

Christian Evil-Doers shall be Punished!

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament, I will substitute the Hebrew words Yahoshua (yeh-ho-shoo'- ah) for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and ruah for pneuma (spirit).)

Contrary to popular Church (man-made) teachings, Yahweh delights in Justice and Righteousness and will afflict evil-doers (Jer. 9:24). Psalm 62:12 is a foundational theme throughout the Word of Yahweh, which proclaims, "...For, thou, wilt pay back unto every man—according to his deed." All Christians are aware that unbelievers will be punished for their evil deeds but very little thought has been given to the truth that Church going Christians, who practice evil deeds, which may be legal, will be punished by Yahweh, who is the Judge. The recipients of these evil-doers must receive justice (retribution, vindication (shepet)¹), an example of which, was Paul, who stated in 2 Timothy 4:14, "Alexander the coppersmith, of much baseness towards me, hath given proof,—the Lord will render unto him according to his works." This article is to reassure those who have or are suffering evils from their Christian brothers and sisters that Yahweh has promised them that they will be avenged, "...for it is written—Mine, is avenging, I, will recompense; saith Yahweh" (Rm. 12:19, Heb. 10:30). If you are one of the Christian evil-doers, then this article is a warning to you to repent and restore the innocence person or face the Anger of Yahweh.

(This article only addresses those who are members of Christ's Body, he being their Head. When I say punish, I am meaning, "he that acteth unrighteously, shall get back what he had unrighteously done," or "each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practiced, whether good or corrupt.")

The following narrative, which is pertinent to our topic, was not addressed to the Body of the Christ but rather to those who will be living when the Son of Adam comes in his glory, as well as to those who were living during this time period. This lesson displays only two groups of people, who chose two different paths, resulting in two different outcomes. It displays the difference between the circumcision of the heart² and the circumcision of the flesh. "But, whensoever the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the messengers

¹ 08201 שֶׁפֶט shepet sheh'- fet: Judgment, always plural shepatîm. Like shepot, this noun seems to take its meaning from shapat BDB, p. 1047, judgment in the penal sense, i.e. punishment. In several cases the punishments are divine punishments. The plagues of Egypt are divine shepotîm. {#Ex 6:6 Ex 7:4 Ex 12:12 } God punished Jerusalem with sword, famine, evil beasts and pestilences, all called God's 'four ... shepotîm. {#Eze 14:21 } shepotîm inflicted by men may be divine punishments (#Eze 16:41; cf. v. 38). Civil magistrates' punishments of breakers of human laws are also called shepotîm. {#Pr 19:29 } There is a definite theology of punishment as retribution, vindicative of justice, both divine and human, expressed in shepet and shepot. shepôt 08196. A judgment. This word in the two cases of its appearance takes the sense of punishment (penal judgment), parallel to meaning 3c of BDB (p. 1047) 'condemning and punishing.' The harlot's judgment is to be slain with the sword. {#Eze 23:10 } shepôt is parallel to sword, famine, and pestilence, divine punishments. {#2Ch 20:9 } Ex 6:6 Therefore say thou to the sons of Israel—I, am Yahweh, Therefore will I bring you forth from under the burdens of Egypt, And will deliver you out of their service,—And will redeem you with a stretched-out arm, and with great judgments [shepet];

² Ro 2:29 But, he who is one in secret, is a Jew,—and, that is, circumcision, which is of the heart, in spirit, not in letter,—whose, praise, is not of men, but of Yahweh.

with him, then will he sit on his throne of glory; And there will be gathered before him, all the nations, and he will separate them one from another, just as, the shepherd! separateth the sheep from the goats,— And he will set, the sheep, indeed, on his right hand, but, the goats, on the left. Then, will the king say to those on his right hand: Come ye, the blessed of my Father! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; For I hungered, and ye gave me to eat, I thirsted, and ye gave me drink, a stranger, was I, and ye took me home, Naked, and ye clothed me, sick, and ye visited me, in prison, was I, and ye came unto me. Then, will the righteous answer him, saying: Lord! when, saw we thee—hungry, and fed thee, or thirsty, and gave thee drink? And, when, saw we thee—a stranger, and took thee home, or naked, and clothed thee? And, when, saw we thee—sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And, answering, the king will say unto them: Verily, I say unto you—Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my least brethren, unto me, ye did it" (Mt. 25:31-40).

"Then, will he say unto those also, on his left hand: Depart ye from me, accursed ones! Into the age-abiding fire, which hath been prepared for the adversary and his messengers; For I hungered, and ye gave me not to eat, I was thirsty, and ye gave me not to drink, A stranger, was I, and ye took me not home, naked, and ye clothed me not, sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then, will, they also, answer, saying: Lord! when saw we thee—hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and ministered not unto thee? Then, will he answer them, saying: Verily, I say unto you—Inasmuch as ye did it not, unto one of these least, neither unto me, did ye it. And, these, shall go away, into, age-abiding, correction, but, the righteous, into, age-abiding, life" (Mt. 25:41-46).

The rules for those who bow to Yahweh, to those who seek an age-abiding life on the New Earth is very simple; "Thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim—with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might and Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. In these two commandments, all the law, is contained, and the prophets (Mt. 22:36-40, Deu. 6:4-9). When we harm innocent people, at a minium, we should pay for their damages and bring an offering to Yahweh, which is his Son, our propitiatory offering, thereby being reconciled back to Yahweh; fellowship being restored (Rm. 3:25, 1 Jn. 1:9). by doing so, our punishment has been accepted, implemented and paid; no other repercussions will be awaiting us; life goes on. We impose these same rules on our children. 1 John 5:3 declares that life can be simple, "For, this is the love of Yahweh—that, his commandments, we be keeping, and, his commandments, are not burdensome (heavy in weight)."

Rebellion, on the other-hand, is defiance; a renouncing an allegiance; a challenge to combat. Fidelity to Yahweh, which is the first commandment is paramount. A believer who repeatedly murders, commits adultery, steals, fornicates etc. etc. is a problem child, as was Cain. This child of Yahweh will very possibly be punished by Yahweh in this life, as

was Cain³ and if the full punishment was not achieved while the person lived, then, to be just, the punishment should be completed in the life to come. How the punishment is to be given in the resurrected life on the New Earth, if necessary, is known by Yahweh, who is Just and Righteous. Perhaps, a Christian who unjustly enslaved an individual for 50 years, as was done in the Southern U.S.A., may have to be the slave to him who was enslaved by him, for 50 years, on the New Earth. I believe this would be fair for the Christian evil-doer and it would be just for the Christian innocent person to be somewhat restored for his trials.

What about Grace?

The 'New Age' believers of today, who are the 'Unconditional Love People,' will say, 'That teaching was in the Old Testament but is not for us today because we live in the Age of Grace, where all is Love and Peace; an Age where sin is not punished, only forgiven; forgiven whether you repented of your sin or continued in your sin.' (See Appendix A) Paul wrote in his epistles:

2 Corinthians 5:10, "For, we all, must needs be made manifest before the judgment seat of the Christ, that each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practiced, whether good or corrupt."

Colossians 3:24-25, "Knowing that, from the Lord, ye shall duly receive the recompense of the inheritance,—unto the Lord Christ, are ye in service; For, he that acteth unrighteously, shall get back what he had unrighteously done, and there is no respect of persons;"

2 Thessalonians 1:5-6, "A proof of the righteous judgment of Yahweh, to the end ye may be counted worthy of the rule [basileia]⁴ of Yahweh, in behalf of which ye are also suffering:— If, at least, it is a, righteous thing with Yahweh, to recompense, affliction, unto them that afflict you."

But people will say, 'What about the woman caught in adultery, when Jesus said, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first," or when Jesus was on the cross and said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do?'" Neither of these events are in the ancient text, meaning they did not occur.⁵

The false teaching, the 'Unconditional Love of God,' has empowered people to sin without remorse because, 'We are in the Age of Grace, Right!' If this is so, then why would the following proclamations be in the Church Epistles?

³ Gen. 4: 11-13 "Now, therefore, accursed, art thou,—from the ground, which hath opened her mouth, to receive the shed-blood of thy brother at thy hand. Though thou till the ground, it shall not go on to give its vigour to thee,—A wanderer and a fugitive, shalt thou be in the earth. And Cain said unto Yahweh—Greater is my punishment than I can bear.

⁴ 932 βασιλεία basileia bas-il-i'-ah 1) royal power, kingship, dominion, rule 1a) not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom

⁵ A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament by Bruce M. Metzger

1 Cor. 6:9-11, "Or know ye not that, wrong-doers, shall not inherit, Yahweh's rule [basileia]? Be not deceiving yourselves:—neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor sodomites, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners—shall inherit, Yahweh's rule [basileia]."

Gal. 5:19-21, "Manifest, however, are the works of the flesh, which, indeed, are—fornication, impurity, wantonness, idolatry, enchantment, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of wrath, factions, divisions, parties, envyings, drunkenness, revellings; -and such things as these: as to which I forewarn you, even as I have forewarned you,—that, they who such things as these do practise, shall not inherit, Yahweh's rule [basileia]."

Eph. 5:5-15, "For, this, ye know, if ye take note—that no fornicator, or impure or greedy person, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the rule [basileia] of the Christ and Yahweh. Let no one be deceiving you with empty words; for, because of these things, is coming the anger of Yahweh upon the sons of obstinacy: Do not, then, become co-partners with them; For ye were, at one time, darkness, but, now, are ye light in the Lord,—as children of light, be walking, For, the fruit of the light, is in all goodness, and righteousness, and truth,— Putting to the test what is well-pleasing unto the Lord; And be not joining in fellowship in the unfruitful works of darkness, but, rather, be even administering reproof; For, of the secret things which are brought to pass by them, it is, shameful, even to speak! All things, however, when reprov'd by the light, become manifest, for, all that of itself maketh manifest, is, light."

2 Tim. 2:11-12 "...If we have died together, we shall also live together, If we endure, we shall also reign together; If we shall deny, he also, will deny us."

In our present age, we received the remission of all our past sins when we made Yahoshua our Lord. We can receive forgiveness of sin, after our conversion if we confess our sins, as promised in 1 John 1:9 but if we continue in our sins, day after day, without any attempt to stop, then there is no repentance because the individual did not attempt to turn from their ways, resulting in the anger of Yahweh coming upon the sons of obstinacy (Mt. 18:15-17). Many Christians have been given a licence to commit sin, rejecting the above verses and only accepting the following verses:

"...saved, through means of faith, and this hath come to pass—not from you, of Yahweh, the free-gift! Not from works, lest anyone should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9);

"a righteousness of Yahweh, through faith in Christ, unto all that have faith" (Rm. 3:22);

"For, the-law of the spirit of life in Christ Yahoshua, hath set thee free from the law of sin and of death" (Rm. 8:2).

"And, if, by spirit, ye are being led, ye are not under law" (Gal. 5:18).

They are told, 'Yahweh would not punish his child,' because paid for all of our sins, past, present and future. The scripture, "For, we all, must needs be made manifest before the judgment seat of the Christ, that each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practiced, whether good or corrupt" can not be true. In this Age, we have a Savior, who saved us, by his works, our works determine whether we receive rewards or punishment in this life and in the coming resurrected life. The scriptures concerning grace must be reconciled with the scriptures concerning judgment to tell the full narrative.

Legal Sins

In the 1700 and 1800's, slavery was legal in many States of the U.S.A. Christian Church members and even pastors owned slaves or they voted to maintain slavery, if they were Democrats. They had their Bible verses and the approval of the Church that what they were doing was accepted by Yahweh. The question we should ask ourselves, 'Would any of these Christians trade places with their slaves?' If not, then they were doing unto others what they would not want done to them, which is breaking the Second and First Great Commandment.⁶ What would be the just punishment for an enslaver who enslaved a person for 50 years, who was treated with cruelty, having their wife and or children taken from him? Would not justice, at a minimum, require the same treatment?

A major legal sin committed today is done by Christian women. Many Church going Christian women are committing sins that are legal, as was slavery. For example, one-half of Christian marriages end in divorce, meaning that many women are receiving court appointed child support from their ex-spouses. They also have court appointed custody of the children. Would these Christian women, who go to Church each Sunday, trade places with their ex-spouses? In other words, would these women voluntarily pay child support and allow their ex-spouses to have major custody of the children? If they say yes, then do it unless the ex-spouse declined! They are loving their neighbor as themselves. If they say no, then they are committing sin by not loving their neighbors as themselves; they are doing to others what they would not want to be done to them! These afflicted ex-spouses will receive justice from Yahweh for the evil-doings of their ex-wives. These women will be punished for their deeds, as promised by Yahweh. These women, in front of Yahweh, can not defend their actions by saying their actions were legal, neither can a prostitute say, to Yahweh, that their profession was legal, as it is in Nevada, nor could a slave owner make the same case.

⁶ Teacher! which commandment, is greatest in the law? And, he, said unto him—Thou shalt love the Lord thy Elohim—with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind: This, is the great and first commandment. The second, like it, is, this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. In these two commandments, all the law, is contained, and the prophets. (Mt. 22:36-40)

The other abounding legal sin is being a member of the Democratic Party. One-half of Christian men and women that vote are Democrats. In the U.S.A, abortion, sodomy, and stealing (from the rich by Estate Tax, etc.) are legal because of the Democratic Party. If a Christian is a member of the Democratic Party, then they, by their voting, have enabled their legislators to pass evil laws, which empower the abortionist, sodomist and thief to carry out their wickedness; without their voting, these activities could not exist. These Democrat Christian voters will be punished by Yahweh for being accessories⁷ to murder, sodomy and stealing, all of which are prohibitions in the Ten Commandments.

Yahweh's Justice

King David, in Psalm 28:4-5 proclaims, "Give them, according to their deed, and, according to the wrong of their practices,—According to the work of their own hands, give thou unto them, Bring back their own dealing to themselves. Because they heed not The Deeds of Yahweh, or the Work of his hands, he will pull them down, and not build them." Yahweh's justice is not just restoring what has been taken but adds additional penalties, as can be seen in Exodus 22:1-9:

- 1 When a man stealeth an ox or a sheep, and slayeth it, or selleth it, with five of the herd, shall he make good—for the ox, or with four of the flock, for the sheep.
- 2 If, in the place of breaking in, the thief be found and he is smitten so that he dieth, there is due for him no shedding of blood:
- 3 should the sun have arisen upon him, there would be shedding of blood due for him,—he is, surely to make restitution, if he hath nothing, then is he to be sold, for his theft.
- 4 If the thing stolen is, found in his hand—whether ox, or ass, or sheep, alive, with two, shall he make restitution.
- 5 When a man causeth a field or a vineyard to be depastured, or hath sent in his own cattle and stripped the field of another, he shall, surely make restitution, out of his own field, according to the yield thereof; or, if, all the field, he depasture, with the best of his own field, or with the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution.
- 6 When a fire breaketh out, and hath come upon thorns, and so there is consumed a stack of sheaves, or the standing corn, or the field, he that kindled the fire, shall surely make restitution.
- 7 When a man giveth unto his neighbour silver or jewelry, to keep, and it is stolen out of the house of the man:
- 8 if the thief be found, he shall give in restitution, double: if the thief be not found, then shall the owner of the house be brought near unto God to swear that he hath not laid his hand on the property of his neighbour.
- 9 For any affair of trespass—for an ox, for an ass, for a sheep, for a mantle, for anything lost, as to which one could say—This is, it, unto God, shall come the affair of them both,—he whom God shall condemn, shall make restitution of double, to his neighbour.

⁷ someone who gives assistance to the perpetrator of a crime, without directly committing it, sometimes without being present.

An example of justice, as recorded in Yahweh's Word, was fulfilled by the Israelites on Adoni-bezek, as recorded in Judges 1:6-7, which states, "But Adoni-bezek fled, and they pursued him,—and took him, and cut off his thumbs, and his great toes. Then said Adoni-bezek—Seventy kings, with their thumbs and great toes cut off, have been picking up crumbs under my table, as I have done, so, hath God requited me. And they brought him into Jerusalem, and he died there." Adoni-bezek was fully aware that justice was carried out upon him.

Yahweh's justice for the Great Babylon, is recorded in Revelation 18:5-7, which cries out, "For her sins have reached to heaven, and Yahweh has remembered her iniquities. Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'"

People may believe that the death of the Christian evil-doer is justice enough but this leaves the inflicted ones without justice. Restitution is always desired but how do you restore the stolen years of one's life by slavery; the death of a loved one, etc.? If death was the remedy, without restitution or punishment, then the Christian evil-doers appear to have gotten away with their wickedness. Justice will be served by Yahweh because every human being who dies will be brought back to life at Christ's return or in the Resurrection of the Just and Unjust. Death is not the final judgment! Yahweh knows all the details of the evils placed upon the innocent. Christ, our Judge, will deal the exact, just penalty upon the unrepentant Christian evil-doers, which brings justice and resolution to the innocent parties. The innocent parties will also be rewarded and restored, by Christ, for the injustices bestowed upon them because Yahweh is an Elohim of Justice.

Conclusion

"Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth exult, Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof...Before Yahweh, for he is coming, For he is coming to judge the earth,—He will judge the world, in righteousness, And the peoples, in his faithfulness" (Ps. 96:11-13). Those Christians who have or are enduring wickedness take comfort in the truths that Yahweh will avenge you, as promised. Yahweh is Just and the Judge of all the Earth, who as with the Egyptians, sees your outcry to him. Injustice can be borne by the innocence if they realize that Yahweh will serve Justice on the Christian evil-doers, as he has promised in his Word. "For we know him that hath said—To me, belongeth avenging, I, will recompense; and again—Yahweh will judge his people. A fearful thing it is to fall into the hands of a Living Elohim" (Heb. 10:30-31)! Christian evil-doers should pay heed to this truth by repenting and restoring the wronged ones. Christian divorced women who are taking court appointed child support, who are not sharing the children 50/50 with their fathers must repent or face the Anger of Yahweh. Christians who are Democrats must leave the Democratic Party and vote as Yahweh, in his Word, directs.

Appendix A

Redemption

by Andrew Wommack

I'm going to begin this by dropping a bomb: **Sin is no longer an issue with God; we are redeemed!** With that statement, you are either rejoicing, shocked, or confused. That is one radical statement, but one I believe I can back up by the Word of God.

The message most people hear says that sin breaks your relationship or fellowship with God. The strictest message says that you lose your salvation ("backslide") every time you sin, until it's confessed. Others believe your eternal salvation is still secure, but you lose fellowship, can't get your prayers answered, or can't be used of God if you sin. That's not good news, since all of us sin (Rom. 3:23 and 1 John 1:8).

Christians usually cope by trying to keep every sin confessed. Let me just put this bluntly: That's impossible! The Bible says that whatever is not of faith is sin (Rom. 14:23). Do we always walk in faith? James 4:17 reveals that sin isn't only doing things that are wrong, but it's not doing what we know is right. Would any claim they are loving God and others as they know they should?

By these definitions, we all sin through the weakness of our flesh. It's impossible to keep every sin confessed. Even if it were possible, that puts the burden of salvation on our backs. There wouldn't be any peace or rest in our relationship with the Lord if that's the way it worked (Rom. 5:1).

Most people, including Christians, see the forgiveness of sins as something that God can do, and continues to do, but not as something He has completed. From that comes the false concept that we must constantly confess our sins, which makes and keeps us sin conscious.

The New Testament presents the forgiveness of sins as something that is already accomplished and that the effect of this redemption is that we are not even to be conscious of sin (Heb. 10:1-2).

Ask yourself, what produced the forgiveness of sins and when did that happen? Jesus was the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world (John 1:29). It was through the shedding of Jesus' blood that you received redemption, which is the forgiveness of your sins (Eph. 1:7 and Col. 1:14).

When did Jesus die and shed His blood for our sins? About 2,000 years ago. He will never die again (Rom. 6:9-10). He dealt with the sins of the whole human race once, for all time (Heb. 9:25-28 and 10:10-14). **Jesus' sacrifice for our sins is already an accomplished work.**

We don't have to ask Jesus to forgive our sins; He's already done it. Paul didn't tell the Philippian jailor to ask Jesus to forgive him; Paul told him to believe on what Jesus had already done and he would be saved (Acts 16:31). We confess the Lord Jesus, not our sins, to receive this gift of salvation (Rom. 10:9).

Does that mean everyone in the whole world is saved? Certainly not. We have to receive forgiveness by faith (Acts 26:18). The Lord has already forgiven everyone's sins (1 John 2:2). That's grace. But we have to put faith in what God has already accomplished by grace to be saved (Eph. 2:8).

Therefore, it's not a person's many sins that sends them to hell; sin has already been paid for and forgiven. It's the singular sin of not believing on Jesus that sends a person to hell. It's their failure to accept what Jesus did for them that puts them into that place of eternal torment.

John 16:8-9 says,

“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me.”

The singular sin the Holy Spirit reproves us of is the sin of not believing on Jesus. That's it. That's not to say that the Holy Spirit will not show us that things we do are wrong. But He uses them to illustrate that we don't believe on Jesus. The Holy Spirit isn't nailing us every time we sin; He loves us back into faith and trust in Jesus. That's the whole issue with God.

What difference does it make in our lives if we accept forgiveness as something that has already been accomplished or not? There is a huge difference! It gives us security and peace, knowing that God isn't mad at us and won't be mad at us. Our sins are already forgiven—and not just the past sins we committed before we were born again. All of our sins—past, present, and even future ones—are already forgiven.

Someone will say, “How can God forgive our sins before we commit them?” Well, you better pray that He can do that, because Jesus only died for our sins once; 2,000 years ago; before you committed any sin. If He can't forgive sins before you commit them, then you can't be saved.

It says in Hebrews 10:10-12 and 14,

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified” (emphasis mine).

We have received eternal, not momentary, redemption (Heb. 9:12). One sacrifice was made for all sin forever, and we have been perfected forever. How can we read these scriptures and come to any other conclusion than that every sin—past, present, and future—was forgiven and our redemption is eternal?

If you have accepted the sacrifice of Jesus for your sins by faith, then your spirit is perfect (Heb. 12:23)! Your spirit has been born again. A million years from now, your spirit will be identical to what it is right now, and it is identical to Jesus (1 Cor. 6:17 and 1 John 4:17). One-third of your redemption is complete.

So, am I making light of sin or saying sin doesn't matter? No! Sin is a terrible thing, and it's an inroad for Satan into your life (Rom. 6:16). I hate sin! I live a holier life than most of you reading this. I just value the blood and the atonement of Jesus above sin. **His sacrifice was infinitely greater than all the past, present, and future transgressions of the entire human race. Jesus overpaid the debt we owed.**

You might say, “What about 1 John 1:9?”

I'm glad you brought that up.

First John 1:9 says,

“If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (brackets mine).

We don't have to confess sin in order to be saved, to retain, or to maintain our salvation. If I believed that was so, I would kill every person who came forward for salvation. I might go to hell, but that's the only way they would ever get to heaven. We need to confess it, not for the purpose of becoming born again, but because our flesh gets defiled. That gives Satan a legal right to function in our flesh (Rom. 6:16).

Confessing we have sinned means we are coming back into agreement with God and out of agreement with the devil. That stops Satan from dominating us through that sin and draws the forgiveness and purity, which is already in our born-again spirits, out into our flesh.

Our born-again spirits are already eternally redeemed (Heb. 9:12). The other two-thirds, your soul and body, have also been purchased by His blood, but their redemption has not yet taken place. However, God has made provision for this as well.

Romans 8:23 reads,

“And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.”

Ephesians 1:14 says,

“Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

When redemption is complete in spirit, soul, and body, we will know Him as we are known (1 Cor. 13:12). But until then, we can experience a renewed mind through His Word. And although we are waiting for the redemption of our bodies, we can receive healing while we live in our mortal bodies. **God has made provision for both the soul and the body even though their redemption has not yet been made manifest.**

Unfortunately, most Christians are not taking advantage of these provisions. They have not renewed their minds, and they still don't understand that we are also redeemed from the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13). The average New Testament believer is still trying to get God to respond to them based on their performance. Why? Because they don't know that the performance covenant of the Old Testament Law is over. We are now under the New Testament ministry of grace and faith (2 Cor. 3:7-8).

The Law was given to convict people of their self-righteousness so they could see their need for a savior. Praise God, we are now no longer under the Law. First Timothy 1:9 says that the Law is not made for a righteous man. And who is righteous? Any person who is born again (2 Cor. 5:21).

Hebrews 7:12 and 18 says,

“For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.” What a radical statement! A disannulling! The word disannulling literally means cancellation, to make null and void. The Old Testament Law has been nullified, canceled, done away with. The Law was weak and unprofitable. It was only a stop-gap measure until Jesus (Gal. 3:23-25).

Ephesians 1:3-5 says,

“[He] hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings...hath chosen us...Having predestined us unto the adoption of children” (brackets and emphasis mine).

In the Greek, “hath” is an aortas tense, which means it is a done deal—it’s an accomplished fact. So how blessed is all spiritual blessings? Verse 6 says that we have been accepted in the beloved. Really, that is a super understatement. The Greek word that is used for “accepted” is only used twice in the New Testament. The other place is in Luke 1 where the the Angel Gabriel appeared unto Mary.

Gabriel said, “Hail thou that are highly favoured, the Lord is with thee” (verse 28).

The Greek word for “highly favoured” is the only other time that this word was used. When it says that we are accepted in the beloved, it is saying He has made us highly favored. Mary hasn’t got anything on a born-again believer. Every one of us is accepted, chosen, and highly favored. It’s all part of redemption.

Understanding redemption, the complete forgiveness of your sins, is foundational to understanding the New Covenant and how God deals with you today. If you’re born again and still asking questions like these: “Can I lose my salvation?” “If I die with unconfessed sin, will I go to heaven?” or “Does God answer the prayers of someone who still sins?” then you do not understand redemption.

Redemption is very practical, and **your understanding of it will determine what you are able to receive from God, not just in eternity, but here and now.**

<http://www.awmi.net/reading/teaching-articles/redemption/>
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