#### Raven's Voice Ministries; Statement of Faith.



## A word about the Messianic faith:

We believe that those who place their faith in Yeshua, are grafted into the Jewish tree of faith (Rom. 11:17-25), and have become spiritual children of Abraham (Gal. 3:28-29).

Furthermore, it is our position that many in the "Western / Nominal church" are unaware of the inherent Jewishness of their faith. Sadly this reflects in many misinterpretations regarding the scriptures. Our conviction is that to be a follower of Yeshua implies learning from the culture, language, and understanding of the peoples that penned the Holy Scriptures.

Studying biblical Hebrew and Jewish heritage will provide the correct context for reading the B'rit Chadashah (New Testament), thus avoiding exegetical errors and that distort the original intent of the scriptures.

As such we observe a seventh day Sabbath (Shabbat) and the commanded Holy days given by God to Israel. We believe that the faith of the first century believers' which we seek to practice, is the pattern of faith in the one true God as revealed in the scriptures, and ultimately manifested in God's Son Yeshua the Messiah.

Our view for salvation is that it is <u>not</u> based upon works of the law, righteous deeds, or genetic "ties" as these have never saved anyone (*Gen. 15:6, Rom. 2-6, Eph. 2:8-9*). Salvation is a gift from God through the sacrificial atonement of His son Yeshua, it is an act of grace which we receive by faith. Yet a faith devoid of righteous deeds is inappropriate behavior for a professing believer (James 2:14-26).

### We Believe:

- That God is one, (*Deut. 6:4*). Eternally existent in oneness, yet with three distinct manifestations The Father, The son (Yeshua) and His spirit (Ruach HaKodesh).
- In the deity of our Lord Yeshuah, (John 1:1, 14; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 2:8-10) His virgin birth, His sinless life, His vicarious death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, His mediatorial intercession and His personal, second coming in power and glory, (Luke 1:26-38; Heb. 7:26; Rom. 3:25; Matt. 28:5-7; Acts 1:9-11, Rev. 19-22).
- We believe that the ministry of the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) is to convict men of sin, regenerate sinners, and seal them until the day of redemption. We believe that he is our Guide, our Comforter, and our Instructor in the things of God (John 16:7-15; Titus 3:5; 1Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13-14; John 14:15-20).
- That the Scriptures, consisting of the Torah, Nevi'im, Ketuvim [i.e. Tanak], and the writings in the Newer covenant is the infallible, authoritative, and inerrant Word of God. We believe that it reveals all things that are necessary to salvation, life and godliness, and that it is a final and closed revelation, (1Thess. 2:13; 2Tim. 3:14-17; 2Peter 2:2-4).

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# We Believe: (Cont.)

- That God creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). And that rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
- That all human life is sacred and created by God in his image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including the pre-born, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (*Psa. 139*).
- That the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman.
- That any form of sexual immorality (including: adultery, fornication, co-habitation, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).
- That sin is the transgression of God's Torah, which results in lawlessness (1 John 3:4) and that repentance is commanded of God and necessary for the forgiveness of sins.
- That holiness is God's standard of living for His people.
- In spiritual unity of all believers who comprise the Church, the Body of Yeshua our Messiah.
- In water baptism by immersion in as it is commanded of all who repent to be baptized (*Matt.* 28:19-20).
- In the resurrection of the body unto eternal life for the saved and unto eternal punishment of the wicked.