A quiz:  Who said:

1. I cannot tell a lie. I chopped down the cherry tree with my little hatchet.
2. The British are coming! The British are coming!
3. Why don’t you come up and see me sometime?
4. Beam me up, Scotty.

Most believe the correct answers are:

1. George Washington
2. Paul Revere
3. Mae West
4. Captain Kirk

The correct answers are:

2. From Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s 1863 ballad “Paul Revere’s Ride”.
3. A misquote from the 1933 movie “She done him wrong”.
4. This quote was never stated in any of the Star Trek episodes.

Oh, how we sometimes accept traditional beliefs without question.

The above answers are not significant but some of the things we accept without question are critical in our spiritual lives.

Not all spiritual paths lead to Messiah.

In this weeks Parasha, we are given a picture of Yom Kippur and the functions of the Cohen Gadol on that special day established by Yahweh.

Remember the beautiful officiating garments Yahweh instructed Moshe to have made for Aharon?

On this Day of Atonement, the priest had to remove all the items of glory. He wore a simple white garment for this special day.

I believe that our Messiah took off all His vestments of glory to come to earth to provide our atonement just as the Scripture says.
John 17: And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

There has been a lot of discussion in our assembly regarding the Deity and pre-existence of Yeshua. Many of you have different beliefs regarding the subject and I will respect those beliefs.

However, my calling here is to challenge each of you to examine the scriptures in a manner that helps you to solidify your belief or get rid of preconceived error.

I have had to admit that many of my previous beliefs were in error as I have examined the Word myself with the guidance of the Ruach.

As several of you know, I have spent a great deal of study and prayer time regarding the subject of Yeshua as Yahweh. The more I study the words of Yeshua Himself, the more convinced that He was who He said He was.

I challenge each of you today to walk with me through the Scripture, both Tanach and Brit Chadasha as we examine whether Yeshua was pre-existent and personified the attributes of Yahweh Himself.

John 8: Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:
55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.
56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.
57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?
58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.
59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

As you can see from this Scripture, there were many in His day that had trouble accepting that He was Yahweh.

The fact that the common belief in antiquity defied such a Messiah, is not sufficient to void what Yeshua said in these verses.

The great sage Rambam was instrumental in teaching that Yahweh could be only “one”. He even refused to use the word “echad” in his writings about the Shema, using “yachid” instead. This is a dangerous changing of the Torah, but has been accepted by much of Judah as support for the teaching that Yeshua is not deity.

The ancient writings teach us many great things and hold much truth but are not all truth. If they differ from the Words of the Messiah Himself, then they are in error.
Isaiah was very deliberate in giving us definitive statements about who Yahweh was and what his attributes are.

In Isaiah chapter 43 he says “No God was formed before me, nor will be after me. I, I am Yahweh. There is no other savior but me.”

Yet we will see later that Yeshua is called our savior over and over by the talmidim. 

Are they wrong? If so how do we determine the truth about this one called Yeshua?

Yeshua says many things in the Scriptures that defy all logic if he did not exist until born of Mariam.

Let me state here that I do not believe that Yeshua’s physical body that perished on the stake existed prior to his birth approximately 2,000 years ago. That body was glorified upon His resurrection and continues today.

Yeshua made several things that are hard to explain within their context. For example, Yeshua also said in Luke 18

\[ \text{NIV Luke 10:18} \quad \text{He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. There is nothing that implies that this was a vision.} \]

Can we believe this one called Yeshua or is He delusional?

Did He say what is recorded by the Talmidim and others in the Brit Chadasha or was this an attempt to deceive the world?

Several places in the Scripture it states that Yeshua was the creator of the universe. If that is not true, then how do these words get taken as Scripture?

\[ \text{Let's look at what the writer of Hebrews says:} \]

\[ \text{NIV Hebrews 1:2} \quad \text{but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.} \]

Sha’ul makes the following statement regarding the Pre-Existence of Yeshua:

\[ \text{Colossians 1:15} \quad \text{For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; }^{10} \text{that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; }^{11} \text{strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; }^{12} \text{giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. }^{13} \text{He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, }^{14} \text{in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.} \]
He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

Sha’ul says that Yeshua is the creator. If He is the creator, what is Yahweh?

I believe from this and other statements, that Sha’ul believed that Yeshua was Yahweh personified.

HIS PRE-EXISTANCE

If He did not pre-exist how did He come down from Heaven?

John 6:32 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

33 Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.”

34 Then Jesus said to them, “ ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

41 The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

42 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.

47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”
**Did He say He had seen the Father?**
   *I thought no man could see the Father!*

   **John 6:** When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, *“Does this offend you?”* **What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?** It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. **But there are some of you who do not believe.**” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. **And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”**

   From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. **Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”**

**He said that He would ascend to where He was before. Before what?**

If we take the premise that these passages have been twisted by later scholars to justify their belief, how do we know which is truth and which is a lie? Notice that Yeshua Himself stated that there are some that do not believe what He said.

As I examine translation after translation I do find points of error. However, on the statements above, there is little difference among the different translations that I respect.

Let’s always remember that Scripture is a lot like a flower. The flower provides the honey to the bee but also provides the poison to the spider. So can the Scripture be. Without the guidance of the Ruach, mankind will often come up with the poison and think he has honey.

Some say that Yeshua is divine but not deity. Divine means “of God, or supremely good” while Deity means “A god or God”. **I submit that to my belief He is the Divine Deity Yahweh Himself.**

I would like for us to look at several other scripture where there is a comparison of terms used for both Yahweh and Yeshua.

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**But first - Who is the Ruach?**

   **John 14: 17 – 18**

Even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him: but you know Him; for He dwells in you, and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

What does He mean, He will come to us? I thought He said that He would send the Ruach. Are they one and the same? Is the Ruach His Spirit?

**Comparison of Yahweh and Yeshua**

A look at the attributes and names given to Yahweh and Yeshua in the Scripture. To ascribe many of these names to anyone but Yahweh would be blasphemous, yet the Bible clearly ascribes all of them to Yeshua. It points to Yahweh and Yeshua being one and the same: the great “I AM”.

**BRIDEGROOM**

Throughout the Tanach the Scriptures talk about Israel being the bride and Yahweh being the Bridegroom.

Revelation 22: 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

In Revelation we see that the Lamb is coming back for His bride.

**Do we have two brides and grooms?**

**BOOK OF LIFE**

Judah has always been concerned with being in the Book Of Life. Look at the observance of the 10 days of Awe each season. A major part of that celebration for Judah is to ask that they be left in the book.

Revelation 22: 27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**Are there two books? Do we try for the daily double?**

**THE THRONE**

Revelation 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.
2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:
4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.
5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.
6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.
7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

The Scripture here keeps talking about one throne. That word is singular not plural. One throne of God and of the Lamb. Same entity.

I AM

Exodus 3 14 And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” 15 Moreover God said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.

John 8 54 Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. 55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”
57 Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”
58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

WOW. Claiming to be Yahweh will get people angry with you.
Wonder how He did that disappearing act in the midst of a crowd.

GOD

GENESIS 1 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

TITUS 2 11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Sha’ul is clearly stating that Yeshua is “our great God and Savior”. Our “great God” would be Yahweh wouldn’t it?

ALEPH AND TAV

Isaiah 41: 4 Who hath wrought and done it, calling the generations from the beginning? I the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he.

ISAIAH 48 12 “Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last.

REV 22 12 “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the “Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

Surely there cannot be two beginnings and two endings.

LORD

ISAIAH 45 23: Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. 23 I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness,
And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.  
24 He shall say, ‘Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength.
To Him men shall come, And all shall be ashamed Who are incensed against Him.
25 In the LORD all the descendants of Israel Shall be justified, and shall glory.’”

PHILIPPIANS 2  
9Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,  
10that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,  
11and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

SAVIOR

ISAIAH 43 11 I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior.

JOHN 4 42Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed  the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

KING

ISAIAH 43 15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King.”

REV 19 16And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

JUDGE

GENESIS 25Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”
2 COR 5 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

ROCK

DEUT 32 3 For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God.
4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice,
A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

1 COR 10 1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

Sha’ul is clearly saying that the rock talked about in Deut 32 is Yeshua. Is he nuts? Or is it the truth? There is no in-between.

REDEEMER

Isaiah 48 17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel:
‘I am the LORD your God, Who teaches you to profit,
Who leads you by the way you should go.

Ephesians 1 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 45 24 He shall say,
‘Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength.
To Him men shall come,
And all shall be ashamed
Who are incensed against Him.
25 In the LORD all the descendants of Israel
Shall be justified, and shall glory.””

ROMANS 3 21But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

GIVER OF LIFE

DEUT 32 39 ‘Now see that I, even I, am He, And there is no God besides Me;
  I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal;
  Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.

JOHN 5 21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.

FORGIVER OF SIN

DANIEL 9 9 To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.

Matthew 9: 6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.
  7 And he arose, and departed to his house.

LORD OUR HEALER

EXODUS 15 26 and said, “If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you.”

ACTS 9 34 And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.” Then he arose immediately.

OMNIPRESENT

PSALM 139 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit?
  Or where can I flee from Your presence?
  8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there;
  If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
  9 If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there Your hand shall lead me,
And Your right hand shall hold me.
If I say, “Surely the darkness shall fall on me,”
Even the night shall be light about me;
Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You,
But the night shines as the day;
The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

MATTHEW 28 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” "Amen

OMNISCIENT

1 KINGS 8 39 then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and act, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men),

JOHN 16 30 Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God.”

OMNIPOTENT

ISAIAH 40 10 Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand,
And His arm shall rule for Him;
Behold, His reward is with Him,
And His work before Him.
He will feed His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom,
And gently lead those who are with young.

MARK 1 29 Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon’s wife’s mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. 31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.
32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door. 34 Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him.

ETERNAL

PSALM 102 26 They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed.
27 But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

David is talking about the Messiah as is Isaiah below.

ISAIAH 9 6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

IMMUTABLE

MALACHI 3 6 “For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

HEBREWS 13 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever

RECEIVER OF WORSHIP

JOHN 4 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

MATTHEW 28 9 And “as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, “Rejoice!” So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”
Light

Genesis 1: Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

Psalm 27: The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?

Yeshua said:

John 8: Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

John 9: As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

Let’s look at Matthew 24:

29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

If the sun and moon are gone, where does the light come from? Yeshua Himself!

Any time you examine the scriptures, it is important to be aware of the context of those verses. I have tried to show the verses used with that in mind.

It is also important to be willing to accept what the Ruach is trying to show us.

In closing -

If we say that Yeshua is only an “essence” of Yahweh or is only a man empowered by Yahweh then how in the Name of Yahweh does He forgive sin? Only Yahweh can forgive sin. An “essence” of Yahweh could not forgive sin and have sin removed. A man, no matter how perfect, could not forgive sin as he is only a man. So since Yahweh is the only One who can forgive sin and blot it out of His book, then Yeshua has to be Yahweh and if He is not then He cannot be Messiah and we are worshipping a false god and are therefore idolators.

Over the last several weeks I have listened to several of you explain why Yeshua cannot be Yahweh. He prayed to the Father, He said that Yahweh was “My Father and your Father, My God and your God”.

14
I have looked at the aspect of the “trinity” and a “Triume God”. There is too much to refute both positions in the Scriptures.

I admit that there are many verses that seem to indicate that Yeshua and Yahweh are two different entities.

There is an argument that an omnipotent Yahweh could not bring Himself down to become a human. They also say that He could not manifest Himself as a cloud or column of smoke. Torah says otherwise and I choose to believe Torah.

My problem comes in when I begin to look at the words of Messiah Himself.

If He did not say the things recorded, then what part of the Brit Chadasha can we believe.

If He did say them and it is not true, then He is a liar and not worthy to be my Messiah.

I have come to realize that Yahweh/Yeshua does not have to confine Himself to the limitations of my mind or belief system.

He is the Mighty One. He provided my atonement and forgave my sin.

He is my savior. He stated in both the Torah and the Brit Chadasha that He is the great “I AM”.

He said in both that He was the Aleph & the Tav.

He said in Isaiah that He was our king, and in Revelations that He was King of Kings.

He said in both Tanach and Brit Chadasha that He is the Rock of Salvation for His people.

He said that He raised the dead and gave life in both Deut and John.

He said He came down from the Father and that He had seen the Father.

What did He mean?

And finally, He said that if I believe in Him that I would be saved.

I believe He said what He meant and meant what He said.

Any confusion is mine, not His.

Any limitation is mine, not His.
I worship ONE Elohim.
   Not multiple entities
   Not a Mini-god Messiah.
   Not a glorified man.

I worship Yahweh as He has presented Himself, The Aleph and the Tav, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Messiah who is soon to return.