

A Messianic Statement of Belief

What do we, as Messianics, believe in?

Part 1

Christian churches, for centuries, have grappled with what they believe in.

What a Church believes in is called a "Statement Of Faith"

The problem is that any Statement of Faith must be careful not to violate either of the following two prohibitions in the Bible

Matthew 5:18
"For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished".

Deuteronomy 12:32 "Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it".

So we have, in Yahovah's own words, the prohibition of adding to or subtracting from, what is said in the Bible.

Yahovah makes it very clear that doing so in the "end times" is not acceptable as well.

(You know I like to include the "end times" in all my teachings).

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Yahovah made it quite clear the sanctity of what he wrote.

Unfortunately, many churches disregard the Bible, and go their own way, creating their own religious systems.

In fact, it is estimated today that, there are over 40,000 Christian denominations alone

To put an end to this confusion in the early church, religious leaders met and developed the Nicene Creed

This was a Statement of Belief adopted at the First Ecumenical Council in 325 AD

The Nicene Creed is a statement of belief widely used in Christian liturgy. It is called Nicene because it was originally adopted in the city of Nicaea by the First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD.

In more modern times this Creed has been called the "Apostle's Creed".

Let's look at that creed. Does it actually reflect what Messianics, or for that matter, Christians believe in?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in
Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who
was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of
the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died and was
buried; he descended into hell; on the
third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Let's break down this Creed

"I believe in God,"

There were hundreds of gods throughout history.
Who is being referred to here?
Yahovah – why not say it?

"and in Jesus Christ".

Who is Jesus Christ? The son of Mr. & Mrs. Christ?

Christ comes from the Greek word χριστός (*chrīstós*), meaning "anointed one".The word is derived from the Greek verb χρίω (*chrīō*), meaning "to anoint." In the Greek Septuagint, *christos* was used to translate the Hebrew מָשִׁיחַ (*Mašíah*, messiah), meaning "[one who is] anointed".

"who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried";

What kind of statement of faith would ignore everything Yeshua, did or taught?

Yeshua,'s entire ministry is missing

"on the third day he rose again from the dead;"

How do you get three days and three nights from Good Friday to Easter Sunday.

It's impossible.

Why is this significant?

Matthew 12:40 – "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the Bible that

This is the one thing in the Bible that identifies who the true Messiah is.

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church"

The Catholics write this Creed with a capital "C". Protestants do so with a lower case "c". Why?

Do we believe in the "Catholic" Church? Do we believe in the "catholic" church?

I was once told by my pastor that "catholic church" meant "universal church". What does that mean?

The Methodist Church defines this as "it refers to the wholeness of the whole church in all times and places".

Huh?

A simple creed might just say: "God Is. He rewards those who diligently seek him".

A1 Administrator, 6/15/2020

Are the "Nicene" or "God Is" creeds all there is to OUR faith?

Is this all that a Messianic believes in?

Does this cover everything that Yahshua, did, said, and taught?

What is everything the Yahshua, did, said, and taught called?

The Gospel Of The Kingdom

Any Creed for a Messianic must include references to this "Gospel Of The Kingdom".

When we started this Fellowship I had the responsibility to put together our Statement of Faith.

Not being a glutton for punishment I took the easy way out.

I "borrowed" what others had written and modified statements to what I, as a newly minted Messianic, felt that Messianics believed in.

I put the statements together and they've been published on our website ever since.

So what are those beliefs?

Are they correct? Do they need to change?

Messianic Delaware Statement Of Faith

God (Yahovah) is the one true God over all creation and always has been (Deut 6:4).

Yahovah is the God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob.

Through His Word, Yahovah created the universe in six days (John 1:3). On the seventh day he commanded us to rest. His Word would eventually be revealed as His Son, Jesus (Yeshua,).

"Yeshua," is the Messiah's Hebrew name; it means "Yahovah is our salvation." Jesus is the transliteration of the Hebrew "Yeshua," into the pagan Greek name "leosus (Praise Zeus)" and then into the English "Jesus".

Yahovah sent His Word and Instructions (His Law) in written form (Torah) for the purpose of helping us understand the difference between right and wrong and creating patterns in life that will bring blessings and connection with Him. (Gal 3:19).

Throughout the Torah and the Bible as a whole, Yahovah describes prophetic shadow pictures of good things to come. These shadow pictures often have multiple meanings based on their context (pre-Yeshua, during Yeshua's ministry, and post-Yeshua/end-times).

The Torah is not to be confused with religious systems and practices created by man. Yahovah declares that no man may add to, or subtract from, what was said in the Torah. (Matthew 5:18)

The "Word" that God spoke in Genesis to create the universe was the same Word that was sent in John 1:1 to become flesh. This "Word" that dwelt or tabernacled among us is called "Yeshua."

Yeshua is the prophesied Messiah of the Old Testament, the Son of God, creator of Heaven and earth, sent by His Father.

Yeshua is divine in origin and is Yahovah (Is 44:6, Rev 22:13).

Yeshua's purpose is to get mankind to believe through faith that His death satisfied the requirement of the Torah and thus, through His resurrected blood, mankind would now be set free from the law of sin and death and have a way back into covenant with Yahovah. (Rom 7, **Deut 24, etc...)**

In order to be saved one must first understand that he has broken God's perfect law and is condemned because of his sin to eternal destruction away from the presence of almighty God (Deut 11:28, Rom 6:23). He must then accept Yeshua in his heart and believe that outside the death, burial, and resurrection of Yeshua there is no way for salvation. In doing so he is grafted into Israel.

At the point of conversion it is the responsibility of the believer to submit himself to the teachings of his new "Rabbi Yeshua," to be baptized (immersed) into His name, and to follow Him all the days of His life (Luke 9:23, 1 Cor 9:24).

We believe the gifts of the Spirit were in existence in the past and are still active today (1 Cor 12:1-11).

What God destroyed on the cross was the penalty that the Law of God demanded as payment for breaking it. We are no longer under the law of sin and death but are under grace as Paul says in Romans 6:14. What was destroyed at the cross, in fact, was the power of sin and its penalty over all of mankind, not the laws given by Yahovah in the Torah.

We believe in honoring the Father by keeping His commandments the best that we can for today. The Torah identifies 613 commandments, most of which are applicable to us today.

Through His death, Yeshua took over the High priesthood, and because of His perfect blood sacrifice, His Father would be forever satisfied, and man would now always have the ability to come into the presence of Almighty Yahovah (Heb 9:11-12) through the blood of the Lamb.

Someday, our Messiah will come back to Earth to redeem all those that are His (those that have been grafted into Israel) (Rom 11, Eph 2). Then He will reign from the New Jerusalem for 1000 years (1 Thes 3:13, Rev 20:4).

After that period, God will raise up the rest of the dead, and the entire Earth will be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:5).

All those that do not have their names written in the Lamb's Book of Life will be thrown into the Lake of Fire, and God's enemies will be no more (Rev 20:11-12). Until then, we are to remain faithful to the work to which He has called us, which is to "Love the Lord God with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

We do this by studying His Word, following what it says, and obeying his commandments as listed in the Torah.

The 66 books of the Bible, although chosen by men, were inspired by Yahovah. They are 100% accurate in their purest, original language and form.

The scriptures are the final authority on all doctrine and all matters of which it speaks. Those scriptures must be understood in the context of time, language, and Hebrew tradition. Time is based on Yahovah's calendar, not those of man.

Yahovah is the top authority. The next layer of authority is Yeshua. The oldest male in the family is then the High Priest of the family, answering only to Yeshua. The protection that we have is that we all submit one to another in the fear of Yahovah. (Eph 5:21)

We've seen throughout this evening what a "Statement of Faith" is, what it should be, and what we've been using at Messianic Delaware.

Next time we meet, I'm going to introduce you to another Statement of Faith.

A revised Apostle's Creed.

A statement of faith that, hopefully, covers the entire extent of the "Gospel Of The Kingdom"

