In our last podcast the message and the tone took a very dark turn with a very intense statement that doubles as a serious **WARNING!** Let's pick back up in our passage.

EP182 Revelation 21:8 P2

The Cowardly, Unbelieving, etc.

Revelation 21:8

But for the cowardly and unbelieving and those caused to being abominable and murderers and immoral and sorcerers and idolaters and all the liars, the part theirs in the lake that is **now** caused to be burning with fire and brimstone, which **now** is the second death."

In this passage, the **Code** is a bit complex, but it is quite enlightening. In the string of descriptors there is one verb, 4 nouns, and 3 adjectives. These distinctions are important but there is also a lot of overlap between some of these items, especially between the verb and the adjectives. They seem to be very intimately connected and giving us another angle, or perspective, of the same reality.

The nouns: murderers, immoral, sorcerers and idolaters.

The verb: Abominable

The adjectives: cowardly, unbelieving, all liars.

We have addressed the nouns and the verbs, and one of the adjectives: the cowardly, which was focused on those who live in dread (the fear of what might be) and not in hope. Let's turn now and address the last two adjectives, the unbelieving and all liars.

Unbelieving

The "unbelieving" is another "dig" on those in the Household of God, and it refers to those who do not choose to exercise saving faith, those who do not love the truth. They do not bet their lives on the truth that Jesus is **Yahweh Adonai**, the Lord our God Almighty, with all its associated implication; and quite specifically, they choke on the notion that all He does as the **Adonai** is an expression of His great love {*agape* love} for us.

The belief that Jesus is **Yahweh**, the **Adonai**, the one who is in control of all things all the time and the one who bears the responsibility for all things, including all the hateful and terrible things which evil brings forth in our lives, is beyond a stretch for many. It is an issue of trust or lack thereof. To trust this God as a little child trusts his or her parents with all things all the time is too much of a risk and way to scary. Nothing about it seems safe or rational.

Try teaching this truth to someone who has been beaten by their father, tormented a family member, degraded, shamed, manipulated, and humiliated by their parents, raped by a relative, or a stranger for that matter, abandoned by their mother, betrayed by their spouse, traumatized by ridicule, rejected by friends and by those who were supposed to care for them, or to a survivor of war or torture. More than likely, they will not be able to conceive, much less believe, how any of this can honestly be described as

an expression of God's *agape* love? Therefore, why would anyone want to bet their lives on a God who, if He is the **Adonai**, does this to His own children?

This is a very difficult but unavoidable dynamic. After all, the **Codex** tells us that it was the Father's great pleasure to do what He did to Jesus. "But **Yahweh** was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering."¹

The reality of life makes it very hard to believe that if God is the **Adonai**, that He is good, much less that **Only He is Good**. To know that it is **Adonai** who appointed the paths we have walked, with all their trauma and difficulties, makes it hard to want to live to do only what He tells us to do, to say only what He tells us to say, and to go only where He commands us to go, and then only **WHEN** He wants us to do, say, and go. That is a way of life only for the intrepid.

The cowardly (those who live in dread of what might be) and the unbelieving look for a different answer, a different way of living, a different Yahweh, a different Jesus, one that is more suitable to their emotions, and easier to follow. And that is where the woman who rides the Beast, the great Harlot, and the image of the Beast steps in and provides them all another Jesus, another Yahweh (in actuality, many Jesuses and many versions of Yahweh).

With the supporting influence of the image of the Beast that may now speak, the Harlot tells them that they can exercise some control over the outcomes of their lives by being responsible for their own behavior, by being good and not sinning, and so on. She prescribes all the rules for living under the blessing of God and not the judgment of God. When the cowardly and the unbelieving listen to her and drink from her wine of immorality, they tacitly reject the truth that **Yahweh** is the **Adonai** and that **Only God is Good**. They are unbelieving. Then because of the whisperings of the image, they form for themselves their own acceptable version of Jesus and the Father and proclaim it to the masses.

In contrast to those who are unbelieving, let us once again consider the various names of **Yahweh**, for they describe who it is that we must now be believing.

If we are ever going to come to know **Yahweh** and be known by Him, we must be willing to actively bet our lives upon His name. Through this active choice of believing who He says He is (and who He says we are to Him), we will not be seduced, as are the unbelieving, by the substitutes offered up by the Harlot and the image.

- Yahweh Adonai the Lord who is the absolute sovereign and despot over all things all the time, without exception. For all things are from Him, through Him, and to Him.
- Yahweh Nissi our banner or covering and our rallying place in the midst of our battles.
- Yahweh Raah the shepherd who guides and directs all our steps and leads us down the paths we must walk and have walked.
- Yahweh Rapha our healer of mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual ailments.
- Yahweh Shammah the one who is always there, who will never leave us or forsake us
- Yahweh Tsidkenu the one who is our righteousness, because the source matters, the source

¹ Isaiah 53:10

is everything!

- Yahweh Mekoddishkem the one who sets us apart, makes us holy, and is responsible for each step of our transformation into His image.
- Yahweh Qanna the one who is jealous for us and will pull out all the stops and do whatever it takes to make us His own, leaving nothing sacred except for our personal sovereignty (our right to choose to be *willing* to let Him be to us who He says He is).
- Yahweh Jireh our provision for all things pertaining to live and godliness. He is our source!
- Yahweh Sabaoth the Lord of Heaven's armies who directs the angelic realm of both good and evil angels to do His bidding on behalf of those who will inherit salvation. He commands the angelic to serve His children. The angelic have a role to play in all that pertains to those in His household. They are the tools He uses to transform our lives.
- Yahweh Shalom the one who is our peace with the Father ensuring there is nothing, absolutely nothing, that stands in between us and the Father, and the one who is our source of Hope instead of dread, such that we may live in peace and stillness in the midst of the storms that He sends into our lives.
- Yahweh Yasha the one who sets us free to live in unrestrained freedom from the law and the one who literally saves us from ourselves—from our *flesh*.

The unbelieving may know these names, may profess these names, they may shout them aloud before the masses, but they do not bet their life on these names. Instead, the unbelieving love and worship, ardently, the Jesus that fits their idea of who God must be.

This became very evident in our discussion about the cowardly (those who live in dread) in terms of Jesus being **Yahweh Shalom**, our Prince of Peace. The "Prince of Peace" is a nice phrase to put on greeting cards and calendars, but to know **Yahweh Shalom**, to know Him as our Prince of Peace requires great faith, so much so that despite what is happening to us we are *willing* to choose to let Him cause us to stand in the now belief of who He is and who we are to Him. This is something the unbelieving simply are unable to do, despite their religious sounding proclamations.

Liars

Returning to our passage, "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and those caused to being abominable and murderers and immoral and sorcerers and idolaters and **all the liars**, the part theirs in the lake that is **now** caused to be burning with fire and brimstone, which **now** is the second death."

Clearly, this is not addressing everyone who has ever told a lie, or everyone would be doomed. This is to be understood as part of this triad of adjectives that describes those who are cowardly or fearful (those who live in **dread** of what might be), the **unbelieving**, and all the **liars** who by their religious lifestyle and their words deny that Jesus is **Yahweh** the **Adonai**, the only one who is good, the one whose every act towards those who are in His household is an expression of His *agape* love.

The catch all phrase, "all the liars" is another jab at those in the Household of God who are not now found to be worshipping in the Sanctuary. This speaks about all those who have tasted of the Spirit of God, they have seen God work, but in their words and their deeds, they choose to deny His name and

they do not confess the truth about Him.²

Why liars? Because they tell a lie, and they live a lie. These people know the truth about who God says He is, but they refuse to profess the truth, therefore, they refuse to live according to the truth. They live as if there is some other truth, even though they know differently.

For example, just think of all the Bible translations that have changed how the Spirit said something to fit the translators' own presuppositions about God. In this study, we have found that far too often they refuse to translate according to the **Code**, with the appropriate tense, voice, mood, and case; instead, they change how the Spirit said what He said so it better fits their version of Christianity. As a result, they tell a lie, and we end up living a lie.

In **Revelation 18**, we talked about the Shipmasters, the Sailors, the Professionals, those who are the leaders of "Christianity" and who guide others in following the ways of the Harlot; they are liars. They know the truth, they have studied Greek and Hebrew, however, do they stand for the truth of what the Spirit said and how He said it? No, they are liars.

In practically every translation of the Bible, they have shifted the burden and the weight of sanctification, holiness, and righteousness **away** from Jesus squarely onto the backs of those who are simply trying to figure out how to be in relationship with Him. The ordinary person stumbles and falls under the weight of it all, never realizing that if they are *willing*, Jesus will do the work for them.

These liars even have the gall to change the very name of God, **Yahweh**, into a title, "Lord" and thereby dilute the meaning of both. They refuse to stand on the truth that Jesus is **Yahweh Adonai**, the Almighty – the absolute sovereign of all things all the time, the one from whom all things come. They may proclaim "Lord, Lord," but they simply do not actually believe that He is the **Adonai**.

Another blatant example of this is how these liars deal with the issue of evil in this world. Over and over, we are told that evil exists as a natural result of man's freewill and choice to sin, while still others blame evil on the devil. But they refuse to say what the **Codex** (in the original Hebrew) unambiguously declares:

Isaiah 45:6-7

That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that no one besides Me. I **Yahweh**, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing peace and **creating evil**; I **Yahweh** doing all these.

Jeremiah 18:7-12

At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it; if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning **the evil** I planned to bring on it.

² See Hebrews 6:4-8

Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it. So now then, speak to the men of Judah and against the inhabitants of Jerusalem saying, 'Thus says **Yahweh**, "Behold, **I am fashioning evil against you** and devising a plan against you. Oh, turn back, each of you from his evil way, and reform your ways and your deeds."'

Psalm 78:49

He sent upon them His burning anger, fury and indignation and trouble, releasing angels of evil.

Amos 3:6

If a trumpet is blown in a city will not the people tremble? If evil occurs in a city has not Yahweh done it?

It's as if the Professionals are embarrassed of the truth or are afraid that if they presented us with the God of the Bible, the God who uses evil as a tool to accomplish His purposes, that we would all just run away in terror, and no one would believe in Him resulting in the ruin of their ministries. Simply said, they are afraid they would be out of a job. They are liars.

Romans 11:36

For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

The Shipmasters, the Sailors, and the Professionals, just like all those who have been held captive by the Harlot, love religion, they love law, they love to strive so hard not to sin, they love telling people that sin is the problem and that they need to stop sinning. They love their own pursuit of holiness and righteousness – they obsess about it. They are liars!

They even twist the idea of grace to fit this so-called gap of mercy where God, in His mercy, helps us when we come to the end of our own ability to be obedient to Him. They are liars!

They work so very hard at trying to be good for God, serving others, loving others, and doing all manner of works that they claim pleases God, from worship to giving, to ministering, to traveling the world making converts, and so on. They are liars!

They refuse to do only what the Father tells them to do; they refuse to go only where the Father tells them to go, and they refuse to say only what the Father tells them to say, and then only when He authorizes them to do, go, and speak. They are liars!

They shout "Lord, Lord," and as described in *Matthew 7:21-23*, they do all sorts of amazing things IN THE NAME OF THE LORD – IN THE NAME OF JESUS. But He does not know them, because even though they have been brought into God's household and have understood that He has declared Himself to be the **Adonai**, the only one who is good, they rob others of that truth because they have not united this

truth with faith, and so they remain in unbelief. They are liars!

Jesus clearly stated that **Only God is Good**.³ This tells us that **the source matters, the source is everything!** If what we do and say and think does not derive from Jesus who is righteous and good, then it is nothing of the sort, no matter how much we lace it all up with "in Jesus' Name." Since only God is good then only God can do good. There is no alternative. This truth demands from us a level of dependency upon God that is typically unheard of in modern Christianity: we must be dependent, as a little child, on God for all things all the time – NO EXCEPTIONS!

Those Shipmasters, the Sailors, and the Professionals, who are lovers of the Harlot and her religious system that is not premised on this truth that **Only God is Good**, are liars! Whether blatantly or tacitly (by their love for religion or the love of self), they are liars. They do not want to die to live so they choose to abide in this world as liars. Therefore, Jesus will not let them be His disciples and their part will be in the lake of fire.⁴

Their Part: The Lake of Fire

"... the part theirs in the lake that is **now** caused to be burning with fire and brimstone, which **now** is the second death."

Whether a person finds themselves as one of the nouns, the verb, or one of the adjectives, their eternity is the same. Their part will be in the lake that God is even now causing to be burning with fire and brimstone, which now is the **Second Death**.⁵

We addressed this fate when we studied the final Great White Throne Judgment in **Revelation 20:11-15**. It is not necessary to repeat what we said about the **Second Death** or the **Lake of Fire**, but let it be known that this is intended to be a motivator to believe. According to the **Codex**, the Lake of Fire was originally prepared for the devil and his angels, and it has become the appointed destiny of all those who choose to abide in unbelief, just like the devil and his angels. This is not someplace that you want to be, as it is the worst possible state of eternal existence.⁶

But please keep in mind that this is a destiny that is personally chosen by each individual. God does not damn anyone to this place; rather, they choose to go to this terrible end, and He honors their choice. Throughout the **Codex**, when it comes to this destiny, it is clearly a choice. People choose to have an evil and unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. They choose, to not enter **Yahweh's** rest but into judgment because they are not believing. In fact, they are not able to enter **Yahweh's** rest because of unbelief.⁷

THE LAKE OF FIRE IS AN ETERNAL DESTINY THAT COMES BY CHOICE!

GOD WILL HONOR YOUR CHOICE!

³ Matthew 19:17; Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19

⁴ Matthew 10:37-39; Luke 14:26-27

⁵ "burns" is rendered in the *present passive participle*

⁶ Matthew 25:41

⁷ See *Hebrews* 3:7-4:3

The Bride, the Wife of the Lamb

In contrast to the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, John's attention is suddenly directed to all those who were *willing* to let God help them choose to be **Called and Chosen and Faithful**: the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

Revelation 21:9

Then one of the seven angels who is **now** having the seven vials {bowls} **now** being full of the seven last plagues {wounds} came and spoke with me, **now** saying, "Come here, I will in the <u>future</u> show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

Let's stop here and we will pick back up with a glorious image of the true bride of Christ, the wife of the Lamb.

I am glad you "tuned in" and have been "ready to listen."