

YASHUA, THE SOURCE OF OUR SALVATION

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:16)

It was God's love that compelled Him to act in favor of mankind. His abundant grace overlooked men's evil heart deserving of punishment, instead, He took all sins upon Himself and gave us life eternal through forgiveness by His shed blood. He submitted Himself to the most brutal treatment by those He was suffering for. There are no words to describe the extent of His sufferings. He was the sole source of our salvation and beside Him there are no other ways men can be saved. As the Way, He leads us to the Father; as the Truth, He teaches us His word, how to have a relationship with Him; as Life, He gives us life eternal that proceeds from Him. In His sovereignty, He rules over all from His throne in heaven. But men treated Him with contempt by placing a crown of thorns on His head, causing much bleeding. That was in response to His sacrificial love for them. The manner in which they treated Him was inhuman and abusive. In spite of that, He was fulfilling His Father's will, that of "bruise Him, to put Him to grief and make Him sick." (Isaiah 53). He suffered pains in His humanity, not in His divinity. He did that voluntarily to fulfill prophecy written about Him. *When He entered into the world, He said, sacrifices and offerings You have not desired, but instead You have made ready a body for Me [to offer]; in burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no delight. Then I said, Behold, here I am, coming to do Your will, O God – [to fulfill] what is written of Me in the volume of the Book (Heb. 10:5-7).*

Sacrifices according to the Law was annulled when He took the position of Redeemer of the world. He became God's Lamb Who takes the sins of the world. That's the way John Baptist introduced Him, saying, *Look! There is the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!* (Jn. 2:29, 36). He came in the humble state of a stable where the chosen lambs that were to be sacrificed stayed. These were perfect lambs who fulfilled the demands of the Law. YAHSHUA, the Lamb of God found room there among them, and *by a single offering, He has forever completely cleansed and perfected those who are consecrated and made holy* (Heb. 10:14). YAHSHUA'S redemptive sacrifice was not the only thing He did or does for us. He became our Highpriest. We have freedom and confidence to enter into the Holy of Holies through the blood of YAHSHUA. *We have such a High Priest, One Who is seated at the right hand of the majestic [God] in heaven* (Heb. 8:1). He intercedes for us. The Bible says that when *we pray, the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance. Through the redemption by His blood, we were made children of God, and as children of God we are entitled to all the spiritual blessings. He planned in love for us to be adopted as His own children through YAHSHUA Messiah, in accordance with the purpose of His will- to the praise and the commendation of His glorious grace, which he so freely bestowed on us in the Beloved (Eph. 1:5-6).*

Before the foundation of the world, our Lord God had a plan for those who love Him. "All things must work together in harmony to the fulfillment of His plan of salvation for those who are called according to His design and purpose; he also destined them to be molded into the image of His Son. Those who are called are justified and those who He justified, He also glorified" (Rom. 8:26, 27-30). YAHSHUA said, *The sheep that are My own hear and are listening to My voice; and I know them and they follow Me and I give them eternal life, and they shall never lose it or perish throughout the ages. And no one is able to snatch them out of My hand* (John 10:27-28). YAHSHUA'S plan of salvation is complete in every aspect. It is His desire that we become like Him in holiness after we become born again, as we became part of His family. We must represent Whose we are in every way. He is the source of our salvation and also sanctification; He didn't call us to continue loving the world and the things of the world, but to love the things above where HE is seated with His Father, as Paul suggested, *If then you have been raised with Christ, aim at and seek the [rich, eternal treasures] that are above, where YAHSHUA is, seated at the hand of God; and set you minds and keep them set on what is above, not on the things that are on the earth; for you died, and your life is hidden in Christ. When Christ Who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.* (Col 3:1-3); *He called us to present the members of our body as a living sacrifice, holy and well pleasing to God, not to be conformed to the world, but to be transformed by the renewal of our mind, so that we prove what is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for us]* (Rom. 12:1-3).

There is much that God offers to those who are His; who walk according to the Spirit of God. We are debtors to Him for everything He has done for us. Obedience to His Word is all that He requires from us: a life of self-denial, in order to bear our cross and follow Him. All these are embedded in the word obedience. He wants for us to live lives worthy of God, *Who calls us into his own kingdom and the glorious blessedness* (I Thess. 2:12). The fulfillment of our salvation will be glorious. We wait for that day when He will come to fetch us. YAHSHUA'S source of salvation is eternal, filled with promises we will experience when we meet Him. *For in Him we live and move and have our being* (Acts 17:28a). *And He is the sole expression of the glory of God; and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature, upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power...* (Heb. 1:3a) *Beloved, we are now God's children; it is not yet disclosed what we shall be, but we know that when He comes and is manifested, we shall resemble and be like Him, for we shall see Him just as He is* (I John 3:2).

My friend, are you part of God's family? The glorious hope we have in Him is not to be compared to anything here in this world. We wait for Him eagerly, making sure that our life is in accordance to His will. *If we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs with Christ; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are no worth being compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us!* (Rom. 8:17-18); and for our light, momentary affliction is ever more and more abundantly preparing and producing and achieving for us an everlasting weight of glory (II Cor. 4:17); but we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the

Spirit (2 Cor. 3:18). If you are a child of God your citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for our Savior, the Lord YAHSHUA Messiah (Phil. 3:20)

We, God's children are the most blessed people on earth, for our future is bright and sure. Our faith strengthens us to wait for His soon return, when He will transport us to our heavenly home. Join God's family today. It is the only thing sure in this world of deceit and chaos.

THINK ABOUT IT!