

Study of Romans 1
by Marc Gravelle
marc@bondsevantsofYeshua.ca

Romans 1:1-32

The book of Romans begins with a wonderful greeting by Paul to all that are in Rome and also to all the people that will read his words in the future. He begins by telling us who he is. He says *I am Paul, a servant of Messiah, the Living Torah, made flesh, called an apostle, a sent one, separated or set apart unto the good news, the **GOSPEL**, the **TRUTH** (Ephesians 1:13, and Psalm 119:142) the Torah of our heavenly Father.* Paul says, I will show you the **GOOD NEWS** which our heavenly Father has promised us through His prophets, in the Holy Scriptures given to Moses at Mount Sinai, which Moses then gave to us, and that good news was *concerning the Son of Elohim, the Living Torah made Flesh through the line of David, and declared to be The Son of Elohim **WITH** power, according to the Spirit of Holiness, by the resurrection of the dead.* This Living Torah our Messiah, the Son of our heavenly Father, came to earth with the full authority of our heavenly Father, and furthermore we are told that He is filled with the Father's Holy Spirit and the **POWER** of our heavenly Father, as is evidenced by His resurrection from the dead. Paul goes on to say in *verse 5* *By whom we*, that means, Paul, and those that he is speaking to who believe, and you and I, who have received *Apostleship* with the very specific mandate that we are to be faithfully obedient to YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, in order to show and tell the nations of the world, YHVH's message, **His Gospel of TRUTH** unto **ALL** the nations of the world, that are mired in darkness, **SIN** Torahlessness (1John 3:4).

Now since this is a teaching from Paul, **THEN** before we go forward with what he is teaching us here in the book of Romans, we have to understand **WHO** Paul is and what he believes. To that end let us go to the Book of Acts 21:18-24 *And the day following Paul went in with us unto James; and ALL the elders were present. And when he had saluted them, he declared particularly what things Elohim had done among the Gentiles by Paul's ministry. And when they heard it, they glorified YHVH, and said unto him, you see, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are who believe; and **THEY ARE ALL ZEALOUS OF THE TORAH (LAW):** And they are informed that you Paul, that you teach **ALL THE JEWS** who are among the Gentiles **TO FORSAKE MOSES** (to forsake the Torah), and that you say to them, that they ought **NOT** to circumcise their children, **NEITHER ARE THEY TO WALK** after the customs. What is it therefore? The multitude absolutely needs to come together: for they will hear that you Paul are come. Therefore, make sure you do what we say to you: We have four men who have a vow on them; Take these four men, and purify yourself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: **AND THAT ALL PEOPLE MAY KNOW THAT THOSE THINGS, WHEREOF THEY WERE INFORMED CONCERNING YOU, ARE FALSE, THAT THEY ARE NOTHING; BUT THAT YOU YOURSELF PAUL, ALSO WALK ORDERLY, AND KEEP THE TORAH.***

And in Acts 24:5-16 Paul Himself confirms once **MORE** that **HE BELIEVES, KEEPS, FOLLOWS AND OBEYS THE FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE.** Verse 5 *For we (the Sanhedrin) have found this man Paul, a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among **ALL** the Jews throughout the world, (**ALL** those that practice the religion of Judaism) and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes (followers of the Living Torah Messiah, the Nazarene): Who also has gone about to **profane** the temple: whom we took, and **would have judged** according to **OUR LAW** (**NOT** the Torah of Moses, but the oral law of Judaism). But the chief captain Lysias came upon us, and with*

great violence took Paul away out of our hands, Commanding his accusers to come unto you: by examining of whom yourself may take knowledge of all these things, whereof we accuse Paul of. And the Jews also **assented (FALSELY), saying that these things were TRUE.** Then Paul, after the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, Forasmuch as I know that you have been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself: So that you may believe and understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem **TO WORSHIP.** And they **NEITHER FOUND ME** in the temple disputing with any man, **NEITHER RAISING UP** the people, **NEITHER IN THE SYNAGOGUES, NOR IN THE CITY: NEITHER CAN THEY PROVE** the things whereof they now accuse me. **BUT THIS I CONFESS UNTO YOU,** that after the way which **THEY CALL HERESY,** so I worship the Elohim of my fathers, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, **BELIEVING ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE TORAH AND IN THE PROPHETS:** And have hope toward Elohim, whom they themselves also allow, **THAT THERE SHALL BE A RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, BOTH OF THE JUST AND UNJUST.** And herein do I exercise myself, **TO ALWAYS HAVE A CONSCIENCE VOID OF OFFENCE (TORAHLESSNESS) TOWARD ELOHIM, AND TOWARD MEN.**

Now that we have **FIRMLY ESTABLISHED BEYOND A SHADOW OF DOUBT** that according to the written **SCRIPTURE, PAUL BELIEVED, FOLLOWED, OBEYED AND ACTUALLY DID THE TORAH OF YHVH,** our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life, everyday of his life, after his Road to Damascus experience, we can read all of Paul's teachings and see the Apostolic Scriptures through Paul's Torah obedient heart, and hopefully **BETTER UNDERSTAND, YHVH's ETERNAL TRUTH, HIS TORAH THAT WAS GIVEN TO MOSES AT MOUNT SINAI** that **PAUL IS SO ANXIOUS AND EXCITED TO TEACH ALL** people that truly want to **KNOW YHVH's ETERNAL TRUTH.**

Let us therefore go ahead and see what Paul means when he says that **ALL** believers who profess to love the Elohim of Abraham Isaac and Jacob and have willingly chosen to serve Him with loving surrendered obedience, **ARE** to willingly obey and follow His Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, in order to show the world, that **IT IS** only through **FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE TO YHVH's Words of Life, IT IS ONLY THROUGH** believing, obeying, following and **DOING** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, with loving surrendered obedient hearts, **THAT WE CAN BE A SHINING LIGHT** onto the nations of the world, who, for the most part are mired in total darkness, they practice Torahlessness. We have to understand that YHVH Himself has said that **THERE IS TO BE ONLY ONE LAW,** for the homeborn and for the sojourner, (*Exodus 12:49 One Law, One Torah, shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourns among you. 15:16 One Law, One Torah and one manner shall be* **FOR YOU, AND FOR** the stranger that sojourns with you); and at the risk of sounding very repetitive, that **ONE LAW,** my friends **IS** YHVH's **TORAH OF GRACE,** His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life; and it can indeed belong to **ALL** people, who willingly choose to embrace it by willingly surrendering their hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father, in total loving surrendered obedience, for **ALL** believers are called **TO BE SAINTS,** we are called to be Holy as YHVH is Holy. *Grace to you and peace from Elohim our Father, and His Son Messiah Yeshua.*

YHVH Himself told All of Israel the same thing through Jeremiah in *Jeremiah 26:1-6 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from YHVH,*

saying, *Thus says YHVH; Stand in the court of YHVH's house, and speak unto ALL the cities of Judah, who come to worship in YHVH's house, speak ALL the words that I YHVH Command you to speak unto them; do not eliminate nor forget even ONE WORD: Then perhaps they will hearken (shemah), AND every man choose to turn from his evil way, that I may console Myself of the evil which I YHVH purpose TO DO unto them BECAUSE of the EVIL of their doings. And you shall say unto them, THUS SAYS YHVH; IF YOU WILL NOT HEARKEN (SHEMAH, hear, listen, understand, believe, follow, DO and obey) ME, TO WALK IN MY TORAH, MY LAW, which I have set before you, To hearken (to shemah) to the words of MY SERVANTS THE PROPHETS, whom I SENT unto you, both rising up early, and sending them, BUT you HAVE NOT hearkened, (you did NOT shemah); THEN I WILL make this house like Shiloh, and I WILL MAKE this city A CURSE to all the nations of the earth.*

Therefore based on the vast amount of evidence found in Scripture, we must conclude that since Paul claims to be a minister of our heavenly Father, it means that he, like the Prophets of old, is a sent ONE, an emissary sent BY our heavenly Father, and he is doing exactly what our heavenly Father has commanded ALL of His Prophets, ALL of His SENT ONES, Paul is committed to live a Torah obedient life, exactly as Messiah did, and therefore he is committed to only speak and teach the Father's Word, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life. Now let us dive into the rest of the book of Romans and see what other pearls of wisdom that Paul is Teaching us.

Paul goes on to say in verses 6 & 7 *Among whom are you also the CALLED of Yeshua Messiah: To all that be in Rome, beloved of Elohim, CALLED TO BE SAINTS:* The word CALLED is the Hebrew word Qara, קָרָא, which forms part of the Name of the third book of the Torah, Vayiqra, וַיִּקְרָא, which means and He called, BUT it has been inappropriately named Leviticus by English translators, and in the book of Vayiqra, which means And He Called, YHVH tells us HOW to be Holy as He is Holy. This IS one of the ways that YHVH connects His Apostolic Scriptures to His Torah, to show us that **THEY COME FROM THE SAME AUTHOR, THE ELOHIM OF THE UNIVERSE**, and He does it through WORDS such as *And He Called* that directs our attention back to His Torah of Life.

Paul now compliments them all on their faithfulness and obedience to the Word of Elohim that he Paul, has delivered onto them, and says that he prays for them constantly. Can you see the pattern that was first established in the time of Abraham, continued through Isaac and Jacob, and then Moses, which Messiah perfected and now Paul is following that very pattern, and I believe we should all do likewise, and that pattern my friends IS that we are to pray without ceasing, we are to be constantly in prayer, we are to be intercessors for the people of YHVH, regardless of our differences in theology, for we are all brothers and sisters in YHVH, and we are all of a mutual faithfulness to the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and His Torah of Life made flesh, our Messiah.

Verses 8 & 9 First, I thank my Elohim through Yeshua our Messiah for you all, that your faithfulness is spoken of throughout the whole world. (Faithfulness to WHAT) 9 For Elohim is my witness, WHOM I PAUL SERVE with my spirit in the GOSPEL of His Son, our Messiah (the Gospel of Messiah, IS the Father's Eternal TRUTH, and the definition of the Father's eternal TRUTH is found in these verses:

*Ephesians 1:13 In whom you also trusted, after you heard the Word of **TRUTH, THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION**: in whom also after that you believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (Ezekiel 36:26-27)*

Now if the Gospel of Messiah is defined as *YHVH's eternal **TRUTH, THEN** we have to define what the biblical meaning of the Word **TRUTH IS**, and that definition my friends is found in these verses. Psalm 119:142 Your righteousness **IS an everlasting righteousness, and Your Torah (Law) IS THE TRUTH***

*Psalm 119:151 You are near, O YHVH, and **ALL Your COMMANDMENTS ARE TRUTH.***

*Psalm 119: 160 Your **WORD IS TRUE from the beginning**: and every one of Your **RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENTS ENDURES FOR EVER.***

*John 17:17 Sanctify them through **THY TRUTH: THY WORD IS TRUTH.***

As you can see for yourself, according to Scripture the Word **TORAH**, the Word **WORD** the Word **COMMANDMENTS**, and the Word **GOSPEL** are **ALL CALLED YHVH's TRUTH** which means that they are **ALL** synonymous terms. Therefore Paul is thanking Elohim the Father of Messiah for these peoples faithfulness in believing, following and obeying our heavenly Father's **TRUTH**, His Torah of Life

Now let's continue with the rest of *verse 9 For Elohim is my witness, whom I Paul serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, **that without ceasing** I make mention of you always in my prayers.* Here Paul makes it very clear that he serves the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, through Yeshua the only begotten Son of Elohim, and since Yeshua **IS** the Living Torah made flesh, and since Messiah says that apart from Him, we can do nothing, then that means that Paul serves the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob **THROUGH HIS TORAH MADE FLESH**, Messiah. **IT IS** of paramount importance that we all understand that Messiah **IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S LIVING TORAH**, and therefore the **ONLY WAY THAT ANY ONE CAN TRULY SERVE THE ELOHIM OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB IS** by willingly and lovingly **believing, following, Obeying and DOING** His Torah of Life. That revelation will take a major paradigm shift in most believer's minds.

Paul goes on to say that he has wanted to come and visit in Rome for quite a while because he wanted to enjoy some of the fruit that has been growing in Rome because he, Paul, had preached **the Torah, the Good News, the Word of Elohim, YHVH's TRUTH** (Psalm 119:142, Ephesians 1:13) to them in the past, and he says he has witnessed some of this fruit in other gentiles to whom he has preached the Torah of YHVH, and now he is looking forward to being a witness of **the fruit of the Living Word** that is in the people of Rome. Then Paul gives us great advice in that he tells us, **I AM NOT ASHAMED** of the Torah (the Gospel, the Good News, the **TRUTH**) of YHVH, for **IT IS THE POWER** of Elohim. That **IS** a very profound statement, because Paul says that the **GOSPEL** which is synonymous with YHVH's **TRUTH**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, the Living Word of Elohim, His eternal **TRUTH, IS THE POWER OF ELOHIM.** Can **YOU** accept that, can **YOU actually** accept the fact that YHVH **HAS ELEVATED HIS TORAH**, His Word to such heights, **THAT HE CALLS THE TORAH HIS POWER?**

We know and are told in Scripture that YHVH does **NOT** want His Name used in vain and that He **WILL** fulfill all that He has prophesied in His Word for His own Name's sake, which means that He will do everything to protect His Name, in order **NOT to** have it be blasphemed, and yet in Scripture YHVH Himself tells us that He has **ELEVATED** His Word, His Torah even above His Holy Name,

*Psalm 138:2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise Your Name for Your lovingkindness and for Your **TRUTH** (Torah): for You have magnified Your Torah (Word) above all Your Name.*

In *John 1:1-3* we get an idea of the power of the Word of Elohim. *Verse 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. 2 The same (meaning the Word of Elohim) was in the beginning with Elohim. 3 All things **WERE MADE BY HIM, (the Living Word made flesh); and without Him, without the Living Word, the Living Torah, WAS NOT ANY THING MADE THAT WAS MADE.***

Now let's discuss the other part of Paul's profound statement; I am **NOT ASHAMED** of the Torah (*Gospel, good news, Ephesian 1:13, the **TRUTH**, Psalm 119:142*) of YHVH. That is a very very profound and powerful statement that **WE**, the people of Elohim in the twenty first century, **MUST** take to heart and learn to follow in Paul's footsteps, for we live in a day of political correctness, where **IT IS** frowned upon to speak out the Words of YHVH's Torah, the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of YHVH, because it might **OFFEND** someone. We too, like Paul are **NOT TO BE ASHAMED** of the Torah of Moses, **IF WE ARE TO BE TRUE BELIEVERS IN MESSIAH**, the Living Torah, for Messiah Himself said in *John 5:46 For had you believed Moses, THEN you would have believed Me: for he wrote of Me. 47 BUT IF YOU DO NOT believe Moses' writings, HOW THEN SHALL YOU BELIEVE MY WORDS?* And in *Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall **BE ASHAMED OF ME AND OF MY WORDS** (My Truth, the Torah of My heavenly Father) in this adulterous and sinful (Torahless 1John 3:4) generation; **OF HIM ALSO SHALL** the Son of man, the Living Torah, **BE ASHAMED**, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the Holy angels. The **GLORY** of Messiah's Father **IS HIS INERRANT AND EVERLASTING TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONS, HIS TORAH**, His directives for everlasting Life, and the Torah, the Word of Elohim **IS** what Messiah will follow and Obey when He comes back as our conquering King.*

The reverse of the statement found in *John 5:46 **IS ALSO TRUE, IF WE DO NOT BELIEVE MOSES** (the Torah of Moses) **THEN WE WILL NOT BELIEVE MESSIAH'S WORDS EITHER.*** According to Paul **IT IS IMPERATIVE** that we learn to believe, obey, follow and actually **IMPLEMENT** the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of YHVH, the Torah of Moses given directly to Moses by YHVH Himself at Mount Sinai, YHVH's Torah of Life, in our lives, with the caveat that **WE ARE NOT TO BE ASHAMED OF IT, OR ELSE. ACCORDING TO MESSIAH< WE WILL NOT BELIEVE THE WORDS THAT HE SPEAKS!**

WHY are we **NOT TO BE** ashamed of the Torah of YHVH? **IT IS BECAUSE IT IS THE POWER OF ELOHIM UNTO SALVATION to EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVES;** to the Jew first, (the house of Judah) and also to the Greek (the house of Ephraim) and to **ALL** peoples that would join themselves to them. *17 For therein (in the Torah) **IS** the righteousness of Elohim (Deuteronomy 6:24-25 And YHVH Commanded us **TO DO ALL** these Statutes, to fear YHVH our Elohim, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.25 **AND IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL THESE COMMANDMENTS** before YHVH our Elohim, as he has **COMMANDED US**) revealed from faithfulness to faithfulness: **AS IT IS WRITTEN**, (this refers to the **WRITTEN TORAH** Of Moses, and **NOT** to the Oral Torah of Judaism, nor the man made doctrines of the Christian Church Fathers) **THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY BELIEF, FAITH** (emunah, faithful, faithfulness, obedience and full and complete adherence to the Torah of Moses, given to Moses by YHVH Himself at Mount Sinai). Paul **IS** telling us that the **JUST** shall **LIVE, BUT ONLY WHEN** they learn to **TRUST, BELIEVE, FOLLOW** and **OBEY***

YHVH and walk in His paths of righteousness, walk in total surrendered obedience to His Living Torah.

Paul says in *verse 18* that **ALL** unrighteous men, that means **ALL** men that choose **NOT** to follow the Word of Elohim, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of life, **THAT THESE MEN KNOW the TRUTH, because that which may be known of Elohim is manifested to them; for Elohim HAS SHOWED it unto THEM;** the **THEM** in this verse speaks of the men of unrighteousness, the Torahless ones, *1John 3:4*. It is virtually impossible **TO** misunderstand what Paul is saying here, when he says that **ALL ungodliness and unrighteousness of MEN, who hold the TRUTH, (Psalm 119:142) the Torah, in unrighteousness;** he is speaking of all men, for according to Paul there are only two categories of peoples, those that love, believe, trust and obey the Word of Elohim and live by it, live by the Torah, and those that **NOT only DON'T** love the Word of Elohim, **BUT** who instead think of the Word of Elohim as ancient and no longer applicable to them, and that these so called **OLD WAYS** of Elohim, His Torah, **ARE** antiquated and according to their **FINITE** wisdom, must somehow **BE DONE AWAY WITH**, and that describes most of the people of the world including most of the people of the houses of Elohim today.

Today's world **IS** now calling good, evil, and they have decided to call many acts of evil, good. There is an endless list of what people are now calling good, which YHVH has said **IS EVIL** and or an abomination to Him in His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, in His Torah of Life; things such as abortion, homosexuality, paedophilia, fornication, adultery, inter generational sex, stealing from one's employer and calling it perks, etc, as I said the list is endless.

Verse 19 IS very profound; it says *That which may be known of Elohim is manifested to them.* What **IS IT** that *may be known of Elohim?* **IT IS** His Word, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His creation, His Love, His provisional power and His holiness. How do we know that? All we have to do **IS** just look out of our windows and we can see for ourselves that there **IS A** Creator, and we can also see that He loves us by the care and attention with which He has created **ALL** things, including us, and furthermore we can see His provisional power, and how **HE** provides for us through the food that grows out of the ground for us. It is unmistakable, **IF ONE** simply looks at creation with an open mind and heart.

Now the next statement **IS** one of the most profound statements in **ALL** of Scripture, and I will attempt to give you my understanding of what it means.

Verse 20 For the invisible things of Elohim from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

How can something that **IS** invisible be clearly seen? What **IS** YHVH telling us here? YHVH is telling us that **ALL** of creation screams out that **THERE IS A CREATOR**. When we look at nature, at the air we breath, the trees, the plants, the water that keeps us alive and our place in the solar system, which are but a few among many things that we could look at, **WE HAVE TO CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS A CREATOR, BECAUSE ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE THAT IS ALL AROUND US, THERE IS NO OTHER POSSIBLE LOGICAL CONCLUSION,** and **IF** there **IS** indeed a Creator that **HAS DONE ALL OF THIS, THEN** rest assured that it has been placed in every man's heart to seek out their Creator. I believe that the desire to know the Creator of **ALL THINGS IS** deeply embedded in every man's soul, and **IT IS** up to every individual to choose to follow that yearning or suppress it.

Unfortunately many, many people suppress that instinct to seek out their Creator, who **IS** the reason they have life, and YHVH describes these people in *verse 21 Because that, when they KNEW Elohim*, I have to stop here for a moment and elaborate on this short statement. In this *verse*, Paul **IS** speaking of **ALL** mankind, from the beginning of time even up until our present day, and everyone that will be born in the future, when he says *when they KNEW Elohim*. What we have to understand **IS** that according to Scriptures, a measure of faith, a measure of belief has been given to every individual human being as we are told in *Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, NOT to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as Elohim has dealt to every man the measure of faith;* and with that measure of faith, we are to look to the Creator of all things for answers as to **WHAT OUR ROLES ARE**; however many choose to disregard that inner voice or conscience that YHVH has put in every individual, and they choose to walk their own paths, willingly suppressing their consciences that would lead them to Elohim.

Verse 21 Because that, when they KNEW Elohim, they did NOT GLORIFY HIM as Elohim, neither were thankful.

So as we read these Scriptures, I want you to understand that Paul **IS** telling us that **THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE PERSON THAT HAS EVER BEEN BORN THAT DOES NOT KNOW ELOHIM**. Can you wrap your head around that thought and believe what Paul is saying in that statement? Can you believe that the black man in deepest darkest Africa, or someone from the jungles of south America, or someone right here in our own back yard that has never heard or read the Gospel, YHVH's **TRUTH**, that they do indeed **KNOW** Elohim and are therefore without excuse?

The great **I AM** has **NOT** entrusted the knowledge that He exists to man, although mankind knows and **IS** aware that He exists, for YHVH **KNEW** that there would be those among men that would suppress the knowledge of His existence, and that over a period of time the world would be lost because man's heart **is evil and wicked beyond measure**, *Jeremiah 17:9*, so Elohim entrusted the knowledge of **HIS EXISTENCE**, to the rest of His Creation, to the trees, the plants, the animals, the sun, the moon, the stars, the water that gives us life, He embedded the knowledge of His existence in His Creation, and that **IS** why mankind **IS WITHOUT EXCUSE**, for the knowledge of the existence of our heavenly Father, the Creator of **ALL THINGS IS ABSOLUTELY EVERYWHERE**. In other words the invisible Elohim **IS** manifested **IN ALL THINGS THAT MANKIND'S EYES SEE AND INTERACT WITH EVERY DAY**.

To confirm that YHVH did **NOT** entrust the knowledge of His existence to man, and why He did **NOT**, YHVH says in *verse 21* what mankind did with the knowledge of His existence? **When they knew Elohim, THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS ELOHIM, neither were thankful; BUT BECAME VAIN in their imaginations, and their FOOLISH HEART WAS DARKENED. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, THEY BECAME FOOLS.**

Denying that there **IS** an Elohim, **IS** foolishness according to Scripture, *Psalm 14:1 The FOOL has said in his heart, THERE IS NO ELOHIM. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that does good;* and unfortunately for all of us, our world **IS** filled with a **LOTS OF FOOLISH PEOPLE**. I want you to pay very close attention as to how this *verse* begins; it begins with the words, **WHEN THEY KNEW ELOHIM**. Here, in this *verse* YHVH **IS** speaking of **ALL** of mankind, He **IS NOT** just speaking of a few people that **DID NOT BELIEVE**, He is speaking of all men and women ever created that have of their own accord willingly chosen **TO DENY** that there **IS**

A Creator, even though there **IS** overwhelming evidence of a **CREATOR** all around them, and since they **DENY HIS EXISTENCE, THEN**, in their thwarted and reprobate minds, they **DO NOT** have to obey Him, and **THAT IS WHY** my friends, **WHY IT IS** of paramount importance that we stand firm for YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **IT IS SO** that His Light, His Living Torah made flesh, our Messiah, the Light of the world that **IS** within us, **WILL SHINE THROUGH US** and bring the Living Torah's Light to this sad and lost world of ours, that is mired in darkness. Bringing YHVH's **LIGHT** unto a lost world **IS NOT** a position of privilege; **IT IS IS A POSITION OF SERVITUDE**.

Verse 23 tells us what mankind has done with the knowledge that YHVH exists. *And **THEY CHANGED THE GLORY of the INCORRUPTIBLE Elohim into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.*** In other words a majority of mankind has made gods of all kinds of things, *animals, the sun, the moon the stars, trees, birds* and the list **IS** endless, they have made gods of everything except the one thing that they should have and that **IS** the Elohim of Creation, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

In *Ezekiel 36:27* YHVH says, *I will put My spirit within you, and **CAUSE YOU** to walk in My Statutes, and you shall **KEEP, GUARD** My Judgments, and **DO THEM**.* But here in Romans we learn that people have **REFUSED** the gift of Elohim, they have refused His Holy Spirit, they have chosen **NOT** to allow the Holy Spirit of YHVH to **CAUSE** them to walk out His Torah of Life, and have chosen instead, in their hearts, to adhere to the belief that there **IS NO ELOHIM**, even though in their spirit they **KNOW THAT TO BE FALSE**, *verse 24 Wherefore Elohim also **GAVE THEM UP TO UNCLEANNESS** (uncleanness in Scripture **IS** Torahlessness, *1John 3:4*) through **THE LUSTS** of their own hearts, **TO DISHONOUR** their own bodies between themselves (sexual perversions): 25 (And these people are the **ONES**) *Who **CHANGED** the **TRUTH** (the Torah, Psalm 119:142) of Elohim **INTO A LIE**, (which means that in their minds and hearts they have chosen to do away with our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and have instead chosen to worship and serve **THE CREATURE** (their idols, their man made gods, their own man made doctrines, their man made oral torah) **MORE THAN THE CREATOR, WHO IS BLESSED FOR EVER.** Amen.**

When it says that YHVH gave them up to uncleanness, it means that He removed His Life giving Torah from them, therefore they wallow in their own unrighteousness, their own filth, their own sins, their Torahlessness, for **IT IS ONLY IN THE TORAH THAT WE FIND THE INSTRUCTIONS** on how to be Holy as YHVH **IS HOLY**, and what **IS** clean, tahor, טָהוֹר or unclean, tamei, טָמֵא and we are also told in Scripture that YHVH's Torah **IS LIFE FOR US WHEN WE WILLINGLY KEEP IT**.

Although Paul is speaking, a few years after Messiah's death, he is speaking to **ALL** of mankind, past, present and future, when he says, *they **CHANGED THE TRUTH, THE TORAH** into a lie, for the Torah of YHVH, His Word, His **TRUTH IS** from the beginning.*

*Genesis 26:4-5 And I will make your seed Abraham, to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto your seed all these countries; and in your seed shall **ALL** the nations of the earth be blessed; **BECAUSE** you Abraham, **HAVE OBEYED MY VOICE, AND KEPT MY CHARGE, MY COMMANDMENTS, MY STATUTES, AND MY TORAH, MY LAW.***

Today we have the houses of Elohim teaching YHVH's people that His **TRUTH**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His directives for everlasting Life, His Torah of Life **IS**

EITHER CHANGED OR SOMEHOW PARTIALLY OR TOTALLY DONE AWAY WITH, and that it has somehow been replaced or superseded with their own oral torah, and or their man made theologies and doctrines, and because of that circumstance, they are actually **SERVING THE ENEMY'S PURPOSES WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING IT**. That is deception my friends, and satan **IS** a master at it.

Next YHVH tells us what happens to people that choose to cast out His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instruction, His Marvellous Torah, which Scripture emphatically states **GIVES US LIFE** when we willingly and lovingly **OBEY IT** with surrendered contrite obedient hearts.

*Verse 26 For this cause Elohim gave them up **UNTO VILE AFFECTIONS**:*

- For even **their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature**
- And likewise also **the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward one another;**
- **Men with men** working that which **IS UNSEEMLY**, and receiving in themselves the recompense of their error which was due to them.
- And even as they **DID NOT LIKE TO RETAIN ELOHIM** in their knowledge,

Here, I have to stop and point out something. I want you to see and understand what Paul says, he says, **THEY DID NOT LIKE TO RETAIN ELOHIM IN THEIR KNOWLEDGE**. What this means **IS** that these people are making a **CONSCIOUS** decision **NOT TO BELIEVE** the Word of Elohim, **NOT TO BELIEVE THAT** Elohim's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **ARE STILL** in full effect today, **BECAUSE** the Torah, **HIS TRUTH according to YHVH, IS EVERLASTING**, and something that **IS** everlasting **DOES NOT NEED TO BE REPLACED**. When you make a choice, you normally **KNOW** or should **KNOW** both sides of the equation of what you are choosing **TO BELIEVE OR NOT BELIEVE**, or else **IT IS NOT A CHOICE**, and **IF IT IS NOT A CHOICE, THEN** you could **NOT** be held accountable for a decision that was made by you **IF** you had **NO** choice, **BUT** all men and women **HAVE A CHOICE, AND THAT IS WHY** YHVH can say that **ALL MEN** were created **EQUAL**. They can **CHOOSE TO BELIEVE** and surrender their hearts to the Elohim of Creation, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, **OR REBEL AND CHOOSE** to walk their own path, **BUT IT IS INDEED THEIR CHOICE**.

Let's continue; - *Elohim gave them over to a reprobate mind, **TO DO** those things which are **NOT** becoming;* So in the state of mind that these people find themselves in, which **IS WITHOUT THE TORAH OF ELOHIM**, without the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of YHVH, what kind of behaviour do they display according to Paul? *They are **FILLED WITH ALL**: 1 Unrighteousness, 2 Fornication, 3 Wickedness, 4 Covetousness, 5 Maliciousness, 6 Envy, 7 Murder, 8 Debate, 9 Deceit, 10 Malignity, 11 Whisperings (gossip), 12 Backbiting, 13 Hatred of Elohim, 14 Pride, 15 Boasting, 16 Despitefulness, 17 Inventions of evil things, 18 Disobedience to parents,* The number eighteen in Scripture represents bondage; and when people display these kind of characteristics, we can be assured that they **ARE** definitely in bondage and that they are governing their lives in and by their their own finite wisdom and understanding, and **NOT** by the Word of Elohim that when believed, followed and obeyed, **SETS PEOPLE FREE**.

AS YOU CAN SEE PAUL SAYS THEY ARE:

Without understanding (Deuteronomy 4:5-8), Covenant-breakers (Jeremiah 31:31-32), Without natural affection, Implacable, Unmerciful

Verse 32 They know the judgment of Elohim, that they who commit such things ARE WORTHY OF DEATH, AND KNOWING THAT, THEY NOT ONLY DO THE SAME, BUT HAVE PLEASURE IN THEM THAT DO THEM.

From *verse 29 to 32* there are twenty five attributes or conditions mentioned and in *verse 32* it says that these people ***KNOW THE JUDGEMENT OF ELOHIM***, they know in their hearts that what they are doing ***IS WRONG***, for Elohim has given every human being a measure of belief, faith, a conscience, and these people have chosen to disregard their own consciences and follow their own path, rather than the path of life, the path of Righteousness that the Creator has laid out for them.

We have come to learn that the enemy counterfeits everything that the Father does and this ***IS NO*** exception. The number twenty five in Scripture speaks of YHVH's righteousness and judgement. The Levites had to be twenty five years of age before they could begin their apprenticeship of service in the temple which ***IS*** a picture of YHVH's righteousness, our Messiah, the Living Torah. The enemy will always try and copy YHVH's formula for success, however the enemy adds his own twist to it and ***IT WILL*** always show up in the fruit that it produces, and the fruit of the enemy, ***IS ALL THE ATTRIBUTES WE HAVE READ ABOVE.***

This is a major paradigm shift for most people for they believe that ***IF*** someone has ***NOT*** heard ***THE GOSPEL***, or has not said the words, ***Jesus come into my life***, that they are not at fault, and yet here in *Romans 1*, Paul tells us that ***ALL mankind IS WITHOUT EXCUSE*** regardless of what era or location or circumstances they were born in.

As I have said many times before, YHVH did ***NOT ENTRUST HIS PRECIOUS WORD, HIS PRECIOUS LIFE GIVING TORAH*** to mankind to be brought to the four corners of the world, because of the evilness of man's heart, He entrusted His Torah, His Life Giving Word to His ***CREATION***, and ***ALL A PERSON HAS TO DO, TO KNOW THAT THERE IS AN ELOHIM, IS*** look outside their window and ***all of creation groans and travails in pain for the revealing of the sons of Elohim and His righteousness***, and only the unrighteous, rebellious persons are the ones that choose ***TO IGNORE ALL THE SIGNS***, the signs that prove that Elohim ***IS*** the Creator of ***ALL*** things, and that what He has prophesied in His Word ***WILL INDEED COME TO PASS***, for He ***IS OMNIPOTENT, OMNISCIANT AND OMNIPRESENT***. Let us ***NOT FALL INTO THE SAME TRAP THAT MANY OF YHVH'S PEOPLE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD HAVE FALLEN INTO***, and that ***IS*** the ***FALSE BELIEF THAT THE INERRANT AND EVERLASTING WORD OF YHVH, HIS LIFE GIVING TORAH HAS SOMEHOW BEEN CHANGED OR DONE AWAY WITH*** in whole or in part and that it has somehow been ***REPLACED*** with man's theology and man's doctrine, man's wisdom, man's oral torah, man's own man made gods, ***FOR THIS IS FALSE TEACHING OF THE HIGHEST DEGREE. HIS TRUTH, HIS TORAH IS ETERNAL*** Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עִלְיֵכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Ameinm