

Coordinating Body Life



Growing to Maturity
Chapter 5, Section C

Four Pitfalls in Messianic Judaism

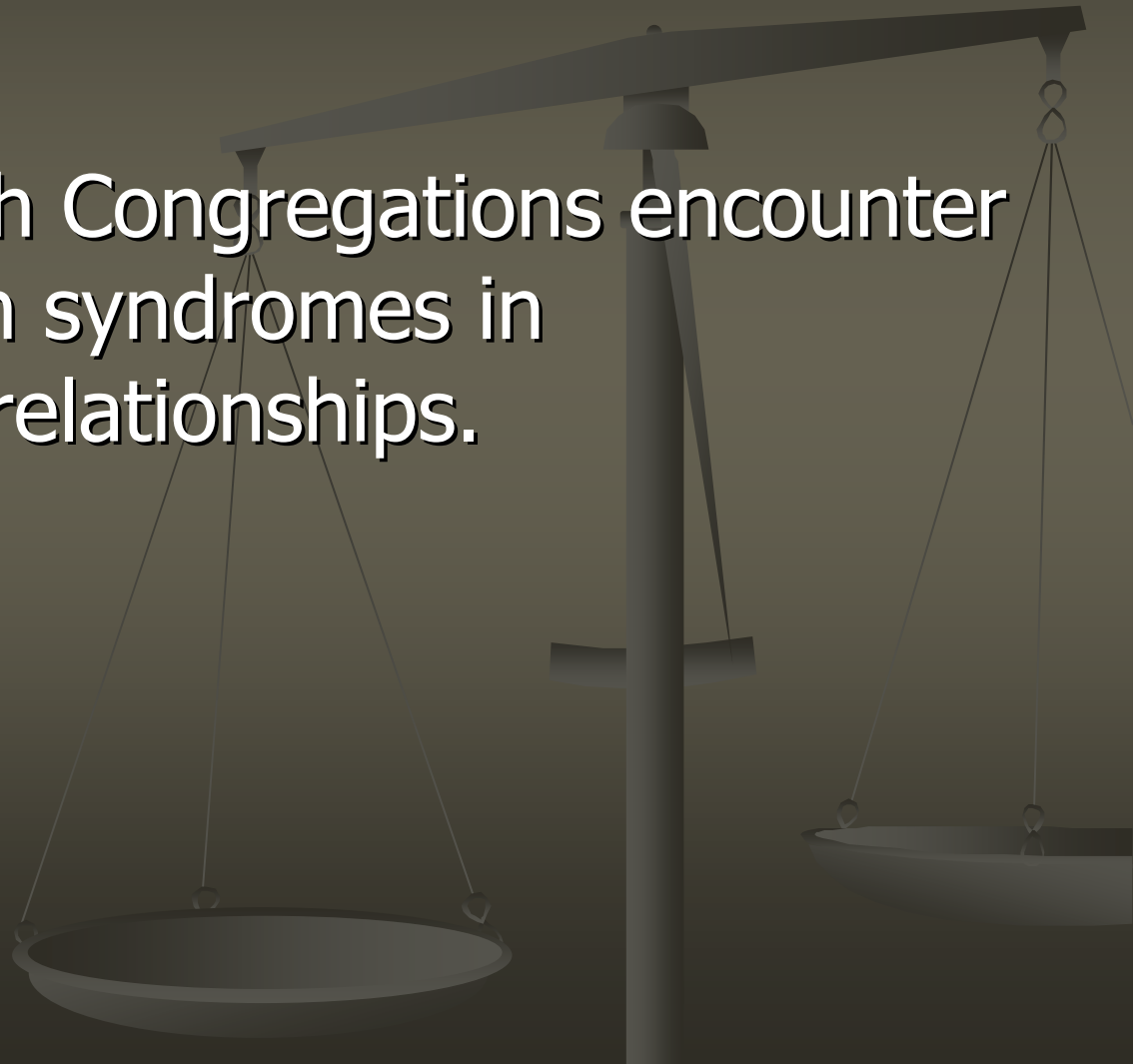
Brent Brooks

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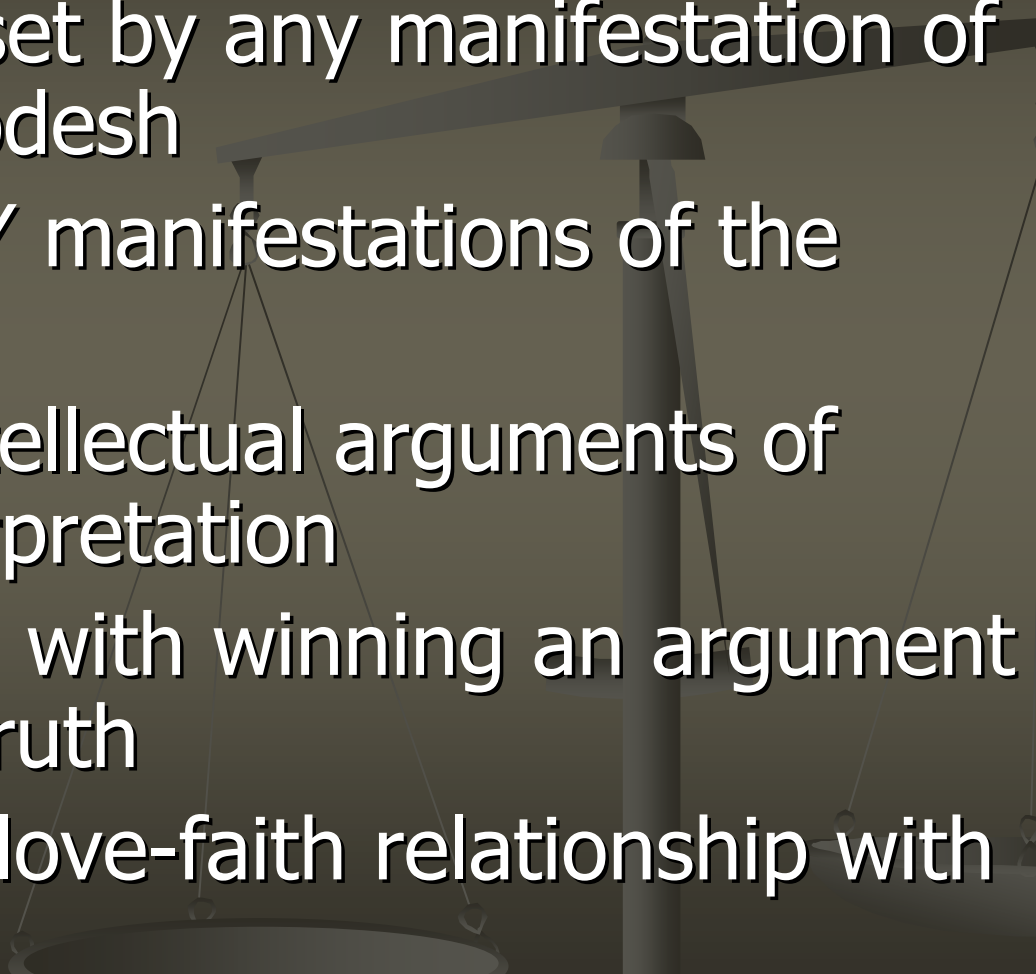
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Common Problems

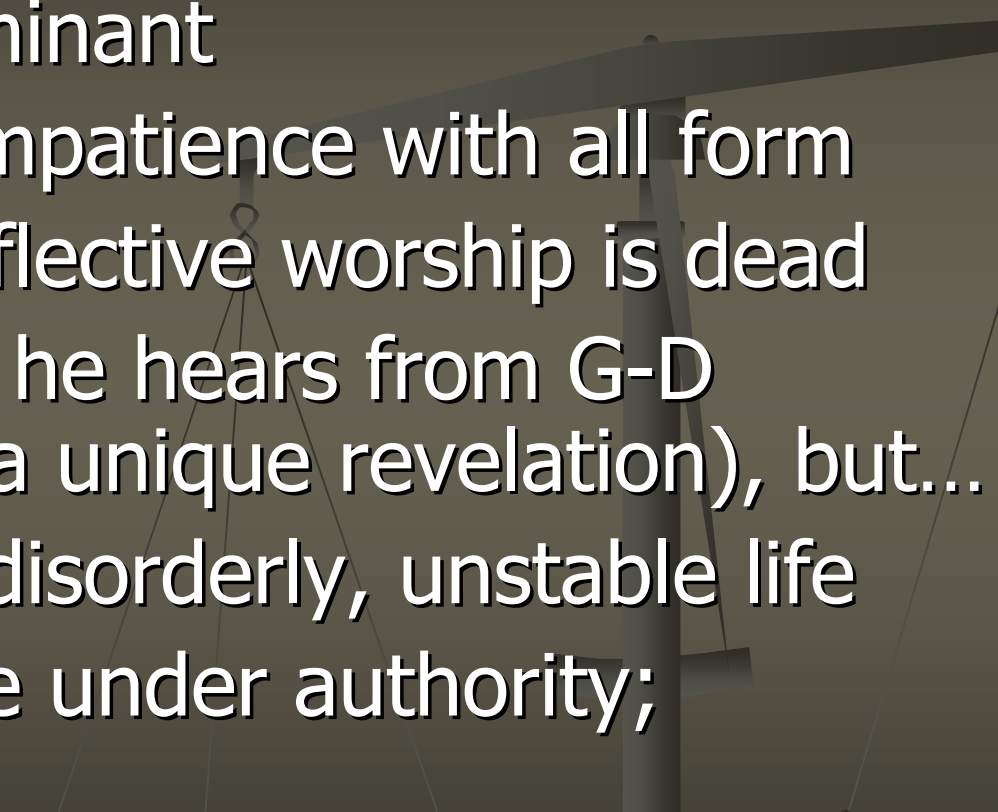
- Messianic Jewish Congregations encounter several common syndromes in congregational relationships.



Anti-Charismatic Legalists

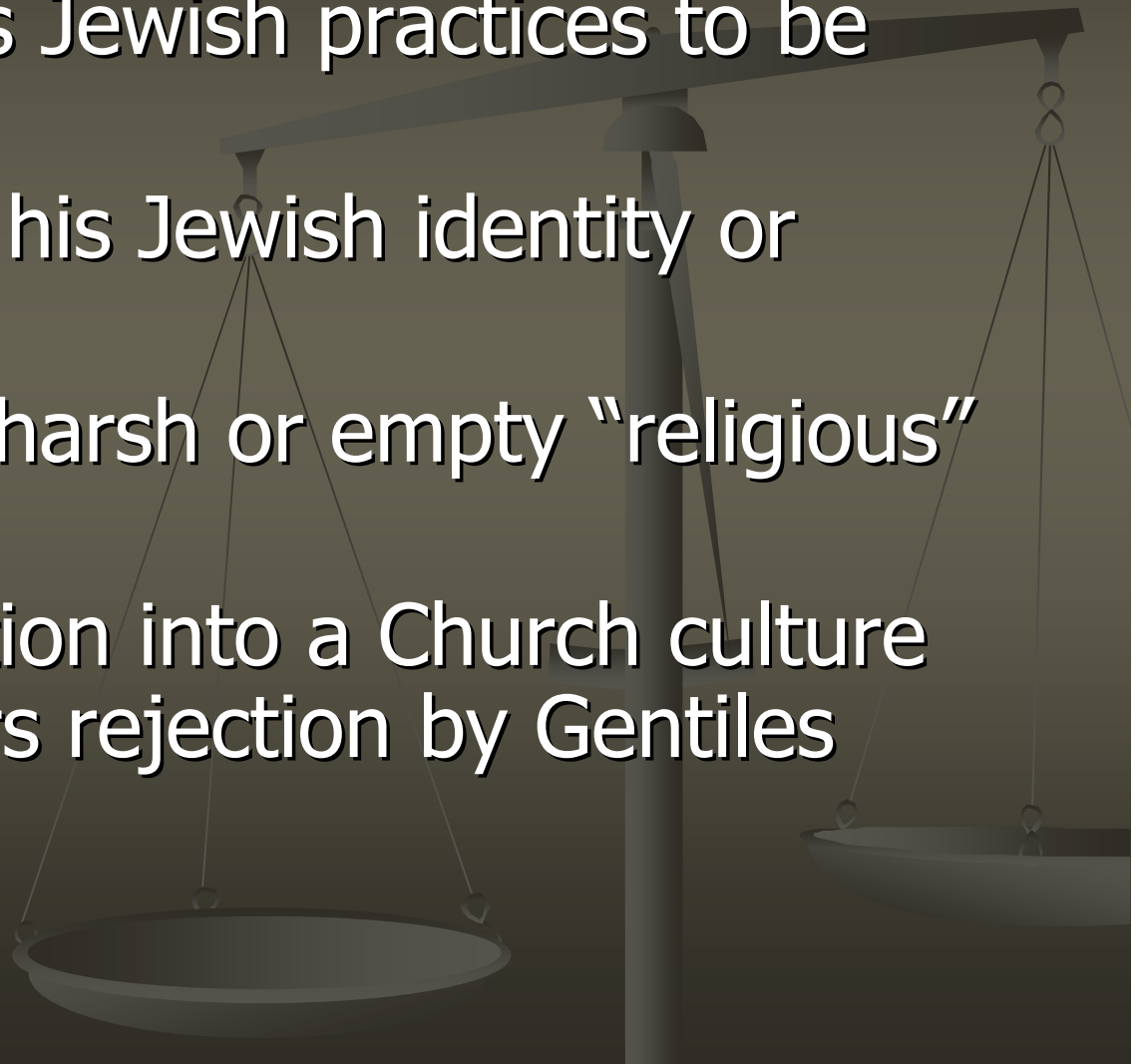
- Rigid, easily upset by any manifestation of the Ruach HaKodesh
 - Skeptical of ANY manifestations of the Spirit
 - Tend toward intellectual arguments of theological interpretation
 - More concerned with winning an argument than knowing Truth
 - Typically lack a love-faith relationship with G-D
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Super-Charismatic Rebellious

- Emotionally dominant
 - Demonstrates impatience with all form
 - Thinks quiet, reflective worship is dead
 - Always believes he hears from G-D (maybe he has a unique revelation), but...
 - Typically has a disorderly, unstable life
 - Refuses to come under authority; rebellious
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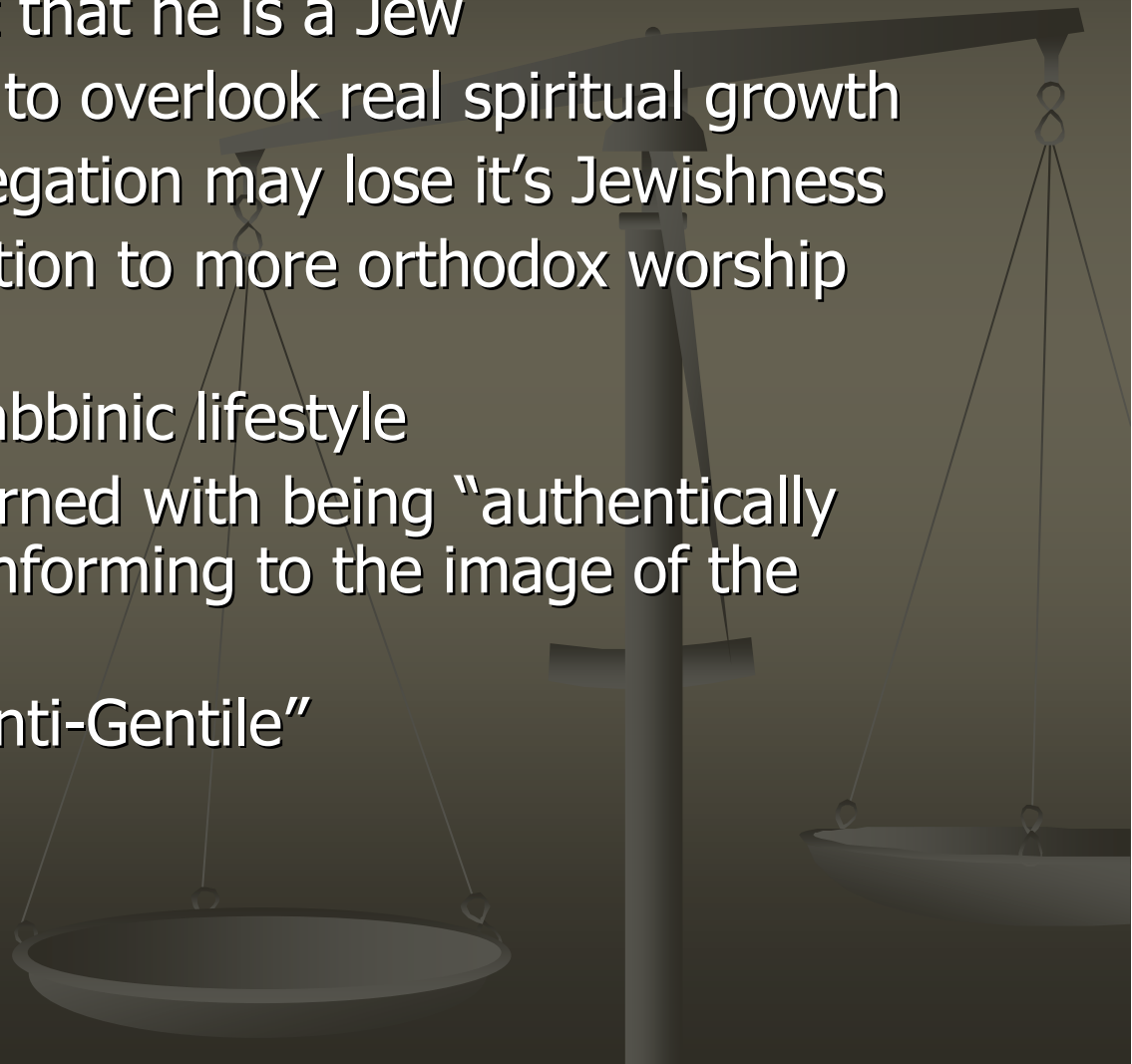
The Anti-Jewish Jew

- A Jew who finds Jewish practices to be worthless
- He can't accept his Jewish identity or heritage
- Typically had a harsh or empty "religious" upbringing
- Avoids assimilation into a Church culture because he fears rejection by Gentiles

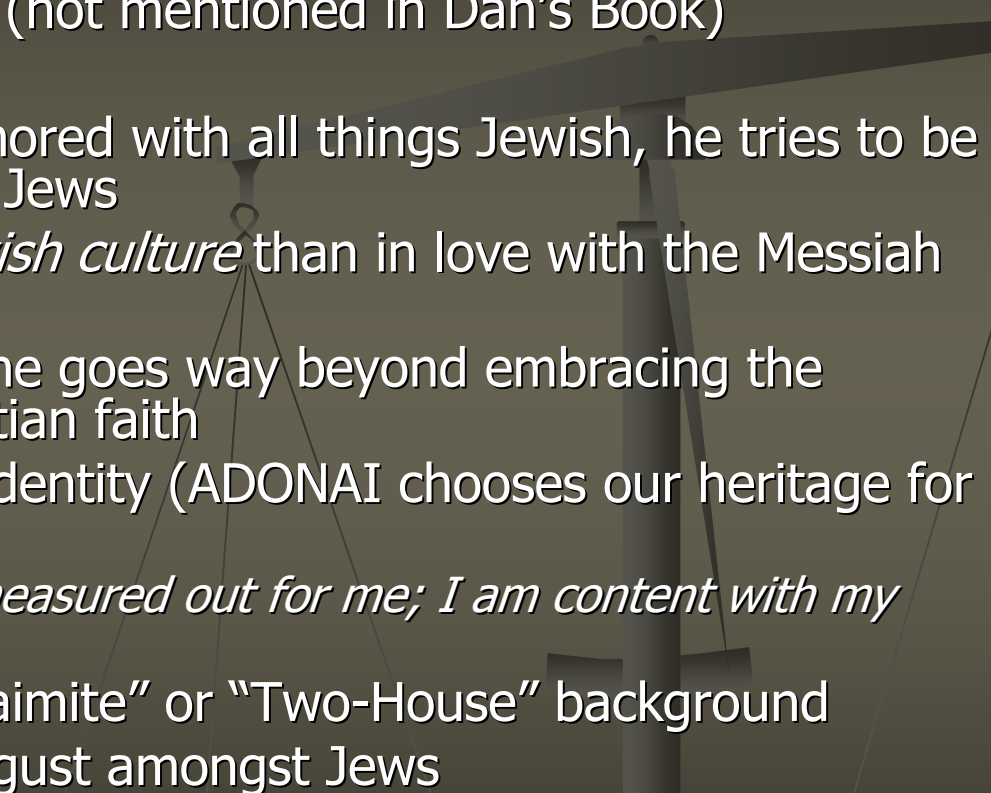


The Super-Jewish Jew

- Caught up in the fact that he is a Jew
- His pride causes him to overlook real spiritual growth
- Fears that the congregation may lose its Jewishness
- Pushes the congregation to more orthodox worship forms
- May adopt a more Rabbinic lifestyle
- Might be more concerned with being “authentically Jewish” than with conforming to the image of the Messiah Yeshua
- May even become “anti-Gentile”



The Super-Jewish Gentile*

- * A BONUS problem type (not mentioned in Dan's Book)
 - A unique mutation...
 - A Gentile who is SO enamored with all things Jewish, he tries to be "more Jewish" than most Jews
 - *More infatuated with Jewish culture* than in love with the Messiah Yeshua
 - Unstable in most things, he goes way beyond embracing the Hebraic roots of his Christian faith
 - Is not secure in his own identity (ADONAI chooses our heritage for us)
 - *"Pleasant places were measured out for me; I am content with my heritage." Psalms 16:6*
 - May come from an "Ephraimite" or "Two-House" background
 - Causes confusion and disgust amongst Jews
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To Live as a Jew

Growing to Maturity
Chapter 6, Section A
Living as a Jew

Life in a Messianic Congregation

- Messianic Congregations provide a unique corporate witness of the Messiahship of Yeshua to the Jewish Community.
- We are a forceful and visible testimony that Jewish believers need not forsake their identity or (G-D forbid) their unique prophetic call.

Baruch HaShem's Vision:

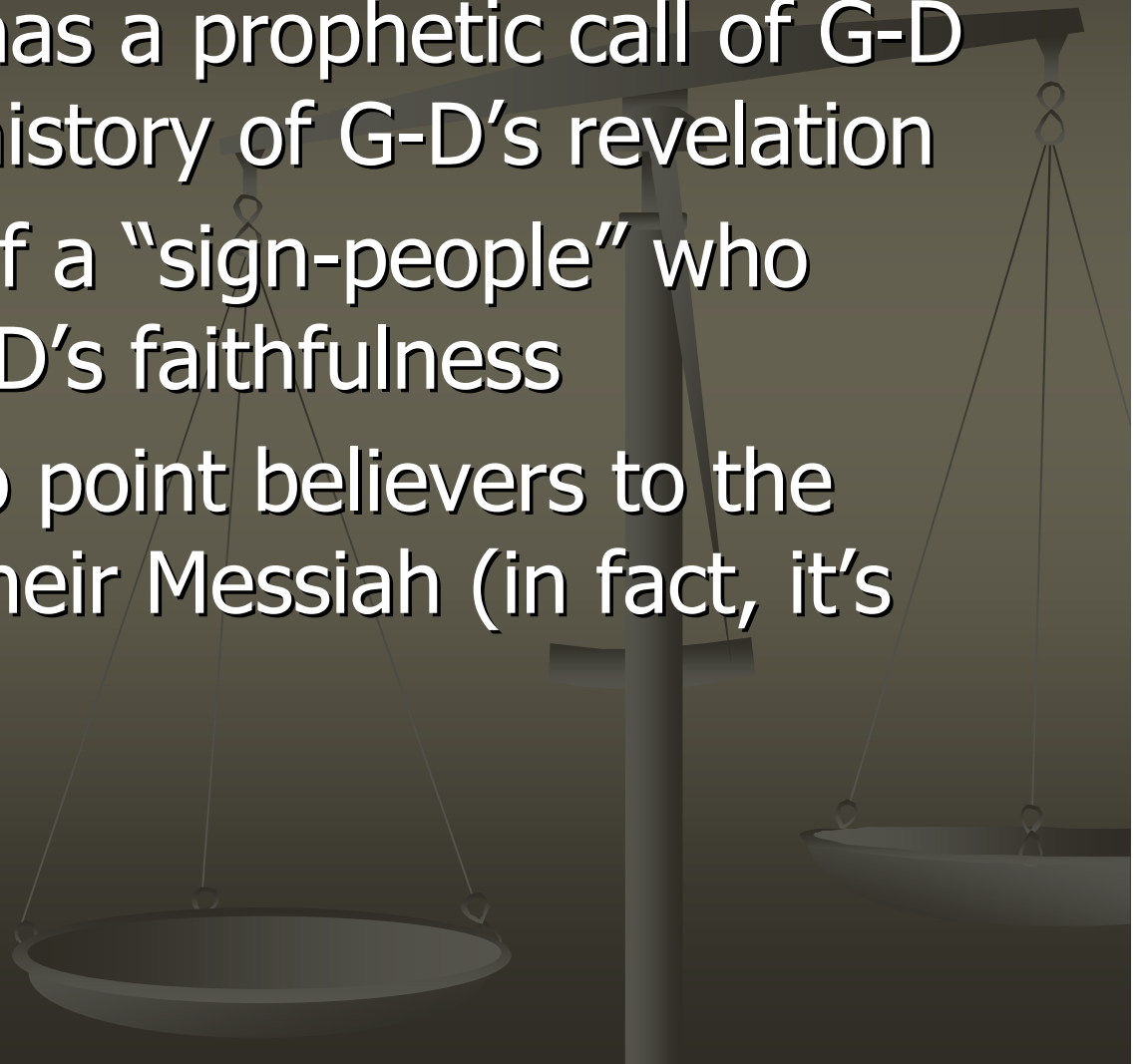
- Baruch HaShem Congregation is a Messiah-centered community born out of the Messianic Jewish revival. In order to be a light for Yeshua in the Jewish community, we endeavor to create a contextually Messianic Jewish atmosphere where Jewish believers can follow Yeshua as Jews, and Christians may reconnect with the Jewish roots of their faith.

The Call

A Messianic Jew has a prophetic call of G-D to reenact the history of G-D's revelation

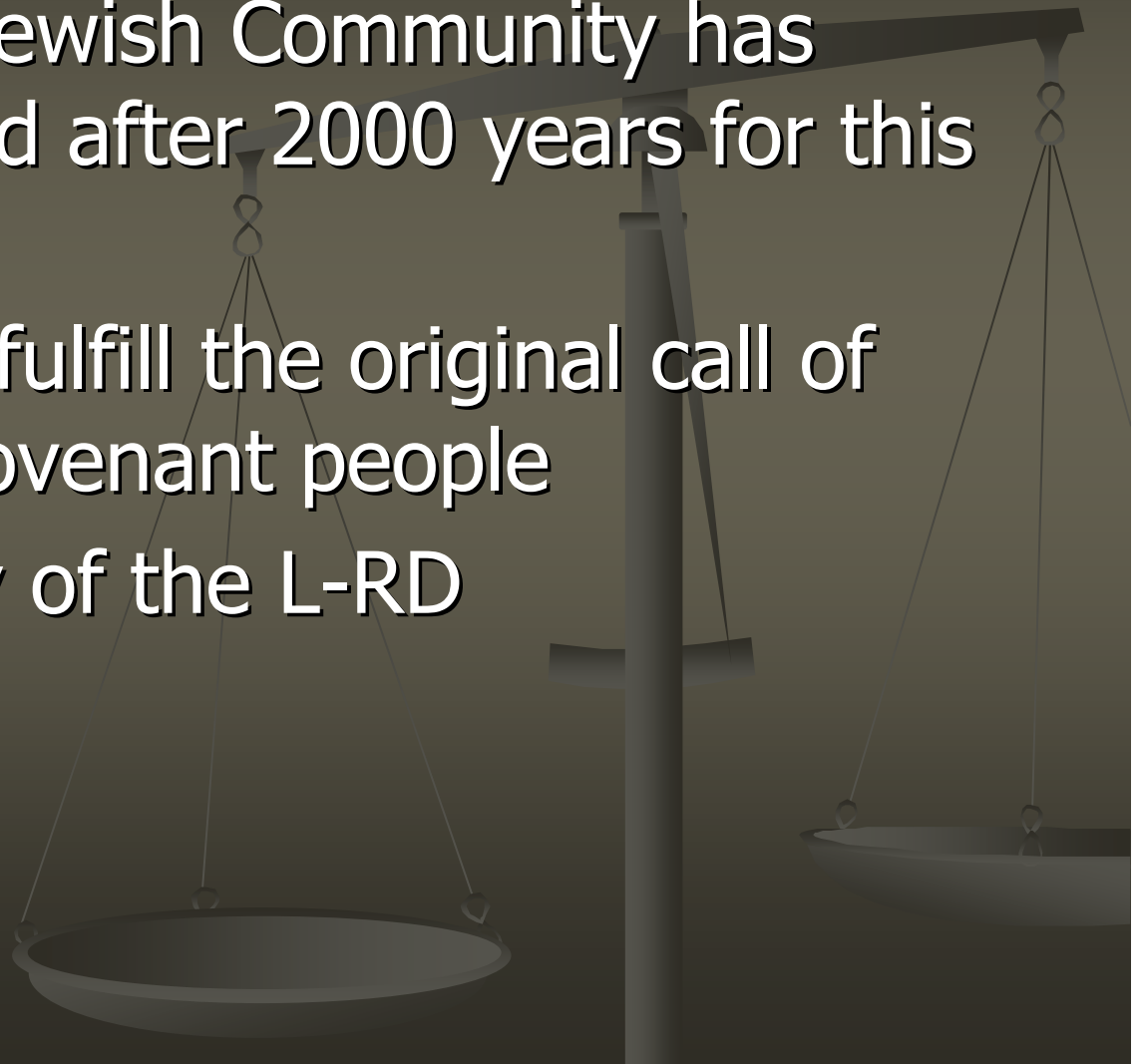
He is a member of a "sign-people" who demonstrate G-D's faithfulness

Uniquely suited to point believers to the Jewishness of their Messiah (in fact, it's his calling!).



Life from the Dead!

- The Messianic Jewish Community has been resurrected after 2000 years for this appointed time
- We are here to fulfill the original call of G-D upon His covenant people
- Declare the Day of the L-RD



Biblical Covenants



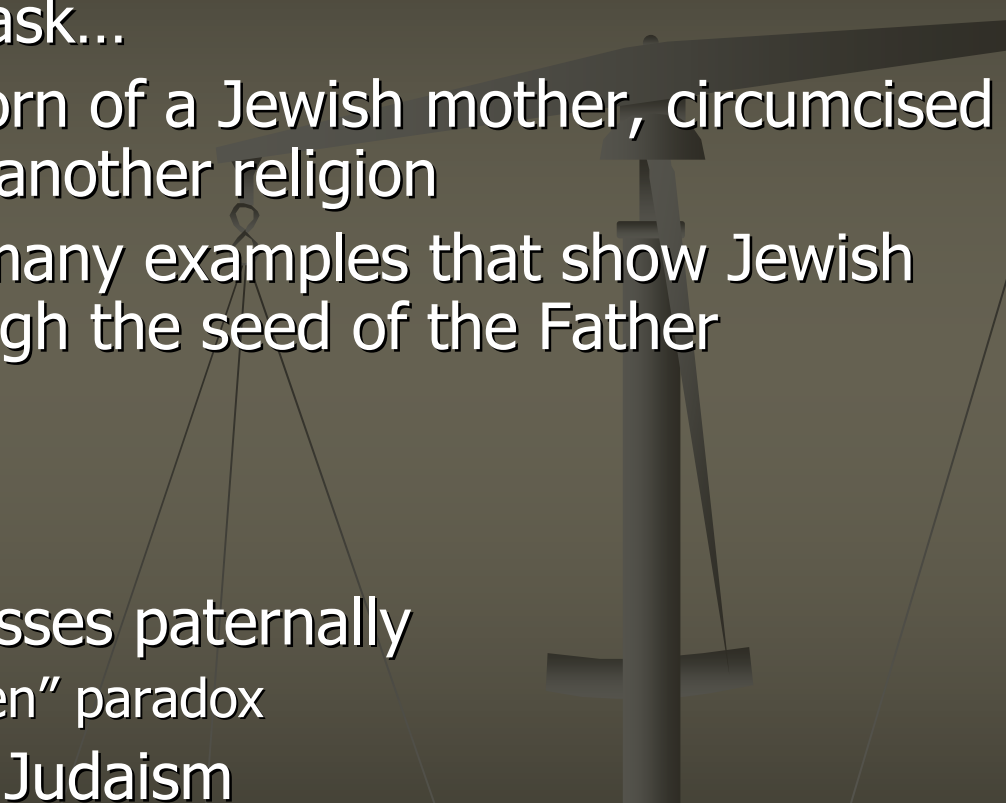
- Noahic Covenant
- Abrahamic Covenant
 - The Land
 - Bless those who bless you; curse those who curse you
 - Through you, all the nations on the face of the earth will be blessed
- Mosaic Covenant
 - Founded on the act of G-D's grace in the Exodus and the Passover
 - Our response was to be nationally & personally obedient to His Torah
 - Instituted a substitutionary sacrifice which pointed the way to Yeshua as a lasting atonement
- Davidic Covenant
 - David was promised an everlasting throne
 - Fulfilled in *Yeshua ben David, Melekh Yisrael!*

The Promise of a New Covenant

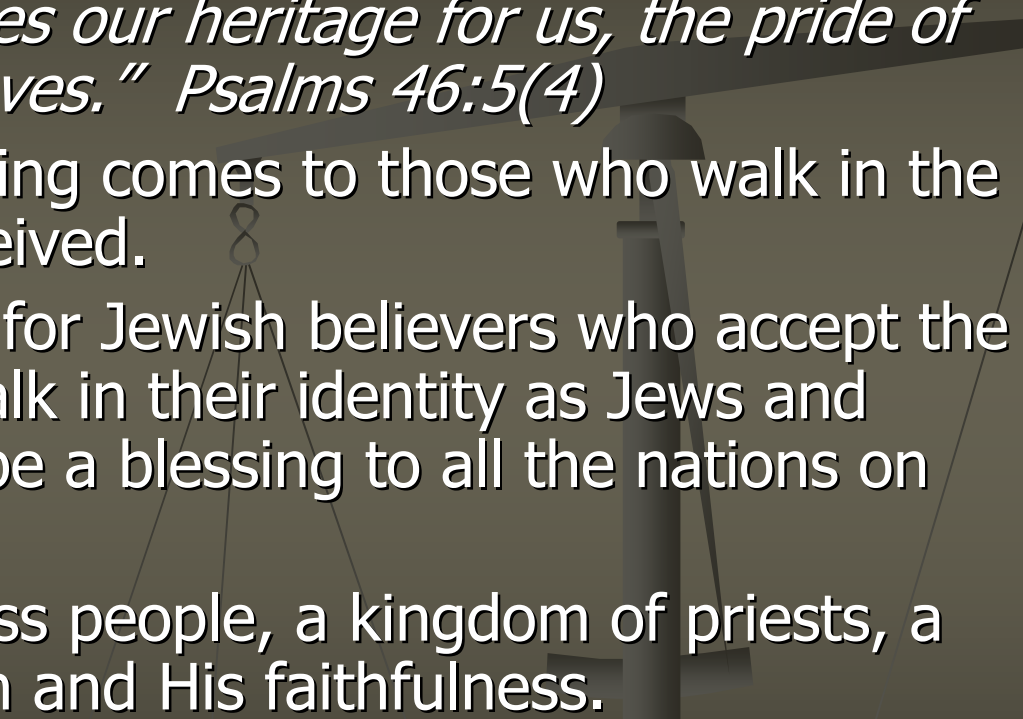
- Jeremiah 31:31-32
 - The ability to walk in Torah!
- Ezekiel 36



Who is a Jew?

- It depends who you ask...
 - Rabbinic halakha: Born of a Jewish mother, circumcised and not a convert to another religion
 - But the Tanakh has many examples that show Jewish descent carried through the seed of the Father
 - Wife of Moshe
 - Ruth
 - Rahav
 - The tribal descent passes paternally
 - The “non-Jewish Cohen” paradox
 - One who converts to Judaism
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What Does it mean to be Jewish?

- *"He (ADONAI) chooses our heritage for us, the pride of Ya'akov, whom He loves." Psalms 46:5(4)*
 - G-D's greatest anointing comes to those who walk in the calling they have received.
 - G-D always intended for Jewish believers who accept the Jewish messiah to walk in their identity as Jews and fulfill their calling to be a blessing to all the nations on the face of the earth.
 - We are to be a witness people, a kingdom of priests, a testimony to His truth and His faithfulness.
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To Live as a Jew

Growing to Maturity

Chapter 6, Section B

Jewish Feasts & Practices

Leviticus 23 – The Feasts & Fasts

- Shabbat
 - Isaiah 58:13
- Pesach (Passover)
- First Fruits
- Shavuot
- Sukkot
- Rosh HaShannah
- Yom Kippur



Minor Feasts & Fasts

- Simchat Torah
- Purim
- Yom Ha'Shoah
- Tisha B'Av
- Chanukah



Common Worship Practices

- Tzitzit
 - Numbers 15:37-41
- Tefillin
- Biblical Food & Cleanliness Laws
 - Leviticus 11-16
 - Deuteronomy 14
 - Every bite of food is a devotional act

