

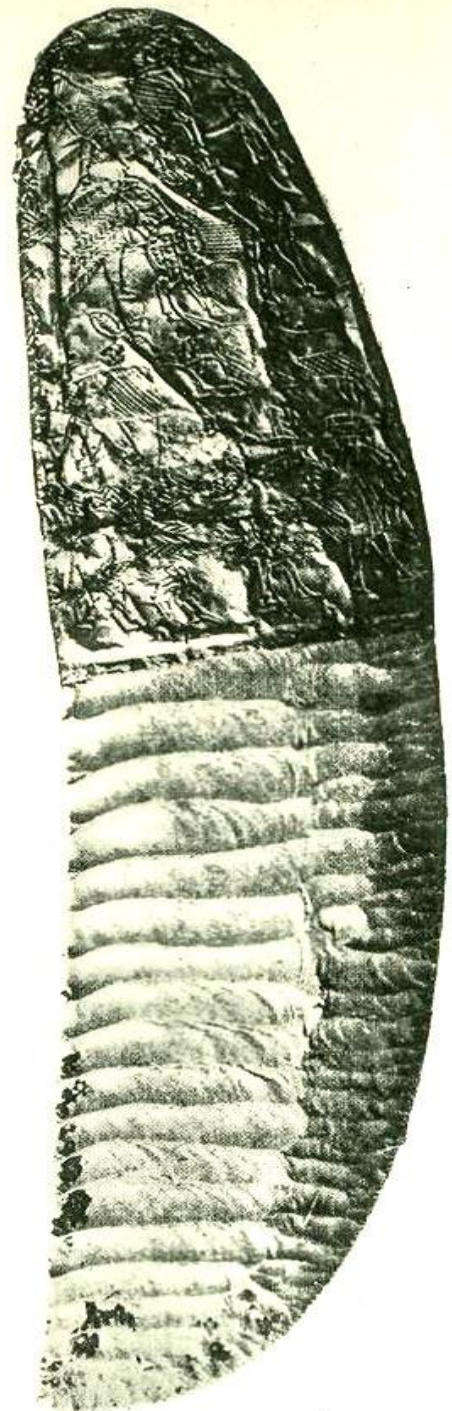
# CIRCUMCISION AT GILGAL IS BECAUSE OF WILDERNESS REBELLION

- This “2<sup>nd</sup> circumcision” was a pre-requisite for celebrating Passover
- Males circumcised in Egypt, but now they are dead
- No circumcisions performed during the Wilderness Journey



# WHY FLINT KNIVES FOR CIRCUMCISIONS?

- Bronze and Iron were the typical material used for knives in Joshua's day
- Flint knives had gone out of use for about 2-3 centuries
- Tradition: Abraham and Jacob had used flint knives to circumcise
- God-pattern: patterned after rule not to use a metal tool on stones used to build an Altar to Yehoveh



# FLINT KNIVES COULD BE USED TO SHAPE ALTAR STONES



- Flint is a natural substance, used as found
- Metal had to be extracted, fired, formed, and worked
- Stones to build an altar were just regular stones
- After being selected they became sanctified
- Parallel: Israelite males were just men, but after being “chosen” by God, they became sanctified<sub>3</sub>

# AM versus GOY

- Joshua 5:4 “all the people (*am*) who came out of Egypt” died in the Wilderness”
- Joshua 5:6 “wandered in the Wilderness until all the people/nation (*goy*) died”
- *Am* = kindred, fellow citizens, God’s people
- *Goy* = people, nation, NON-Hebrew people, NOT God’s people
- Because of their rebellion in the Wilderness, the Israelites had their status changed from *am* to *goy* (in a spiritual sense, not physically)
- It is circumcision that is the sign of being set apart as God’s people



# NO CIRCUMCISION, NO ISRAEL

- God would NOT turn his land over to “spiritual *goy*”
- Therefore a 2<sup>nd</sup> circumcision was a must
- AFTER circumcision, Israel was redeemed
- THEN they were referred to as “*am*”
- Israel then rebelled and removed their special status
- Same basic story with Hosea and Ephraim-Israel
- *Lo-ammi* = *goy*

# WE CAN WALK AWAY FROM GOD

- Redemption does not permit us to go our own way, be disobedient, and disregard God's holiness
- From God's heavenly standpoint it was 3 million **GOY** who crossed over the Jordon into Canaan
- Romans 2 & 3 requires spiritual circumcision of the heart
- Romans 11 Branches broken off for NOT maintaining faith and trust!!



# NO MORE MANNA



- Israel celebrated the 3 Spring Feasts
- Passover Nisan 14<sup>th</sup>, Matza Nisan 15<sup>th</sup>, Firstfruits Nisan 16<sup>th</sup>
- Major transition marked by a change in diet
- Israel was now more mature and expected to live off of the Promised Land instead of the food rained from the sky
- Maturity!!!



# *“ feed my sheep.....”*

- John 21:14
- New Believers **NEED** to be fed
- Hurting Believers **NEED** to be fed
- Mature Believers **NEED** to feed the others!!





# COMMANDER OF GOD'S ARMY

- Joshua asks, “friend or foe”?
- Being answers, “**Lo**”
- **Lo** = no, not, none, neither
- **Sar** = leader, prince
- Not a vision or a dream, it was real
- What or Who was this being?
- Regular Angels tell people NOT to worship them!
- This divine being expected to be worshipped!!



# MANIFESTATIONS OF GOD



- Ex. 3:2 It was the *Malach* of *Yehoveh* that was in the Burning Bush
- Identified Himself as the great I AM
- Nature of the Messenger of God and God Himself blurs
- Dan.8:11 *Sar* of God's army
- *Shekinah* speaks with God's authority, in 1<sup>st</sup> person

# GREAT CARE IS REQUIRED IN CREATING DOCTRINES

- Doctrine of the Trinity says any God apparition **MUST BE** one of Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
- Who then is the Angel of the Lord? Who is the ***Shekinah***? Who is the Commander of God's Army? Who is the "***adonai***" (lord) of Abraham?
- We must be careful **NOT** to create doctrines and then read them back into Scripture
- We must also not create doctrines simply to have a ready answer or solution to a hazy subject



# REALITY OF DUALITY

HEAVEN AND THE  
SPIRITUAL WORLD

←—————→  
SPIRITUAL REALM



←—————→  
PHYSICAL REALM