

The Pathway to Salvation

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What must I do to be saved? As a human being travels along the pathway of life, somewhere along the way he is confronted with this mystery. We ask ourselves about the meaning of life, the short duration of time which we have to live, the fleeting years which slip by so rapidly—especially as we advance in age—the meaning of death, and the possibility of a life in the hereafter. We are puzzled by the lack of an answer to these questions in nature around us, although, there is a hint of renewal by the progression of each cycle of seasons. Nevertheless, there has been no tangible proof of an afterlife that physical man can comprehend, with one exception.

An Everlasting Agreement

There is an assurance of an afterlife, and you can prove it to yourself. In the inspired Scriptures we find portrayed an offer of everlasting life. ***“And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from following them, to do them good; and I will put my fear in their hearts, that they may not depart from me,”*** Jeremiah 32:40. If Almighty Yahweh makes an **everlasting Covenant** with you, it will necessitate that you receive immortality such as He possesses so that you can uphold your end of the agreement! ***“That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which Yahweh swore to your fathers to give them, as the days of the heavens above the earth,”*** Deuteronomy 11:21. The offer of living as the days of heaven, upon the earth, is a tremendous offer which will give us immortality so that we can fulfill this prophecy. ***“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give to them eternal life; and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand,”*** John 10:27-28. This passage is reminiscent of Revelation 14:4, ***“...these are they that follow the Lamb wherever he goes.”*** A precedent has been established in the life, death, and resurrection of the Messiah. His life is our example, and by His resurrection we also shall be raised to immortality, which He now enjoys, if we have been faithful to the end, Romans 5:9-10.

Life After Death

Yahshua the Messiah actually walked the earth over 1900 years ago. He lived a human life of righteousness. He died for our sins and then rose again. Paul says that all of this was done according to the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. You can prove His existence by reading the remainder of this chapter as it shows that our pathway to salvation must parallel His example. Did you grasp Paul's reference to the witness of the 12 apostles and the 500 brethren? Paul is showing that, while living, those people could attest vocally to Yahshua's life, death, and resurrection. Some were then asleep (Jacob, Stephen, and others), **who had given their lives in martyrdom as a witness to the Truth which they had seen!** We can believe their testimony and KNOW that we may enter into the New Covenant to live forever!

Following Yahshua's Example

When once we have proved the Truth of life after death, what must we do to receive that priceless blessing? The answer is that we must follow the example of Yahshua the Messiah, following His life as a pattern laid down for us. The Apostle Cepha says in 1 Peter 2:21-22, ***“For to this were you called: because the Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth....”*** That is the example of our Savior, **living a life free from sin and speaking no falsehood (false doctrine)**. Now, we are getting some tangible directions from the Author of the Bible, Almighty Yahweh. How many will heed them? Or will you thrust this Scripture behind you and merely follow the crowd to a certain elimination from the Covenant with Almighty Yahweh?

To explain this passage in 1 Peter 2:21, we must interpret the word *sin* directly from the Scriptures. 1 John 3:4 holds a major key to unlock an understanding of the knowledge of salvation—***“Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”***

How perfectly enlightening! When we sin, we are transgressing the Law of Almighty Yahweh, His commandments, statutes, and judgments. We are breaking His rules of life, disobeying His directions for living, and the wages of sin is death, Romans 6:23. By obeying the scriptural Law we are following a course of life which will lead us to the stage of immortality, a gift from Almighty Yahweh for obedience.

The Whole Man

It is so simple, really, when you get right down to the root core of the Bible. King Solomon summarized the comprehensive message of the Bible when he wrote in Ecclesiastes 12:13, **“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear [Elohim] and keep His commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.”** The last phrase, from the King James translation, could read, *“this is the whole man,”* since the words *duty of* were added by the translators. The ingredient that will make the human being complete is keeping the commandments of Almighty Yahweh, obeying His wishes concerning how we should live.

Repentance

In the instance where the question was asked in the New Testament, **“What shall we do?”** (Acts 2:37), the Apostles answered promptly **“Repent!”** Please see Acts 2:38 and Acts 3:19. The word *repentance* means *to be broken up and sorry, regretful and remorseful*, for your disobedience to Almighty Yahweh and His commandments. Repentance will motivate action! You will desire to know what you are doing to displease Almighty Yahweh, and you will read His Word each day in hungry eagerness to know how you can overcome this separation from the Heavenly Father. New knowledge on how to keep His commandments will produce fruits of a changed life, **“Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance...,”** Matthew 3:8. Acts 26:20, **“that they should repent and turn to Yahweh, doing works worthy of repentance.”** True repentance will cause you to want to do something! It will make you humble and sincere in obeying Almighty Yahweh. It will cause you to desire to keep His righteous Law of liberty, so that you will be free from the bondage of sin.

A Fresh Start

Then you will desire to be cleansed from the degeneracy of your past life. When you read Romans 6, it becomes obvious that repentance precedes baptism, which is an immersion into a symbolic death and burial of the old man with his sin-laden burden. The repentant sinner will rise from the water of baptism with a new life, a clean slate, a new start. He can live henceforth for Yahweh, or he can trample on the blood of Messiah and be rejected forever, Hebrews 10:28-29. He has embarked on the way to salvation

and everlasting life. But he must endure to the end to be saved, Matthew 24:13.

The Blood of the Messiah

A most neglected scriptural concept, which is largely ignored in contemporary Christianity, and totally in the structure of Judaism, is a blood sacrifice for our sins. Hebrews 9:22, **“And according to the law, I may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and apart from shedding of blood there is no remission.”** This New Testament Scripture is reiterating a basic Old Testament doctrine. **“For the life (Hebrew-nephesh) of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls (Hebrew-nephesh); for it is the blood that makes atonement by reason of the life (Hebrew-nephesh),”** Leviticus 17:11. The very obvious doctrine taught by the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, is a blood covering for sin. Without this token showing Almighty Yahweh that we accept the guilt for our sins, there is no acceptance from Him.

The animal sacrifices of the Old Testament were portrayals of the substitute sacrifice of the Messiah to come. Isaiah 53:5, **“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”** Verse 10 says, **“Yet it pleased Yahweh to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when you shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of Yahweh shall prosper in his hand.”** The Hebrew word *asham* is defined as a *trespass offering* and denotes the atonement sacrifice which will cover our sins. Only the perfect sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah could accomplish this objective. He was the suffering Messiah who was pierced by His own people, Zechariah 12:10. We must accept His blood and live in anticipation of the Second Coming when we will be accepted by Him, Hebrews 9:28.

The Sacred Name

Another vital aspect of the Narrow Way to salvation is the Sacred Name. Acts 4:12, **“And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, in which we must be saved.”** We must be certain that we are calling upon that Name and calling ourselves by that Name. As Peter preached on the day of Pentecost in

Acts 2:38, **“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah to the remission of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”** The Name of the Redeemer is YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH, which means YAHWEH IS SALVATION. This was the Name which He was given by the angel in Matthew 1:21. He was a Hebrew, an Israelite of the tribe of Judah, and would definitely have had a Hebrew Name. **“You worship that which you know not: we worship that which we know; for salvation is from the Jews,”** John 4:22. It is the Holy Spirit which is sent in the Savior’s Name and we should be certain that we call upon that Name. **“But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, which the Father will send in my name, it shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you,”** John 14:26.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, which we receive at baptism, will empower us to serve and obey Almighty Yahweh. This Holy Spirit is power from On High, Luke 24:49. It is the holy life, mind, character, and personality of the Heavenly Father which He gives us as He did the Messiah at His baptism. The Savior used this Holy Spirit wisely and walked in His Father’s Will. It is important that we do nothing to disrupt the Holy Spirit because Almighty Yahweh gives His Spirit to those who obey Him, Acts 5:32.

A New Way of Life

The pathway to salvation is a WAY OF LIFE. It is something which we must practice every day of our lives. We must do things just as they will be done in the Kingdom of Yahweh, living each moment just as though we were already immortal. **“Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, so that there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of Yahweh; and that he may send the Messiah who has been appointed for you, even Yahshua...”** Acts 3:19-20.

In this short article, I have given you key Scriptures which will point you toward the way to salvation. What are you going to do with them? Will you continue through this open door, or will you pass negligently by, to the broad way which leads to destruction? We would like to help you into a greater knowledge of the Truth of Yahweh if you will only allow us the opportunity to do so.