MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION

A HOUSE CALLED BY MY NAME

DOCUMENT 365

An Investigative Deep Dive into the House of Yahweh of Abilene, Eula, and Clyde

The Public Record Tested by Two or Three Witnesses, and Weighed by the Covenant

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The Message is Sent to the World

REACHING JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, AND ISLAM

✡ JUDAISM	† CHRISTIANITY	☪ ISLAM
The covenant test of a prophet stands in **Deuteronomy 18:20–22**. Rabbinic tradition (Mishnah Sanhedrin 11:5–6; Sanhedrin 89a) treats one who prophesies what he was not told as a capital offender before a court. A man who sets dates in the Name and fails is judged by the written covenant first.	Churches teach that false prophets are known ***"by their fruits"*** (Matthew 7:15–20, comparative only). This study lets the court record supply the fruit and the Tanakh supply the measure, so no reader has to take a ministry's word for either.	The Qur'an asks who is more unjust than one who invents a lie against God or claims a revelation he never received (Qur'an 6:93, comparative only). The Tanakh gave the same warning first, and the same test applies to anyone who speaks in the Name.

DOCTRINAL AUTHORITY — STANDING RULE OF MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION

The sole binding authority of Miqdash Bethel Covenant Institution is the *Tanakh* — the written covenant of **Yahweh**. No Talmudic tractate, Church council decree, papal encyclical, hadith collection, or extra-biblical tradition carries doctrinal weight equal to or greater than the written Torah. Where any tradition conflicts with the written covenant, the written covenant governs without exception. The Talmud, New Testament, and Qur'an are cited as historical reference and comparative witness — never as superseding authority. Miqdash Bethel uses the Written Tanakh as its sole source for four reasons: it is the only text Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all recognize as originally given by **Yahweh**; it predates and underlies the Talmud, New Testament, and Qur'an, so testing those traditions against it follows

the evidentiary direction of **Deuteronomy 19:15** — the earlier witness governs the later commentary; every later tradition that departs from the Tanakh does so by addition or reinterpretation, never by overturning the text itself, so the text remains the fixed standard; and **Yahweh**'s own words declare the covenant unchanging (Malachi 3:6; Psalms 119:89), making the written covenant — not evolving institutional interpretation — the only stable ground for doctrine. All three great covenant traditions — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam — are addressed simultaneously and equally in every Miqdash Bethel document, because **Yahweh**'s covenant belongs to every nation that will receive it. The **Deuteronomy 19:15** two-or-three-witness evidentiary standard governs all textual claims in this document.

HOW TO READ THIS DOCUMENT

This is an investigative document. It does two things. First, it tests every lead in the research sheet titled ***"Prominent ex-members and individuals who brought public, legal, or criminal accusations against the House of Yahweh"*** against outside, checkable sources — court opinions, wire-service reports, local television, newspapers, and published books — so that what is said about the House of **Yahweh** rests on witnesses, not rumor. Second, it weighs what the record shows against the written covenant, because the issue for Miqdash Bethel is the honor of the Name.

Each factual finding carries a grade. **Corroborated** means two or more independent sources agree. **Single witness** means one source reports it and no second witness was found; it may be true, but it is not established. **Not verified** means no reliable source was found for the claim as worded, and it should not be repeated until one is. A claim made in a lawsuit or court filing is reported as a claim, not as a finding, unless a court ruled on it. People who were never charged are not named.

Scripture quotations are set as their own bold paragraphs in an English rendering made from the Hebrew text. Hebrew words are given in bold italic with their English meaning, followed by the Hebrew letters and the Strong's number.

Verse numbers follow the English version. In a few chapters the Hebrew Bible divides the chapter at a different point, so the same verse carries a different number in the Hebrew text. Where that happens, the Hebrew number is given in brackets on first citation, for example Numbers 30:13 [Hebrew 30:14]. No verse cited in this document differs between the English and Hebrew numbering.

One lexicon is cited. **BDB** is ***A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament***, edited by Francis Brown, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1906), built on the work of Wilhelm Gesenius as translated by Edward Robinson. It is a one-volume Hebrew–English

dictionary of the Tanakh arranged by root, and like every lexicon it is a witness, never the authority; the Tanakh's own usage decides.

TANAKH BOOKS CITED IN THIS DOCUMENT

BOOK	PASSAGES
Exodus	20:7; 23:1
Deuteronomy	4:2; 17:17; 18:20–22; 19:15
Proverbs	18:17
Jeremiah	7:3–4; 7:9–11; 23:21; 23:32
Ezekiel	34:2–4; 34:11; 36:20–23
Micah	3:11
Malachi	1:11; 3:6
Psalms	119:89

COMPARATIVE TEXTS (REFERENCE ONLY — NOT DOCTRINAL AUTHORITY)

TEXT	USE IN THIS DOCUMENT
Mishnah Sanhedrin 11:5–6; Sanhedrin 89a	Rabbinic treatment of the false prophet; shows Judaism reads Deuteronomy 18 as a test with consequences.
Matthew 7:15–20	Christian teaching that false prophets are known by their fruit.
Qur'an 6:93	Islamic warning against one who falsely claims revelation.

I. WHY THIS INVESTIGATION

The House of **Yahweh** calls itself by the Name above every name. It was organized March 23, 1981, as a Texas nonprofit religious corporation with its sanctuary on County Road 254 between Eula and Clyde in Callahan County, and its leader for four decades, Yisrayl (born Buffalo Bill) Hawkins, died on October 8, 2021. Because the group speaks in the Name of **Yahweh**, what it does is charged to that Name in the eyes of the nations. That is the heart of this study.

> **Ezekiel 36:20 — And when they came to the nations where they went, they profaned My holy name, in that it was said of them, *"These are the people of Yahweh, and they have gone out of His land."***

The word for ***profane*** is ***chalal (to pollute, make common)*** חָלַל H2490. A people can profane the Name not only by cursing it but by carrying it while they do evil, so that outsiders judge **Yahweh** by what they see. **Ezekiel** goes on to say that **Yahweh** will act for the sake of His Name and sanctify it before the nations (**Ezekiel 36:22–23**). Exposing what has been done under His Name is part of sanctifying it.

But the covenant also binds the one who exposes. It forbids a false report, and it does not let a single witness settle a matter.

> **Exodus 23:1 — You shall not raise a false report.**

> **Deuteronomy 19:15 — One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity or for any sin ... at the mouth of two witnesses or at the mouth of three witnesses shall a matter be established.**

> **Proverbs 18:17 — The one who pleads his case first seems right, until his neighbor comes and examines him.**

For that reason this document does not simply repeat the research sheet provided online. Several of its leads proved accurate; some were exaggerated; a few could not be found at all. It doesn't mean they weren't true, it just wasn't able to be backed up by 2 or 3 witnesses. Each is graded in **Section VII**, and the corrections are listed again in **Section X** so that nothing Miqdash Bethel publishes can be overturned by an honest critic. The founder of Miqdash Bethel served in the leadership of this group for more than two decades before leaving in 2008, and his own archive appears within this document; it is identified as such and is not counted as an independent witness, but a living witness.

II. WHO FOUNDED IT, AND HOW IT GREW

II-A. Two Brothers and Two Houses

The name ***"House of Yahweh"*** did not begin in Abilene. Jacob (J. G.) Hawkins, the older brother, returned from years in Israel in the mid-1970s and founded the first House of **Yahweh** in Odessa, Texas. Buffalo Bill Hawkins, a former Abilene police officer, was ordained by his brother and with Jacob's blessing, opened the House of **Yahweh** in his Abilene mobile home in 1980, and then legally took the name Yisrayl. **Corroborated** — Texas Monthly (1997), Associated Press (2008–2009), KTXS (2014).

The accounts differ on how his police career ended. The Associated Press reported that he was fired in 1977 for having beer in his patrol car; Texas Monthly reported that he resigned that year; KTXS reported that he was suspended and later resigned. The year of the name change is given as 1980 by Wikipedia and KTXS but as 1982 by Texas Monthly, which says he petitioned the Taylor County court. **Single witness** on each version; the departure from the police in 1977 is **Corroborated**.

II-B. The Two-Witness Claim

According to Texas Monthly, the brothers were presented in Abilene as the two witnesses of prophecy, though people close to Jacob said he never believed it of himself. When Jacob died in 1991, the House of **Yahweh** issued a new translation of the relevant passage to be pasted into members' copies of ***The Book of Yahweh***, under which both witness's had been meant to die all along. **Single witness** (Texas Monthly), consistent with the written account of Elder Kepha's eye witness recorded in Miqdash Bethel's files.

Altering the wording of Scripture to rescue a failed claim is the act the covenant forbids most plainly:

> **Deuteronomy 4:2 — You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor shall you take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of Yahweh your Elohim which I command you.**

II-C. The Compound and the Name Hawkins

The group acquired 44 acres near Eula in Callahan County around 1988 and built its sanctuary there. By 1997 Texas Monthly counted nearly three hundred members who had legally changed their surname to Hawkins, a step the group taught as joining the priestly family. Members who lived on the acreage could buy a share and a trailer, but the land deeds stayed in the name of the House of **Yahweh**. **Corroborated** for the 44 acres and the name changes (Texas Monthly; Fox News/AP 2008); **Single witness** for the deed arrangement is Elder Kepha Arcemont, however his ex-wife Sandra is aware, as well as other ex-members who were not available for this documents verification.

II-D. The Peaceful Solution

Yisrayl Hawkins is credited by the program's own materials as author and curriculum director of ***"The Peaceful Solution Character Education Program,"*** begun in 1994 and incorporated as a nonprofit in November 2001, and marketed to schools, prisons, and community groups. **Corroborated** that the program exists and he did put his name on it. However, Elder Kepha has verified as a witness that it was written by several people who were part of a committee of Elders and their wives, that Yisrayl put together for this project's success. The research sheet's description of it as a ***"secular front"*** to raise outside revenue is **Not verified** in any published source found; it is an interpretation, and should be presented as one.

III. THE PROPHET TEST: DATES SET IN THE NAME

Moses gave Israel one plain test for any man who speaks in the Name.

> **Deuteronomy 18:20–22 — But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name which I have not commanded him to speak ... that prophet shall die. And if you say in your heart, *"How shall we know the word which Yahweh has not spoken?"* When a prophet speaks in the name of Yahweh, and the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which Yahweh has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You shall not be afraid of him.**

Presumptuously is ***bezadon (in presumption, insolence)*** from ***zadon (pride, arrogance)*** זָדוֹן H2087. The record of Yisrayl Hawkins's dated predictions is long:

- **The 1993 accords and October 2000.** Texas Monthly reported that he taught the 1993 Israeli peace agreement began a seven-year tribulation ending in nuclear destruction and the Messiah's arrival by October 2000. **Single Witness,** however Elder Kepha along with several former and present members who are still living, remember this seven year tribulation teaching. The House of Yahweh doesn't put the old taped sermons of Yisrayl Hawkins preaching this tribulation or older versions of the Prophetic Word magazine which has these teachings.
- **September 12, 2006.** Announced in the group's February 2006 newsletter and on its website with a countdown: nuclear war would begin that day. In Kenya, followers built bunkers and some sold their homes to pay for them; hundreds sheltered with gas masks on the date. **Corroborated** — ABC News (2008), The Daily Star/Kenyan reporting (2006), website archives.
- **The reinterpretations.** When nothing happened, the group said the war had been ***"conceived"*** on that date (which they called the "Nuclear Baby" and would be ***"born"*** nine months later, June 12, 2007. When that passed, he named June 12, 2008 as the next date. **Corroborated** — ABC News (June 6, 2008) and archived statements.
- **Later dates.** Local coverage at his death noted that he predicted the end several more times, the latest in 2020. **Corroborated** (Scripps stations, 2021).

By the standard **Yahweh** Himself set, there is nothing left to weigh. A word spoken in the Name that does not come to pass is a word **Yahweh** did not speak. The covenant's instruction is not to hate such a man but to stop fearing him.

> **Jeremiah 23:21 — I did not send these prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.**

IV. WHAT THE COURTS RECORDED

IV-A. The Conviction of Elder Yedidiyah Hawkins

Yedidiyah Hawkins, an elder of the House of **Yahweh**, was arrested on October 16, 2007, indicted in December 2007, and convicted by a Callahan County jury on October 27, 2008, of aggravated sexual assault of a child. In December 2008 the judge sentenced him to 30 years in prison. The victim was his stepdaughter. Trial testimony showed that he, with no medical training, used a gynecological instrument on her in 2005 under the pretense of a medical examination, when she was eleven; prosecutors said documents showed he had intended to marry her. Other charges against him, including bigamy and aggravated perjury, were held pending his appeals. **Corroborated** — Associated Press (October and December 2008), Dallas Morning News (May 2008), CNN (May 2008).

The research sheet says the girl and other youth witnesses testified against him. The record is more mixed: a former wife said she had recorded him admitting the assault and that the recording was later erased by another elder, while some girls from the group testified for the defense that the accuser had told them she was lying. The jury convicted him anyway. **Corroborated** (AP). Four children from his home were placed in foster care during the case (AP, 2008).

IV-B. The Charges Against Yisrayl Hawkins

Yisrayl Hawkins was arrested in February 2008 on bigamy charges, with bail first set at ten million dollars and later reduced, and was re-arrested in May 2008 on further counts. The complaints accused him of performing polygamous marriages and of having up to forty children working weekdays in fields, a canning operation, a cafeteria, and butter making. On October 29, 2009, ten days before trial, he pleaded no contest to four counts of child labor violations. In exchange the district attorney dismissed four counts of promoting bigamy and one count of bigamy, explaining that most of his evidence dated from 2005, when bigamy was a misdemeanor with a two-year limitations period. Hawkins received 15 months of probation and a fine. **Corroborated** — AP (2009), Dallas Morning News (2008), KTXS, Scripps (2021).

The research sheet's figures of ***"$2,000 for each count"*** and ***"deferred adjudication"*** are **Not verified**. One report gives a $2,000 fine; none found confirms it was per count or that the probation was deferred adjudication. Use ***"15 months' probation and a fine"*** until the court record is pulled.

A no-contest plea is not an admission of guilt, and the bigamy counts were never tried. What can be said truthfully is that the leader chose to accept a criminal sentence for child labor rather than face a jury, and that the bigamy counts fell on the calendar, not on the evidence, by the prosecutor's own statement.

IV-C. The Death of Lisa Johnson

Lisa Johnson, a member, and Elder Kepha's sister in law, died on August 13, 2006, of complications after giving birth to her daughter at home under the care of House of **Yahweh** midwives. Her husband, Michael Wayne Johnson, sued for wrongful death individually, for their two minor daughters, and for her estate, naming the House of **Yahweh**, Yisrayl Hawkins, the group's lead midwife, and two other midwives. His petition alleged that the group's teaching required members to use its own midwives and that, after severe bleeding began, the defendants refused further treatment and kept her from the hospital. The expert report filed in the case stated that the placenta was never delivered, that the uterus continued to bleed, and that she should have been transported. **Corroborated** as to the suit and its allegations — Texas Eleventh Court of Appeals opinions (2008, 2009), AP and CBS (2008–2009).

The appeals court opinions dealt with procedural questions, including an order that the defendants produce tax returns and financial records. No published judgment on the merits was found. A family account in Miqdash Bethel's files states the case was settled out of court; that is **Single witness** and should be confirmed from the docket before it is published.

IV-D. The 2003 Death of a Child

In 2003 a seven-year-old girl died after her mother and another member performed surgery at home on her infected leg. Both women were convicted of injury to a child. **Corroborated** — AP and NBC (2008, 2009). This is the death the television episode ***How I Escaped My Cult*** (Season 1, Episode 10) describes its subject Debby fleeing after.

IV-E. A Failure-to-Report Civil Suit

A KTXS special report (2014) described a civil case accusing Yisrayl Hawkins of failing to report the sexual abuse of a minor, with the plaintiff's attorney saying elders knew of it. Its outcome was not found. **Single witness**.

> **Ezekiel 34:2–4 — Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock? ... The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up ... but with force and with cruelty you have ruled them.**

V. THE ESTATE: WHAT THE FILINGS CLAIM

After his death, a will was offered for probate in Callahan County leaving everything to the House of **Yahweh**. It says he believed authorities intended to kill him and contains the line ***"I do will to the House of Yahweh everything that I own, and I do mean everything."*** The applicants who filed it

told the court the estate held more than $5 million in assets, more than 200 tracts of real estate, and more than ten limited liability companies holding further property. Objectors, describing themselves as potential heirs, argued that the document was typewritten rather than handwritten and so could not qualify as a holographic will without two witnesses, disputed the count of his children (reported as more than thirty), and asked the court to determine heirs and appoint an independent administrator. At the first hearing the court found too much unknown to rule. **Corroborated** as to what was filed — KTAB/KRBC (Big Country Homepage, 2022), KTXS (2022), and a 2022 summary by the Blizzard Law Firm.

Three cautions. The money and property figures are the applicants' own claims, not findings of the court. The research sheet's statement that ***"attorneys from the Blizzard & Zimmerman Law Firm contested the will"*** is **Not verified**; the firm's page is a blog summary of news reports, not a filing on behalf of any party. And no ruling on the will was found; the probate file at the Callahan County Clerk is the place to confirm the outcome. For comparison, the AP reported in 2008 that public records showed him owning at least $2.1 million in land, housing, and mobile homes.

> **Deuteronomy 17:17 — Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.**
>
> **Micah 3:11 — Her heads judge for a bribe, her priests teach for hire, and her prophets divine for money; yet they lean on Yahweh and say, *"Is not Yahweh among us? No evil can come upon us."***

VI. THE WITNESSES WHO LEFT

VI-A. Kay Hawkins

Kay Hawkins, married to Yisrayl Hawkins for fourteen years and closely involved in writing the early literature, was excommunicated in 1994 after she opposed the new teaching on plural marriage and filed for divorce. In 2012 she published ***The House of Yahweh: My Side of the Story*** (AuthorHouse, 204 pages), describing the group's early years, the change in its leader, the ear-piercing rite of servitude at a door of the building, and members taking the Hawkins name. **Corroborated** — Texas Monthly (1997), the publisher's listings, KTXS (2014). Her appearance on Dr. Phil is reported by the Scripps stations' 2021 obituary coverage; **Single witness** until the episode is identified.

VI-B. Melody Post

Melody Post, a member from 1989 to 1994 who joined with her parents and sister, co-hosts ***Cultimatum: The Cult & Human Trafficking Podcast*** and has told her story of the House of **Yahweh** on it and on other programs. **Corroborated** — podcast directories and guest interviews.

VI-C. Debby

How I Escaped My Cult, Season 1, Episode 10, ***"The House of Yahweh,"*** follows a former member named Debby who fled after witnessing the events that led to a young girl's death. **Corroborated** — TV listings. The research sheet places it on Apple TV and Crime+Investigation; the listings found show it on Hulu, and the quoted phrase ***"prison of abuse, misogyny, and paranoia"*** was not found. **Not verified** as worded.

VI-D. Members Who Spoke in 1997 and 2008

Texas Monthly interviewed several who left in the mid-1990s, among them a former music director who described giving up career and family for the group and later filing for bankruptcy. It also reported that guards searched feast tents for outside literature and that members were barred from other churches' services, including family weddings. In 2008 a current member who spoke anonymously to the Dallas Morning News described authoritarian leadership and possible abuses, and an Abilene police detective who had followed the group since the 1980s said he had been told elders married girls as young as fourteen. **Single witness** on each particular; the overall pattern is **Corroborated** by the convictions above.

> **Jeremiah 23:32 — Behold, I am against those who prophesy false dreams, says Yahweh, and tell them, and cause My people to err by their lies and by their recklessness; yet I did not send them nor command them.**

VI-E. The Witness of a Former Elder

The founder of Miqdash Bethel is not an outside observer of this record. Texas Monthly (1997) names ***"Elder Kepha Arcemont"*** as the man who preached the sermon of July 24, 1993, that brought plural marriage into the House of **Yahweh**. His account follows in his own words. It is one witness and is graded as one; where outside sources agree with it, that is noted at the end.

I came to the House of **Yahweh** at the Feast of Pentecost in 1987 with my wife and our two small sons, and we were baptized there. I was ordained a deacon in 1988, an elder in 1989, and a judge in 1991. I moved my family to Clyde in December 1989, helped build the sanctuary on the 44 acres, and served for twenty-one years without drawing a salary. I came for the Law and for what the Name stood for, and I believed I had found the people who kept them.

In 1993 I went to Yisrayl Hawkins for counsel on a personal matter. In the conversation he told me that what I was asking about was lawful, and several days later had Elder David Verner give me some rewritten pages of Scripture on plural marriage. Several months later he hen gave me the pulpit on July 24, 1993, to bring that teaching to the congregation. I was young, eager, and flattered to be chosen for such a serious scriptural topic. When I came off the stage, Kay Hawkins met me with her finger in my

face and asked whether Yisrayl had put me up to it. She was right. I took the anger of the congregation that day, and he got the doctrine he wanted without having to preach it himself. Within a year Kay had divorced him and been put out, and within a few years, many of the most faithful elders and families were gone. I entered a plural marriage myself in 1995.

I own the rest of it as well. For years I counseled people by what Yisrayl Hawkins and the senior elders told me rather than by my own investigation of the scriptures, and at his command I put people out of the House of **Yahweh**. When men I trusted were leaving, I told myself that other people's problems were not mine.

What turned me around was the death of my sister in law, Lisa Johnson and the case of Elder Yedidiyah Hawkins. After his arrest in 2007 I began, as an Elder/Judge should, to look into the charges, and I found I was being lied to about the evidence. I left in February 2008. When I came back in 2010 and told Yisrayl Hawkins to his face that I was investigating a cover-up, I was searched, watched, and opposed, and at the Feast of Tabernacles in 2011 my family and I were turned away at the gate. Riding back down that road, I vowed to **Yahweh** that I would never again follow a man blindly, nor be a part of misleading anyone by false teachings. I went on a mission to find the truth within the text.

I write this so that no one can say this document hides the part its author played. The same covenant that judges the shepherd who misleads the flock judges the elder who helped him do it.

> **Proverbs 28:13 — He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.**

Corroborated: the July 1993 sermon, Kay Hawkins's opposition, and her 1994 excommunication (Texas Monthly, 1997); the Yedidiyah Hawkins arrest and conviction (Associated Press, 2007–2008). **Single witness**: the private counsel, the rewritten pages, and the events of 2008–2010.

VII. SCORING THE LEAD SHEET

Every lead in the research sheet, with what was found:

LEAD	GRADE	WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS
Kay Hawkins: book, media, exposure of control	Corroborated	Book (2012) and excommunication (1994) confirmed. Dr. Phil reported by one outlet. Claims about her describing ***"draining bank accounts"*** and the Peaceful Solution as a front were not found in her published words.
Michael Wayne Johnson wrongful-death suit	Corroborated	Two appellate opinions and wire reports. Outcome not published; settlement reported only by family.

LEAD	GRADE	WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS
Child victim and youth witnesses vs. Yedidiyah Hawkins	Corroborated, corrected	Conviction and 30-year sentence confirmed. Some youth witnesses testified for the defense, not against him.
Anonymous defectors: child labor, minor brides, denied care	Corroborated as allegations	Child-labor counts ended in a no-contest plea. Minor-bride reports rest on a detective's statement and the Yedidiyah case. Denied care is alleged in the Johnson suit.
Cult Education Institute (Rick Ross)	Corroborated	A House of **Yahweh** page with a news archive exists at culteducation.com. ***"Court transcripts"*** not confirmed.
Apologetics Index profile	Not verified	Not located in this research.
ABC News / Brian Ross	Partly verified	20/20 report and Blotter articles (2008) confirmed, including the doomsday prediction and the arrest. ***"Undercover operations inside the compound"*** not found.
CBS News Eye on America	Partly verified	A 2008 wire report ***"A Darker Sect Than FLDS"*** is on CBS News. No Eye on America long-form report found.
KTXS News	Corroborated	2014 special report and 2021–2022 coverage confirmed. ***"Interactive timeline"*** not found.
Abilene Reporter-News	Corroborated	Coverage from 1996 onward confirmed through other outlets' citations. Specific court records of compound conditions not located.
The Man Behind the Name	Not independent	This is the Miqdash Bethel founder's own archive. It can be cited as his testimony, not as a second witness.
Cultimatum Podcast (Melody)	Corroborated	Melody Post, member 1989–1994, co-host.
How I Escaped My Cult, S1 E10	Corroborated, corrected	Episode on Debby exists; listed on Hulu, not confirmed on Apple TV. Quoted phrase not found.
A&E / Vice short films	Not verified	No such films located.
International Cultic Studies Association	Partly verified	A 2013 review of Kay Hawkins's book in ICSA's journal is cited. No HOY research database or trauma studies found.

LEAD	GRADE	WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS
Freedom of Mind / BITE Model applied to HOY bylaws	Not verified	The BITE model is real; no application to House of **Yahweh** bylaws was found.
2008 child-labor case and plea	Corroborated, corrected	Plea, dismissals, and probation confirmed. ***"$2,000 per count"*** and ***"deferred adjudication"*** not confirmed.
Estate: $5M, 200+ tracts, 10+ LLCs, will	Corroborated as filed claims	Reported from filings. Figures are applicants' claims. Blizzard firm did not contest the will; outcome unknown.

VIII. THE COVENANT VERDICT

VIII-A. The Name Carried in Vain

> **Exodus 20:7 — You shall not take the name of Yahweh your Elohim in vain, for Yahweh will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.**

In vain is ***lashav***, from ***shav (emptiness, falsehood, worthlessness)*** שָׁוְא H7723. BDB gives the range as emptiness, vanity, and falsehood, and the Tanakh uses the same word for a false report and false visions (**Exodus 23:1**; **Ezekiel 13:6**). To lift up the Name over predictions that failed, over a household where a child was assaulted by an elder, and over a birth room where a mother bled while help was withheld, is to carry the Name over emptiness. The commandment is not limited to the mouth; it covers whatever a man lifts the Name over.

VIII-B. A House Called by His Name

> **Jeremiah 7:4 — Do not trust in lying words, saying, *"The temple of Yahweh, the temple of Yahweh, the temple of Yahweh are these."***
>
> **Jeremiah 7:9–11 — Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely ... and then come and stand before Me in this house, which is called by My name, and say, *"We are delivered"* — to do all these abominations? Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it, says Yahweh.**

Lying words are ***divrei hasheqer (words of falsehood)*** from ***sheqer (lie, deception)*** שֶׁקֶר H8267, and ***robbers*** are ***paritsim (violent ones, breakers-in)*** פָּרִצִים H6530. **Jeremiah** spoke to people who believed a building bearing the Name guaranteed their safety. The House of **Yahweh** of Abilene teaches that its sanctuary is the one place on earth where **Yahweh**'s feasts may be kept. The prophet's

answer is the same today: the Name on the gate protects no one who does what the covenant forbids inside it. **Yahweh** says, ***"I have seen it."***

VIII-C. What the Covenant Requires of Those Who Expose

The same covenant that condemns the false prophet forbids the false report. Miqdash Bethel therefore publishes only what is graded, names no one who was never charged, and corrects its own sources in the open. That is not softness toward the House of **Yahweh** of Abilene; it is what makes the exposure stand. A charge that rests on two or three witnesses cannot be dismissed as the bitterness of former members, and the record above rests on courts, juries, and the group's own published dates.

IX. A WORD TO THOSE STILL INSIDE

Many who remain are sincere. They came looking for the Name, the Sabbath, and the feasts, and they found them; they also found a man standing between them and the text. The Name of **Yahweh** does not belong to a corporation, and His covenant is written so that every person can read it for himself.

> **Jeremiah 7:3 — Thus says Yahweh of hosts, the Elohim of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.**
>
> **Ezekiel 34:11 — For thus says the Lord Yahweh: Behold, I, even I, will search for My sheep and seek them out.**

No one needs a man's permission to keep **Yahweh**'s commandments, and no prophecy of his can be the reason to stay where children were not protected. The door of the written covenant is open.

THREE-RELIGION AUDIT

QUESTION	JUDAISM	CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
Is a failed prediction in God's name a false prophecy?	Yes. Deuteronomy 18:22 is read as decisive (comparative: Sanhedrin 89a).	Yes. Taught as a test of fruit (Matthew 7:15–20, comparative).	Yes. Inventing revelation is gravely condemned (Qur'an 6:93, comparative).
Does a holy name on a building protect wrongdoing inside it?	No. Jeremiah 7 is read in synagogue as rebuke of trust in the Temple.	No. Jesus quoted Jeremiah 7:11 at the Temple (comparative).	No. Outward claims do not cover injustice (comparative).
May a believer spread an unproven charge?	No. Exodus 23:1; Deuteronomy 19:15.	No. The two-or-three-witness rule is repeated (comparative).	No. Reports must be verified before acting (comparative).

X. CORRECTIONS TO EARLIER LIBRARY MATERIAL

No numbered Miqdash Bethel document was found to state the facts above incorrectly. The corrections below apply to the research sheet this document answers (Google Doc ***"Prominent ex-members and individuals who brought public, legal, or criminal accusations against the House of Yahweh,"*** October 21, 2026). It has been left unchanged for the founder's decision.

- Yedidiyah Hawkins: youth witnesses testified on both sides; the victim was his stepdaughter; the assault under a false exam took place in 2005.
- Child-labor plea: replace ***"$2,000 for each count ... deferred adjudication"*** with ***"15 months' probation and a fine."***
- Estate: present $5 million, 200+ tracts, and 10+ LLCs as claims in court filings; remove the statement that the Blizzard firm contested the will.
- How I Escaped My Cult: listed on Hulu; remove the unconfirmed quoted phrase.
- ABC, CBS, KTXS: remove ***"undercover operations," "Eye on America,"*** and ***"interactive timeline"*** unless sources are found.
- A&E/Vice films, the Apologetics Index profile, the ICSA research database, and the Freedom of Mind BITE application: hold until a source is located.
- The Man Behind the Name: identify it as the Miqdash Bethel founder's archive, not an independent watchdog.
- The Peaceful Solution as a ***"secular front"***: present as interpretation, not finding.

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SCRIPTURE INDEX

REFERENCE	SECTION
Exodus 20:7	VIII-A
Exodus 23:1	I; VIII-A; Audit
Deuteronomy 4:2	II-B
Deuteronomy 17:17	V
Deuteronomy 18:20–22	Page 1; III; Audit
Deuteronomy 19:15	Doctrinal Authority; I; Audit
Proverbs 18:17	I
Jeremiah 7:3	IX
Jeremiah 7:4	VIII-B
Jeremiah 7:9–11	VIII-B
Jeremiah 23:21	III
Jeremiah 23:32	VI
Ezekiel 13:6	VIII-A
Ezekiel 34:2–4	IV
Ezekiel 34:11	IX
Ezekiel 36:20–23	I
Micah 3:11	V
Malachi 1:11	Closing
Malachi 3:6; Psalms 119:89	Doctrinal Authority

Malachi 1:11 — For from the rising of the sun to its going down, My name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to My name, and a pure offering; for My name shall be great among the nations, says Yahweh of hosts.

MIQDASH BETHEL COVENANT INSTITUTION

Document 365 • A House Called by My Name

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The Message is Sent to the World