

CONCERNING THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE, HOLINESS, THE HOLY SPIRIT & SALVATION

(To be read in conjunction with the Second Death and the Lake of Fire documents)

Holiness is Intrinsic to The Lamb's Book of Life

BE HOLY...

Holy = ἅγιος = hagnos: Properly clean, that is, innocent, modest, perfect: - chaste, clean, pure.

Holiness = ἁγιασμός, = hagianismos: Properly purification, that is, (the state) purity; concretely (by Hebraism) a purifier: holiness, sanctification.

Lev 19:2 Speak to all the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them, **You shall be holy, for I, Jehovah your God, am holy.**

1Pe 1:13 - 16 Therefore girding up the loins of your mind, being sober, perfectly hope for the grace being brought to you **at the revelation of Jesus Christ**, as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, **but according to the Holy One who has called you, you also become holy in all conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."**

Rev 20:6 **Blessed and holy** is he who has part in **the first resurrection**. **The second death** has no authority over these, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with Him a thousand years.

Deut 14:2 For you are **a holy people** to Jehovah your God, and Jehovah has chosen you to **be a peculiar people** to Himself, above all the nations that are on the earth. ("You may say, If you were so holy, you would be unlike other people. I answer, I know it well: it is just what I want you to be. **Christ's true servants always were unlike the world around them,—a separate nation, a peculiar people; and you must be so too**, if you would be saved.") - J C Ryle, 1816 - 1900

We must be holy on earth before we die, if we desire to go to heaven after death. If we hope to dwell with God for ever in the life to come, we must endeavour to be like Him in the life that now is. We must not only admire holiness, and wish for holiness: we must be holy.

Holiness cannot justify and save us: holiness cannot cover our iniquities, make satisfaction for transgressions, pay our debts to God. Our best works are no better than filthy rags, when tried by the light of God's law. The righteousness which Jesus Christ brought in must be our only confidence,—the blood of atonement our only hope. All this is perfectly true, and yet we must be holy.

We must be holy, because this is the only sound evidence that we have a saving faith in Christ. "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also" (James 2: 17, 26).

We must be holy, because this is the only proof that we love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. What can be more plain than our Lord's own words? "If ye love Me, keep my commandments." "He that hath my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves Me." (John 14:15, 21).

We must be holy, because this is the only sound evidence that we are God's children. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." "Whosoever does not have righteousness is not of God" (Rom. 8: 14; I John 3: 10).

QUOTE: Reader, whatever you may think fit to say, **you must be holy if you would see the Lord**. Where is your Christianity if you are not? Show it to me without holiness, if you can. You must not merely have a Christian name and Christian knowledge - you must have a Christian character also: you must be a saint on earth, if ever you mean to be a saint in heaven. God has said it, and He will not go back,—"**Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.**" "The Pope's calendar," says Jenken, "only makes saints of the dead, but Scripture requires sanctity in the living." "Let not men deceive themselves," says Owen, "sanctification is a qualification indispensably necessary—unto those who will be under the conduct of the Lord Jesus unto salvation: He leads none to heaven but whom He sanctifies on the earth. This living Head will not admit dead members."

Surely you will not wonder that Scripture says, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). Surely it is clear as noon-day that many of you need a complete change — new hearts, new natures — if ever you are to be saved. **Old things must pass away, you must become new creatures.** Without holiness, no man, be he who he may — no man shall see the Lord.

Reader, consider well what I have said. Do you feel any desire to be holy? Does your conscience whisper, "I am not holy yet, but I should like to become so"? Listen to the advice I am going to give you. The Lord grant you may take it and act upon it!

There is not a brick nor a stone laid in the work of our sanctification till we go to Christ. **Holiness is His special gift to His believing people; holiness is the work He carries on in their hearts, by the Spirit whom He puts within them.** He is appointed a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance as well as remission of sins: to as many as receive Him He gives power to become sons of God. Holiness comes not of blood,—parents cannot give it to their children; nor yet of the will of the flesh — man cannot produce it in himself; nor yet of the will of man — ministers cannot give it you by baptism. Holiness comes from Christ. It is the result of vital union with Him: it is the fruit of being a living branch of the true vine. Go then to Christ, and say, "Lord, not only save me from the guilt of sin, but send the Spirit, whom Thou didst promise. Make me holy. Teach me to do Thy will."

Would you continue holy, when you have once been made so? Then abide in Christ. He says Himself, "Abide in Me, and I in you. He that abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit" (John 15: 4, 5).

He is the Physician to whom you must daily go, if you would keep well; He is the Manna which you must daily eat, and the Rock of which you must daily drink. His arm is the arm on which you must daily lean, as you come up out of the wilderness of this world. You must not only be rooted, you must also be built up in Him.

Reader, may you and I know these things by experience, and not by hearsay only! May we all feel the importance of holiness, far more than we have ever done yet! May our years be holy years with our souls, and then I know they will be happy ones! But this I say once more, "**We must be holy.**"

Lastly, we must be holy, because without holiness on earth we should never be prepared and meet for heaven. It is written of the heavenly glory, "There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles, neither whatsoever works abomination, or makes a lie" (Rev. 21: 27). Paul says expressly, "**Without holiness no man shall see the Lord**" (Heb. 12:14). UNQUOTE

The above 13 paragraphs quoted from: 'We Must Be Holy' – J C Ryle, 1816 – 1900

Christians must never wink at SIN! It has deadly ETERNAL consequences!

...the Book of Life of the Lamb (Rev.13:8)

What is the origin of **the Lamb's Book of Life** and the purpose of its existence? This Book (scroll) is directly linked to the Lamb of God — who is none other than Jesus Christ, Saviour of the whole world. Therefore, it's all about those resurrected humans (glorified bodies) who will spend all eternity with Him, His Father and the heavenly host in the New Jerusalem – New Heaven and New Earth.

WHEN DID THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE COME INTO EXISTENCE?

Eph 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as He **hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should **be holy** and without blame before Him in love: Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of His will...

Greek = katabole = Founding (of the Earth). Therefore, we can deduce that at the time of Creation **the Lamb's Book of Life** was already extant. Therefore, it is quite possible that Adam and Eve were the first names ever written into **the Lamb's book of life**. The Bible tells us that Jesus was at His Father's side as a Master Craftsman during the Creation saga. **The Lamb's Book** has to do with life – specifically eternal life.

Proverbs 8:30 I was beside Him as a master craftsman: And I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him; (TNKJV)

Heb 1:10 You, Lord, have laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the works of your hands. And Rom 8:29 says, for whom He **foreknew**, He also **predestinated** to be conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be the First-born among many brothers.

Greek = progino sko = Foreknew, to know beforehand.

Greek = proorizo = Predestined, ordained, before.

It is clear, that somehow (?) beloved Abba and our Lord Jesus knew us prior to, or at the time of creation. In other words, just as all the creatures were created to fill the earth, so too, we humans were destined to do the same. Therefore, we conclude that from the very beginning there are a fixed number of humans that were to be born throughout the passage of time. The Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11) gives credence to this line of thinking.

The Lamb's Book of Life contains the names of those humans destined for salvation. They are the ones who will spend all eternity with our beloved Heavenly Father, and His Son in the New Jerusalem. The wicked — the unsaved, after the Great White Throne Judgment, will be cast alive into the Lake of Fire and will be tormented for all eternity along with Satan, the Beast and the False Prophet – this is the second death!

Seemingly there are three aspects to **the Lamb's Book of Life**:

- 1) Those destined for salvation (Christians) who will spend eternity with the Lamb and the Father in the New Jerusalem.
- 2) Those Christians whose names were removed from **the Lamb's Book of Life** with resultant horrendous consequences.
- 3) The wicked, whose names were never in **the Lamb's Book of Life**, example: Judas Iscariot (Matt 26:24-25, Acts 1:20, Psalm 109:8) – see the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11)

SOME SCRIPTURES...

Ps 69:28 **Let them be blotted out of the Book of Life**, and not be written with the righteous. Phil 4:3...and others of my fellow-laborers, whose names are in **the Book of Life**.

Rev 3:5. **The one who overcomes**, this one will be clothed in white clothing. **And I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life**, but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Rev 13:8 And all dwelling on the earth will worship it (the first beast), those whose names have **not been** written in **the Book of Life of the Lamb** slain, from the foundation of the world. Rev 17:8 ...And those dwelling on the earth will

marvel, those whose names were **not written** in the **Book of Life** from the foundation of the world, when they beheld the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, the small and the great, stand before God. **And books were opened, and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged out of those things, which were written in the books, according to their works.** Rev 20:15 **And if anyone was not found having been written in the Book of Life, he was cast into the Lake of Fire.** Rev 22:19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life**, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

The above scriptures are the primary scriptures that deal with the subject of **the Lamb's Book of Life**. It is indeed interesting to note that the majority of **the Book of Life** scriptures are revealed within the Book of Revelation. This fact is another reason why Christian's should understand the Revelation according to the instruction given to John, whilst incarcerated on the Isle of Patmos.

Rev 1:3 Blessed is the one who reads and hears the Words of this prophecy, and the ones keeping the things written in it, for the time is near.

Do not be deceived! If your name is **not** in the **Book of Life** you **will never** be a citizen of the New Jerusalem, and by implication the New Heaven and the New Earth. Furthermore, Revelation 3:5,13:8,17;8, 20:12, 20:15, and Ps 69:28 make it clear that Jesus can remove a name from His book, if He so wishes.

WHY WOULD JESUS REMOVE A BELIEVER'S NAME FROM THE BOOK OF LIFE?

It is highly probable that Christians who treat redemption lightly will have their names removed, should they not repent. The cost of our redemption (purchase) is unquantifiable in human terms! Heb 10:26 - 29 **For if we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.** He who despised Moses' Law died without mercy on the word of two or three witnesses. **Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy of punishment, the one who has trampled the Son of God, and who has counted the blood of the covenant with which He was sanctified an unholy thing, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?**

Heb 12:1-11 Therefore since we also are surrounded with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily besets us**, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith, **who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right of the throne of God.** For consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest you be weary and faint in your minds. **You have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.** And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons, "My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the Lord loves He chastens, and He scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons, for what son is he whom the father does not chasten? But if you are without chastisement, of which all are partakers, then you are bastards and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh who corrected us, and we gave them reverence. **Shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?** For truly they chastened us for a few days according to their own pleasure, **but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness.** Now chastening for the present does not seem to be joyous, but grievous. Nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who are exercised by it.

Christians take heed of the following and learn to walk circumspectly:

- The perfect obedience of the Son, in taking upon Himself the sins of the entire world, which resulted in Him being separated from His heavenly Father for the first time. **Col 1:20 And through Him having made peace through the blood of His cross, it pleased the Father to reconcile all things to Himself through Him, whether the things on earth or the things in Heaven.**
- Emotional Stress: Jesus' emotional stress and physical abuse began in the Garden of Gethsemane and continued with his mock-trial by the Jewish leaders, followed by his being mocked and severely beaten by the Roman soldiers. His trial before Pontus Pilate – receiving the 39 lashes and finally His torturous walk to Golgotha and crucifixion. The disciples unable to keep awake in order to succor him with prayer. Pressure so severe in Gethsemane, that He sweats blood (see, The Horror of Crucifixion on our web site).
- Betrayal, trial, and His unlawful conviction. His own people received Him not. And separation from His Father (undoubtedly supreme stress!). The accumulative stresses of these events were so great, that it is possible that He ultimately died of a broken heart (see, The Horror of Crucifixion on our web site).
- Physical Stress: Arrest in Gethsemane, abuse by the Sanhedrin, crowned with thorns, 39 lashes, severe beatings, His torturous walk to Golgotha, and the gruesome crucifixion experience, as well as being pieced in His side (see, The Horror of Crucifixion on our web site).
- As a result of the horrendous flogging and crown of thorns – He was physically torn to shreds and was totally unrecognizable – confirming the prophecy of Isaiah:

53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom is the arm of Jehovah revealed? 53:2 For He comes up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground; **He has no form nor majesty that we should see Him, nor an appearance that we should desire Him.** 53:3 **He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as it were a hiding of faces from Him, He being despised, and we esteemed**

Him not. 53:4 Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was on Him; and with His stripes we ourselves are healed. 53:10 Yet it pleased Jehovah to crush Him; to grieve Him; that He should put forth His soul as a guilt-offering. He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the will of Jehovah shall prosper in His hand. 53:11 He shall see the fruit of the travail of His soul. He shall be fully satisfied. By His knowledge shall My righteous Servant justify for many; and He shall bear their iniquities.

Endure His Father's unrelenting wrath (against mankind's sin) in His body - right to the very end, and in the process suffering indescribable pain, in order to do His Father's perfect will - for the sake of redemption. We have been redeemed at a horrendous cost.

- Worldliness and Unconfessed Sin: The scriptures make it abundantly clear that believers are in the world – but not of the world. Under no circumstances are we to compromise, emulate, or desire the world system in any manner whatsoever! Furthermore, believers who **practice** (continue to do) the things listed below, after receiving salvation will never enter the New Jerusalem.

Rev 22:15 **But outside** (will never, ever, have the possibility of inhabiting The New Jerusalem) are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, **and everyone who loves and makes a lie.** Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and the unbelieving, and the **abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars,** will have their part in the **Lake burning with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.**

Of course, included in these acts of rebellion are: unforgiveness, adultery, perverse language and marriages (men with men and woman with woman) pornography, the list is endless...

According to Internet statistics, today more and more females are hooked on pornography, which in years gone by, was perceived as a male domain. The following statistics supplied by www.covenanteyesministries.com are an absolute eye-opener!! In 2003, 34% of female readers of Today's Christian Woman's online newsletter admitted to intentionally accessing Internet porn. In August 2006, a survey reported 50% of all Christian men and 20% of all Christian women are addicted to pornography. 60% of the women who answered the survey admitted to having significant struggles with lust; 40% admitted to being involved in sexual sin in the past year]. Dare we even think of what these percentages are in 2014!! Add to this, the scourge of the social-media driven sex-text frenzy. www.covenanteyesministries.com offer a freebee eBook which explains amongst many things the serious chemical imbalance produced in the brain via continuous visual stimulation. The chemical dopamine is the neurotransmitter responsible for helping us remember where to satisfy our natural drives - and is the primary cause of addiction, and the ensuing desire for more and more. Pornography for Christians is an absolute NO, NO - especially married Christians.

James 1:15 Then when lust has conceived, **it brings forth sin. And sin, when it is fully formed, brings forth death.**

Gal 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are clearly revealed, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lustfulness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, fightings, jealousies, angers, rivalries, divisions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkennesses, revelings, **and things like these; of which I tell you before, as I also said before, that they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.** UNFORGIVENESS is a serious transgression as well.

Col 3:8 But now also put off all these things: **anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, shameful speech out of your mouth.**

Jas 3:10 **Out of the same mouth proceeds blessing and cursing.** My brothers, these things ought not to be so. 1Co 4:14 I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children **I warn you.**

1Co 10:6 And these things were our examples, that we should not be lusters after evil, as they also lusted.

1Co 10:11 And all these things happened to them as examples; **and it is written for our warning** on whom the ends of the world have come.

Eph 5:11 **And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.**

1Ti 6:11 **But you, O man of God, flee these things and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness.**

Php 4:8 Finally, my brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are right, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue and if there is any praise, **think (dwell) on these things.**

There are many more scriptures dealing with the topic of disobedience/rebellion, for now, we believe the above serve as sufficient warning for the saints – a 'wake-up' call, if you will.

OVERCOMING IS A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN MAINTAINING OUR NAMES IN THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE.

Rom 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome** evil with good.

2Pe 2:19 Promising them liberty, they themselves are the slaves of corruption. For by whom anyone has been **overcome**, even to this one he has been enslaved.

2Pe 2:20 For if they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the full knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and are again entangled, they have been **overcome** by these, their last things are worse than the first.

1Jn 2:13:14 ...I write to you, young men, because you have **overcome** the evil one... ...I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the Word of God abides in you, and you have **overcome** the evil one.

1Jn 4:4 You are of God, little children, and you have **overcome** them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1Jn 5:4-5 For everything that has been born of God **overcomes** the world. And this is the victory that **overcomes** the world, **our faith**. Who is he who **overcomes** the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who **overcomes** I will give to eat of the Tree of Life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Rev 2:11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who **overcomes** will not be hurt by the second death.

Rev 2:17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who **overcomes** I will give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give to him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knows except he who receives it.

Rev 2:26 And he who **overcomes** and keeps My works to the end, to him I will give power over the nations.

Rev 3:5 The one who **overcomes**, this one will be clothed in white clothing. **And I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life**, but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Rev_3:12 Him who **overcomes** I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will go out no more. And I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of Heaven from My God, and My new name.

Rev_3:21 To him who **overcomes** I will grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame and have sat down with My Father in His throne.

Rev 21:7 He who **overcomes** will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son.

Rev 12:11 And they **overcame** him because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony. And they did not love their soul until death.

Rev 11:7 And when they complete their testimony, the beast coming up out of the abyss will make war against them and will **overcome** them and kill them.

Rev 13:7 And it was given to it to war with the saints and to **overcome** them. And authority was given to it over every tribe and tongue and nation.

Rev 17:14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will **overcome** them...

WHEN BELIEVERS SIN – WHAT SHOULD THEY DO?

Born again believers still have the propensity to sin – even though they are saved. What should one do in order to obviate (prevent) their name being removed from **the Lamb's Book of Life**? Immediately after being **convicted** of sin by the Holy Spirit - we must confess (genuine repentance) our sin(s) and where applicable, seek to make right!

Joh 16:8 **And when that One (the Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world concerning sin, and concerning righteousness, and concerning judgment.**

1Jn 1:9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

No doubt, for most of us the necessity to confess will be an on-going exercise throughout our entire lives. **We must constantly be ready to forgive (and forget)** also, we must learn to be obedient to the convicting voice of our beloved Father's Holy Spirit. It is also essential to continually renew our minds through the reading of the word – this practise will keep us attentive to 'the still small voice.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Joh 16:8 And when **that One comes, He will convict the world concerning sin, and concerning righteousness, and concerning judgment.**

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is: **love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control; against such things there is no law.**

Rom 8:16 **The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.**

1Co 6:11 And such were some of you. **But you are washed, but you are sanctified, but you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.**

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you **are sealed until the day of redemption.**

Rom 8:23 And not only so, but ourselves also, who have **the first fruit of the Spirit**, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, awaiting adoption, the redemption of our body.

1Co 2:4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of **the Spirit and of power,**

1Co 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of **the Spirit of God**, for they are foolishness to him; neither can he know them, **because they are spiritually discerned.** 1

Co 3:16 **Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?**

Eph 1:13 in whom also you, hearing the Word of Truth, the gospel of our salvation, in whom also believing, **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.**

Eph 3:5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it is now revealed to His holy apostles and prophets **by the Spirit,**

1Jn 4:2 **By this you know the Spirit of God:** every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God; 1Jn 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the antichrist you heard is coming, and even now is already in the world.

1Jn 4:13 By this we know that we dwell in Him, and He in us, **because He has given us of His Spirit.** 1Jn 5:7 **For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit and these three are one.**

CALLED-OUT ONES - ECCLESIA

We believe that our beloved Holy Spirit knows whose names are in the Lamb's Book of Life and in this present age is calling out predestined ones from the world system — those whose names are recorded in **the Lamb's Book of Life.**

The ETERNAL question to those who may be reading this article is: do you have the assurance of knowing that your name is in **the Lamb's Book of Life?** It is possible to have this assurance in the here and now. Read on...

SALVATION - A GIFT OF GOD

Eph 2:8 For by grace you are saved through faith, **and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God,** Eph 2:9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, **which God has before ordained** that we should walk in them. Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **Ephesians is emphatic! Salvation is a gift, which can never be earned.** So, how can one be reconciled to beloved Abba through His son Jesus Christ, and have assurance of salvation? We find the answer to this question in the following scripture:

Rom 10:8 But what does it say? "The Word is near you, even in your mouth and in your heart"; that is, **the Word of Faith** which we proclaim; Rom 10:9 **Because if you confess the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.** Rom 10:10 For with the **heart** one believes unto **righteousness,** and with the **mouth one confesses unto salvation.** Rom 10:11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone believing on Him shall not be put to shame." Rom 10:12 For there is no difference both of Jew and of Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call on Him. Rom 10:13 **For everyone, "whoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved."**

Jesus said in John 3:3 that in order to see (understand, comprehend, catch sight of) heaven one needs to be born again. Joh 3:1–8 And there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **He came to Jesus by night** and said to Him, Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles which you do unless God is with him. Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, **Unless a man is born again,** he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born? Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless a man is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, **You must be born again.** The Spirit breathes where He desires, and you hear His voice, but you do not know from where He comes, and where He goes; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.

Eph 1:7 **In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace**

HOW DOES ONE OBTAIN THE GIFT OF SALIVATION?

In effect, if you sincerely believe what Romans 10:8 conveys and confess (repent of) your sins in obedience, then you are perfectly acceptable to our beloved Saviour – Jesus Christ. And your name is confirmed in **the Lamb's Book of Life** — you must believe this at all costs. In fact, your being drawn to Christ is the work of the beloved Holy Spirit and nothing of yourself.

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