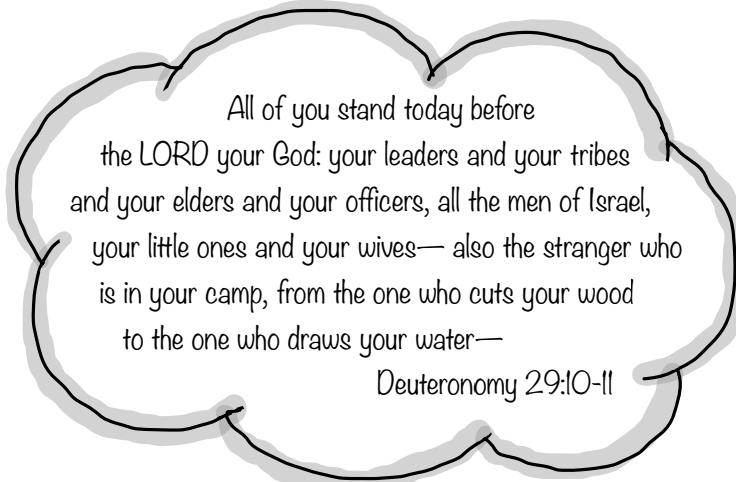


# Nitzavim

בָּצָבִים

“Standing”



In this week's Parasha Moshe (Moses), a prophet of God, spoke the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded him to make with the Children of Yisra'el (Israel). These words were in addition to the covenant which God made with them at Mount Sinai/Horeb. Moshe spoke these words from God while in the plains of Moab to all the redeemed people who had survived or been born during the wilderness journey from Egypt.

The people standing before Moshe had seen God's judgment upon the nations He delivered into their hand. Moshe warned the people that God would send this same destruction upon them when they worshiped the gods of these nations. Moshe cautioned the people not to be deceived, believing their idolatry would not be judged by God because they had been redeemed by Him. Moshe spoke truth to them, explaining that every curse of God's law would fall upon them if they chose to go after, serve and worship other gods. The curse from God for this type of behavior would also affect the Land of Promise. The land would suffer, but it would obey God by not producing for the disobedient people. In this way the Promised Land God had given them to possess would assist Him in judging the people. As a result of God's judgment the Children of Yisra'el would be scattered among the nations, away from God's presence, protection and provision. This covenant would be ongoing from generation to generation.

Moshe continued to inform all the people that when they suffered the curse of God for idolatry and sin, they and their children must return to the LORD God with all their heart and all their soul to obey His voice.

**“I make this covenant and this oath, not with you alone, but also with him who stands here with us today before the LORD our God, as well as with him who is not here with us today.”** Deuteronomy 29:14-15



## First Pray

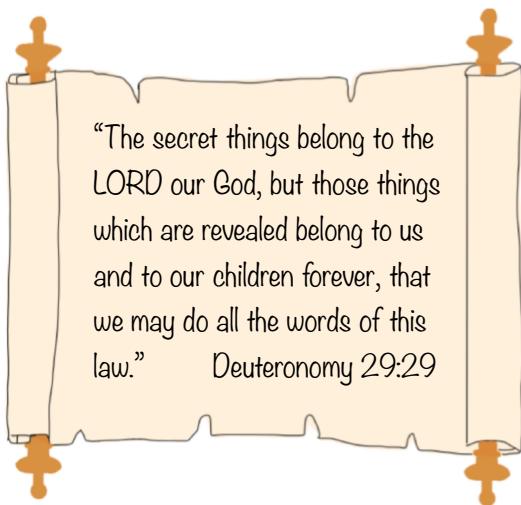
Father God,

We thank You for cutting the covenant of redemption with us through the Blood of Your Son, Messiah Yeshua, Who is our LORD and our Savior. Because You love us, You must judge our idolatry and sin. Please help us understand this truth and confess our sin to You. Thank You for forgiving us when we seek Your mercy and grace. Please teach us the truth of Your Scriptures and help us demonstrate our love for you by obeying Your Word.

In Yeshua's Name we pray. Amen

## Next Read

Deuteronomy 29:10-30:20



## ~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~

Deuteronomy 29:29-30:14

In Deuteronomy 30:1-4 we learn that Moshe informed the Children of Yisra'el and all those standing with them **what** would happen after they had experienced the blessing of God as the result of their obedience and then the curse of God as the result of their disobedience while living in Yisra'el, the Land of Promise.

When the Children of Yisra'el refused to agree with God, choosing to continually disobey His commandments, God would use other nations to discipline them and ultimately drive them out of the Land of Promise. This curse from God would force them to live in exile among the nations away from the presence, protection and provisions of the LORD God. It would not be possible for the Children of Yisra'el to fulfill their set apart purpose of glorifying God by obeying His commandments, statutes and judgment while living outside the Land of Promise. Lack of obedience to the Word of God is a form of spiritual idolatry that always leads to serving and worshiping false gods instead of serving and worshiping the One True God of Yisra'el.

Moshe informed the people that in the future when they were living in exile and they remembered the words of the covenant to include the blessing and the curse it contained, God would remember them. When they returned to the LORD God to obey His voice with all their heart and all their soul, then the LORD God would bring them back from captivity and have compassion on them. He would gather them again from all the nations where He had scattered them. Even from the farthest parts under the heaven He would gather them to bring them back to Yisra'el, the Land of Promise.

Do you know there are approximately 7,208,000 Yisraelites/Jewish people currently living in the Land of Promise? Today more Jewish people live in Yisra'el than in any other part of the world, and the number continues to grow! By contrast in 1948 when the LORD God began bringing the Children of Yisra'el back to the Land of Promise, there were approximately 603,000 Jewish people living in the land of Yisra'el. God always keeps His promises!

**"Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers."**

Deuteronomy 30:5

In Deuteronomy 30:6-10 we learn as the Yisraelites suffered, living apart from God in exile from the land of Yisra'el, He would cause them to remember the words of this covenant. In their despair they would return to the LORD God and seek Him by desiring to obey His commandments. Then, and only then, would the LORD God circumcise their hearts and the hearts of their children. Remember, this is a spiritual circumcision that brings death to the flesh so that new life can begin.

Only when the Children of Yisra'el return to the Promised Land, demonstrating their desire to live in submission to God by loving the LORD God with all their heart and soul, will the outcome of God's redemption be realized. The outcome of God's redemption is the establishment of His Kingdom on earth. When this occurs, the LORD God will put curses on the enemies of Yisra'el. He will put curses on all those who hate Yisra'el and persecute her. Yisra'el will again obey the commandments of God which Moshe commanded them to obey before going into the Land of Promise to possess it.

When the Children of Yisra'el and those attached to her obey God by seeking Him with all their heart and all their soul, He will once again bless them in all the work they do. God will bless them with the birth of many healthy children. Their livestock will increase and the land of Yisra'el will produce good crops for them to consume. All these things will happen because the LORD God will once again rejoice over the Children of Yisra'el, just like He rejoiced over their fathers when they obeyed His voice and pursued His purposes.

In Deuteronomy 30:11-14 we learn that God very clearly and simply stated His expectations for His redeemed children. God's expectations are not a mystery, nor are they too difficult to know, understand and follow. God's expectations for His redeemed children have been revealed to us and belong to us and our children forever. However, the secret things belong to God. For example, **when** will all these things come to pass? You might be asking yourself this question. The answer is a secret, and only God knows the answer.

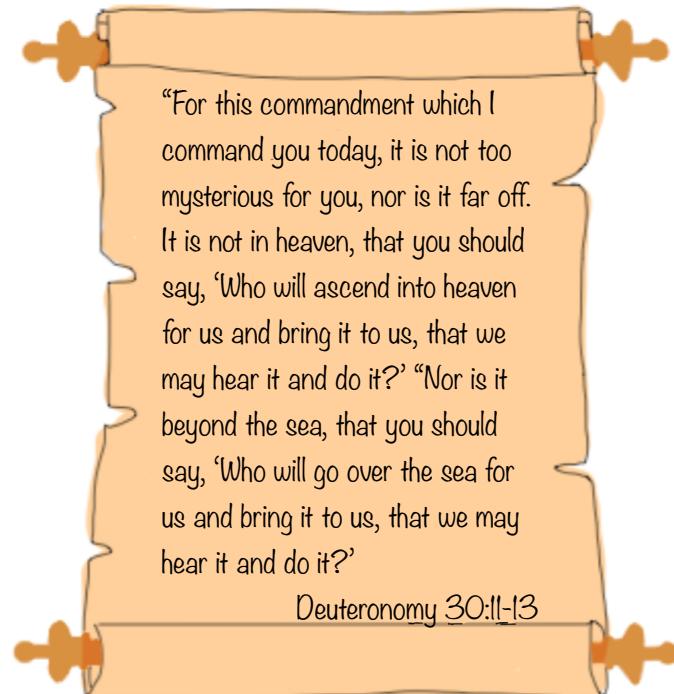
Have your parents given you any household rules to follow? Are you aware of the punishment you should receive when you disobey your parents? In the space below write a list of all your parents' expectations for you.

#### Household Rules:

1.

2.

3.



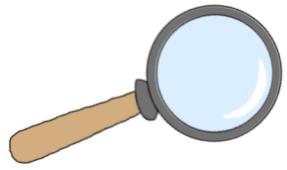
#### Consequences for Breaking Household Rules:

1.

2.

3.

Next, ask yourself the following questions:



1. Do I always obey my parents?
2. Have I ever thought my parents weren't aware that I disobeyed them?
3. Have I ever thought I could disobey my parents and make it up to them in another way?
4. If my parents don't discipline me immediately when I disobey them, do I believe their rules are not as important as when I first received them?
5. If I really want to do something my parents don't approve of, have I ever done it anyway?
6. When I disobey my parents do I tell them and ask them to forgive me, or do I defend my disobedience with excuses for my behavior?
7. Have I ever lied to my parents to make them think I have obeyed them?
8. When I disobey my parents and they don't discipline me, does it make it easier for me to disobey them again?
9. Am I demonstrating my love for my parents when I disobey them?

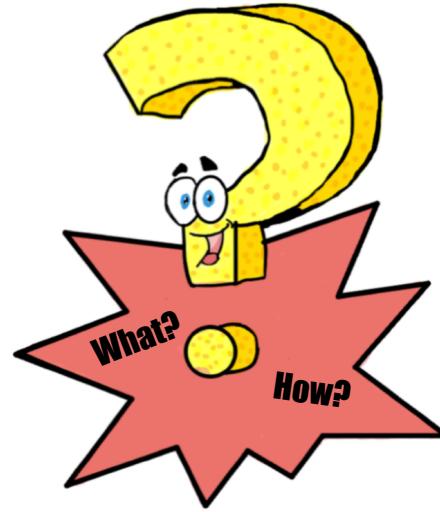
If you were honest when you answered the above questions, you may have a better understanding of how the Children of Yisra'el suffered the curse from God. Perhaps God delayed His punishment to give them time to self correct and come to Him, expressing their sin and their need for forgiveness. Perhaps your parents give you this opportunity as well. Maybe they don't discipline you immediately in order to give you time to self correct and come to them confessing that you did not obey them and you are sorry.

Whatever the situation, if you continue to disobey your parents, sooner or later they will respond by disciplining you. Although you know the rules and the consequences, you do not know when you will receive your punishment. It is only after you have been disciplined by your parents that your relationship with them can be restored.

Since you know your parents' expectations for you, it is best to honor them by obeying their rules. The same thing is true with God. We know His expectations for us, and we know that He will discipline us if we do not obey Him. The best thing we can do is to honor Him by obeying His commandments. When we acknowledge God for Who He is and what He has done by obeying His commandments, we are demonstrating to Him and others that we are His children and we love Him. When the Children of Yisra'el consistently ignored these truths from God, they received His curse just as He had stated in His covenant with them.

# Haftarah

Isaiah 61:10-63:9



Prior to the death of Moshe, God promised that once the Children of Yisra'el had experienced both His blessing and His curse, He would bring them back to the Land of Yisra'el. This clearly answers the question - **What** will happen after Yisra'el experiences God's blessing and curse? But it does not answer the question - **How** will Yisra'el fulfill the purposes of God once they have returned to the Land of Promise?

In this week's Haftarah the prophet Yeshayahu (Isaiah) spoke the Words of God that clearly and simply answer the question of **how** the Children of Yisra'el will be used to fulfill God's plans and purposes for the world. The power of God will make it happen! It is very important for us to remember that God's plans and purpose for Yisra'el to be a light and a blessing to the nations while living in the Promised Land will be fulfilled, because nothing can stop the will of God!

The Spirit of the LORD God revealed to Yeshayahu that he will rejoice in the LORD, and his soul will rejoice in his God because He has dressed him in garments of salvation and in robes of righteousness. When one trusts in Messiah Yeshua's work of redemption on the tree, he is declared righteous by God because Yeshua has taken the punishment for that person's sin. That one receives the Holy Spirit within him to teach him the proper order of God which enables him to demonstrate righteousness through obedience to God's Word.

When the Children of Yisra'el trust in Messiah Yeshua's work of redemption on the tree, they will be transformed as a groom ministers glory and a bride adorns herself with jewelry. A joyous change is coming to the Children of Yisra'el. Just as it is the LORD God Who causes the earth to spring forth its produce, the LORD God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth from His people to demonstrate His Glory to all the nations of the world. After God brings the Children of Yisra'el out of exile and back to the land of Yisra'el, they will be saved from total destruction by God and they will trust in their LORD and Savior, Messiah Yeshua. Messiah Yeshua came the first time to give His life so that we could be redeemed from our sins. When He returns, He will establish the Kingdom and perfect order of God in the world.

This transformation that can only occur by the power of God! When it occurs, both joy and happiness will be displayed. The LORD God will cause righteousness to spring forth and praise to God will be heard before all the nations. These things exhibited through the Children of Yisra'el from the land of Yisra'el will be a testimony to the world about the Kingdom of God from the land of Yisra'el.



When Yisra'el accepts her Messiah, Jerusalem will be transformed by God into its Kingdom state known as Tzion (Zion). God will speak just as He did at creation, making these changes occur. As a torch burns and gives off light, so will the righteousness of Tzion blaze from the Kingdom of God for all the nations of the world to see. God will give Yisra'el a new and permanent name. The people of God will become a crown of glory fashioned by the hand of God, demonstrating His authority in their lives as they submit to Him.

No longer will anyone say the Children of Yisra'el are forsaken or abandoned by God. No longer will the land of Yisra'el be called desolate. For the LORD God will delight in the Land of Yisra'el and

exercise His Lordship over her. This will produce a wonderful change in the people of God, and He will care for and rejoice over the land and the people of Yisra'el!

These changes in the land of Yisra'el by the power of God will fulfill the plans and purpose for His set apart people in His set apart land. Those who pray for the will of God to become a reality through the people and land of Yisra'el will not rest until God has accomplished His will on earth by establishing Jerusalem/Tzion as the praise of the world.

The LORD has sworn by His right hand that He will accomplish these things by the power of His strength. No longer will the LORD God allow the world to exploit Yisra'el. All those who have labored faithfully according to God's promises to Yisra'el will eat in her holy courtyards.

The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the world that salvation is coming to Yisra'el! When this miracle of God comes to pass, a banner of victory will be lifted up as the highway is prepared, and the stones are removed for the people to pass through her gates. Messiah Yeshua's reward will be with Him as the outcome of His redemption is accomplished to establish the Kingdom of God. Those who are a people set apart for redemption will be called Sought Out by God, a City Not Forsaken.

When Messiah Yeshua returns, He will come from Edom. His garments will be stained with blood from His judgment of the descendants of Esav (Esau) at Botzrah. By the greatness of His strength He will destroy the enemies of Yisra'el and deliver her from their hand. He will utterly destroy the sons of Edom and save the sons of Ya'kov (Jacob). He will do this because Esav and his descendants have consistently opposed God's plans and purpose for the Children of Yisra'el/Ya'kov and the land of Yisra'el since before Esav was born.

Messiah Yeshua will accomplish the salvation of Yisra'el and the destruction of her enemies alone as He executes His Father's judgment upon all those who have opposed the plans of God. He will march with the greatness of His power, and the source of His wrath will come from Himself.

When Messiah Yeshua returns to earth, the day of vengeance will be in His heart. He will destroy everything that is not righteous and just, because the year of His redemption has come. No one but God knows **when** this will happen.

Messiah Yeshua is the upper arm (zeroah) that was sacrificed to pay the debt owed for the sins of the world. Following His sacrificial death, He was raised from the dead by His Father. He will return to pour out His Father's wrath on all who have not trusted in Him and have stood in opposition to Him. Messiah Yeshua is mighty to save the remnant of Yisra'el in order to accomplish the outcome of His redemption, the establishment of God's Kingdom in the land of Yisra'el.

After Messiah Yeshua has poured out the fierce wrath of God on all those who have joined together to oppose Yisra'el and her purpose, He will extend His grace again to Yisra'el. His abundant goodness to the house of Yisra'el will be according to His unlimited mercy and grace.

All those who have experienced His redemption will not lie, and He alone will become their Saviour. Messiah Yeshua has also endured all the terrible things Yisra'el has suffered by the hand of the enemy. In His love and compassion He has redeemed Yisra'el and preserved her for His final day of redemption. This final outcome of redemption achieved by Messiah Yeshua alone will fulfill His promised plans and purpose for the people and the land of Yisra'el. God will demonstrate His faithfulness over His land and His people just as a groom rejoices over his bride.

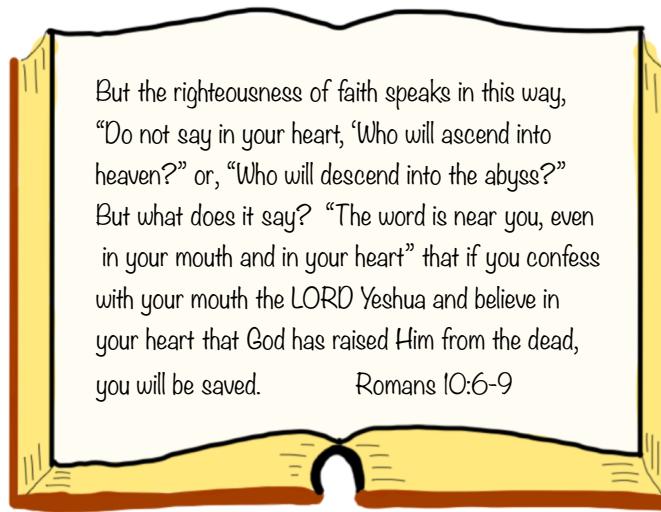


**Do you understand that when you disobey your parents it is because you have a lack of faith in them?**

**The same is true with God. When we disobey Him, it is because we have a lack of faith in Him and His Word.**

# New Testament

## Romans 10:1-13



But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' or, 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" But what does it say? "The word is near you, even in your mouth and in your heart" that if you confess with your mouth the LORD Yeshua and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:6-9

This week's New Testament passage of Scripture was written by the apostle Shaul (Paul). Shaul was an Yisra'elite from the tribe of Benjamin. He was a Pharisee who learned the law of God at the feet of Gamaliel. Shaul initially persecuted all those who placed their trust in Messiah Yeshua, but one day while he was traveling to Damascus, he was blinded by a great light that shown from heaven around noontime. From the light he heard the voice of God Who gave him instructions for what he should do to regain his sight (Acts 22:1-16).

Following these events, the apostle Shaul dedicated his life to sharing the Gospel message of salvation through the sacrificial blood of Messiah Yeshua. In Romans 10:1 we learn that Shaul's greatest desire and prayer to God was for the land and the people of Yisra'el to be saved. Shaul understood that it is very important to pray for the shalom (peace) of Yisra'el. When someone prays for shalom in Yisra'el, they are agreeing with and praying for the fulfillment of God's will to be done on earth. Although this did not occur during the apostle Shaul's lifetime, he will one day eat in the holy courtyards of Yisra'el because he had faith in the power of Messiah Yeshua to bring about this miraculous change for Yisra'el at His second coming. Shaul understood that all the Words of God spoken through the prophet Yeshayahu will occur in the future. Therefore, he testified to this truth and worked continually for the coming Kingdom of God during the remainder of his life.

In Romans 10:2-3 we learn that Shaul testified that the Jewish leadership and the people who followed them had a zeal for God, but they did not have knowledge according to the revelation of God. He further testified that they were seeking to obtain righteousness by their own efforts. Shaul understood this mindset was in error because the only way to obtain righteousness is through the sacrificial blood Messiah Yeshua shed on Passover, the day of Redemption. The Jewish leadership and people that followed them were not willing to submit to this truth to obtain the righteousness of God. They were deceived to believe that following the law of God would make them righteous. They did not understand that it is only through **faith** in the redemptive work of Messiah Yeshua which has the power to make one righteous.



In Romans 10:4 we learn that Messiah Yeshua's work of redemption put an end to the curse of the law. The law continues to be relevant in order to teach us what sin is and how sinful we are. The law teaches us of our great need for a Saviour.

In Romans 10:5 Shaul explained that the man who is righteous through faith in Messiah Yeshua will desire to obey the law of God. In other words those who are righteous by their faith in Messiah Yeshua desire to follow the law of God because we love God and want to honor and glorify Him as His obedient children.

In Romans 10:6-8 Shaul stated that if someone can go up to heaven to obtain righteousness, then Messiah Yeshua died for no reason. Likewise, if everyone must go to the abyss in order to achieve righteousness, then Messiah Yeshua descended to the abyss following His death on the cross for no reason. Shaul explained that the word is near to us; it is in our mouth and in our heart. It is the word that was first revealed through Avraham (Abraham) when God accounted it to him as righteousness (Genesis 15:6). It is the word of **faith**.

In Romans 10:9-10 Shaul explained this clear and simple truth. If one speaks with their mouth that the LORD Messiah Yeshua is the Son of God and believes in their heart that God raised Him from the dead, that one will be saved. This is the only Way to obtain righteousness and find forgiveness in the sight of God. One must agree with God and submit to His authority to receive His Grace of Salvation. One must have **faith** in this simple and clear truth to receive eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

In Romans 10:11-13 we learn that whoever believes in Messiah Yeshua, having faith in His work of redemption, will not be put to shame. In other words that one will not receive the condemnation or curse of the Law of God. This one will not descend to the abyss when they die but will be immediately present in spirit with Messiah Yeshua in heaven. It does not matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile because Messiah Yeshua has been made LORD of all. Anyone who demonstrates faith in the Word of God by calling upon His Name for Salvation will be saved!

# Recap Review Fun



Directions: Fill in the blanks from the word bank

When	Prophet	Redeem	Blessing	Obeying	Love	Presence	Land
Faith	Transformed	Power	People	Glory	Gather	Curse	
Protection	Edom	Yisra'el	Scattered		Provision	Tzion	

1. Moshe was a \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
2. God's covenant of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ was in addition to the covenant He made with the Children of Yisra'el at Mount Sinai.
3. When the Yisra'elites disobeyed God they were sent into exile away from the Land of Promise and away from God's \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The curse of the covenant would affect both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Yisra'el.
5. After the Children of Yisra'el received both the blessing and the curse from God, He would \_\_\_\_\_ them from all the nations where He had \_\_\_\_\_ them, and bring them back to the land of Yisra'el.
6. Only God knows \_\_\_\_\_ He will send His Son, Messiah Yeshua, to judge the nations who oppose Yisra'el.
7. If we love God we should demonstrate it by \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
8. When we disobey God it is because we lack \_\_\_\_\_ in His Word.

9. The Children of Yisra'el will fulfill the plans and purpose of God while living in the land of Yisra'el only by His miraculous \_\_\_\_\_.

10. When the Children of Yisra'el trust in the work of redemption completed by Messiah Yeshua they will be \_\_\_\_\_.

11. The LORD God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth from His people to demonstrate His \_\_\_\_\_.

12. When Yisra'el accepts her Messiah, Jerusalem will be transformed by God into its Kingdom state known as \_\_\_\_\_.

13. Messiah Yeshua will utterly destroy the nation of \_\_\_\_\_ when He returns to earth.

14. Everyone who supports and prays for \_\_\_\_\_ demonstrate they agree with God and have faith in His Word.

15. The law of God does not have the power to \_\_\_\_\_ a person.

16. It is important to obey the law of God after being redeemed by Messiah Yeshua in order to demonstrate one's \_\_\_\_\_ for God.

