

First and Second Death 3

Sins Unto Death

We need to go into this and what are sins unto death (1 Jn 5:16) — mortal sin. There are many things that bring us into death. In the Old Covenant people physically died, they were stoned. In the New Covenant you are turned over to the torturers (Mt 18:32-35) or to Satan, severed from Messiah, for the destruction of your flesh so that your spirit can one day be redeemed (1 Cor 5:5). If you belong to Him and commit a sin that severs you from Messiah, you're still His possession. You will be redeemed for the eighth day by the destruction of your flesh. Eph 1:13-14 — We are sealed with the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption.

Our Master spoke explicitly of the first and second death in Jn 5:25. It is the basis for both Rom 2 and Rev 20. These dead are the spiritually dead, like us, who hear the gospel (the hour now is) and live, they are raised from the dead (Rom 6). These dead are those of whom Paul spoke in Eph 2:1, And you were dead in your trespasses and sins. Jn 5:25, then, speaks of the first resurrection.

But Jn 5:28-29 speaks of the second resurrection and the judgment of the nations. He told them not to be amazed at this, for a time coming, after the first resurrection, when all who are in the First and Second Death grave shall hear His voice and shall come out to be judged. Rev 20:11-15 comes from these words of our Master. All who are in the grave shall be judged according to what's in the books. Some will live and some will die forever and ever.

Those who have done good will live. But what good deeds is our Master speaking of? Many people do good deeds (homosexuals do good deeds), but if they are not based on Gen 3:16-19 and Gen 9:5,6, they are only self-righteous. It is not the employers who have gathered great wealth while neglecting to treat their employees with fairness and respect (down to clean bathrooms) and who then can give away large sums of money (and put their name on it) who have done good deeds. No, it is the hard-working men and women who have abided by the covenants, who have done good deeds consistent with keeping the wonderful covenants of Gen 3 and 9 who will be resurrected to life.

It is these men and women who persevere in doing good (Rom 2:7) who will be granted immortal life. Their good deeds were not self-righteous endeavors to soothe their consciences for breaking the covenants of Gen 3 and 9. All of Rom 2:6-16 is based on Jn 5:25-29. Verses 9 and 10 — to the Jew first and also to the Greek — this is the judgment of the nations, not the Edah. Verses 10 and 15 are those who will find life. (He knew they would be amazed that all who are in the graves would hear His voice and some would find eternal life. It may have been that being Jews they couldn't imagine Gentiles having eternal life — like Christians today think. This same astonishment Isaiah also spoke of in Isa 52:15. (It is *startle*, not *sprinkle* as some translations say.)

In the Old Covenant there was no sacrifice, no atonement, for certain sins. They were cut off. It is the same in the New Covenant. These are not acts that we “fall into,” but those that sever us. There's no sacrifice in the New Covenant for adultery, murder, sodomy, etc. We are cut off in the New Covenant for what people were stoned for in the Old. In the Old Covenant it is not certain whether they have any other fate than the Lake of Fire because it says their guilt remains (as in Lev 20:9 or 13, etc.).

Num 15:22-33 — Verse 22 speaks of unintentional sin. Murder is the intentional taking away of another person's life. It is murder not to minister grace to your brother, not to help him. How many murders have we committed? Verses 30-31 — We sin intentionally by despising the word, breaking the commandment. Verses 32-34 — They judged him to see what his motive was. Verses 27-29 — One who sins unintentionally can be forgiven. Verses 30-31 — For intentional sin there is no way to get the guilt off him.

The First Death

The only place a person can be freed from the first death is in Messiah. What is being in Messiah? It is being in the Commonwealth of Israel first (Eph 2:12), then abiding, being connected to the vine, the source of life, etc. One must believe the good news and receive the Spirit. When one is baptized, he receives the Spirit of Yahshua, his Sovereign. That is his baptismal confession (Rom 10:9). He does not

receive the Spirit without confessing Yahshua as Sovereign, as King. If he receives Yahshua's Spirit and is sealed, then he has eternal life — the life of the ages is dwelling in him (1 Jn 5:11-12). Such a person has already passed over in the eighth day. We have to know that. We are sealed until the day of redemption. (The eighth day is where Gen 1:26-28 will come out of its dormant state.)

A lot of God's people won't be in the seventh day (Rev 22:14). Their stain couldn't be removed in the sixth day. It will be in the seventh. In Messiah we have become the dwelling place of His Spirit. Now, since we've repented and confessed Yahshua as Sovereign, we have embarked on the road of obeying Jn 8:31 and 51. On this road we will be set free from every sin that would lead us to death (verses 32,36).

Then we will walk circumspectly.

If we obey Jn 8:51 we will be saved from death, we will never taste death. This is not works salvation, but being in Messiah and obeying Him. You have to be in Him before you can obey Him. You get in Him by obeying the gospel. Is Acts 3:23 true? Every word must be obeyed. It is true that He speaks presently. Christianity makes mistakes about this verse continually. They say that once you've received the gospel you have obeyed every word. They are mistaken.

Jn 8:51 is how we will be free from all things that lead us to death.

Lk 12:46 — The first death for believers is the same as for unbelievers. But we have passed out of the second death for unbelievers. The first and second death for believers will come to an end. We pass out of the first death to be judged (2 Cor 5:10), then we'll enter the Kingdom or the second death for believers.

We have passed out of eternal death into life. By His work we have passed out of eternal death. The Master's work accomplished salvation for us from the second death. The work of the Holy Spirit is to save us from the first death. Man has to go back to the garden and prove that he can walk in fellowship with God without disobeying Him. We must be led by the Spirit every day, staying in communion with Him, continuing in the word, obeying it. This is what a disciple does. This keeps him from everything that causes sin and death in his life.

The word of God lays bare a disciple's life. A new believer is actually making a covenant to abide by the Spirit. We who are older can go to them about all the things in their life. They need many shepherds. One shepherd can't do it all. That is why we need the whole Body speaking the word of God. That is why we need the word of God dwelling richly in our hearts, If we walk by someone who needs reproof and we ignore them, we are murderers. A prophet not prophesying is a murderer.

We are sealed with the Holy Spirit. We are sealed with a person. It is not something put on us; we are sealed with Himself until the redemption of all who are God's possession (Eph 4:30).

Some will grieve the Holy Spirit, but that doesn't mean they lose Him. We do believe, "Once saved, always saved" — but in the proper understanding. The only way we'll be able to understand so as to explain this to others is by presenting ourselves to Him.

1 Cor 5:1 — This was an abomination in the Old Covenant, he would have been put to death. If he was a true believer he may be saved in the day of redemption (1 Cor 5:5).

While he was sleeping with her he was also doing deeds in the body (2 Cor 5:10). They couldn't be anything but evil and lawless. He couldn't have had the mind of Messiah.

Walking as Adam Didn't

1 Cor 1:2; Dt 12:5; Mal 1:5

Paul got 1 Cor 1:2 from Dt 12:5 and Mal 1:5, every place where He causes His name to dwell.

Communities are places where His name dwells. We are in the place where we can obey the word of God. It will only condemn those outside of it. No attempt can be made to obey the New Covenant outside the place where His grace, kindness and love can reach us, where we can once again walk in Him like Adam in the garden. We are to walk like Adam did, obeying Him. When Adam disobeyed, he died spiritually right away and physically later. We have to relive Adam's life and not fall in the same way he did. We must not fall in the same way Adam, Israel, and the first church did.

Dt 7:9-10 tried to get people in the Old Covenant to obey like Adam didn't. We're the seed of Abraham if we do the deeds, the works of Abraham. There has got to be a way we can prove our love for Him (Jn 15:8)

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There has to be a way for us to follow in our Savior's steps. We can obey Him as He obeyed His Father. We are redeemed to walk as He walked.

To redeem man is Messiah's work alone. He purchased our redemption. He purchased us. He placed us in Him to walk as He walked (1 Jn 2:4-6).

This gospel is forming in us to tell others. Verses 4 and 5 — If we claim to be walking in Him and we are not obeying some of His commandments, we are liars. To be led by the Holy Spirit requires obedience on our part. To be led by Him is to be in intimate communion with Him. If we are not in intimate communion we have to find out what sin, what disobedience is keeping us from this intimate fellowship. We must walk in the light and be cleansed from all our sin, all our selfish acts, not loving our wife, our children, etc. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to point all these things out.

There would be no need for His word, to obey now, which saves us from death, if we are just going to die and go to heaven. He wouldn't have said the things He did if it were assured (Jn 3:36). He wouldn't have said Jn 8:51.

Adam's Death

Was Adam's death forever and ever? No, it was temporary, remedial. There is a resurrection from the first death (Rev 20:11-12). He paid for his own sin. The wages of sin is death, the same as us. Messiah's blood covers our sins if we let it. How long did Adam's death last? It depends on how he lived his life. If Adam was waiting for Yahshua in hope, then it was 3000 years long, but spiritually 4000 years. His physical death will last at least 5000 years. Is Adam in the nations or the Edah? How about Noah or Shem? Abraham was the beginning of Israel. There are some things that aren't clear now. We can't understand everything yet, or we'd be in the flesh. (Will Noah be in the nations or the Holy City? Either way our God will be glad that he did His will. We are waiting to hear revelation.)

Adam's death was temporary, at least 5000 years. Ours, if we died in disobedience, not filled with the Holy Spirit till everything is out of us that keeps us from being obedient, won't be so long. It will be 1000 years or less according to when the last cent is paid (Mt 18:32-35), whether we require few lashes or many (Lk 12:47-48). How much more intensified will our death be because we have more knowledge plus the word of God, the Bible (*logos*), prophets, teachers, tables and household heads. We are being pruned, washed with the word. If the teachers are not teaching and the prophets are not prophesying, how can we expect to hear his voice? How can we be led? Leaders are to be prayed for and are to be praying themselves.

What if we fail to come to know Him as Paul is exhorting us to in Phil 3:10? What if we drift and fail to declare Yahshua is our Sovereign? What if we fail to love our children, wife, brothers and sisters? We need Him, we need to give Him our sovereignty — to be led by Him. We need to declare our love of Him. We need to declare our love of Him and how thankful we are. What if we are not zealous for good deeds (Titus 2:14)? What if we are only producing a little bit of fruit (Jn 15:8)? If we are not vitally connected to the vine we are bound to be disciplined.

The King is on the throne but are we making Him king? He's with us, in our spirit, but He is not King until we acknowledge it. We can only confess what we know, what the Holy Spirit allows us to (Titus 2:14).

He won't do it apart from the word. We must walk with Him. A river of living water should be flowing out of us

Covenant Partner

Do we have a covenant partner? Who is our covenant partner?

Covenant partners both agree to do certain things. He walks with you — you walk with Him. What if one partner fails to carry out his end of the covenant? What happens if God breaks His covenant? He will be cut in two like the animals Abraham split. He'll resign, he'll abdicate. If *ahavah* doesn't capture the hearts of men to fulfill Gen 18:19, *training* their children to *keep the way* by love. He said, "I'm going to gather a people to me. I can trust those whom I bring to repentance. I can entrust my Spirit to them until the day of redemption."

Titus 2:14 — What are good works? Alms giving, teaching, things done in the Spirit, being friendly. (If you want

friends, you must be friendly.) The Holy Spirit prompts us to be zealous for good works. If we are led by the Spirit we will be. If not, we won't. It is cut and dried.

What about all forms of greed that we are to be on our guard against (Lk 12:15)? What about the prophet who won't prophecy? Community exposes the greed in us. It exposes our life. Community is so that familiarity can breed contempt — if we are led by the flesh. If we are led by the Spirit we'll see things entirely differently.

We'll see the need and not everything else. Possessions expose our heart when we see our brother in need.