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**PAUL: Evolution of 1st  
century Judaism -  
Bible Teaching**

**Main Verses:** Leviticus 4:16, Deuteronomy 16, Exodus 30:13, Exodus 31:3, Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 5:17, Matthew 12:1-8, Matthew 12:38-41, Matthew 24, Mark 2:15-17, Luke 11:37-41, John 1:1, John 2:19-21, Acts 6, Acts 9:29, 1 Maccabees 1:12, 1 Kings 5:6, 1 Kings 6, 2 Chronicles, Jeremiah 7, Ezekiel, Proverbs, Isaiah

**Watch on Youtube:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-n\\_hCUaX-oA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-n_hCUaX-oA)

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**Podcast:**

<https://foundedintruth.podbean.com/e/paul-evolution-of-1st-century-judaism/>

**Teaching Length:** 1:39:28

**Email us Questions & Comments:** [info@foundedintruth.com](mailto:info@foundedintruth.com)

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*so you guys know me I love to kill sacred cows um and I don't I don't kill all sacred cows I'm very selective of which cows I just obliterate especially if they're keeping from keeping us from understanding a deeper lever of scripture okay um if there's a sacred cow that is shielding and blocking us from understanding an aspect of Yeshua that we need to understand then yeah let's just kill that cow um sometimes sacred cows are are hard because we don't want them to go away they're sacred cows because they're become sacred um you know CHR like I said the Christmas teaching that I did a year ago um all of that mess on on why a lot of teachers teach why Christmas is Pagan is just simply not true there's no archaeological evidence to back it up and yes Christmas is Pagan but it's not from the aspect of the near East like we've been taught um the same thing goes with Judaism or the Judean Faith now growing up in in Hebrew Roots growing up last 12 13 years in in Messianic Judaism and also in Hebrew Roots um we look to Judaism for a lot of things we look to Judaism for a good foundation of scripture a good commentaries uh commentaries of Tor um mainly because Judaism has kept the Torah sacred for the last 2,000 years but sometimes we make the mistake and I'm not I'm not down in Judaism I love the Traditions within Judaism I my Z zit according to him I wear a to according to him uh I even like to keep my head covered because of a Judean uh commentary that I enjoyed um not dogmatic about it and I do have hair because a couple people wrote me online and thought they were my that was bald because I always wear a hat true story true story right um but something that we we we do*

at times is we take something that is within our generation Our point in history and we anacronic apply it to the first century back in the Bible in other words something that we tend to do at times is we take Judaism today and we look at the first century and we see that Judaism existed in the first century at the time of Yeshua in the New Testament and we somehow believe that they were the one in the same Judaism and I'm here to tell you historically they are not they are very very very different and that's what we're going to start that's what we're going to talk about today and the reason why we're talking about this is because I'm continuing this is part four of the Paul series um and I know a lot of you guys have come to me like Matt you're not talking about all the aspects of Paul like Galatians when are you going to talk about Galatians you know and Romans and all these hard verses that I can't get my mind around well the thing is in order to understand these verses we have to understand the culture that Paul was writing to and the culture that Paul was walking into and in order to understand what what kind of message Paul was taking we have to further understand what kind of environment Yeshua himself was living in and what he was going up against with his ministry and so that's why today we're going to discuss the evolution of the Judean Faith um and so we have a lot of history here sometimes we don't have boring messages here this one might be a boring message I'm just going to give you guys a heads up okay a couple of resources that I used um were in the shadow of the temple by um by Oscar scone uh it's a beautifully well-written book it's an academic book so it's really just there for history historical facts and this guy's commentary on History okay we also have Shay Cohen he's a Jewish Professor from Harvard University he wrote uh from the maccabees to the mishna and the development of early rinic Judaism really happened around the time of Alexander the Great and uh and and when the Greeks were ruling Israel and the development of the Mish and the or law based on that time period so what do we always got to look back to if we want to understand the past we got to look to history right everybody's with me don't fall asleep yet come on now so around 1446 do not email me saying no it was 1410 or 1350 was the year this is Circa Circa means around so around 1446 before the common air before Christ the incident at Mount saai happened the tourah was given the ten command ments were given the instructions on how to build the ark how to build the Tabernacle this is how you build the altar this is how you manipulate the blood onto the altar to cleanse and purify your defilement from My Sanctuary because Israel I'm going to dwell with you says God so at Mount Si Ten Commandments were given all of the Torah compounded after that moment okay and Israel became a nation and they traveled around in the wilderness and we know that went into the land of Canaan and they dwelt in the land of Israel right well something happened around 586 BC and we're going to go over this in just a minute but we know that Israel had split around a th000 BC and the lower Kingdom of Israel was named Judea okay you don't have to take up all these notes or absorb everything it's fine but I'll I'll repeat the things that I want to stick throw mud at a wall and you throw it again and it'll stick more everybody repeat with me Judea Judea was the southern Kingdom of Israel awesome very good um most churches don't know that right and so the southern Kingdom of Judea um their citizens because they were from Judea they were known as Jews okay a lot of people I mean it's technically correct a lot of people think that Jews come from the tribe of Judah and you could technically make that assessment but that's not necessarily historically accurate the they came from Judea which the tribe of Judah was in but also kind of Benjamin and the Levites right um Southern Kingdom around 586 BC Babylon came in and kicked the Jews out of Judea this is called the Great Exile okay the Babylonian exile from this point oh there we go yeah so everything before this point where the Babylonians came in

and exiled the Jews from Judea is known as the pre-exilic era pre-Exile before the Exile okay Matt gosh this looks boring it's going to get more boring but just keep up with me okay this is known as the pre-exilic era everything after this point is known as the exilic era this is the time of the Exile so everything after Babylon is known as the time of Exile why is it known as the time of Exile the Babylonians kept Israel captive for roughly 70 years right well the thing is is when the Jews were still in Babylon kicked out of their own land okay the Persians came over and took out Babylon and then Ezra was allowed to come back to the land of Israel under Persian control and build a temple Israel was still in Exile but they had access to their land they were still governed by Persia okay not long after that in 332 BC the Greeks came led by Alexander the Great and they took out the Persians so now Judea even though they are in their own land and they have a little bit of authority and they have their own temple they're still technically in Exile because they're being governed by the Greeks now okay and then after Alexander the Great dies uh the tiny Egypt area kind of takes over the Greek province of Egypt Takes Over Control of Judea and that goes all the way to about 200 BC when the Ptolemies another aspect of the Greek Empire come in and they take control over Judea and change everything and that's when the Maccabean period happened right because they got ticked of their new oppressors right and then the Romans came in and took control over Judea in 63 BC anybody a little confused that was a lot of information right a lot of information no awesome here's what I'm trying to say is after Babylon came in and took the Jews out of Judea Judea remained in Exile they never climbed out of that hole and that's something that we have to realize if we're talking about the ministry of Yeshua if we're talking about what did Jesus do what was he up against the faith that existed in Mount Si was a very practical Faith people knew what they needed to do they had the temple of God and they ruled with Kings and judges after Babylon the Judean faith we call it Judaism began to change nemia and Ezra came and they did a few uh reforms to help solidify the faith because we had just come from Babylon and we're still under the control of the Greeks we're going to solidify it a little bit and due to Greek influence the judan faith begin to evolve even more due to uh exposure to henuz which we're going to get to in a minute until finally the first century I'm going to make I'm going to make the uh what call what word am I thinking of I'm going to make the suggestion that the Judean faith that existed in the first century was absolutely nothing like the Judean Faith or the faith of Israel that existed at Mount Si which if you've been in the Messianic movement for a while may change a lot for what Yeshua was doing and the things that he did the Torah was no longer viewed as something that was fully practical in a lot of different sects in Judaism different Commandments were kind of Ah that's not really functional anymore because the temple had changed and its function due to the Romans and due to the Greeks pushing their agenda and their culture on Israel so going back to about a th BC this is the whole land of Israel all 12 tribes are in there everyone still with me we're going to get over this home okay around a th BC th000 BC the land split remember that southern Kingdom I was talking about they Kingdom of Judea is the southern Kingdom of Israel it's right down here Northern Israel is up here around 722 the Assyrians came in and totally exiled all the Northern Kingdom of Israel they never returned it's another teaching and around 586 BC Babylon came over and kicked all the Jews out of Judea took them to Babylon this is where Daniel takes place Shadrach meshak abanda all this took place in Babylon can I push one more timeline on you I'm going to re I'm going to review this one more time and then I'll be done with it okay everyone's up with me all right 586 BC Babylonians came this is known as the exilic era around 539 to 334 BC um under the rule of Cyrus Persian king if you will Ezra was allowed to go back and rebuild the Temple um

Alexander the Great came around 332 BCE and from this point forward after Alexander the Great conquered Israel essentially is known this point forward is known as the helenistic eror the time of the Helen the time of the Greeks okay so after Alexander the Great I want you to repeat after me just so it solidifies in your mind after the Greeks came Israel was in the helenistic era everyone say helenistic error very good Alexander the Great dies and what 323 BC and then the Egyptian or the tmic period begins um one of the generals that was over the lower area of Egypt took over the control of Judea the soluset came with Antioch of epiphanies you know the Hanukkah story and they came and they took over Israel and then the Hanukkah event takes place somewhere between 167 to 164 somewhere around there um it began as a religious battle we'll go through that when we start teaching on Hanukkah but it was really a political move uh by the hesm monian um after this point after the the Hanukkah battle the war against the icids a Priestly family arose uh called the honi and they were a very rich family um and after they kicked the cusd out of Judea they were still under the influence and control of the Greeks but they had just better they had a new policy now if you will how many of you guys realize and I know I'm scatterbrained we're going to bring it home here in just a minute how many of you guys realize that who was the leader of Israel during the time of David during the time of David who was the leader of Israel David why because he was the King right the King was high up did the high priest have any real power in Israel at the time of David no it wasn't a leadership position he was the one that was the leader of the priests but he didn't lead the nation of the country right he was the one that was in charge of the ministry of the temple that was it that changed after Hanukkah or the maban war okay the hasoni stepped up and they began to take over the high Priestly positions and they also stepped up in the leadership areas ruling over Israel a lot of bad things happened when the hasoni were ruling Israel but regardless the development of the high priest's role begin to evolve from that of a servant in Israel to that of a leader in Israel it's completely outside of the scope of Torah right this is just what happened in Israel okay by the time we get to the first century high priest is looked at as someone who's making big political calls and of course we had we had Governors and we had like King Herod was placed over his so on and so forth but the people looked to the high priest as their political leader that was never supposed to happen but that was an evolution of society it happened okay Matt why is that important it's just something to put in your back of your head when we read Paul 63 bcee um Pompei came and he conquered Israel and then Judea was under under Roman control during the time of Alexander the Great all the way through the first century Greek culture began to permeate throughout all of the Persian Empire Greek or the Greek Empire um if you ever heard of heliz everyone ever heard of that word heniz a few people heniz is the historical spread of ancient Greek culture and to a lesser extent language over the foreign peoples conquered by Greece and brought into its sphere of influence particularly During the helenistic period following the campaigns of Alexander the Great see the Helens or the Greeks had a way that they conquered people you know um one way to conquer people is to go into a country and just kill everybody and it's really easy to do that it requires a lot of resources and then you got a lot of dead folk and it's just not really nice and you don't really accomplish anything because then all these people that you killed can't pay you taxes anymore and they're not going to be loyal to you because you killed them so what's a smarter way to conquer people well let's see I'm going to go into that country and then what I'm going to do is I'm going to force my Politics on them and I'm going to force my culture on them and then hopefully I can charge them aack so I will actually profit off of converting them into my lifestyle of my politics and the things that we do in my country we'll leave that

just with a look no one ever does that today this is what the Greeks did they spread the Greek language they took Greek philosophy guys Greek philosophy was really cool okay it was something that the judeans had never grasped just never even thought of before in their life the way that the Greeks looked at Faith and religion was outside the scope of anything an ancient Israelite ever thought of ancient Israelites looked at the Torah and it was practical okay don't eat the pig right okay God created and gave function to all the universe awesome a testimony of our God all right say the sh every day cool I got that the Greeks came in and applied multiple layers of interpretation for through their philosophy through living creation their ideas about God and even the Torah itself let you know a little secret um we see a lot of commentaries today um of the Torah being applicable in all of these really spiritual ways in our lives right that was the reason we have those commentaries today is because Greek philosophy hit Judea the judeans never thought of Torah of anything other than a testimony of their God and what was expected of them as the constitution of their Kingdom I'm not saying it's bad it's history okay everybody with me get Stones thrown at me and so let's talk about the Judean culture and the faith versus the hel helenistic culture and Faith you see the judeans they had just went through Babylonian exile the Persians they had kind of survived that even though they're they their faith was shifted just a little bit in their application after Babylon but they still knew who they were and the one thing that they wanted to try to do was preserve the identity of them being judeans because you know Babylon wanted to take them out and Exile them and make them Babylonians that wasn't going to happen right Persian same thing become a Persian no here come the Greeks listen why don't you become Greek no I'm a Judean I'm not going to do that but remember Greeks didn't necessarily expect you to take on the identity of a Greek they expected you to take on their culture it was a slick strategy guys and so let's compare some of the parallels between the Judean faith and the Greek faith when they finally converged when Alexander the Great came in everybody with me I know I'm just jumping a lot of history okay when Alexander the Great came in right three 4th Century BC Greek culture hit Judea the Helen Faith was polytheistic they believed in multiple gods in fact when they went to new nations they had a thing about absorbing Gods right they would absorb Gods into their Pantheon so that way oh you believe in this God awesome well he can join our Pantheon and then you can be Greek and worship our Gods with your God right A lot of people think that um if you're familiar with the story of the maccabees um when antioch's epiphanies came and put a statue of Zeus or an alter to Zeus at the temple a lot of people think that he was trying to force Israelites to worship Zeus No he was trying to merge Yahweh and Zeus together Yahweh is the top of your Pantheon where he's our only god well Zeus is the top of ours and they must be one the same so let's build an altar of the Zeus and we'll we'll fix this right now right it's what the Greeks did Judean Faith was monotheistic it was a problem for them just to throw their God in the Greek pantheon because they denied all the other gods right Helen Faith distinguished between the world who they called barbarians The Barbarians and themselves we are the Greeks so we are the Righteous culture we are the Civilized culture and everyone else is a barbarian Judean Faith had something in common with that they saw themselves as judeans right they had a bloodline they had a faith they had a god they had ancestors everyone else was a gentile a non- Judean right h both helenismo by Shay Cohen the comparison ends when Judaism demands converts to deny all ancestral gods and worship the one true God see this was the biggest problem between Judean faith and the Greek faith is Greeks really liked the culture of Judea but not many Greeks necessarily converted why well when you convert you got to do a little snip snip thing and that's just woo anti-greek we don't do that Greeks did not

want to mutilate the body as they called it but also if you converted to the Judean Faith you were required to deny all of your ancestral Gods right all of the Gods of your father all of your gods of your families your the spirits of your families deny any contact with them as well it was a big deal so most Greeks that admire the Judean Faith uh most scholars believe they they they became known as god-fearers they they maybe they didn't want to do the full conversion but they enjoyed sitting in the synagogues and studying the philosophy of Torah and they had a lot of respect for the Judean deity and so on and so forth it's very interesting modern Judaism portrays Hellenism as an antonym for their faith anyone ever read some commentaries on the maccabees and Hanukkah the whole battle was about kicking out heniz from Judea guys historically that is not true heniz had already hit Judea and Judea was already heniz uh there were some in maccabees I think we have a quote in maccabees 1 or 12 um it talks about the extreme heniz so a group of judeans who were extremely heniz were the ones who wanted to blend Judaism with the Greek culture so that there was no distinguishing that um how many of you guys understand that you are hellenized right now in American culture I'm trying to make this fit because a lot of people think like the judeans like no they were judeans and they didn't mix with the the Greek culture now you guys look pretty pretty American West to me you know got some cool looking boots over here ancient Israel didn't wear those right cool sweater right there ancient Israel didn't have that right saw someone with some skinny jeans on back here same thing ancient Israel didn't wear those didn't wear jeans why do we dress the way we are because we're impacted by the culture around us right why do we drive the cars we drive because we're impacted around the culture around us you can't say that we are not westernized no matter how much how much we dwell on that verse that Paul's talking about do not conform to the world around you right do not be a part of the world reject it and be holy and be set apart you can't help it you can't help it because you live here at some point you're going to look like the world the question question is where is the line so yeah I'll wear the I'll wear the same clothes of the world but maybe I won't listen to the music or maybe I'll listen to some music in the world but I won't like you know date casually or something I don't know right maybe I listen to music but I won't watch those movies or maybe I'll watch a PG-13 movie but not a rated R movie or maybe I'll watch a rated R movie as long as that sex in it you know what I mean like you know where is the line of our interaction with the world Judea was faced with the same issue everybody was heniz it was to what degree were they heniz and as history went on and their exposure to heniz was prolonged where did those lines move to kind of understand where I'm trying to take you now maybe a little bit Master don't get it just hang on by mere definition Judaism within the scope of Greek culture was heniz the historical term is heniz Judaism what Judaism was known as after Alexander the Great came this problem of mixing was not new to Israel by the way I don't want people to get all upset and being like what Israel just failed in every aspect no actually um how many of you guys know do you guys realize that King Solomon utilized Phoenician Aid and Phoenician Architects and foreign design some for some Decor of the temple when he built it Solomon First Kings 5:6 look it up phian Architects and pH to build God's temple in Israel the majority of Israel began worshipping he dad or you know him as Baal during the time of uh Elijah after the split they began intermingling Canaanite myth with Judean myth why because they lived in the land it was bound to happen luckily we had a few righteous one mainly Elijah a few righteous prophets that stood up in the name of God and were able to be a testimony of where the line was supposed to be guys now not supposed to go there King ahaz saw an Assyrian altar in Damascus right and instructed the priests to build it for use in place of the Brazen altar because he liked the way it

looked that's a cool looking altar in that Pagan Temple build that over here this is the history of Israel guys is it good is it bad it's history um First Kings chapter six uh Israel used a Canaanite calendar they were they they used a Canaanite calendar during the time of the building of the temple God didn't say word I don't know why was it wrong was it right I don't know but we see it in the scriptures this is where we find the remnant of Israel known as Judea a few centuries before the first century here's a quote from Shaohan from Makab of the Mishna in the second temple period the integration of Jews in the Hellenistic world manifested itself in three main areas material cultural material culture materialistic culture language philosophy which is like a way of of life cities began to be laid out according to Greek architecture leaders no longer met at the Gate of the city you know in the Torah we always read meeting at the Gate of the city and like you know the Tanak meet at the gate because that's where leaders in Judean Faith are supposed to meet that changed when the Greeks came people started to meet in the city Square known as the Aur right because that's what the culture was oh we don't meet at the gate anymore people shifted with the culture it's amazing when we let go when we let go and we lose focus on God how devastating and how quickly everything begins to crumble just by us accepting a little bit of the world a little bit here a little bit there a little bit there and then we have to redefine our entire Faith because it doesn't match up with the world and we have to find a way to fit our faith into the world around us that is against our faith this is something Israel struggled with from day one is it good is it bad it's history you hear me say that phrase a lot it's history King Herod's renovation of the temple you know King Herod's Temple Josephus talks about it was the most magnificent building in all of Judea more than that all of the Roman Empire is beautiful right the sole purpose for him renovating it is because the temple that Esra built it was not King Solomon's Temple it was it was not a pretty Temple I just let you know when after they came out of Exile Isra came and rebuilt no it was not a pretty Temple at all it wasn't attractive King Herod said well let's look at all this Greek Arch around us let's make this sucker look let's make this sucker pop and so for 40 46 years something like that King Herod invested in the temple spent tons of money in redesigning God's Temple to make it look nice put some he wanted to do it to expose the beauty in Greek architecture Josephus remarks that one Galilean City resembled those of Ty Sidon and Beres or Barut up in guess Phia or Syria Greek again Greek became the standard language through it at all of Judean occupied de aspor we'll go over that term in a minute Hebrew was virtually unknown in Egyptian jewelry so we're going to pull up a map here in a second but I want to I want to try to lay this out for you guys um and I know I'm talking a lot and I'm showing a lot of facts and everything let's just bring it home okay so after Israel was kicked out of their land by the Babylonians they went to Babylon and from there they stayed in and they begin to spread across the Persian Empire after the Persians left a lot of them stayed in Babylon a lot of them ended up going to Egypt Alexandria right the beauty Beauty beautiful city that Alexander the Great pretty much invested in so there were huge colonies of Jews in Alexandria in Babylon and especially in Rome okay just because Jews had control over Judea and they built a temple did not mean that there still was not an exile going on most Judeans blood Judeans did not live in Judea in the first century okay very small amount did M what does that have to do with anything well if we if we read the Torah and we think the cor Torah was kept in the first century just like it was at Mount Si then we make the mistake of thinking that every single Judean went and sacrificed sacrifices and went to every single feast day at the temple in the first century at the time of Yeshua and historically that is incorrect most did not felo any heard of felo some kind Pho first century historian awesome guy huge huge huge heniz Judean um he loved

philosophy so he was a philosopher and also a historian he wrote down a lot of a lot of different facts um he lived until 55 ad so he was a contemporary of Yeshua we look to his writings to kind of get a feel of the culture that Yeshua himself lived in um felo is assumed to have only known memorized Hebrew phrases from the Torah that's it so you know how some of us in Hebrew Roots we're like yeah we love Hebrew and we only really know a couple of the blessings like we that's really the only Hebrew we know like let's be honest we're going to have a couple of mature uh honest conversations throughout this message that's one of them let's be honest felo the same thing highest respected Judean philosopher in history didn't know really look a Hebrew why because Greek was the preferred language he was from Alexandria about 3 to four months travel from Jerusalem almost all inscriptions found throughout the Roman Empire which is Rome Asia Minor and Egypt were in Greek and or Latin but not Hebrew save for the occasional word Shalom that was about the only word that diasporic Jews knew how to write in Hebrew Shalom just like us yeah Shalom that's that's all I know they' write everything in Greek and put Shalom at the end in Hebrew right the Greek language had an enormous impact in rinic circles in synagogues located in cesaria okay cesaria just north of Judea we're going to go there on our trip to Israel by the way and cesaria the shama was recited in synagogues in Greek not Hebrew let that soak in no one said in cesaria this is if you go to Israel right now Cesar is not a long travel what is it like a week from Jerusalem if you travel on foot I mean if you drive you get there in about an hour and a half two hours something that two and a half it's in the current land of Israel no one spoke Hebrew in the synagogues they sang the Shan Greek Rabbi disciples needed a Greek translation of the Bible that was more faithful to the Hebrew test than the septu that was written much earlier a legend of a Jewish convert named Aquilla translated the Bible a new into Greek under rinic AES Hebrew was still the primary language of literacy in Judea but we see the influence of Greek deeply saturated in the first century Judaism and the Judean culture sometimes we talk about the the Hebrew mindset versus the Greek mindset in Hebrew Roots first century Hebrew mindset was birthed out of Greek mindset quote from shoen again Jewish Professor out of Harvard all the Jews of antiquity were heniz to some degree all shared the material culture of the larger world and all were exposed to Greek language but usually the term heniz involves more than just pots pans and language it involves a way of life you see when Greek philosophy came into being the Judean Faith was magnificently transformed now what I'm about to show you is not good not bad it's just history everyone can agree with this it's okay okay among native judeans as well as de aspor so de aspor means all the judeans that did not live in Judea Judea I want you to imagine Jerusalem and the outskirts of Jerusalem essentially we'll show it in the map it was not a large part it was like what 15% of modern Israel today 10% maybe 20 so anyone who lived outside of there was in De aspor people from Galilee did not live in Jud they were could be seen as de aspor they were a weak from Jerusalem isn't it interesting that Yeshua did not start his biblical Ministry in the city where the temple was and that was the center for religious studies and religious cult Judea he started it in Galilee up near the city of tiberias the number one heniz city in all of the Roman Empire at least near Judea right huge impact it was a gentile intersection of business Yeshua chose to start his ministry there not in Judea where all of the Pharisees and the Sadducees were not in the outskirts of Judea where the Essen were they were really strict he chose to start his ministry somewhere very [Music] peculiar we'll see why here in a little bit among native judeans as well as desp there were those who wanted to stay close to the strictness of Torah ancestral tradition and identity others yearn to eliminate the distinction between Jew and Gentile completely during the



Prem maban era in mcccabes 11 macbes 1:12 we see Greek sympathizers attempting to make covenants with surrounding Gentiles in order to blend in so that disasters wouldn't fall on them in other words we need to stop looking like judeans or else the Gentiles are going to bully us right it's about 150 years before Yeshua in the first century felo speaks of Judean extreme Al gorist who argued the laws of Torah Sabbath kosher and circumcision were not meant to be absor observed literally but allegorically they too wanted to reform the Torah application to something that would not make them stick out in the greater culture there were judeans who wanted to shift the study of Torah to something that was completely non-practical so that they could blend into Greek culture even more Judaism of today was not the Judaism of the first century the Judaism of the first century the Judean faith I don't want to call it Judaism Judean faith of the first century was extremely broken guys there were so many different sects of Judaism only the religious dwelt in Judea no one in Alexandria or Rome argued about halakah they were judeans and they worshiped God and they kept T the best they could most judeans did that for most judeans the solution was to create a syn a synthesis between Judaism and helenm the rabbis expressed this beautifully in a comment inspired by Genesis 9:29 in the talmud right you ready for this this is this is taluda commentary May the beauty of japeth this is Genesis 9:25 May the beauty of japeth dwell in the tents of shim and so what the rabbis say is that japeth is actually Greeks Greek culture and essentially heniz and shim are judeans and so they read it like this may the beauty of japeth which is the Greeks May the beauty of the Greeks dwell in the tents of the Jews this was accepted this idea that first century judeans fought against helenismo it's not true they accepted and embraced helenismo Greek ideas if Judaism absorbed into helenistic culture unconsciously so before I lose Everybody by driving this this point home this is part of the Paul Series right and so what was Paul walking into next week we're going to discuss a little bit about the works of the law right we're going to discuss circumcision is circumcision tour commandment why Paul tell a bunch of guys not to get circum ized when they wanted to start keeping tourah and following Yeshua because at Mount Si that probably wouldn't have been acceptable it wasn't acceptable right something changed not tour tour didn't change but the culture changed the perception of Torah changed the function of Torah had changed by the first century it had become something that it was never supposed to become and this is one of the reasons why Yeshua makes a lot of Yeshua makes some snubbing comments to the temple a couple times right tear it down I'm going to rebuild the sucker in three days with my body what what did he just say it's our messiah in Greek philosophy the Eternal law governing the entire universe this is Greek philosophy Greek myth Greek Faith the Eternal law governing the entire unifore is divine reason something they call the logos in Greek philosophy the logos right the mandated task of all humanity is to live a life of Conformity to this Divine reason this logos which is the law of ethics and the law of nature this is something the Greeks really uh elaborated on this Divine reason that sat and pre-existed before all of the universe this was the thing that the Universe was created through the logos and Greek philosophy were the blueprints of creation you think Jewish sages rejected this idea seems kind of far-fetched right they adopted it but instead of calling it Divine reason they took the Torah and replaced the logos of Greek philosophy with the Torah you guys have probably read these commentaries not right not wrong this is just history this is how we got these commentaries from the judeans emphasizing the importance of Torah through Greek philosophy you ready too much it's too much it's a lot I know so the talid evolution of Jewish commentary states that the Torah was among seven things that physically existed prior to Creation we're not talking about the Torah and the law of God and the mindset of God of

course that existed the mindset and the reign of God no we're talking about the scroll the law of Moses the one in the end of Deuteronomy says Moses died existed before the universe according to Eleazar bin yose the Galilean for 974 Generations before creation of the world the tour lay in God's bosom he was holding it the scroll God was holding it and joined the ministering angel in song Rabbi AKA called the Torah the precious instrument by which the world was created the Zohar Jewish mysticism said that God created the world by looking into the tour as an architect builds a palace by looking into blueprints in other words God couldn't have just thought existence into being he had to look at the tour and that was the blueprint like I said when not talking about just the reign of our King that is the Torah and yeah that pre-existed we're talking about the scroll in the midr Genesis 1 the idea is elaborated placing the Torah as the architect the actual architect for creation because God could not simply have thought of what he wanted to create he needed a blueprint so he turned to what am I going to create so he turned to the Torah right I me I've read these commentaries I've taught these commentaries before because they're beautiful they're beautiful and lifting up the weight and the importance of the Torah but they came from Greek philosophy now do you understand why it's important to understand how much of Greek philosophy permeated through the Judean faith of the first century when reading over the midrash mes right 13th century Rabbi the ramban big guy right notice that the Torah is spoken of in the very same way that Plato speaks of the ideas or the theory of forms if you've ever studied Plato's writings the intellectual pattern behind the created world so mes was reading commentaries in the tour being pre-existent and said hey Plato writes about about his faith it's amazing because the logos the idea of this logos within the Judean and the Greek world was so weighty that even John and Peter exploited the idea when describing Yeshua John 1:1 in the beginning was the logos the word and the logos the word was with God and the logos was God and the word became flesh and dwelt among man that's why John did that right is it true sure it's true but he used Greek philosophy in order to spearhead the scope and smash the mold of what Messiah was going to be or was supposed to be or what the Jude were expecting or if the Greeks had any idea what are yall talking about listen guys the Torah is not only the logos Mia is right but it was birth through Greek philosophy that was the effect of heniz in the first century Matt why is this so controversial because many Hebrew to Messianic Fellowship uh fellowships are based on principles of Judean Faith it's not good it's not bad I love the Judean faith I think the Traditions are awesome but we need to understand that the Judean Faith did not exist at Mount Si that is when the pure Cult of Yahweh existed that is when all of Israel came together without influence from any other cultures they came together and they stood up and said God we will serve you without the influence of anyone else when the restoration of all things comes guys we're going to be taken back to a pure and undefiled religion someone talks about that in the New Testament H David do in his book Rabbi methods of interpretation and helenistic rhetoric demonstrates that hel right helel the Elder H seven rules of interpreting interpreting scripture in the first century BC corresponds with popular Greek methods of exegeses and study similarly the tradition of the elders from which the concept of the oral Torah the town and such you guys familiar with that term the oral Torah later developed has roots in Greek schools of philosophy these schools had developed a strong sense of tradition and it became customary to substantiate the doctrine of a school by citing the chain of famous teachers who had transmitted this doctr Doctrine all the way from its authorative beginning this way of giving authority to a Doctrine was later adopted by by the rabbis in other words Rabbi X said in the name of Rabbi y who had the tradition from Rabbi Z this is a helenistic way of trans

substantiating a statement and it is never used in the Bible in other words anyone ever read some Town M mishna somebody you understand when when rabbis are talking and they're trying to give a point and they they speak about a tradition in the Torah and this is how we follow this commandment what did they say to give it credit well Rabbi in the name of Rabbi so and so in the name of Rabbi H in the name of Rabbi shamai that would have never happened in the name of Rabbi so and so in the name of Rabbi in the name of Rabbi that's how the Greek substantiated claims in Greek philosophy it's not good it's not bad but I want people to understand just how much Greek influence had entered into the faith of Yahweh Faith of Our God in the first century not good not bad but it had changed again the Faith of Our Ancestors before and after Mount Sai was a very practical faith it was very direct it was spiritual yes but it was spiritual because it was so direct and practical we get to see our God and this is how we worship Our God after Israel sinned and was s to Exile the temple of God was destroyed the Judaism that emerged the Judean faith that emerged as a result of the Babylonian exile was not the same as that that existed at Mount Si after the Greeks came the Judean Faith began to evolve even more not good not bad just history this is facts and at the first century we have a faith that didn't know how to keep to war we're going to go over that so many different sects of Judaism most judeans didn't eat pork and they kind of kept the Sabbath in Exile even though the temple existed most judeans did not engage in Temple worship which was the center of worship in the Torah sometimes we'll see uh historians use the term Helen judeans or helenistic Jews and hebraic or Palestinian uh I know I know pales Scholars Palestinian judeans or Hebrew judeans right and what they're talking about is they're talking about the helenistic Jews were the ones who lived outside of Jud Juda right and these are terms you should write down these are important because you'll see these in scripture helenistic Jews were judeans who lived outside of Judea okay they did not live in Jerusalem or surrounding Jerusalem they lived in Galilee and Beyond most of them spoke Greek a lot of people get upset by the idea that the New Testament was written in Greek after studying history it's not such a farfetched idea it really isn't I know there's some theories about Matthew being written in Hebrew cool that's awesome revelation obviously written in Greek acts obviously written in Greek all of Paul's letters no doubt were written in Greek in my opinion people can disagree that was the culture that was the main language in Acts six we see these terms used specifically in the days when the number of disciples were increasing the grean Jews okay in Greek it says the Helens right the helenistic Jews among them complained against who the break Jews so we have judeans two different parties of judeans one some were helenistic some were living in the land of Judea right more strict in the tourah observance so on and so forth because their widows were being overlooked in their daily distribution of food now when we read this we kind of understand oh well that's the culture right mat You' just spent like 30 minutes yaking about just to show us one verse it's important how about this acts 9:29 you guys remember the very first Paul lesson in Paul the revolution right when we were looking at what Paul's message of was yes of Yeshua was what was he preaching what was the Gospel he was preaching Paul was preaching that there is another kingdom other than Rome that you can be a part of and even though Caesar is known as the Son of God he's known as the savior of the world and even though he's known as the one who brings peace on Earth there is a greater one named Yeshua of Nazareth the Son of God the savior of the world the one who brings peace on Earth and he has the gospel Paul was countering the Roman Empire and he was shouting out and and uh evangelizing a kingdom that was not on Earth that was not ruled by Caesar but that was ruled by Yeshua and it was the kingdom of God right and so now we see in Acts chapter n he Paul talked and debated

with Gan Jews right this is the helenistic judeans okay now remember they spoke Greek and they loved Greek culture and they love they they were judeans by identity and they may have kept a little bit of Torah but they were also part of the Roman Empire right and they supported it but they tried to kill him and when the brothers learned of this they took him down to cesaria and sent him off why did the helenistic Jews try to kill Paul because remember Paul was denouncing the entire Roman Empire everything that the helenistic judeans thought of as their culture as their home base he was speaking against that's heresy Paul we need to kill him right remember this because this is scattered throughout scripture in Judea there were many different sects of judeans everybody still with me we're shifting gears okay in Judea there were many different flavors of Judean faith and we're going to speak about that we're going to speak about a few of the te sects of Judaism or the Judean faith that Josephus speaks of uh along of some that Josephus doesn't even mention that did exist um the thing about the Judean faith that has always kept it together is that its Center of worship everything about the faith revolved around one thing and that was the temple of God that existed in Jerusalem felo talks about yearning to go to Jerusalem even though he probably I think he I think he may have went once in his entire life maybe I think that's debatable I don't remember but filo talks about yearning to go to Jerusalem his Hometown even though he' never even been there he's born in Alexandria the judeans recognize that my home is in Jerusalem why that's where the temple of God is what's so important about that if we want to have an intimate uh an intimate worship with God we have to experience his glory his shikan and where is that located where the Torah tells us it's in the building in Jerusalem the the temple everything revolved around the temple even deas sporan Jews who didn't even go to the temple recognize that God's glory existed in God's Temple the Pharisees recognized that God's glory existed in the temple the Sadducees announced that very much so to keep their their political stance and the priesthood and so on and so forth the essenes we'll talk about them in a minute this Rog group of ultra Orthodox uh Priestly class that lived out in the desert they sent offerings to the temple even though they did not go there and sacrifice necessarily for purification they thought the temple had been defiled because of the priesthood not the building the Samaritans up north if you've ever studied the Samaritans it was kind of a crossbreed of Israelites and other surrounding Nations that were brought in intermingle and so on and so forth but the Samaritans and on our trip I'm going to advertise our trip we're going to Samaria by the way and we get to meet the high priest the current high priest over the Samaritans in Israel that's currently on our agenda agenda I'm excited um I've never done that before so I'm pretty excited the Samaritans worshiped at Mount gazim a below the Galilean West Bank they did not view Jerusalem as the place of God's holy place the place where God had written his name right and this had come because of influence of outside cultures and so on and so forth another teaching everyone knew that they were at least partially Judean blood and they did believe in Yahweh the god of our forefathers and they they did believe in the Torah but the reason why the Samaritans were not considered judeans is because they did not acknowledged that they needed to go to Jerusalem and worship at the temple guys that's the only reason why the Samaritans were looked down upon you say you're us but you don't worship at the temple you don't even acknowledge the temple you don't send your half checkle tax to the temple if Samaritans went to the temple they would have been these little half bred yeah they're still judeans kind of even though they Samaritans whatever they live in Samaria it's incredible it's incredible to think of that so you guys ready for sacred cow it's not really a sacred cow it's just something that's not really taught much um Ron White over rooted in tor.com does a great job

illustrating this he has a lot of teachings extended about this topic so you see this big old map this is some of the Roman Empire here's Rome way up here everybody see that okay here's Alexandria and Egypt way down here here's Babylon way over here everybody see little right three major cities Ephesus Athens Church of Antioch was up here right Galilee was actually a little bit closer down but Galilee is around here somewhere and then here's Jerusalem where was the temple it didn't change Jerusalem right there according to Leviticus 4 and 16 when you unintentionally sin what must you do you must bring a little lamb a goat you must bring a goat for your unintentional sin and you got to bring carry this sucker all the way to Jerusalem and you got to slit its throat and the priest is going to catch the blood and he's going to manipulate the blood in the corners of the Altar and that's going to purge your defilement away from the temple right that is Torah Commandment that is Cult of Yahweh Faith okay Cult of Yahweh is a term to use to describe the the ancient faith of Yahweh in ancient Israel and Scholars call it a cult of Yahweh and I just think it sounds awesome so that's why I say that if you don't want to call yourself that it's fine um in first century Israel for some reason again anachronic anachronic we we tend to take what we think first century Judaism was like and we compare it to Torah because obviously they had to be doing the same thing no um most Jews lived in Babylon Rome and Alexandria these are three major port cities in Jerusalem Judea this little area a huge amount of religious Jews live there but not the huge population who is that someone coming in for a visit um Galilee was about a week's travel to the temple a week's travel um ancient Israel you messed up flubbed up a little bit got to take a goat and you got to walk a long ways people in Galilee and Northern Israel when the tribes went into Canaan did that transgress God much it's a long trip you gotta ask for work Ken can I get a week off can I get two weeks off work why because I accidentally sinned so I got to take this goat and I need two walks off two weeks right what if you sinned and you lived in Babylon four months travel to Jerusalem same thing for Alexandria Antioch was about three weeks I think Rome forget about it judeans and de aspor did not go to the temple maybe once in their life Deuteronomy 16 that says that all males of Israel must must come to Israel for the three pilgrimage feasts right first fruit shabat and cot you got four months to get from Babylon to Judea and go back and go you wouldn't have a job even at the time of the first century in Galilee many people did not travel to Jerusalem for all three feasts maybe one one or two you know H how many of you guys didn't realize that in the first century the function of the temple changed the Torah in application and function was shifted due to the culture around them if you sinned in Galilee you probably wouldn't go to Jerusalem most of the time depending on your job especially if you were a slave which most judeans were slaves to Romans in the first century hey can I take a month off to go to Jerusalem hard enough to get two weeks off to go to Israel trip once every couple years from work right you wouldn't go the function of the temple had changed everything about the temple worship had changed and it was very prevalent in all of the different sects of Judaism especially the desp look at this so at the time Yeshua went through the grain fields on the Sabbath and his disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them and when the Pharisees saw this they said unto him look your disciples are doing what is unlawful for the Sabbath now this is unlawful for the Sabbath according to the Pharisees Sadducees did a little bit different and Lord knows the esss did it really different all the other judeans in De aspor did Sabbath differently than those in Judea everyone talks about the Judaism in first century which one right everyone thinks that the Judaism today is somehow the Judaism in no it was not it evolved from the Pharisees after the temple was destroyed and the phic cult before the temple was different than after the temple because it shifted

because the temple was gone right is so much that goes into this and he asked haven't you read what David did see Yeshua was just giving a quick rebuttal and like putting the spotlight back on others I love it right haven't you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry he went into the house of God and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread which was not lawful for them to do but only for the priest or haven't you read the law that let on the Sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the day and yet are innocent true story I tell you that one greater than the temple is here that's the verse that I wanted to share with you that's the verse that a lot of Messianic Hebrews Fellowship skip over because they don't know what to do with it because the Torah States the temple is the center of God's glory and the Torah states that all worship is supposed to go through the Temple and the Torah states that we're supposed to sacrifice to the temple and we're supposed to worship at the temple and the Torah is true and it is but in the first century people weren't keeping Torah with temple worship the function of the temple had been shifted completely and we're going to go into the judeans actually changed the Torah a little bit or changed the rules of how you can atone for your sin without bringing animals to the temple what's Yeshua saying someone greater than the temple is here H if you had not known what these words mean I desire Mercy not sacrifice you would not have condemned the innocent for son of man is Lord of the Sabbath that's all another message how about this then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him teacher we want to see a miraculous sign from you show us a great sign and he answered a wicked and adulterous generation asked for a miraculous sign but none will be given except for the sign of prophet Jonah for as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the huge fish so the son of man will three days and three nights in the belly of the Earth the men of Nineveh will stand up at judgment with this generation and condemn it for they repented from the preaching of Jonah and now one greater than Jonah is here now what was Jonah he was a prophet he was a prophet sharing repentance not sacrifice but repentance see how many of you guys know that Torah commands us to repent and then bring sacrifices for purification right in other words it's supposed to start where not at the altar right because of your sin the altar is defiled and you got to go clean the altar up but it has to start in your heart what would happen if you forgot about that what would happen if you just saw the temple being responsible for everything I just take an animal slit his throat I'm good to go still in good standing with God what if that became the social Norm it's okay you can just come to the temple what if a set of aristocrats were running the temple and offered a way for you just to send some money in so you wouldn't even have to bring an animal to repent and confess and purify right so you could just send some money in for them right and because you were in diaspora you had Roman coins and the Torah says that you know at least for the half shekel tax in the census you could only send a half Shekel in it couldn't be a foreign coin so now these Aristocrats set up Bankers to change the money and charge a little bit of interest because of that what if the entire Temple had become corrupt and the function of the temple according to Torah had been completely lost how many of you guys know the Ark of the Covenant was not in the second temple how did they complete the Yom kapor service without the third altar in the holiest of holies what I mean you know it was awkward because the high priest would go back there with the blood and it'd be an empty room and he has to sprinkle it on the ark right technically y kapor was not being completed in the first century temple in the second temple technically hadn't been for a long time just as the old Prophet Jeremiah 7 Reams the people out a little bit Yeshua seemed to have thought Israel was misusing offerings in the temple as a substitute for inter repentance and purification

now we understand why he kind of snubbed the temple a little bit he was zealous for it it's my dad's house what are you doing fine tear this down I'll rebuild it in three days speaking of my body sometimes we miss the fullness of what Yeshua has done for us in his ministry see how many of you guys know that around 40 years after yeshua's death the temple was destroyed everybody knew it especially in the 40s and 50s and 60s everyone knew that a rebellion's coming and that the Romans are going to destroy this Temple what are we going to do everyone probably at the time of Yeshua knew that it was only a matter of time when this this Temple the center of our faith was going to be bulldozed over what are we going to do how are we going to meet with God then well here's the thing guys you're not meeting with God now because you've totally rejected every aspect of the Torah that made the temple functional you're using it as a way just to go and carry on with your lives and send some money flick a coin back to the temple and then you're forgiven it's not the temple that needs worked on guys guys I can restore the temple right now he could have Yeshua could have restored the temple light of he could have the ark's DG dig right here the ark here restore the ark God come down shikai would shoot out from the BL blast out from the temple but the problem guys wasn't with the temple in the first century the problem was with the hearts of men if the temple was restored the restoration of all things if the temple on Earth was restored to the fullness as it was in the Tabernacle it'd be like plugging in a lamp with no light bulb the hearts of men can't engage we've lost everything we've completely changed the function of detour therefore if any of you offer your gift at the altar and remember that your brother has something against you she was going and saying listen if you're if you're in Judea and you're going to take a little animal to the alt going to slit its throat right probably because you have a disagreement from your brother and you're up there and you remember in your heart ah I still got this unforgiveness [Music] or what do I do with this I still got my Op with him Brad I just slid the throat no I can't if you remember that you have ought with someone in your heart leave your gift of the altar just hand to the priest can you just can I just tie this up right here you know that was annoying tie this up right here I'll be back in a couple days leave the GI there at the front of the altar first go and be reconciled with your brother and then come and offer the the gift this little animal is not going to do anything with reconciling your relationship with God if you're not going to do anything with reconciling your relationship with your brother in the first century that was the problem the problem was the temple had lost its function to be the final purification after you've already done the groundwork of repentance and purifying your heart and reconciling yourself with your brother and then making yourself all right father I know I did not love my brother like the Torah says I should and I know that I'm farther away from you because of it so I'm reconciling my relationship with my brother so now I can come to your place of worship your temple with this little lamb he's so cute and I'm going to sacrifice it and I'm going to be made right with you to show you that I care about the fullness of your tour that's what the temple was all about that's why end of Ezekiel personally I think there's going to be another temple on Earth in in the millennial that's me you can disagree then Jews demanded of him what miraculous sign can you show us to prove your Authority and Yeshua answered them destroy this Temple and I will raise it again in 3 days and the judeans replied it has taken 46 years to build this sucker and you are going to raise it up in three days but the temple he had spoken of was his body now I'm going to try to suggest something and I'm going to try to take this concept and portray it as scripture seems to build it so if we know the temple was not being used according to Torah and we know the priesthood was absolutely corrupt we're going to go over that in a minute and we know the Torah and its application had changed inunction or

completely lost its function and we know that the temple is going to be destroyed within the next Generation anything do you think Yeshua knew the temple was going to be destroyed maybe that's a stretch I don't know the book the writer of the book of Hebrews seemed to have a great this suer is going down he knew it my guess is Yeshua knew it too along with everyone else destroy this Temple book of Hebrews states that Yeshua is the high priest not of the Earthly Temple it says that if he was a priest on Earth he wouldn't be a priest on Earth because we already have a priest Ood on Earth it's been given to the Levites the sons of zadak and they weren't even over the temple during the first century right the book of Hebrews says that Yeshua was a high priest and a temple not made by hands it was a temple that was up there with God it was the Heavenly Temple the original that the Earthly Temple was built upon so Yeshua is sitting here saying listen the temple now is your bridge to God it is how you connect to God it is how you have a relationship with God it is what connects all judeans together in a Brotherhood worshiping God because the Torah says that through that Temple we have access to the glory and the spirit of God but I'm going to tell you something guys not only have you messed everything up you've taken away that function of the temple I'm going to make a way for you even if there is no Temple to have a relationship with God until the all the restoration of all thing comes again and the temple is rebuilt on Earth tear down this Temple and in 3 days I'll raise it up and I'm speaking about my body I'm speaking about me even though there's no Temple here I will make a way for you to worship and engage in the glory of your God no matter where you are no matter who you are because you're going on a journey of Exile the Temple's going down and it's not going to be rebuilt for a very long time and I'm going to make a way for you to still have access not even to the Earthly Temple but to the greater Temple that is in heaven Yeshua was not doing away with Torah you had already done that through the helenistic culture they had invented or they had birthed in Yeshua was giving an alternative Yeshua was giving a way for something to come out positively even though it was a negative circumstance a lot of people today call that Grace anyone ever wondered what that verse means before my body is the temple and we always in Hebrew Roots we're all like well that didn't really mean yes it did according to the book of Hebrews yes it did there was a reason why he looked at the temple and said yeah it won't be long now for distant de aspor and judeans pilgrimage to the temple may have been a once in A- lifetime thing if you were a Judean in Rome you love to go to the temple once in your life maybe Passover now a lot of people probably saying like oh well they were breaking tour if they weren't go for all three pilgrimage Feasts sure this is history this is the way it was the Exile hadn't ended even though there was a temple the priesthood was corrupt they weren't the sons of zadak high priesthood was a position not of servant of a servant but of a king basically that was controlled by the Romans that's why the essin never even went to Jerusalem and they were the most Orthodox of them all this situation called for an alternative or an alteration in tour application due to the culture and social structure of Judea found therefore in them so there's a quote by Oscar scorum all Jews who did not attend Temple service nevertheless still did attend it in that they contributed through the temple tax in Exodus 313 anyone ever read 313 it's talking about the census that every time a boy graduates into manhood at age 20 he has to give silver in the weight of a half shekele to the temple you have to give payment to the have to send some money to the temple for the sake of the census now Torah never says this is an annual thing by the way we don't know where that came from in 2 Chronicles it talks about it being an annual thing but in Torah it seems like it was a once in a-lifetime thing it may have evolved into an annual Temple tax this covered the expenses of the daily offerings the T Meade offerings in other



words once a year if you lived in Rome or even Galilee if you weren't going to go to the temple and Alexandria there would be convoys of some Judeans that would go to Jerusalem and and what you would do is you would say darn I can't go to the feast this year and I know I've been a bad boy or girl and I've sinned a lot darn how can I engage in Temple worship and forgiveness and purification without actually being there here is some money to take to the temple and you know Exodus 30:13 talks about a simp a two shekele tax that's on the people and it's for the purpose of atonement so there we go and so people would drop the money into these Messengers and these Messengers would flock to the temple all year long and the money was supposed to go towards the daily offerings the burnt offerings that happen every single day the Ted offerings right and so in those offerings that you engaged in financially you were as if you were there in the temple nowhere in Torah does it say that was the function but that was the accepted function in the first century that is what most people did did Yeshua do that I don't know after Yeshua and his disciples arrived in Capernaum which is up in Galilee right the collectors of the two drama tax came to Peter and asked doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax so two drama is the equivalent of the half shackle if you will doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax why were they collecting these things up in Galilee because they were heading to Jerusalem and there were take hey guys who's going to send their Temple tax in who's not going to Jerusalem to pay it themselves give it to me I'll take it right and Peter was like yeah of course he does nervously when Peter came into the house Yeshua was the first to speak and he looks at Simon and he says what do you think from whom do the kings of the earth collect taxes and Duty from their own Sons or from others and Peter says from others then the sons must be exempt says Yeshua who is this guy just bucking all the system but so that we may not offend them because you would offend them if you were like I ain't sending no money to into the temple right so that you may not offend them go to the lake and throw out your line and take the first fish you catch open its mouth and you will find four drama coin right so it's times two so it's enough for two people to pay the temple tax take it and give it to them for my tax and yours so go out to the pond and steal some money from a fish and give it to them to take back to Jerusalem it's basically what Yeshua saying I don't know why Yeshua was hesitant most likely cuz I think he went to the feast it talks about him going to the feast we don't have a record of Yeshua attending all three feasts a year that he was supposed to go to my opinion of course he did and he would have paid he would have paid the temple tax then right but I find that how many of you guys didn't realize that's what that was it's for the deborn Jews who couldn't travel to Judea you guys learned anything about the evolution of Judaism in the first century just a little bit is a few things okay we're going to talk about a few sects of Judaism okay we're going to run through this real quick you ready so Josephus describes four he doesn't call them sex he calls them philosophies of Judaism these are not all of the major philosophies in Judaism or organizations within Judaism um but these are some of them the first one you guys know about a called the Pharisees right set apart one you ever heard of Pharisees yeah they have uh they were choice of life and the walk of a was also a philosophy is what Josephus says he states that there were only about 6,000 Pharisees in Judea that's not a lot we always think reading the script that Pharisees were everywhere no Pharisees guys were in Judea only no Pharisees started Ministries or lived outside of Judea right we got that one that one uh one thing in in Matthew when Yeshua is sitting there and he's eating with his disciples and the Pharisees come up and they start arguing about washing the hands if you read it in the fine print there it says Pharisees from Jerusalem they were traveling and they went up to Galilee and they're like why aren't you following this Ultra religious Holocaust because we're in

Galilee dude chill why were the Pharisees so upset about washing hands so the Pharisees saw the temple Purity laws to be held by the lady in other words clean unclean laws that were typically held by the the priesthood only right or dealing with the temple only so clean and unclean all those laws and Torah the function of clean and unclean are directly tied to Temple worship just so you guys know okay just so you guys know okay Temple worship the Pharisees took those clean and unclean laws and said no we need to follow these in our every single day life strictly as if we were the temple that's the Pharisees did is it good bad I don't know it's history very strict when the temple was destroyed phariseeism went through a minimal alteration to maintain its existence they didn't have to do a whole lot see the Pharisees took all aspects of the temple and taught that you could implement all the function of the temple in your everyday life and walk and extend the Holiness of the temple everywhere you go of course it kind of right before the temple was destroyed phic philosophy kind of uh backfired because if I'm the temple and I'm extending the Holiness then the temple is everywhere that I am so I don't really have a function for the temple anymore you know but they didn't think about that everything's 2020 and right kosher eating and Purity laws were at the top of their list they even formed societies known as havara that existed to enable its members to eat at a completely kosher according to their standards kosher table not to lose their purity with eating without sers wash your hands and make sure you're eating around other people at the same table there Peter he messed up that one time Paul had to scold him that's why the Pharisees taught that you should only eat at the table with other Pharisees other people concerned with Purity wash your hands make sure everything's kosher and you're good to go Yeshua is over here like dirty hands to the Pharisees every Israelite was a priest and every meal that you ate was a temple meal it was as if you're offering something to the temple their purpose was to extend the sanctity of the temple not place that however to say the temple is everywhere you are did portray the temple as insignificant abroad and then it handed down tradition after tradition after tradition so when Yeshua was dealing with Pharisees that was their Philosophy for Judaism not all Judaism was the same Sadducees the aristocrats developed from the Honan Dynasty um the GU the maccabees basically went on to become the Sadducees most Scholars agree focused on political philosophy more than religious Works their job was to basically run the temple and make profit off of it and manage the politics if you will a very small group um the Sadducees were a very small group that existed within the priesthood the priesthood was roughly 20,000 so the Sadducees very small group couple thousand maybe no one's really sure not a lot these weren't all over Israel these were focused in Judea only Josephus describes him as not believing in afterlife Eternal reward Faith complete will or free choice in other words God not interfere with human life the same exact protocol and belief structure uh of the epicurian philosophers at the time I know I butchered that word these were Greek philosophers at the time they believed the same thing this is how Helen the Sadducees were they saw the law the Purity laws as referring to the temple and its priests and saw no reason for extending them in the daily life of all of Israel a basic pillar of the phic approach this is why the Pharisees and the Sadducees were opposing each other on how they should keep Torah and what philosophy of Judaism they should follow it wasn't just one Mount saana One Way Torah right the ESS anyone ever heard of then I'm going have to turn the remote off for this one so I learned a lot about the Essen so the essenes um the the main the main consensus is the ESS were in a roundabout way um the lineage of the true Zite priest that existed before the haonan kind of monopolized the priesthood back in the time of the macbes if you didn't get that that's no problem um these were people who felt like the temple was overrun with

Bandits and the priesthood in the temple was completely evil and the temple had been defiled and you know what we're not going to deal with it so we're going to move out to the desert and we're going to pretend like the temples out there and we're going to live a life of set apartness and Holiness out there and we're going to be we're going to live in Paradise heaven on Earth out there while all you guys live in the hell that's outside of our community they were very communal they stuck together together they practice celibacy because you know women you know Nida and such makes you unclean we don't want that in the camp no no joke no joke true story they practiced celibacy they specifically focused on unclean and unclean they were very very very strict on all manner of hola most scholars believe the essens are the ones who wrote The Dead Sea Scrolls all right in kumran and that kumran was actually a a holy Community if you will that these people gathered together they viewed themselves as priests and the temple as hijacked by evil ones they also had a calendar they had their calendar is very interesting and they were really really strict and arguing about their calendar and their Haka and their ritual Purity laws and the way that you should keep Sabbath and the way that you should keep the calendar and the way that you should keep the feast days and this is how you should pronounce the name maybe I don't know and this is how you should do all these things this was the essin Yeshua never once identified with them never once he never even addressed them he didn't want anything to do with them I would say if anything he identified with the Pharisees more than anyone else but to say he's a Pharisees I don't think that's quite correct if he was a Pharisee who would have started his ministry in Judea not in Galilee it's crazy so yeah they kept like a solar calendar I think it's on part of the Enoch calendar or whatnot um and felo states in oh jeez second laws section 140 paragraph 26 that felo states that um that the calendar used in Judea was a calculated calendar in the first century um reason being they said that the Sanhedrin actually not phes the Sanhedrin actually built schools of astronomy so they could calculate the the new months the new moons right and the reason being is because do I have a map you guys saw the map so it's four months to get the news of an upcoming feast day to Babylon so if they were following a sighted moon right it's like oh the sighted Moon the sighted moon is here send the letters to Babylon and in four months they'll celebrate yomu or rosh Shana with us right and this was the calendar supposedly that was later released in the 4th century when the Sanhedrin disbanded um I find it very interesting that Yeshua didn't want to have anything to do with those who thought they were right about every single aspect of tour because why didn't he care about that why wasn't Yeshua so so so uh on top of proper Holocaust of Torah because guys in Exile we can we have another another serious conversation can we have a mature conversation about the Torah and being in Exile so right now we're still in Exile our King has not returned there is no Temple there is no priesthood okay in order to fully functionally keep Passover or unleavened bread and Shavuot and Cote right these are tribute feast days where we take a tribute to Jerusalem and we bring sacrifices to the temple and we see the glory of our God and like toot and while you're there dwell in tents in Jerusalem okay there's no Temple there's no priesthood we can't fully engage in the feast days today what we can do yeah we can pop a tent up in the backyard and we can me memorialize the Fe feast days we can engage in the feast days and we can honor the feast days just like scripture says to do and Hebrews talks about there a shadow at things to come shadow of Yeshua so when we celebrate the Feast days were uplifting the identity of Yeshua and who he was and the Fulfillment of everything he did but guys we don't have a temple the temple in the first century was functionless really didn't have a big function why wasn't Yeshua intent on giving proper holah because we got to fix the heart first guys before

when when restoration of all things does come and the temple is rebuilt yeah this is how you keep Sabbath you guys are really overdoing Sabbath over here here is the heart of the matter with Sabbath right you got feast days over here calendar you make your decision on calendar was there something more important than ultimate hola of Torah in the first century if there wasn't why was Messiah not engaged with that guys we find ourselves today in the very same place the first century did a little bit more in Exile because we don't have a temple at all at this point but we find ourselves trying to keep the Torah any way that we possibly can which I encourage and I believe you're supposed to do we're supposed to uphold it the best we can absolutely because that's what scripture says we're supposed to do right we're supposed to teach it to our children we're supposed to learn it and study it when we walk in our way when we go to sleep at night when we wake these are the laws that we're supposed to dwell on but to what degree do we keep them when we cannot functionally keep all of them Passover we can't take a lamb to the temple some people try to do that in the backyard don't do that what do we do we do the best we can and at this point until the restoration of all things we keep our eye on something that was the apple of every believer and that was the glory of God that was the kingdom of God and that was the light of God which is through Yeshua that was the whole purpose of everything so yes we keep Shabbat the best we can keep kosher the best we can keep the feast days absolute best we can clean and unclean sure we keep those the best we can but guys there's a reason why there's so many different divisions today because there were so many different divisions in the first century as well and Yeshua got involved very lightly with all those divisions the main thing that Yeshua focused on well let's check it out hold on what did Yeshua focus on the zealots the Zealot were a group of nationalists they were more political than anything else you can study those diasporan Jews by the way were not associated with any of these main groups the ones outside of Judea these were just judeans right right look at this nowhere in diaspora outside of Judea so Galilee everywhere Rome nowhere in diaspora literature do we find examples of those detailed discussions of Haka La Hal h halakic law which are so characteristic of rinic writings this alerts us to the fact that the pheric and sub subsequent development of Rabin Haka were distinctly Judean a Judean phenomena in other words what I'm saying is in the first century the only people who argued about how to keep the Torah were the judeans that lived in Judea people in Galilee didn't argue tooth and nail about you're doing this wrong you're not keeping Sabbath strict enough you're that has an enzyme in it no one did that why did Yeshua start his ministry in Galilee maybe it was to actually reach the people that were far from God not the people that were trying to act like they were close to him Yeshua did something that every other group no other group did in Judaism of the first century he engaged children he engaged the women and he engaged the poor Pharisees talked a lot but that's not what they did they were more intent on spreading a Dogma not a relationship with God Sadducees didn't give a hoot about anyone but themselves the esses were communal and if you're not in the community off with you the zealous just wanted to kill all the Romans along with the Sakari regardless Yeshua was the only one actually focused on look those who are far from God need to be brought near you guys can fight about how good you can keep tour or if the Purity laws are really supposed to be kept outside the temple I'm going to work in the hearts of man that way when the restoration does happen and the temple is rebuilt and God's glory shines forth from Zeon the light bulbs will be in the lamps when they plug into the wall and the hearts of men will know how to engage God in a pure Spirit when the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the Sinners and tax collectors they asked his disciples why does he with tax

collectors and sinners on hearing this Yeshua said to them it is not the healthy I think he was being sarcastic it's not the healthy that need a doctor but the sick I have not come to call the righteous but I've come to call the Sinners those far from God are we doing our part as ministers and ambassadors of Yeshua to reach those are far from God or are we just like the Pharisees the Sadducees or heaven forbid the essenes trying to push our view of dogma and postexilic Torah observance on other people what level should we keep it you're not you must not be saved I've been part of those groups or if they don't keep Torah like I do they're obviously not saved morons we're supposed to be using this time right now awaiting the coming of our King to find those who are far from God we're supposed to be showing them the ways of God we're supposed to be showing them the love of God through the spirit of Messiah that includes Torah that does include Torah but it doesn't include the arguing and the dogmatic debates and the divisions that we add to the Torah the heart of the Torah what did Yeshua say what the greatest commandment oh Master Yeshua to love the Lord your God with all your heart and to love your brother as yourself and then in Hebrew Roots we're always like well that means you know to keep all the Commandments too and you do all do you guys realize that Proverbs right who wrote Proverbs King Solomon right and he was the West man in the world not fattest wisest man in the world he talks about the he talks about the law being Justice and in terms of mercy and in terms of kindness and love he never once mentioned Sabbath feast days kosher never once not many of the uh the wisdom books do in the Bible they never go in depth to the hakah of the Torah because duh is supposed to be keeping the Sabbath but more than that you're supposed to be an ambassador of God's love on Earth see the problem wasn't we don't see a whole lot of that's why Christians you know a lot of Christian Scholars say oh Jesus did away with the Sabbath or the the law the tourah he doesn't talk about it a lot everyone knew it but they had stripped the function away from it and the function has always been under the under the the foot stol of God's Throne what is it what's Isaiah say it is Justice and mercy Justice and righteousness that's the foundation of God's Throne everything goes out from that if your heart is not pure enough to forgive your brother then guess what it don't matter how good you keep Sabbath what's Matthew 24 talk about sheep's in the goat right because the Sheep's got into heaven because they kept Sabbath and feast days and kosher the right way to the right degree no because they understood the foundation of God's law was Justice and righteousness was feeding the poor with clothing clothing the naked Sheltering the homeless visiting those in prison once you have that as your spear tip of your heart and your spirit the Sabbath The Feast days kosher all of that is going to drop into play and all of that is going to light up the world because you put the right fuel in the car when Yeshua was on the scene yeah everyone's keeping Torah no they're not listen guys we got to start from square one even if the temple is restored right now all of y'all are going to me be messed up let's start working on something that matters that way when the temple is restored and my father Father in Heaven chooses to restore all things back to the beginning that he will actually have a bride to walk down the aisle that will be pure with white garments not defiled in their own ways and their own faith and their own religion my children I will be with you a little longer you will look for me just as I told the judeans so I will tell you now where I'm going you cannot come a new command I give to you now this new command is very interesting because it's not a new command at all it's listed right there in Leviticus 19 now I could do some Greek teaching talking about the renewed commandment regardless of all that Yeshua is bringing up something and he says listen I have to bring this up because you've forgotten it whether it's brand new or whether it's renewed to you it's in the Torah of God and I want you to focus on this what is this

commandment love one another as I has loved you so you must love one another okay well what if we don't well the thing is by this everyone will know that you are my disciples only if you well up to one another you can keep Sabbath you can claim Yeshua as your God or your king you can keep the feast days you can keep kosher but you're not a disciple of Messiah unless the world sees you loving one another now when we love one another we can dwell together on Sabbath we can eat kosher food together we can join each other in the feast days and we can do all these things that scripture tells us to do but guys if we don't have that one thing don't matter because we're not with him I pray and I I pray and I encourage and I want to motivate you guys what would happen this week if you thought of Torah observance as including loving your neighbor because it does in Leviticus 1918 what would happen is everywhere if everywhere you went you said wow how has Yeshua loved me and how can I love that guy over there how can I love that guy over there how can I love my brother and Messiah more and when people see me loving my brother and Messiah not arguing or fighting or dividing will that draw the people that are far from God will say they see the light of Messiah and want to be drawn close to God's kingdom and God's Reign yes his Torah that's what Torah is unless we get this down Messiah will not return this generation will die off and God will seek another generation that actually cares about his kingdom to raise up and restore his kingdom I'm convinced of this this is the background that I wanted to offer before we dive into Paul going to the Gentiles next week and what Paul's Ministry was all about and what did Paul mean by works of the law because automatically we're like oh well that's Orthodox Judaism standard to keeping Sabbath was it or was it something different what was it to the judeans what was the most important thing to judeans in the first century it was more than Faith historically it was identity so guys I know this was a long one and I know I had a lot of information I know I read a lot but I hope if you took 10% of this I hope it will encourage you when you study acts oh jeez book of Acts um and all of Paul's letters and even when messiah's talking and Messiah says some things that a lot of Christian Scholars will twist and take out of context to be like look Jesus did away with the whole tour look he just focus on Grace and love now Grace and love part of Po first century Judaism did not keep tourah like Israelites did at Mount sa wasn't necessarily their fault but the faith had changed and the function of Torah had been manipulated and a lot of the functions of Torah had been taken away to think that Judaism of the first century was the same as it is today is anacronic it's not correct we're taking something of today that we know and trying to place it 2,000 years ago guys when the temple was destroyed two sects of Judaism continued to Remain the Believers in Yeshua and the Pharisees they were the only ones who actually practiced carrying out God's kingdom and Commandments outside of the physical Temple the Pharisees began to evolve into the rabbis and Orthodox Judaism today is based on the Evolution for the last 2,000 years from the phic sect of Judaism of course Christianity hasn't done much better guys I hope this was edifying at least a little bit um I don't want it to be hard I don't want it to make people mad when I say stuff that's a little controversial just because history talks about it um I want it to be edifying uh for everyone when they read their scriptures and I want to teach Truth uh even if it's something uncomfortable to talk about because heaven knows it's much easier to say that Judaism of the first century is the same as it is today it's not regardless of all the knowledge that we're talking about I think the point of today's message was to remember the things that Yeshua actually said and Yeshua actually did do people see you as a disciple of Yeshua don't sit here and start thinking yeah I keep Sabbath nothing do with it guys that's part of being in the kingdom yes but a disciple of Yeshua Yeshua what's the one thing that stands out it's the way that you treat everyone else

*in this room it's the way that you treat all other believers of Yeshua and it's the way that you treat others the poor the children women and*

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