

GA2. Seeking Forgiveness of Our Sins in Yeshua.

We are to seek forgiveness of our sins in Yeshua.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 26:28

For this is my blood, which ratifies the New Covenant, my blood shed on behalf of many, so that they may have their sins forgiven.

Ephesians 1:7

In union with him, through the shedding of his blood, we are set free- our sins are forgiven; this accords with the wealth of the grace

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Acts 2:38, 3:19, 10:43, 13:38-39, 22:16, 26:17-18

Romans 3:20-28, 8:1

Ephesians 4:32

Colossians 1:14, 2:13-15

1 John 2:2

Related New Testament Mitzvot

BA36 Embracing Yeshua's Sacrifice for Forgiveness, Righteousness, and Redemption

FA23 Praying for God's Forgiveness

GA01 Repenting of Our Sins and Turning to God

GA05 Doing Works Befitting Repentance

GA06 Not Practicing Sin

GA09 Not Continuing to Sin

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

2 Chronicles 7:14

.. then, if my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land.

Psalms 130:4

But with you there is forgiveness, so that you will be feared.

Daniel 9:9

It is for Adonai our God to show compassion and forgiveness, because we rebelled against him.

Comment

Prior to Yeshua, God's forgiveness of men was through repentance and animal sacrifice. The contrition and sorrow accompanying repentance was viewed as sacrifice of the heart, and the sacrifice of animals emphasized the wickedness of the repentant's sin by requiring him to see a life (albeit an animal's life) taken away as a result of his wrongdoing. In the case where the sin caused damage to another person, repentance also required adequate restitution where possible. Sacrifice alone was never adequate. It mattered not how many animals a man sacrificed or brought to the Temple to sacrifice if he was not genuinely sorry for the sin he committed.

Animal sacrifice was, however, only the first step in God's plan for the redemption of mankind; it was not fully adequate or permanent, for we read in Hebrews 10:1-4:

“For the Torah has in it a shadow of the good things to come, but not the actual manifestation of the originals. Therefore, it can never, by means of the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, bring to the goal those who approach the Holy Place to offer them. Otherwise, wouldn't the offering of those sacrifices have ceased? For if the people performing the service had been cleansed once and for all, they would no longer have sins on their conscience. No, it is quite the contrary- in these sacrifices is a reminder of sins, year after year. For it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins.”

It is for this reason that God sent Yeshua, his son and our Messiah (part of His own deity in human flesh), to be our sacrifice once and for all time (Hebrews 10:12-17):

“But this one, after he had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, sat down at the right hand of God, from then on to wait until his enemies be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has brought to the goal for all time those who are being set apart for God and made holy. And the Ruach HaKodesh too bears witness to us; for after saying, 'This is the covenant which I will make with them after those days,' says ADONAI: 'I will put my Torah on their hearts, and write it on their minds..., he then adds, 'And their sins and their wickednesses I will remember no more.'”

Much has changed in this New Covenant, but one thing has not. Just as there was no value in the past to sacrificing an animal without there being repentance for the sins that were committed, there is no value today of our confessing that Yeshua is our Messiah without repenting of the sins we have committed, and our genuine intent to make him our Lord and savior for the entirety of our lives.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

Y03 Trusting in Yeshua & Believing that He is Our Messiah Sent by God