

Forgiveness

- * Forgiveness comes from a true confession of sin, repentance, and a decision to no longer sin. We are forgiven through the blood of Yeshua who came from heaven (John 17:4-5), died for our sins (Romans 4:25), and rose from the dead on the 3rd day (1 Corinthians 15:3-7) and ascended into heaven. He will return someday. Yeshua as God gave Himself for us and no one could take His life unless He willingly gave Himself. John 10:18; Isa 53; Jer. 23:5-6

- * Only God can forgive sins so we must confess our sins to God and not to anyone (a priest) or anything (a rock, a chicken). No idol, animal, action, or object takes away our sins except God.

- * Yeshua as God is now our advocate in heaven who pleads for us. He is the sacrifice for our sins and those of the world. 1 John 2:1

- * The priests years ago used to do service at the temple every day. Yeshua offered Himself as the final and only necessary sacrifice for sin as a perfect Messiah so that we could be set apart and made holy. Hebrews 7:26, 10:11-14

- * It is now through Yeshua we can have forgiveness. He was the Messiah for all of time and for all the world. Yochanan (John) said we are to confess our sins to God and Yeshua's blood purifies us from sin. 1 John 1:7-9 CJB says, "But if we are walking in the light, as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of his Son Yeshua purifies us from all sin. If we claim not to have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sins, then, since he is trustworthy and just, he will forgive them and purify us from all wrongdoing." Deciding to live right brings us into peace with God and in life.

- * Walking with a true understanding of the scriptures and with the help of the Holy Spirit is ongoing in our lives and so is a life of turning toward God (repentance, teshuvah). we can ask God to forgive us of our sin every day (even if we can't think of anything) and we can commit ourselves to do what is right every morning.

- * We are not perfect and need forgiveness of sin. 1 John 1:10.

- * Our goal is to live right, be a tzadiq like Yeshua; living right is our present hope. God has given us the power to live right by knowing Yeshua and has given us wonderful promises so that we can be godly and escape the evil desires and ways of the world (2 Peter 1:3-4). "God's power has given us," (2 Peter 1:3 CJB) what we need to live right, namely to "escape" the "evil desires" in the "world." We are to look different and be a new person; we are to do it (Ephesians 4:24). Our new nature is shown by right living and being holy.

- * Doing what is right (righteous) is a lifelong journey. We need to be committed to that journey so that we won't fall away. We need to exercise our thinking about how to apply God's commandments and stay away from evil. We are in the process every day of returning to God, making teshuvah (turning toward God), no matter where we are in our spiritual growth. Doing what is right actually means that we are to do what is right. Shaul said, "I am not going to let anything gain control over me;" 1 Corinthians 6:12 CJB. Imagine being Noah and how committed he must have been to follow God all the years of his life. We need to be like Noah.

- *The Old Testament believers also received benefits with the coming of Yeshua. The Messiah died and rose from the dead for them too. Abraham looked forward to Yeshua's day (see John 8:56). Yeshua died for the sins of all believers for all time and for the sins of the world.

* When we read the word righteous, we can avoid false doctrine by using words like “to live right” when we see the word righteous. Being righteous actually means to live right not just think are right.

* Faith is not just mental assent, but as Ya’akov says, works must accompany faith (James 2:17). People often have personal ideas about what is right, but we need to learn what God tells us to do and do it – that is the meaning of doing what is right. Shaul also said, “We demolish arguments and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of God; we take every thought captive and make it obey the Messiah ... become completely obedient;” 1 Corinthians 10:4-6 CJB.

* Our goal is to be like The Tzadiq, our Messiah Yeshua who says, "I have come so that they may have life, life in its fullest measure;" John 10:10b. Someday those who love God and follow His commandments will be with Him. “For ADONAI is righteous; he loves righteousness; the upright will see his face.” Psalm 11:7 CJB. I am determined to not let any sin gain control over me. Decide today you will ask for forgiveness and stay right with God. I am determined to do what is right. How about you?