

Today, few healthy role models for female/male relationship exist in any culture. What does God's Word really say about how women and men are to relate? Does the Bible say what we've been told that it says? You might be surprised!

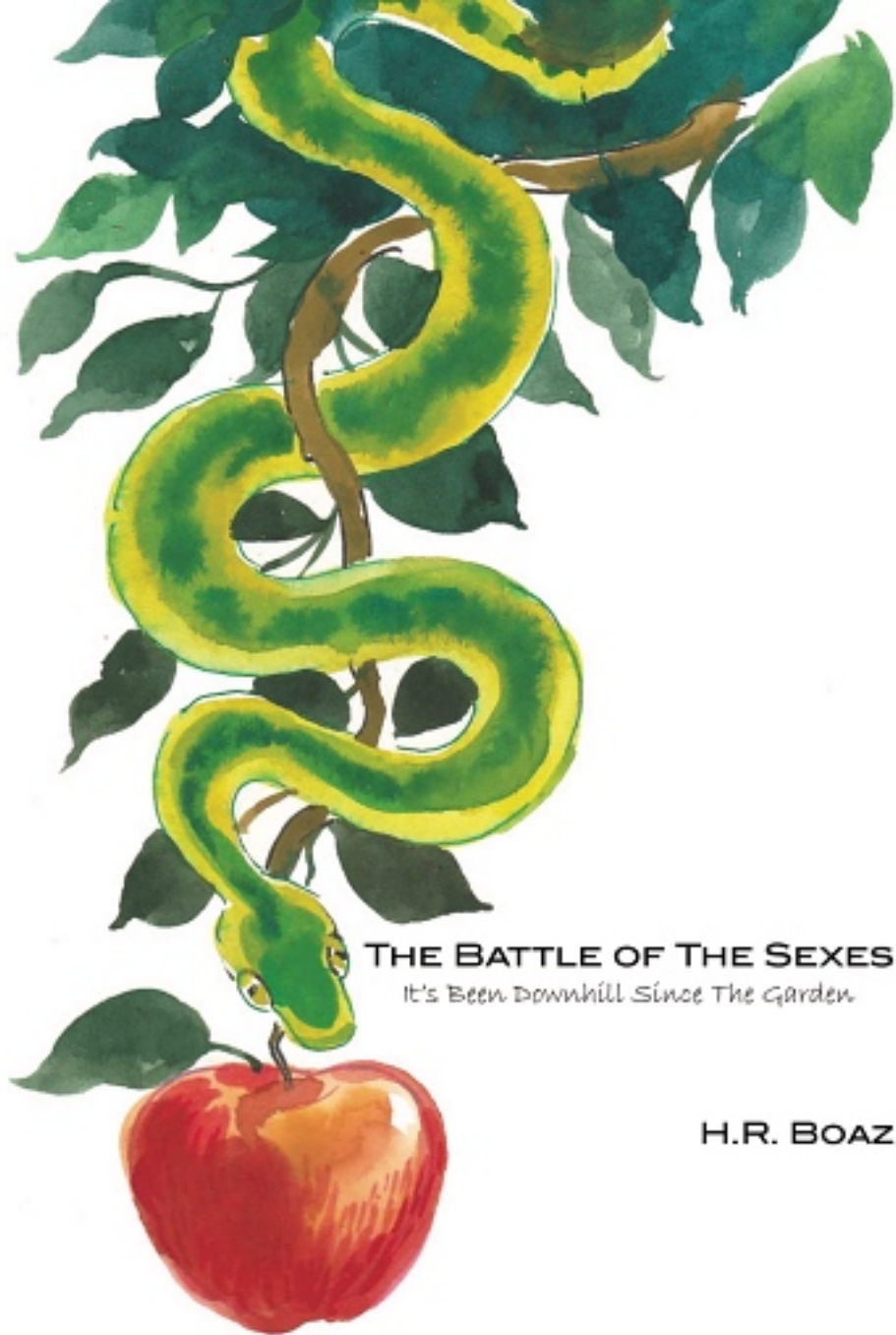
The Battle of The Sexes: It's Been Downhill Since The Garden

By H.R. Boaz

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THE BATTLE OF THE SEXES

It's Been Downhill Since The Garden

H.R. BOAZ

**Battle of The Sexes: It's Been Downhill
Since The Garden (revised) by H.R. Boaz**

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CHAPTER TWO

Seeds of The Battle

“For you have left the Commandment of Elohim, and have embraced the traditions of the sons of men.”

~ Mark 7:8a

As my bible study and research took me into unknown, nontraditional territory, I came across information that I had never heard preached in any sermon in a Christian church or a Jewish synagogue. I came across information that is not even hidden but is in plain sight in the Hebrew Torah. While knowing Biblical Hebrew is the best line of defense against distortion, we are still subject to the opinions of those around us, regardless of their supposed expertise.

Unfortunately, our intellectual and spiritual “gaze” has been diverted to myths, stereotypes, and traditions of the fathers, supposedly upheld by reference to the Scriptures. But many Bible believers have been misled about the identity of God. Likewise, they have been misled about the most fundamental relationship in God’s plan of redemption—that between women and men.

For women seeking answers in religion, many may reluctantly accept the false teachings or are immediately turned off by the sexism obvious in much religious dogma. Unfortunately, with distorted or incomplete information, they reject God and God’s Word. Paradoxically, the book that relates the creation of our world and of humankind, and establishes the relationship between God, women, and men, is also the book that is used to stoke the fires of the battle of the sexes.

However, Genesis, the first book of Torah, in spite of having been translated according to ignorance, whim, or political motives, does indeed reveal the truth of God’s heart for both women and men. Unfortunately, this truth is rarely, if ever, taught and man’s traditions have been given more authority than the Word of God (Mark 7:13).

Hidden Agenda

Over the centuries, much significant information regarding women has not been taught in either Rabbinic Judaism or Christianity—information that has always been in the Scriptures yet overlooked, misunderstood, or withheld. While ignorance can be a legitimate excuse, it does not hold up over the course of time unless there are hidden agendas or political reasons for controlling others. Throughout history, disparaging, denigrating and violating the woman, the marriage, the home, and family have always been man’s primary target of undermining, emasculating, and destroying one another. Man-made religion used to control other men and women, in particular, has always been part of the political environment.

Rather than the plain truth of YHWH’s Hebrew Word, I’ve discovered that, what Y’shua called the “traditions of the fathers,” have often had far more influence over the interpretations of Torah (Mark 7:6–9). In particular, significant to the premise of this book, the first three chapters of Genesis has set the historical stage for the battle of the sexes. This author doesn’t purport to know everything about the Scriptures, or all of the missing pieces. (No one does regardless of her/his expertise or titles.) Yet, as I’ve studied the Word for myself, I have seen glaring examples of what *has not* been taught. And I’ve wondered why this is the case.

This book is a result of my intellectual and spiritual curiosity, and throughout this book, we will explore the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, as we examine some of the ways God’s Word has been twisted and how we can discern the truth of Torah. We will discover that YHWH has given us specific signposts, or “fences” as the Jewish Sages call them, to inform, challenge, enlighten, and confirm our belief. That is also one of the purposes of this book, to share these signposts/fences and how they reveal that God’s Word is the truth, God’s undeniable blueprint for life, and not a recipe for religion nor an indictment against women.

God's Truth

While a critique of the various translations or transliterations of the Scriptures is not the purpose of this book, it's important to establish the authenticity and uniqueness of the Hebrew Scriptures as God's cosmic communication, given to us from another dimension, one where, thankfully, men cannot go.

To bolster my thesis that the Torah possesses the answers to the battle of the sexes, it's necessary to verify that the Hebrew Torah is *the truth*. Not necessarily man's truth, as males define it, but God's truth. It's important to understand that God's Word has been distorted to the detriment of all genders. What Torah says and what is gleaned, shared, and consumed from the fields of God's Word is not always the same.

In developing the foundational proof for my viewpoint, it will be necessary to identify God's chosen people—the Hebrews. In the next few chapters, we will take a brief look at the historical background of the development of the unparalleled Hebrew Scriptures along with the Biblical Hebrew language. This is important because Hebrew is a unique language. Hebrew words do not represent abstractions but reveal truth in every letter that creates the words, which we will examine in chapter four. So, it's important to get a cursory grasp of the Hebrew language because it is foundational to my assertion that while Torah has been distorted, it still contains God's Truth. It also clearly reveals who did what to initiate the battle of the sexes.

God's Chosen People

Why the Hebrew people? Today referenced as the Jews,¹ historically, this term was not used to identify all the descendants of Sarah and Abraham,² until c. fifth century BCE. The term *Hebrew* means to “cross over.”³ Seeking to escape the totalitarian, sexist,⁴ pagan rule of Nimrod, Sarah and Abraham left Babylon and *crossed over* the Euphrates River.

With faith, Sarah and Abraham followed the leading of YHWH's Ruach HaKodesh (Set Apart Spirit)⁵ into a new land—Canaan (Gen.12:5).⁶ They overcame physical, emotional, and spiritual

barriers and believed that YHWH loved them enough to bring them into a new life of freedom from man's tyranny. Thus, they were called "Hebrew." Therefore, YHWH singled out the Hebrew not because they were special but because their ancestors, Sarah and Abraham, chose to follow YHWH.

Elohim does not recognize institutionalized religion of any kind and did not single out any denomination among the Jews, including Orthodox Rabbinic Judaism.⁷ More importantly, Elohim only recognizes the *kehillah* (*nf*), the congregation of people who individually choose to worship and follow YHWH, according to Torah. What we witness being practiced in *any* religion today does not necessarily reflect the practices and intent of Torah.

While it began and remains as an eternal covenant, the Creator chose the Jewish people to demonstrate that the precepts of Torah are the road map to an effective life (Exod.34:10).⁸ As an ethnic group, the Jewish people represent a microcosm of the macrocosm; when we read the biblical stories, we should see ourselves—the Hebrew people are our mirror (Eph. 3:10). Their weaknesses reflect our weaknesses, their sins reflect our sins, their faith reflects our faith, their strength reflects our strength. The Torah is the instruction that they received for life and living (Deut. 32:47), which is also everyone's instruction for life and living, contrary to much Judeo-Christian teaching (Heb. 2:3).⁹

The 4,000-year-old story of Jewish transgression, repentance, redemption, and restoration is the story of a promise that belongs to everyone who believes in Torah, YHWH, and Y'shua's sacrifice on the Mithraic, Roman cross.¹⁰ Y'shua's death and resurrection was in fulfillment of the *Covenant of the Pieces* (Gen.15:9–18), an ancient Middle Eastern covenant custom whereby, there was no half measure. The commitment isn't "maybe" but is an "either/or." Very much like the Genesis (15:7–21) description of the *Covenant of the Pieces* between Abraham and YHWH, participants in Middle Eastern covenants made a pledge, sacrificed specific animals, exchanged promises and gifts, and sometimes erected a rock monument and shared a meal. Often the covenant was recorded with the one who broke the covenant forfeiting his life.

Many examples of covenant ceremonies are seen throughout Torah.¹¹ The ultimate covenant, authored by YHWH and fulfilled by Y'shua Ha Mashiyach was prophesied in the Tanakh (OT) and verified in the Brit Chadashah (the Renewed Covenant).¹²

Seeds of Dysfunction

In the United States and much of the Western world, a dangerous void has been created by forsaking the teaching of Torah, and removing God's Ten Commandments from the public domain. By replacing God's Word with man's word in the public school system and in general public discourse, generations have been indoctrinated with evolutionary dogma. (Compare Appendices: *Georgia Guidestones*, and *The Ten Commandments a.k.a. the Ten Words*.)

Without the concomitant teaching of the Bible creation story, generations have been robbed of the benefit of comparative study. Being told that there is no God and that mankind has evolved from some form of aquatic life form that crawled out of a pond and turned into a Ph.D. reveals man's illogical hubris, which would be laughable if it weren't so tragic. While the Scriptures have observable, historical proof and logical answers, the theory of evolution does not. Rather than holding the facts of Scripture suspect, a more obvious line of questioning is to ask who made the aquatic life form, and the human being capable of earning a Ph.D.?¹³

Unless a person has grown up in a family that has passed on knowledge of the Bible or as a curious or contrite adult, has been motivated to read and learn about the Scriptures, many people do not realize that, indeed, the Scriptures are the truth, the life, and the way (Yochanan [John] 1:17). Even among those who do appreciate the Scriptures, they may have been misled not only about the plain reading of Scriptures, but also about esoteric knowledge found in the Scriptures. Not occult knowledge, but YHWH's encryptions confirming the truth of God's Word. In chapters four and five, we will investigate some of this mystical knowledge, which instead should be common knowledge.

The Greatest Book Never Taught

At the same time that Christianity misunderstands and distorts Torah and thereby the “New Testament,” the Jews have failed in their ministry to teach their stubborn Gentile brothers and sisters God’s Hebrew Word. Of course, when people are being persecuted, tortured, and slaughtered, it’s difficult to minister.¹⁴ As one Hebrew Roots teacher likes to say, the Torah is the greatest book never taught.¹⁵ Together with the Brit Chadashah (NT), the less the Torah is taught in our homes and acknowledged in our culture, the more societal chaos will grow—not only between the genders but in every facet of our lives.

Mankind’s disobedience was introduced in the Garden of Eden and has proliferated, in large part, through the distorted teaching of these same events through man-made religion. If we want to understand how our world has become so dangerous, with every perversion peddled as the “new norm,” we must understand how this seed of dysfunction was sown in Gan Eden and continues to grow to this day.

Admittedly, I’m proselytizing—for the truth. I’m not merely speaking *my* truth; I am speaking *the* truth. Reality is truth, and truth is reality; not being in touch with reality is called *insanity*. Humans, as elements of a natural universe, seek boundaries (a safe reality) within which to live. We each make our own choices but we have to possess the pertinent information to make those choices otherwise we confuse *what* and *who* is safe (Joshua 24:15). God, being smarter than we are, gave us the detailed instructions with just enough room for individual self-expression. The Hebrew Torah, God’s guide to reality, is the beginning of the spiritual journey that leads to the discovery of wisdom, truth, and a good, long life (Prov.3:19–26).¹⁶

Not On The Same Page

In evolution there is no restoration because you cannot go where you have not been other than staying stuck in the mud from which you claim to have crawled. So, from where came the idea of a return to paradise and the possibility of eternal life if not from God’s Word?

We can never get all of humanity on the same page because if there is to be *restoration* instead of the *utopia* (no place) that man ignorantly seeks, it will have to be God's instruction book as our guide—not man's philosophy and certainly not technology! Man's obsession with ignoring God and doing things his own way has been a problem from the beginning, and so it is in the end.¹⁷

But restoration will not happen until Y'shua Ha Mashiyach returns. Not because I say so, but because this is what both Y'shua and YHWH have told us in the Torah and the Brit Chadashah¹⁸ (NT).

“Now the members of your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not proper;’ but then, it is their ways that are not proper. If a righteous person turns back from his righteousness and practices corruption, he shall die for [his acts]; and if a wicked person turns back from his wickedness and acts with justice and righteousness, he shall live for [his acts]. Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not proper!’ I shall judge you, each man according to his ways, O House of Israel!” (Ezekiel 33:17–20)

While these words were spoken to the House of Israel, this applies to all of mankind regardless if they seek redemption through Y'shua. But most people don't know how to be obedient to Torah because of man's distortions of YHWH and God's Word. In both Judaism and Christianity, it is taught that Torah is too difficult, if not impossible to keep, and that we need experts to tell us what it says, but YHWH tells us otherwise,¹⁹

“For this commandment that I command you, today—it is not hidden from you and it is not distant. It is not in heaven, [for you] to say, ‘Who can ascend to the heaven for us and take it for us, so that we can listen to it and perform it?’ Nor is it across the sea, [for you] to say, ‘Who can cross the other side of the sea for us and take it for us, so that we can listen to it and perform it?’ Rather, the matter is very near to you—in your mouth and in your heart to perform it.” (Deuteronomy 30:11–14)

No Escape

Because many men reject Torah and thereby the Eternal Creator, they think that they will escape God’s judgment. Like a child who thinks that his parent cannot perceive his mischief, he believes that he is impervious to detection, “. . . And they say, ‘God will not see, nor will the God of Jacob understand’” (Psalms 94:7). Therefore, he thinks that he is not answerable to a higher authority.

Fortified with male hubris and an errant reading of Torah, men believe that they have total dominion over the planet. (Ahhh, but which men should have total control? He with the biggest . . . whatever.) And without immediate, consistent or obvious negative consequences, men can do as they wish (Ya’acov 4:2), and after trashing this planet, emboldened by their “superior intellect” and technology, they can move to another planet—but they will only take themselves with them!

As men are prone to do, they errantly worship other men, the work of their own hands, or themselves—they create their own gods (Rev. 9:20). But YHWH has admonished us not to create and worship other gods for good reason (Exod. 20:3–5). Elohim has established sovereign ownership of the earth and rightfully claimed all control, including over our individual lives. Otherwise, we forget from where we receive our very life and abilities and engage in all sorts of destructive thoughts and behaviors (Psalms 50:12). The present state of affairs, the world over, is clear testimony to this fact.

Legitimate Reference

Mankind has no more insight, beauty, talent, or power than God grants (Isa. 45:9–12). What people do with their God-given gifts, for good or for evil, is another matter. Regardless of the intellect or power one might possess, we are all capable of destroying ourselves and one another—the body but not the soul.²⁰ Therein resides the challenge, to choose good over evil. But you must have the right reference for the definitions of good and evil (Isa. 5:20–24). (See Appendix *Good and Evil: Self-Defining*.)

Many people misunderstand their brief sojourn on this earth. It is not for accomplishment other than to learn to live with God and one another—beginning in the marriage—the scenario that is first presented in God’s Torah. That requires assimilating the spiritual image of YHWH, but if you don’t know YHWH and haven’t read God’s directions, you can’t follow them. And if you base your knowledge of Torah on hearsay, you *will be* misled. While “really smart” men seek eternal life through their inane experiments, they ignore the fact that humanity already possesses eternal life. These really smart men, however, fail to grasp that, other than through belief in YHWH and observance of Torah, individuals do not possess the power to live eternally or to redeem him or herself or anyone else. They can take nothing with them when they die (Psalm 49), and without redemption, their souls will endure God’s judgment and eternal wrath (Rev. 10:15). Period.

In the past, women seemed to understand these lifesaving principles better than men, but currently, women, too, are becoming a spiritually endangered species. “. . . Elohim gave them up to vile passions . . . even their females changed the use of their natures . . .”(Romans 1:24–27). More than ever before, women need to stop following godless men and start following YHWH! But women need to know that what they have been told is “God’s Word” is not necessarily God’s Word.

Traditions of The Fathers

As we take this foray into the misinterpretation and errant teaching of the first three chapters of God’s Word, it should become clear that the subject matter is not what is taught in churches, in most synagogues, nor any other religious institution. The genesis of how both women and men have been misled in their perception of God and the Scriptures should likewise become clear. Similarly, how woman have been separated from God, her husband, and her children and given second-class status (or worse) by men throughout history should also come into focus.

Perhaps you will find the information presented in this book useful in setting a new reference point in sorting through the mind-boggling array of information and contradictory teachings regarding the Scriptures and the various versions of bibles.²¹ Hopefully, you will discover a more authentic, personal way of relating to YHWH and the Word of God, with a different perspective of the female/male relationship and the battle of the sexes.

To be sure, Torah is not simply some ancient book written by a bunch of old, sexist men, however, the Torah has often been reinterpreted by sexist men of any age, in many eras. Indeed, the Word of God has been blasphemed in disparaging women while elevating men to the status of *God*. Nonetheless, of all of the books that have ever been written or printed, the Bible is the one book necessary for us to read, study, and observe. Our eternal life depends upon it.

“. . . The making of many books is without limit, and much study is weariness of the flesh. The sum of the matter, when all has been considered: Fear God and keep his commandments, for that is man’s whole duty. For God will judge every deed—even everything hidden—whether good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:12–14).

It’s time to rethink the traditions of the father, that teach the Scriptural Genesis narrative as giving the singular male dominion over the earth with rule over the female, and blaming the woman for mankind’s fall into sin and death. These are grave distortions and teachings that have poisoned much of what people think they understand as they hear or read the Word of God.

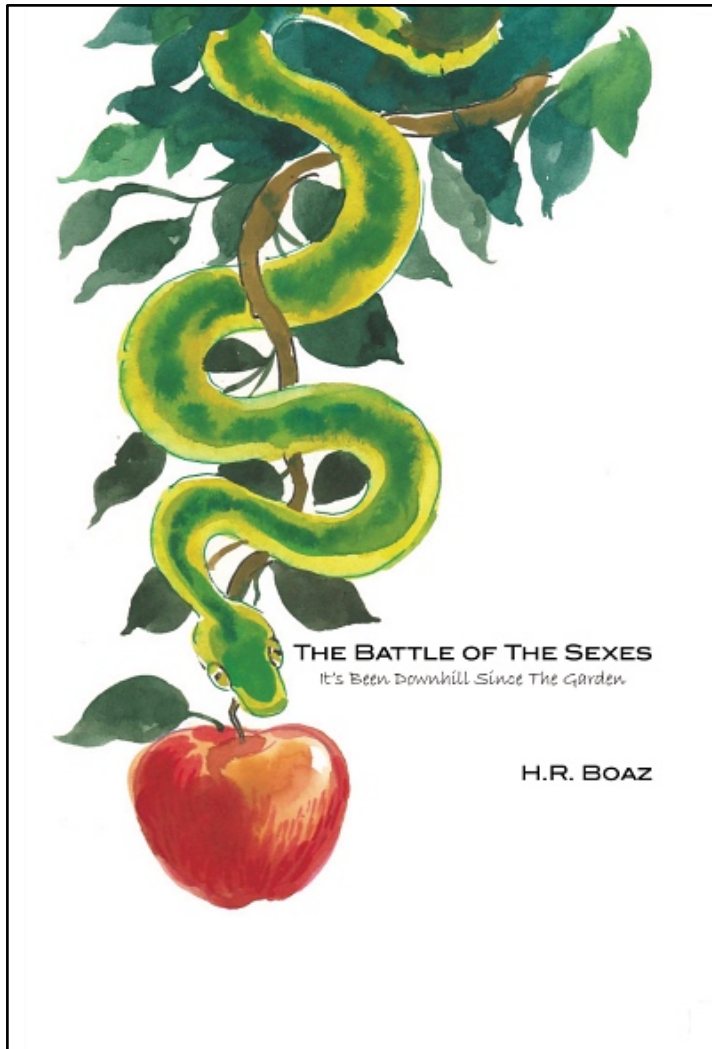
It is not what God’s Word says that has lit and stoked the fires of competition between the genders. It is the male gender’s egotistical, erroneous claims about God’s Word that is the source of the problem. Echoing Adam’s disobedience in Gan Eden, men still seek parity with YHWH and reject the feminine essence of the Creator. Therein are the seeds of the battle of the sexes, and it’s been downhill since the Garden.

NOTES

1. The term “Jew” is in reference to the descendants of Judah, one of the twelve tribes of Israel (a.k.a., Ya’acov, Jacob). During the Babylonian exile, the members of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi, taken as captives, were referred to as “Jews” (see the book of Esther). After the return from the Babylonian dispersion, Hebrew inhabitants of the southern part of the original Land of Israel, known as Judea, were known as Jews, c. 589 BCE.
2. Genesis 12, 17, 21:1–3.
3. Sarah and Abraham were discipled by their ancestor Eber (Gen. 10:21–24), from which the name *Hebrew* is derived. Eber was the descendent of Shem, the son of Noah and Naamah (Gen. 10:24). (See Appendix: *Hebrew/EE-VREET: the Language of God*).
4. Judith S. Antonelli, *In The Image Of God: A Feminist Commentary on the Torah*, 27–34. According to the Code of Hammurabi, to which Abraham and Sarah could have been subject, all women prior to marriage were required to undergo “ritual defloration” by going to the temple of the great goddess and waiting there until a stranger threw a coin into her lap. She could not refuse his sexual summons. Relieved of her duty to the goddess by having intercourse, the woman could return home and resume her life. Throughout Western Asia, sacred prostitution was the cultural norm. It was the Torah that restored egalitarian relationship and dignity to women who *crossed over*.
5. YHWH’s *Ruach HaKodesh* (*nf/m*) is translated as “Holy Spirit,” however, in Hebrew it more correctly means YHWH’s *Set Apart Spirit*. When we accept the instruction of Torah as our guide for life and living, we are “set apart” unto YHWH. In other words, we possess God’s *Ruach HaKodesh*. We are not holy by what we profess to believe, we are set apart because we *shema—hear* and *do* Torah (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 22:37).
6. Canaan, the “land flowing with milk and honey” (Exodus 3:8), bequeathed by YHWH to the Hebrew descendants of Sarah and Abraham eventually becoming known as Israel. Canaan was a descendant of Cham (Ham), one of the sons of Noah and Naamah (Gen. 9:22). Originally inheriting the land, Canaan’s progeny defiled the land with their idol worship and sexual sin. (Lev. 18:27, 28; 20:23). YHWH then gave the land to Abraham and Sarah’s Hebrew descendants as an eternal inheritance (Gen. 12:5–7).

7. Rabbinic Judaism has its spiritual genesis in the lay sect of the Pharisees recorded in the *Brit Chadashah* (NT). Representing more than one sect, Rabbinic Judaism is not monolithic; it does not represent the beliefs and practices of all Jewish people. Nonetheless, Rabbinic Orthodox Judaism wields great political power in Eretz Israel.
8. Psalms 89:25–37; Ezekiel 28:25–26, 36:10,11, et al.
9. According to Rabbinic Judaism, Gentiles are only to live by what the rabbis call the *Noahide Laws*, a term not found in Torah. After the Flood, these torah (instructions) given by YHWH to Noah and his family are found in Genesis 8:20–9:12. These instructions changed nothing but, instead, reiterated and added to previous torah given to the primal couple and were for all mankind. The written Torah is for everyone, not only the Jews (Exod. 12:49; Lev. 24:22; Num. 15:15–16).
10. The Roman Mithraic mysteries and the Roman use of the cross as an instrument of crucifixion was inherited from the pagan influences of the ancient Persian Zoroastrian religion.
11. Such covenants, also called *blood covenants*, are still carried out in the Middle East today. In the past, they took covenants very seriously; if one broke such a covenant, they had to forfeit his/her life. Examples of covenants in Torah: Gen. 15:9–18; Gen. 31:44–54; Exod. 34:10; Jeremiah 34:18, et al.
12. As the right arm of YHWH, Y'shua made the Covenant of the Pieces (Gen. 15:9–18) with Abraham and Sarah (Isa. 42:1–9). Y'shua didn't break the Covenant—the Hebrew descendants broke it. But Y'shua chose to die in their place, covering their transgressions with his gift of new life through his own blood sacrifice instead of that of an animal. Life, the soul, is in the blood (Lev.17:11,14; Deut.12:23–25; Mark 14:22-25; Yochanan [John] 6:54).
13. Obviously, a mind far greater than any human mind is at work in our creation. Each human body contains a library of genetic information that, when uncoiled, is ten billion miles long. Our DNA contains our blue print for life: how each organ grows and works in conjunction with the entire body, how we reproduce, our thoughts and memories, everything about our existence. Evolutionists' claim of billions of years to evolve the amazing, intricate information and physical systems from which all life forms develop is bogus in that time militates against evolution due to entropy. See also chapter 1, note 24.

14. Fulfilling prophecy, the Jews were estranged from the Land (Isaiah 43:28). Following the Bar Kokba Revolt c. 135 CE, being driven from the land by the Roman Emperor, Hadrian, they became the scapegoat of the world, maligned, mocked, and murdered throughout the ages, i.e., the Christian Crusades, the Catholic Inquisition, the Polish and Russian Pogroms (among others), and the German Nazi Holocaust. Likewise, in fulfillment of Hosea's prophecy, after two days (2,000 years) (2 Peter 3:8; Psalm 90:4), Israel was restored in 1948 (Hosea 5:15–6:2).
15. Michael Rood, www.ARoodAwakening.tv, DVD twenty-four-part series: "The Spring Feasts of The Lord" and "The Fall Feasts of The Lord."
16. The fear of YHWH is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge of the sacred: Psalms 111:10; Proverbs 1:7, 9:10.
17. Compare Appendix: *Georgia Guidestones*, and Appendix: *The Ten Commandments a.k.a. the Ten Words*.
18. Ezekiel 37:24, Acts 3:19-22.
19. Romans 10:6–8: "But the righteousness which is by faith, says thus: 'You will not say in your heart, "Who ascends to heaven and brings Mashiyach down?" Or, "Who descends to the abyss of Sheol and brings up Mashiyach from the house of the dead?"' But what says it? 'The thing is near to your mouth and to your heart': that is, the Word of Faith which we declare." The Torah is confirmed in the Brit Chadashah, by faith in YHWH, and the redemptive work of Y'shua, whose name means "YHWH is Salvation." (The name *Jesus* is not a translation and does not reflect the same meaning therefore it cannot be the name of the Son of YHWH.)
20. Ezekiel 18:4; Matthew 10:28.
21. There are over 3,000 versions of the Old Testament and the New Testament taken from at least three major translations, regardless of religion or denomination: Hebrew/Aramaic, Greek, and Latin. The Torah, a.k.a., the Five Books of Moshe, contain God's instructions (laws). The four Gospels of the New Testament relating the life and times of Y'shua provides a narrative of the fulfillment of Torah prophecies together with the commentary of the Shlichim (Apostles) and the prophetic Word of Y'shua, in the final book of Revelation.



Today, few healthy role models for female/male relationship exist in any culture. What does God's Word really say about how women and men are to relate? Does the Bible say what we've been told that it says? You might be surprised!

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By H.R. Boaz

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