

## ***Remembering Your Spiritual Memorials***

### ***2 Timothy 2:8-9***

***Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers.***

***It was later declared that Memorial Day would be observed as a day to remember all military personnel who gave their life for America's freedom. These were the sacrifices made in America's wars.***

### ***→ Pic of America War Deaths***

**Memorial Day**  
**Remembering The Price for Freedom**

<b><i>Conflict of War</i></b>	<b><i>Killed</i></b>	<b><i>Other</i></b>	<b><i>Total</i></b>
<b><i>American Revolution (1775-1783)</i></b>	<b><i>8,000</i></b>	<b><i>17,000</i></b>	<b><i>25,000</i></b>
<b><i>Civil War (1861-1865)</i></b>	<b><i>212,938</i></b>	<b><i>~410,000</i></b>	<b><i>~625,000</i></b>
<b><i>World War I (1917-1918)</i></b>	<b><i>53,402</i></b>	<b><i>63,114</i></b>	<b><i>116,516</i></b>
<b><i>World War II (1941-1945)</i></b>	<b><i>291,557</i></b>	<b><i>113,842</i></b>	<b><i>405,399</i></b>
<b><i>Korean War (1950-1953)</i></b>	<b><i>33,686</i></b>	<b><i>2,830</i></b>	<b><i>36,516</i></b>
<b><i>Vietnam War (1964-1975)</i></b>	<b><i>47,424</i></b>	<b><i>10,785</i></b>	<b><i>58,209</i></b>
<b><i>Afghanistan War (2001-present)</i></b>	<b><i>1,435</i></b>	<b><i>368</i></b>	<b><i>1,803</i></b>
<b><i>Korean War (2003-2011)</i></b>	<b><i>3,542</i></b>	<b><i>935</i></b>	<b><i>4,477</i></b>
<b><i>Grand Totals (1775-present)</i></b>	<b><i>848,163</i></b>	<b><i>437,421</i></b>	<b><i>1,343,812</i></b>

***It's important for us to always take pause to reflect on those events and things of importance to us...***

- ***Birthday***
- ***Anniversary***

***Similarly we also have SPIRITUAL MEMORIALS...***

***Those important events and truths that shape our lives past, present, and future...***

***I've titled today's message, "Remembering Your Spiritual Memorials"***

***We are going to be in 2 Timothy 2:8-9...***

***2 Timothy 2:8–9 (ESV) — Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!***

### ***1. Remember the CERTAINTY of our SCRIPTURE***

***2 Timothy 2:8–9 (ESV) — Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!***

***The apostle Paul may have been bound, but the Scripture is not!***

***Isaiah 40:8 (ESV) — The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.***

### ***→ The Discovery at Mt Ebal***

***Recently, this year, 2022, an archeological discovery has been made that is turning Biblical archeology on its head...***

***An archeologist, named Scott Stripling from Houston, TX, is the one who has made the discovery ...***

**→ *Pic of Scott Stripling***

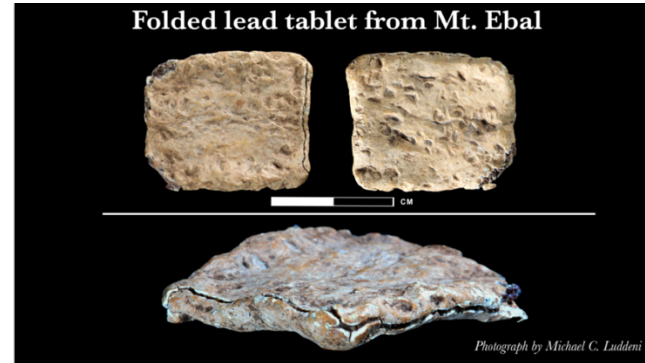


***His discovery was made at the ancient altar built by Joshua on Mt. Ebal...***

**→ *Pic of Altar site***



**→ *Pic of Tablet***



**→ *Pic of Name YWH***



***This is the name of Yahweh in ancient Hebrew...***

***The fact of its location, and being written on lead lets us know that it was written sometime between 1200-1500 BC***

***This makes this discovery the oldest written copy of the Hebrew name for God ever discovered!***

***It gives strong proof to the genuine historical narratives of Scripture...***

**→ *Barna Report***

**Only 1 in 3 pastors in America hold to a Biblical Worldview...**

**Barna shares that it's particularly tragic that only 12% of children's and youth pastors have a biblical worldview.**

**Much of this can be attributed to Professors and Scholars who are either atheist or unbelievers who spread untrue theories regarding the Bible's validity...**

**They have claimed for years that the stories in the Bible were made up by Jewish people to validate themselves and their "history".**

**Scholars have believed for years that Moses couldn't have written the first five books of the Bible...**

- **They were uneducated nomadic people with no written language**
- **At best they used hieroglyphic symbols to communicate...**

**→ Book of Job**

**Is thought to be the oldest written book in the Bible, dating back to the days of Abraham**

**Listen to his words regarding writing in his day...**

**Job 19:23–24 (ESV) — Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever!**

**Listen to the very next verses of Job...**

**Job 19:25–26 (ESV) — For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my**

**skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God,**

**2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV) — All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,**

**1. Remember the CERTAINTY of our SCRIPTURE**

**2. Remember the VICTORY of our SAVIOR**

**2 Timothy 2:8 (ESV) — Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel**

**Jesus – means “Yahweh is Salvation”**

**Christ – means Messiah – the coming Savior**

**→ Pic of Mt Gerizim & Mt Ebal**



**Recorded in Deuteronomy 11, 27-28, and Joshua 8, is the story of these two mountains...**

**Joshua 8:30–31 (ESV) — At that time Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the people of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, “an altar of uncut stones, upon which no man has wielded an iron tool.” And they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings.**

**Following this half of the tribes of Israel went and stood on Mt Gerizim and the other half stood on Mt Ebal...**

**On Mt Gerizim the Levites read the blessings of the Lord reserved for those who followed Him ...**

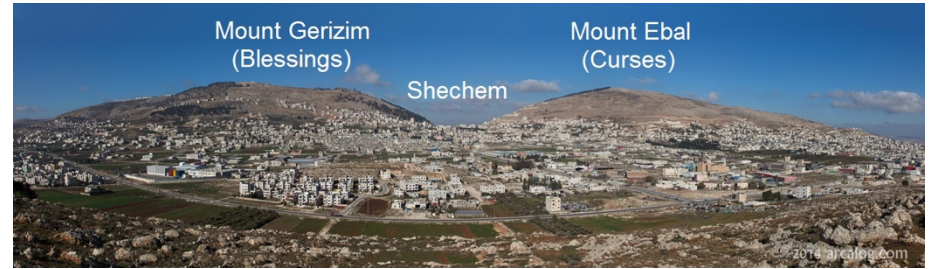
**On Mt Ebal the Levites read the curses of the Lord given to those who refused to follow Him...**

**Why is this important regarding Jesus?**

**John 4:4–6a (ESV) — And he had to pass through Samaria. So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there ...**

**Stationed between these two mountains is the city of Shechem...**

**→ Pic of Mt Gerizim & Mt Ebal**



**Jesus was standing directly between these two mountains at Jacob’s well...**

**Standing there in a discussion with Jesus, not knowing Who she was talking to, she said...**

**John 4:19–20 (ESV) — The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”**

**She is saying, “We worship the Father here, in the same place Abraham, Jacob, Joshua and the people of Israel worshipped...**

**John 4:21 (ESV) — Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.”**

**Then listen to what Jesus says next...**

**John 4:23–24 (ESV) — But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”**



**John 4:25–26 (ESV) — The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”**

**→ Pic 2 of Altar site**



**The lead tablet that was found at this site at Mt Ebal has been translated...**

**Here are the words found inside ...**

**→ Pic of writing on Tablet**

Cursed, cursed, cursed - cursed by the God **YHW**.  
You will die cursed.  
Cursed you will surely die.  
Cursed by **YHW** – cursed, cursed, cursed.

**This is monumental that a tablet declaring curses by Yahweh was found at the altar site on the Mountain of Curses!**

**Standing in between these mountains Jesus declares Himself as Messiah...**

**His death on the cross broke the curse over everyone who gives their life to Him!**

**Galatians 3:13 (ESV) — Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—**

**1. Remember the CERTAINTY of our SCRIPTURE**

**2. Remember the VICTORY of our SAVIOR**

**3. Remember the EXPECTANCY of our SALVATION**

**2 Timothy 2:8–9 (ESV) — Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!  
The expectancy of difficulty and struggle in this life...**

**“...for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal...”**

**John 15:20 (ESV) — Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they**

***persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.***

***The expectancy of paradise when we die...***

***Jesus said to the thief on the cross...***

***“Today you will be with me in Paradise”***

***The expectancy of our bodily resurrection when Jesus returns...***

***1 Corinthians 15:51–57 (ESV) — Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

## ***→ Back to Shechem***

***After the conquest and at the end of Joshua’s life ...***

***Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel once again at Shechem...***

***There, standing between Mt Gerizim, the mountain of blessing, and Mt Ebal, the mountain of curses, Joshua makes his famous challenge...***

***Joshua 24:15 (ESV) — And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”***

## ***→ My declaration...***

- ***It was 1985***
- ***Kathy and I were a young couple in our 20’s***
- ***Kevin, our oldest son, was 18 months***
- ***I read Joshua’s great declaration...***
- ***I wanted to make my declaration***
- ***So I bought a piece of wood***
- ***I carefully wrote out my declaration in pencil***
- ***Then with a router I etched my declaration into the wood...***

***“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”***