

Were you taught to just "believe" in Jesus to have everlasting life?

John 3:14-15 But even as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Is that all there is to it? Just "believe" and you will have everlasting life? So, God would not favor, say, only three "believers" from a large group of "believers" for any particular reason and forsake the rest, would he?

Ezekiel 14:12-20 The Word of Yehovah came again to me, saying, Son of man, when a land sins against Me by traitorous betraying, then I will stretch out My hand on it, and will break the staff of its bread, and will send famine on it, and will cut off man and beast from it. And though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver only their own souls by their righteousness, says the Lord Yehovah. If I cause destroying beasts to come through the land, and they spoil it so that it is deserted, so that no one may pass through because of the beasts, though these three men were in its midst, as I live, says the Lord Yehovah, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters. They only shall be delivered, but the land shall be deserted. Or if I bring a sword on that land, and say, Sword, go through the land; so that I cut off man and beast from it; though these three men were in it, as I live, says the Lord Yehovah, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only shall be delivered themselves. Or if I send a plague into that land, and pour out My fury on it in blood, to cut off man and beast from it; though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live, says the Lord Yehovah, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter. They shall only deliver their own souls by their righteousness.

It seems that this "Lord Yehovah" knew these three men by name because of their righteousness, but would not deliver the other "believers". Moses was righteous - did this Yehovah know Moses by name? Were they friends?

Exodus 33:11-12 And Yehovah would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he turned again to the camp. But his servant, Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not leave the middle of the tabernacle. And Moses said to Yehovah, Behold, You say to me, Bring up this people. And You have not told me whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.

Who do you believe in?

Would you recognize who this "Yehovah", this great "I AM", is?

Exodus 3:13-14 And Moses said to God, Behold, *when* I come to the sons of Israel, and shall say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they shall say to me, What *is* His name? What shall I say to them?

And God said to Moses, I AM THAT I AM. And He said, So you shall say to the sons of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.

Or, maybe it is the New Testament Lord "Jesus" you believe in, and not this Old Testament Lord "Yehovah" that calls Himself the great "I AM".

John 8:56-59 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and He saw and was glad. Then the Jews said to Him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham? Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Before Abraham came into being, I AM! Then they took up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus hid Himself and went forth out of the temple, going through *the* midst of them, and passed on by.

So, Jesus is the great "I AM"? It does make sense that Jesus knew Abraham. It was Jesus who spoke to Moses face to face! No wonder the gospel book of John mentions Moses over a dozen times. However, the religious people wanted to kill Jesus when He told them who he was; they did not recognize that Jesus was our Heavenly Father.

John 8:19 Then they said to Him, Where is your father? Jesus said to them, You neither know Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.

At the end of the holidays of the Feast of Tabernacles (Hebrew: Sukkot), Jesus clarifies this when He stands in the same place as Solomon, showing Himself as the One who Solomon prayed about when speaking his Dedication prayer in 2nd Chronicles 6 and 7. Here, Jesus simply tells the crowd who He is.

John 10:30-31 I and the Father are one! Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

Actually, this was a hard concept for Jesus's disciples to understand, as well.

John 14:8-9 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us. Jesus said to him, Have I been with you such a long time and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father. And how do you say, Show us the Father?

Indeed, this is a hard concept for Christians today. For many Christians, seeing Jesus speaking to Moses in that tent of meeting spoken of in Exodus 33 both makes very much sense, but goes against doctrine that they have been taught. Sadly, many have been taught a different Jesus... one that is not Yehovah. This is perhaps the greatest misunderstanding in human history and many a Christian's worst testimony to a Jew, as nearly every Jewish person is taught and knows this simple truth from Deuteronomy chapter 6 in the first verse of what is known as "The Shema":

Hebrew: Shema yisrael, Yehovah eloheinu, Yehovah echad.

English: Hear O' Israel, Yehovah is our God, Yehovah is One.

Ironically, as famous and well known as "The Shema" is to the everyday Jewish person, the passage in Isaiah 9:6-7 is just as familiar to the everyday Christian.

It is where we are told that this Jesus child born to us, this Prince of Peace, is Yehovah, our mighty God, the everlasting Father! His Spirit is our Counselor.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be on His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. There is no end of the increase of His government and peace on the throne of David, and on His kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with justice from now on, even forever. The zeal of Yehovah of Hosts will do this.

Who is our One and only Savior?

The book of Isaiah speaks often about the One and only Savior of the world.

Isaiah 43:10-11 (KJV) Ye *are* my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I *am* he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, *even* I, *am* the LORD; and beside me *there is* no saviour.

As many know, "Yeshua" is the Hebrew name of Jesus. With Hebrew names, this is saying that "I, even I, am Yehovah; and beside me there is no Yeshua."

Isaiah 43:10-11 (KVJ) Ye *are* my witnesses, saith Yehovah, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I *am* he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, *even* I, *am* the Yehovah; and beside me *there is* no Yeshua.

Our God is ONE, not three gods sharing glory with one another in a trinity.

Isaiah 42:8 I *am* Yehovah; that *is* My name; and My glory will I not give to another, nor My praise to graven images.

He is the one that saves Israel in the Old Testament, and He is the one that will save us, Israel, in the New Testament:

Isaiah 25:9 And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this *is* our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this *is* Yehovah; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

There is no other besides Yehovah, who is our Savior (Hebrew: Yeshua).

Isaiah 45:21 Declare and bring near; yea, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this of old? *Who* has told it from then? Is it not I, Yehovah? And *there is* no other God besides Me; a just God and a Savior; there is none besides Me.

Do you want to be saved? Turn to the only One who can save you.

Isaiah 45:22 Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I *am* God, and there *is* no other.

This Yehovah, our Yeshua (Hebrew for our Savior known as Jesus), is the One spoken of in Isaiah 53 that was despised and suffered rejection for us.

Acts 4:11-12 This is the Stone which you builders have counted worthless, and He has become the Head of *the* Corner. And there is salvation in no other One; for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Sinners turn to Him and are saved. There is none other like Him.

Isaiah 46:8-10 Remember this, and be a man; return *it* on *your* heart, O sinners. Remember former things from forever; for I *am* God, and no other *is* God, even none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from the past things which were not done, saying, My purpose shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure;

Consider reading Exodus 33, substituting of the word "Jesus" the for LORD, Yehovah, and you will see Moses speaking to "Jesus" in that tent of meeting. This One is the same Savior that delivered Israel out of Egypt.

Hosea 13:4 Yet I *am* Yehovah your God from the land of Egypt, and you shall know no God but Me. For there is no Savior besides Me.

More than just faith to "believe"

Do you know whom it is you believe in? More importantly, does He know you? The popular "Romans Road to Salvation" is a teaching tool that uses a quick read of the following passages from the New Testament book of Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 8:1, 8:38-39, 10:9-13 to give a basic understanding of why one would need Yehovah/Yeshua/Jesus to save them from their sin. These passages from the book of Romans conclude with the following verses:

Romans 10:10-13 For with *the* heart *one* believes unto righteousness, and with *the* mouth *one* confesses unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Everyone believing on Him shall not be put to shame." 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. For everyone, "whoever shall call on the name of *the* Lord will be saved."

This is yet another remembrance of what is written in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 12:2-4 Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid for the LORD YEHOVAH is my strength and my song; He also has become my salvation. And with joy you shall draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day you shall say, Praise Yehovah! Call on His name; declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted.

So, is this it? Is all we have to do to be saved is to call on His name and believe? If so, then how do we explain this next quote spoken by Jesus?

Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to Me, Lord! Lord! shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord! Lord! Did we not prophesy in Your name, and through Your name throw out demons, and through Your name do many wonderful works? And then I will say to them I never knew you! Depart from Me, those working lawlessness!

This quote is scary to those who felt they only need "to believe" to enter the kingdom of Heaven. This sounds very similar to the passage in Ezekiel 14 where only Noah, Daniel, and Job were delivered because of their righteousness. In fact, many of these passages that we have read mention righteousness. This passage also mentions lawlessness; what is lawlessness? Lawlessness and iniquity are synonyms for the same word: sin.

1st **John 3:4** Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.

1st John 3:4 (KJV) Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

It is sin that separates a person from their Savior, Yehovah/Yeshua/Jesus.

Isaiah 59:1-2 Behold, Yehovah's hand is not shortened so that it cannot save, nor is His ear heavy so that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have come between you and your God, and your sins have hidden *His* face from you, from hearing.

Belief and faith alone cannot save us! Our good works of righteousness matter greatly!

James 2:14-20 My brothers, what profit *is it* if a man says he has faith and does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and if one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them those things which are needful to the body, what good *is it*? Even so, if it does not have works, faith is dead, being by itself. But someone will say, You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith from my works. You believe that there is one God, you do well; even the demons believe and tremble. But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

This discussion started with John, chapter 3. Looking at this chapter again, we can see that our works in life truly do matter and will be revealed.

John 3:20-21 For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who practices truth comes to the Light so that his works may be revealed, that they exist, having been worked in God.

What are these good works of righteousness?

The good works of righteousness, this practicing of truth, is done by walking in the statutes and doing the commandments of Yehovah. These are explained in the first five books of the Bible, known as books of the "Torah" (Hebrew) or "Law" (English). For example, the "Ten Commandments", listed in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5, are contained within these books of scripture; the holidays that we are to keep are listed in Leviticus 23; sexuality questions are answered in Leviticus 18; et cetera. Consider taking some time to read these commandments now (see also the blessings for obedience and punishments for disobedience in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28, and the call to obey them in Deuteronomy 30). As you have just read, "sin" is the transgression of this Law/Torah and is known as Lawlessness/Torahlessness. Sadly, many false teachers have taught that Jesus is not Yehovah, and that this new Jesus has done away with the Law/Torah and the books of the prophets that you have just been learning from. False teachers often attempt to twist the Apostle Paul's words in the New Testament, such as twisting an explanation to the Galatian people concerning their understanding of physical circumcision (see Acts chapter 15 and the book of Galatians), into negating Torah/Law! Not too surprisingly, the real Jesus discussed this issue at the beginning of his famous "Sermon on the Mount":

Matthew 5:17-19 Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law until all is fulfilled. Therefore whoever shall relax one of these commandments, the least, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven.

In the rest of this "sermon on the mount", Jesus raises the standard (basically, don't even think about sinning), rather than lowering the standard for obedience to the Law/Torah.

The *real* Jesus told us that keeping His commandments is how we show our love towards Him:

John 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.

Sadly, through the ages false teachers taught so many unnecessary doctrines and traditions of men, calling them "law", that men often also reject the Torah/Law. Jesus himself even had to deal with this issue.

Matthew 15:1-2 Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.

However, Jesus dealt very directly with this issue.

Matthew 15:3-9 But He answered and said to them, Why do you also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, "Honor your father and mother"; and, "He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him die by death." But you say, Whoever says to *his* father or mother, Whatever you would gain from me, *It is* a gift to God; and in no way he honors his father or his mother. And you voided the commandment of God by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying,

"This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they worship Me, teaching *for* doctrines *the* commandments of men."

Many Christians say that the Torah/Law is just for Jews, as an excuse to sin. But the Bible says there is one Torah/Law for everyone.

Exodus 12:49 There shall be one law to the native, and to the visitor that stays among you.

Some say that this Torah/Law was just for "then", but not "now" – however, the Bible says that there is one Torah/Law for everyone... forever!

Numbers 15:15-16 One ordinance for you of the congregation and also for the stranger that resides with you, an ordinance forever in your generations. As you are, so the stranger shall be before Yehovah. One law and one way shall be for you and for the stranger that lives with you.

Some choose to be ignorant of this fact; however, there is still one Torah/Law.

Numbers 15:29 And you shall have one law for him who acts through ignorance; *for* him that is native among the sons of Israel and for the alien that resides among them.

The Apostle Paul was very concerned about false traditions and teachings:

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest anyone rob you through philosophy and vain deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ.

Sadly, as mentioned, some still try to twist the New Testament Apostle Paul's words. Take for example the previously mentioned topic of circumcision, where some try to make the Law/Torah void through faith. This is nothing new. The Apostle Paul addresses this issue directly.

Romans 3:29-31 Or *is He* the God of the Jews only, and not also of the nations? Yes, of the nations also, since *it is* one God who will justify circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith. Do we then make the Law void through faith? Let it not be! But we establish the Law.

Unbelievably, some even teach that obeying the law is sin. However, New Testament Apostle Paul also addresses this issue directly, too.

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Let it not be said! But I did not know sin except through the law. For also I did not know lust except the law said, You shall not lust.

Some misunderstand "grace", which teaches us to deny worldly lusts and sin. Paul mentions this, as well, when writing his friend Titus.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that having denied ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live discreetly, righteously and godly, in this present world, looking for the blessed hope, and the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and purify to Himself a special people, zealous of good works.

Basically, the Apostle Paul repeatedly confirms that the Law/Torah is good.

Romans 7:12 So indeed the Law *is* holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good.

This is because Jesus repeatedly quoted the Law/Torah when He spoke.

Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things, whatever you desire that men should do to you, do even so to them; for this is the Law and the Prophets.

What was this particular "Law" that Jesus was quoting?

Leviticus 19:17-18 You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall always rebuke your neighbor, and not allow sin on him. You shall not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people; but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I *am* Yehovah.

Yes, what thought of as a golden rule of the New Testament is actually a law from the books of the Law/Torah in the Old Testament. Also, as you have just read, part of this law is sharing this understanding that you are learning with your neighbor so that they can choose not to sin. This is how you, and your neighbor, build a strong foundation together in life. When Jesus taught this, they were astonished, as He had an authority that the religious men did not.

Matthew 7:24-29 Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on a rock. And the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house. And it did not fall, for it was founded on a rock. And everyone who hears these sayings of Mine and does not do them shall be compared to a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain came down, and the floods came, and the wind blew and beat on that house. And it fell, and great was its fall. And it happened, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His doctrine. For He taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

Choose righteousness and choose life!

The Law/Torah teaches us to do righteousness and to not sin.

Psalms Chapter 1 Blessed *is* the man who has not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, and has not stood in the way of sinners, and has not sat in the seat of the scornful. But his delight *is* only in the Law of Yehovah; and in His Law he meditates day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivulets of water that brings forth its fruit in its seasons, and its leaf shall not wither, and all which he does shall be blessed. The wicked *are* not so, but *are* like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For Yehovah knows the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Choose the path of righteousness that leads to everlasting life.

Mathew 7:13-14 Go in through the narrow gate, for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and many there are who go in through it. Because narrow *is* the gate and constricted *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

A starting point

Yes, believe in Yehovah/Yeshua/Jesus as your Savior! Yes, Confess with your mouth that He, our One True God, is Lord! And, choose life by becoming a doer of the Word – learn and do His Law/Torah of liberty and continue in righteousness!

James 1:22-25 But become doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if anyone is a hearer of *the* Word and not a doer, he is like a man studying his natural face in a mirror. For he studied himself and went his way, and immediately *he* forgot what he was like. But whoever looks into the perfect Law of liberty and continues *in it*, he is not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of *the* work. This one shall be blessed in his doing.

Earlier in this study, it was suggested that you take a moment to review the Ten Commandments which explain how to show basic love towards your God and your neighbor. Most already keep latter half of the commandments concerning one's neighbor (do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, et cetera); however, the earlier commandments about your relationship with Yehovah, your God, are often overlooked.

For example, consider the commandment concerning Yehovah's Sabbaths.

Here is a suggested starting point for you: Honor the name of Yehovah by observing the Sabbath this very week. The weekly Sabbath is between Friday Evening at Sundown and Saturday Evening at Sundown. Do not work, force others to work, or buy and sell during this time, as this is a day of rest for everyone. Likewise, learn about the other special Sabbaths, listed in Leviticus 23, and observe them each year.

Be watchful, also, to learn when the Sabbaths are. Do not be deceived into keeping any Sabbath on the wrong day by false teachings. Even printed

calendars with calculated times are nearly always wrong. If one attempts to observe any Sabbath on the wrong day, then have they actually observed it?

Likewise in addition to adding the Sabbaths to your life, give up extra holy days and traditions that are not commanded in the scriptures (ie: Easter, Christmas or other Solstice celebration, et cetera), as these often involve false worship (another of the Ten Commandments about your relationship with Yehovah).

Perhaps utilize your restful time on the Sabbath to learn the scriptures more.

You know Him, but does He know you?

Matthew Chapter 25 starts with a parable about virgins preparing for their groom to come to them. Some of the virgins who prepared themselves for the wedding went in to the marriage, and the door was shut. However, the other believers who did not do the proper things to prepare received the same terrible answer that you read about earlier in Matthew 7:21-23.

Matthew 25:11-12 Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Truly I say to you, I do not know you.

You know Him, but does He know you? How can you be confident in your relationship with Him and know that He knows you? Is there a sign?

Ezekiel 20:19-20 I *am* Yehovah your God. Walk in My statutes, and keep My judgments, and do them, and keep My sabbaths holy; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I *am* Yehovah your God.

Yes. As you have just read and learned, there is a sign between you and Him. This is how you know Him, and how He knows you.



This pamphlet was sponsored by SightedMoon. Please visit www.sightedmoon.com, where you can learn much more, including why Yehovah had to come in the flesh as Yeshua/Jesus for us in keeping the law of Deuteronomy 21:1-4 and why He is referred to as the bridegroom after what all of that in Jeremiah 3 was all about.

Unless otherwise noted, all scripture quotes are from the Modern King James Version.