

Rabbi Simon Altaf takes on the so called “in your face challenge”, at The Refiners Fire!

First Response to Carmen’s article here...

http://therefinersfire.org/multiple_wives_myth.htm

She starts by quoting this verse.

Ephesians 5:11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

We can see that Carmen does not even understand what verse to quote in this particular incident she makes her first mistake by misquoting a verse.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Become, then, imitators of Elohim as beloved children. And walk in love, as Messiah also has loved us, and gave Himself for us, a gift and an offering to Elohim for a sweet-smelling fragrance.

The context of Ephesians chapter 5 is about walking as Messiah walked and as I can see I or Rabbi Moshe have not tried to walk contrary to the walk that was delivered to our forefathers. Be ye imitators of Elohim is what the context of that chapter is. This is why we do not need hysterical women with little to no Bible understanding marching on the foyers of civilization because all they have done and will do is damage.

Chava (Eve) the first woman is the prime example for all mankind. When Adam listened to his wife he became a sinner and all mankind fell. Thanks Chava!!! So Chava was deceived, sorry women and then this became example for other women throughout history showing scripturally that women are generally more prone to spiritual deception than men. It does not mean that every woman will be deceived but they are more prone being a fair comparison to men.

We have many evil kings in Israel at the time of the monarchy but none so poignantly remembered but Jezebel who gets a mention even in the last book of the Bible the book of Revelations because we have many

types of Jezebel spirit still around in many assemblies. She became an archetype the one to disobey and discredit Yahuweh's commandments.

We can see here that Carmen is also spiritually deceived. The one she claims is laughing aka Satan is surely laughing but at her because this is the second time he has managed to deceive a woman who thinks she is doing a service to Elohim but is only propagating her spiritual deception further by denying a fundamental truth of Israel and her Elohim and His laws. Carmen if you had the humility you would not gloat about yourself and start making room for Satan to move in.

This is why I would certainly not recommend women to become Rabbi's as Carmen is one such Rabbi. Paul was not wrong when he told women to remain silent in the assemblies.

Carmen tirade continues

False teachers are springing up everywhere and the Messianic Movement is not immune from these charlatans. Two such teachers are Rabbi Moshe Koniuchowsky of Your Arms to Israel and his disciple Rabbi Simon Altaf, of Abrahamic-Faith.

Simon: The only person I call myself a disciple of is Rabbi Yahushua King of the Yahudim and I can see your jealousy is evident. Carmen makes a fool of herself by calling me a disciple of Rabbi Moshe when no such thing is ever mentioned or true and I made no such proclamations or claims at any time in my salvation history. Thank you Carmen for being a false witness and remember it is one of the Ten words Yahuweh gave. Your innuendos and false hypocritical stance is noted in heaven and on earth. YHWH will be the final judge. You have only discredited yourself and no one else.

Exodus 20:16 "You do not bear false witness against your neighbour.

So far it is clear that this whole charade of Carmen is nothing but personal attacks and innuendos, she clearly shows a lack of respect for men in leadership and a clear problem with authority. This is a typical problem we have to deal with in the Western world and sadly will remain so until the return of Master Yahushua.

Carmen's straw man

Bottom line up front: Why would any married man want to "add another" wife except to feed his desire to have sex with someone else?

Simon: As anyone can see she has not done any sound scriptural exegesis or rebuttal of any text but made up a conclusion already, albeit a false one. This shows she is acting in emotions not in love or in humility as one should act. Her hormones are running wild.

She says men do it for sex. Let's see if the men in Scriptures did it for Sex although sex is one reason for marriage but not the de-facto reason for plural marriage.

Gen 4:19 And Lemek took for himself two wives, the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Tsillah.

Scripture is silent about Lamech doing this for sex.

Gen 16:3 And Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her female servant, the Mitsrite, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Kena'an.

Scripture tells us the reason Abraham was given the second wife by his principle wife Sarah was for a male child while Sarah was perfectly able to satisfy her husband in the department of sexuality. She was not frigid.

Carmen proves herself to be a false witness and a slanderer while Scripture calls this a grave sin. Carmen is a bad witness in court and does not know how to rightly divide the word of truth.

1Sa 25:39 And Dawid heard that Nabal was dead, and he said, "Blessed be יהוה, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept His servant from evil! For יהוה has returned the evil of Nabal on his own head." And Dawid sent and spoke to Abigail, **to take her as his wife**.

King David definitely had no shortage of sex with several of his other wives yet he takes on Abigail to be his wife. Carmen please explain if this marriage was also solely for sex?

Carmen:

For awhile he was also teaching that Abraham actually sacrificed Isaac...

His latest book, *Sex and the Believer*, which provides supposed "scriptural proof" as to how YHWH's Torah condones more than one wife, has caused a major division within his synagogue –

Simon: She continues the ad-hominem against Rabbi Moshe again showing lack of respect for the man who has been in ministry for twenty five years who never once defrauded anyone. If he made mistakes in the past at least he was man enough to own up about Isaac but is Carmen going to own up her fault? Carmen it was me who brought this to Rabbi Moshe's attention and also I was the one to show him the Islamic beast so your ad-hominem are vicious jealous remarks. He was wrong about the Roman Catholic Church and so removed all that material from his site and started teaching the correct way. Only spirit filled people have that understanding not hard nosed error prone teachers who refuse to admit their error. You are certainly one of them.

YHWH absolutely allows more than one wife Carmen otherwise He would not be showing us the two wives for Lamech and also not calling it sin. He shows us Abraham had several wives and called him His friend Isa 41:8. So if Abraham having several wives is His friend then you have no right on this good earth to judge the fellow man or did you forget that the woman came out of a man and was made for man and not man for woman.

Isa 41:8 “But you, Yisra’el, are My servant, Ya’aqob, whom I have chosen, the descendants of **Abraham My friend**,

He calls Israel the twelve tribes born out of four wives with Jacob His Inheritance. Isaiah 19:25.

He shows King David had several wives and He calls him after My own heart (Acts 13:22).

Abraham, Jacob and other righteous people like King David had several wives and it was 100% kosher. It is Carmen who has a problem showing her hormones are out of control and misconstrued theology of papal Rome that she still carries with her.

Perhaps she hasn't read the annals of Rome and the brutalities committed by her kings in the guise of monogamy. All we have left of that culture is relics while the polygynous Israel survived and will always survive also her brothers the Arabs also have survived and are sitting on a large reserve of oil on which the whole world is dependent. They are also polygynous and you are not going to change any of this. While the West and Europe with its outdated Roman model of two children to one family or the corrupted polygamy model of one man sleeping around with ten women and producing children from four or five women running around like a wild animal but not marrying or holding any responsibility for his children, this is bound to fail because of the debauchery. The ones with the camels and sheep in the Middle-East will still survive. Yahuweh is going to restore the Tabernacle of King David too.

Acts 15:16 After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen down. I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up,

So Carmen once King David's Tabernacle is resurrected in the Millennium what would Yahuweh do with his eighteen wives? Would they be inside the tent or outside? What do you think?

Carmen:

Simon Altaf, who was ordained by Koniuchowsky, has not only endorsed "Sex and the Believer" but he has also posted articles on his own website in support of this "multiple wives" myth, and has spewed vicious remarks (both on his website and in emails) at anyone who dares to challenge him. (And people are definitely challenging him - see Tehseen Gul-Khan's response.)

Simon: First If multiple wives is a myth Carmen then why did Lamech have two wives and YHWH never called it a sin? Why did YHWH have this fact recorded without even saying a tiny word against it? Can you explain this please? Why did YHWH forget to call Abraham a sinner for having the second wife Hagar at the same time I might add? That is because YHWH does not need your or my permission Carmen, you are a spiteful woman who fights and argues with everybody and that is how

you get your kicks but this is not wholesome and not befitting for a believer. Do you know how evil slander is and what are YHWH's punishments against it? Do you think you will escape this judgment? Please go and repent while its yet time and stop slandering good men.

Second, you lie and make a false testimony against me by accusing me of using hateful words, please show me where I use such words as you state. Unfortunately it looks like that you only have an axe to grind and are anti-Semitic to the core. Is this because of your German background and you carry some of the Nazi hatred? You have to challenge everyone practicing Judaism and whatever faith to show you have a chip on your shoulder and everyone else is wrong. This is not how we are taught to behave with nations scripturally.

Exodus 21:10 "If he takes another wife, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, and her marriage rights.

Carmen:

Perhaps someone should remind both of these "Rabbis" that YHWH originally made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Eve and Sarah...

Simon:

In the Garden the perfect model was monogamy and no one argues with that. Carmen haven't you heard we are not in the garden any longer so stop the hysteria and guilt trip running back to the garden. Please come into the living room where you will find Abraham with several wives, King David with several of them and YHWH blessing their children up to this day. Are you going to deny that the Arabs are blessed also? Or will you deny YHWH gathered Jewish Israel back as He promised? If you are so hung up on the garden that no longer exists on this good earth then why don't you also espouse nakedness as the ideal too? Why do you choose one precept over another?

Outside the garden it was YHWH's perfect will that allowed men to have more wives.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no change, nor shadow of turning.

Did Jacob say that every good gift is from YHWH? Yes he does and that includes many wives. In my opinion I will say that this lifestyle is not for everyone but albeit a very few people. We could argue that polygny was

not a commandment to marry many wives but then neither is monogamy a commandment for that matter but if it is then I would like you to show me Carmen because both are choices for the believer to make and people are not going to stop because you do not like it and cannot handle it who has nothing better to do than to insult and slander people.

Proverb 18:22 He who has found a wife has found good, And receives favour from יהוה.

The same applies to one two or three wives. It's a good thing and never evil.

Carmen:

Exodus 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery"....

Matthew 19:9 But I say to you that he who leaves his wife without a charge of adultery, and takes another, commits adultery. And he that takes a divorced woman commits adultery.

Simon:

Your lack or thereof Scripture is evident to me because you misquote scripture by applying polygyny to adultery while the verses in Matthew 19:9 talk about a man trying to replace his wife for another with divorce. You do not know how to rightly divide the word of Truth. How many families will you put out for adultery when it is not adultery? Just calling yourself a Rabbi does not make one a good teacher!

First learn the definition of adultery and fornication. Countless errant Christian counselors have broken the marriages of new believers who may have had more than one wife by citing out of context verses like you and breaking so many families and breaking many hearts without realizing the damage done.

Here is one example in history, one of many...

¹An act of cruelty in the name of Yahushua

¹ The History and Philosophy of Marriage, Or, Polygamy and Monogamy Compared". It was originally published in 1869 by a (non-Mormon) "Christian Philanthropist", named James Campbell

THE INDIAN CHIEF AND HIS TWO WIVES This chief at the time of his conversion to Christianity was living with two wives. The one first married was now aged, blind, and childless. The other was young, attractive, healthful, and the mother of one fine boy. One of these wives the missionaries required him to put away, as an indispensable requisite to baptism and church-membership. The old chief, after careful deliberation, could not decide which one to repudiate. The first he was bound by every honorable motive "to love and to cherish," especially on account of her age and infirmity; while the other was devotedly attached to him, and was the mother of his only child and heir, which he could not give up, and from which he could not separate the mother. He, therefore, submitted the case to the missionaries to decide which one of them he should put away. They decided against the younger one.

And as he was old himself and his other wife was barren, that she must also give up her child. This mandate was obeyed with martyr-like fortitude, which nothing but the strongest religious motives could have inspired; opposed, as it was, to every natural sentiment of love and honor. And thus, in one hour, was that young wife and mother deprived of her husband, her child, her character, and her home; and sent away a bereaved and lonely outcast into the wide world. The report which the missionaries themselves gave of this affair closed by saying that the repudiated wife and bereaved mother soon died inconsolable and broken-hearted.

I was very sad to read this act of cruelty in the name of the Christian creator which is utterly despicable. I certainly do not worship that creator who breaks families. My Elohim's name is Yahuweh who makes families and keeps them together.

Carmen;

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters NOR ADULTERERS nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders.

Simon: Where does that Scripture say polygyny is a sin and that they will not inherit the earth? You are the queen of misquotes!!! You can fool the laymen but when it comes to those who know how to divide the word of truth you will fail every time.

Carmen:

Someone should also remind both of these "rabbis" that the Scriptures are clear that we are to obey the "law of the land"....

Simon: You can go and obey the laws of your land while scripture makes no such requirement. So you are going to start murdering babies next because the law of your land says abortion is ok? The law of your land also says marry homosexuals so now as a Rabbi when do you plan to marry your first homosexual couple? I would like to see how you dare to break YHWH's law and adopt a human flawed corrupted idiotic law.

I have realized that You clearly lack judgment and are also willfully ignorant, leading people astray. If the disciples listened to your types of women then there would be no gospel in the world today. May I remind you it was illegal to say anything in the name of Yahushua in Israel in the first century? That was your definition of government of the land that said do not dare to use the name of Yahushua or else.

Act 5:40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten *them*, they commanded that they should not **speak in the name of Yahushua**, and let them go.

Act 5:41 Then indeed they went rejoicing from the presence of the council, because they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.

Just as the Disciples of Yahushua counted it worthy to say His name and suffer shame so do we Carmen, so do we, because our own turn against us but we march on while the dogs bark!!!

Carmen:

With guys like this who are "running the show" in the pro-polygyny movement, is it any wonder many Orthodox Jews and Christians think that Messianic believers are certified nut cases? This kind of stuff effectively keeps traditional Jews away from Yeshua, and Christians from realizing the Truth of Torah. Satan must be laughing himself silly!

Simon:

No Carmen we don't run any show it is because the Christians want to pin the Jewish people to a Christmas tree and feed them unclean pork hence why they cannot come. Since many Christians cannot keep out the juicy pork chops out of their mouth they keep themselves away from

Torah as it brings them under sin and condemnation. The Jews are right to reject the lawless version of the Christian Messiah to leads to the worship of false elohim like Ishtar and Christmas.

Right now you are not helping the Christians either because you have now defined your own version of Torah which contradicts the one that came from above. You have single handedly made a new law calling polygyny sin while Torah says no such thing so your laws are predetermined by your country while the laws I espouse are from predetermined by YHWH. The difference is me and you is that I live or die by His law while you tout the law of your land which kills every man and woman while YHWH's law saves them from sin.

The Sephardic Jews have been practicing polygyny since the ancient days and are quite happy with their four wives while you argue that it is not scripture. They couldn't care less what you and I think because they know Torah. Need I tell you what Muslims think of you?

My advise to you Carmen as a teacher in the faith is seek the Ruach Ha Kodesh (Holy Spirit) to show you the truth and seek a good teacher who can show you this truth without being haughty about it!

My response to Andrew Gabriel Roth

Andrew:

As everyone knows, the Torah teems with stories of men who married several women: Kings David and Solomon, for example, along with many of the patriarchs. Using these illustrations, many modern day rabbis and pastors are teaching the false premise that YHWH condoned adultery, or more specifically, polygyny (the state or practice of having more than one wife or female mate at a time). An indepth study of the scriptures, however, reveals quite the contrary!

Simon:

So Andrew first acknowledges that polygyny existed and the Patriarchs followed it but later he then makes a false attempt to tear it down. Very good Andrew. First you admit that polygyny is allowed later you condemn it as adultery. What hypocrisy. I suggest you check the definition of adultery because you are making a mistake equating it with polygyny.

Here comes Andrew's Straw man

Andrew:

The first question one needs to ask is: If plural marriage was the original model why was only one wife made for Adam? Why not two, ten, or twenty? After all, if Adam was supposed to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth with his descendants, wouldn't multiple wives for him make this task easier?

Simon:

This is the problem with such debaters they make a straw man then try to tear it down showing see they have won the debate. He says "if plural marriage was the original model". Why would we say "if" Andrew?

No one here suggests even the remotest possibility or have you also forgotten in your zeal that we are no longer in the garden. Why do you go to work today? This is because we are not in the garden. Ask any woman giving birth to a child why was that birth painful. Even though Messiah came and died on the tree Child birth remains painful because that curse from the woman has not been lifted. The same for men the toil of your labors remains the same so your poor pity garden analogy just won't fit.

Not to mention, we all wear clothing now post gan Ayden (Garden of Eden). Andrew would have us walking around naked if we will still in the garden.

Simon: Here comes straw man number two.

Andrew:

Have we not all one Father? Did not one Elohim create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our fathers by breaking faith with one another? Judah has broken faith. A detestable thing has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem: Judah has desecrated the sanctuary YHWH loves, by marrying the daughter of a foreign god. As for the man who does this, whoever he may be, may YHWH cut him off from the tents of Jacob-- even though he brings offerings to YHWH Almighty. Another thing you do: You flood YHWH's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure

from your hands. You ask, "Why?" It is because YHWH is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not YHWH made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. "I hate divorce," says YHWH, Elohim of Israel, "and I hate a man's covering himself with violence as well as with his garment," says YHWH Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith. You have wearied YHWH with your words. "How have we wearied him?" you ask. By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of YHWH, and he is pleased with them" or "Where is the Elohim of justice?" (Malachi 2:10-17)

Clearly "the wife of your youth" is the first wife, as long as she is alive. To take another is, in Malachi's pronouncement, to literally abandon YHWH. True, here the prophet is drawing an analogy between idolatry and infidelity, but the template of that example is still one man, one wife. When Judah marries another daughter who was previously a single maiden, he betrays his first wife! Furthermore, any man need only ask his own wife how she would feel at the prospect of him taking a second spouse under the guise of "righteousness." This obviously would not go over well in most households, and that being the case, it is right to ask just how this first wife is honored and cherished when wife number two invades her house! Malachi's passionate question then, has not YHWH made them one, is directly on point. There is also proof that, according to Rav Shaul, the wife has total power to stop her husband from seeking carnal pleasure from any other source:

Simon: This is really poor Andrew! I really had expected better scholarship from you. The problem in Malachi was not just taking on of the second wife but the problem was taking on the second wife who was a foreigner who worshipped a false elohim that was the cause of sin!

Let me quote you, your misquote...

*A detestable thing has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem: Judah has desecrated the sanctuary YHWH loves, by **marrying the daughter of a foreign god**.*

See your problem Andrew?

[Deu 7:3](#) “And do not intermarry with them – you do not give your daughter to his son, and you do not take his daughter for your son,

I wonder why YHWH is saying “do not” Intermarry?

[Deu 7:1-2](#) “When יהוה your Elohim brings you into the land which you go to possess, He shall also clear away many nations before you: the Hòittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Kena’anites and the Perizzites and the Hòiwrites and the Yebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you. “And when יהוה your Elohim gives them over to you, you shall smite them and put them under the ban, completely. Make no covenant with them, and show them no favour.

Now do you see the Problem Andrew? The problem was idolatry by marrying the foreign women and it was strictly forbidden but Judah did not heed the warning.

It was absolutely kosher to marry Israelite women. You want me to show you?

[1Sa 1:1-2](#) And there was a certain man of Ramathayim Tsophim, of the mountains of Ephrayim, and his name was Elqanah son of Yerohòam, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Tsuph, an Ephrayimite. And he had two wives, the name of one was Hòannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hòannah had no children.

There you go. Now do you know who was born in this union? The righteous prophet Samuel. Please go and do your home work about the laws of plural marriage before you decide to debate an ex-Muslim about it, we have been brought up in this culture and are very happy thank you very much.

The levirate marriage was a commandment not a choice where a dead brother’s wife had to be taken by a living brother which is a type of polygyny sanctioned in the Renewed Covenant.

[Deu 25:5](#) “When brothers dwell together, and one of them has died, and has no son, the widow of the dead man shall not become

a stranger's outside. Her husband's brother does go in to her, and shall take her as his wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her.

The Messiah Yahushua who is YHWH actually was the one giving that commandment and not refuting it in the Renewed Covenant. Oh dear now what will Andrew do?

Matthew 22:24 Saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.

We do not see Yahushua grovelling for forgiveness or explaining that this law is only for the Jews or is no longer valid but still stands today in 2008 as I write this article. I know people in India who still practice this form of marriage and are believers. No they are not a cult and never will be.

Andrew Roth's straw man number three

Much of the controversy on this idea, of course, concerns the word for "one" in Hebrew, echad, because it can sometimes allow for a compound unity of a plurality of things becoming one. While this is true, we need to look at some other basic facts. First of all, 99 percent of the time echad means just one. Even in Israel today, you would say echad when you meant "only" or "just one." The alternative word that means "only one" all the time - yachid - is extremely rare and not the normal phrase for "one" either in ancient or modern Hebrew.

Simon: Really how smart Andrew! Now you start twisting words to suit your pseudo theology on plural marriage.

Let's see your nonsense 99% theory how flawed it is.

Bersheeth (Genesis)1:5 And Elohim called the Light, "Daytime," and the darkness He called "Night." And the evening and the morning were Yom Rishon.

We see a plurality of night plus day both would be known as YOM ECHAD.

Bersheeth (Genesis) 2:21 And YHWH Elohim caused a deep sleep to fall upon Ahdahm and he slept: and He took one of [echad] his **RIBS**, and closed up the flesh in its place;

More properly Andrew the word used in Bersheeth 2:21 in the Hebrew is tsal'âh and actually means a SIDE.

Exo 25:12 “And you shall cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in its four corners, two rings on one side, and two rings on the other side.

The sides of the Ark of the Covenant so what was it made of Andrew? Pieces of wood chopped and joined together so the idea of Echad is in this also.

Now let me prove it to you from the text that this is similar to the Tabernacle

Exo 26:27 And five bars for the boards of the other side [Tsalah] of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side [Tsalah] of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.

Now we can see who has insight and wisdom into the depths of scripture and YHWH reveals to who He wills.

Bersheeth (Genesis) 3:22 And YHWH Elohim said, “See, the man has become as ONE of [echad] Us, to know tov and evil: and now, lest he put out his hand, and take also of the eytz chayim, and eat, and live forever:”

These are not the only examples there are many more but just to illustrate your fallacy that you came up with is enough.

Andrew continues...

There are only two possibilities: Either YHWH made some temporary concessions for marriage, or both models were acceptable at the same time. If the latter is the case, we must determine whether or not the two methods are both still acceptable marriage modes for us today.

Therefore, let's take a look at the genealogy in Genesis: According to Genesis 4:19, the first man to take two wives was Lamech, son of Cain, whose confessed to his wives that he had killed two men in cold blood

(verse 23), even as his father Cain, who killed his own brother Abel, was the first murderer. Is this the kind of family that we really want to draw examples of proper moral behavior from? Is their template of intimacy between male and female the one we should emulate for all time? Think about it, because Scripture says that's where it came from.

Simon:

Andrew you know what I dislike the most is pseudo scholarship! You now call Lamech a cold blooded murderer yet you fail to understand he was not a murderer at least in cold blood as you define it. You pick on Lamech but forget that the first couple to sin yes Andrew the first couple to SIN were monogamous Ahdam (Adam) and Chava (Eve). The first murderer was also monogamous that is right it was Cain and not as you make it with your faulty exegesis.

So how come you did not use Adam and Chava as your Template Andrew?

How come you did not use Cain the monogamous person as your example? See your faulty logic.

The Talmudists and the ancient Jewish commentators, interpreting the words שבעתים יקם (Gen. iv. 15, "Cain shall expiate his crime after seven generations"), evolved the following legend: Lamech lost his sight and had to be led by his son Tubal-cain, who was of the seventh generation from Cain (comp. Gen. iv. 17-18). One day Tubal-cain saw in the distance something that he took for an animal; it was Cain, however, who had been killed by an arrow from Lamech's bow. When they found that it was Cain, Lamech in sorrow clapped his hands together, by which action he killed Tubal-cain. His wives deserted him (Rashi, *ad loc.*). According to Gen. R. xxiii. 5, Lamech killed no one, but his wives refused to associate with him on the ground that the descendants of Cain would be destroyed after seven generations. Lamech, however, allayed their fears, saying: "Have I slain a man or a youth that my

offspring should be destroyed? If Cain shall expiate his crime after seven generations, surely Lamech, who killed no one, shall expiate his sins after seventy-seven generations." This interpretation was adopted by Onkelos and pseudo-Jonathan. Josephus ("Ant." i. 2, § 2) saw in the word "seventy-seven" the number of Lamech's sons.
[underline mine]

I am not surprised at all. You forget that when Cain was killed and Lamech killed him by accident not deliberate cold blooded murder. Sorry both the deaths of his son and Cain were accidental not cold blooded as you have erroneously claimed above. This proves to me that you do not know Scriptures well enough to have made this blunder!!!

Yahsar 2:26-29 And Lamech was old and advanced in years, and his eyes were dim that he could not see, and Tubal Cain, his son, was leading him and it was one day that Lamech went into the field and Tubal Cain his son was with him, and whilst they were walking in the field, Cain the son of Adam advanced towards them; for Lamech was very old and could not see much, and Tubal Cain his son was very young.

27 And Tubal Cain told his father to draw his bow, and with the arrows he smote Cain, who was yet far off, and he slew him, for he appeared to them to be an animal.

28 And the arrows entered Cain's body although he was distant from them, and he fell to the ground and died.

29 And **YHWH requited Cain's evil** according to his wickedness, which he had done to his brother Abel, according to the word of YHWH which he had spoken.

Read the last verse Andrew. **YHWH requited Cain's evil according to his wickedness.**

YHWH did not consider Lamech a murderer because Cain was going to die for his transgression that he had committed. I thank YHWH that you do not sit at

the judgment seat I wonder how many innocent people will go to jail if you were a judge!!!

Andrew:

Because the entire nation had to leave quickly then, there was no time to try to separate those engaged in plural marriages from those who were in monogamous ones. Instead, Moshe had to accept the current state of his population that was following him into the wilderness. He would have deal with them first and try to make the best legislation for all concerned later on. That is why you get some Scriptures that read like this:

If a man has two wives, and he loves one but not the other, and both bear him sons but the firstborn is the son of the wife he does not love, when he wills his property to his sons, he must not give the rights of the firstborn to the son of the wife he loves in preference to his actual firstborn, the son of the wife he does not love. He must acknowledge the son of his unloved wife as the firstborn by giving him a double share of all he has. That son is the first sign of his father's strength. The right of the firstborn belongs to him. (Deuteronomy 21:15-17

Simon:

One has to learn how to twist scripture from Andrew Gabriel Roth. He talks as if he was there watching the quarrels of the plural wives. I have never heard such nonsense while Scripture is silent as to any ramblings between Israel's men and their wives other than they were grieving for the hard labour in Egypt. I challenge you Andrew to show me one scripture which says any Israelite who had a plural wife in Egypt was giving him hard time!

Here is what you failed to understand. The eternality of Torah. People before Egypt knew this was the case exactly what YHWH had dictated. It's the principle that carries of the Bechor first born son. Let me show you how Scripture interprets scripture.

Gen 16:4 And he went in to Haḡar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

When Hagar conceived she thought oh well I am the number one now forgetting that it was Sarah who gave her to be Abraham's wife so the principle was Bechor son of the 1st principle wife and guess who that was Andrew? Yes you got it Sarah. Hence why YHWH steps in and says to Abraham that I will give you a son through Sarah who is the child of promise.

Gen 16:9 And the Messenger of יהוה said to her, "Return to your mistress, and humble yourself under her hand."

Even though Hagar ran away when Sarah came down upon her Egyptian ways like a ton of bricks but look what YHWH tells her. Go back to your mistress. THE PRINCIPLE CARRIES OF Deut 21:15-17 that is because Isaac was to be the first born son and at least for YHWH He knew Isaac was coming soon so the first wife Sarah would get preference that is why the switch.

Deu 21:16 then it shall be, on the day he makes his sons to inherit his possessions, he is not allowed to treat the son of the beloved wife as first-born in the face of the son of the unloved, who is *truly* the first-born.

Carried to its logical conclusion Sarah was not to be mistreated for her firstborn was already penned to come and even though in her misunderstanding she allowed Abraham to have a child with another wife but that was her human understanding while YHWH saw things from a divine perspective.

Your fault is ascribing the words of YHWH to Moses and claiming that this law was made by Moshe. How foolish?

Andrew let me remind you that the whole of Scripture is for all times and came from the inspiration of the Ruach Ha Kodesh. **Mal 3:6** "For I am יהוה, I shall not change. Moses was the writer only not the author.

Andrew:

But didn't Moshe have two wives himself?

Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. "Has YHWH spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And YHWH heard this. (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)

At once YHWH said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, "Come out to the Tent of Meeting, all three of you." So the three of them came out. Then YHWH came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the Tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When both of them stepped forward, he said, "Listen to my words: "When a prophet of YHWH is among you, I reveal myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams. But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of YHWH. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?" The anger of YHWH burned against them, and he left them. (Numbers 12:1-9)

When polygamists try to prove their case scripturally, this is often one of the first places they come to. Their argument goes something like this:

1. Moshe only has one wife listed by name, Tzipporah, the daughter of Jethro.
2. Tzipporah's death is not recorded anywhere from the time she marries Moshe to the opening moments of this verse and therefore she must be alive at this time.
3. Now, instead of his Midian (Arabian) wife, Moshe has taken a total foreigner from Cush, which can mean Ethiopia.
4. Therefore, Moshe has two wives at the same time: Midianite Tzipporah and this unknown Cushite wife here.

There are a few fatal flaws to this sham argument: First of all, Tzipporah's death is unrecorded, period! Therefore, if this Cushite is in fact another woman, there is no reason to suppose that Tzipporah has not passed on, especially given the fact that Moshe is already well past 80 at this point. Secondly, Cush was not confined to Ethiopia: Numbers 12:1-9. MIRIAM'S AND AARON'S SEDITION.

1. an Ethiopian woman--Hebrew, "a Cushite woman"--Arabia was usually called in Scripture the land of Cush, its inhabitants being descendants of that son of Ham accounted generally a vile and

contemptible race the part of Miriam and Aaron against Moses was the great change made in the government by the adoption of the seventy rulers [Numbers 11:16]. Their irritating disparagement of his wife (who, in all probability, was Zipporah [Exodus 2:21], and not a second wife he had recently married) arose from jealousy of the relatives, through whose influence the innovation had been first made (Exodus 18:13-26), while they were overlooked or neglected. Miriam is mentioned before Aaron as being the chief instigator and leader of the sedition. (Jamieson, Fausset & Brown, Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible)

Simon:

I have already shown how many mistakes you have made so now you force me to show you your biggest blunder. You also call the Arab people A VILE AND CONTEMPTIBLE RACE. That is shameful that you refer to all Arabs by that term since they are NOT all vile and contemptible and I know your comment is geared toward Muslims. Shame on you for your hatred. You and Carmen are of the same yarn of cloth. Yahushua said to love your enemies. ACTUALLY I WILL SAY MANY MUSLIMS ARE TEN TIMES MORE HONORABLE THEN MANY CHRSTIANS I HAVE MET so far and I speak from experience nevertheless there are good Christian Arabs and others also. The Muslim Arabs are not all murderous as some may make out to be. When Christians have personally backstabbed me I had Muslims who stood up for me because they knew I was honorable in my intentions so who is more honorable? Those claiming Jesus or Allah?

They are also deserving of redemption as they are Abraham's sons and daughters. Shame on all those who come out with filthy disgusting comments as above, I take personal offence at these comments by you Andrew.

Now to your faulty exegesis. Moses actually had three wives but one was given to him and the details of that one can be had in the Book of Yashar however he never consummated that marriage as he knew from the point of Torah it was illegal since she was a widow of a deceased king of Ethiopia.

References: Yahshar 72:37, 73:31-32,76:4-6

Yashar 72:37 And all the people and nobles swore unto him to give him for a wife Adoniah the queen, the Cushite, wife of Kikianus, and they made Moses king over them on that day.

Yashar 72:31-32 And they placed the royal crown upon his head, and they gave him for a wife Adoniah the Cushite queen, wife of Kikianus. 32 And Moses feared YHWH Elohim of his fathers, so that he came not to her, nor did he turn his eyes to her.

Yashar 76:4-6 And Adoniah the queen said before the king and the princes, What is this thing which you, the children of Cush, have done for this long time? (5) Surely you know that for forty years that this man has reigned over Cush he has not approached me, nor has he served the gods of the children of Cush. (6) Now therefore hear, O ye children of Cush, and let this man no more reign over you as he is not of our flesh.

Moses never consummated the marriage because she was pagan and he knew Torah well enough not to consummate that marriage because it was most likely given by Cushite customs and not Torah. We can see that this was confirmed later when Adoniah rebelled against Moses for his not following her and her false idols of worship.

So Tziporrah was really in the scheme of things number two but albeit became his primary wife for a season after which he took on another Cushite woman who became number two. We know that Moses sent off Tziporrah although some think that may be divorce but I disagree with that and would have to say that it was a separation for a time after which her father Jethro brought her back. There was tension between the circumcision of Moses son (Exodus 4:25) so this could have brought on that separation...

By that time clearly Moses has the new wife yes that is correct he already had number two the Cushite woman so he was married to two women at the same time but there is a twist to tale where Moses could have already been married to this woman before he left Egypt.

Now Josephus also records the marriage of Moses to an Ethiopian woman. Moses was still in Egypt so this could be the first marriage of

Moses adding to the equation meaning he could have had three wives in total at different times. He did not reconcile the marriage with Adoniah, he married this princess Tharbis before he left Egypt so she is wife number one and then later married Tziporrah meaning it could be that when he fled from Egypt his wife would have gone back to Cush and later caught up with him so it may be that Tziporrah was number three wife in the scheme of things but actually number two taking into account Adoniah was not counted as a covenant wife and at anytime Moses had two wives so when the Cushite princess rejoined Moses that is when Miriam and Ahron would have become angry at this reunion. However I do not suggest for a minute that this could be the only version of his three wives but this is the best I can offer with what evidence I have right now.

We do not hear anything about Tharbis upon Moses departure from Egypt so it would be second guessing what happened but my view is she was the one mentioned in Numbers 12 where YHWH upheld his marriage to her and did not discard it. So Andrew you cannot get around the obvious that this woman was not only a Cushite princess but evidence points to her name being Tharbis so you just swallowed a camel my friend now spit it out☺

Tharbis was the daughter of the king of the Ethiopians: she happened to see Moses as he led the army near the walls, and fought with great courage; and admiring the subtlety of his undertakings, and believing him to be the author of the Egyptians' success, . . . she fell deeply in love with him; and upon the prevalence of that passion, sent to him the most faithful of all her servants to discourse with him about their marriage. He thereupon accepted the offer, on condition she would procure the delivering up of the city; and gave her the assurance of an oath to take her to his wife; and that when he had once taken possession of the city, he would not break his oath to her. No sooner was the agreement made, but it took effect immediately; and when Moses had cut off the Ethiopians, he gave thanks to God, and consummated his marriage, and led the Egyptians back to their own land. (2:252-253)

I suggest Moses had already married Tharbis and since Tziporrah's death is not recorded it does not matter. It clearly shows Moses may not have the intent to have two wives but he knew Torah allowed it thus was happy to have both his wives with him since his father in law brought Tziporrah back after this event nevertheless when he married Tziporrah he knew about his other wives hence he did not need to apologize to Tziporrah about his other marriages.

Exo 18:2 Then Jethro, Moses' father in law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he had sent her back,

I would say both women lived happily ever after accepting each other and had some interesting stories to tell of Moses prior to the run off from Egypt and the run in with Tziporrah's family which is another lengthy episode best held dear in my memory. Moses wanted to show that it was not a racist thing to do also to show Israel how to behave with people of color under one Torah and we have ample evidence to know that Moses knew Torah well before it was officially codified at Mount Sinai since he refused to consummate the marriage with the widow queen Adoniah. Moses was not exactly your Caucasian Charlton Heston but a more Middle Eastern looking man.

Andrew stuck in his khads...

The Return of Monogamy is all in the KHADs

As referenced in the beginning of this essay, much of the discussion on this topic has centered on the use of echad, the Hebrew word meaning "one". In Aramaic, the cognate word is *khad*, and it carries the same meanings. Like its Hebrew counterpart, 99 percent of the time the normative reading is "one/only". The problem that has arisen is that polygamists/polygynists take the one percent of the time that a compound unity is being drawn on and use that as a default usage to pervert plain readings that one wife really does mean just that!

Simon:

Basically the word Khad in Aramaic is not much different to Echad as you YOURSELF admit so the idea Andrew presents is both faulty and irregular since I showed above what Echad really means in its usage.

Just because Israel today uses Echad for a Unitarian one does not make it right or wrong the same way Israel today accepts the practice of homosexuality so now you going to go and justify that theme also Andrew?

Chris Schaefer divided the word rightly:

Aramaic usage of Khad in the Tanakh.

Khad is the Aramaic equivalent to the Hebrew Echad.

Dani'el 2:35

35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together [khad], and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the Stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole olam.

Together = khad (Aramaic) from the context of pieces it means pieces grouped together, and in this case it does not even mean echad! Why? It is about as far away as possible from singularity because it is broken—impossible to be yachid.

Dani'el 2:9 But if you will not make known to me the dream, there is but one [khad] decree for you: for you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, until the time has changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can also explain the interpretation of it.

What does a decree consist of ? letters and words, and perhaps sentences and even paragraphs. All those parts have to be *echad* in order to make any sense.

Rest of Andrew's irrelevant post snipped... snip snip...

I would suggest as a brother in the faith to repent of your lies against the forefathers and calling polygyny a sin and also repent of calling all Arab people A VILE AND CONTEMPTIBLE RACE and same for you Carmen.

I suggest that anyone espousing plural marriage whatever you do, do not go to these people for advice and also single monogamous people beware as you will not get sound advice about your divorce or remarriages either. Come to Abrahamic-Faith and we will guide you with all you need to know about the do's and don'ts of Yahuweh's set-apart commandments so you have a happy family whatever your situation.

Rabbi Simon Altaf

For comments or advice

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