

Christianity

A Covenant of Marriage to Christ

(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament, I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and the LORD and Anointed for Christ.)

Our present teachings on How to Become a Christian or “What Must I do to be Saved,” are very vague, incomplete, if not outright wrong. Do people enter into a Covenant of Marriage more seriously than becoming a Christian? I believe the majority do. The majority of people today do not understand the meaning of a covenant with Yahweh. Marriage used to be a covenant that the majority of people kept, but today, fifty percent of Christian marriages, in the USA, end in divorce, meaning the vowing of promises, by at least one party, are not taken seriously. Yahweh is a Covenant God! Christianity is, in a figure, a Marriage Covenant to Christ as one’s Lord, that is to say, Master, that is to say, Owner, not to be broken in one’s lifetime, as the marriage covenant was originally designed. A person entering into this covenant demands, from that person, total fidelity; priority over your father, mother, brother, sister, wife, husband and your citizenship.¹ Yehoshua proclaimed, in Matthew 10:37, “He that loveth father or mother above me, is not, worthy, of me, — and, he that loveth son or daughter above me, is not, worthy, of me.” We must apply all of Yahweh’s Words in our lives and not just a few verses. Can a person enter into a covenant without reading his responsibilities? One can read from Genesis to Revelation, in selected readings, in thirty hours, thereby knowing what he is obligated to conform to Christ. The message of salvation today, in the Protestant Church, has been so simplified, in order, I believe, to save everyone, resulting in the very good possibility, according to today’s Protestant message, that Hitler and Stalin are with God and Jesus in Heaven at this moment. Is this the message Yahweh is proclaiming in his Word; Free passage to Heaven for all, regardless of what you have done or are going to do? This article is for the Teleios (Mature) members in Christ and not for babes.

It appears from Romans 10:9 that I am required to do only two things to become a Christian (Be saved):

- 1.) Confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord.
- 2.) Believe in my heart that God raised him from the dead.

Is a person saved if he meets the above two requirements but only for one day? One month? One year? Ten years? Hitler was confirmed as a Christian.² Stalin was also a Christian, attending a seminary.³ Can a person accomplish the above two requirements but refuse to obey the Ten Commandments and be saved, salvation being a Gift? Without reading the rest of Yahweh’s Word, thereby relying solely on this verse it would appear that I am not entering into a life long covenant; Christ not being my Master for the rest of my life. It appears that after completing the above requirements, there are no more responsibilities required by me throughout my life; once saved, always saved; eternal salvation? Billy Graham promises,

¹ Lk. 14:26-27 If anyone cometh unto me, and hateth not his own father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brothers, and sisters, further also, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever beareth not his own cross, and cometh after me, cannot be my disciple. Mt. 10:37-39 He that loveth father or mother above me, is not, worthy, of me, — and, he that loveth son or daughter above me, is not, worthy, of me; And, he that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not, worthy, of me. He that hath found his life, shall lose it, — and, he that hath lost his life, for my sake, shall find it.

² Hitler was born to a practicing Catholic mother, Klara Hitler, and was baptized in the Roman Catholic Church; his father, Alois Hitler, was a free-thinker and skeptical of the Catholic Church. In 1904, he was confirmed at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Linz, Austria, where the family lived.

³ Stalin had a complex relationship with the Orthodox Church. He attended an Orthodox seminary in his youth but was expelled for reasons that remain unclear.

“Salvation isn’t ours until we reach out and accept it.” It would appear that this is a unilateral covenant⁴ and not a bilateral covenant⁵, a promise by Yahweh that I will be saved regardless of my future actions; salvation being a free gift, not of works? The above ceremony would be likened to a marriage where a man would confess with his mouth that he takes this woman to be his wife, she requiring nothing more from him, while his wife’s requirements would be to take care of him the rest of his life; would this arrangement be similar to entering into Christianity? She has an obligation to him but he is not obligated to serve her? Does Christ have obligations to you but you do not have an obligation to him because you did not enter into a bilateral covenant with Christ but rather you received a free gift from Yahweh to use however you please? You are allowed to commit adultery against Christ, your Head, but he can not commit adultery against you? You can divorce Christ, choosing another but he can not divorce you. According to the below testimonies, you can because you have been given, “Eternal Security!” Are Hitler and Stalin with God and Jesus in Heaven, because they confessed and believed Romans 10:9 in their youth, thereby being promised, “Eternal Security?” Yes, according to Billy Graham and others, such as Dallas Theological Seminary!⁶ Billy Graham instructs people how to go to Heaven in the following statements.

How Can I Know for Sure I’ll Go to Heaven?

By Billy Graham

“Wondering whether you’ll go to heaven? Worried your sin will keep you out? These questions weigh heavily on people, even without the added stress of a pandemic.

The Bible says you can know for sure that you’ll be with God after you die. Romans 10:9 says, “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

“Salvation isn’t ours until we reach out and accept it.” – Billy Graham

Billy Graham, an evangelist who spent his life sharing the hope of Christ with people of all religions said this: “Your salvation depends on what [Christ] has done for you, not on what you do for Him. It isn’t your hold on God that saves you; it’s His hold on you.”

⁴ A unilateral contracts only involve one person making a promise or agreeing to a specific thing. In a unilateral contract, the offer is made generally to a group of people or a specific person.

⁵ A bilateral contract is a contract in which both parties exchange promises to perform. One party's promise serves as consideration for the promise of the other. As a result, each party is an obligor on that party's own promise and an obligee on the other's promise.

⁶ Article X—Eternal Security (Dallas Theological Seminary)

We believe that, because of the eternal purpose of God toward the objects of His love, because of His freedom to exercise grace toward the meritless on the ground of the propitiatory blood of Christ, because of the very nature of the divine gift of eternal life, because of the present and unending intercession and advocacy of Christ in heaven, because of the immutability of the unchangeable covenants of God, because of the regenerating, abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of all who are saved, we and all true believers everywhere, once saved shall be kept saved forever. We believe, however, that God is a holy and righteous Father and that, since He cannot overlook the sin of His children, He will, when they persistently sin, chasten them and correct them in infinite love; but having undertaken to save them and keep them forever, apart from all human merit, He, who cannot fail, will in the end present every one of them faultless before the presence of His glory and conformed to the image of His Son (John 5:24; 10:28; 13:1; 14:16–17; 17:11; Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 6:19; Heb. 7:25; 1 John 2:1–2; 5:13; Jude 24). <https://www.dts.edu/2022-dts-doctrinal-statement-strengthening/>

“Salvation is free!” Graham said. “God puts no price tag on the Gift of gifts.” But like any other gift, he wrote, “salvation isn’t ours until we reach out and accept it.” But what does that mean, especially for people whose faith traditions teach that attaining eternity is based on a person’s merits?

For one thing, salvation cannot be earned. Ephesians 2:8-9 states: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

God’s gift was sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on a cross for our sins. God’s grace covers our sin. You can be a loving person, a good person and even volunteer of the year, but it’ll never be good enough; we were all born with a sinful nature. That’s why Jesus’ sacrifice was the only solution to wipe our sins away so we can be in heaven with a holy God.

This doesn’t mean we never need to ask for God’s forgiveness – quite the contrary. We need to, and can go directly to Jesus Christ in prayer.

“Asking God to forgive you at the end of each day is both commendable and wise (and it’s a practice I’ve always tried to follow in my own life),” wrote Billy Graham.

Can you live guilt-free after asking for forgiveness? Absolutely, if you have a personal relationship with Christ.

He is freedom.

“It is not the cleansing of the conscience that saves you; it is faith in Christ that saves,” Graham explained. “A cleansed conscience is the result of having come into the right relationship with God.”

How does that happen? It means asking God’s Son, Jesus Christ, to come and live in your heart. “You must individually receive Christ as your Lord and your Saviour,” said Billy Graham. “You and you alone, in the quiet arena of your heart will have to make that decision.”

If you’re searching for forgiveness and for peace with God, you can walk through these steps and use the prayer below as a guide:

Admit you are a sinner.

Repent (turn away from sin and let go of past sin).

Believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for you.

Ask Jesus Christ into your heart and life.

How You Can Pray:

“Dear God, I know I’m a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe that He died for my sin and that you raised Him to life. I want to trust Him as my Saviour and

follow Him as Lord, from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.”⁷

The Highlight of His Message

We must examine some of his statements, according to the total Words of Yahweh and not just in verses in Romans, Galatians and Ephesians; statements such as, “Salvation is free!” “God puts no price tag on the Gift of gifts.” “Can you live guilt-free after asking for forgiveness? Absolutely, if you have a personal relationship with Christ.” The books of Romans, Galatians and Ephesians do not stand alone but must be reconciled to the rest of Yahweh Word. For example, in Luke 18:18-20, a person asked Yehoshua, “...by doing what, shall I inherit life age-abiding? But Yehoshua said to him...The commandments, thou knowest: — Do not commit adultery, Do not commit murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, — Honour thy father and mother...” Yehoshua instructed this man that he could receive life age abiding if he kept the Ten Commandments, which is a bilateral covenant;⁸ Yahweh gives you life if you obey his commandments. Billy Graham states that there are only two requirements but Paul states, in 1Corinthians 6:20, and 7:23, “For ye have been bought with a price! Therefore glorify Yahweh in your body, “With a price, have ye been bought, — do not become bond-servants of men.” How and when were you purchased? What obligations are your responsibility? Are these commands optional? Can I dishonor Yahweh in my body and also become the bond-servant of men and still receive life age-abiding, living with Christ on the New Earth? We have been purchased, which are words of obligation of the covenant we have entered into, being to glorify Yahweh in our bodies by obeying his will, which is written in his Word.

Billy Graham does not mention Luke 14:26-27, which states, “If anyone cometh unto me, and hateth not his own father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brothers, and sisters, further also, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever beareth not his own cross, and cometh after me, cannot be my disciple.” Billy Graham does not warn people of 2 Corinthians 5:10, which states, “For, we all, must needs be made manifest before the judgment seat of the Christ, that each one may get back the things done by means of the body, according to the things which he practised, whether good or corrupt.” Is our future judgment based on our merit? Yes! He also states, “But what does that mean, especially for people whose faith traditions teach that attaining eternity is based on a person’s merits⁹... God’s grace covers our sin?” Is this statement a contradiction of 2 Corinthians 5:10? Revelation 20:11-12 states, “And I saw a great white throne, and him that was sitting thereon, from whose face fled the earth and heaven, and, place, was not found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and, books, were opened, and, another book, was opened, which is, the book, of life; and the dead, were judged, out of the things written in the books, according to their works.” The instructions in the Pauline Epistles, which appear that the works of the law have been rescinded and life age-abiding is a free gift, not to be ever rescinded by my future wicked works, must be understood in the rest of the Words of Yahweh, as has been presented, in only a few verses, above. Colossians 3:23-25 state, “Whatsoever ye may be doing, from the soul, be working at it, as unto the Lord, and not unto men, — Knowing that, from the Lord, ye

⁷ <https://billygraham.org.au/how-can-i-know-for-sure-ill-go-to-heaven/>

⁸ Ex. 24:3-8 So Moses came, and recounted to the people all the words of Yahweh, and all the regulations, — and all the people responded with one voice, and said spoken, will we do. Then wrote Moses all the words of Yahweh...And they said, All that Yahweh hath spoken, will we do, and will hearken. Then Moses took the blood, and dashed over the people, — and said, Lo! the blood of the covenant which Yahweh hath solemnised with you, over all these words., All the words which Yahweh hath solemnised with you, over all these words.

⁹ Merit = Middle English (originally in the sense ‘deserved reward or punishment’): via Old French from Latin meritum ‘due reward’, from mereri ‘earn, deserve’.

shall duly receive the recompense of the inheritance, — unto the Lord Christ, are ye in service; For, he that acteth unrighteously, shall get back what he had unrighteously done, and there is no respect of persons.”

Are we beholden to Christ? Do we owe him anything, as a covenant would require, he being our Savior and Redeemer? Yes! “For, the love of the Christ, constraineth us; — Having judged this, — that, one, in behalf of all, died, hence, they all, died; and, in behalf of all, died he, — in order that, they who live, no longer for themselves, should live, but for him who, in their behalf, died and rose again” (2 Cor. 5:14-15). Our covenant with Christ is that we no longer for ourselves should live but should live for him. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 states, “Or know ye not that, wrong-doers, shall not inherit, Yahweh’s kingdom? Be not deceiving yourselves: — neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor sodomites, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners — shall inherit, Yahweh’s kingdom. And, these things, were some of you; but ye bathed them away, — but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified, in the name of Lord Yehoshua Christ, and in the ruah (spirit) of our God.” If salvation is a free gift and God’s grace covers my sins, in the broadest sense of the words, can I return to fornicating, sodomy etc. etc. because I have, “Eternal Security?” Yes, according to Billy Graham and DTS.

Persecuted for Christ Sake

Does Billy Graham inform the masses that if they choose to be Christians, that they must be willing to be persecuted for Christ sake? Luke 9:23-26 states, “And he was saying, unto all — If any one intendeth after me to come, Let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, — and be following me. For, whosoever intendeth, his life, to save, shall lose it; but, whosoever shall lose his life for my sake, the same, shall save it? For what doth a man profit, who hath gained the whole world, but hath lost, or been made to forfeit, himself? For, whosoever shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, of him, the Son of Man, will be ashamed, whensoever he shall come in his glory, and that of the Father, and of the holy messengers.” Have these people been told that becoming a Christian they have placed Christ above all of their relationships; “he that loveth father or mother above me, is not, worthy, of me, — and, he that loveth son or daughter above me, is not, worthy, of me; And, he that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not, worthy, of me. He that hath found his life, shall lose it, — and, he that hath lost his life, for my sake, shall find it” (Mt. 10:37-39)? Have they been told that they will be hated for Christ sake; “If, the world, is hating, you, ye are getting to know that, me, before you, it hath hated. If, of the world, ye had been, the world, of its own, had been fond; but, because, of the world, ye are not, on the contrary, I, chose you out of the world, therefore, the world, doth hate you” (Jn. 15:18-19)? People entering into the covenant of Christianity must be fully informed of the above scriptures and sacrifices they will be required to give if they enter into this Holy Covenant, thereby becoming the Body of the Christ.

We Have Entered into a Marriage Covenant with Christ

Yahweh has always based his relationship with his people as a marriage covenant, he being the Jealous Husband and Israel being the bride. Isaiah 54:1-5 illustrates this relationship by stating, “Shout in triumph, O barren one, Who hadst not borne, — Break forth into shouts of triumph — and trill thy voice...For, thy husband, is, thy Maker, Yahweh of hosts, is his Name, — And, thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, The God of all the earth, shall he be called.” Jeremiah 3:1 states, “He hath said, If a man send away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man’s, will he return unto her, again? would not that land be, utterly defiled? And, thou, hast been unchaste with many neighbours, and yet thinkest to return unto me! Declareth Yahweh.” Yahweh divorced Israel for breaking the marriage covenant, which was adultery, when he states in Jeremiah 3:8, “Though she saw that, for all this, apostate Israel having committed

adultery, I had sent her away, and had given a scroll of divorcement unto her, yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but, she also, went and committed unchastity.”

Yehoshua in the Gospels is portrayed as the bridegroom to Israel, exhibiting the marriage covenant to Israel, when John the Immerser states, in John 3: 29 “He that hath the bride, is, bridegroom; but, the friend of the bridegroom, who standeth by and hearkeneth unto him, greatly, rejoiceth, by reason of the voice of the bridegroom. This, my joy, therefore, is fulfilled.” In the Church epistles Christ and the Bride have through consummation become One Body or Flesh. Ephesians 5: 22-32 declares, “Ye wives, unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord, Because, a husband, is the head of his wife, as, the Christ also, is the head of the assembly, he, being the saviour of the body...Because, members, are we of his body; — For this cause, will a man leave his father and his mother, and will cleave unto his wife, and, they two, shall become, one flesh. This sacred secret, is, great, — I, however, am speaking as to Christ and the assembly.” The Book of Revelation communicates the same truth, when it states, in Revelation 21:9, “And there came one of the seven messengers which had the seven bowls, that were full of the seven last plagues, and spake with me, saying — Hither! I will point out to thee the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

There is no scripture that makes a direct statement that we have entered into a marriage covenant with Christ but the evidence of this covenant is throughout the Word of Yahweh. People may state, “Well, that is the Old Covenant, but we have been saved, “...through means of faith, and this hath come to pass — not from you, of God, the free-gift! Not from works, lest anyone should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9). “We are not under the works of the Law” (Rom. 3). Does this mean that I am not required to obey Leviticus 18: 22-23 because it is not in the New Covenant; “And, with mankind, shalt thou not lie, as with womankind, — an abomination, it is. And, of no beast, shalt thou have carnal knowledge, to commit uncleanness therewith, — neither shall, a woman, present herself to a beast to couch down thereto, — confusion, it is?”

Can believers, who have been given freedom of will be allowed to divorce (cut off) Yahweh and or Christ, after pledging fidelity to them, thereby breaking the marriage covenant? Yes! Cain did; King Saul and King Solomon did even though they were anointed by Yahweh; the Apostle Judas also had freedom of will to divorce Yehoshua. How about a saint in the Corinthian Church? Paul, in 1 Corinthians five, condemned a man by delivering him to satan for the destruction of the flesh. Peter wrote, in 2 Peter 2, “For — if, Yahweh, spared not, messengers, when they sinned, but, to pits of gloom, consigning them, in the lowest hades, delivered them up to be kept, unto judgment, — And, an ancient world, spared not, but, with seven others, preserved, Noah, a proclaimer, of righteousness, a flood, upon a world of ungodly persons, letting loose, — And, the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, reducing to ashes, he condemned, an example of such as should be ungodly, having set forth...For, if, having escaped from the defilements of the world by a personal knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Yehoshua Christ, but, by the same having again become entangled, they are defeated, the, last, state hath become, for them, worse than, the first; For, better, had it been for them — not to have obtained a personal knowledge of the way of righteousness, than, having obtained such knowledge, to turn back out of the holy commandment delivered unto them. There hath befallen them the thing spoken of in the true proverb — A dog, turning back unto his own vomit, and — A sow, as soon as washed, unto wallowing in mire.” Yahweh states, “If, at least, it is a, righteous thing with God, to recompense, affliction, unto them that afflict you, And, unto you that are afflicted, release, with us, — by the revealing of the Lord Jesus from heaven, with his messengers of power, In a fiery flame; holding forth vengeance — against them that refuse to know God, and them who decline to hearken unto the glad-message of our Lord Jesus, Who, indeed, a penalty, shall pay — age-abiding destruction from the face of Yahweh and from the glory of his might” (2 Thes. 1:6-9).

Conclusion

Life age-abiding will be lived in a place where righteousness abounds; where Christ is King for 1,000 (Rev. 20) years and then where Yahweh will be King (Rev. 21-22) from then on. If persons do not want to bow to Yahweh and Christ in deeds, throughout their lives but only in word, living a life of rebellion, they would never seek a life on the New Earth with Christ, as their Husband. If they did, it would only be to keep them out of Hell, which is a manmade place that does not exist.¹⁰ Christ is not a fire escape from Hell. A single verse of scripture does not stand by its self. For example, impure spirits believe John 3:16, which declares, “For Yahweh, so loved, the world, that, his Only Begotten Son, he gave, — that, whosoever believeth on him, might not perish, but have life age-abiding;” “and the impure spirits, as soon as they beheld him, were falling down to him, and crying aloud, while he was speaking, Thou, art the Son of God” (Mk. 3:11)!” Does this mean impure spirits have received life age—abiding because they believe on him? No! Do impure spirits love Yahweh & Christ by doing their will according to Yahweh’s Word? Absolutely not! The rest of the scriptures unfold to us the other requirements to receive life age-abiding, which is hinged on two laws, Love Yahweh by doing his will and Love your neighbor as yourself.¹¹

Becoming a Christian is entering into a life long marriage covenant to love (action verb) Yahweh and Christ, by doing their wills, for the rest of our lives, thereby receiving, in return, fellowship and protection from them, in this life and receiving an age-abiding life, with them upon their New Earth. When we break the fellowship, we return to them by confessing and correcting our sins, thereby being restored to their fellowship (1 John 1:9). If you divorce (cut off) them, never to return to them in deed, then you will be resurrected, pay for your unrighteousness and then be destroyed in the Lake of Fire, which is the Second Death, never to live again (Ez. 33). Love Yahweh by loving Christ, which is keeping Yahweh’s commandments, which are not burdensome.¹²

P.S. I would highly recommend that a required thirty hour reading of the selected words of Yahweh, listed below, be required before one elects to enter into a life long covenant with Christ.¹³ If a person declines to read these books, how sincere would their vow be to become a Christian, making Christ their Owner? Would a person enter into a lifetime marriage covenant with someone who they have not, at least, spent thirty hours fellowshiping with, learning to love with all their heart?

¹⁰ Read the article, Does Hell Exist in the Word of Yahweh, at

https://www.teleiosministries.com/pdfs/Hell_the_adversary_and_Death/does_hell_exist.pdf

¹¹ Mark 12:29-31 Yehoshua answered — The chief is: Hear! O Israel, — Yahweh our God, is, one Yahweh; Therefore shalt thou love Yahweh thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, — and with all thy mind; and with all thy strength. The second, is, this Thou shalt love, thy neighbour, as thyself. Greater than these, other commandment, is there none. (Deu. 6:4-9)

¹² 1 John 5:1-5 “Whosoever believeth that, Yehoshua, is the Christ, of Yahweh, hath been born: and, whosoever loveth him that begat, loveth him that hath been begotten of him. Hereby, perceive we, that we love the children of Yahweh, as soon as, Yahweh, we love, and, his commandments, we are doing. For, this is the love of Yahweh — that, his commandments, we be keeping, and, his commandments, are not burdensome; Because, whatsoever hath been born of Yahweh, overcome the world; and, this, is the victory that hath overcome the world — our faith. Who is he that overcome the world, save he that believeth that, Yehoshua, is the Son of Yahweh?”

¹³ 1.) Genesis 2.) Exodus 1-20, 24, 32-34, 40 3.) Leviticus 8-10, 16, 23 4.) Numbers 9-14, 16-17, 20-21 5.) Joshua 1-12, 23-24 6.) Judges 7.) 1 & 2 Samuel 8.) 1 & 2 Kings 9.) 2 Chronicles 36 10.) Daniel 1-6 11.) Nehemiah 1-6, 8-9, 13 12.) Ezra 1, 3-10 13.) Malachi 4 14.) Luke 15.) Acts 16.) Revelation 1, 4-22