

Everything Changed at the the Cross

“(v) On the road to Emmaus, the glory that is his; The disciples could never see. Then He broke the bread, then He shared the wine; It is the Lord, it is He! (c) Messiah our Lord and our King! O what a gift, what a wonderful gift; Who can tell the wonders of the Lord? Let us open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts; It's Messiah Lord, it is He!” ♪

Everything changed at “Golgotha (that is to say, Place of a Skull, see Matt. 27:33b)” when *Yeshua* expired. All of the forces of the evil one went there to witness the presumed Satan’s triumph foreshadowed by the *darkness that fell over the whole land* from noon to three in the afternoon of Wednesday *Nisan/Aviv 14*: “Then the fifth angel trumpeted, and I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to earth. The key to the bottomless pit was given to him. ²He opened the pit, and smoke rose from the pit like the smoke of a gigantic furnace. The sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the pit.” (Rev. 9:1-2). *Messiah Yeshua* made a *public spectacle of them*: “¹⁴He wiped out the handwritten record of debts with the decrees against us, which was hostile to us. He took it away by nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵After disarming the principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in the cross” (Col. 2:14-15). *Yeshua* *disarmed the principalities and powers* and Satan and his army we publicly defeated. The centurion saw this happen and *began glorifying God* saying *Messiah is Just!* When the hostile crowd saw this happen, they turned back (*made t’shuvah*) and *beat their breasts* (what Jews do only at *Yom Kippur*). His *acquaintances and the women who were following* (and his disciples) *did not see this happen* (they were *standing at a distance watching*) left instead doing neither of these things. They left defeated and fearful.

This event also fulfills His prophecy in John 8:28: “²⁸ So *Yeshua* said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know who I am. I do nothing by Myself, but speak just what the Father has taught Me.” Indeed, at the cross, at the moment of His death, He triumphed over evil once and for all time. You and I realize this and proclaim Him as the divine Son of God. However, notice that those present (even those responsible for His death) will *KNOW THAT I AM WHO I SAY I AM*. The Scripture in Colossians states unequivocally that *Yeshua*: “wiped out the handwritten record of debts with the decrees against us, which was hostile to us. He took it away by nailing it to the cross”. Therefore, “What then shall we say in view of these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Ro. 8:31)

How often have you (and I) betrayed *Yah Adonai or Yeshua*? We would like to say never when we should say *just a little while ago*. We know to do good, we know the correct behavior, but we turn away. Often it is because our vision is blurred as we focus on a fleshly reward. Do not kid yourself, Scripture says there is a reward for sinning, and the enemy convinces us that it is not death, but it is. Unless we can look in His eyes and experience His Love in the time of great sin, we will receive the agreed-upon reward and then we'll despair. The young man ran into *Yeshua* and asked “Teacher, what good shall I do to have eternal life?” (Matt. 19:16)...¹⁹You know the commandments, ‘Do not murder; do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony,’ do not cheat, ‘honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰The man responded, “Teacher, all these I have kept since my youth!” ²¹Looking at him, *Yeshua* *loved him* and said, “One thing you lack. Go, sell as much as you have, and give to the poor; and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me” (Mark 10:19-21). What was the young man’s response? What would be yours? “²²But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving, for he had much property” (Matt. 19:20-22). Evidently the world and its possessions had a great hold on his life.

Reality is that sometimes in our lives we make decisions that will gratify our flesh and often we are confronted with the multiple-choice test. For example, I may have decided to do this and that, fully knowing that I may be choosing my values, my agenda, and my choices over His (e.g., His Shabbat, or

His Feast, or His Way). But then something else comes along and all of a sudden *He is there confronting me with my choice(s)*. What will I do when instead of condemning me (which is what I expect) *He loves me instead?* ⁴⁸*Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The One I kiss, He's the One—seize Him!'* ⁴⁹*And immediately Judah drew near to Yeshua and said, "Shalom, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.* ⁵⁰*"Friend," Yeshua said to him, "do what you've come to do." Then they came up and threw their hands on Yeshua and seized Him. (Matt. 26:48-50)*

When we have really let Him down and betrayed Him, but in response to His look we repent. *When we have really let Him down?* You might say *I will never consciously let Him down*. I disagree. You and I have let Him down, big time. We are those people to whom He said *Go Ye...* But we *never went*. We know Him. We know His Ways. We know His *Torah*. We have said *Hineni*, Lord. Have we delivered on what we have said? So how will we, His disciples, members of His Bride respond today? So what response are we prepared to give today? ⁶¹*And the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, 'Before the rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times.'* ⁶²*And Peter went out and wept bitterly. (Luke 22:62)* When the Blood after applied is ignored; when we leave the safety of the blood-stained lintels of His love and wander into the night of horrors and the world; when we mess up big time; and when we *knowing better* go ahead and sin and ruin our lives, the *resurrection kicks* in, and we are given a *second chance*. This is what Peter and the rest of the disciples experienced. The same power is available to us today. Is *Yeshua really the Lord of a second chance?* How often can we sin and be forgiven? It is *seventy times seven!*

As awful and serious as Peter's sin (or the young man or Judas) was, it was not the *unpardonable sin!* What response are we prepared to give *His look of love* today? Did we get rid of the all *chametz* to obtain freedom? *Lord Yeshua I sinned. Forgive me me and restore me to full fellowship! Shabbat Shalom v'Chag Pesach Sameach!*