

Beyond My Wildest Dreams! Who knew?

By

Yosef Michael

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to HaShem for saving me from false religions, leading me to the truth, and preparing me for my mission in life, Baruch HaShem!

How this book is arranged.

This book contains my life experiences, reflections on events recorded in Tanach, and other thoughts or expressions of my unique sense of humor!

I occasionally revise the stories and add more details or rearrange them to make my point more straightforward without changing the date.

They are not chronologically arranged, mainly in the order I wrote them, but not entirely!

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Section I:

It's time for Noachides to speak up and tell the truth: Jews are HaShem's chosen people!

See Genesis 12:1-3, "1 And the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your land and from your birthplace and from your father's house, to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you, and I will aggrandize your name, and [you shall] be a blessing. 3 And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you."

The Importance of Limiting Your Questions in American English!

Written in February 2023.

A few weeks before I went on vacation to Israel, I had my annual physical, so because of my age, my doctor recommended three vaccines; I refused COVID-19 but accepted the other two.

The nurse gave me all the details on the first vaccine and then gave me the shot in my left arm. Then she gave me all the details on the second vaccine and gave it to me in my right arm. She then asked me, “Do you have any questions?”

I was looking straightforward. With my palm facing me, I raised my right arm about 20 degrees to the right. I looked at my palm for about two seconds and then slowly turned left, looked into her eyes, and asked her, “What is the meaning of life?”

She smiled, laughed, gently patted me on my left bicep, and said, “About the vaccines?”

But also, in a previous story, where I wrote about another one of my experiences, I mentioned that when I ask better questions, I get better answers. Therefore, although I wrote the above experience to prepare for a follow-up story on a serious topic, there is value in teaching about asking better questions than the nurse had asked me.

Vujà dé!

Written by Yosef Malachi Michael on December 18, 2023.

A famous atheist comedian once said, “Almost everyone is familiar with the term Déjà Vu, the feeling that something you just

experienced has happened to you before, but aren't familiar with the term "Vujà Dé," the feeling that something you just experienced (or are in the process of experiencing) has never happened to you before and you want it to stop happening right now!" (Notice that the Vu and the Dé were reversed in the order)

Before yesterday, I had thought I had experienced "Vujà dé" several times in my lifetime until I saw and was the cause of a woman having a "Vujà dé" experience right in front of me, LOL!

This happened while I lived in the Bay Area six days a week and one the seventh at my sister's home in Stockton. I would drive to her home Friday afternoon, stay the night to attend the synagogue and drive home Saturday afternoon.

The following five paragraphs demonstrate how the primary experience was a divine appointment beyond my wildest dreams!

On this particular Saturday, I got invited to a special event after Shabbat, which ended about 10 p.m., so I stayed another night in Stockton. The next day, around 10 a.m., I loaded my stuff in my truck and headed home. Shortly after I got on the freeway, my real estate agent called and said, "I received a couple of requests for showing the house today. Is that okay with you?" I replied, "Yes."

I decided it would be better to return to my sister's home and told Siri to get directions. I expected to exit and drive under or over the freeway soon and get back on headed the opposite way, but Siri routed me to 120, to 99, the long way. Normally, I would have exited the long route, but I had to kill some time, so I drove to see this new way to my sister's place.

I had heard that Trader Joe's in Stockton carries some kosher items, so I decided to see what they bring. I told Siri to get directions, and she modified my route to Trader Joe's. However, I looked at all the stuff in my passenger's seat and decided to drop those off at my sister's house and then go to Trader Joe's.

I was about to go to Trader Joe's when my sister called and said, "I'm on my way; I will see you in about 45 minutes to an hour, depending on traffic." I replied, "I plan to go to Trader Joe's. Do you need or want anything?" She said, "No, but then said, 'If they have any Ginger Snap cookies, get me one container.'"

This was my first time entering this branch in this city, and I wasn't sure what Ginger Snap cookies were or looked like. Instead of searching all around myself, I decided to ask the first employee I saw when I arrived if the store sells Ginger Snap cookies and, if so, where to find them.

As I walked in, I observed a woman skillfully and carefully organizing the Bundt cakes and pastry section, so I approached her to ask about the Ginger Snap cookies. However, since I have a sense of humor (well, at least I think I am funny), I asked her in a humorous way, which popped into my head as I approached her! I asked her, "Do you work here or just have O.C.D.?"

She stood up, turned to her left about 120 degrees, smiled at me, and raised her right hand, palm flat, facing up, with her fingers and thumbs together, gesturing it up and down in front of the section she had been organizing. She asked me, "What does this have to do with O.C.D.?"

I explained, "People with O.C.D. hate seeing things disorganized! Often, when shopping in grocery stores, they will see a shelf that disturbs them, and they will organize for them to feel better."

She said, "No, I used to work in a grocery store, and I was afraid those Bundt cakes would fall, so I decided to help the store and organize the shelves for them."

I said, "Oh!" and started walking away. I passed her by a few feet but stopped and turned around because I didn't want her to think I was judging her or that I was a member of a particular unit of the

O.C.D. police investigating people in grocery stores who were organizing shelves to determine whether or not they were employees. I said, “I thought you worked here!”

In retrospect, I shouldn't have said this because it worsened her situation. After all that dialog, before my last comment, she may have thought that she had convinced me she wasn't O.C.D, or at least that she had made an excellent case for her not being O.C.D. but my last, good-intentioned comment most likely convinced her that I thought she was O.C.D.!

She stood there staring at me like a deer at night, crossing the road and now finding itself in the headlights of an approaching vehicle: she looked like she didn't know if she should continue standing there, walk away, or run!

After an awkward (short) pause, she pointed to a Chocolate Babka loaf cake on a shelf she had organized and asked, “Have you ever tried that?”

I answered, “No.” She grabbed one from the rack, handed it to me, and said, “These are great; you should try it!” I replied, “Thank you! I will.”

She told me three times, with a slightly long pause between each repetition, “Have a blest day,” then finally she turned and started to leave.

I looked at the Babka loaf cake in my hands, wondering why she had handed it to me when, without any warning, one of the Bundt cakes fell from the shelf to the floor.

Before I could react and grab it, she turned around, picked it up, and said, “That is what I was trying to prevent!” She looked so happy and thankful to HaShem for it falling on the floor while both of us were still present. She quickly returned it to the shelf with a

justified expression, as if the cake falling justified her concern for organizing the shelf rather than having O.C.D.!

She hurried off with me standing there, still holding the Babka loaf cake, wondering: “What the hell just happened?” Other than the fact that she messed up an excellent joke! LOL!

What are the odds of walking into a grocery store, seeing someone organizing some shelves, asking them, “Do you work here or just have O.C.D.?” and discovering they are NOT one of that store's employees? I'm unsure how to begin trying to calculate those odds!

I have had jokes that did not work or go wrong (no one present thought they were funny) before, but NOTHING LIKE that happened TO ME BEFORE!!!

She could have been praying for a miracle that would make her not appear O.C.D. The Bundt cake falling to the ground could have been HaShem answering her prayer! Or perhaps one of HaShem's angels felt sorry for her having to endure my sense of humor in that situation; therefore, one of His angels caused the Bundt cake to fall to the ground for us to see it! Lol!

After lunch that day, I sat with my sister at the dining room table. We were eating some of the Babka cake (it was great!), and I was analyzing what had happened in the store.

I had a flashback to my days as a Christian: I recalled a story from that Roman fictional drama script that Christians call the “New Testament.” I noticed a parallel between how the “Woman at the Well” had responded to JC after he told her, “You have had five husbands, and the man you are living with now is not your husband!”

How did the “Woman at the Well” deal with her situation? She changed the subject from him talking about her to focusing on him instead! She said, “I can see that you are a prophet.” Then she

asked him about a dispute between the Jews and Samaritans regarding the proper place to pray to G-d!

That is why the woman in the store asked me if I had ever tried the Babka cake! She wanted to change the subject from her possibly having O.C.D. to anything else, and the Babka cake was merely a convenient opportunity to that end!

Another mystery is solved before bedtime! Lol!

The Importance of Learning from Genuine Orthodox Rabbis who know what they are talking about!

When I was young, my father only watched television if there was an educational purpose in watching it. There used to be excellent programs like Mutual Omaha's Wild Kingdom, Disney programs like Swiss Family Robinson, Pinocchio, The Parent Trap, The Jungle Book, Bambi, etc., and News, but nowadays, there's too much crap you're offered as entertainment! It is better to subscribe to apps than watch TV, but I digress!

Sometimes, he would hear something on the News or read something in a magazine or newspaper and turn to me and say, "Buy them books, send them to school, and this is what comes out of their mouths or in print!"

Perhaps it's something in the textbooks their professors chose to teach them, which means we should examine their books, the people who wrote them, and the professors who teach them, or perhaps it is something that developed from the person's thinking who is speaking (or writing) who didn't understand what he was being taught or something his parents taught him!

Either way, whatever you do, don't listen to a 'donkey'-(for a specific reason, I substituted this word 'donkey' for his word, but his word meant the same thing.) or anyone else who agrees with him!

Because no one who talks like that knows what they are talking about!" Sad but true! Lol!

How to Become a Better Student!

Written in August 2023.

This story is a valuable lesson I learned on my visit to Israel in 2023!

I had already planned to convert, so I decided I should go to the Holy Land and take in as much as I could, observe what I would someday have to commit to and get advice from my mentor who lived in an Orthodox city, the significant difficulty I had during that visit, is the town was built on a hill-(not the Christian reference) and a steep hill at that. Every place I needed or wanted to go seemed uphill, even when I was returning to my apartment! Lol.

I was renting a small studio apartment without a stove or oven, and I would chip in for food and mainly eat with my mentor and his family. HaShem has blessed him with seven children; only the oldest and the youngest are males; the rest were females, but the eldest son and four daughters were married and out of the house, though I would see some or most of them on Shabbos if they weren't at their spouse's parents that Shabbos and the two youngest children who still lived at home. The youngest was twelve, and he became my little translator when I needed to buy something at the neighborhood store when his father was busy with some other matter.

He and I became friends. He taught me many things about Judaism; he is knowledgeable and would correct me when I made a mistake because I hadn't learned that yet. One day, I wanted to share some of my wisdom with him because he was so generous with his: I asked him, "How do you eat an elephant?" He replied, "An elephant isn't a kosher animal." Lol!

I was trying to teach him, but once again, he taught me! Besides learning that elephants aren't kosher, which I should have known because of their feet, I discovered another valuable lesson: I learned many philosophical concepts that are great life lessons in one culture don't necessarily fit well in their current form in another. One must work hard to reshape them into ideas that suit the other culture, in this case, into the Jewish mind. Vice versa, trying to learn and understand Judaism with a Christian mindset will lead to misunderstanding Judaism.

I learned a valuable lesson from a martial arts movie, which is an easier way to understand my point better. In the film, a student asks the teacher to teach him to be better at martial arts. The teacher fills two glasses, one with water and one with a dark liquid, and explains the glass with water represents what the student knows, and the one with dark liquid is what I am trying to teach you. In front of the students, he starts pouring the dark liquid into the water-filled glass. Very little of the dark liquid gets in and mixes with the water, which is getting diluted, but most of it is spilling over the top and out of the glass and onto the floor!

Upon seeing this, the student understands and asks the teacher to stop. The teacher asked the student what the student wanted him to do. The student replies, Empty the glass of water and fill it with what you are trying to teach me! The teacher says, "Excellent!" and the teacher asks him, "Are you willing to do all that I tell you?" The student says, "Yes." The teacher said, "Excellent, I will teach you," and did what the student chose to represent: He would teach him everything he knew as long as the student kept his promise!

The above illustration is a metaphor and is a very excellent mindset for a student; if you want to learn most effectively, you need to empty your mind temporarily of what you know to learn the new concept and understand the philosophy with the understanding from where it stems without contaminating it with your preexisting beliefs! NO! I am not saying the same things as JC told in the "NT":

that you become like a child and believe everything you're told without thinking about it!

I am saying clear your mind of what you think you know from your previous philosophy so you can understand the new concepts in the correct context and then articulate the latest idea to see how it fits together with all else that you have learned, in this case, about Judaism before you compare it to what you have discovered in your life with your former philosophy one concept at a time!

It takes time to learn new philosophies, change your thoughts, and prevent misunderstanding what you learn from Judaism, especially if you come from a background! Christians believe they know and understand Judaism, but most don't read, write, or understand Hebrew, so they are prone to misunderstanding and accidentally learning or forming heresies if they don't learn one concept at a time and then adapt what they have learned from rabbis to correct their prior false beliefs and reasoning that goes with them!

I wrote a few weeks back about discovering that I had been filtering at least some things with my prior Calvinist Christian belief system, which made at least one Judaism teaching impossible to understand until I asked the proper questions to try to understand why a rabbi I trusted, and knew he was leading the truth. Still, I rejected the concept because of residual former Christian Calvinist reasoning! Blessed G-d, thank you for this young but soon-to-be man who has invited me to his Bar Mitzvah next year!

One final thought here: I learn wisdom from whatever source it comes to me as long as the person is humble, from the very young to the very old, from mentors, rabbis, teachers, good books, movies, and TV, well, perhaps not TV, there isn't much good there anymore, that is why I stopped watching!

Never Judge a Man (or Woman) by the Color of their

Skin!

Written on February 14, 2023.

This is a positive story about Jesse Owens; keep in mind it is excellent that Owens won the race in the Olympics, not bad because of that Nazi Owens triumph over who is also in the picture! I chose that photo to show who Owens bested and wrote about my father's positive reason why Owens won!



When I was young, my father was the bravest man I have ever known. Sure, there are many courageous people, but I didn't understand them like I did my dad! My dad would take me everywhere he went. He taught me how to shoot, camp, hunt, fish, reload ammunition, mold bullets from lead, the multiple uses of a screwdriver: It is a screwdriver and pry bar, a hammer, can be used for removing nails from wood, and a can opener-the opened part of the can doesn't look the same as when you use a conventional can opener, but it's open, various uses for ducktape in emergencies, etc., and other life lessons you only learn from a father like him!

I wanted to be brave like him, but I was messed up from that incident when I was 8; where the young man jumped the fence, put a knife to my throat, threatened to kill me if I told anyone he had raped my babysitter, and then the police brought him in the back of a police car. The guy threatened me with his eyes and "mouthing, "I told you ...!"

Sometime after my 13th birthday but before my 14th birthday, my dad asked me, "Son, do you think I am brave or stupid?" I replied, "I think you are brave, Dad, but sometimes, you do things that make me wonder about that!" He answered, "That's okay, son;

sometimes it's helpful to be both!

He said, “Son, some of the men I am friends with agree: We have discussed it and believe you are ready to decide. Do you want to be brave like us? It's okay if you're not prepared, but if you say yes, you must agree to obey all my rules before you know what they are.” Do you trust me?

One of my dad's rules was, “Never judge a man by the color of his skin; judge him by what he does! Son, you have a good mind, and I am sure you will accomplish more than I have, but you need to know it depends on your mindset! Do you know why black men are very successful” at sports?” I shrugged my shoulders and said, “I don't know!”

He asked me, “Have you ever heard of Jesse Owens? “I said, “No.”

He told me about Jesse Owens and asked, “Do you know why Owens won the race against that Nazi in the 1936 Summer Olympics?” I again shrugged my shoulders and said, “No.” He stated, “Blacks around the world and in the U.S.A. have had a complicated life; they have been unfairly treated since before the U.S.A. was founded, and some have learned the fastest way out of poverty is to succeed at something they can work hard with the correct mindset on achieving the goal they have chosen, and since many blacks in the U.S.A. are at or below poverty level, for reasons you are too young to understand: blacks don't have as much access to higher learning as whites, but some have learned that they can work hard on their body and succeed in sports and pull their family out of poverty!

My dad concluded (Metaphorically), “Jesse Owens won the race, son, because most successful white men run as fast as they can, but all successful black men run as fast as they must!”

A person's mindset is critical to how well that person succeeds at reaching his goal!

It is my opinion that if that Nazi had run faster than he did, Owens would have still won the race but merely with a shorter run time! With all that was at stake in those Olympic games, Owens was destined to win as a smack in the face of the Nazis, who considered themselves to be the supreme race!

Section II:

Oh! This is your ‘Baby Brother?’”

Written by Yosef Michael on April 10, 2024.

About a month and a half before I turned 16, I moved to Tennessee to attend my dad’s funeral and to live with my uncle and his family for a while. I was about 17 and a half when I moved back to California, a few months before I joined the Navy.

My 19-year-old sister had already moved out and lived with one of her best friends from high school. Within a few days of my arrival, she invited me to her apartment to meet her roommate and a few friends. My sister picked me up at home and drove to her apartment. We walked in, and she introduced me to them by saying, “This is my brother Joe.”

My sister’s friends were amiable and polite but looked around expecting someone else. I noticed that one of her friends had a small stuffed animal in her hand. Suddenly, surprised, one of them said, “Oh! This is your ‘Baby Brother!?’” After a short pause, one said, “And you are right, he is cute!”

I looked at my sister with a “what the hell” expression, wondering why she kept calling me her “Baby Brother” when we were less than two years apart. My other sister, 15 years older than me, told me, “The last child is always the baby. You will never grow up in the eyes of your mom or sisters, so get used to it!” My sister had a look on her face. The expression was, “Hey, we women don’t make up these rules. We obey them! Lol!”

One of my Greatest Life’s Challenges!

Written March 14, 2024.

One day, about 33 or 34 years ago, I was driving, and my friend in the passenger seat said, “I have been observing you many times over the past few weeks when you are driving, and now I can easily determine your mood by how you drive! When you are happy, or life is going well, you are very courteous to other drivers, letting them exit from parking lots or make lane changes into your lane in front of you, but when you are angry or depressed, you don’t!”

I had been an atheist from birth until I was roughly 25 years old, plus one month, 26 days, 16 hours, and 54 minutes. I’m not exactly 100% sure what time it was when I first believed in the G-d, Who I know now as HaShem, but it was a night, perhaps around 10 p.m., give or take a little. I was so shocked to learn without any uncertainty that G-d must exist that I didn’t think to look at a clock and record the exact time!

However, my problem was that I didn’t know who G-d was or where I should go to learn about him! Since I grew up in an “unofficial” Christian country, I falsely assumed G-d must be in Christianity and looked for Him for 30 years there until I discovered the truth! It was complicated for me after leaving Christianity; looking back, it was difficult for me knowing that I chose to continue searching for G-d in Christianity for 30 years instead of leaving when I found too many errors with the JW’s, then with the Catholics, then with the Armenian Baptists, and then with the Reformed (Calvinist) Baptists!

For several months, I had dreaded that I had wasted 30 years of my life until I changed my thinking: Instead of thinking that I had wasted my time, I changed my thinking to I now have 30 years of experience from an insider’s perspective, encompassing 4 of the Major different Christian Religious “Schools of Thought”: Theories and Reasonings, with experiences that allow me to help others who have come out of any form of Christianity or will come out know they made the correct choice, begin the healing process, and learn the truth about our G-d, HaShem!

Last night in JLI Torah class, we studied King David's incident with Bathsheba and Uriah: King David failed, but he repented. Repentance is more significant than failure. King David wrote a Psalm about his falling Psalm 51. The first time and version of Psalm 51 I heard was while I was a few years into being a Catholic, maybe about four or five years after I first believed in a G-d. I was quickly attached to the lyrics! I would play that song while driving or sing from memory without music, and I would wear sunglasses so other drivers wouldn't see me cry. I desired to know G-d and be forgiven for all my past failures and sins!

In last night's JLI class, the discussion arose that we all have challenges to endure and obstacles to overcome. Mindset is paramount to success! The Rebbe taught, "Think well, and it will go well!" When a situation arises, for example, if someone angry at you confronts you, what you think at that moment while they are angry at you will affect the outcome!

For example, assuming all participants in this example are usually people of goodwill towards one another: If I think the person who is angry at me for something they think I did or said to or about them and are confronting me about that cause, that person is wrong and making a personal attack on me, but rather the problem is something wrong with that person's character or understanding of what I did, what they think I did, or why I did it and If I take offense and think, "How dare you treat me like this!" the outcome will be different than if I think, "I should listen to what the person says, and acknowledge whatever that person is correct about, and validate where that person is correct for being angry, and tell them I would also be angry if that happened to me!" that will produce a different outcome.

The former example is true for women and men but especially true for men, at least men like me. I grew up in a culture and a home where I was taught from a very young age not to cry or verbalize my emotions of sadness, fear, or other "negative" emotions except anger. Anger is socially acceptable for men if they don't act out

inappropriately in public. However, the girls were taught to verbalize their feelings with their mom, sister, other girls, or women telling them how they feel. Therefore, women are usually more emotionally healthy than men.

Other than the noticeable biological differences, men and women are more similar than most people know, especially regarding emotions. Still, our society has conditioned us to behave differently when expressing our feelings, so we appear to be more emotionally different than we are!

Over the last year or two, I have grown a lot. My growth has, to my surprise, stemmed from me learning how to verbalize my emotions, usually in my essays and other writings, or with women, and now sometimes with men: It turns out that men want to talk about their emotions, but because of social norms, they only talk about emotions when they are drunk enough not to care who hears them. Perhaps they will get drunk enough to forget what they said!

A class member said, “It is hard not to be offended and to find something correct about what the other person is saying or feeling while angry and confronting me!” I nodded and said, “Yes! It isn’t easy, but that is the challenge we all face! But it gets easier each time you do it, like the Snowball effect!” The more times we succeed, the easier and faster we can continue doing this in future situations.



The differences in mindset necessary to begin overcoming the challenge rather than failing can be distinguished by the differences between the Snowball Effect and Pushing a Huge Stone:

With the Snowball effect, you begin with a small snowball down from a high snow-covered mountain; as it rolls down, it becomes more prominent and gains momentum. When the Snowball is small, it is easy to begin the rolling process; however, the Huge Stone will be much heavier and, therefore, more burdensome.

With the Snowball Effect mindset, a person knows that success begins the first time they succeed in not being offended and finding at least one thing correct. That is equivalent to forming a Snowball with your hands and rolling it down the mountain. When they can empathize with the other person's reason for being angry, and that person confronts them, if they validate that person's reason for feeling angry, and here is a crazy idea: say I'm sorry about that; I didn't do that, or mean it to make you angry, it will reduce that person's anger, rather than if you reject that they have any right to be angry, which will worsen the outcome. Ask yourself if you want to be a person who can de-escalate and resolve issues or a person who has to prove that you are correct!

When I was 13, my dad said, "Son, I have to share something with you. I hope you don't look down on me for this, but I want to let you know that it is okay to be wrong; it is part of the learning process! Once, a long time ago, I made a mistake. "I thought I had made an error, but when I double-checked, I realized that I had been correct before I doubted myself and even imagined that I could have been wrong! Therefore, I learned that anyone could make a mistake. So, if you make a mistake, don't worry; it happened to me once and can happen to anyone. Just don't make a habit of making mistakes!" LOL!

Any wisdom found in my experiences I wrote about in the above essay are my gleanings from the teachings of The Rebbe, Rabbi Manis Friedman, and from within his Zoom Group Nourishing the

Soul, the Rabbi's teaching for JLI (Jewish Learning Institute) on YouTube, JLI Classes in the two synagogues I attend, Chabad.org, Rabbi Pinchas Taylor's Facebook Group: The Ark, too many others to mention them all, plus from my dad's wisdom, my watching cartoons after school instead of doing my homework, and from other of my life experiences. B"H

When I was qualifying for the parachute jump fitness test.

Written on October 28, 2023.

The jump fitness test consisted of the following: demonstrating that I knew how to land correctly by jumping off a platform into the sand, doing a certain number of pull-ups, set-ups, and push-ups, and running a mile and a half, all within 20 minutes.

The instructors timed us individually. I jumped off the platform and passed. I did the ten pull-ups, 50 push-ups, and 50 set-ups. (I'm unsure if we had to do any 8-count body-builders, so I left that out of the list in the former paragraph.) They recorded each person's time. After everyone finished, we lined up and began the mile-and-a-half run.

I wanted to qualify to jump, so I set only two goals: 1) I wanted to qualify to jump. 2) No matter what, I didn't want to finish last! I focused on my goals and ignored everyone and everything except completing everything within the time limit.

As I ran, I focused on running by looking ahead, waiting to see the finish line come into view. About seven minutes into the run, I felt an elbow bump me on my left arm as an unnamed Lance Corporal Marine sprinted by me on my left. I thought, "What the hell?"

I watched him run ahead, wondering why he bumped me! When he got about a hundred feet in front of me, he stopped, dropped to his knees, and started vomiting! I was thinking, “What an idiot!”

When I passed him, he was still on his knees, and I was fighting the urge to turn my head and look at him as I regained my focus. I was anticipating when I would see the finish line!

After about a minute or so, he bumped me again as he sprinted by me a second time. Like before, he got about a hundred feet in front of me and stopped, dropped to his knees, and vomited again. However, this time, he was barely able to produce vomit; only a little came out of his mouth, unlike his first vomiting session! Again, I thought, “What an idiot!”

I couldn’t resist looking at him this time as I passed him!

After about another minute or so, I could see the finish line ahead and looked around to see my ranking in the race to ensure I wasn’t last! I was concerned because Lance Corporal had sprinted past me twice; I was afraid he was trying not to be last! That is when I noticed that the only people in front of me were the instructors tasked with timing us!

All of a sudden, that unnamed Lance Corporal sprinted past me a third and final time, crossing the finish line about a hundred feet before me, and fell to his knees a third time, but this time, he couldn’t produce any vomit, although it looked like he wanted to.

After completing the run, I thought, “Wow, I don’t believe I was leading the group running! I only focused on qualifying and not finishing last.”

I was walking around trying to recover from the run when the Lance Corporal approached me and said, “I was not going to let a sailor beat me across the finish line!”

For about the last 39 years, I didn't respect that Lance Corporal Marine. During all the training at that Navy school, he disrespected sailors! I got along well with all the other Marines, like they were my brothers or sisters, but not with that Lance Corporal because of his attitude towards sailors!

Why did I change my feelings about him from disrespect to respect him after all he had said and did?

I finally recognized that although his words and actions were wrong, he said and did them based on his false belief that sailors are weaker than Marines, so he would push himself so hard to finish the run before me! Plus, after all, he was a US Marine, and that is enough reason to give him some respect because the US Marines are "The few, the proud, the United States Marine Corps!"

He might have pushed himself to the point of having a heart attack and dying if I had sprinted the last two hundred feet, but one of my goals was not to finish last, not to finish first!

Fight for or with honor?

Written on August 15, 2023.

So many people claim to be warriors but are fake! One man told me he was a Samurai, but I laid my Katana down on a mat and backed away. I was shocked at how he picked it up! I knew immediately: he was not a Samurai.

A warrior fights with honor, not for it! Samurais believe their honor is worth more than life, and they would commit Hari-kari (ritual suicide) to maintain or regain their glory. A warrior knows he can't die until the -predetermined expiration date for his life set by HaShem, so he fights without fear of death and is determined to go down fighting with honor and eliminate as many enemies as possible before he goes down in case he goes down!

A warrior thinks a cause is worth dying for if necessary but will fight honorably to stay alive to continue the fight. It's difficult for a dead warrior to advance the cause he is battling for! If HaShem accepts him, he could ask HaShem to advance the cause while HaShem judges him, but if he is alive, he can pray while enduring the battle!

In contrast, Haman in the Book of Ester desired honor but would do dishonorable things to receive honor! An honorable warrior doesn't do anything shameful, like abusing women, children, the weak, the oppressed, and the poor, so someone with integrity doesn't willfully desire to do evil things!

Therefore, a warrior fights for HaShem's cause(s) with honor and fights with or for love to protect women, children, the weak, and the oppressed, to end evil or an evil design or evil empire, etc. Baruch HaShem!

I have NEVER PURPOSELY TEMPTED HASHEM! I have never jumped off a bridge, a cliff, or a building to see if I could or couldn't die! If you think that you should try that or something else stupid like that, please consider: perhaps that is your expiration date, and expect to meet HaShem in person as a result of that foolish thinking or action that follows as a result of that thinking!

As I look back on my life, where I have made many stupid decisions that could have ended my life, I consider that I am alive perhaps ONLY as a result that I never made a conscious decision to test to see if I could die if I engaged in any specific STUPID activity!

I have a little trepidation about this next part, but hopefully, the readers will understand why I decided to explain it here! Sometime between riding my motorcycle and going to rehab, I was not feeling well. Someone told me to write a gratitude list; perhaps I would feel better!

Oddly enough, I chose to write a list of the many times I came close to death: about 42 times up to that time! It took me a few weeks to compile the list, but I showed it to my brother for his opinion.

I was shocked that after he had read the list, he reached into his shirt pocket, took out a pen, and drew a line through twelve on the list. He handed me the list, and I noticed the ones he wrote a line through and asked him, why did you do that? Do you know how hard it was for ME to remember all those things, and you strike them out without even discussing them with me?

He said, "The ones that I drew a line through were times that you certainly could have been hurt or injured but most likely would not have died from!"

However, he didn't draw a line through thirty of them! Until then, he only accepted thirty, but more occurred before I first believed in G-d! The fact that I am still alive, although I didn't understand why until I began studying Judaism, now I know why, but before, I was starting to believe that I was cursed and couldn't die, especially when I met the man who accidentally blinded himself when he tried to commit suicide, but he didn't die!

In the war to end all wars, whose side will you be on?

Why do we need gloves with finger pads that are about two inches thick?

Written on August 29, 2023.

My brother told me to study Kendo (sword fighting) at a Dojo in San Francisco. He told me that the Sensei, who was



Japanese studied in Japan the Japanese way before immigrating to the USA and taught the Japanese way, and many Americans didn't like it and dropped out! I asked him, "What do you mean, the Japanese way? How do they train differently than here?"

My brother said, "Sensei studied one thing at a time; for example, he learned one kick and practiced that one kick with one leg until he perfected it and moved on to the other leg, and then after he perfected that same type of kick with both legs, he moved on to the next type of kick: many Americans don't want to learn that way and leave!"

I asked him, "What does that have to do with Kendo? He replied, "he teaches Kendo the same way: one move at a time!"

He showed me the Shinai Bamboo Training Sword and explained we will learn and train with this! But first I need to show you how to put on all the safety equipment so you don't get hurt! I replied, "Is all this equipment essential? I can understand the face mask and chest plate, but this practice thingy is made of bamboo and has a padded tip; why do we need gloves with finger pads about two inches thick?" He replied, "We must hurry up; the class is about to start. Ask me after the class if you don't figure it out during tonight's lesson."

For my first lesson, I was paired with Sensei's protégé! He showed me the basics of holding this bamboo thing correctly to face an opponent and explained the strategy to keep in mind while trying to defend myself from his attacks. We faced each other, and he said, "Are you ready?" I replied, "Yes!"

He attacked my right hand in the same spot perhaps 2 or 3 million times; I'm not sure how because I lost track of the count while concentrating on how to defend myself. Then he picked another place and struck it about as many times as the first spot, but occasionally, without any warning, he would return to the first spot to ensure I didn't forget how to defend against that attack!

After the class, my brother asked me, “So, do you have any questions?” I just looked at him and said, “Let’s just go home!”

About 20 to 30 years later, I watched The Mask of Zorro. When I saw the scene where Anthony Hopkins (the former Zorro) was teaching Antonio Banderas (who would become the new Zorro) how to use a sword, I had a flashback to my first lesson! Lol!

Check out the following link to watch the short Zorro Clip: https://youtu.be/AD7L_O4PzKU.

The Problem is with How We Choose Our Goals!

Written by Yosef Michael on March 24, 2024

How to escape a metaphorical hole you've found yourself in. This metaphor can be applied to various situations, such as financial debt, substance dependency, psychological disorders, and emotional, mental, and health conditions. The steps below are universal enough to guide you from any metaphorical hole you've dug.

Everyone consistently achieves their goals. We all successfully reach every goal we have consciously or unconsciously set. When a person doesn't consciously choose a goal to strive for success, that person unconsciously chooses failure. Therefore, success or failure is a choice: Success is wisely planned consciously, and failure is usually unconsciously planned, except in some people with emotional or mental illness.

I was born in someone else's hole and grew up to become an expert hole digger! My life was hard, and I began to hate my chosen life. I became addicted to controlled substances, elusively seeking

pleasure and an easy life. I wanted to feel better now, forget my troubles, and not have such a miserable existence!

To learn more, my Book 02 - Path to Redemption - Completed 2023-10-15 np (pdf) Experience 20. I have had a difficult life! I wrote it on February 14, 2023, but it occurred on September 15, 1991, the first day I stopped using illegal controlled substances and the date that I believed in G-d. However, I learned Who He Was when I left Christianity about 2.5 years ago.

From my life's challenging experiences, I learned that life is similar to walking up a descending escalator: to stay on my current level, I must walk up at the same speed as the escalator is descending. Every time I slow down or stop walking up, I am going down, and if I want to go higher, I must walk upward faster!

If someone who has failed in their past decides that they will succeed in the future and is willing to learn how to set goals for success consciously, they will succeed.

If you want to learn how I overcame one of my major issues, read Experience 23. The "cure" was worse than the disease!

Steps for changing an unconscious choice to fail into choosing a conscious goal to success:

- 1) Put down the shovel and stop digging!
- 2) Consider why you had initially grabbed a shovel and started digging.
- 3) Consult an expert who has overcome the same issue(s). You need help identifying and developing a plan to overcome the issue(s) that led you to start digging. Their guidance can be instrumental in your journey towards filling the hole.

- 4) Consider the philosophical differences between your past choice(s) and others who have never picked up a shovel.
- 5) Focus on the “Big Picture” and set your primary life goal consciously. When life brings you opportunities to make choices, always remember the “Big Picture” and choose whichever most agree with your consciously chosen life goal. If you are unsure of the best option, go back up to 3.) on this list.
- 6) Make a strategic plan to learn how to fill the hole with the dirt you removed until you reach ground level. Remember, success is not a coincidence; it’s a result of careful planning and execution. This is especially crucial when it comes to achieving your primary life goal. If you are unsure how to make a strategic plan, go back up to 3.) on this list.

Section III:

Elijah (my dog) was very Intelligent.

Written on July 20, 2022.

Sept. 02, 2009



Feb.12, 2023

A while back, when Elijah, my then 12-and-a-half-year-old dog, about 95 human years old, stopped eating his food, I started putting his favorite treat into the bowl with his food, and he began eating again. However, Elijah is brilliant, and I wondered, “Did I train him to eat his food by giving him a treat first, or did he train me first to give him a treat before he eats his food?”

The definitive answer has been made known: Elijah loves broccoli and green beans, so I started feeding him one 12 oz. bowl of broccoli and another 12 oz. of green beans daily, and he eats them without a treat. However, unless he is famished, he will let the more expensive, canned dog food sit in the bowl until I give him a dog treat and then eat the food immediately after it or wait for at least 6 to 10 hours before he will eat it without a treat. LOL.

Would you like to attend a Seder meal if I could arrange it?”

Written on August 13, 1023.

When I met Larry, a customer of mine when I owned a storefront business in the city where he lived, he was in his late 60s. His late father had been a Chasidic rabbi.

I was still a Calvinist Baptist then, but because of my beard, winter hat, winter jacket, and black or navy-blue slacks, some of my customers thought I was Jewish but still liked me after I would laugh and tell them, “No, I am a Baptist.”

In mid or late 2021, before Pesach in 2022, Larry asked me, “Would you like to attend a Seder meal if I could arrange it?”

A couple of years before his invitation, in the Baptist church where I had attended, a messianic “rabbi” came and performed an irreverent, mock, condensed seder that lasted about one hour. So, when Larry asked me if I would like to attend a Jewish Seder, I was curious to see if there were any differences and replied, “Yes! Sure!”

Unfortunately, I was unable to go, but Larry had inspired me to want to attend a Jewish Seder. On the next Pesach (2023), I was a former Xian seeking to convert to Judaism, partaking in a Seder meal in Israel. I noticed the many differences and was shocked.

I had no idea at the time how Larry's invitation would affect my life forever! Baruch HaShem!

I Almost Missed Larry's Unveiling: A Higher GPS! B"H!

Written May 2, 2024.

Larry, the one who tried to get me invited to a seder, died several months prior during COVID-19 (not from COVID-19). I missed his funeral because his daughter didn't know how to contact me.

Larry had fallen at his home and was in a convalescent recovery home. Because I had never been vaccinated, I wasn't allowed to visit him, but we would talk on the phone every one or two weeks.

I tried calling him several times for a few weeks and decided to contact one of his close friends who had Alzheimer's or dementia. I asked how Larry was, and that is when I found out.

I found Larry's daughter on Facebook on Larry's account, but she was mourning her father and, for a while, wasn't logged on to her account for a few weeks.

When she finally checked, she replied. I asked her when he was buried. She asked me if I wanted to attend Larry's tombstone Unveiling in a few months, and I did.

I'm unsure why, but I didn't put the information into my calendar and almost missed the Unveiling. I was only reminded by a hacker who hacked Larry's Facebook account a few days before the unveiling and was asking for money. I contacted Larry's daughter to let her know so she could warn Larry's other friends, and she asked me if I was still coming to the Unveiling in a few days. HaShem used a hacker to remind me of Larry's Unveiling. Baruch HaShem!

On the day of the Unveiling, I had planned to arrive early. Still, I had many things to do because I was not attending synagogue and was preparing for my upcoming visit to Israel to learn about and observe Purim and Pesach in the holy Land. However, I was running late.

I was following the GPS on my cellphone. However, when the GPS told me to make a U-turn, I discovered that I had missed the entrance to the cemetery.

Up to this point, I hadn't considered the fact that I didn't know where Larry was buried in that vast cemetery. I was running late, so I began searching to find out if there was another place to enter so I wouldn't have to make the U-turn and wait for at least two traffic signals to enter through the main entrance!

I saw a road leading to an opening into the cemetery and decided to go there and try to find Larry's grave. As I entered, I saw several cars, so I decided to park and ask if they knew where the Jewish burial places were in that humongous cemetery.

As I got out, the people were walking into the grave sites, so I hurried to catch up. They stopped in front of one of the graves, and as I approached, I saw that it was my friend Larry's burial plot. It seems HaShem or one of His angels was helping me find the place I needed to be for Larry's Unveiling. Baruch HaShem!

If I had followed the GPS's instructions to make a U-turn and driven around the vast cemetery, I would have been late or missed the Unveiling! Wow! Baruch HaShem!

How can the effects of emotional suppression be reversed?

When I was around eight, I was traumatized! A young, emotionally disturbed man jumped over the fence at my baby sister's house. She was about thirteen years old, and from my perspective, she panicked and told us to go into her parents' room quickly, and she locked the bedroom door.

However, we should have run out the front door yelling fire! People love to see a fire, but not many want to interfere with a violent, emotionally disturbed man, especially one as intense and scary as he was!

She told her brother and me to hide in the closet as she pressed her body against the door. He kept banging on the door until he knocked it open. We could hear him yelling at her and hitting her! He opened the closet, grabbed me, put a knife to my throat, and said, "You better not tell anyone, or else I will kill you!" He slammed

the closet door shut and raped her, and eventually left.

The police caught him and brought him back in the rear seat of their car for us to identify him; I was so scared as he stared at me with threatening eyes, and I checked out of this world for a long time mentally and emotionally!

I did not receive any counseling, and my fear overwhelmed me. I had anxiety and a lack of confidence; I developed learning disabilities. At age thirteen, I started using tobacco products, marijuana, alcohol, and other drugs in my early twenties, which eventually caused me to be arrested and jailed several times.

I eventually became disgusted with my fears and went extremely radical: I began lashing out in anger toward anything that caused me anxiety. I called it fearicidal!

For example, when I crashed my KZ-1000 racing motorcycle, I felt slightly fearful about riding again. My anger rose against that fear, so I bought a Suzuki GS-1100 racing motorcycle and drove as fast as possible in triple digits on the freeway, weaving in and out of traffic to overcome my fear of riding again!

I survived many near-death experiences on my path to recovery, but I have learned that there are better ways to overcome than that do-or-die mentality. Have you ever heard the saying, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!”?

If we train all children with the truth about HaShem and teach them not to suppress emotions but instead to change their thinking, which is causing the feelings that influence them to do destructive behaviors, then perhaps that young man who jumped the fence would have been able to control himself then I would never have been traumatized by his evil actions!

Don't Judge a Person Until You Understand Their Meaning!

It is incredible how individuals at different levels complain about someone on another level! I have heard lower-level rabbis who don't understand the argument or point of a higher-level rabbi, so they accuse him of heresy but appear to be foolish to those who do understand! It's much better to privately ask him to explain what he means before you publish lectures, trying to disprove him because you don't understand the context or concepts he is teaching! You may learn something!

The problem is with an arrogant person, rabbi or not, who thinks he knows it all! Whenever I encounter someone who thinks they know it all, I usually discover gaps in their knowledge or understanding of what they think they know!

The difficulty is worse among non-rabbis, Jews, or Noachides who are students but somehow believe they know better than some rabbis. How do we know which gentiles learning to convert are more educated and understand at a high enough level to trust what they teach us?

I've been dealing with a Noachide who claims to be a Torah Scholar but also claims he is not a Jew! I have had private conversations with him about philosophy, and he can't distinguish between technique and philosophy for martial arts. He demonstrates his lack of understanding of a subject he claims to have studied for 18 years. How could he possibly understand Judaism?

I studied my way out of Christianity about two years ago and decided to convert just before Yom Kippur about 11 months ago, give or take a week or two. It certainly is not in my best interests to listen to a student of the Torah who has difficulty understanding simple philosophies but is very harsh to others online when dealing with them! I've asked him several times to let a rabbi decide. Still, he is

arrogant and abusive, so after Shabbat, I will contact a rabbi, show the rabbi the conversations I had with him about martial arts, and play the recordings that he sent me to the rabbi and let the rabbi decide!

If I am wrong, or wherever I am wrong, I will make a public apology, but at least if I am wrong, it is because I am still learning, but he has been learning for longer and is rude to women and men! You should see some of his public comments about women! I have downloaded those and will show them to the rabbi!

I was searching for truth and studying myself out of Christianity!

Written March 13, 2024.

My dad said, “Son, be careful what you ask for because someday you may receive it!”

I began the ordination process. I’m not sure exactly how long It was, perhaps about nine months to a year, before I studied my way out of Christianity. My pastor wanted me to become the Director of the Music Ministry. Still, his mentor, the associate Dean at the seminary, insisted that the Director position was a teaching position and that I would need to be ordained before officially taking that position. My wife at that time was and still is a Catholic, so I would not be able to become a pastor unless she converted or we divorced, but I could be ordained and go through the same program the pastor had, and I could use music and song lyrics to teach in the Church. However, the process of ordination is more indoctrination rather than higher learning!

Although I studied at a Christian seminary, read the required readings, textbooks, Christian lifestyle books, and various Christian bibles, and practiced all I was taught to the best of my ability, I

never felt like I grew closer to G-d or spiritually. That was my final push to examine the Christian “OT” to discover which Christian doctrines were correct and which Christian religion encompassed them all and go there!

I began examining some “OT” references made by the “NT.” First, I read the “NT” to learn the context. I looked up only the verses quoted or referenced to understand how the “NT” was using the “OT” references to understand the “NT” teachings and decided which of the many differing Christian opinions I agreed with. Then I went back and read the “OT” passages to see the context of the “OT” and understand the context, and that is how I discovered the “NT” misquotes the “OT” many times and in many places. I was shocked. The more quotes I examined, the more misquotes I found!

I wondered if the problem existed because the Christian Bibles I was using were all English-only translations by Christians who didn’t grow up Jewish, and perhaps something was lost in the translations by the Christian translators. I went to a Christian “Messianic (Jews who believe in JC/Yeshua)” website and found the translation they recommended. I began reading it and looking up the “OT” verses, assuming that since some of the leaders grew up in Jewish families, they should be able to translate their “OT” better than other Christians who never grew up Jewish. However, I was shocked again to discover their bibles had the same misquotes.

I wondered if the same misquotes occur in Christian doctrines, so I downloaded a PDF that stated there were 40 proofs that they used to attempt to prove that JC/Yeshua was the Messiah. I used the same method for examining the “OT” quoted passages by the “NT”: I read the Christian “Messianic” doctrines in the context as they were written and looked up only those cited verses.

Sometimes, the citation is for only a portion of a verse, not the whole verse. After I understood the intended meaning and reason

for the “OT” verse being quoted, I would go read the “OT” verses in the context of the passage they were mentioned and discovered they were also misquoting their Christian” OT” to develop false Christian doctrines and that is how I studied my way of Christianity!

Please look up all the Christian doctrines until you see the same thing I did and leave! Shalom!

Section IV:

Has the Entire World Gone Mad?

Written on April 2, 2023.

I was around 21 or 22, about a year before I wrecked my KZ-1000 Kawasaki Racing Motorcycle. See story 23 in Section II. I was still riding it to and from college. I was taking some classes at a junior college near where I lived. I had always been good in math, so I took their two-day tutoring seminar and tutored a few students between my classes a couple of days per week. I had a few hours to kill, so I decided I could at least make a few bucks while waiting for the last class to begin.

One day, I was tutoring a student when another student I tutored showed up about 10 minutes early and came into the tutoring room; she sat down with her back toward the student I was tutoring. She was breaking the confidentiality rules to protect the identity of the other students. I didn't say anything, but the student I was in session with didn't seem to mind, so I said nothing about it. However, it was a lovely spring day in sunny Northern California, with clear skies and about 77-78 degrees Fahrenheit or 25.5 Celsius. But Angelique was wearing a jacket, which seemed odd, but I thought, whatever!

A few minutes later, a beautiful 19-year-old Angelique stands up, removes her jacket, and says, "I think you would rather date me than her!" Instantly, I knew she was cold on such a lovely day, and I wondered if the manufacturer had a material shortage that made her top! I was thinking, "What the hell?" I knew what Angelique wanted; I'm not stupid, at least by the acceptable standards we use to judge men, but I was trying to understand why she would like to be with me! Also, I had an epiphany; all the students I was tutoring were women, the clerks who assigned the students were women, and the head of the tutoring department was a woman!

I had a good friend named Kirsten; she still is the most intelligent person I have ever met! She was an English major and also studied

and wrote poetry. She would let me read her poems, and sometimes, she would read them to me. She grew up in a little less than medium middle-class family and wasn't one hundred percent confident; she had high ambitions of attending one of the five Ivy League schools in America! She decided to get her AA degree in Junior college, transfer to an Ivy League college, and try for a scholarship! One day, she was so excited that she showed me her acceptance letter from all five Ivy League schools, and she qualified for a full scholarship with all five colleges!

I thought, "Surely, Kirsten, a woman as intelligent as she is, could explain why Angelique would have done such a thing! I'm not stupid, at least not by the standards most people judge men; I know what Angelique wanted, but I struggled to understand why she wanted it from me! So, after the session ended, I found Kirsten at her favorite place to sit, study, write her poetry, and talk when we had time. I told her, "You will not believe what happened earlier in one of my tutoring sessions!" So, I told her what happened and asked Kirsten, "Why would Angelique do such a thing?"

Kirsten replied, "Joseph! You are such an a**hole!" I thought, "What the hell? Has the Entire World Gone Mad?"

How low should I set my goal?

If you think I mean setting a low goal as my ultimate goal, I hope you are shocked by the opening question! My ultimate goal is to reach perfection as a human being and get infinitely closer to HaShem every day and forever! It will surely take me a long time, maybe more than others, because my starting point was low. I fell into sin because of my bad decisions in life, but I got up!

I set smaller goals to change my behavior, like climbing a ladder to infinity and ascending one step at a time, one day at a time; otherwise, how can I expect to reach my ultimate goal? Every time

I go up one rung, I must stop and evaluate if I am comfortable at this level, and when I am, then go up one more step until I die and rise again in the world to come or until the Mashiach comes.

Everyone needs a mentor who has reached a higher level in whatever area of our life we are working on: if I am at a higher level of faith than he is, he can't teach me anything about faith, and I want to stay above his current level! I should advise him with my faith and not vice versa!

What Do You Mean that I Am in Control of My Destiny?

I have had this debate between HaShem and myself, so I understand it, at least from a human perspective!

From a human perspective, one might ask HaShem, "What do you mean that I am in control of my destiny? I never asked to be born, so how could I be responsible for anything? You created me; whatever happens is on you, not me!" What boldness a human might have to advise the All-Knowing, Omni-Present Creator of who is accountable when the human chooses to do evil!

In HaShem's defense, He gave us free will. Otherwise, we would be HaShem's slaves, like JC wants us to be JC's slaves, rather than HaShem's children like HaShem desires us to be!

I listen to Rabbi Manis Friedman often. He is very wise! Hearing Rabbi Friedman say it makes me feel more confident sharing it with others, but I had this debate with HaShem long before I heard the rabbi say this!

After all, isn't that what all Xians do? They blame HaShem, believe that G-d should come down and die for their sins, and take their punishment for sinning!

I Was Thinking to Myself?

Written July 26, 2023.

When I was young, it was common for some people to add a qualifier to the phrase; I was thinking, “to myself,” but why would anyone feel the need to qualify the statement: I was thinking?

What does that even mean? Is it possible for one person to think about anything in someone else’s thoughts? How would that even work?

Wouldn’t your thoughts have to leave your mind and go into theirs? If so, wouldn’t it be them thinking those thoughts after the transfer, not you? Lol!

I’m not sure who the first person qualified the I was thinking statement, but I suspect it was a man because it is usually a man who needs self-assurance; women are generally more comfortable with being who they are!

Why Do Christian Doctrines Contradict their Other Doctrines so Often?

Written on July 08, 2023.

Besides believing in JC, the other main reason Christians have so many contradictions with their beliefs is that in many places, they interpret their “bible” only within a particular passage or apart from all their teachings as a whole! Orthodox Jewish rabbis consider the whole Tanach, including the Oral Torah and other Jewish writings and commentary by great Jewish Sages, which allows them to correctly understand any Jewish scripture in its context and as a whole!

When you merely try to interpret a verse or some verses independent of how it fits into everything given at Mt. Sinai to the Jewish people from HaShem through Moshe, plus consider all the prophets and writings, you may sometimes accidentally correctly interpret what you read if you are within its proper context. Still, you need to consider everything about that topic in most cases to avoid misinterpreting it altogether or only gaining a superficial understanding!

WOMAN STABS MAN WITH RAZOR TO PROTECT HER ONE-YEAR-OLD PITBULL.

Written by Yosef Michael on November 11, 2023.

About six and a half weeks ago, I placed an order in person in a town adjacent to my home. I needed a haircut, and I knew about the barbershop a few shops down in this little strip mall, so I walked there to see if I could get a walk-in. As I approached, a barber walked out with his one-year-old Pitbull. It was blue and looked smaller and friendlier than Samson, so I petted it.

That barber had an opening right then and agreed to cut my hair. I told him, "That is the first time I have touched a Pitbull! I thought I never would after I was attacked by a Pitbull named Samson!" I showed him only the scars on my right wrist and left hand where the stitches had been (See "24. Attacked by a Pitbull named Samson." In my first book, "It Has Been an Interesting Life," if you want to know more about that experience, just scroll up to the top of this page for a free PDF and download it or read it online.)

The barber said, "I would have jumped on top of a car!" I replied. I didn't know that Samson had broken his weak chain and came after me until he grabbed my wrist with his mouth, and I turned to see what caught me! Jumping on a car with him already clamped on

my wrist didn't make sense (to Me!) I had to fight him for my life or at least to prevent him from disfiguring me!

About three weeks later, I was picking up my order in that town. I decided to see if I could get another walk-in haircut, but that barber had taken that day off, so I asked the owner if she could cut my hair. She checked her schedule and said, "I only have a 2:30 p.m. open. Can you come back then?" I agreed and left.

I arrived about 20 minutes early and sat down. She said, "I'm almost done with him (the man in her chair). It will be only a few minutes, and I will get you in the chair." I smiled and thanked her. While I was sitting and waiting, a different Pitbull, whom I had not noticed, walked out from behind her. This one was yellow, the same color as Samson, and walked over to me. I stared at him as he approached me; I was thinking about how Samson had walked over to me and grabbed my wrist without any warning, and this Pitbull looked exactly like Samson, only a little smaller! I spoke up and said, "He just f---ing walked up on me like Samson!"

The owner and other barbers remembered me talking about being attacked by Samson, and the owner, to lighten up the mood and situation, said, "Do I have to stab you to protect my dog? I have four sharp razors in this drawer!"

I replied as someone reading a Flash News headline: "WOMAN STABS MAN WITH RAZOR TO PROTECT HER ONE-YEAR-OLD PITBULL." I reached out, petted Benny the Pitbull on his head, and said, "This is only my second time touching one of these things! The first time was with that other barber's dog outside that door about 3-weeks ago."

The man getting his haircut in her chair stared at Benny and me intently for about a minute, his expression bewildered, "What the hell?"

The owner said sarcastically, "Really, I have to protect my dog instead of him protecting me!" and laughed at the absurdness of her previous statement and my Flash News Headline!

After she finished cutting my hair and I got in my car, from that moment onward, I have been expanding on that fake news story for the last couple of weeks about what the content would be if it had happened!

Since I cannot imagine ever getting that kind of Segway again to share the new funny things I thought up after leaving her barbershop, I decided to write about this experience and share some of what I thought up!

Fake News Flash: "WOMAN STABS MAN WITH RAZOR TO PROTECT HER ONE-YEAR-OLD MALE PITBULL NAMED BENNY!"

The woman told police, "It all happened so quickly! I was shocked at the situation as it unfolded before my eyes, and I feared for my dog's life, so I grabbed one of my razors from this drawer and stabbed the man to protect Benny, my one-year-old male 45-pound Pitbull, from certain death!"

She continued, "Benny was calm, relaxed, peaceful, and well-behaved. He merely walked over to the man and stood there in front of him, expecting to be petted or given a treat, when all of a sudden, and without any warning from the man or provocation from the dog, with his empty hands, the man suddenly attacked Benny, my one-year-old male, 45-pound Pitbull."

Animal rights activists are outraged by the inhumane animal cruelty of the man against Benny, the one-year-old male 45-pound Pitbull! These same Animal Rights activists demand justice for Benny and have requested the District Attorney to indict the man with the maximum charges possible.

Those Animal rights activists also insist that since it was a different Pitbull named Samson, not this Pitbull named Benny, who had formerly attacked the man, but this man indiscriminately attacked Benny, they are insisting on an additional 5-year enhancement for the Hate Crime against the innocent male, 45-pound Pitbull named Benny because it's evident that the man now hates all of the Pitbull dogs after having been assaulted by Samson, who was a male, 55-pound Pitbull. Those Animal rights activists insist. It is unacceptable to judge and hate all Pit bulls based on the wrong actions of one bad little doggie Pitbull named Samson!

Benny, the one-year-old 45-pound male Pitbull, is home resting; his owner is asking for privacy while Benny is recovering from the trauma associated with being attacked by the man.

The man is being treated in a nearby hospital for straight-razor stab wounds; he is handcuffed and is being guarded and watched for 72 hours. He has been placed on a mandatory California health and safety code 5150 psych evaluation hold because of his violent behavior; after that, it is more likely that he will be transferred to the county jail and be held there without bail until the completion of his trial!

Lol! I wish I could have thought that up while sitting in her barbershop waiting for my haircut.

Section V:

“The Sound of Silence” is an excellent metaphor for ignorance!

The Elephant in the room that no one wants to talk about! Everyone (including Christians) knows that Christianity doesn't make sense, but they can't think outside of the box they have metaphorically willingly gotten into or were born into! Christians become paralyzed with fear of burning in Hell for everlasting.

The Christian doctrine of Hell was the biggest obstacle for me to overcome! For the first week or two after discovering all the misquotes in the “NT” of their “OT,” I began examining Christian doctrines and found that many are out-of-context quotes used to create their many false doctrines; I understood that Christianity is false. JC wasn't the messiah, so I left, but the fear of going to Hell if I was wrong weighed on my mind, and that fear motivated me to seek the Jewish Response to Christianity!

My thinking was like:

I was taught that the Christian god loves me, and I was made in its image; therefore, how could a god who loves His creation create people in a hopeless, sinful state with no hope of ever being able NOT to sin and require or deserve to be punished forever if one doesn't believe it or rather part of it became a man and died to save you?

Evangelical Christians taught me that G-d has many attributes: some communicable and others non-communicable. This means humans can understand and experience His communicable attributes like wisdom, Justice, mercy, love, hate, anger, jealousy, etc., but on a much lower level, but can't understand some or experience the non-communicable attributes like god is eternal but we are created, so we can't understand or experience the attribute of eternality.

1) What is love? Love is wanting what is best for the person or

people you love! I wouldn't torture someone because they don't love me! If someone doesn't love me, I don't wish them to suffer forever; I want them to go away and hope she finds someone she loves! I will find someone who loves me rather than torturing those who don't love me! Therefore, since god loves us, why would a loving god, infinitely more caring than me, torture someone for not loving it?

2) According to Christian understanding, Adam and Eve (Chava) are the ones who ate the forbidden fruit, so how could the Christian god justify torturing their children with burning in Hell everlasting for a "crime" that their parents, Adam and Eve, did and call it Justice? Justice punishes those who committed the "crime," not the victims!

3) Therefore, since the Christian god punishes everyone, the guilty and the victims, as well as an expression of its love and Justice, the Christian god is a victim of its creation because it created man and woman to love it and serve it, but the man and woman didn't love it when they didn't believe it and did what it told them not to do, plus since then many people became atheists and don't believe it even exists and therefore don't love it but hate it: DOESN'T IT ALSO FOLLOW that because the Christian god loves itself and is also a victim, IT WOULD HAVE TO TORTURE ITSELF FOR EVERLASTING?

Perhaps that is why it became a man and died, which proves that the Christian god isn't HaShem because HaShem can't die or become a man; in the Tanach, HaShem says in several places, "I am not a man ..." or god is quoted by prophets who said, "God said, 'I am not a man ...'" and the Tanach also teaches that HaShem is eternal: no beginning and no end, therefore G-d can't become a man and die. Since god has no end, it can't die; a man can die, so HaShem indeed can't become a man! If any part of G-d could die, then the whole G-d could also die, which means it isn't HaShem because HaShem doesn't have an end: HaShem can't die in part or whole!

4) Regarding the Christian god, since it deems torture as love? If that is love, then since hate is the opposite of love, I would prefer a god like that to hate me, which means it has to reward and bless me! To Christian Hell, with the Christian god! I desire to spend the rest of my days with HaShem, the Only G-D! Baruch HaShem!

Why do so many Christians Say They Love Israel?



Written by Yosef Michael on April 22, 2024.

That is a complex question, so I will break down the answer and try to make it easier to understand!

A broad spectrum of Christians claims to love Israel. The majority are sincere and driven by altruistic motives. However, a subset of Missionaries, Christian charity organizations, and scammers pretending to be Christian charitable organizations exploit the altruistic Christians, using their love for Israel as a guise for their proselytizing efforts. In Christian terms, these non-altruistic Missionaries are often equivalent to what Christianity calls "Wolves in sheep's clothing!" However, they usually use that term internally against heretic Christians, but that is a term Christians will understand better to describe what their leaders are doing behind

the scenes! Perhaps that was the missionary's muse (inspiration) for this project!

How did the altruistic Christians decide to love Israel? Their pastors specifically selected passages from the "Old Testament" to teach them to love Israel as part of their leader's purpose of converting Jews to Christianity; in many cases, the pastor doesn't inform them why he wants them to love Israel!

Their pastors teach them passages like Bereshit (Genesis) - Chapter 27:29-30, "Nations shall serve you and kingdoms shall bow down to you; you shall be a master over your brothers, and your mother's sons shall bow down to you. Those who curse you shall be cursed, and those who bless you shall be blessed." Plus, Bereshit (Genesis) - Chapter 12:3, "And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you." - which was told to Avraham by HaShem (G-d), and the Jews are the descendants of Avraham through Yaakov...

Christian aid to Jews from groups of Christians is designed to foster a bond that is more of a dependency upon Christians for survival than charity! For help to be truly selfless, it should be done without publicity to the one receiving it. Still, I have seen infomercials where these groups are begging for donations to support Israel, with videos of food being brought to Jews in need of help with Christian crosses on the box so the one receiving the food knows the food comes from Christians! If these groups' purpose were merely to help Jews in need, they wouldn't put idolatrous crosses on the boxes they deliver! Jews and Goy (Gentiles) should be dependent on HaShem, not on Christians! I say that all shipments of food to Jews should be made in unmarked boxes! If the organization refuses, then that group's purpose is to proselytize Jews via "charity!"

I plan to write more on this subject after Pesach (Passover)! Happy Pesach to all Jews!

Who is the Antichrist?

Written on April 21, 2024.

I'm not sure exactly how long ago it was—perhaps a month or two before I left Christianity, or I may have just left! I was debating with a former deacon of the Baptist church I had attended for about 18 years and briefly studied there for ordination.



After a lengthy discussion, he insisted that the Jewish Messiah would be the Antichrist. My reaction was, “What the he**?

I explained to him from memory Christian doctrine from his apostle Paul that anyone who doesn't believe JC was the Messiah is an antichrist! Therefore, in Christian minds, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, Hindus, Buddhists, Atheists, etc., are considered by Christians to be antichrists, and that is why Christians falsely believe the Jewish Messiah who hasn't ruled yet in Israel publicly in our generation will be the Antichrist!

I told him, “Jews are waiting for the Messiah, while the Christians are waiting for the Antichrist! In truth, to be transparent in our discussions, since you keep referring to the Jewish Messiah as the Antichrist, from now on, I will refer to your false Messiah [JC] as the Anti-Messiah!”

He looked stunned, as if he had never considered that possibility before, and paused to think... He agreed that it would be more apparent in our debates to rebut his [false] accusation that the Jewish Messiah would be the Antichrist, whom the Christians are waiting for their [false] apocalypse to begin!

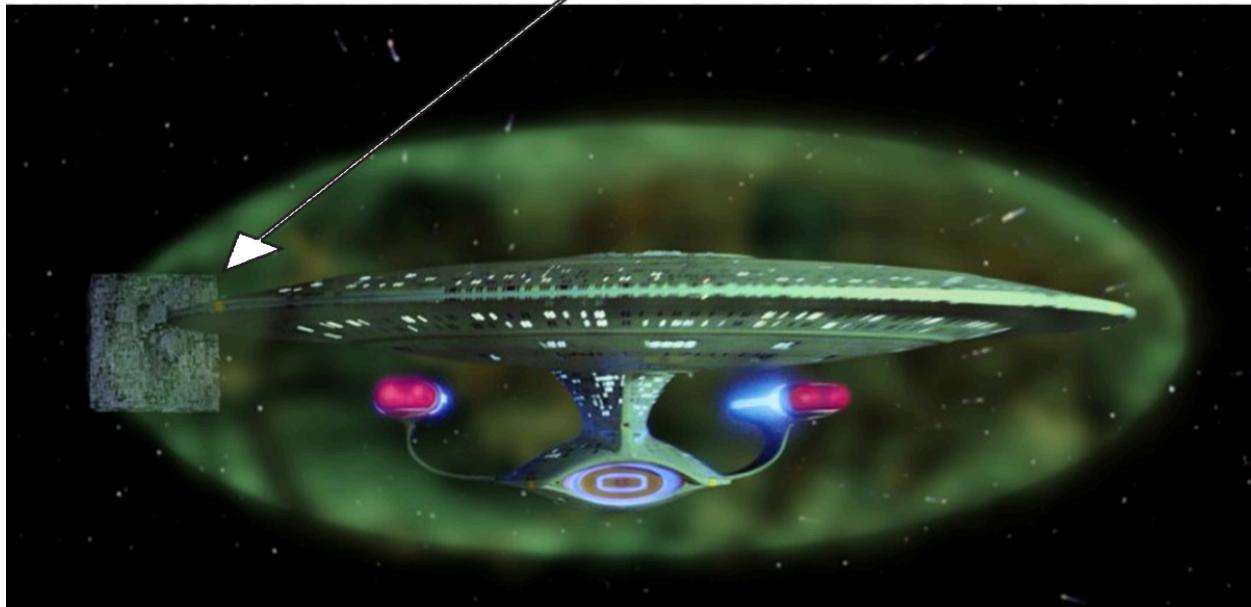
Why Did JC Tell Adults They Have to Become like young children if they want to enter his “kingdom”?

So, they won’t think for themselves!

If adults use their G-d-given intelligence and life experiences to examine any one or all Xian false doctrines, they will reject those teachings! However, if they can get you to set aside your brilliance and not ask reason questions that would cast doubt on their instructions, they can convince you of anything false, and you would accept it.

Your intelligence and life’s experiences working together are shields against false doctrines! To use a Star Trek metaphor: Whenever you listen to anyone trying to teach you anything, you must hear with your “Shields up!”

Can you see the Borg Cube chasing the Starship?



If the instructor says something that doesn’t sound correct or contradicts something you already know is authentic, ask a

question or as many questions as possible until they prove what they are saying is true or it is obvious that they are teaching you false doctrines!

Suppose they don't allow you to ask questions. In that case, they are most likely heretics trying to convert you to their false beliefs or using another Star Trek metaphor: "They are Borg trying to assimilate you into the Borg Collective."

If You Believe JC was the Messiah, Please Read These Scriptures!

Written on May 6, 2023, and revised on April 12, 2024.

Isaiah 43:10-11, "You are My witnesses,' says the Lord, 'and My servant whom I chose,' so that you know and believe Me, and understand that I am He; before Me, no god was formed, and after Me, none shall be. I am the Lord, and besides Me, there is no Savior."

Ezekiel 18:20-28, "20 The soul that sins, it shall die; a son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, and a father shall not bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. 21 And if the wicked man repent of all his sins that he has committed and keeps all My laws and executes justice and righteousness, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 22 All his transgressions that he has committed shall not be remembered regarding him: through his righteousness that he has done, he shall live. 23 Do I desire the death of the wicked? says the Lord God. Is it not rather in his repenting of his ways that he may live? 24 And when the righteous repents of his righteousness and does wrong and does like all the abominations that the wicked man did, shall he live? All his righteous deeds that he has done shall not be remembered; in his treachery that he has perpetrated and in his sin that he has sinned,

in them shall he die. 25 Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not right!' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is it My way that is not right? Is it not rather your ways that are not right? 26 When a righteous man repents of his righteousness and does wrong and dies on that account; for the wrong that he has done he should die. 27 And when a wicked man repents of his wickedness that he has done, and does justice and righteousness, he will keep his soul alive. 28 He will see and repent of all his transgressions that he has committed-he shall surely live; he shall not die."

Therefore, you don't need a perfect man to die for your sins, which is forbidden in **Exodus 23:7**, "7 Distance yourself from a false matter; and do not kill a truly innocent person or one who has been declared innocent, **for I will not vindicate a guilty person.**"

Have you never read **Jeremiah 17:5**, which says, "So says the Lord: **Cursed is the man who trusts in man** and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart turns away from the Lord."

HaShem is G-d! Most people understand that any man who claims to be a god but can die is not a G-d. G-d cannot die because G-d is Eternal, with no beginning and no end! **Psalm 102:26-28**, In the beginning, You founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but **You will endure**, and all of them will rot away like a garment; like raiment You will turn them over, and they will pass away. But **You are He**, and **Your years will not end.**

Christians will tell you, "G-d is immutable; He cannot change," but do not understand that if G-d ever became a man, that would be a change!

Hosea 11:9 - "I will not execute the kindling of My anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim, **for I am God and not a man.** In your midst is the Holy One, and I will not enter a city."

Numbers 23:17, 18, & 19 – 17, "So he returned to Balak, who was standing there by his burnt offering with the princes of Moab. "What

did the LORD say?" Balak asked. 18- Then Balaam lifted up an oracle, saying: "Arise, O Balak, and listen; give ear to me, O son of Zippor. 19- **God is not a man**, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?"

1 Samuel 15:29, "And also, the Strength of Israel will neither lie nor repent, **for He is not a man to** repent."

Genesis 17: 7-10, And I will establish My covenant between you and between Me and between your seed after you throughout their generations as **an everlasting covenant**, to be to you for a God and to your seed after you. And I will give you and your seed after you the land of your sojournings, the entire land of Canaan for an everlasting possession, and I will be to them for a God." And God said to Abraham, "And you shall keep My covenant, you and your seed after you throughout their generations. **This is My covenant, which you shall observe** between Me and between you and between your seed after you, **that every male among you be circumcised**.

If you genuinely believe that G-d broke His everlasting covenant with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Israel), and the Children of Israel, **you mustn't know the meaning of the word everlasting!** Everlasting means that the covenant with the Children of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Israel), and his descendants will never end or be replaced with another group!

Isaiah 40:8, "The grass shall dry out, the blossom shall wilt, but **the word of our God shall last forever.**"

So why does the NT writer, Paul, write in Galatians 5:2, "Take notice: I, Paul, tell you that **if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.**"? *** The covenant is by circumcision; if you want to be included in the everlasting covenant, a Jewish man must be circumcised!

Moses was a deliverer. Moses was a Prophet; Moses had a wife and children. **Exodus 2:21, 18:5**. If JC never married, he broke the first commandment that G-d gave humankind: **Genesis 1:27-28**, So God created man in His own image; in the image of G-d He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and **God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply;** fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” That would be at least one of the many sins that JC had committed that most Christians ignore!

Who were the first Christians? Everybody agrees they were whores, drunkards, tax collectors, fishermen, and the demon-possessed! Wow, that is Christian history. You can research in your “New Testament” and join them! I also joined them for 30 years as an adult and at one point was enrolled in an ordination process, but I discovered the truth about JC by studying the “NT,” where it quotes the “OT,” and noticed all the misquotes and the same types of misquotes in Christian doctrines, so I left!

Regarding the next and final section, go back to section 2 in this post. HaShem (G-d) is merciful to people who repent of sin, including idolatry. If you are a non-Jew, all that is necessary is for you to repent from believing in a man most of you know as Jesus and begin obeying the 7 Laws of Noach!

https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/5559665/jewish/The-Seven-Laws-of-Noah.htm.

Suppose you are a Jew, <https://www.chabad.org/jewish-centers/>. To find a Chabad rabbi near you, follow the covenant G-d made with Avraham, Itzhak, and Yaakov in an Orthodox Jewish community!

JC was only a man who died; therefore, JC was not G-d because G-d cannot die! **Jeremiah 17:5 says**, “So says the Lord: **Cursed is the man who trusts in man** and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart turns away from the Lord.”

Is There a Law to Sin?

Why does Saul/Paul, the apostle of JC, by using Greek and Roman logic, discover a law of sin warring within his members (he can't do what he wants to, but can only do things he doesn't wish to) complement the Berean Xians?

It is a subtle point, but he is creating an argument that those Berean Xians have searched the scriptures and validated his teaching, so you don't have to look up his false teachings in the scriptures because those Bereans already did; they agreed with him, so why do you doubt his false doctrines? If you doubt me, please look up Saul/Paul's false teachings, and then you will know!

That is why Xians make you feel bad when you ask questions! They overact and make you feel foolish for asking questions they don't know the answers to. They want to discourage you from thinking and get you to accept their false doctrines and not search them in the scriptures for yourself.

Is the Christian god Loving?

Christians claim their god is love in their book (1 John 4:8). They believe that they are hopeless sinners and, therefore, can only sin and never do anything to not sin (John 8:24).

Their love god created Christian hell (Matthew 5:22-30) to torture his creation forever for not obeying him even though they believe no one can abide by it (John 8:24)!

Since Christians believe that is love, how do they treat the people they love? No wonder their divorce rate is more than 50 percent, even though JC forbade them to divorce (Matthew chapter 19). Lol! Imagine how high their divorce rate would be if he permitted divorce. Lol!

The Fisherman Metaphor is Good for Describing Christians!

Written July 26, 2023.

Why would Xians use fisherman metaphors and think they are good metaphors to describe how to get others to become Xian?

What is a fisherman? Think about it:

Fishermen hunt their prey, similar to any animal predator that stalks its prey. They devise methods to catch more prey more efficiently. For example, fishermen learn the habits of their prey, when the best time of day to catch their prey is, where the best places to find the prey are, etc.

Fishermen are different from animal predators in that they catch their prey not merely to consume it to sustain their lives and their families but also for profit, using tools like nets and bait to lure prey.

In and of themselves, those are not necessarily bad things unless you are a vegan, but metaphorically, WOW, those are not good things!

Metaphorically, consider the following about the fisherman metaphor applied to Xianity!

JC told his fisherman disciples to follow him, and they would become “Fishers of men.”

Therefore:

1) Xians prey on men and their families. Perhaps that is why we refer to a bunch of fish swimming together as a school instead of a herd or pack of fish because Xians in the past used schools to indoctrinate children into Xianity! Isn’t that what our early

government did with the Native American children? Today, Baruch HaShem, doing that is illegal!

- 2) Xians bait unexpecting prey (Jews, Muslims, Noachides) into becoming their prey. They will tell you it's impossible to keep G-d's laws on your own, but don't worry, JC (a false prophet and a false messiah) died for your sins (which is a lie because it is forbidden in the Torah for a person to be punished in place of another person). Of course, they don't mention my comments in parentheses, as they lie to you about G-d!
- 3) Xians devise devious ways to stalk and capture their prey (Jews, Muslims, Noachides). Missionaries are notorious for doing that! Search and listen to Rabbi Tovia Singer or Rabbi Michael Skobac for more information on Xian missionary tactics.
- 4) Xians consume their prey (Jews, Muslims, Noachides), devouring them spiritually by teaching them lies and how to practice idolatry.
- 5) Xians seek to profit from their prey (Jews, Muslims, Noachides). I heard Rabbi Tovia Singer say once, "Many Xians got rid of keeping the commandments, except the tithe; they like the tithe, so they managed to find a way to keep that commandment but get rid of all the others!" I agree with Rabbi Singer; how can a person, if people are incapable of keeping G-d's commandments, be capable of holding the tithe commandment? Xian doctrine is ridiculous!

Hey, well, what do you know about that? I guess Xians are correct about the fisherman metaphor being an excellent metaphor to describe how to become a slave of JC!

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