Parashat Balak - בָּלָּק

"Devastator"

Torah portion:
Numbers 22:2 - 25:9

Haftarah portion:
Micah 5:6 - 6:8

(we read all of Micah ch 5 - Messianic prophecy!)

Brit Chadashah/New Testament portion:
Romans 11:25-32

We often read surrounding N.T. scripture because it is such a blessing to do so.
This week we of course read all of Romans ch. 11.

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Beware of eating idolatrous-sacrifices and committing prostitution come out from Babylon (Roman Catholic Church, Rev.18:4; Prov.6:24, 2Cor.6:17)

Balak, son of Zippor, King of Moab wanted Balaam, son of Beor, to curse Israel so that Balak would be able to defeat them in battle. God forbid it.

Numbers 22:2 And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.
3 And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they were many: and Moab was distressed because of the children of Israel.
4 And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now will this multitude lick up all that is round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of Moab at that time.
5 And he sent messengers unto Balaam the son of Beor, to Pethor, which is by the River, to the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me.
6 Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me: peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land; for I know that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed.
7 And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of divination in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.
8 And he said unto them, Lodge here this night, and I will bring you word again, as Jehovah shall speak unto me: and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam.

Numbers 22:9 And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee?

Numbers 22:12 And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people; for they are blessed.
This portion also has the account of Balaam and his ass carrying on a conversation. The ass also had in memory a history of events. Apparently this concept of animals speaking and thinking was not shocking or surprising to Balaam.

**Numbers 22:31** Then Jehovah opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of Jehovah standing in the way, with his sword drawn in his hand; and he bowed his head, and fell on his face.

32 And the angel of Jehovah said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I am come forth for an adversary [יָשָׂתָן y’satan, H7854, also @vs.22. LXX has ν’22-ἐνδιαβάλλειν G1736.1, and vs32-διαβολήν G1227.2], because thy way is perverse before me:

33 and the ass saw me, and turned aside before me these three times: unless she had turned aside from me, surely now I had even slain thee, and saved her alive.

I wonder how often we miss seeing God working in our lives.

**Numbers 22:39** And Balaam went with Balak, and they came unto Kiriath-huzoth.

40 And Balak sacrificed oxen and sheep, and sent to Balaam, and to the princes that were with him.

41 And it came to pass in the morning, that Balak took Balaam, and brought him up into the high places of Baal; and he saw from thence the utmost part of the people.

This sacrifice by Balak was NOT to YHVH, but to Baal. Note that the pagan's meal was -also- the result of a sacrifice to their god.

Next, a series of sacrifices that appear to be to YHVH (?), instigated by Balaam and administered by both Balaam and Balak:

**Numbers 23:1-6** ASV - 1 And Balaam said unto Balak, Build me here seven altars, and prepare me here seven bullocks and seven rams. 2 And Balak did as Balaam had spoken; and Balak and Balaam offered on every altar a bullock and a ram. 3 And Balaam said unto Balak, Stand by thy burnt-offering, and I will go: peradventure Jehovah will come to meet me; and whatsoever he showeth me I will tell thee. And he went to a bare height. 4 And God met Balaam: and he said unto him, I have prepared the seven altars, and I have offered up a bullock and a ram on every altar. 5 And Jehovah put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak. 6 And he returned unto him, and, lo, he was standing by his burnt-offering, he, and all the princes of Moab.

Result: Balaam's mouth spoke blessings upon Israel.

**Numbers 23:11-17** ASV - 11 And Balak said unto Balaam, What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast blessed them altogether. 12 And he answered and said, Must I not take heed to speak that which Jehovah putteth in my mouth? 13 And Balak said unto him, Come, I pray thee, with me unto another place, from whence thou mayest see them; thou shalt see but the utmost part of them, and shalt not see them all: and curse me them from thence. 14 And he took him into the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars, and offered up a bullock and a ram on every altar. 15 And he said unto Balak, Stand here by thy burnt-offering, while I meet Jehovah yonder. 16 And Jehovah met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus shalt thou speak. 17 And he
came to him, and, lo, he was standing by his burnt-offering, and the princes of Moab with him. And Balak said unto him, What hath Jehovah spoken?

Result: Balaam's mouth spoke blessings upon Israel.

**Numbers 23:25-30 ASV** - 25 And Balak said unto Balaam, Neither curse them at all, nor bless them at all. 26 But Balaam answered and said unto Balak, Told not I thee, saying, All that Jehovah speaketh, that I must do? 27 And Balak said unto Balaam, Come now, I will take thee unto another place; peradventure it will please God that thou mayest curse me them from thence. 28 And Balak took Balaam unto the top of Peor, that looketh down upon the desert. 29 And Balaam said unto Balak, Build me here seven altars, and prepare me here seven bullocks and seven rams. 30 And Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered up a bullock and a ram on every altar.

**Numbers 24:1** And when Balaam saw that it pleased Jehovah to bless Israel, he went not, as at the other times, to meet with enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness. 2 And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel dwelling according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Result: Balaam's mouth spoke blessings upon Israel.

**Numbers 24:10** And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together; and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times.

**Numbers 24:25** And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place; and Balak also went his way.

In the recent "Korah" portion of Torah, we read that Korah, Dathan and Abiram (Num.16:31) and the 250 men that offered incense to YHVH were killed by YHVH. However, they were under the Sinai Covenant with YHVH, and Balak and Balaam and their cohorts were not.

Israel must abide by the Sinai Covenant:

**Numbers 25:1-13 ASV** - 1 And Israel abode in Shittim; and the people began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab: 2 for they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods; and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. 3 And Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor: and the anger of Jehovah was kindled against Israel. 4 And Jehovah said unto Moses, Take all the chiefs of the people, and hang them up unto Jehovah before the sun, that the fierce anger of Jehovah may turn away from Israel. 5 And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that have joined themselves unto Baal-peor. 6 And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, while they were weeping at the door of the tent of meeting. 7 And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from the midst of the congregation, and took a spear in his hand; 8 and he went after the man of Israel into the pavilion, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. 9
And those that died by the plague were twenty and four thousand. 10 And Jehovah spake unto Moses, saying, 11 Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, in that he was jealous with my jealousy among them, so that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.

“he was jealous with my jealousy” –

בְּקַנְּאֹו b’qanō (H7065 אֵן qana)

אֶת־קִנְּאָתִי et-qinatē (H7068 פִּינָאָה qin’ah)

LXX: εν-τω τον-ζηλωσαι μου-μυν being jealous τον-2205 ζήλον zeal εν-αυτοίς-them;

Cont. Numbers 25:12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace: 13 and it shall be unto him, and to his seed after him, the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was jealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.

God can make new covenants. God does not change, but God certainly makes changes. Here we may see YHVH’s new covenant with Phinehas into an everlasting priesthood as showing that Phinehas is a type of Messiah Yeshua.

Micah 5:2-8 ASV - 2 But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting. 3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she who travaileth hath brought forth: then the residue of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel. 4 And he shall stand, and shall feed his flock in the strength of Jehovah, in the majesty of the name of Jehovah his God: and they shall abide; for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth. 5 And this man shall be our peace. When the Assyrian shall come into our land, and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men. 6 And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our border. 7 And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples as dew from Jehovah, as showers upon the grass, that tarry not for man, nor wait for the sons of men. 8 And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep; who, if he go through, treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and there is none to deliver.

“the remnant of Jacob” = Jews. - Jews are still dispersed throughout the nations. And Jewish Christians are prevented from going to Israel by “Orthodox” Jews.
Romans 11

v1 I-am-saying therefore, (has) the God pushed-away-from-himself his people? (No!) May-it-not-come-to-pass; for I myself also am (an) Israelite, out-of seed of-Abraham, of-(the)-tribe of-Benjamin. [“No!”- μή mē G3361 –requires a negative answer]

v2 The God (has) not pushed-away-from-himself his people whom he-came-to-know-before. Or are-YOU not knowing-absolutely what the scripture is-saying in (the history of) Elias, as he-is-interceding With-the God down-upon the Israeli?

v3 Lord, they-killed your prophets, they-demolished your altars, and-I myself-was-left-remaining alone and they-are-seeking my soul.

v4 BUT what is the divine-information saying to-him? I-have-left-behind to-myself seven-thousand men, they-who bent not knee to-the Baal.

v5 Thus therefore also in the now season (a) remnant has-come-to-pass-and-still-is of-favor according-to choice;

v6 But if by-favor, no-more out-of works, since the favor no-more is-becoming favor.

v7 What then? What Israel is-seeking-after, this it-attained not, but the choice attained; but the others were-petrified.

v8 Even-as it-has-been-and-is-still-written: The God gave to-them (a) spirit of-compunction, eyes not to-be-looking and ears not to-be-hearing, till of-the today day.

v9 And David is-saying: Let their table become into (a) snare and into (a) hunting and into (an) entrapment and into (a) repayment for-them.

v10 Let their eyes be-made-dark (so as) not to-be-looking, and you-bend-completely their back through every-(thing).

v11 I-am-saying therefore, (Have) they-slipped in-order-that they-might-fall? (No!) May-it not come-to-pass; BUT by-their offence the salvation to-the Gentiles, with-reference-to to-provoke them to-jealousy.

“jealousy” -παράζηλωσαι G3863 -From παρά (G3844) and ζήλω G2206

v12 But if their offence (is) riches of-(a)-world and their inferiority (is) riches of-nations, in-how-much more their fulness.
v13 But I-am-saying to YOU to-the Gentiles; On as-much-as on-the-one-hand therefore I myself-am (an) apostle of nations, I-am-glorifying my ministry,
v14 If-by-any-means I-shall-provoke-to jealousy of my flesh and I-might-save some out-of them.

“jealousy” - παραζηλώσω G3863 -From παρά (G3844) and ζηλόω (G2206)
Cont. Romans 11:15 For if the casting-off of them (is) reconciliation of-(a)-world, what the taking-near if not life out-of dead (ones)?
v16 But if the firstfruit (is) holy, also the lump; and if the root (is) holy, also the branches.
v17 But if some of the branches were-broken-out, but you being (a) wild-olive-tree yourself-were-grafted-in among [ἐν ἐν] them and you-became (a) fellow-partner of the root (and?) of-the fatness of-the olive-tree,
v18 You be not boasting-against the branches; but if you-are-boasting-against (them), you yourself-are not bearing the root BUT the root you.
v19 You will-say therefore: Branches were-broken-out in-order-that I myself-might-be-grafted-in.
v20 Rightly: they-were-broken-out by-the distrust, but you yourself-have-stood-and-still-are-standing by-the trust. You be not having-an-opinion-of high-things, BUT you-be-fearing-for-yourself;
v21 For if the God spared not of-the branches according-to nature, neither will-he-spare of-you.
v22 See therefore graciousness and severity of God: on-the-one-hand on the (ones) having-fallen severity, on-the-other-hand on you graciousness of God, if you-might-continue in-the graciousness, since you yourself also will-be-chopped-away,
v23 But also-those, if they-might not continue in-the distrust, they-will-be-grafted-in; for the God is powerful to-graft them in again.
v24 For if you yourself-were-chopped-away out-of the wild-olive-tree according-to nature and from nature you-were-grafted-in [ἐγκεντρισθῇς] into [εἰς έτς] (a) cultivated-olive, by-how-much rather these, the (ones) according-to nature, will-be-grafted-in [ἐγκεντρισθήσονται] to their-own olive-tree.
v25 For I-am not willing (for) YOU to-be-being-ignorant brothers, (of) this mystery, in-order that YOU-might not be prudent in yourselves, that petrifaction has-come-to-pass-and-still-is from part to-the Israeli, until of-which (time) the fulness of the Gentiles might-come-in,
v26 And thus all Israel will-be.saved, according-as it-has-been-and-still-is-written: The (one) delivering will-be-present out-of Sion, he-will-turn-back impiety from Jacob.

v27 And this (is) the covenant from me to-them, at-the-time that I-might-remove-for-myself their sins.

v28 On-the-one-hand enemies according-to the good-news because-of YOU, on-the-other-hand cherished (ones) according-to the choice because-of the fathers;

Cont. Romans 11:29 For the bestowed-favors and the calling of-the God (are) unregrettable.

v30 For as-altogether YOU yourselves at-one-time disobeyed the God, but now YOU-had-mercy-bestowed in-the disobedience of-these.

v31 Thus these also now disobedied in-order-that by your mercy they themselves also might now have-mercy-bestowed.

v32 For the God shut-together all the (ones) with-reference-to disobedience in-order-that he-might-have-mercy (on) all the (ones).

v33 O depth of God's riches and wisdom and knowledge; as unsearchable his sentences and untraceable his ways.

v34 For who came-to-know (the) mind of Jehovah? Or who became his fellow-counsellor?

v35 Or who gave-before to-him, and it-will-be-repaid to-him?

v36 Because out-of him and through him and with-reference-to him (are) the all-things; to-him (be) the glory with-reference-to the ages: Amen.

Thayer on ἐγκεντρίζω egkentrizō "grafted-in":

ἐγκεντρίζω [T WH ἐνκ., see ἐν, III. 8]: 1 aor. ἐνεκέντρισα; Pass., 1 aor. ἐνεκέντρισθην; 1 fut. ἐνεκέντρισθομαι; to cut into for the sake of inserting a scion; to inoculate, grafit, graft in, (Aristot. ap. Athen. 14, 68 [p. 653 d.]; Theophr. h. p. 2, 2, 5; Antonin. 11, 8): τιμά, Ro. xi. 17, 19, 23, 24 [cf. W. § 52, 4, 5]; in these pass. Paul likens the heathen who by becoming Christians have been admitted into fellowship with the people for whom the Messianic salvation is destined, to scions from wild trees inserted into a cultivated stock; [cf. Beet on vs. 24; B. D. s. v. Olive].*

http://www.blbclassic.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G1461&t=ASV
I think that is correct: When Gentiles become Christians they enter into fellowship via the Body of Messiah with The People (i.e. Jewish Christians) for whom the Messianic salvation is destined.

**Revelation 2:12** And to-the messenger of-the assembly in Pergamum you-write: These-things-here the (one) having the sword, namely-the two-edged, namely-the sharp is-saying:

v13 I-know-absolutely where you-are-residing; where-in-which (is) the throne of-the Satan; and you-are-retaining my name, and you-denied not my trust, also in the days Antipas my witness [Ἀντιπᾶς ὁ μάρτυς], my trustworthy (one), who was-killed beside YOU, where-in-which the Satan is-residing.

v14 BUT I-am-holding down-upon you (a) few-things, that you-are-having there (ones) retaining the doctrine of-Balaam, who was teaching to-the Balak to-cast (an) entrapment in-sight of-the sons-of-Israel, to-eat idolatrous-sacrifices and to-commit-prostitution.

v15 Thus you yourself are-having also (ones) retaining the doctrine of-the Nicolaitans likewise.

v16 You-repent therefore; but if not, I-am-coming to-you speedily and I-shall-war with them in the sword of my mouth.

v17 The (one) having (an) ear let-him-hear what the Spirit is-saying to-the assemblies. To-the (one) having-victory I-shall-give to-him of-the manna, namely-of-the (manna) having-been-and-still-hidden, and I-shall-give to-him (a) white pebble, and on the pebble (a) new name having-been-and-still-written, and which not-one knows-absolutely if not [except] the (one) taking (it).

**Revelation 2:18** And to-the messenger of-the assembly in Thyatira you-write: These-things-here the son of-the God, namely-the (one) having his eyes as (a) flame of-fire, and his feet like to-chalcopirite is-saying:

v19 I-know-absolutely your works and the charity and the trust and the ministry and your perseverance, and your works namely-the last much-more (than) the first.

v20 BUT I-am-holding down-upon you that you-are-letting-be the woman Jezabel, namely-the (one) saying herself (a) prophetess, and she-is-teaching and she-is-leading-astray my slaves to-commit-prostitution and to-eat idolatrous-sacrifices;
v21 And I-gave to-her time in-order-that she-might-repent, and she-is not willing to-repent out-of her prostitution.

v22 Behold I-am-casting her into a bed and the (ones) committing-adultery with her into great tribulation, if they-will not repent out-of her works;

v23 And her children I-shall-kill in death; and all the assemblies will-come-to-know that I myself-am the (one) searching kidneys and hearts, and I-shall-give to-YOU to-each (one) according-to YOUR works.

It should be noted that many of the "Christians" around the world that are being persecuted right now are Roman Catholics.

The RCC exists as Satan's false "body/assembly of Christ" (A.K.A. "church" which is Mystery Babylon - see Apologetics 22-25 by R.Mount) within the Thyatira assembly period. I think it important to mentally separate the true believer in the Roman Catholic Church from the Roman Catholic Church, the latter being the seventh head of the Beast of Rev. 13 & 17. True believers are instructed by God to come out of the RCC:

Revelation 18:4 And I-heard another voice out-of the heaven saying: YOU-come-out, my people, out-of her, in-order-that YOU-might not participate-with her sins, and in-order-that YOU-might not take out-of her blows.

v5 Because her sins were-united unto the heaven, and the God had-in-memory her unrighteous-acts.

v6 YOU-give-back to-her as she also gave-back, and YOU-double the (things) double according-to her works; in the cup in-which she-mingled YOU-mingle to-her double;

The papacy (RCC) has not changed, as the pope recently reiterated RCC doctrine by saying there is no salvation outside the RCC. A Lie.

http://www.worthynews.com/16807-pope-stirs-controversy-amongst-evangelicals/feed

APOLOGETICS 22: THE AUTHORITY OF SATAN
http://www.cotopaxi-colorado.com/BIBLE/MOUNT-APOLOGETICS/Apologetics-22.PDF

APOLOGETICS 23: SATAN GOES UNDERGROUND
http://www.cotopaxi-colorado.com/BIBLE/MOUNT-APOLOGETICS/Apologetics-23.PDF
Cont. Revelation 2:24 But to-YOU I-am-saying, (namely) to-the-others (plural), namely-to-the (ones) in Thyatira, as-many-as are not holding this doctrine, they-who came not to-know the deep (things) of-the Satan, as they-are-saying: I-am not casting on YOU (plural) another weight;  

v25 Further which-(thing) YOU-are-holding, YOU-retain until I-might-be-present.

v26 And the (one) (singular, so this is not “the others” and “YOU” of vs24-25) having-victory and the (one) keeping my works until (the) finish, I-shall-give to-him authority over the Gentiles,

v27 And he-will-shepherd them in (a) rod of-iron, as the vessels namely-the (ones) of-pottery (are) being-shattered, as I myself also have-taken-and-still-have of my Father,

v28 And I-shall-give to-him the star namely-the (one) belonging-to-the-morning.

Jesus gives this one the star namely the star belonging to the morning. Is this star the Holy Spirit? Is this star Israel?

Note vs18 - Jesus is the one speaking here. Jesus gives the one having victory authority over the Gentiles. Jesus apparently gives (?) this one a rod of iron, as we know Jesus has a rod of iron (vs27).

So the shepherd in Rev.2:27 is not Jesus.

Revelation 12:5 And she-brought-forth (a) son, (a) male, who is-about to-be-shepherding all the Gentiles with (an) iron rod; and her child was-seized to the God and to his throne.

Psalm 2:6 Yet I have set my king Upon my holy hill of Zion.  
7 I will tell of the decree: Jehovah said unto me, Thou art my son; This day have I begotten thee.
8 Ask of me, and I will give thee the nations for thine inheritance, And the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.
9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.
10 Now therefore be wise, O ye kings: Be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
11 Serve Jehovah with fear, And rejoice with trembling.
12 Kiss the son, lest he be angry, and ye perish in the way, For his wrath [c]will soon be kindled. Blessed are all they that take refuge in him.

Psalm 18:1 For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of Jehovah, who spake unto Jehovah the words of this song in the day that Jehovah delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul: and he said, I love thee, O Jehovah, my strength.

David is speaking:

v39 For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: Thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.

Cont. Psalm 18:40 Thou hast also made mine enemies turn their backs unto me, That I might cut off them that hate me.
41 They cried, but there was none to save; Even unto Jehovah, but he answered them not.
42 Then did I beat them small as the dust before the wind; I did cast them out as the mire of the streets.
43 Thou hast delivered me from the strivings of the people; Thou hast made me the head of the nations: A people whom I have not known shall serve me.
44 As soon as they hear of me they shall obey me; The foreigners shall submit themselves unto me.

Note that Jesus knew/knows all the nations, David did/does not.

Cont. Revelation 2:29 The (one) having (an) ear let-him-hear what the Spirit is-saying to-the assemblies.

Note "assemblies" is plural. We are to listen to what God is saying to all these seven assemblies.

Acts 15:1 And some have-come-down from the Judea were-teaching the brothers that unless YOU-were-circumcised to-the custom of-the Moses, YOU-are not being-able to-be-saved.
v2 But (after) not (a) little-bit of-strife and of-debate having-come-to-pass by-the Paul and by-the Barnabas with them, they-assigned Paul and Barnabas to-be-ascending and some others out-of
them to the apostles and elders into Jerusalem concerning this controversy.
v3 On-the-one-hand therefore the (ones) having-been-sent-forward by the assembly were-going through both the Phoenicia and Samaria narrating-in-detail the turning-around of-the Gentiles, and they-were-making great joy for-all the brothers.
v4 But having-come-to-be-alongside into Jerusalem they-were-accepted from the assembly and of-the apostles and of-the elders, and additionally they-told as-many-things-as the God did with them.

Cont. Acts 15:5 But some of-the (ones) having-trusted-and-still-trusting, from the sect of-the Pharisees stood-forth, saying that it-is-essential to-be-circumcising them and additionally to-be-delivering-a-message to-be-keeping the law of-Moses.

v6 Both the apostles and the elders were-gathered-together to-see concerning this word.

v7 But (after) much debating-together having-come-to-pass, Peter having-stood-up said to-them: Men brothers, YOU yourselves-are-comprehending that from ancient days the God chose-for-himself among us (that) the Gentiles to-hear the word of-the good-news through my mouth and to-trust,

v8 And God the knower-of-hearts bore-witness to them having-given the Spirit namely-the Holy according-as also to-us,

v9 And he-discriminated nothing between both us and them, having-cleansed their hearts by-the trust.

v10 Now therefore why are-YOU-trying the God, to-place-upon on the neck of-the disciples (a) yoke, which neither our fathers nor we ourselves-were-strong-enough to-bear?

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YOUR Attention please, Messy-Ants:

v11 But through the favor of-the Lord Jesus we-are-trusting to-be-saved according-to which manner those-also.

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v12 But all the multitude was silent, and they-were-hearing Barnabas and Paul explicating as-many signs and wonders as the God did among the Gentiles through them.
v13 But after they (were) silent James answered saying: Men brothers, YOU-hear of-me.
v14 Simeon explicated according-as firstly the God visited to-take out-of nations (a) people for-his name.
v15 And to-this the words of-the prophets are-agreeing according-as it-has-been-and-is-still-written: (Amos 9:11-12)
v16 After these-things I-shall-turn-about and I-shall-build-again the tabernacle of-David namely-
the (one) having-fallen-and-still-fallen, and the-things of-it having-been-and-still-turned-down
I-shall-build-again and I-shall-make it straight-again,

Note: YHVH rebuilds this tabernacle. Men do not build it.

1 Corinthians 3:9 For we-are fellow-workers of God; (a) farm of-God, YOU-are [a]
building-of-God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 "Are YOU not knowing absolutely that YOU are the sanctuary [ναὸς –
naos] of the God, and the spirit of God is dwelling [οἰκεῖ - oikei] in YOU?"

Cont. Acts 15:17 In-which-case the (ones) left-down of-the MEN might-seek-out the Lord,
even all the Gentiles on whom my name has-been-and-still-is-called-upon upon them,
Jehovah is-saying, The (one) doing these-things,

v18 Known-things from an age.

v19 On-this-account I myself-am-judging not to-be-harassing the (ones) from the Gentiles
turning-around on the God,

v20 BUT to-send-an-epistle to-them to-be-holding-off-for-themselves of-the contaminations of-
the idols and of the prostitution and (a)-thing-strangled and of-the blood.

v21 For Moses out-of ancient generations is-having according-to (a) city the (ones) preaching
him, being-read in the synagogues according-to every Sabbath.

v22 Then it-seemed (best) to-the apostles and to-the elders together-with the total assembly to-
send men having-been-chosen-by-themselves out-of them into Antioch together-with the Paul
and Barnabas, Judas the (one) being-called Barsabbas and Silas, men being-governors among the
brothers,

v23 Having-written through their hand:

The apostles and the elder brothers to-the brothers namely-the
(ones) out-of nations according-to the Antioch and Syria and
Cilicia to-be-rejoicing.

v24 Since-indeed we-heard that some out-of us disturbed YOU by-
words unsettling YOUR souls to-whom we-did not give-strict-order,

v25 It-seemed (best) to-us having-become with-one-accord, to-
send men having-been-chosen-by-our-selves to YOU together-with
our cherished Barnabas and Paul.

v26 Men having-given-over-and-still-giving-over their souls in-
behalf-of the name of-our Lord Jesus Messiah.

v27 We-have-dispatched-and-are-dispatching therefore Judas and
Silas, and they through word are-reporting the same-things.
v28 For it-seemed (best) to-the Spirit namely-the Holy and to-us to-ourselves-be-placing-upon YOU not-one much-more weight with-the-exception of-these of-compulsion,
v29 To-be-holding-off-for-yourselves of-idolatrous-sacrifices and of-blood and of-(things)-strangled and of-prostitution; maintaining yourselves out-of which-things YOU-will-practise well. Farewell. (And that is that!)

For those that trust in Yeshua in the New Covenant relationship, food is food, thanks to God.

But if someone else thinks the food has a connection to another god, then we are not to partake of it. Here is another difficult passage that goes with "this way":

1 Corinthians 10:13 Trial has not taken-and-is-still not taking YOU if not (a) human (one); but the God (is) trustworthy, who will not allow YOU to-be-tried above what YOU-are-being-able, BUT he-will-make with the trial also the outcome (for) YOU to-be-being-able to undergo (it).

v14 For-which-very-reason, my cherished (ones), YOU-be-fleeing from the idolatry.
v15 As to-prudent-(ones) I-am-saying; YOU yourselves judge what I-am-stating.
v16 The cup of-the blessing which we-are-blessing, is-it NOT participation of-the blood of-the Messiah? The bread which we-are-breaking-in-pieces, is-it NOT participation of-the body of-the Messiah?
v17 Because we, the many, are one bread, one body; for we all are-sharing out-of the one bread.
v18 YOU-be-looking-at the Israeli according-to flesh; are not the (ones) eating the sacrifices partners of-the altar?

Be merciful towards their limitations (see Romans 11:31 & Parashat Phinehas):

Hebrews 13:10 "We-are-having (an) altar out-of which the (ones) serving to-the tabernacle are not having authority to-eat."

v19 What therefore am-I-stating? That (an)-idolatrous-sacrifice is something? or that (an) idol is something?
v20 BUT that what (things) the Gentiles are sacrificing, they-are-sacrificing to-demons and not to-God, but I-am not willing YOU to-be-becoming partners of-the demons.
v21 YOU-are not being-able to-be-drinking (a) cup of-Jehovah and (a) cup of-demons; YOU-are not being-able to-be-sharing of-a-table of-Jehovah and of-a-table of-demons.
Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger (ones) (than) he?

All-things are-legitimate, BUT not all-things are-being-advantageous; all-things are-legitimate, BUT not all-things are-building-up.

Let no-one be-seeking the (thing) of-himself BUT each (one) the (thing) of-the different (one).

Everything being-offered-for-sale in (a) meat-market YOU-be-eating, examining not-one-thing because-of the conscience;

**Cont. 1Corinthians 10:26** For of-the Lord (is) the earth and the fulness of-it.

If someone of-the unbelieving (ones) is-calling YOU and YOU-are-willing to-be-proceeding, YOU-be-eating every thing being-placed-beside YOU, examining not-one-thing because-of the conscience.

But if someone might-say to-YOU; This is (an) idolatrous-sacrifice, YOU-be not eating because-of (that (one), the (one) having-disclosed (it) and the conscience;

But I-am-saying conscience NOT the (one) of-himself BUT the (one) of-the different (one).

For to-what-end is my freedom being-judged by another conscience?

If I myself am-sharing in-favor, why am-I-being-blasphemed in-behalf-of what I myself-am-giving-thanks?

Whether therefore YOU-are-eating or YOU-are-drinking or anything YOU-are-doing, YOU-be-doing all-things with-reference-to (the) glory of-God.

YOU-be-becoming (ones) not-causing-to-stumble even to-Jews and to-Greeks and to-the assembly of-the God,

According-as I-also (in) all-things am-pleasing all, not seeking the (thing) advantageous of-myself BUT the (thing) of-the many, in-order-that they-might-be-saved.

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YOU-be-becoming imitators of-me, according-as I-also of-Messiah.