

CHAPTER 12

How Can I Receive the Messiah Into My Heart and Life?

The G-d of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob created you to have a *personal relationship* with Himself and to *enjoy* His abundant life! In Proverbs 16:4 [it is written in the Jewish Bible] "The Lord has made all things for His purpose [His own pleasure]." In Psalm 16:11 it is written, "...At Thy right hand there are *pleasures for evermore*."

Sin (the transgression or *breaking* of G-d's law) *separates* you from a personal relationship with G-d and His abundant life. *Sin also causes spiritual death!* In Isaiah 59:2a it is written, "But your iniquities [your sins] have *separated* between *you* and *your* G-d." Man was created to have fellowship with G-d, but stubbornly chose to go his own independent way. This *self-will* (expressed by either *active rebellion* or *passive indifference* toward G-d) is what the Bible calls "sin." Sin separates you from G-d and causes spiritual death, guilt, lack of peace, frustration, etc. In Ezekiel (*Yechezkel*) 18:4 it is written, "...the *soul* that sinneth, it shall *die* [spiritual death]." In First Kings (*Melachim*) 8:46 it is written, "...for there is *no* man that *sinneth not*."

You cannot remove sin by your *own human* efforts. In Isaiah 64:5 it is written, "...all *our* righteousnesses [our self-righteousness] are as *filthy rags*..." In Proverbs 14:12 it is written, "There is a way which *seemeth* right unto a man, but the *end* thereof are the ways of *death* [spiritual separation from G-d]." Man's plan is to *remove* his *own sin* by his *own self-righteousness* (i.e., to outweigh his *bad deeds* by his "*good*" *deeds*, such as religious "*works*," *human philosophies*, etc.). Man's *self-righteousness* is a "*filthy garment*" in the sight of a *holy* G-d.

Sin *can* be removed by *faith* (*emunah*, *believing* what G-d says). Righteousness (right standing with G-d) comes by faith. In Genesis (*Bereishit*) 15:6 it is written, "And he [Abraham] *believed* [had faith] in the L-rd; and He counted it [Abraham's faith] to him for *righteousness*." *Faith must be placed in the blood atonement*. Atonement means a "covering" for sin. In Leviticus (*Vayikra*) 17:11 it is written, "...for it is the *blood* that maketh an *atonement* [covering] for the *soul*."

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G-d has provided the blood of atonement today through a *perfect sacrifice*: the One who is known as the Messiah. Messiah means "anointed" one. In Isaiah 53:5 it is written, "But *He* was wounded for our transgressions [rebellions], *He* was bruised for our iniquities [moral evils]: the chastisement [punishment] of our peace [welfare] was upon *Him*; and with *His* stripes [wounds, *blood*] we were healed [*atoned for*]." In Abel we see atonement for a *man* as it is written in Genesis (*Bereishit*) 4:4, "And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock...." During *Passover*, we saw an atonement for a *family* as it is written in Exodus [*Shemot*] 12:13, "...when I see the *blood*, I will *pass over* you...." During *Yom Kippur*, we see atonement for a *nation*, as it is written in Leviticus 16:30a, "For on *that day* shall the priest make an *atonement* for you." The Messiah brings atonement for *all who believe*, as it is written in Isaiah 53:6. "But the Lord has caused the iniquity [the sins] of us *all to fall* [to focus] on *Him*."

How can you know the Messiah *Yeshua*? You must *ask* the Messiah ***Yeshua into your heart and life*** in order to have the blood of atonement, to have a personal relationship with G-d, and to enjoy His abundant life (the Messiah will not force His way into your life; He *desires* to be *invited*). In Joel 3:5 it is written, "...whosoever shall *call* on the *name* of the *Lord* shall be delivered [*saved*]...."

If you are desiring to ask the Messiah *Yeshua* into your heart and life, you may do so by following these simple steps.

1. **Pray to G-d in your own words (prayer is just *talking* to G-d).**
2. **Confess that you have sinned against G-d and that you are truly sorry for it.**
3. **Ask the Messiah *Yeshua* into your heart and life to cleanse you with His blood of atonement.**
4. **Thank Him by *faith* for doing this!**

The following is a sample prayer which you might pray.

"Dear G-d, I confess that I have greatly sinned against You and I'm sorry for it. Messiah *Yeshua*, please come into my heart and life and cleanse me with Your blood of atonement. Thank You for doing this *according to Your Word*."

If you have prayed this prayer and mean it, G-d has promised you many wonderful things, including the following:

1. **Your sins are *atoned for* (covered, forgiven) (Isaiah 53:6.)**
2. **You receive *righteousness* (right-standing with G-d) by *faith* (Genesis 15:6; Habakkuk 2:4).**
3. **You enter into a *personal relationship with G-d* and you become a *child of G-d* (Jeremiah 31:32).**
4. **You receive *eternal life* (Joel 3:5; Daniel 12:2).**
5. **G-d's *Holy Spirit* (*Ruach HaKodesh*) enters your life! (Ezekiel 11:19; Zechariah 12:10)**

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If you have made a decision to accept the Messiah into your life and you are Jewish, congratulations! Continue to be Jewish and please try to find a local Messianic synagogue to attend, for you have just become a completed Jew. If you are non-Jewish and have made a decision to accept the Messiah *Yeshua* into your life, please find a local Bible-believing church to attend or a Messianic synagogue.

Regardless of whether you are Jewish or non-Jewish, if you have made a decision to accept the Messiah *Yeshua* into your life, I would like to hear from you. In addition, if you would like to obtain further [Messianic material or training](#), or if this book has been a blessing to you in any way, please write me at the following address:

The Seven Festivals of the Messiah
P.O. Box 81
Strasburg, Ohio 44680

G-d bless you as you seek to grow in the knowledge of the Messiah!