

# SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

John  
5:39

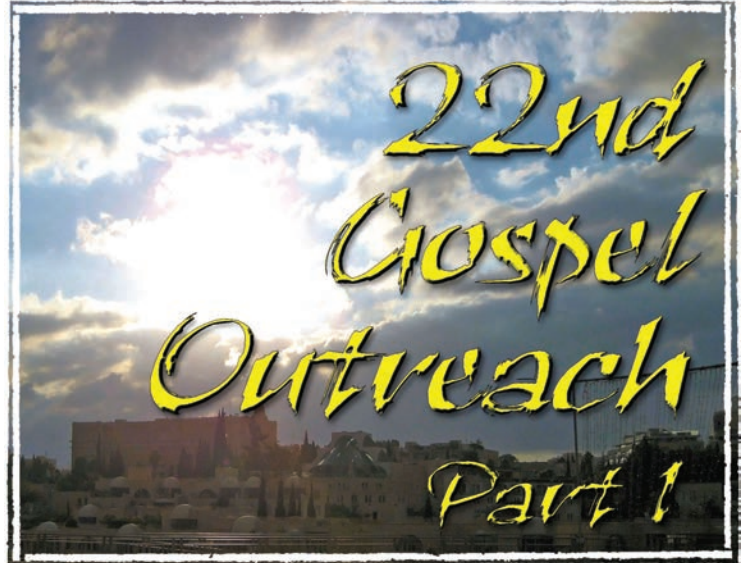


A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

Volume 10, Number 1

Jan/Feb 2012

## THE WORD OF GOD IS NOT BOUND: TAKING A STAND FOR YESHUA AT THE WESTERN WALL *(2 TIMOTHY 2:9)*



**O**n this 22<sup>nd</sup> Gospel outreach, Harvey Zion and I went to the Western Wall to pray and minister the word of Yeshua. Arriving at the security entrance, I was abruptly stopped by the security detail after they let my co-laborer in the Lord, Harvey Zion, go through. I was not allowed through after my carrying bag was searched and they discovered it was full of Hebrew Bibles with



by  
Todd Baker

the New Testament and Messianic Gospel tracts giving biblical and historical proof for Jesus being the Messiah exhorting the Jewish people to believe in Him as Lord and Savior.

Three security guards poured through my bag and carefully examined the Bibles and Messianic Gospel literature. This was the first time in my 25 visits to the Wall this happened and each time I had my bag checked and passed by security with the same Bibles and literature in my bag.

After their prolonged search they condescendingly and sternly said I would not be allowed entrance into the Kotel (Western Wall) with these kinds of materials! One guard flat out said Jews do not accept such things even when one of the guards ironically showed interest by reading one the Gospel tracts I said he was free to take and read! Here I was being refused entrance from the very place where the second temple stood and the Messiah called His Father's House, where so much of Yeshua's ministry took place (John 2:16; Luke 2:48). I also tried to assure them to no avail that I don't just go

around and indiscriminately pass the Bibles out to just anybody, especially with video cameras being present everywhere! Emboldened, I refused being barred access and forcefully made the case for what I was doing. I told security my ministry is devoted to the welfare and spiritual benefit of the Jewish people. What I was bringing them originally came from them and was first offered to them from God and Yeshua the Messiah, first sent to them. I further told them I come to bless Israel with the Gospel about Yeshua being the Messiah. I only offer the Bibles and tracts to those who are truly interested. Now the Western Wall security team was trying to deny me entrance because I came in the name of Yeshua – a name wrongly considered profane and unclean among many Orthodox Jews. Security had admitted to me their fear of the hostile reaction to me from the Orthodox for coming in the name of Jesus and bearing His Word in the Bible!

I held my ground and refused to be turned away. I reminded the security detail that Israel was a democracy which allowed for freedom of religion and free speech. At this point they decided to call the police patrolling the area to come and examine my Bibles and Messianic reading materials. While waiting for the police to

*Continued on page 6*



**Dr. Todd Baker and Harvey Zion**

As always, special thanks go out to Zola Levitt Ministries / To The Jew First Ministry for their ongoing funding contributions to B'rit Hadashah Ministries, helping to make these mission trips to Israel possible.

# “The Sodomization of the U.S. Military”

This nation is in serious trouble in the eyes of a Holy God! The article below says it all and I am in total agreement with the author! It was written during the third week of September 2011 when the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy of barring homosexual behavior in the military was formally rescinded by the Obama administration allowing the free reign of homosexual activity to pervade the U.S. military. God is not mocked. He unequivocally states in His word that anyone or any nation who approves, supports and defends the perversion of homosexuality will fall under His judgment and receive the due punishment for accommodating, accepting, and indulging in this abominable and lawless lifestyle (Romans 1:22-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; 1 Timothy 1:8-11)!

Todd

Written on September 22, 2011 by da Tagliare

## Homosexual Military a Sign of God’s Judgment?

This week saw the end of the long standing ban on homosexuals serving in the military. This is truly a sad day for our normal men and women serving their country. With the new rules, they will find themselves at times being forced to put themselves in possibly compromising positions with sexual perverts that would even make me extremely uncomfortable and distracted from my duties.

I’ll make no bones about it. Homosexuality is not normal. It is not a normal way of life. God calls it an abomination in Leviticus 20:13: “If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.”

If it is supposed to be a normal and acceptable lifestyle, why would God speak so harshly against it? I also can’t understand how so many homosexuals claim to be Bible believing Christians and say that the Bible does not condemn their sinful ways. Men and women who stand in the pulpit as preachers of God’s Word and tell their congregations that God says it’s

okay to be that way are liars and should be defrocked and run out of the church.

God looks at those who commit same-sex sex the same way he looks at murders and adulterers, all of which are punishable by death.

What’s even more upsetting is how the public school system has been teaching children as young as kindergarten and first grade that homosexual perversion is normal and should be accepted. Jesus warned us about leading children astray in Matthew 18:5-6, “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

Business, state and federal governments, public schools and now the military are openly endorsing and approving of homosexual rights and homosexual lifestyles. This is a true sign of God’s judgment on America which can be found in Romans 1:18-32: “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their

bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God’s decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”

This describes America to a tee and also presents a very scary picture for the future. Every time a society has become as decadent and immoral as America is today, God has destroyed that nation and ended their rule. His judgment is felt by all, even those that remain righteous and faithful. Look at Daniel and his friends who were captured, made slaves and thrown into the fire for failing to bow to the king. If America does not repent and turn from its wicked ways and stop approving of such perverted and sinful ways, then we are surely headed to God’s swift and complete judgment. God’s judgment will be unavoidable to all. I don’t know about you, but that scares me more than things such as nuclear war, famine, disease, physical abuse or anything else that could possibly happen. †

### Search the Scriptures

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Elisa by e-mail at:

[bhm@brit-hadashah.org](mailto:bhm@brit-hadashah.org)

or by mail at:

B’rit Hadashah Ministries  
P.O. Box 796127  
Dallas, Texas 75379-6127

Visit our website at:

[www.brit-hadashah.org](http://www.brit-hadashah.org)

(Read more: Homosexual Military a Sign of God’s Judgment? | Godfather Politics

<http://godfatherpolitics.com/1070/homosexual-military-a-sign-of-gods-judgment/#ixzz1YoDX6P9z>)

# The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

(Matthew 18:23-35)

## Part 2



<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. <sup>26</sup>The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ <sup>27</sup>Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ <sup>30</sup>And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. <sup>32</sup>Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘you wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And his master was angry, and delivered him to the tormentors until he should pay all that was due to him. <sup>35</sup>So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

The prophets were considered the servants of God in both the Old and New Testaments.

**“I have sent also to you all My servants the prophets”** (Jeremiah 35:15).

**“But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished as He has declared to His servants the prophets”** (Revelation 10:7).

We see conclusively, from Scriptural testimony, the servants in the parable of Matthew 18 unquestionably refer, for the most part, to the saved people of God in the Church. The parable opens with the personal accountability of each Christian servant before Jesus Christ the great King. The servants in no way reflect unsaved individuals. The wicked servant of verse 24 is *assumed* as being saved for the simple fact that he is reckoned among the other redeemed servants before the King. But later upon the King’s judicial discovery, the unforgiving servant was not a true servant at all; and therefore was unsaved. This parable, then, for the most part, deals with the personal conduct the individual members in the kingdom of heaven display towards one another in the area of forgiveness during the present age. On the day of reckoning each individual will give a personal account of his behavior and actions of this life to the omnipotent King God Almighty. For the believer, this sobering event will ultimately happen at the judgment seat of Christ after the Rapture of the Church occurs prior to the Second Coming of the Lord to the earth. For the unbeliever, his day of reckoning will occur

at the solemn, terrifying Great White Throne Judgment Seat of Christ after His literal thousand-year reign on the earth. **“For we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ”** (Romans 14:10). Both believer and unbeliever alike remain personally responsible for their conduct of living. They **“shall give account to Him that is ready to judge the living and the dead”** (1 Peter 4:5).

In the introduction of this parable, Our Lord designates man in the role of a servant. How divinely accurate this is of each one of us as creatures of volition under the sovereignty of the Almighty who possess a subjected will to either serve sin or righteousness, to serve Satan or God. Man is a servant of whomever he chooses to obey. **“Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey: whether of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness”** (Romans 6:16).

Countless millions today are still oblivious of this simple, undeniable truth. **“No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other”** (Matthew 6:24). The arresting conscience of the Holy Spirit stirs every man’s heart with the burning, unavoidable choice of decision: **“Choose you this day whom you will serve,”** God or the devil (Joshua 24:15). You cannot render obedience to Satan through sin and simultaneously render obedience to Christ through righteousness. You cannot commit sin and serve Christ at the same time. For those who habitually commit sin are servants of sin and Satan (John 8:34; 1 John 3:8).

*continued on page 4*

Man is primarily a creature of subservience. He will either obey the devil through the “old man” which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts of sin, or as a redeemed child of God, he will obey Christ through the “new man” which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. A man is a slave to whomsoever or whatsoever has mastered him. **“For of whom a man is overcome the same is he brought in bondage”** (2 Peter 2:19). There are, consequently, two kinds of servants mentioned in verse 23 of Matthew 18 who are accountable to the King of glory: the servants of righteousness and the servants of unrighteousness who are both in the outward, professing sphere of the kingdom of heaven during the present age. Every man, woman, and child who has lived, is living, and yet to live will, in one sense or another, directly or indirectly serve God knowingly or unknowingly, whether saved or unsaved—**“For all are Your servants”** (Psalm 119:91). Subsequently, all who have ever lived in the human race will give an account of himself in the kingly presence of Jesus Christ. The unsaved at the judgment bar of God will find out to his great horror that God, indeed, recalls each one of his unatoned for sins and will most certainly bring every one of them into judgment. The unbeliever will have nothing more to do but frighteningly say, **“But now You number each of my steps and take note of my every sin. My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and You glue my iniquity to preserve it in full for the day of reckoning”** (Job 14:16-17 Amplified Version of the Bible).

The omniscient eye of the Lord sees and knows everything about us. **“But all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account”** (Hebrews 4:13). The Lord will take account of all men. None of us are exempt from the spiritual accounting of God. **“So then everyone**

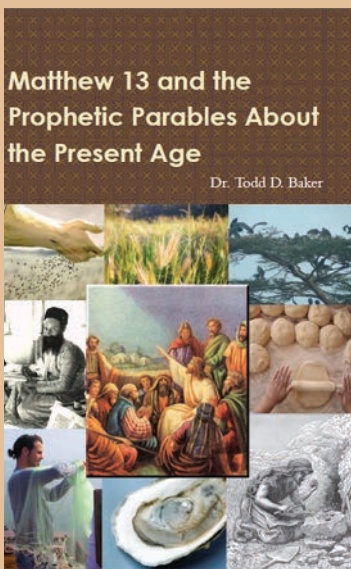
**shall give account of himself to God”** (Romans 14:12). The reckoning in verses 24 and 27 does not refer to the final reckoning to come. God often reckons with the believer and unbeliever in this life through various means: by the reproof of His Word, by corrective trials and testings, or by the conviction of unconfessed sin, and finally by the preaching of the Gospel and persuasive work of the Holy Spirit. Some Bible commentators claim the reckoning of verses 24 through 27 refer to the Great White Throne Judgment of Christ (see Revelation 20:11-15). But the final reckoning cannot be alluded to in Matthew 18:24-27 simply because the final reckoning of the Great White Throne Judgment will be strictly conducted on impartial grounds. In verse 27 the text tells us the Lord had compassion on the indebted servant. No such pardoning grace will be given at the Great White Throne Judgment, nor will a fellow servant be thrown into prison by another fellow servant in the everlasting kingdom to come where **“there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain”** (Revelation 21:4). The ultimate reckoning of God shall be unbiased in its execution. **“For all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He; who without respect of persons judges according to every man’s work. He that does wrong will receive for the wrong which he has done; and there is no respect of persons”** (Deuteronomy 32:4 1 Peter 1:17; Colossians 3:25). The Lord alone has the authority to consign a soul in the infernal prison, not man (see Matthew 10:28; Luke 12:5). The consignment of the unsaved soul in hell, as represented by the unmerciful servant, is, perhaps, alluded to in verses 32 through 34 of Matthew 18. However, prior to this, there is no other mention of it in the preceding verses of the parable. ✠†

**Do you enjoy the teaching of Dr. Todd Baker?**

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Todd has a new book available for purchase on our website and soon to be in online stores like Amazon and Barnes & Noble! Buy your copy of *Matthew 13 and the Prophetic Parables About the Present Age* for \$18. (This book will soon be available in **Spanish!**)



## About the Author

Dr. Todd Baker is president of B'rit Hadashah Ministries and Pastor of Shalom, Shalom Messianic Congregation in Dallas, Texas. He was a chaplain at Medical City Hospital for fifteen years. Todd holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biblical studies, a Master of Theology Degree from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Apologetics from Trinity Seminary under the auspices of Liverpool University at Liverpool, England. He is a theological consultant and writer for Zola Levitt Ministries and has appeared on Zola Levitt Presents. With his extensive experience in Jewish evangelism, he has led several Gospel outreaches to Israel. †

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## 23rd Gospel Outreach to ISRAEL! March 11-27, 2012

**P**lease begin praying with us for our 23rd mission trip to the Holy Land. Todd will be joined once again by Kenny Gee on this outreach, and we ask that you please be praying for them before and during the trip. Here is our Prayer List for Mission trips to use as a guide:



- ☆ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).
- ☆ Pray that we have the Father's wisdom and guidance in everything we do (Psalm 32:8; 48:14; Colossians 4:5).
- ☆ Pray for witnessing opportunities (John 4:35; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8).
- ☆ Pray that God will open the hearts of those who will hear (Psalm 110:3; Acts 16:14).
- ☆ Pray that God will give us the boldness to proclaim the Gospel to the Jew first and also the Gentile (Acts 4:31; Romans 1:16; Ephesians 6:19).
- ☆ Pray for spiritual unity and agreement among us (Psalm 133:1).
- ☆ Pray for our health, protection, safety, and God's protection from the hand of the enemy, both seen and unseen (Psalm 91; Matthew 6:13).
- ☆ Pray for spiritual fruit that will last (John 15:7-8; Galatians 5:22-23).
- ☆ Pray for favor among the Chosen People as we share the Gospel with them (Proverbs 12:2).
- ☆ Pray that the Chosen People will come to faith in Messiah (Christ) Jesus (Romans 10:1; Matthew 15-16; Mark 8:27-29, 14:61-62; Luke 9:18-20; John 4:25-26).

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## B'rit Hadashah Ministries

P.O. Box 796127  
Dallas, Texas 75379-6127

e-mail: [todd@brit-hadashah.org](mailto:todd@brit-hadashah.org)

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#### 22nd Gospel Outreach *Continued from page 1*

come, I noticed one of the security guards took a strange interest in one particular Gospel tract. Twenty minutes later the policeman showed up and security explained the situation to him. He then came over to look at the contents in my carrying bag. As he looked through it, I reminded the policeman the Bibles and Messianic reading materials came from the Jewish people and was for their ultimate benefit that Harvey and I return these back to them.

The policeman shrugged his shoulders at the security guards, as if to suggest they had inconvenienced him over something which did not merit the negative reaction of the security detail. He then told me I was free to enter the plaza and Western Wall. Incredibly, one security guard who showed a noticeable interest, as I mentioned earlier, quietly asked me if he could take one of the Messianic Gospel tracts to read. I said, "Absolutely. This is why I am here - to let you know about why Yeshua is the Messiah of the Jewish people as proven by history and Scripture."

Upon further reflection I could not help but think of Paul being summarily escorted out of the temple because the unbelieving Jews falsely accused him in Acts 21:27-29 of bringing unclean people into the temple area. And here I was being barred from bringing Yeshua's word and Gospel into the very same general area 2,000 years later! Sadly today in Israel there are still unbelieving Jews who would prevent fellow Jews from learning about the truth of Jesus and His

Gospel of salvation. But the Lord prevailed in my situation over the unbelief of men and the Word of God in Hebrew, including the New Testament, was placed in the synagogue at the Wall and prayer for the salvation of Israel was given by Harvey and me. **"For the Word of God is not bound"** (2 Timothy 2:9). ✠✠✠



**The Kotel (Western Wall) in Jerusalem**