deceit, greed, laziness, and slander are some of the character traits of the unjust.


There are many ways a person can fit into the category of the unjust: by injuring or hurting others, by being unfaithful or treacherous in his business dealings, or by being dishonest. Lying, deceit, greed, laziness, and slander are some of the characteristics of those whom God considers unjust. People who may fall into doing these things once or twice aren't unjust, but those who *practice* them are. The unjust are chameleons. Many who appear to be quite respectable in society are, in fact, unjust.

Lying. This is an outstanding characteristic of the unjust. Some professions capitalize on lies and

deceit. Somewhere, a lawyer defends the guilty and defames the innocent for money. A judge favors the guilty for a bribe. A journalist slanders men in authority and ruins their reputation, all to advance his own career. Some exaggerate and sensationalize facts to sell papers. They sway public opinion to fit their agenda. But, what about their victims? What would be justice for someone who deliberately ruined other people's lives?

What is to be said about those who live on welfare, but are able to work? They are leeching off society, and often condemning the system that feeds them. Are they not unjust?

Cowards also fall into this category. The most outstanding example of the cowardly is someone who hears the good news of Yahshua's sacrifice and rejects His generous offer of forgiveness and eternal life. They love the darkness more than the light because their deeds are evil.

Rejecting Yahshua and refusing to drink the water of life (to receive His Spirit) is such a serious sin that it is named first among the sins that make one worthy of the eternal sea of fire. They will be unjust *still* — forever and ever. 

Their eternal destiny is the sea of fire.

*Death is the temporary abode of the dead,
where disembodied spirits wait in hope or in
torment for their final judgment.*

the wages for their sins.¹³ It is the just sentencing for all who, like Adam, go against their better judgment. Death (which we refer to as the *first death*) is the *temporary abode of the dead*, where disembodied spirits wait in hope or in torment for their final judgment. All men must keep this appointment with death as payment for the sins they committed while bound to live under the covenant of conscience. After the first death is completed, comes *final judgment* where every person's *eternal destiny* will be determined.¹⁴

If a person's deeds in judgment align themselves consistently with the "good" he knew to pursue in his conscience, then an *eternal second life* will be awarded to him. His part will be in the "eternal kingdom of the *nations*."¹⁵ He has earned it and he deserves it. However, if a person's deeds in judgment aligns him consistently with the "evil" he knew in his conscience to turn away from, then an *eternal second death* will

(continued on p. 15)

¹³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Messiah Yahshua our sovereign. *Romans 6:23*

¹⁴*Revelation 20:12-15*; see footnote 6b.

^{15a}"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;' and these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:31-34,46

^{15b}The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. *Revelation 21:24,26*

^{15c}...On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. *Revelation 22:2*

The Filthy


Again and again they persist in craving what is vile and detestable.

The filthy and unjust share the same eternal destiny. Both gave up the good conscience they were endowed with by their Creator and chose to do evil instead.

The word *filthy* fittingly describes the character of those who give themselves over to degrading acts of sexual immorality. They suppress the *good* they instinctively know, in order to satisfy their craving for pleasure and indulgence. At first their moral filth may not appear obvious. However, their deeds eventually betray them. They use and abuse others to fulfill their own sensual lusts, without any restraint or regard for the people they destroy and then discard.

They were *not* born filthy. They became filthy. This was done by continually rejecting their conscience. They grew to despise God's voice within their conscience. They stopped acknowledging Him for the acts of kindness He bestows on everyone. Their conscience became seared, as if a branding iron were applied to it. They became calloused. Hard. In this state of mind, good is called evil and evil good. This is what it means to be depraved: no fear of the eternal consequences for your actions. No fear of leading others to the same destiny. No fear. No regret.

Those who passively consent to what is evil, due to fear, are also guilty. By their cowardice, they suppress the good they know and allow society to be destroyed.

The filthy have set themselves on a course to their destiny — never-ending separation and punishment — because of the ways they have ensnared others and destroyed human lives. They will continue to follow the evil one, sharing his eternal destiny — the sea of fire, which was originally only prepared for him and his angels. They will be filthy still — forever and ever. 

Their eternal destiny is the sea of fire.

The Righteous

Going against the current of evil in society is truly a struggle, but the righteous use their will to do it.

All people are born righteous.

God is righteous, and every person is created in His *image*. This is where a person begins: innocent and pure. Although all people are born with a tendency to sin, they are also born with a conscience and the ability to obey it. This takes an act of the will. It takes determined effort.

A righteous person would never say that he is righteous. Humility and self-doubt are qualities they possess. They care for their neighbors as they would themselves.

They do not tear down others, but strengthen them. They are not partial. They are fair. It's important to them to keep a good conscience and maintain their integrity. Deep inside, they know there will be a judgment. They know they are accountable for what they do. The righteous conduct their lives in anticipation of that day.

In marriage, a righteous man will work hard and honestly to provide for his family. He loves his wife and children and will sacrifice his pleasure for their

welfare. A righteous woman bears the pain of childbirth and continues to bond with and care for her children as they grow up. This produces secure children who know they are loved. People like this genuinely care about others and treat them fairly and respectfully. They do what is good, not to be noticed, but because they value goodness.

There are only a few truly righteous people left. Society does not make much room for them today.

They are not going to Hell, as many Christians think, simply because they did not believe in Jesus. They probably would have believed if they had heard about Him from someone who really knew Him. By their good deeds, the righteous made themselves worthy of a second life in the eternal *kingdom of the nations*. Righteous men and women must pay for their sins in death, but comfort awaits them at the judgment. They will be righteous still — forever and ever. 🌹



A righteous man works hard to provide for his family, living off the sweat of his own brow, not trying to escape the responsibility of being their provider.

Their eternal destiny is in the Nations.

Within the boundaries of conscience there is no room for a husband to be passive or lazy, or to be harsh or tyrannical. There is no room for a wife to dominate or manipulate her husband. But there is much room for mutual love and care.



be awarded to him. His part will be in the “lake that burns with fire.”¹⁶ This is the *second death*. He, likewise, deserves it. You can be certain that everyone will be awarded in eternity that which he truly deserves.

Adam and Eve ate from the wrong tree — the one that did not *freely* bestow eternal life upon them. Genesis 3:16-19 outlines the *second covenant* God gave to Adam and Eve after they fell. They would now have to work hard to live by the *instinctive knowledge* of right and wrong within them in order to gain eternal life. This was in hope of their complete restoration to the *first covenant* for mankind, which they had broken.¹⁷ The ability for fallen man to obey the second covenant of conscience is obvious, since our Creator would have never told Adam and Eve to obey such directives if it were not within their fallen ability to do so.¹⁸ Only those who are “unjust” would actually think God “unjust” as to demand of His creatures what they could never do.

Most importantly, (after the fall) man was commissioned to overcome and *master* those kinds of sins that would

cause him to break even this second covenant.¹⁹ If the second covenant was broken, the second death would be inevitable — unless the mercy of our Creator could reach man’s heart through the sacrifice of His Son Yahshua. It was Yahshua the Messiah who would make the third eternal destiny possible for all of mankind. Both the righteous sinner (who remained loyal to the covenant of conscience)

and the wicked (who forsook this covenant) were in need of forgiveness and a means of escape from death altogether.

It was our Master Yahshua who made the way possible for both the *righteous* and the *filthy* and *unjust* to be a part of the third eternal destiny — *the Holy City*.²⁰

(For more about the category of the holy, see page 18)

^{16a}“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Revelation 21:8

¹⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

Genesis 1:27,28

^{18a}To the woman He said, “I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall

bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” And to the man He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, “You shall not eat of it,” cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Genesis 3:16-19

^{18b}*Romans 2:14,15*, see footnote 8

^{18c}“...God is not one to show partiality, but in

every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.” *Acts 10:34-35*

^{19a}“If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.” Cain said to Abel his brother, “Let us go out to the field.” And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him.

Genesis 4:7-8

²⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. *Revelation 21:10, 23*

Will God Get What He Deserves?

Part 2: COMMUNITY

There is no more powerful force in the universe than the love of God. Nothing else can reach down into the depths of the human soul and bring true healing and hope. His love and His life were embodied in the man Yahshua. He lived every day to love and serve and feed those who needed Him. He was the living example of what God desired when He created man in the first place – that he would be a vessel of His Spirit, a body for Him to dwell in.

It was not enough that God dwelt in one man for a brief moment in history. But it was necessary to send this one man, a second Adam, who would overcome the temptations of the evil prince who rules this world. Yahshua kept Himself pure and maintained His communion with God and was therefore able to qualify as a ransom, a spotless sacrifice for mankind. God's ultimate purpose in this was to have many people that He could dwell in and express His perfect love through. They are the "Holy Ones," the ruling class who will be His Body among the Nations that will fill the universe for eternity.

Yahshua was like a precious seed that fell into the ground and died. But death could not hold Him because of His innocence. He returned to those He loved and told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit to come upon them. For a brief time in history the known world witnessed a foretaste of the kingdom, as the love of God filled the hearts of Yahshua's disciples. People were coming together to love and care for one another, sharing all they had, because of their love for God and His Son. Communities of Holy Ones began to spring up in every place. They offered hope and a home to those who truly desired to know their Creator.

In these communities you could actually live with people who were becoming like Yahshua. He was the firstborn and pre-eminent above all others. Yet He made a way for all those with the same heart as Him to become sons of God, His brothers. He blazed a trail so that others could follow Him, walking as He walked. It wasn't a mystical transformation that happened when people professed their belief in Him, but an actual, progressive change occurred in the life of each disciple. Living and working together in His communities created real tests between the disciples that brought about this deep inner change — the salvation of their souls.

His love is a consuming fire and this life of the early disciples was designed to purify these Holy Ones in order that they could more perfectly express His love to others who would follow Him. Ultimately they would be prepared, as a bride is prepared for her King, and then Yahshua would return



Living and working in His communities brings about a deep inner change — the salvation of our souls.

Yahshua maintained His communion with God and was therefore able to be a ransom, a spotless sacrifice for mankind. God's ultimate purpose is to have many human beings that He could dwell in and express His perfect love through.

for her and together they would set up His eternal Kingdom beginning on earth for 1000 years.

Sadly, their love waned. They stopped seeking Him. They lost their simplicity and pure devotion to Him. They lost sight of the great purpose He had for their lives. Selfishness, fear, and division crept in. The disciples began to compromise in so many ways. They lost their confidence and their outspokenness. The strong ones began to dominate the gatherings. Gradually the few faithful ones died off and eventually the Holy Spirit could no longer find a home in their communities. When love left, so did their vision to stay together and suffer to care for one another.

Eventually Christianity became the state religion under the Roman Emperor Constantine. The unfaithful Church had given herself to another lover. She went from being "the persecuted" to being "the inquisitor." All who stood against her were singled out and either banished or destroyed. Liturgy and empty rituals replaced what was once a life full of meaning and purpose. The humble sharing of genuine thanksgiving by each member was replaced by long-winded sermons of men seeking their own glory.

The confusion continued through the centuries. Those who claimed to have the truth shed a sea of blood as they sought to promote "the Kingdom of God" as they saw it. The fear of "hellfire and damnation" replaced the "love of God" as the primary motivation for accepting Christ. Giant stone cathedrals, built at the expense of many souls and great sums of money, represented the "awesomeness of God," rather than the self-sacrificing love of Messiah in His people. All the while, the Church continued to splinter into denominations and sub-denominations.

"Right Doctrine" became the "witness of the truth." But tragically, these precepts were taught by men with bloodstained hands. They became accepted as "the word of God." Men slowly lost their understanding and appreciation of natural law. The conscience was regarded less and less as something to listen to and live by. Doing "good for goodness sake," was all "filthy rags." People actually began to believe that it said in the Bible that God destined certain people from birth to go to eternal destruction and others to heaven.

So here we are in the 21st century. The confusion goes on. The deception has become much more subtle and sophisticated. It is no longer legal for those with "right doctrine" to burn those who have "wrong doctrine" at the stake or to hang them from the highest tree. Commitment to Christ has been reduced to weekly church attendance,



Communities of holy ones are beginning to spring up in every place. They offer hope and a home to those who truly desire to know their Creator.



*He has once again
poured out His
love in the heart of
a people who are
being gathered.*

paying your 10% and trying to be a good example to others, at best. The most pious in the churches tend to exalt their superior Bible knowledge and their “ministries.” Mere knowledge becomes the standard, and they use it to judge the difference between the “nominal” and the “sincere.”

But where is the love of God? Is Yahshua getting what He paid for with His torturous death and three agonizing days in Death? Is He gaining interest on His investment? Is His Bride being purified and prepared for His return? The answer seems painfully clear.

He, however, is worthy of a Bride who loves Him and gives herself to Him completely. He deserves to get what He paid for, what He died for, and what He is waiting for. He is able to do what He said He would do. And for this cause He came into the world. For this cause He was born, to bear witness of the truth and those who are of the truth will hear His voice.

The good news is that He has once again poured out His love in the hearts of a people who are being gathered. We are learning to walk with Him. As a result, we are growing in our love for one another. We want to learn from those who have fallen in the past and overcome where they did not. It's not easy, but He is worth everything to us. We hate the way the world is going and the way He has been grossly misrepresented. We are living to bring Him back to the earth. It's the most important thing that is happening anywhere today. 🐾

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

The Holy

The holy are people who are consumed with the purpose of God. They are being restored back to what it means to be human.

The term *holy* means: *to be set apart for a special purpose.* Those who obey the good news of Yahshua's salvation are set apart for *Him* and *His purpose*. The holy people dwell in communities. These are special places He has established where they can live a pure life, separate from the evil influences that permeate the world. This does not mean they live on isolated compounds out in the woods. No, they live in towns and cities. They have neighbors that they can be kind to, and with whom they can share the hope they have found.

The category of the holy is made up mostly of those who were once filthy

and unjust. A few might have been righteous. These are people who longed to love and be loved. When they came in contact with someone who had the love of God in his heart, they responded. They joyfully gave up all they had (both materially and spiritually — their former religions and philosophies) to follow Yahshua. They distributed their possessions to those who had needs within the community of the holy. For this reason, there is no rich or poor among them. They spend their time, energy, and gifts caring for their brothers and sisters. They no longer live for themselves.

This love among a people is an example to all the nations. It

demonstrates to the world the power God has to restore and purify people from their sin — the factor that divides all people from each other and from Him. Because they experience love and forgiveness, they are able to offer it to others. That is their life's purpose: to love others like God loved them.

The spiritual reality of the holy is that they have become God's dwelling place. By their response to His call to forsake all and follow Him, they have made themselves worthy to be His Body on the Earth. They will be His representatives to the righteous of the nations in eternity. They will be holy still — forever and ever. 🐾

Their eternal destiny is the Holy City.

The curse came.

It broke over their heads like a storm, like a thunderhead gathering at sundown. In the night, when the air is still and heavy, the hushed sky rips apart with a crash.

It came like a vulture, like a big brown shadow sweeping across the grass and landing near a carcass.

It came silently. No oath or damning word was pronounced, but the whole land passed into the unseen hands of a brutal and pitiless spiritdom.

The summer sun dried up every pool and stream, driving the desperate frogs deep into the mud cracks. It killed the food plants and wilted the fig trees over the heads of the panting herds. A choking dust fell like rain, seared in the whirlwinds of a hopeless drought. Overhead a sky of bronze gleamed as if heated by a torch and underneath the scorched earth lay parched like an iron pan on an open flame.

In the cities children roamed the streets looking for pleasure, acting as though they had no parents. Sons treated their fathers with contempt and daughters scorned their mothers. Thieves robbed their own; prostitutes plied their trade openly without shame. Anger and murder filled their homes and streets like a plague until no one trusted anyone.

All around were the diseased, the deformed, the blind, the deaf, the lame, the crippled, the paralyzed, and the demon-possession. The stench of the land was a rotting sore; there was no wholeness, no soundness, no justice. The curse had changed what was once a fruitful land into a parched wasteland, a mere husk, a stale hunk of rock-hard bread. The thirsty and starving wandered through it, looking for help, but there was none. Society was like a market place, a vain fair where men hawked their conscience and dignity for a night of cheap thrills. Their daughters were like whores, their sons like drunkards. It had permeated every area of society, like oil soaking into a rag.

Then he came.

He grew up in their midst like a tender shoot, like the root of a plant that had survived in the desert. His life was like a young sprig growing out of an ancient stump.

He was a simple, child-like man who listened when people spoke to him. His ears were attuned to the afflictions of their hearts and he responded with the truth he knew in his own. It was painful for him to look upon the plight of his people. Never had he seen so much sickness or corruption in all levels of society or so many religious hypocrites or pretenders or lawless men. Though many had grown dull to the effects of the curse and had conformed to the abnormal society around them, he felt keenly every intrusion of the curse into even the smallest areas of their lives. It made him sad to

see how calloused people's hearts were, how little they cared for one another, and how they despised the needy and poor among them.

He lived innocently and spoke simply with straightforwardness. His greatest concern wasn't what was fashionable or what was popular but that the deeds his God had given him to do were carried out.

One thing for sure, he wasn't complicated. It wasn't hard to follow what he said. Those who were child-like listened to him.

Every which way he turned, the cries of his people reached his ears. They were always around him, always in need. When the enemy's lies bent people's backs to the ground so they couldn't even straighten up, he felt sorry for them and reached out to heal them. They had been walked over so many times before,

they'd follow just about anyone, not just him, but anyone who'd give them a free piece of bread. It got so bad, he couldn't even be with them. When everyone clamored to make him king, as much as he loved them he moved away from them. He didn't withdraw into mysticism or retreat to the desert. But he knew that it wasn't yet time for him to establish His Kingdom on the Earth.

Then he died.

To break the curse, he died.

To break its sway, he suffered death as one under its power. He faced it unfearingly, knowing that his God would rescue him. And very shortly after that, he was alive again, resurgent, brimming over with victory. He filled all those who had sought after him and those who had remained at his side with the very same spirit that he had that overcame death. The very same life that had been in him was now in them. And though their demonstration passed away, long ago, it is once again here on earth.

His life was a social life, an overflowing river that flowed out of his heart toward others. His words and actions teemed with life and he poured it out generously like living water. In him was a rich, lavish, endless, and inexhaustible supply of life. It brimmed over in every direction, in every situation to every kind of person, stimulating and quickening them with kindness and hospitality. He had enough life in himself to be able to go on and on and on. Every bit of it that he had, he freely gave away to others. What he didn't need to sustain himself, he extravagantly wasted on those around him. He cheered them up when they were discouraged, he consoled them when they were depressed, he wastefully squandered all that he had upon them in order to keep them till the day when they, too, would have living water flowing from their innermost being.

He is Yahshua, our hero. 🐉



Lifting the Curse



"The only way a church can be is a home. It is a place where He resides and where His people reside."

A Place to Belong

The outworking of Love makes the body a place to belong, a place where each member is vitally needed and tenderly cared for.

Coordinating the body

Can you imagine a human body whose members acted independently from one another, not receiving or obeying signals from the head? Suppose one foot decided to go left and the other foot decided to go right. Or, suppose the hands decided to wrap themselves around the throat and squeeze tightly and not let go for ten minutes. What would become of such a body? Of course this is a ridiculous scenario, but isn't this what the "Body of Christ" today is really like? Individual Christians and entire denominations function completely independently and often at cross purposes with one another, even to the point of going to war against each other.

But within the true Body of Christ there can be no independent discipleship, for such independence causes the Body to cease existing. In a real, live body all the members are vitally connected to one another and to the head, to which they are entirely submissive. They all work together in coordination for the health and growth of the Body.

No longer alone

It is not merely a matter of mechanics and organization that the Body functions this way. It is actually the outworking of love that makes the Body *a place to belong*, a place where each member is vitally needed and tenderly cared for. It is actually the very nature of God that the Body that houses His Spirit would make a home for the lonely. There are no *lonely* disciples.

Who has ever tried to be a disciple alone? Does it work? No, because it takes a community for disciples to live and thrive in. The community is a place to belong, *an actual geographic location*, where individual families live and work together — having all things in common. It is not a place to *imagine* you belong. Your home is where you actually live. The only way a church can be is a home. It is a place *where He resides* and where His people reside. He has a residential address in His people, and that is where they *serve* Him. It is a place where *all the disciples* are honored by God, not just counted as equal and welcome on Sundays, but honored, esteemed, valued, and needed all week

long. There is no other place to belong, no other place you can serve Christ, because He isn't anywhere else than in His Body. The reality of Yahshua Messiah having *come in the flesh* is not just that the Word became flesh in the man Yahshua 2000 years ago, but that He ascended into heaven and sent His Spirit to dwell in a real, tangible body. If that Body isn't every bit as real and tangible today as was His human body, then how can there be any reality or witness to His resurrection? It takes a community to represent Him.

A place to be tested and observed

It takes a community for disciples to be *tested*. The Master told parables about the kingdom to show how some would receive the word and bear fruit, others would fall away, and still others would appear to bear fruit, but would prove to be false in the end. Community is the crucible for testing the genuineness of disciples. A community is a *torture chamber* for the *fleshly* ones who live for themselves. The Master said, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross *daily*, and follow me." Notice that he said *daily*, not *weekly*. Community depends on each member denying himself to care for the needs of his brothers and sisters, *daily* laying down their lives for one another. A community is the only place where the Word of God and the Gospel can be obeyed and lived out. *It takes a community.*

Anyone who says that he knows God, but does not, cannot, or will not obey His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him. And how can anyone actually obey His commandments except in community where you are daily faced with the needs and shortcomings of your brothers and sisters? Only there can you practically love one another and encourage one another *daily*, seeing to it that no one falls short of the grace of God. How can anyone be saved *all alone*, independent of His Body?

Words alone are not enough

Contrary to the popular understanding, the gospel must be *obeyed* and this takes a community, not just "my four and no more." It won't suffice to just go to church once or even twice a week either. It takes a community in order to be a disciple of Christ. It takes *daily* interaction, a *daily* taking up of your cross, and *daily* encouragement from your brothers and sisters whom you are with on a *daily basis*. How does one know he has passed out of death and into life except by the evidence of his practical deeds of love and service in the Body where he lays down his life for his friends? Words alone are not enough. It takes a community.

Service in the Body

To *serve* God in the way Paul described the Twelve Tribes is a night-and-day *endeavor*. He was describing what the Master spoke of in John 12:26 — serving Him *where He is*. To serve in this capacity means to care for the needs of the other members of the Body. This is done as each member serves the Head. It is a coordinated effort, with no independent action. We must serve the Head by caring for one another. This is the will of the Head. We help others directly, under the covering of our overseers and elders, who are the 'servants of all.' They see all the needs and know who the best one is to serve where there is the greatest need. All are serving the Head as they serve those who are their "heads" in the Body of Christ. This is how the Body works — *it takes a community.* 🐜

Part 2: COMMUNITY





Part 2: COMMUNITY

"Yahshua needed a people with nothing better to do than devote their entire lives to His words. This would be their mission in life. In just a short time, He would no longer be with them in a human body; it would be up to them to do what He had done."

Cost of Discipleship

It costs just as much today as it did 2000 years ago.

People came saying they wanted to follow Him.

"Lord, I will follow you wherever you go!" But Yahshua said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, yet the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

Then He said to another, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." Yahshua said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God."

And another also said, "Lord, I will follow you, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house." But Yahshua said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

(Luke 9:57-62)

Our Master's face was set like

flint. His mission: to make disciples, and He had a short time in which to do it. Every day was precious. Every hour of the day there was always something to be learned. He had to take that faulty, misfit, but good-hearted handful of men and women who trusted in Him — and from them He had to form the core of a nation which would be everything that God the Creator had ever desired. They would become a nation of servants, having one heart and one way; not divided by strong personal opinions, but willing

to suffer with Him and forsake their own comfort for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Together they would be a people who would put their own needs last. Their banner was love, and it would be a witness to all the world.

Yahshua needed a people with nothing better to do than devote their entire lives to His words. This would be their mission in life. In just a short time, He would no longer be with them physically. Then it would be up to them to do what He had done: to "go and make disciples of all the nations ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

(Matthew 28:19-20)

A people with an awesome purpose

Once His disciples realized how much their Father loved and needed them, they set themselves on a course, too. A couple of hours in church once or twice a week wouldn't have been enough. No, just having them bow their heads and admit they were sinners wasn't what He needed. He needed *all* their time and *all* their attention. Therefore, everyone who desired to be His disciple had to do the same thing. They had to leave everything behind: their fishing nets, their tax tables, their careers, their ambitions, their own philosophies, hobbies, their property and possessions, and any

family relationship that would hold them back from obeying Him. All this, just to follow this outcast renegade who was called a demon-possessed cult leader by the religious leaders.

Here are some of the things He said:

"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it." (Luke 9:23-24)

"Sell what you have and give to the poor; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in heaven that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys." (Luke 12:33)

"So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all his own possessions cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:33)

What was true for one was true for all — rich and poor alike. A very rich young ruler came to our Master and asked what he must do to inherit eternal life. He was told the same thing as all the other disciples:

"Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come take up the cross, and follow Me."

(Mark 10:21,28-30)

*"One by one
we have left
everything
behind and
followed Him.
He is teaching
us how to be a
people whom
God can use
to turn the
world upside
down."*



To believe in this teacher was cost a person everything! There was no turning back. A person might be considered crazy by friends and family. They might be utterly disowned for following Him.

The birth of His Community

Despite the high cost of following the Son of God, many disciples believed — at first dozens and later thousands. One by one, they left everything behind just as He had done. As they followed Him, He taught them how to love — to overcome the barriers that had divided people for thousands of years.

After Yahshua's resurrection, it was their turn. Now all that He had invested in His disciples would come to fruition. One by one they began to call others to join them. Three thousand believed in one single day, and just like the first, they gave up everything to follow Him.

"Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."
(Acts 2:42)

"Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. So continuing daily with one ac-

cord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart."

(Acts 2:44-46)

"Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common."

(Acts 4:32)

"Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need." (Acts 4:34-35)

And so an amazing prophecy that their Master had spoken (which had once seemed so mysterious) came to be fulfilled:

"Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake, but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life." (Mark 10:29-30)

How could everyone who left a house or farm to follow Yahshua gain 100

more in this age? It would take 100 house owners each giving up their own house to be shared in common by all. As disciples received faith to do this; everyone's needs were met and all of them were set free from the cares and worries of the world. Their hearts, minds and energy could now be devoted completely to the Kingdom of God. This was the cost of being a disciple, and it was also the witness of faith, trust, and love that would turn the world upside down!

Modern Christianity is nothing like the original church. Back then, to be a disciple meant literally forsaking everything you had and following the Son of God daily in order to become like Him in every way. Instead today, people have traded the high cost of discipleship for an easy gospel with no cost. This so-called gospel allows you to hold on to your own life in the world, but somehow think that you've been saved. But Yahshua won't settle for just a few crumbs of your life. He never has and never will, and His gospel is the same today as it was 2000 years ago. The good news is that there is a place on earth where the sincere in Christianity and elsewhere can come and follow the Son of God where He is — as the first disciples.

A Few of Our Homes & Farms

IN SOME OF OUR COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

United States

888-893-5838

Community in Vista

2683 Foothill Drive, Vista, CA 92084

☎ (760) 295-3852

Community in Island Pond

P.O. Box 449, Island Pond, VT 05846

☎ (802) 723-9708

Community in Boston

92 Melville Ave, Dorchester, MA 02124

☎ (617) 282-9876

Community in Plymouth

35 Warren Ave, Plymouth, MA 02360

☎ (508) 747-5338

Basin Farm

P.O. Box 108, Bellows Falls, VT 05101

☎ (802) 463-3230

Common Sense Farm

41 N. Union Street, Cambridge, NY 12816

☎ (518) 677-5880

Community in Hamburg

78 Pleasant Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075

☎ (716) 649-7835

Community in Brunswick

815 Albany Street, Brunswick, GA 31520

☎ (912) 267-4700

Jog Run Farm

6311 Wallis Road, W. Palm Beach, FL 33413

☎ (561) 686-7561

Community on the Lake of the Ozarks

1140 Lay Ave, Warsaw, MO 65355

☎ (660) 438-4481

Community in Colorado Springs,

406 Karr Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80916

☎ (719) 573-1907



For a complete list of our communities,
please call toll free, 24 hours a day:

888-TWELVETRIBES
(888-893-5838)

or visit our web site at:

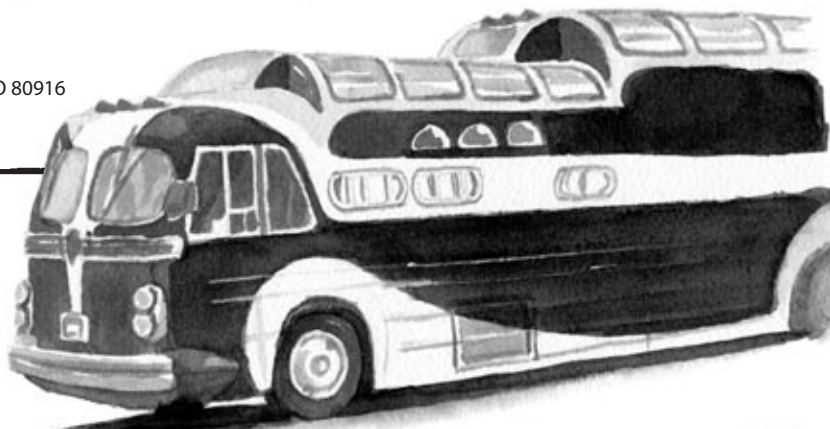
www.twelvetribe.com

WHO WE ARE

Our communities started out in Chattanooga, Tennessee, about 30 years ago when a couple who sincerely wanted to do God's will opened up their home to whomever wanted to do the same. People came. Some stayed.

We came to have many houses there and started the Yellow Deli. In time we had households and Yellow Delis in Dalton and Trenton, Georgia, Mentone, Alabama, and Dayton, Tennessee.

Eventually we all moved up to Island Pond, Vermont. In time we spread out throughout Vermont and made our home in other states and countries around the world. We've had a handful of restaurants in the towns we've lived in and many cottage industries making all kinds of things from candles to futon mattresses to furniture. You might have even worked alongside us on a construction site somewhere.



We've been many places, some for a little while and some where we still live. Maybe you've met us or seen us around. Maybe you befriended one of us somewhere and when you came to see us later, we had moved. Just about all of us you've met are still here somewhere in the list above.

Way back in Chattanooga we called ourselves "The Light Brigade," and "The Vine Christian Community;" later in Vermont, "The Northeast Kingdom Community Church," and more recently, "the Communities." Some people have called us simply "the Yahshua's." Today we call ourselves "The Twelve Tribes."

If you ever saw a big burgundy & cream colored double-decker bus, that was us.

We'd love to see the life our Master Yahshua has given us fill the whole earth and we want people who desire the same to come be with us. 