

COURSE 603

SECTION 1:



Embrace

**GOD-CENTRED
WORSHIP**

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Introduction



“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”¹

WHEN EXPLORING NEW TERRITORY, before the invention of a GPS, a compass was an absolute necessity. In those days, exploring without a compass and the knowledge how to

¹ Matthew 24:24

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use it, was an invitation to get lost, *or worse*. Likewise, when navigating through life, especially when difficult times hit, it is best to possess a spiritual GPS or compass! In other words, it is best to possess a Bible, and a desire to implement the truths found therein. A working knowledge of scripture plus a healthy relationship with God, brings with it promises of a victorious walk, prepared to face the days ahead.

Being prepared, brings insight to face the coming days, the ones of which Yeshua warned His disciples.

Those coming days, *the ones directly preceding Yeshua's coming*, are days of deception, unequalled to any other time on the earth. To this, Yeshua's words, with which we opened this chapter, both agree and warn:

Matthew 24:24

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

"Even the very elect", those true disciples of the Way² trained in following Him, might be deceived.

² An early church term to describe those who followed Yeshua. Acts 9:1-2 *"And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem."*

But what prevents that deception from touching His elect?

- Is it a deeply committed, personal walk with God?
- Is it the wearing of our spiritual armour?
- Is it a working knowledge of the Bible, understanding and obeying what Yeshua taught us?



It is all these things and more!

Yeshua's disciples eventually held to and taught these things, while repeating Yeshua's warnings. Today's believers must do the same. Indeed, we must be alert and ready to face the trickery waiting on the horizon. Such deception, that which Yeshua promised to come, presents itself to the public with a face of innocence to fool even the very elect, those very close to the heart of God. What a feather in deception's cap to snare such a prize.

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Yeshua's sober warning, *one which every generation must heed, carries greater weight in ours since we are so close to His return. Truly, we must open our eyes, ears and heart to heed His warning*³! No believer, young, old and any age in between, can afford to think that they can easily sail through those waiting times of darkness without concern. After all, Yeshua said:

Mark 13:5-6

"And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed, be warned that⁴ any man deceive you: For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Deception, a formidable foe, sets its sites on any person, great or small, rich or poor, or in Bible terms, slave or free. Any place it can spin its web of deceit it will do so.

DECEPTION IN OUR DAY

Most people, today, conclude that deception increases in our lives, daily, even in our news reports. While the face on the front presenting the news appears friendly, often, behind the scenes hidden from viewer sight, lurks another agenda. Only the educated listener who has the ability to check out the facts survives undecieved.

³ Deuteronomy 29: 4 "Yet YeHoVaH has not given you a heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day."

⁴ KJV says lest.

What about the internet and its contents?

Secular videos abound on the internet on every topic imaginable. Each voice claims to speak the truth, whether they present supporting data or not. Even subjects of similar matter might just contradict each other.

Christian videos abound and multiply daily. These speak on every topic thinkable, and worse yet, *everyone is an authority!* Here too, videos on the same subject often contradict each other, as one expert indirectly challenges another.

Regarding end times, many presentations arise on topics such as the time of the rapture, the identity of the beast, his system as well as the mark of the beast, the false prophet and more. Again, these authorities state their claims and present their facts, however, one interpretation might contradict the other, especially regarding timing of certain events. Additionally, each presenter uses scripture to support their view. Viewers wonder which view is correct.

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Before we leave this topic, think about AI today? Through this avenue we have narrow AI robots performing task-oriented jobs. Next, waiting in the wings, general AI stands ready to replace numerous people in many fields of employment. As technology increases, and inventors further produce super AI with additional robots, generated images, and AI people look alikes, it becomes harder to detect the difference between the real and the fake. Here, then, we have another breeding ground for deception to grow!

Whether we like to admit it, or prefer to ignore it, the fact remains that deception abounds in our day and age. Unfortunately, it continues to increase on every front, too. Gone for good are the days when one simply and comfortably receives everything presented to them. Today, one must carefully weigh out facts, no matter the topic or, in certain circumstances, no matter the speaker. Anybody can be deceived!

Sadly, gone are the days when we swallowed everything put before us. Instead, today, we must remain alert. We must constantly connect with God for clarity and a reality check. Whether it is TV, internet, social media, or any avenue where we receive information, we *must become a discerning listener*. Therefore, we must add alertness to our list of helpful aids to overcome deception. Remember, Yeshua warned us that deception marks the days before His return.

Mark 13:5-6

*“And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest⁵ any man deceive you: For many shall come in my name, saying, **I am Christ**; and shall deceive many.”*

Take heed, be aware, says Yeshua. Watch out for those who claim to be the answer, or in other words, be the Messiah (Christ) or Saviour. Believers must realize that genuine caretakers of Messiah’s flock know that they are not the answer. Instead, they point their followers to the source of their answer. “Look to YeHoVaH, the Father, through the only way, which is the Son, Yeshua”, they would say.

Yes, Yeshua is the answer. He is the Messiah! Whatever things challenge us, He is the direction finder. In other words, He is the compass of our soul. He leads the way to truth through the power of His Holy Spirit and to truth alone!

John 16:13

“However, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.”

⁵ KJV word for “be warned that”, or at times it could mean “in fear that”. (google search for the expanded meaning of lest).

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With that thought in mind, looking to Yeshua, the author and finisher of our faith⁶, let us consider the heart of this book. It is to:

- **Direct the reader to Yeshua**, the spiritual compass or direction finder of life.
- **Present the Word of God** to help readers *recognize the Man of Sin*, as scripture describes.
- **Point out the foundation of deception** upon which deceit builds.

This Man of Sin, which arises *immediately before* Yeshua returns, comes on the scene and presents himself as innocent as the serpent in the Garden of Eden, using even the same tactics.

In the garden, *the deceiver* twisted the words of God, tapped into the desires of the flesh, and offered an outward action to seal the deal. Then, he waited for God to respond. This coming deception and agenda employed by the Man of Sin promises to be just as dark, just as intense and just as deadly as the deception used in the Garden of Eden⁷.

While scripture warns us about this Man of Sin, the Anti-Messiah, it does not give us his exact name⁸.

⁶ Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

⁷ Additionally, its end promises the same result: death.

⁸ It tells us the number of his name. Revelation 15:2 "And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the

However, it gives us ample clues to his character, his power source, as well as his intentions in dealing with humanity. Additionally, it tells us that *Yeshua reveals him at His coming*.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-10

“And then shall that Wicked⁹ be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”

That means, when Yeshua comes, He reveals the Man of Sin when He arrives on the scene.

Therefore, *in that season prior to the time when Yeshua returns*, wise believers, those who understand, who take heed, are alert and paying attention to the Word of God and what it teaches about the Man of Sin, can escape deception’s snare. Scripture teaches that the wise, those who love the truth discern him.

Daniel 12:10

victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.”

⁹ Reference to the Man of Sin.

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“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.”

While many, in accordance with *prophetic teachings on the Anti-Messiah*, believe that the revealing of the Man of Sin happens when he arises to confirm the covenant with many¹⁰, others hold to different theories and opinions, all backed with various selections of scriptures. Many wonder, which theory is correct!

Praise God that by investigating the Bible we find specifics *outside of today's prophetic teachings*, that relay to us the timing of his appearing as well as his agenda, goals and aspirations. It is interesting reading to discover scriptures sourced in the first covenant which present *specific prophetic types* and second covenant scriptures that relay some explicit passages *regarding his agenda* to help in the identification process. Many of these we investigate in this book.

With these thoughts in mind, dear reader, together, we can confidently explore the subject of the Anti-Messiah,¹¹ the Man of Sin. Since this man fabricates or simulates the truth, we begin by investigating the healthy relationship that God established with His

¹⁰ Daniel 9:27

¹¹ Anti-Christ.

People, Israel. Knowing well this *God-centred relationship* benefits us in detecting the counterfeit.

Then, after discussing those basics, we shift gears to consider that which the Man of Sin intends to establish, namely, worship centered on him. Using Antichrist types which *prophetically speak of the Man of Sin*, we discover the character, intents and methods that the Man of Sin determines to utilize. With these things unveiled, when alert, we can detect him and wisely face:

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CHAPTER 1

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A Covenant Relationship
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“And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which you are¹² shall see the work of YeHoVaH: for it is a terrible¹³ thing that I will do with you.¹⁴”

YEHOVAH began His relationship with Israel, the seed of Abraham, through a holy covenant. Speaking to Abraham regarding that covenant He said:

¹² Meaning, all the people in your midst and around you.

¹³ Meaning shockingly astonishing or amazing, even dreadful.

¹⁴ Exodus 34:10

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Genesis 17:7

“And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God¹⁵ unto you, and to your seed after you.”

This means that God, like any covenant partner, promised to keep this covenant with Abraham and his seed (descendants) forever¹⁶. Additionally, God expected Abraham and his descendants to keep their covenant commitment to Him. To put it another way, while God retains the right to change His mind, He does not. Through all the history of Israel, we see that He chose to hold fast to His agreement. This aspect of His dealings with humankind shows His righteous character and loyalty to His word.

Israel solidified her covenant with God when she arrived at Mt. Sinai. Taking the blood of the sacrifice, Moses sprinkled both the people and the book which

¹⁵ KJV adds the word “a” making the wording to be a God”. Original text says *to be for God for you, and to your seed (descendants) after you”*.

¹⁶ In Hebrew, the word for everlasting is עולם, (Olam). עולם (Olam) means continuous existence, perpetual, or for a very long time. Looking deeper into its meaning, it shows something hidden or concealed. Its literal translation means *beyond the horizon*. *In this passage, that word's presence suggests that as long as a horizon exists, the covenant continues.*

recorded the words of God to which Israel agreed. At that point in time, Moses ascended Mt. Sinai. As he communicated with God for forty long days and nights, the people in the camp became restless. Perceiving that Moses died, they forsook their commitment to serve only YeHoVaH and instead made a golden image.

Exodus 32:1-4

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for [as for] this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him. And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which [are] in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring [them] unto me. And all the people brake off the golden earrings which [were] in their ears, and brought [them] unto Aaron. And he received [them] at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These [be] your gods, O Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt.”

God reminded Moses that the penalty for the people breaking this blood covenant was death. Rightfully, as the offended covenant partner, God could demand the death sentence.

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Moses interceded on behalf of Israel. God in His mercy reiterated His commands on how to live before God¹⁷, as well as instructions for a sacrificial offering to atone for sin. Additionally, God released to Moses plans for the layout to the tabernacle of His presence. Then, with the instructions to take care of sin and the tabernacle made to God's specifics, God's presence would dwell in their midst. Israel built that tabernacle as per God's instructions, utilizing the sacrificial system given to them to cover their sins and iniquities.

However, as Israel's history unfolds over time, we see a constant disloyalty to God and to their covenant with Him. Finally, after countless, unheeded warnings over many centuries, God eventually disperses Israel,¹⁸ first in the north and then in south. This came as a direct result of a promise God made to Israel through Moses as he prophesied their disobedience.

Deuteronomy 4:23-28

"Take heed unto yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of YeHoVaH your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, [or] the likeness of any [thing], which

¹⁷ Moses made again the 10 commandments as Israel agreed to follow beforehand, writing them as God related them, earlier.

¹⁸ Assyria hit Israel hard in the northern kingdom and scattered them. Many years later, (after Yeshua's first coming), Rome dispersed the southern kingdom of Judah.

YeHoVaH your God has forbidden you. For YeHoVaH your God [is] a consuming fire, [even] a jealous God. When you shall beget¹⁹ children, and children's children, and you shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt [yourselves], and make a graven image, [or] the likeness of any [thing], and shall do evil in the sight of YeHoVaH your God, to provoke him to anger: I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that you shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto you go over Jordan to possess it; you shall not prolong [your] days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. And YeHoVaH shall scatter you among the nations, and you shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither YeHoVaH shall lead you. And there you shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell."

A LIFE-GIVING COVENANT

While breaking this blood covenant meant death, God gave Israel a way to receive forgiveness *and live*. This makes the covenant between God and Israel *a life-giving covenant*. Nevertheless, many people dispute its application today. Some contend Israel's disloyalty to God and their rejection of Yeshua as Saviour when He came, meant their discontinuation within that covenant.

¹⁹ Beget is the word KJV uses for a father's part in the conception of a child.

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However, the Bible makes it clear that, although Israel stumbled, restoration awaits.

Romans 11:11-12

“I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?”

And continuing to latter verses:

Romans 11:19-26

“You will say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not high minded²⁰, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, [take heed] lest he also spare not you. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward you goodness, if you continue in [his] goodness: otherwise you also shall be cut off. And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural

²⁰ KJV word meaning filled with pride.

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[branches], be grafted into their own olive tree? For I would not, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:"

Thus, God did not forsake Israel, nor His covenant with them. As long as Israel choses to remain in unbelief, their blindness remains. However, when the fulness of Gentiles come in²¹, then Israel's salvation *as a nation happens*, their eyes will open. Then, they shall see Yeshua as the fulfilment of the scriptures²².

Here, again, is the choice of Israel. On God's part, He remains faithful to His covenant with them. Looking at His faithfulness, we can also see how God works all things together for good.

²¹ Gentiles, throughout the nations of the world, have the gospel preached to them in the hopes they might receive salvation. One day, the total number of Gentiles saved comes to its completion. This is the point the Bible calls the "fulness of the Gentiles".

²² Please note that an exponential curve shows this fact. Additionally, according to some stats, some 30,000 Messianic Jews live in Israel alone, with an estimated 1.6 million worldwide. However, this number is probably rather conservative.

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Romans 8:28

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose.”

On that same line of thinking, scripture tells us God’s thoughts:

God, in His infinite love and mercy through His life-giving covenant, secured an amazing future for Israel. That future merely awaits their choice to believe and then, fully receive the deliverer that He sent out of Zion. Yeshua is His Name! He is the only One that turns away all ungodliness from Israel.

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith YeHoVaH, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”

Indeed, the blood covenant made with God made through Yeshua’s precious blood secures an expected end of eternal life. All it takes is one (Jew or Gentile) to believe and walk through the door established for them:

John 10:9-10

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly.”

This scripture reveals two agendas here, that of God and that of the thief.

- **Regarding the thief**, Yeshua says that he steals, kills and destroys. This happens because the thief comes *in his own name* and *on his own behalf*²³. This means that he does not have the Father’s heart to care for the sheep. Rather, his goals centre around what life he draws from the people. His agenda and what it attains in the end, speaks loud and clear on the goals of the Man of Sin. He gives nothing eternal but takes it all from those who put their trust in him.
- **Regarding God** it teaches us that God reaches out to the people in the world that they might be saved²⁴ and after salvation, they then go in and out and find pasture, meaning they receive

²³ John 5:43 *“I am come in my Father’s name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive.”*

²⁴ John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

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rest, a place²⁵ they enter through covenant with Him, a covenant which includes eternal life.

In looking to God and the covenant of life He brings, we see God's extended help to release to humankind all they need both now and in eternity.

These aspects of God's desires for us the scripture thoroughly teaches. In fact, it summarizes many of those amazing qualities in a series of compound names which teaches us much about God and the relationship believers enter with Him. We will end this chapter by reviewing and meditating upon nine compound names of YeHoVaH²⁶.

²⁵ Hebrews 4:8-11 *"For if Joshua had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also has ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."*

²⁶ If you wish to learn more about the names of YeHoVaH you will find them explained in a book entitled, "The Gift of God's Name", written by Jeanne Metcalf. ISBN 978-1-926489-78-0

NINE COMPOUND NAMES OF YEHOVAH

NAME/PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
<p>יהוה יראה YEHOVAH YIR'EH (Ya ho Vaah' Yir-ay')</p>	<p>YeHoVaH Our Provider</p>
<p>יהוה שלום YEHOVAH SHALOM Ya ho Vaah' Sha-loam'</p>	<p>YeHoVaH My Peace</p>
<p>יהוה צדקנו YEHOVAH TSIDKENU Ya ho Vaah' Sid-kha-new</p>	<p>YEHOVAH My Righteousness</p>
<p>יהוה רעי YEHOVAH RO'I Ya ho Vaah' Row-ee'</p>	<p>YEHOVAH My Shepherd</p>
<p>יהוה נסי YEHOVAH NISSI Ya ho Vaah' Niss-ee'</p>	<p>YEHOVAH My Banner</p>
<p>יהוה מקדשם YEHOVAH MEKADDISHKHEM Ya ho Vaah' Ma-ked-dish- khem'</p>	<p>YEHOVAH My Sanctifier</p>

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<p>יהוה שמה YEHOUVAH SHAMMAH Ya ho Vaah' Sha-mah'</p>	<p>YEHOUVAH is There</p>
<p>יהוה רפאך YEHOUVAH ROF'EKHA Ya ho Vaah' Row-fee-kah)</p>	<p>YEHOUVAH My Healer</p>
<p>יהוה צבאות YEHOUVAH TSEVA'OT Ya ho Vaah' Sa -va -oat</p>	<p>YEHOUVAH of Hosts</p>

Dear reader, these compound names relay to us the character and behaviour of the living God with whom, *through the shed blood Yeshua Ha' Maschiach (Jesus Christ)*, believers enter covenant. Knowing these names give us a partial glimpse into the blessings of a covenant relationship with the Heavenly Father knowing that He, like Yeshua, never changes.

Hebrews 13:8

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever."

Malachi 3:6

"For I am YeHoVaH, I change not; therefore, ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."