

Are believers in Jesus/Yeshua required to confess their sins?

When Jesus became our substitute on Calvary, He paid the price in full. Nothing was left undone, i.e. concerning our redemption and our reconciliation unto God the Father. There, on the Cross, His very last words were, "It is FINISHED!" The price He had paid on our behalf for the remission of our sins, was then paid to very last shekel, so to say (Yeshua was sold for a mere 30 pieces of silver, the price of a slave!).

The apostle John's words are therefore so remarkable: "For GOD (the Father) loved the world so much that He gave us His only begotten Son (the Son He had brought forth in the very beginning of all things) so that whosoever may believe in Him (Jesus/Yeshua) will not perish (will not be doomed/banished from God's Presence) but they will have eternal life" (They will inherit/they will form part of God's revealed Kingdom at the end of times).

Everlasting life within man, i.e. being clothed with immortality, was then the divine gift Jesus/Yeshua offered us on Calvary as none of us - no earthly human being of whatever race or ethnicity - has by nature life in himself. This very same apostle, the so-called "beloved" apostle who spoke so explicitly on Christ-like (Christian) love in his first pastoral letter, conveyed a deep scriptural truth to us (1 Jn 5.12), namely that LIFE (gayyim) is only to be found in Jesus/Yeshua, the Son of God.

What the Apostle John then in translation refers to as "life" is that quality which comes from God alone and which empowers us to never, in the true sense of the word, taste death, i.e. like somebody lacking this quality or life principle would. Our nefesh/inner-being so-called must then be transformed by God Most High, that is supernaturally, if we want to participate in God's glory. And this transformation takes place within us once we accept Jesus Christ, Son of God, as our Saviour, applying His sacrificial blood to our inner-being. Man needs to be reborn in order to taste the fruit of LIFE!

For this very reason Jesus/Yeshua came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1.15). Without His sacrificial blood our sins would not have been atoned for. We would have only lived for this life and the Apostle Paul so clearly writes in his letters that if we have hope for this life only (i.e. in Christ/Messiah), we are of all men most miserable!

Those who then only live for this life, without ever accepting the invitation written by God Himself, namely to be saved by the shed blood of His Son, will be lacking this essential quality until they do what God requires, namely to come to the Tree of Life. This Tree of Life was in the middle of the Garden of Eden and that was the awesome Tree whose fruit could not be had as God had a timeline in mind for man. And this timeline of FULL Salvation would only have "transpired" - it was to come to full fruition - in and through the Cross.

Why this vast detour? we may rightly ask. Why couldn't God then there, in the Garden where the scene was set as "perfect" give man so-called FULL Salvation, tasting of the Tree of Life in stead of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil?

It seems, and based on man having lacked that very essential quality we call "obedience", that man would have abused his privilege of immortality (life given him in superabundance). Therefore then not subjecting himself to God and living for God His way. And this is then the reason why things have gone as they did in the distant past already.

Man first and foremost had to learn the principles of seeking God in righteousness and holiness, his nature being cleansed by the blood of a sacrificial animal - indeed in accordance with Torah prescriptions - BEFORE God's FULL Plan of Redemption could unfold. And therefore man had to await God's perfect timing, which we of course have explicated for us in the Apostle Paul's own words (Gal. 4) : "When the fullness of times came, God sent forth His Son, born under the Law, born of a woman...." At a specific point in time, God was then going to sent forth His Son to set man completely free from Satan's power and bondage as the destroyer of life was clearly bent on opposing the Son of God - Life embodied - and God's Plan of Salvation in and through Him (see Rev. 12 re Michael, the Son of God and Satan contending for sovereignty).

Where Satan then rebelled against God's prescribed order, the Son of God made flesh, namely Jesus/Yeshua, subjected Himself willingly to God the Father, i.e. to the minutest detail, and so that the life principle man had lost in the Garden of Eden, could be regained in and through one sacrifice, the death of Jesus/Yeshua on the Cross.

Just as the Apostle Paul states it in his Letter to the Hebrews, a New Covenant (on the whole referred to by Christians as "Testament" - the Latinized form) could only be clinched once death had set in and therefore the Son of God had to undergo the "bloody" crucifixion. "It is finished" Yeshua's last words on the Cross, is then very appropriate as He, in His own body on the Cross (often referred to as "Tree") united all of God's prescriptions in one bond of love and on one day God then nullified the power of sin over man (Study the Old Testament for the promises God had given Israel re their promised Messiah).

Yeshua then completed the race that was set before Him on one specific day in the history of mankind, bringing Salvation to one and all and drinking the prophetic one bitter cup He had to finish to the very last drop! He, Yeshua HaMaschiach indeed satisfied the Law bearing the fruits of the Spirit to its fullest - setting the example of complete holiness and righteousness - brought fully and completely in His own body on Calvary and so that fallen man could taste the deep meaning of true LIFE. Without the shedding of blood there could and would have been no reconciliation between God and man.

This type of spiritual walk with God is depicted for us in the Old Testament, however, in the New Testament it is not about the sacrificial animal and the sacrificial meal alone, but it is about the so much deeper spirituality, namely the sacrifice of a holy vessel that was forever, that is once and for all, to unite God and man in a very special way and to the extent where true LIFE could be regained (Heb. 4 - Jesus/Yeshua was sinless meaning that His sacrificial blood was pure and holy). He in other words, LIVED the prescribed Law, not only reciting it.

Fact is, on the Cross of Calvary Jesus/Yeshua took our place fully leaving nothing for man to do and so that God's anger against sinful man could be appeased BUT to accept God's Plan of Salvation offered him via the Son of God (Jesus became that expectant (or rather foreseen, anticipated), authentic substitute for all mankind once and for all and He is therefore never to be crucified again).

So, if we commemorate His death on the Cross, participating in the holy communion, it is not a sacrifice we bring as some apostate sects in Paul's day and age used to declare it, but it is indeed as this Apostle rightly states to the Corinthians (11), participation in the cup of Thanksgiving (of Salvation/Deliverance/Redemption) as those who come to Jesus in obedience of heart and mind, declaring Him as Saviour of the world and applying His sacrificial blood to their inner-being (our nefesh), have indeed taken hold of true LIFE in Christ (1 Jn 5.12)!

Denying Christ's sacrificial blood flowing from Calvary would then be like severing ties with God and LIFE everlasting - this is then since the Cross was planted on the Hill of the Skull (Golgotha) outside Jerusalem. Paul clarifies this issue in Heb. 6 and so that we will be able to understand why, once we have accepted Jesus/Yeshua as one and only Redeemer, we will cut ourselves off (!) from God's glory should we deny Christ (that Jesus/Yeshua is indeed the Messiah, namely God's very special Anointed who was sent in the fullness of times (Gal. 4; Acts 10; Acts 4.12).

Therefore, let us take heed to Peter's version concerning faith in Jesus/Yeshua, that is after God the Father had raised His Son from the dead : "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to man BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED!" (Thompson's Chain Ref. Bible, 1990). And proof of Jesus' resurrection is the true baptism with the Holy Spirit manifested in the Upper Room on Pentecost Day (Acts 2). Why Peter had emphasized the name of Jesus/Yeshua is because he fastened Salvation = true Redemption to that One who gave us true LIFE, namely the Son of God made flesh and so that God's Plan (finding expression in a special, divine timeline with God's Son central thereto) could be brought to full realization.

Participating then fully in this divine timeline from heaven, would of course entail confession of sin, as man is fallible and our willingness to confess our sins, implies that we, as believers in Yeshua/Jesus, take responsibility for our deeds - we acknowledge the wrongs we have done full knowing that God knows every trespass we are guilty of (1 Cor. 4.5; Rev. 20.11+; 1 Jn 1.7-9), keeping us this way on the path of righteousness, also separating

us unto God constantly and so that true LIFE may manifest in and through us - now called "children of the Most High God"!

This is what Paul must have meant, also with reference to his Letter to the Hebrews, namely that we now have the Law and all its requirements written on the tables of our hearts therefore not read to us habitually/ritually, in other words soon to be forgotten and therefore necessitating us to reread the same over and over again never really attaining higher ground spiritually as once we have tasted God's glory via the sacrificial blood of Jesus/Yeshua, living for Jesus God's way, we indeed will have attained LIFE that will spur us on to good works - to live a holy, separated life unto God laying off the fruits of the flesh and acquiring, through God's Spirit power, the essential fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5)!

So let us take responsibility for our sins and trespasses confessing (admitting) our sinful deeds (Ja 5.16; 1 Jn 1.9) - sin in Hebrew means to miss one's goal in life/purpose in life. We were called to glorify God and so that He will direct our path helping us to maintain a right standing with God and so that our souls shall live (consult the Book of Ezekiel on the soul and how sin can destroy our souls - the opposite being how our souls will taste everlasting life.

And remember

When the fullness of times came GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON INTO THE WORLD.....

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