Greetings, today our manna is from Deut. 17; Psalm 104; Isaiah 44; Revelation 14

June 12 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: For teaching purposes only, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.] Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: https://www.e-sword.net/

Deuteronomy 17

YHWH deserves <u>our very best</u>; we are to be 'living sacrifices' offering <u>spiritual offerings</u> of praise and worship; we should have <u>the mind of Yahusha</u> by diligently studying His Word; we should <u>do the will of YHWH</u> [the Father]; and lastly we should walk in the Spirit and <u>be</u> doers of His Word, not hearers only.

Today, this is how we properly administer and guard YHWH's charge. We will see that 'His charge' to us under the New Testament; differs from His charge given in Deuteronomy 17.

- <u>This should be obvious</u> since Yahusha, was the final unblemished, spotless sacrifice; who laid down His life and took it back up; once for all!
 - 1Pe 1:19 but with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless,
- <u>This should be obvious</u> since the priesthood was transferred from John the Immerser to Yahusha our High Priest of the Melchizedek order. They were properly administering the Book of the Law, in the time period in which they lived. This was the proper transference consecration from one high priest [Aaronic] to The Melchizedek.
 - Mat 3:14 But Yoḥanan was hindering Him, saying, "I need to be immersed by You, and You come to me?" Mat 3:15 But יהושע answering, said to him, "Permit it now, for thus <u>it is fitting for us to fill all righteousness</u>." Then he permitted Him.
- <u>This should be obvious</u> knowing with a change in priesthood comes a change in law.
 - Heb 7:11 Truly, then, if perfection were through the Lěwitical priesthood for under it the people were given the Torah – why was there still need for another priest to arise according to the order of Malkitsedeq, and not be called according to the order of Aharon? Heb 7:12 For the priesthood being changed,^b of necessity there takes place a change of law also.
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that there has been a change in 'administrations.' What priesthood were you born under? Who is your High Priest?
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that we have been redeemed once and for all, not with the blood of bulls and goats; but by the precious blood of the Lamb.
 - Heb 9:11 But Messiah, having become a High Priest of the coming good matters, through the greater and more perfect Tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, Heb 9:12 entered into the Most Set-apart Place once for all, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood, having obtained everlasting redemption.
- This should be obvious we should not go back to the 'administration' of animal sacrifices;

this would be trampling on the blood of Yahusha making His ultimate sacrifice of no effect. The following two verses clearly depicts the change in administration of law.

- Heb 10:28 Anyone who has disregarded the Torah of Mosheh <u>dies without</u> <u>compassion on the witness of two or three witnesses.</u>
- Heb 10:29 How much worse punishment do you think shall he deserve who has trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was set apart as common, and insulted the Spirit of favour?
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that when we accept His invitation to the New Covenant; we are accepting His proposal to only being devoted to Him; and Him to us.
 - Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, it is necessary for the death of the covenanted one to be established. Heb 9:17 For a covenant over those dead is firm, since it is never valid while the covenanted one is living.
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that the bread and the wine of Passover is now our <u>covenant</u> confirming meal. There is <u>no greater love than His</u>; the bread representing His body and the wine His blood. The foot washing represents our priestly transference into His Melchizedek Priesthood as His kingdom of priests. He is the pure 'unleavened' Word of YHWH; with nothing added nor taken away. We are Israel! We are the mixed multitude of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. We are <u>the one new man</u>; depicted as the child being born in Revelation 12, with Yahusha as the head.
 - Joh 13:7 יהושע answered and said to him, "You do not know what I am doing now, but you shall know after this." Joh 13:8 Kěpha said to Him, "By no means shall You wash my feet, ever!" יהושע answered him, <u>"If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."</u>
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that Yahusha is not only our Groom but is our High Priest of the Melchizedek Order. [Psalm110:4]
 - Psa 110:4 יהוה has sworn and does not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Malkitsedeq."
- <u>This should be obvious</u> that proving one's mother/father lineage is <u>not</u> required to be part of <u>His kingdom of priests</u>; as it had been under the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood.
- I will stop here, but I most certainly could go on to reproof improper administration of His Word. We have been under such leadership long enough that has done so; knowingly or unknowingly. We have Yahusha [YHWH in Son] and we have His Holy Spirit [Ruach HaKodesh] to lead us into all truth. This requires diligently studying His Word.
 - Paul is a perfect example of this. He too, like Yahusha was born under the administration of the <u>Book of the Law</u>. He had memorized most, if not all, of the Tenak [Pentateuch; Prophets; Writings]; yet, before he went on his journeys; he went back and studied His Word for 3 years with His new eyes. He studied the Word from the Covenant Torah perspective and no longer being <u>under the curse</u>.
 - Paul was the chosen vessel who preached on this very topic; change in priesthood change in law. He had been born again by faith!

Gal 3:10 For as many as are of works of Torah are under the curse, for it has been written, **"Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all that has been written in** the Book of the Torah, to do them." <u>Deu 27:26</u>.

Gal 3:11 And that no one is declared right by Torah before Elohim is clear, for "**The** righteous shall live by belief." <u>Hab 2:4</u>.

Gal 3:12 And the Torah is not of belief, but **"The man who does them shall live by them."** <u>Lev_18:5</u>.

Gal 3:13 Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Torah, having become a curse for us – for it has been written, **"Cursed is everyone who hangs upon a tree."** – <u>Deu_21:23</u>.

Gal 3:14 in order that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the nations in Messiah יהושע, to receive the promise of the Spirit through belief.

In Deuteronomy 17, Moses continues to instruct the people, that are about to enter the promise land, on how to properly administer sacrifices; legal decisions; and governing under the Book of the Law. In Deuteronomy 31:26, Moses will complete this Book of the Law and it will be placed beside the Ark of the Covenant as a witness against them.

Deu 31:26 "Take this Book of the Torah [Law], and you shall place it beside the ark of the covenant of יהוה your Elohim, and it shall be there as a witness against you,

Remember, <u>Moses</u>, <u>Aaron and the people were FIRST under the Melchizedek Priesthood</u> **before** the people sinned with the golden calf. The Book of the Covenant Ex. 19:4-Ex.24:11 given at Mt. Sinai had been agreed upon with the people; blood ratified; and the covenant confirming meal took place. Just look at who was at this meal with YHWH!</u>

Exo 24:9 And Mosheh went up, also Aharon, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Yisra'ěl,

Exo 24:10 and they saw the Elohim of Yisra'ěl, and under His feet like a paved work of sapphire stone, and like the heavens for brightness.

Exo 24:11 Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the chiefs of the children of Yisra'ěl! And they saw Elohim, and they ate and drank.

The Aaronic Levitical Priesthood was established to implement the <u>imposed</u> Book of the Law to <u>spare their very lives</u>. The Melchizedek Priesthood <u>predated</u> the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood. The righteous Melchizedek lineage would run parallel to the Aaronic priesthood in a denigrated position; UNTIL Yahusha HaMashiach would once again elevate the Melchizedek Priesthood forevermore!

Read Deuteronomy 17 and compare to the present changes we are under as His kingdom of priests of the Melchizedek Order. <u>We are now under the administration of Covenant</u> <u>Torah</u>. That doesn't mean we neglect studying or exclude any portion of Scripture! All is profitable! The time period under the Book of the Law and the Aaronic Priesthood pointed us to Yahusha! <u>It was a parable</u> [Heb. 9:9] to teach us about Him; about being priests; about His Dwelling Place; about obedience, etc.!

Heb 9:9 which was a parable for the present time in which both gifts and slaughters are offered which are unable to perfect the one serving, as to his conscience,

1Pe 2:9 But you are a **chosen race**,^b <u>Deu_10:15</u> a **royal priesthood**,^c <u>Isa_61:6</u> a **set-apart nation**,^d <u>Exo_19:6</u> a **people for a possession**,^e <u>Isa_43:2</u> that you should proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light, Footnotes: ^bAlso see <u>Isa_43:20</u>. ^cAlso see <u>Isa_66:21</u>. ^dAlso see <u>Deu_7:6</u>. ^eAlso see <u>Exo_19:5</u>, <u>Tit_2:14</u>.

1Pe 2:10 who once were **not a people**,^f but now the **people of Elohim**;^f who had **not obtained compassion**,^f but now **obtained compassion**.^f Hos_1:9-10, Hos_2:23. Footnote: ^fAlso see <u>Isa_65:1</u>, Hos_1:9, Isa_63:16, Isa_64:8, Rom_9:25-26. 1Pe 2:11 Beloved ones, I appeal to you as sojourners and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly lusts which battle against the being,

1Pe 2:12 having your behaviour among the nations good so that when they speak against you as evil-doers, let them, by observing your good works,^g esteem Elohim in a day of visitation. Footnote: 9 <u>Mat_5:16</u>.

Today in Deut. 17, YHWH placed on my heart to share, that Moses was teaching the proper administration of the law in which they lived under. This is our 'take away!' We are to **guard His charge**; know what priesthood and law we live under; and properly administer His Word accordingly. This is paramount in understanding His Word. I truly pray this understanding brings His Word to life for you like never before. It has for me, and I share this with joyous love and appreciation for Yahusha setting us, the captives, free; **NOT to lawlessness but to live and walk in Covenant with Him.**

Deu 17:1 "Do not slaughter to יהוה your Elohim a bull or sheep which has any blemish, any evil matter, for that is an abomination to יהוה your Elohim.

Deu 17:2 "When there is found in your midst, in any of your cities which יהוה your Elohim is giving you, a man or a woman who does what is evil in the eyes of יהוה your Elohim, in transgressing His covenant,

Deu 17:3 and has gone and served other mighty ones and bowed down to them, or to the sun or to the moon or to any of the host of the heavens, which I have not commanded,

Deu 17:4 and it has been made known to you and you have heard, and have searched diligently. Then see, if true: the matter is confirmed that such an abomination has been done in Yisra'ěl,

Deu 17:5 then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has done this evil matter, and you shall stone to death that man or woman with stones.

Deu 17:6 "At the mouth of two or three witnesses shall he that is to die be put to death. He is not put to death by the mouth of one witness.

Deu 17:7 "The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and the hand of all the people last. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

Legal Decisions by Priests and Judges

Deu 17:8 "When any matter arises which is too hard for you to judge, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, or between stroke and stroke – matters of strife within your gates – then you shall rise and go up to the place which יהוה your Elohim chooses,

Deu 17:9 and shall come to the priests, the Lěwites, and to the judge who is in those days, and shall inquire. And they shall declare to you the word of right-ruling,

Deu 17:10 and you shall do according to the word which they declare to you from that place which יהוה chooses. And you shall guard to do according to all that they instruct you.

Deu 17:11 "Do according to the Torah in which they teach you, according to the rightruling which they say to you. You do not turn to the right or to the left from the word which they declare to you.

Deu 17:12 "And the man who acts arrogantly, so as not to listen to the priest who stands to serve there before **הוה** your Elohim, or to the judge, that man shall die. So you shall purge the evil from Yisra'ěl.

Deu 17:13 "And let all the people hear and fear, and no longer do arrogantly.

Laws Concerning Israel's Kings

Deu 17:14 "When you come to the land which יהוה your Elohim is giving you, and shall possess it and shall dwell in it, and you shall say, 'Let me set a sovereign over me like all the nations that are around me,'

Deu 17:15 you shall certainly set a sovereign over you whom יהוה your Elohim shall choose. Set a sovereign over you from among your brothers, you are not allowed to set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.

Deu 17:16 "Only, he is not to increase horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Mitsrayim to increase horses, for **יהוה** has said to you, 'Do not return that way again.'

Deu 17:17 "And he is not to increase wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor is he to greatly increase silver and gold for himself.

Deu 17:18 "And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his reign, that he shall write for himself a copy of this Torah in a book, from the one before the priests, the Lěwites.

Deu 17:19 "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, so that he learns to fear יהוה his Elohim and guard all the Words of this Torah and these laws, to do them,

Deu 17:20 so that his heart is not lifted up above his brothers, and so as not to turn aside from the command, right or left, so that he prolongs his days in his reign, he and his children, in the midst of Yisra'ěl.

Psalm 104

Psalm 104 is ascribed to David. We know David was in the righteous lineage of the Melchizedek Order. Remember that the Melchizedek order ran parallel to the Aaronic Levitical Order which was established to <u>administer the imposed Book of the Law</u>. <u>David</u> was a prophet, priest, and king</u>. David was obviously a king and several of the Psalms he wrote were prophetic.

Like David, when we read or sing Psalms aloud, we praise and exalt YHWH. This demonstrates how we, <u>His kingdom of priest of the Melchizedek Order</u>, offer up spiritual offerings of praise and worship to Him. This is our heart's desire. As we praise Him, we too are lifted up by His awesomeness and great love for us.

He is the Creator of the smallest micro-organism to the largest 'Leviathan' of the sea. All creation stays within their boundaries and functions according to His intelligent design. The worldly technology of A.I. [artificial intelligence]; fades in comparison to the Almighty Elohim!!!

Priestly acts of David are recorded in Scripture. David is dressed in white linen and at times wears the ephod shoulder garment:

2Sa 6:14 And Dawid danced before יהוה with all his might. <u>And Dawid was wearing a linen</u> <u>shoulder garment. [ephod]</u>

1Ch 15:26 And it came to be, when Elohim helped the Lěwites who bore the ark of the covenant of יהוה, that they slaughtered seven bulls and seven rams. 1Ch 15:27 And <u>Dawid was dressed in a robe of fine linen, as were all the Léwites who bore the ark, the singers</u>, and Kenanyah the leader of the service with the singers. And Dawid wore a linen shoulder garment.

Priestly acts of David being allowed to eat the showbread.

1Sa 21:4 And the priest answered Dawid and said, "There is no ordinary bread on hand, but there is set-apart bread – provided the young men have kept themselves from women."

1Sa 21:5 And Dawid answered the priest, and said to him, <u>"Truly, women have been kept from</u> us about three days since I came out. And the vessels of the young men are set-apart, and it is an ordinary mission, and also, it was set-apart in the vessel today."

1Sa 21:6 <u>Then **the priest gave him set-apart** *bread*</u>, for there was no bread there except the showbread which had been taken from before יהוה, in order to put hot bread in on the day it is taken away.

This bread consisted of twelve loaves made of the finest flour. They were flat and thin,

and were placed in two rows of six each on a table in the holy place before the Lord. They were renewed every Sabbath (<u>Leviticus 24:5</u>-9), and those that were removed to give place to the new ones were **to be eaten by the priests only** in the holy place (see <u>1 Samuel 21:3</u>-6; Comp. <u>Matthew 12:3</u>, 4). <u>https://biblehub.com/topical/s/shewbread.htm</u>

O YHWH My Elohim, You Are Very Great

Psa 104:1 Bless יהוה, O my being! O יהוה my Elohim, You have been very great: You have put on excellency and splendor,

Psa 104:2 Covering Yourself with light as with a garment, Stretching out the heavens like a curtain,

Psa 104:3 <u>Who is laying the beams of His upper rooms in the waters</u>, Who is making thick clouds His chariot, Who is walking on the wings of the wind,

Psa 104:4 Making His messengers the winds, His servants a flame of fire.

Psa 104:5 He established the earth on its foundations, So that it would not totter forever,

Psa 104:6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains.

Psa 104:7 At Your rebuke they flee; At the voice of Your thunder they hurry away.

Psa 104:8 They go up the mountains; They go down the valleys, To the place which You founded for them.

Psa 104:9 You did set a boundary, they do not pass over, They do not return to cover the earth.

Psa 104:10 Who is sending the springs into the valleys, They flow among the hills.

Psa 104:11 They give drink to every beast of the field; Wild donkeys break their thirst.

Psa 104:12 The birds of the heavens dwell beside them; They sing from between the branches.

Psa 104:13 Watering the hills from His upper rooms; The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works.

Psa 104:14 Causing the grass to grow for the cattle, And plants for the service of mankind, To bring forth food from the earth,

Psa 104:15 And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make the face shine, And bread which sustains man's heart.

Psa 104:16 The trees of יהוה are satisfied, The cedars of Lebanon which He planted,

Psa 104:17 Where the birds do make nests; The stork has her home in the fir trees.

Psa 104:18 The high hills are for wild goats; Rocks a refuge for rock badgers.

Psa 104:19 He made the moon for appointed times; The sun knows its going down.

Psa 104:20 You put darkness, and it is night, In it all the beasts of the forest creep.

Psa 104:21 The young lions are roaring for prey, And seeking their food from Ěl.

Psa 104:22 The sun arises – they withdraw And lie down in their dens.

Psa 104:23 Man goes out to his work, And to his labor, till evening.

Psa 104:24 O יהוה, how many have been Your works! You have made all of them in wisdom. The earth is filled with Your possessions.

Psa 104:25 There is the sea, great and wide, In which are innumerable swarms, Living creatures, small with great.

Psa 104:26 There do ships go; That Liwiathan which You made, to play there.

Psa 104:27 All of them wait for You, To give their food in due season.

Psa 104:28 You give to them, they gather in; You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good.

Psa 104:29 You hide Your face, they are alarmed; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust;

Psa 104:30 You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.

Psa 104:31 The esteem of יהוה is forever, יהוה rejoices in His works,

Psa 104:32 Who looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the mountains, and they smoke.

Psa 104:33 I sing to יהוה as long as I live, I sing praise to my Elohim while I exist.

Psa 104:34 My meditation on Him is sweet; I rejoice in יהוה.

Psa 104:35 Let sinners be consumed from the earth, And let the wrong be no more.

Bless יהוה, O my being! Praise Yah!

Rejoice as we grow in our understanding of our priestly role in the order of Melchizedek.

Isaiah 44

Isaiah 44 brings clarity to Revelation 12. Israel, the one new man; the two sticks of Judah and Ephraim; will come together in the end of days and is described here as a **child in the womb**. This is so awesome! This gives greater meaning to being 'born again.' Yes, we individually are 'born again' or 'born anew', when we receive Yahusha HaMashiach as our Savior; but we are also collectively members of one body as the 'one new man', Israel.

In Isaiah 44 and Revelation 12, there is a bigger picture! This is beyond awesome! This is the secret of Elohim! Israel, the child, when fully coalesced or at full gestation, is depicted as being birthed in Revelation 12 **as a NATION,** His holy nation!

Isaiah 44 tells us YHWH made Israel and formed Israel from the womb! Do we see this? I hope so. We will soon be 'born again' as a nation; a kingdom of priests; a set-apart bride to Him. We are one body with Yahusha as the head. In the normal birthing process, the head of the child is delivered first then the body! Outflows blood and water! **Isa 44:1** "But now hear, O Ya'aqob My servant, and Yisra'ěl whom I have chosen.

Isa 44:2 Thus said יהוה who made you and formed you from the womb, who helps you, 'Do not

fear, O Ya'aqob My servant, and Yeshurun,^a whom I have chosen. Footnote: ^aA poetical title for Yisra'ěl, meaning the *Straight One* or the *Upright One*. This poetical title is also found in <u>Deu 32:15</u>, <u>Deu 33:5</u> and <u>Deu 33:26</u>.

Isa 44:3 For I pour water on the thirsty, and floods on the dry ground. I pour My Spirit on your seed, and My blessing on your offspring,

Isa 44:4 and they shall spring up among the grass like willows by streams of water.'

Isa 44:5 "One says, 'I belong to יהוה; another calls himself by the name of Ya'aqob; another writes with his hand, 'Unto יהוה,' and names himself by the name of Yisra'ěl.

Col 1:17 And He is before all, and in Him all hold together.

Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the body, the assembly, who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that <u>He might become the One who is first in all</u>.

Col 1:19 Because in Him all the completeness was well pleased to dwell,

Col 1:20 and through Him to completely restore to favour all unto Himself, whether on earth or in the heavens, having made peace through the blood of His stake.

Col 1:21 And you, who once were estranged and enemies in the mind by wicked works, but now <u>He has completely restored to favour</u>

Col 1:22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you set-apart, and blameless, and unreprovable before Him,

Col 1:23 if indeed you continue in the belief, founded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the expectation of the Good News which you heard, which was proclaimed to every creature under the heaven, of which I, Sha'ul, became a servant,

Col 1:24 who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in Messiah's afflictions, for the sake of His Body, which is the assembly,

Col 1:25 of which I became a servant according to the administration of Elohim which was given to me for you, to fill the word of Elohim,

What a Mighty Elohim we serve! What we are reading is incredibly awesome! He is King of kings and Master of masters. There are NONE like Him!

Isa 44:6 "Thus said יהוה, Sovereign of Yisra'ěl, and his Redeemer, יהוה of hosts, 'I am the First and I am the Last, besides Me there is no Elohim.

Isa 44:7 And who is like Me? Let him call and declare it, and lay it before Me, since I appointed the everlasting people. And the events that are coming and those that do come, let them declare these to them.

Isa 44:8 Do not fear, nor be afraid. Have I not since made you hear, and declared it?**You are** My witnesses. Is there an Eloah besides Me? There is no other Rock, I know not one.' "

Time is running short for believer to 'put away the foolishness' of man-made traditions and pagan worship. Each nation has their 'own' set of secular 'holidays'. Believers are to follow YHWH's moedim, period! When we are born anew; we celebrate His moedim with Him along with our brothers and sisters all around the world. That is a beautiful picture! If you are reading these devotional insights, you have now been informed of these matters.

In Ezekiel, the women cry for Tammuz; and even do so today! It was Tammuz that was born on December 25th. He is the so 'Christmas child' of that holiday; sold, to mankind as Yahusha (Jesus). Believers have been so brainwashed and deceived, that many would 'cry' if you said anything about taking away their obelisk trees and ornaments!

| Jer 10:2 Thus said יהוה, " <mark>Do not learn the way of the nations</mark> , ^a and do not be awed by the signs |
|---|
| of the heavens, for the nations are awed by them. ^b Footnotes: ^a Lev 18:3, Deu 12:30 and |
| <u>Deu_18:9</u> , <u>Eze_11:12</u> and <u>Eze_20:32</u> , <u>Eph_4:17</u> , <u>1Pe_4:3</u> . ^b <u>Deu_4:19</u> and <u>Deu_17:3</u> . |
| Jer 10:3 "For the laws of these peoples are worthless, for one cuts a tree from the forest, work |
| for the hands of a craftsman with a cutting tool. |
| Jer 10:4 "They beautify it with silver and gold, they strengthen it with nails and hammers so that it |
| does not topple. |
| ler 10:5 "They are like a rounded post, and they do not speak. They have to be carried, because |

Jer 10:5 "They are like a rounded post, and they do not speak. <u>They have to be carried</u>, because they do not walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they do no evil, nor is it in them to do any good." Jer 10:6 <u>There is none like You, O יהוה. You are great, and great is Your Name in might.</u>

Sun-god worship continues to this day among believers. It occurs weekly on SUNday. His people are to observe the Sabbath; not Sunday. Catholicism changed the worship day so we will let that speak for itself. All should stop and ponder what Easter (Ishtar) SUNrise service is all about. There is no excuse. Do research. The documentation is everywhere. The scripture references are numerous! Yes, we have all been guilty of this but NOW; YHWH has lifted the veil on all the deceit!

My point is idol worship is still very much alive today. What is even worse, believers have been led to believe that these pagan man-made holidays represent Yahusha! No, they do not.

It is very freeing to know this and put down such foolishness. This world is just merchandising and keeping people so busy with 'bread and circuses', that people don't slow down enough to read His Word and come out of the beastly worldly systems that are mocking YHWH's people.

Here in Ezekiel we see men performing SUN-god worship.

Eze 8:16 And He brought me into the inner court of the House of יהוה. And there, at the door of the Hěkal of יהוה, between the porch and the slaughter-place, were about twenty-five men with

their backs toward the Hěkַal of יהוה and their faces toward the east, and they were bowing themselves eastward to the sun.

Isaiah is speaking the words given Him directly from YHWH. We should all take heed.

Isa 44:9 Those who make an idol, all of them are emptiness, and their delights do not profit. And they are their own witnesses; they neither see nor know, so that they are put to shame.

Isa 44:10 Who would form a mighty one or cast an idol that is of no value?

Isa 44:11 See, all his companions are ashamed, and the workmen, they are but men. Let them all be gathered together, let them stand up, let them fear, let them be put to shame, altogether.

Isa 44:12 The craftsman in iron with the tools works one in the coals, and fashions it with hammers, and works it with the strength of his arms. Even so, he shall be hungry, and has no strength; he drinks no water and is weary.

Isa 44:13 The carpenter stretches out his rule, he outlines it with chalk; he fashions it with a plane, and he outlines it with the compass, and makes it like the figure of a man, according to the comeliness of a man, to remain in the house.

Isa 44:14 He cuts down cedars for himself, and takes cypress and oak, which he raised among the trees of the forest. He has planted a pine, and the rain nourishes it.

Isa 44:15 And it shall be for a man to burn, for he takes some of it and warms himself. He also kindles it and shall bake bread. He also makes a mighty one and bows himself to it – has made it a carved image and falls down before it.

Isa 44:16 Half of it he shall burn in the fire; with this half he eats meat. He roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, "Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire."

Isa 44:17 And the rest of it he makes into a mighty one, his carved image. He falls down before it and worships, prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my mighty one."

Isa 44:18 They do not know nor understand, for He has smeared their eyes from seeing, and their hearts from understanding.

Isa 44:19 And no one recalls it to his heart, nor is there knowledge nor understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire, and I have also baked bread on its coals; I have roasted meat and eaten it. And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Should I fall down before a log of wood?"

Isa 44:20 Feeding on ashes, a deceived heart turns him aside, and he does not deliver his being, nor says, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?"

YHWH still speaks these words to us:

Isa 44:21 "Remember these *matters*, O Ya'aqob, and Yisra'ěl, for you are My servant! I have formed you, you are My servant, O Yisra'ěl, do not forget Me!

Isa 44:22 "I shall wipe out your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like a mist. Return to Me, for I shall redeem you."

Isa 44:23 Sing, O heavens, for יהוה shall do it! Shout, O depths of the earth! Break forth into singing, O mountains, forest, and every tree in it! For יהוה shall redeem Ya'aqob, and make Himself clear in Yisra'ěl.

Isa 44:24 Thus said , your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb, "I am , include the said , include the said , include the said and the sai

doing all, stretching out the heavens all alone, spreading out the earth, with none beside Me, Isa 44:25 frustrating the signs of the babblers, and driving diviners mad, turning wise men backward, and making their knowledge foolish,

Isa 44:26 confirming the word of His servant, and completing the counsel of His messengers, who says of Yerushalayim, 'Be inhabited,' and of the cities of Yehudah, 'They shall be built, and her ruins raised up by Me,'

Isa 44:27 who is saying to the deep, 'Be dry, and your rivers I dry up,'

Isa 44:28 who is saying of Koresh, 'He is My shepherd, and he completes all My pleasure, even saying to Yerushalayim, "Let her be built," and to the Hěkal, "Let her foundation be laid." '

In Isaiah 44:28, King Cyrus is mentioned. It connects us to Ezra 1:1-2, when YHWH stirred up the spirit in King Cyrus of Persia to build the temple in Jerusalem of Judea.

<u>Ezr 1:1</u> And in the first year of Koresh sovereign of Persia, that the word of **u** by the mouth of Yirmeyah might be accomplished, **יהוה** stirred up the spirit of Koresh sovereign of Persia, to proclaim throughout all his reign, and also in writing, saying,

Ezr 1:2 "Thus said Koresh sovereign of Persia, **יהוה' Elohim of the heavens has given** me all the reigns of the earth. And He has commanded me to build Him a house in Yerushalayim which is in Yehudah.

Revelation 14

Rev 14:1 And I looked and saw a Lamb standing on Mount Tsiyon, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's Name^a written upon their foreheads. Footnote: ^aSome texts read: having His Name and His Father's Name.

YHWH's kingdom of priests after the order of Melchizedek, are sealed with the Name of YHWH on their forehead; and here it is footnoted in some translations they have <u>'His</u> <u>Name and His Father's Name'</u>; indicating the Name of Yahusha also. This is to designate them as 'Set-apart' <u>not only</u> to YHWH but to Yahusha. This is affirmed in Rev. 14:4 below.

We see a type and shadow of this during the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood in Exodus.

Exo 28:35 "And it shall be upon Aharon to attend in, and its sound shall be heard when he goes into the set-apart place before יהוה and when he comes out, so that he does not die. Exo 28:36 "And you shall make a plate of clean gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: SET-APARTNESS TO יהוה.

Exo 28:37 "And you shall put it on a blue cord, and it shall be on the turban – it is to be on the front of the turban.

Rev 14:2 And I heard a voice out of the heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder, and I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

Rev 14:3 And **they sang a renewed song** before the throne, and before the four living creatures, and the elders. And **no one was able to learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.**

The 144,000 are part of the body of the one-new man; and they are positionally very close to YHWH. They have proven their love and devotion to Him by going through the fires of 'great tribulation' and standing firm; even unto death.

Rev 14:4 They are those who were not defiled with women, for they are maidens. They are those following the Lamb wherever He leads *them* on. They were redeemed from among men, being first-fruits to Elohim and to the Lamb.

Rev 14:5 And in their mouth was found no falsehood, for they are blameless before the throne of Elohim.

We learned previously that the 144,000 are <u>possibly a set-apart subsection of all that</u> <u>come out of the 'great distress' or the 'great tribulation'</u>. These appear to be YHWH's set-apart remnant, the faithful ones even prior to the great tribulation.

They are made up of 12,000 from each tribe listed in Rev. 7. Then we read...

Rev 7:13 And one of the elders responded, saying to me, <u>"Who are these dressed in white</u> robes. and where did they come from?"

Rev 7:14 And I said to him, "Master, you know." And he said to me, "**These are those coming** out of the great distress, <u>having washed their robes and made them white</u> in the blood of the Lamb.

Rev 7:15 "Because of this <u>they are before the throne of Elohim, and serve Him day and night</u> in <u>His Dwelling Place</u>. And <u>He who sits on the throne shall spread</u> <u>His Tent over them</u>.

Rev 7:16 **"They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more, neither shall the sun strike them, nor any heat,** <u>Isa_49:10</u>.

Rev 7:17 because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne **shall shepherd them** <u>Eze_34:23</u> and lead them to **fountains of waters of life.** <u>Jer_2:13</u>, <u>Jer_17:13</u> And Elohim **shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.**" <u>Isa_25:8</u>.

The scripture state <u>they are maidens</u>; undefiled by women. I lean toward this meaning they remained faithful and set-apart to Yahusha [YHWH in Son]; and have washed their garments white in the blood of the Lamb.

Maidens are described in 2Corinthians:

2Co 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a jealousy according to Elohim. **For I gave you in** <u>marriage to one husband</u>, <u>to present you as</u> an <u>innocent maiden to Messiah</u>.

Rev 14:4 They are those who were not defiled with women, for they are maidens. They are those following the Lamb wherever He leads *them* on. They were redeemed from among men, being first-fruits to Elohim and to the Lamb.

Rev. 14:4c is interesting. In Rev. 7:14 the 144,000 appear to have gone through the great tribulation, so what first fruits would they be? I would have to say they would be the first fruits of the Fall Moedim – the grape harvest BEFORE the winepress wrath of YHWH. We do know there will be those that go through the great tribulation, but not the wrath of YHWH. These may be those that lead multitudes to Yahusha HaMashiach.

This may also be connected to the following verse.

Mat 20:16 "Thus the last shall be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."^b Footnote: ^bSee <u>Mat_22:14</u>

We then read about the <u>three Angelic Messages</u> carrying the Gospel to every tongue, tribe, people, and nation! YHWH's love for mankind is so great; He desires that NONE perish! No one is overlooked; everyone is given opportunity to know Him.

First Angelic Message

Rev 14:6 And I saw another messenger flying in mid-heaven, <u>holding the everlasting</u> <u>Good News to announce to those dwelling on the earth, even to every nation and tribe</u> <u>and tongue and people</u>,

Rev 14:7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear Elohim and give esteem to Him, because the hour of His judgment has come. And worship Him who made the heaven and the earth, and sea, and fountains of water."

Second Angel Message

Rev 14:8 And another messenger followed, saying, "Babel is fallen, is fallen, b <u>lsa 21:9</u> that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her whoring." Footnote: ^bAlso see <u>Jer 51:8</u>.

My present understanding is that the end of days proves the earthly Jerusalem as 'Mystery Babylon' along with those nations that have joined her in her whoring. Though she has had true believers within her; she has been overtaken by those <u>that say they are</u> Jews and are not; but are of the Synagogue of Satan. Those that are following Babylonian Talmud, instead of His true Word of YHWH. Jer 51:7 Babel was a golden cup in the hand of **יהוה**, making drunk all the earth.^b The nations drank her wine, that is why the nations went mad! Footnote: ^bSee <u>Rev_17:1-18</u>.

Jer 51:8 Babel shall suddenly fall and be broken. Howl for her! Take balm for her pain – if so be, she might be healed.

Rev 17:1 And one of the seven messengers who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying to me, "Come, I shall show you the judgment of the great whore sitting on many waters,^a Footnote: ^aSee <u>Rev_17:15</u>.

Rev 17:2 with whom the sovereigns of the earth committed whoring, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her whoring."^b Footnote: ^b Jer_51:7.

Rev 17:3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a <u>woman</u> sitting on <u>a scarlet beast</u> covered with names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4 And the woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup filled with abominations and the filthiness of her whoring,^b Footnote: ^b Jer_51:7.

Rev 17:5 and upon her forehead a name written, a secret: BABEL THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE WHORES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Rev 17:6 And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the set-apart ones, and with the blood of the witnesses of יהושע. And having seen her, I marvelled – greatly marvelled!

We will get more into the seven headed beast with 10 horns in chapter 17.

"The Sceptre shall not depart from Judah, etc." Gen. 49:10. "For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him comes the chief ruler [prince]; but the Birthright is Joseph's," 1 Chron. 5:2. REMEMBER: The Great Tribulation is the final battle of <u>the 'birthright' war</u>! We know Esau's color is 'red'; therefore, easily connects to the 'scarlet' beast and the shedding of innocent blood.

Third Angelic Message

Rev 14:9 And a third messenger followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark upon his forehead or upon his hand,

Rev 14:10 he also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of Elohim, which is poured out undiluted into the cup of His wrath. And he shall be tortured with fire and sulfur before the set-apart messengers and before the Lamb.

Rev 14:11 "And the smoke of their torture goes up forever and ever. And they have no rest day or night, those worshipping the beast and his image, also if anyone receives the mark of his name."

The following two verses are cross-referenced to the 'remnant seed of the woman' that the dragon goes to fight in **Rev. 12:17**.

Rev 14:12 Here is the endurance of the set-apart ones,^c here are those guarding the commands of Elohim and the belief of יהושע. Footnote: ^cSee also <u>Rev 12:17</u>. Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice out of the heaven saying to me, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Master from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "in order that they rest from their labors, and their works follow with them."

Rev. 12:17 is a bridal remnant that are living and face the dragon head on [I believe that this may be Smyrna, which may also be synonymous with the 144,000 – See comment details under Rev. 12] The remnant of her seed is identified as those that are actively guarding the commands of YHWH and possess the witness of Yahusha.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to fight with the remnant of her seed, <u>those guarding the commands of Elohim and possessing the</u> <u>witness of view Messiah.</u>

The rest of Revelation 14 speaks of Yahusha <u>harvesting the earth</u>. He is clearly presented as King! All the earth has been given the Gospel message and warnings in the last hour. Now it is time for the final harvest.

We notice three messengers involved with the harvest. Two of them come out of the <u>Dwelling Place</u> and one of them comes out of the <u>slaughter place</u>.

With the <u>first angelic 'harvest' messenger</u>: We see Yahusha thrust His sickle on the earth and it was reaped. This depicts the last harvest of believers from the great tribulation.

The second angelic 'harvest' messenger holds a sharp sickle.

The <u>third angelic 'harvest' messenger</u> calls to the second messenger with the sharp sickle and says:

Rev 14:14 And I looked and saw a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was **One like the Son of Adam**, <u>Dan_7:13</u> having on <u>His head a golden crown, and in His hand a</u> <u>sharp sickle</u>.

Rev 14:15 And another messenger <u>came out of the Dwelling Place</u>, crying with a loud voice to the One sitting on the cloud, "Send Your sickle and reap, because <u>the hour has come</u> for You to reap, <u>because the harvest of the earth is ripe."</u>

Rev 14:16 And the One sitting on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

[Note Rev. 14:16 shows Yahusha harvesting the earth, but His harvest is not thrown into the winepress. Rev. 14:17 says 'another messenger' held a sharp sickle too, and he gathered the clusters of the vine of the earth and throws them into the great winepress of YHWH's wrath.]

Rev 14:17 And another messenger <u>came out of the Dwelling Place</u> which is in the heaven, and he too held a sharp sickle.

Rev 14:18 And another messenger <u>came out from the slaughter-place</u>, having authority over the fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him having the sharp sickle, saying, **"Send your sharp sickle** and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

Rev 14:19 And the messenger thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of Elohim.

Rev 14:20 And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the bridles of the horses, for about one thousand six hundred stadia^d. Footnote: ^dApprox. 296 kilometres or 184 miles.

Shalom ~ Líbby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf