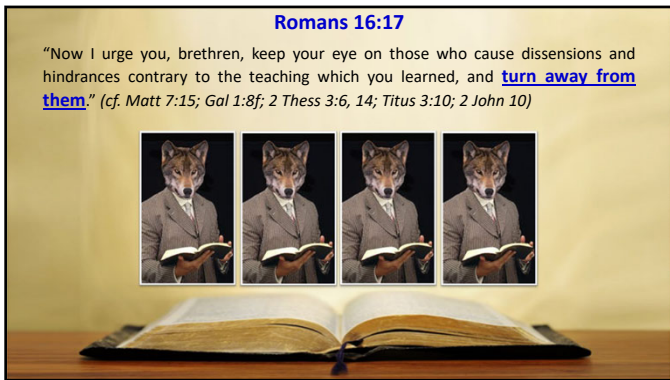


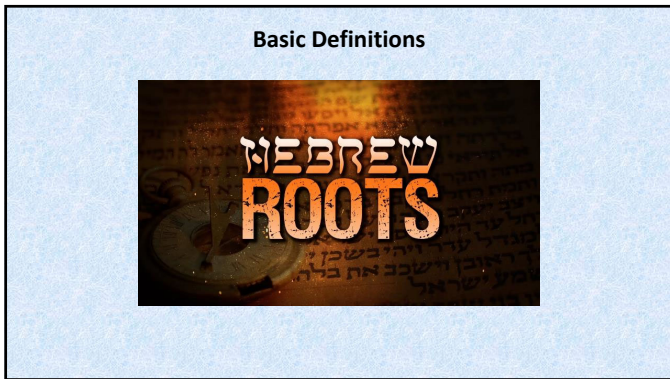
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Basic Definitions

1. **Orthodox Doctrine** – Orthodox means “right belief” and generally refers to **the essentials** of the historic Christian faith as taught by Jesus and the Apostles including:
 - a. Monotheism (God is one)
 - b. The Trinity (God is a triunity)
 - c. The deity of Christ (Jesus is the 2nd Person of the Trinity)
 - d. The virgin birth
 - e. The resurrection
 - f. The Gospel (the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Christ.

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Basic Definitions

2. **False Religion** – rules or ritual based; *not relationship based*.
3. **Cult** – A deviation from orthodoxy (right belief).
 - a) **Heresy** – A denial of orthodoxy (right belief). “Heresy,” refers to false teachings that are destructive because they overturn the basic elements which make up the historic Christian faith, substituting in their place doctrines which distort or contradict the teachings found in the Bible.
 - b) **Aberrant** – a doctrine that does not overtly deny basic biblical theology, but is dangerously inconsistent with orthodoxy (right belief). A group may be orthodox in its central theology while at the same time maintain teachings and practices that are clearly at odds with essential Christian theology.


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Basic signs of a cult



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**Basic signs of a cult**

DEVIATIONS FROM ORTHODOXY (CORRECT TEACHING)

- 1. Monotheism** – (Exo. 20:3-6; Isa. 43:10; 44:6, 8).
- 2. Trinity** – (Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6).
- 3. Virgin Birth** – (Matt. 1:23).
- 4. The Deity of Christ** – (Jesus is God in flesh (John 8:58 with Exo. 3:14). See also John 1:1, 14; 8:24; 10:30-33; 20:28; Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:5-8; Heb. 1:8).

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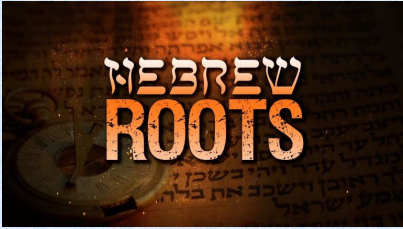
**Basic signs of a cult**

DEVIATIONS FROM ORTHODOXY (CORRECT TEACHING)

- 5. The physical resurrection of Christ** – (John 2:19-21; 1 Cor. 15:14, 17; John 20:25-28; Luke 24:39).
- 6. The Gospel, as the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus** – (1 Cor. 15:1-4; Gal. 1:8-9).
- 7. Salvation by grace through faith alone** – (Rom. 3:28; 4:1-5; 5:1; Eph. 2:8-9; Gal. 3:21;5:3-5).

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What is the Hebrew Roots movement?




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Origin

- The modern HRM is a grassroots movement lacking an organizational structure but which has been influenced by Seventh-Day Adventism and the Worldwide Church of God (Armstrongism), both well-known documented cults.
- Hebrew Roots (aka Hebraic Roots) is a grassroots movement without an ecclesiastical superstructure.
- In 1994, Dean (1939-2022) and Susan Wheelock Trademarked the term Hebrew Roots and in 1998 began publishing the Hebrew Roots® magazine and created a website: Hebrewroots.net.




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Origin

- In 1997, a **prophecy** titled "The Hebrew Movement" was published by Dean Cozzens of Open Church Ministries, which declared that God had foreordained 4 major moves for the 20th century:
 - Pentecostalism
 - Faith-healing
 - the Charismatic Movement and,
 - the Hebrew Roots Movement.



11

HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Premise & Goal

- The premise of the Hebrew Roots movement is the belief that the Church has veered far from **the true teachings** and **Hebrew concepts** of the Bible.
- The movement maintains that Christianity has been indoctrinated with the culture and beliefs of Greek and Roman philosophy and that ultimately biblical **Christianity**, taught in churches today, **has been corrupted** with a pagan imitation of the New Testament gospels.
- The stated goal of this group is "Exploring and Recovering the Hebrew Roots of the Faith".


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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Theology & Tenets

- The Trinity is a fundamental **violation** of scripture.
- The belief that Yeshua is God in the flesh is a fundamental **violation** of scripture.
- Yeshua the Messiah did not come to establish a new religion or to **“do away” with the Mosaic Law**.




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Theology & Tenets

- Yeshua 's death on the cross **did not end the Mosaic Covenant**, but instead renewed it, expanded its message, and wrote it on the hearts of His true followers.
- Gentile believers are **grafted into** the Judaism of **the Mosaic Covenant**.



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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Theology & Tenets

- The Torah is equally binding on Gentiles and Jews alike so **a Torah-observant walk** (including Feast Day observances) must be part of the life of every believer.
- Some teach that **failure to keep the Mosaic Law** reveals that you are not truly born of God.



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Hebrew Roots: Its Theology & Tenets

- Since the Torah is the foundational teaching for the Church, the New Testament becomes secondary in importance. Only a 'supposed' original Hebrew New Testament is accurate.
- The original Greek manuscripts are unreliable and corrupted, so the Church no longer has a standard of truth.



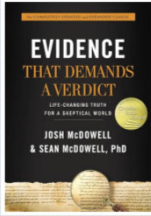

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Reliability of the New Testament Compared to Other Ancient Texts

| Author | Date Written | Earliest Copy | Time Span Gap | No. Of Copies |
|---|--------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Caesar (<i>Gaulic Wars</i>) | 100-44 B.C. | 900 A.D. | 1,000 yrs. | 10 |
| Livy (<i>History of Rome</i>) | 59 B.C. - A.D. 17 | 4 th cent. (Partial) mostly 10 th cent. | 400 yrs. 1000 yrs. | 1 partial 19 |
| Homer (<i>Iliad</i>) | 800 B.C. | 400 B.C. | 400 yrs. | 643 |
| Plato (<i>Timaeus</i>) | 427-347 B.C. | 900 A.D. | 1,300 yrs. | 7 |
| Tacitus (<i>Annals</i>) | 100 A.D. | 1,100 A.D. | 1,000 yrs. | 20 (C) |
| also minor works | 100 A.D. | 1,000 A.D. | 900 yrs. | 1 |
| Pliny the Younger <i>Seminarium (Historical)</i> | 61-113 A.D. | 830 A.D. | 750 yrs. | 7 |
| Thucydides (<i>History</i>) | 460-400 B.C. | 900 A.D. | 1,300 yrs. | 8 |
| Suetonius (<i>De Vita Caesarum</i>) | 75-160 A.D. | 930 A.D. | 800 yrs. | 8 |
| Herodotus (<i>History</i>) | 480-425 B.C. | 900 A.D. | 1,350 yrs. | 8 |
| Horace | 496-406 B.C. | 900 yrs. | 900 yrs. | |
| Sophocles | 496-406 B.C. | 1,000 A.D. | 1,400 yrs. | 100 |
| Lucretius | Died 55 or 53 B.C. | 1,100 yrs. | 1,100 yrs. | 2 |
| Cicero | 54 B.C. | 1,550 A.D. | 1,600 yrs. | 3 |
| Euclid | 480-406 B.C. | 1,100 A.D. | 1,500 yrs. | 9 |
| Demosthenes | 383-322 B.C. | 1,100 A.D. | 1,400 yrs. | 200* |
| Aristotle | 384-322 B.C. | 1,100 A.D. | 1,400 yrs. | 5+ |
| Aristophanes | 450-385 B.C. | 900 A.D. | 1,300 yrs. | 10 |
| New Testament | 40-100 A.D. | 100-150 A.D. | 25 yrs. (possibly less) | 5,824 (complete copies) 24,000 |

17

Reliability of the New Testament Compared to Other Ancient Texts



Greek Manuscript total:.....5,856

Non-Greek Manuscripts (Armenian, Latin, etc.):.....18,130+

Total Manuscripts:.....23,986

Earliest manuscript: AD 130 (John Rylands Papyrus: P52)


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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Its Theology & Tenets

- The teachings of the Apostle Paul's epistles are dismissed as either not understood clearly or **taught incorrectly** by 'Christian' pastors today.




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Critical Errors

- God gave the Mosaic Law **to the people of Israel** (the physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob), **only** (Ex. 19:3-6; Deu. 5:3; 29:1)!
- Hebrew Roots repeats the heresy of the **Judaizers** (Acts 15:1-5, 10-11).




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Critical Errors

- Continuing to teach that the Old Covenant is still in effect in spite of what the New Testament teaches, or twisting the New Testament to agree with the Hebrew Roots beliefs, is **false teaching**.
- It teaches a false gospel by promoting **"works salvation"** when they argue that believers must keep the Mosaic law (Eph. 2:8-9).



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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots = LEGALISM

IF LEGALISTS WORSHIPPED IN LINE WITH THEIR BELIEFS

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but my works + Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but my works + Jesus.

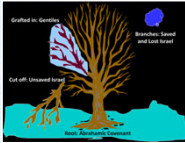
Oh, precious are my works,
I repent until it hurts,
I never miss a week at church,
Nothing but my works + Jesus.

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HEBREW ROOTS

**Hebrew Roots:
A Biblical Response**

- The Mosaic Laws and ordinances have ended having already been **fulfilled by Christ** (Col: 2:13-17; Rom. 14:5).
- Gentile believers are **not** grafted into the Judaism of the Mosaic Covenant; they **are** grafted into Abraham Covenant, which preceded both the Law and Jewish customs. Gentile believers are fellow citizens with the saints (Ephesians 2:19), but they are not Jews (1 Cor. 7:18).




The diagram shows a tree with a branch cut off and another grafted in. Labels include: 'Grafted in: Gentiles', 'Branches: Saved and Lost Israel', and 'Cut off: Unsaved Israel'.

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HEBREW ROOTS

**Hebrew Roots:
A Biblical Response**

- God has made saved Jews and Gentiles into "**one new man**" in Christ Jesus (Eph. 2:15). This "**new man**" refers to the Church, the body of Christ, which is made up of neither Jew nor Gentile (Gal. 3:27-29).



The graphic features the text 'ONE NEW MAN' in large letters, with 'EPHESIANS 2' below it. The background shows a brick wall.

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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: A Biblical Response

- **Nowhere** in the Bible do we find Gentile believers being instructed to follow Levitical laws or Jewish customs; in fact, the **opposite** is taught in Rom. 7:6.

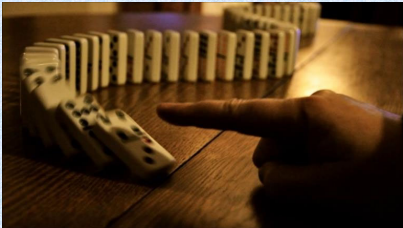


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HEBREW ROOTS

Error always begets error!

- An error in basic theology at any point creates a domino effect.



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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Positives

- Seeking to explore the Jewish culture and perspective, within which most of the Bible was written, opens and enriches our understanding of the Scriptures, adding insight and depth to many of the passages, parables and idioms.
- There is nothing wrong with Gentiles and Jews joining together in celebrating the feasts and enjoying a Messianic style of worship.




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HEBREW ROOTS

Hebrew Roots: Positives

- Learning the way in which the Jews understood the teachings of our Lord can be a tool, giving us greater effectiveness in reaching the unbelieving Jew with the gospel.



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References

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