

The Messianic, Torah observant, Hebrew roots and similar assemblies are now well established under the Christian umbrella. The rise and continuing tsunami of this division has been, and is remarkable.

To fully comprehend just how far and wide this movement has reached, please search with your favorite browser. Sufficient to say, the Messianic movement is a surging wave of change which they feel is a return to true discipleship and worship based on strict observance of Scripture.

It is not our purpose to survey the differences between these variations of the Hebrew roots persuasion, but rather review the basis of the rapid rise and research some of their core claims made against the mainstream. For the purposes of our present exercise, we shall simply use the term Messianic to embrace all with Jewish leanings.

It is a growing feature of social media to see the "Shabbat Shaloms" and isolated scripture memes supporting Law observance that enthusiastic Messianics are posting. They are flooding the market so to speak. Many of these brethren have an infectious enthusiasm for their cause. This may be fueled by their view that they are more in obedience to God and perhaps coupled with their sense of "liberation" at having freshly escaped and separated from the unlawful Sunday worship mainstream Christianity. The call to "come out from among and be ye separate" is often aimed at Sunday worship Christians.

It is acknowledged that, for now, the Messianics are not demanding a return to Law observance for redemption and righteousness. They readily affirm they too rely on faith in Christ alone for deliverance from sin and death. But, once we are saved, they claim it is imperative we obey the Christ who told us to keep His commandments. The combination of the common faith in Christ position and the many Scriptures which call for Law keeping persuade many to heed their message. Here are just a few New Testament passages you will find posted on social media from Messianic adherents, and as stand-alone passages they can be very soul searching for the non-Messianics;

[If ye love me, keep my commandments.](#) Joh 14:15

[Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.](#) Joh_14:23

[If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.](#) Joh_15:10

[And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.](#) Mar_7:9

The Messianics have volumes of Scripture to support their Law keeping ambitions including Sabbath observance. Let's face it, most of the Old testament and the New is Jewish and this alone gives them grounds for their point of observance. But is this volume of Scripture the only sound basis of a worthy walk? The appeal to live like our Savior Christ is very strong for this group. He kept the Sabbath, He kept the Passover so why shouldn't we? This is a strong argument, superficially. Many of them feel they are closer to their Messiah when the live

like He did, do what He did, and even dress like the Jews. If doing those things was the only way to be close to our Lord, they might have a point.

In this series we shall examine the following, along with other issues related to the Messianic point of view;

1. The Sabbath; is Saturday the Lawful worship and fellowship day for us? And what about traditional holidays like Christmas?
2. The Law; should Christians obey, and live out the Law to be faithful and obedient?
3. Spiritual Israel; are we offspring of the lost ten tribes, does faith in Christ make us the true Israel of God or a Jew inwardly?
4. Commands; if we find a command in God's Word, then obviously, we need to obey it but is this true?
5. Come out from among them and be ye separate. The call to leave every denomination that does not meet on Saturday.
6. How should we walk worthily today? We want to please our Lord but how does daily living show our faith, what things are appropriate for us today.

While this undertaking will not be a complete examination of all that needs to be addressed regarding the Messianic surge, it should suffice as a springboard for further research. Let us begin by reminding ourselves of this passage from Paul, The advice here is as crucial today as when it was first penned;

Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. 2Ti 2:15

We are responsible for our walk. We are responsible for what we think, do and say as we follow our Lord. I will do my best to present some Scriptures according to the Bible study rules, but I am not the director of your conscience, neither should you believe me or anyone else who might appear to have convincing arguments.

I realize that finding a Godly pathway is not easy with the myriad of voices out there, but we can find the way that is appropriate for today. Is it the Messianic, Law abiding Sabbath keeping way? We hope to find out.

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While I believe we should all maintain a Berean spirit and search and see, Acts 17:11, the method of using isolated texts which appear to demand an observance of the Law, and the constant use of such, does not make for reasoned discussion.

It might be that the success of these movements is largely based on the wide divisions within Christianity itself. Who has "the truth" and can we ever find it anyway? Many believers are church hopping trying to find a place of worship and doctrine which makes them feel comfortable, rather than spending the hours it takes to rightly divide the Word of Truth.