

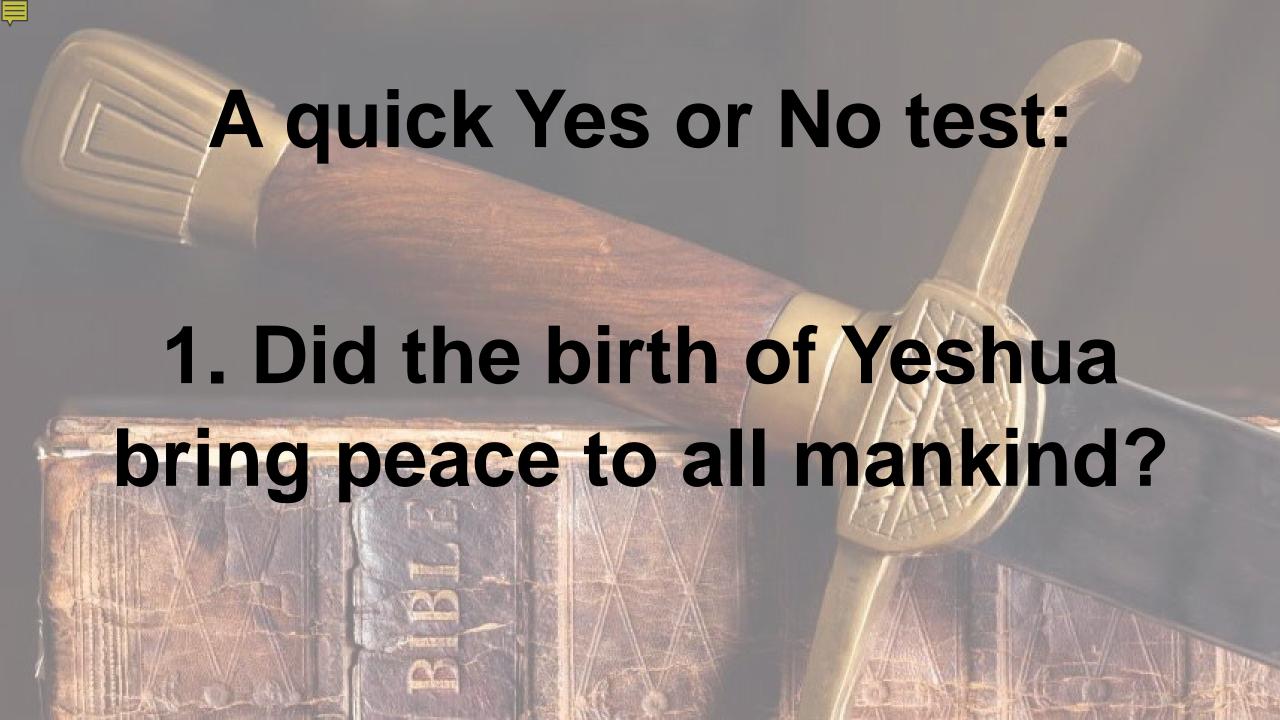
DISCLAIMER

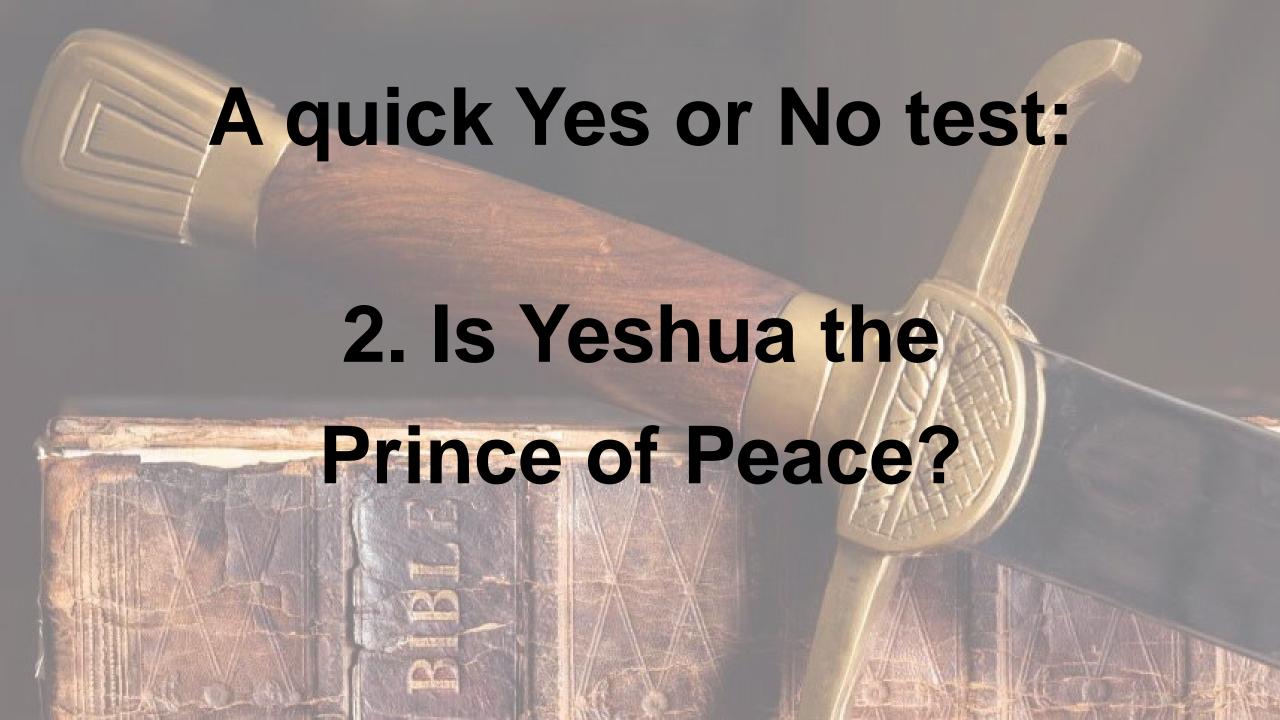
As with many of these kinds of teachings, this is not designed to create a crisis of faith. This is not an attempt to have anyone change their faith but to change the way we practice our faith and applying the sacred word to our lives so that we live the way Yahovah designed us to live

Jeremiah 16:19 KJV

¹⁹ O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.





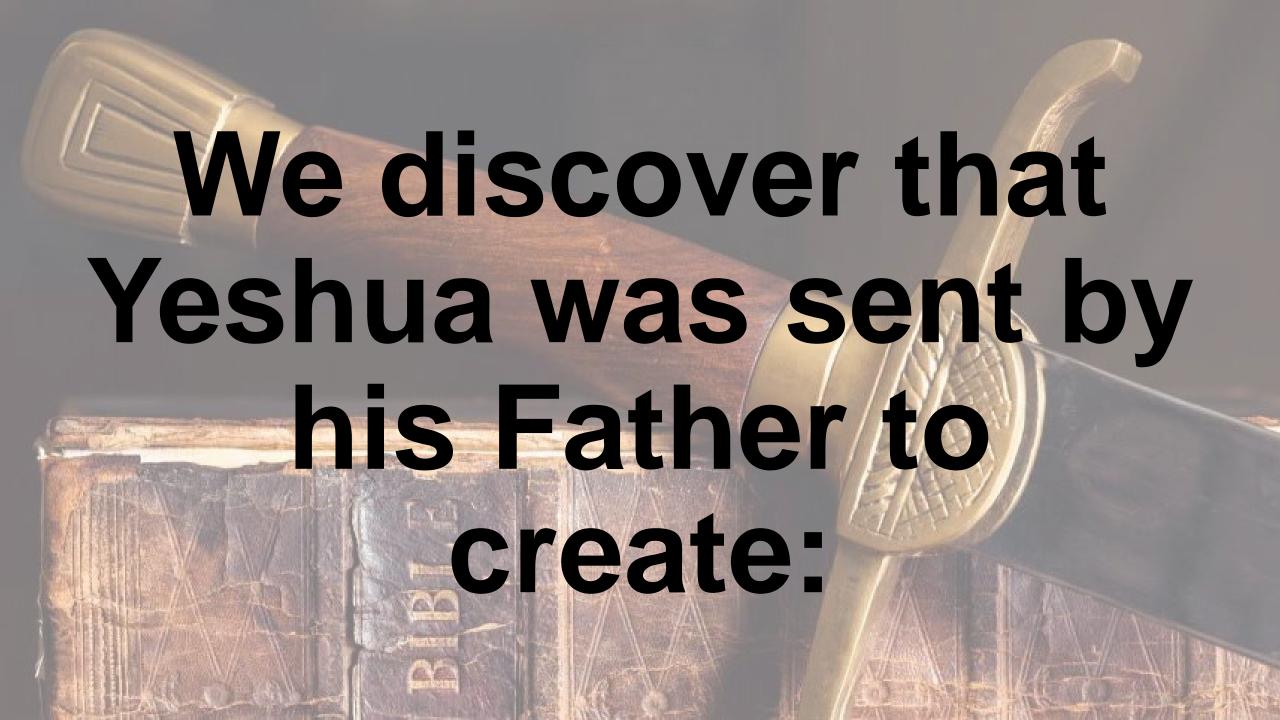


In Event # 143 of Yeshua's ministry
He teaches a multitude of His
friends after supper.

This is somewhere in the 45th-53rd week of his ministry

This event is only found in the Gospel of Luke

That event, and one verse from the Gospel of Luke, destroys a common misconception about Yeshua and his ministry.









However, after much research there are few Hymns of Division (and those often declare that division is bad).

In Anguished Grief, Groan Men Divided All From God Shall Nought Divide Me Tis Dividing The World Not Peace but Division

Earlier I indicated that event (#143) and one verse from the Gospel of Luke destroys a common misconception. That verse is Luke 12:51. Let's read that verse in context:

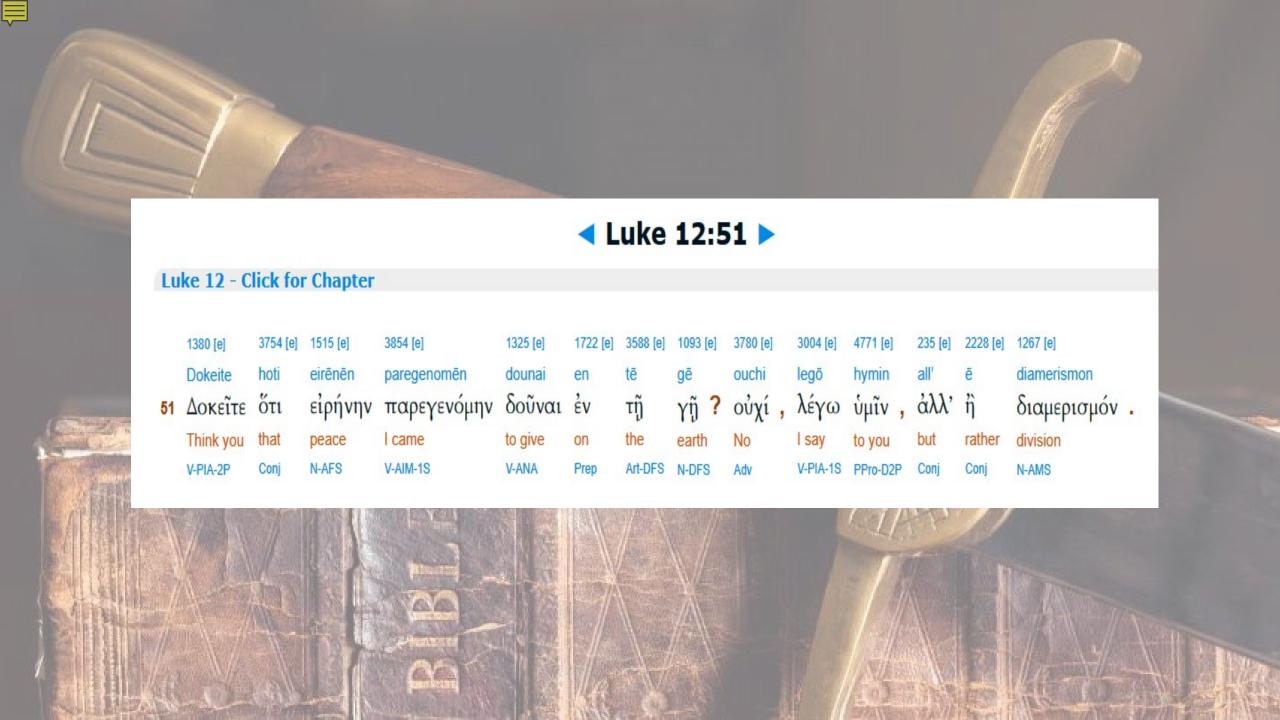
Luke 12:49-52 King James Version (KJV) I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: for from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three.

The same passage from the Hebraic Roots Bible

- 49 I came to hurl fire into the earth, and I desire it has been lit, if not already,?
 - 50 But I have a baptism to be immersed in, and I am greatly afflicted until it is fulfilled.
- Do you think that I came to give tranquility in the earth?

No, I say to you, But rather division.

⁵² For from now on five in one house will have been divided, three against two, and two against three.



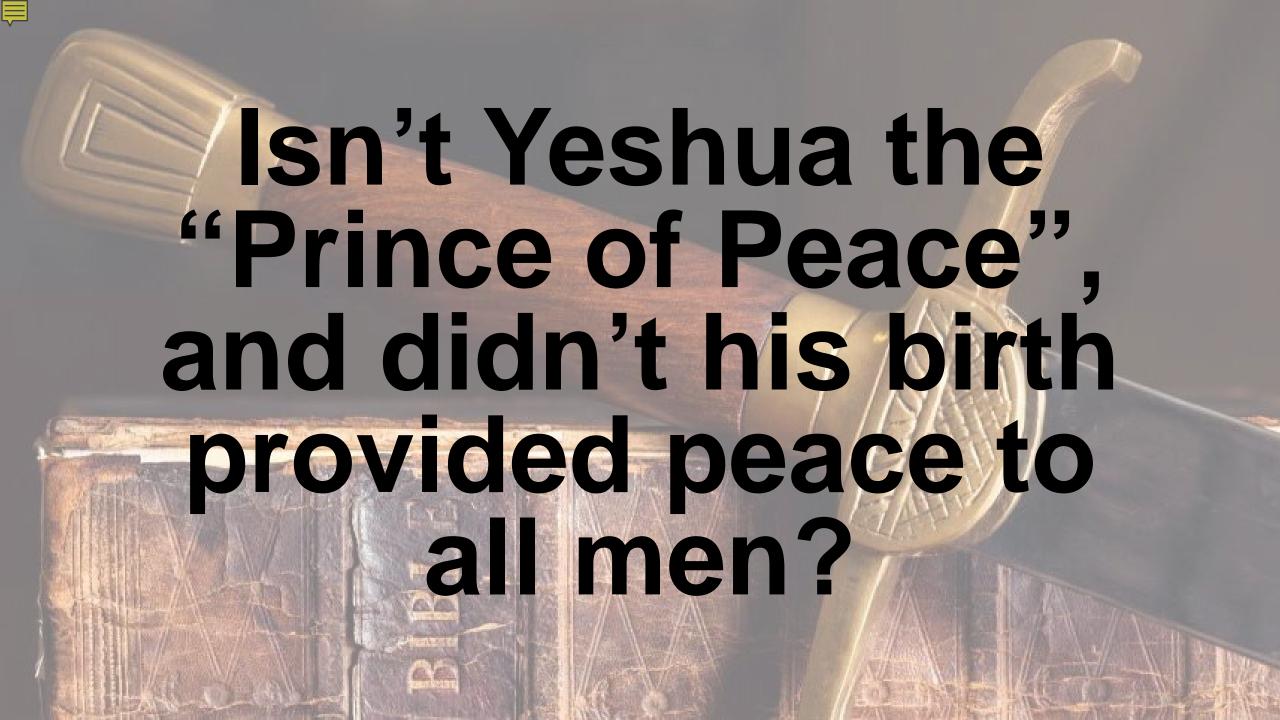
This may be the first time ever in my teaching history that I based a teaching on one verse in the Bible.

And that verse is Luke 12:51.

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Luke 12:51 — The New International Version (NIV)
                    51 Do you think I came to bring peace on earth?
                               No, I tell you, but division.
                           Luke 12:51 — King James Version
51 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:
                      Luke 12:51 — New Living Translation (NLT)
                   51 Do you think I have come to bring peace to the
              earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other!
                  Luke 12:51 — The New King James Version (NKJV)
                51 Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth?
                        I tell you, not at all, but rather division.
                       Luke 12:51 — New Century Version (NCV)
   51 Do you think I came to give peace to the earth? No, I tell you, I came to divide it.
                    Luke 12:51 — American Standard Version (ASV)
51 Think ye that I am come to give peace in the earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:
                       Luke 12:51 — 1890 Darby Bible (DARBY)
                51 Think ye that I have come to give peace in the earth?
                         Nay, I say to you, but rather division:
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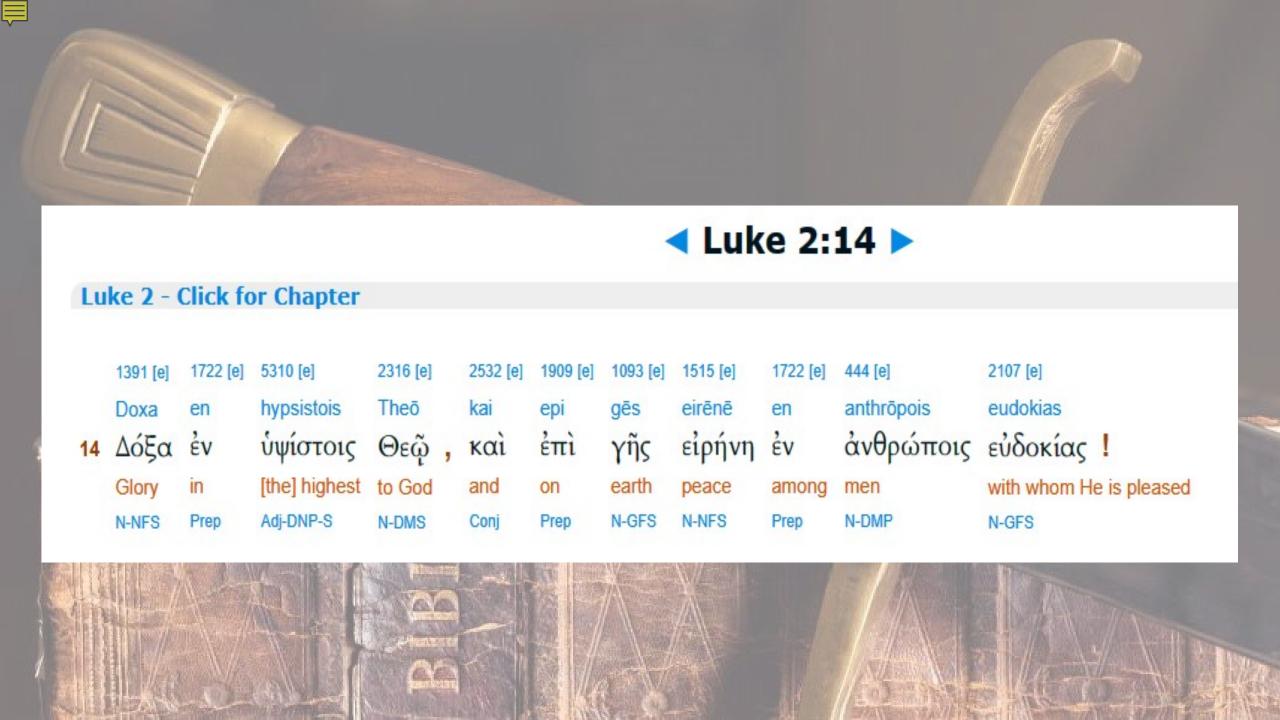


A similar verse to Luke 12:51 is Matthew 10:34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. (KJV)



This verse is translated in the KJV as:

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" where in reality the Greek translation expresses "men with whom he is pleased".



As we see in Luke 2:14 (when it is translated correctly), Yeshua does not come to provide an all-encompassing peace. Rather He is to provide "men with whom he is pleased".

Let me give you a little bit of background in the chapter that we're in. Luke Chapter 12 tells us that Yeshua was speaking to many thousands of people, probably tens of thousands of people. So many people were gathered together that they were stepping on each other.

Most of these people, however, already had made up their mind to reject Yeshua.

Yeshua was still the greatest curiosity in existence and the most profound teacher who ever lived. He attracted massive crowds, but most Jews stood with their religious leaders. They had been told by their leaders that Yeshua was satanic and a heretic.

Some of those there were His disciples. Some of them were apostles. Some had come all the way to faith and been called to ministry. Some of them were the Seventy who also had been sent out to minister for Him because they were true believers. Some of them had become believers and there were some who were still deciding about Yeshua. These are the people He is talking to in Luke 12.

In verses 49 and 50, we read: "I have come to cast fire upon the earth and how I wish it were already kindled, but I have a baptism to undergo and how distressed I am until it's accomplished."

Yeshua is looking at the one event that is the dividing event for all humanity. One event that divides people into two categories, not just in eternity but in time also. One event that separates, and that event separates everyone into two categories.

In Matthew 5 Yeshua summarizes why He's here. "I have come that they might have life and have it more abundantly. I have come not to violate the law but to fulfill the law. I have come to seek and to save that which was lost. I have come to be a light." Yeshua repeats often why He has come and each time you see that phrase. "I have come".

He came to give life, to give light, to seek and to save, but if you don't accept the things He offers, He has come to cast fire upon the earth." In the Bible, the image of fire is used to mean division – like people separated from each other by a wall of fire.

Or it can mean purification – like gold melted down by a very hot flame to remove impurities.

Consuming (destroying) something.

In verse 50 Yeshua says "I have a baptism to undergo," and again He says, "How distressed I am until it's accomplished." He understands that this baptism is necessary because He must bear the judgment for all who will believe.

Remember Yeshua is speaking to the Jewish crowd, many of whom (if not most) were expecting a Messiah who, by liberating them from Roman domination, would bring peace to Palestine.

They failed to understand that they themselves needed to first experience peace with Yahovah, and for that to be possible the Messiah must first die for their sins.

But most often 'fire' refers to judgment, and that's what it means here.

Yeshua says: "I have come to bring fire on the earth...".

He brings the day of judgment.

There are no contradictions in Bible. Yeshua will eventually be the Prince of Peace, but He will first bring division. "Peace" is the end, but a sword and division is the means.

"Life" is the end, but death—Yeshua's death, and His follower's "taking up His cross" is the means.

Yeshua says He's come now to bring division. Instead of uniting people in His kingdom, He divides them, and He divides them both in time and eternity. This is a very important point in Luke's gospel history.

The Gospel of John echo's this division.

John 7:43 — KJV

43 So there was a division among the people because of him.

John 10:19 — KJV

19 There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings.

The nature of this message in Luke 12 is that it's a call to salvation. It's a call to come to Him, to come into the kingdom of salvation, to receive the forgiveness and redemption that Yeshua brings.

The Israelites had neglected or overlooked the sequence of events which was to bring in the Kingdom of God. They looked forward to the "day of the Lord" as the day of salvation, rejoicing, and blessing, but they forgot that the day of the Lord begins with judgment.

The division which Yeshua speaks of here has several interesting features. First, there is a division which occurs within the family, in which the closest human bonds are to be found.

Second, there is a polarization which is described, Those who have come to faith in Yeshua will join together, while those who have rejected Yeshua will find a new bond, a new basis of unity: opposition to Yeshua.

This is how the Pharisees (the right wing conservatives of that day) and the Sadducees (the liberals) could join together in rejecting Yeshua and in opposing Him, and ultimately in orchestrating His death.

Third, there is some allusion to the role of "authority" in this division. Allegiance to Yeshua takes precedence over all other authority.

There is no way that we can avoid pain and suffering. The one who follows Yeshua will suffer now, and will renounce certain of life's present pleasures, but will experience limitless joys later.

The core of this is the idea of choice. Yeshua forces a choice on everyone. You either accept Him, and who He is, or you do not. You are saved, or lost. You are his follower, or his enemy. There is no middle ground. He recognizes that not everyone will choose him. Hence, the world has division.

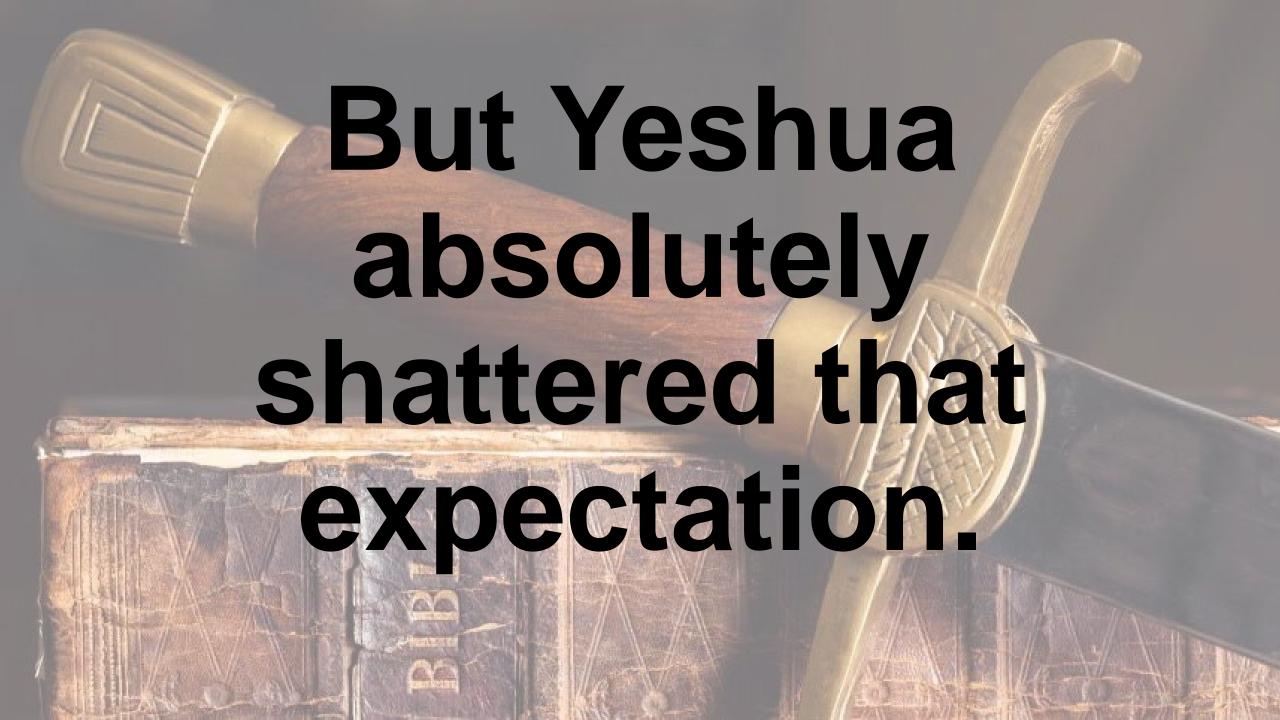
The prevailing Jewish idea of that time was that the Messiah would defeat Israel's enemies and usher in an age of peace. The angels declared at His birth, "peace on earth" and Yeshua Himself often extended peace to individuals.

Yeshua clarifies matters so that the disciples are not surprised by the growing opposition. Yahovah's peace is extended only to those who respond favorably to His offer of forgiveness in Yeshua. Those who refuse Yahovah's offer of peace remain His enemies (Romans 8:7).

Those who are not for Yeshua are against Him (Luke 11:23). The offer of the gospel necessarily divides people into two opposing camps. There is no neutral ground. There is division.

Popular perception in the world concerning Jesus is that He was a man of love who came to bring peace; that His message was peace on earth, peace through love.

This is the age old misconception about Jesus and it's reinforced at the Christmas season because people are reminded that a Child is born, a Son is given and He's going to be called the Prince of Peace. The angels, announced to the shepherds that He would bring peace on earth and even the Jews had this expectation that when the Messiah came, peace would come with Him.



The Jews remembered Isaiah 9:6, that He would be a Prince of Peace. They remembered Isaiah 55, which said He would come to bring peace, and Isaiah 66 which said He would come to bring peace, and Ezekiel 34, the promise of the New Covenant was a promise of peace, and Ezekiel 37, another promise that with the coming of the New Covenant would come peace. Certainly there was every reason to anticipate that the arrival of Messiah would produce a time of peace.

But as we've seen, there will be no kingdom of peace until salvation comes to the heart, so in place of peace comes division. Yeshua, who came as the Prince of Peace, becomes the great divider, becomes the source of disunity and separation.

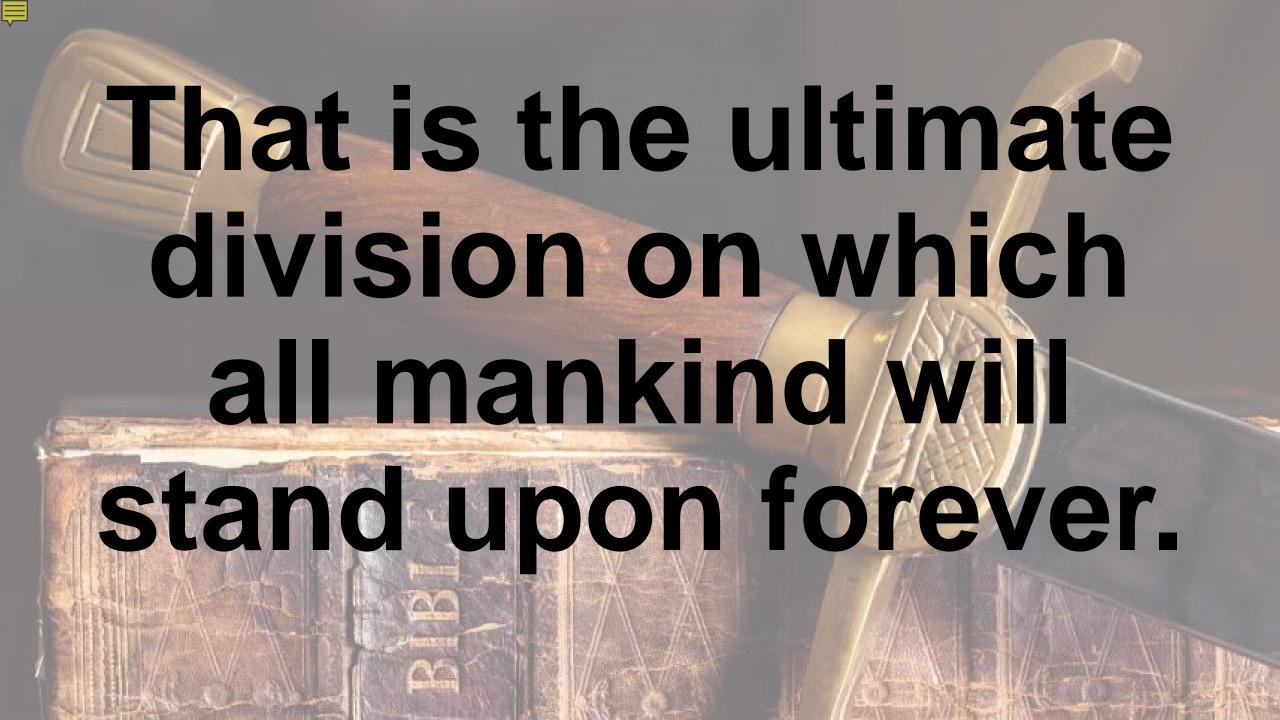
Yeshua is the great divider. The Cross is the great dividing event and at that point, we're divided. We're divided for eternity and we're divided in this time. He calls for sinners to choose blessing and reward with Him rather than punishment in the Lake of Fire.

Yeshua the Great Divider; if you embrace Him, He will be to you, the Prince of Peace. There will be some division in this life but you will enjoy a peace that passes understanding.

And there will be in the future a revival, a great revival, when Israel will come to salvation and people from every tongue and tribe and nation will come to salvation and then the Kingdom of Peace will come.

For those who embrace Yeshua, that peace comes now and it comes forever.

The division is clearly between those who believe in Him for salvation and eternal life, and those who reject Him and refuse to believe in Him and receive the due penalty of eternal death.



Your friends or family may misunderstand you after you start living for Yeshua. Some may accuse you of thinking you're too good for them. Others may shun you.

In that way, Yeshua is a divider of families, friends, and co-workers. It hurts to be ridiculed or rejected by those close to you, but Yeshua said it would happen.

Yeshua is a divider of peoplebut if you are united with Him, He will never leave you.

