

Just for clarification: In my presentations I am using YHVH (Yahuwah) instead of LORD, which is a title and not a name and I am using Yahusha instead of Jesus, which is not a translation but a transliteration and really has no meaning, neither in Hebrew nor in English! YHVH (Yahuwah) and Yahusha are the actual original names and the true nature and character of them.



Have you ever heard that question “Is it a salvation issue?”
When does anyone usually ask such a question?
How sincere do you think that individual is?
What answer would you give to that individual?
What is a salvation issue?

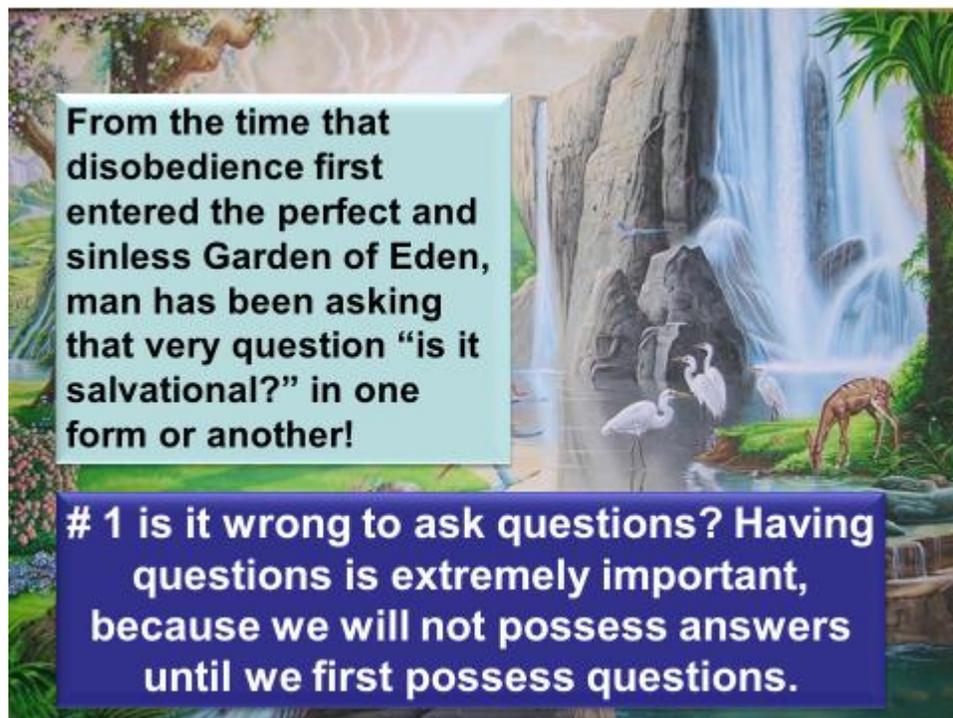
I wonder who ever invented that phrase or question. It surely isn't In the Bible or is it?

What does the phrase salvation issue mean? Often times when we have a Scripture or topic come up that we have a disagreement with someone about then we might say that “it's not a salvation issue so there's no reason to argue about it.”

That's a tough idea for me to understand. What exactly is and is not a salvation issue? How do we know what is and is not a salvation issue? And

just as importantly, why do we feel qualified to say that something is not a salvation issue?

Actually one would think that everything recorded in the Bible is recorded for a purpose, for a specific reason and is somehow salvational, otherwise it wouldn't be there. In 2. Timothy 3:16 (KJV) it says that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of Elohim, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness." The entire Bible is Scripture. From beginning to end it is the Elohim-breathed, or inspired, Word of Elohim and therefore important and can we say "salvational?"



There is nothing wrong with asking questions. Questions lead to understanding and understanding leads to a deeper faith in YHVH. In the gospels we find about 80 separate instances where people brought their questions to Yahusha (*Jesus*) and he answered them, if they came from a sincere heart to know and to understand truth. Some questions He refused to answer, however!

Here are some examples of questions that we find in the Bible (KJV):

“How often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?” *Mathew 18:21*

“Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?” *John 9:2*

“And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?” *Matthew 13:10*

“By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?” *Matthew 21:24*



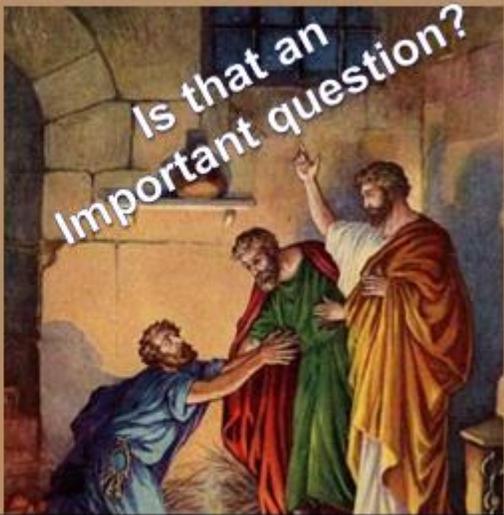
Some questions they asked were sincere and somewhere not! That was the case then and it is the case today! Yahusha knew, when they were sincere, we don't have that understanding most of the time. So, it is o.k. to ask questions! But remember to take stock of your intent. Are you asking with an open heart to know truth, seeking understanding? Or are you asking a defensive question in order to justify an attitude you don't intend to change, if understanding were to require repentance, a change of lifestyle and behavior?



A good question seeks understanding and reveals a teachable heart. Yahusha stated in Matthew 18:3 “Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” KJV

One of the most outstanding qualities of a young child is his humble spirit. Young children have not yet learned what pride is. Those who wish to live for eternity in the presence of Almighty Elohim must employ this same attitude of humility. Secondly, a young child trusts

with all his heart, that his parents will be there for him in his time of need. Those who would enter into heaven must manifest a simple, loving trust in the One, who loves us and died for us. When Elohim makes a promise, we should trust Him to see it through. When I do, what He has told me through His word, I can rest assured and trust with all my heart, that He will uphold, what He has promised. I can also rest assured that He will be there for me in times of need, in times of rejoicing, in times of despair. Yahuwah is faithful and will not forsake His children (*Hebrews 13:5*).



In the sixteenth chapter of Acts, the Philippian jailor asks of Paul and Silas, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Do you believe, that was a sincere desire and question on the part of the jailor?

Did he really mean it? Did he want to know?

You know what just happened?

Acts 16:25-30 KJV. "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto Elohim: and the prisoners heard them. 26. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. 27. And the keeper of he prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. 28. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. 29. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas. 30. And brought them out and said: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

He was convinced that here was one that is greater than man! After what just happened, that was a sincere desire by the jailor to know what it takes to be saved!

What was Paul's reply? "**Believe on the Master Jesus Christ (Yahusha Ha Mashiach), and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**" Acts 16: 31. KJV
That's it? That's all it takes, or is it?

All we have to do is proclaim that Yahusha is our Savior and we can go on with our lives as before —doing our own will, following our own inclination, living our lives for this world while claiming to be part of the next? Is that what Paul was saying?

Yes, that is the first step! And it is a salvation issue! Is that what the Bible teaches?

Faith is the first step! We must first believe, acknowledge and trust in the Messiah, who offers on the ground of this trusting the very righteousness one is seeking!

That's what it states in Acts 16:31, because it is the first step "**Believe on Yahusha Ha Mashiach (Jesus the Christ), and thou shalt be saved...**"
KJV

Faith, believing is definitely A salvation issue!

For the Bible states in Hebrews 11:6 "**Without faith it is impossible to please Elohim (Elohim)!**" KJV

"The gift of Elohim is eternal life" *Romans 6:23 KJV*

Salvation is YHVH's gift to us. We don't deserve it and we don't earn it by whatever we do! And yet there is a condition to receive forgiveness!



The conditions of obtaining mercy and forgiveness are simple and reasonable: **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1. John 1:9 KJV**

In other words, YHVH does not require us to do some grievous thing in order to gain forgiveness. We need not make long and wearisome pilgrimages, or perform painful penances, to commend our souls to HIM. A sinner can only be made righteous through faith in the Messiah!

However, there is one more step given in the Bible in order to be truly forgiven and that is in Proverbs 28:13

A composite image with a black border. On the left, a grey box contains the text: "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso **confesseth** and **forsaketh** [them] shall have mercy." Proverbs 28:13 KJV. Below this is a blue box with the text: "What is the other condition besides confessing?". On the right, a painting depicts a heavenly scene with a large golden throne and a bright light. Two figures in white robes stand on the left, and two figures in dark robes stand on the right, one with arms raised. A yellow banner with the word "FORSAKING!" in blue capital letters is overlaid diagonally across the bottom right of the painting.

Repentance includes sorrow for sin, a turning away from sin, unrighteousness and everything ugly and a turning towards righteousness and holiness, towards Torah, which is the revealed righteousness of Elohim! Now one wants to do that which is right.

As a new creation in Messiah after receiving Yahusha, a person is now able to live the Torah lifestyle through the power of the indwelling Spirit of Elohim.

Let's see, what else we read in the verses 31 and 32 of Acts chapter 16

“And they (*Paul and Silas*) spake unto him (*the jailor*) the word of Yahuwah), and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.” Acts 16:32 and 33 RSB

They received instructions of what is involved of becoming a disciple of the Messiah, after they believed and accepted the Messiah! Yet, the first step was that they must believe in the Messiah and accept His sacrifice for the forgiveness of their past sins. However, one can not stop there, even though modern Christianity stop right there, meaning all you have to do is believe.

James didn't agree with the modern day “all you have to do is believe only” message, for he says in James 2:19 **“Thou believest that there is one Elohim; thou doest well: The devils also believe, and tremble.” KJV**



**Why are the devils trembling?
Because they are waiting for
judgment and they know what is
coming and what their destiny is
because of their rebellion!**

When we read the verse before, James is challenging his readers when he said: “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: **show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.**” James 2:18 KJV

Faith or believe can be proven only by actions. If faith has no actions, or no works, it is presumption, meaning a counterfeit faith! Yet, this is the kind of faith modern Christianity teaches, which is pure presumption!

When the jailor asked the question **“what must I do to be saved”**, he was sincere, and he wanted to know the answer and was willing to do whatever was required! He was seeking salvation and he found salvation!

The question “is it a salvation issue?” is very different. This question does not seem to come from a heart seeking truth to follow in order to please our Heavenly Father.

The question “is it salvational” seems to say “**Do I have to do it?**”



I can see what it says in Scripture, but is that really necessary?

Can you see the face of such a person, not happy about something he has to do, But really doesn't want to do?

A graphic with a red border. On the left, a pink box contains the text "Is that something I have to do?". Below this, the text "IS IT REALLY MANDATORY?" is displayed in large, bold, black letters. To the right of this text is a large yellow sad face emoji with slanted eyes. At the bottom, a dark red box contains the text "This is certainly a wrong attitude to begin with, a lack of interest, because such individual has no idea what is at stake!".

Is that something I have to do?

IS IT REALLY MANDATORY?

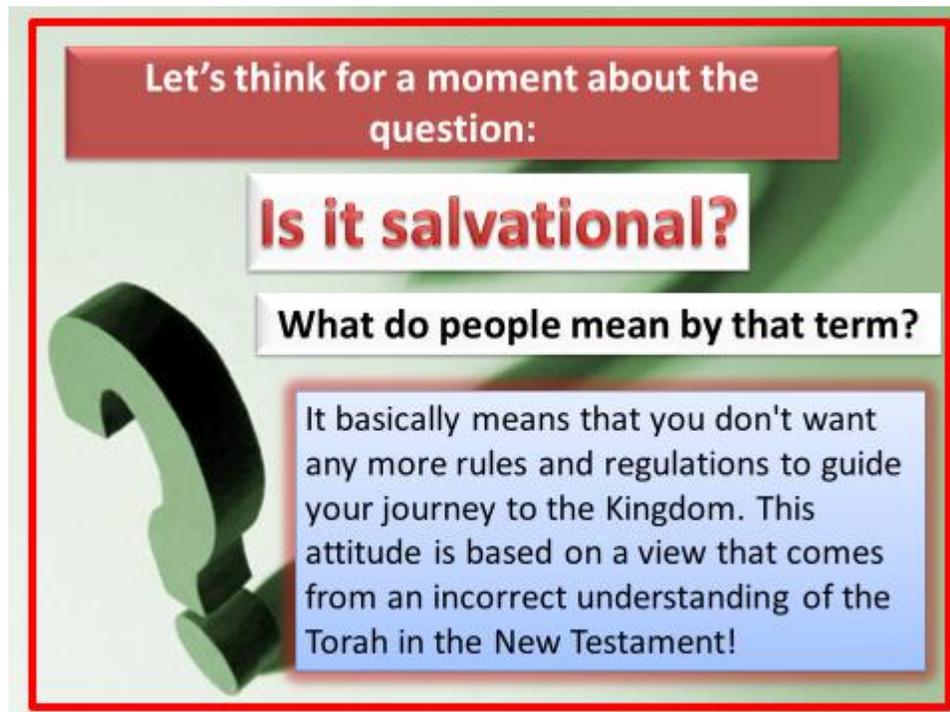
This is certainly a wrong attitude to begin with, a lack of interest, because such individual has no idea what is at stake!

Such an individual is looking for **the short list**, the **minimum requirements!** He or she wants to do as little as possible and still get saved! Sounds like having a form of Elohimliness, but lacking real conversion, and a real understanding of what is at stake! This is a miserable condition to be in, an unhappy individual to say the least.

You hear that term “is it salvational” especially today, when you mention **YHVH’s feast days**! People don’t believe that keeping the yearly feasts is a salvation issue, so they don’t need and they don’t want to keep them. But when we study the Bible we will see that Yahusha, our Savior kept them, But when we study the Bible we will see that Yahusha, our Savior kept them, we will also have to acknowledge, that the disciples, as well the new churches after the resurrection kept them and the Bible teaches that we will be keeping them in heaven, but still people think they don’t have to, because they don’t think it is a salvation issue.

Let’s think about it, if your Bible tells you that Yahusha and his disciples did something, and that we will be doing it in heaven, don’t you think, there is a blessing for you, if you do it now, too? Whatever that may be!

Should a professed follower of Yahusha even ask such a question? “Is it salvational?” What does such a Question say you about the attitude of that individual?



Let’s think for a moment about the question:

Is it salvational?

What do people mean by that term?

It basically means that you don't want any more rules and regulations to guide your journey to the Kingdom. This attitude is based on a view that comes from an incorrect understanding of the Torah in the New Testament!

Should someone that is born again begin compiling a list of exactly which works must be performed and which actions must be accomplished to be

saved? Frankly, the very fact that we seek such a list reflects **a misguided theology!**

Christianity is telling people that the Torah was fulfilled by Messiah (Christ) and therefore we do not have to keep it, in fact that we cannot keep it. Somehow, to the Christian, the fulfilling of Torah by Messiah, means that we are somehow allowed to hang loose and continue to sin, doing our own thing under a covering of appropriated good works which were done for us by the Perfect ONE. It seems we no longer have to bring our lives into line with Torah because of what the Savior did for us. **This is a LIE!**

First, the Torah is not something to be afraid of. **It is not burdensome! The Torah is our guidebook on how to receive the blessings we were created to have. The Torah is like a map with detailed explanations that will lead us to live like heirs of the Kingdom while we make our journey here.**

Torah was translated as "law", which it is, but the actual Hebrew word Torah doesn't mean law, it means **"instructions"**. The true meaning behind it already can change the feeling of the word. **Torah isn't something that we are forced to do, but rather "instructed" to.**

Nowhere in the original Hebrew Scripture does it say in The Ten Commandments "thou shalt not" before any commandment, but rather "YHVH instructs you to...". Torah is something that one chooses to follow, and are not made to.

By the way, Messiah did not die to make it possible for us to sin without consequences! He did not come to earth to earn for us a vicarious salvation! Messiah died to atone for and to circumvent the punishment which we deserve for our past sins which we can now do nothing about. **He took our punishment. But he did not do away with the Torah! He actually made it POSSIBLE for us to keep it.** When conversion takes place, the old enemy of our human nature that refuses to obey is now brought into subjection to the Torah and wills to obey. **We will receive a new heart!**



We read in Ezekiel 36:26 KJV the promise:

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and I will give you an heart of flesh.”

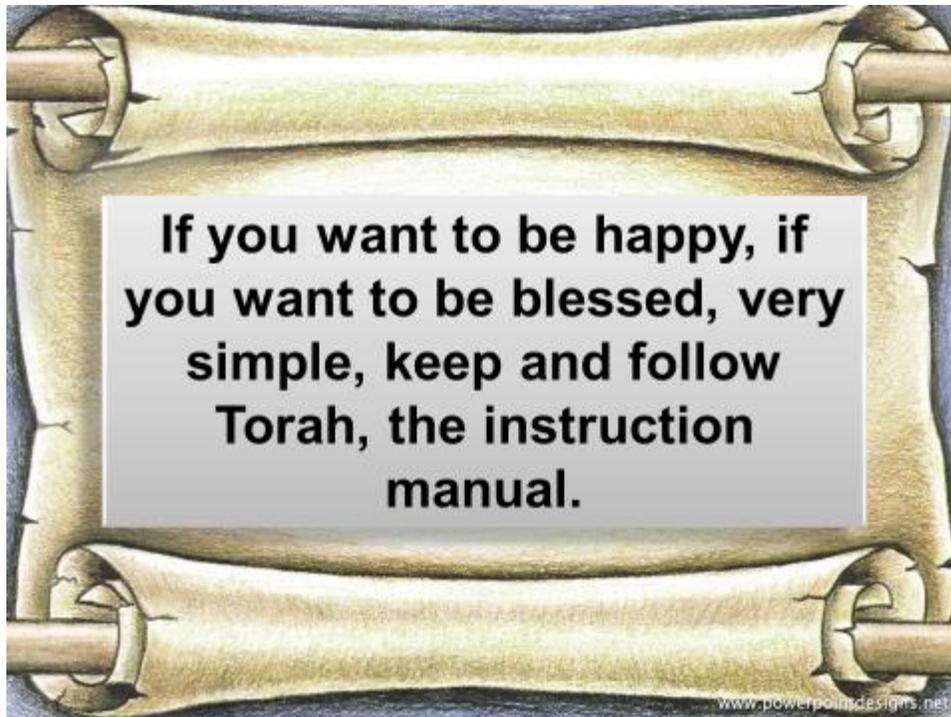
The new heart will not ask **“Is it salvational”** but will say with Psalm 40:8 **“I delight to do thy will, O my Elohim (Elohim): yea, thy Torah [is] within my heart.”** KJV

And a new heart will be open to all new discovered truth!

Truth is progressive. Truth is the remedy for setting us free. Truth is the antidote to sin. The Torah is foundation of all Truth. The Torah was in question in the struggle between good and evil from the very beginning. Shall we not do as Messiah did and "magnify the Torah?" (Isa 42:21)

Let's think about it: **Any rediscovered truth from Torah is "Salvational"!** Because it always was truth and truth is always salvational. Without truth we remain bound about by the chains of darkness.

With the shield of truth (Psalm 91:4), we become more than conquerors! Proverbs 29:18 **“He that keepeth the Torah, happy is he.”** KJV



Scripture teaches over and over again that following Torah, keeping His weekly, monthly and yearly appointments honors YHVH, and makes us prosper, and become successful! **Is it Salvational?**

The actual question is, how important is obedience to salvation? People try to rate Yahuwah's commands as to their importance. If a command isn't seen as directly affecting a person's salvation, then it is assumed that it can be safely ignored! **Let's consider the following:**

Was the source of fire for the altar of incense a salvation issue? Yahuwah didn't even directly state that only one source had to be used, and yet Nadab and Abihu found out it did matter to YAH (*Leviticus 10:1-2*). **They lost their lives over this seemingly minor issue from their point of view.**

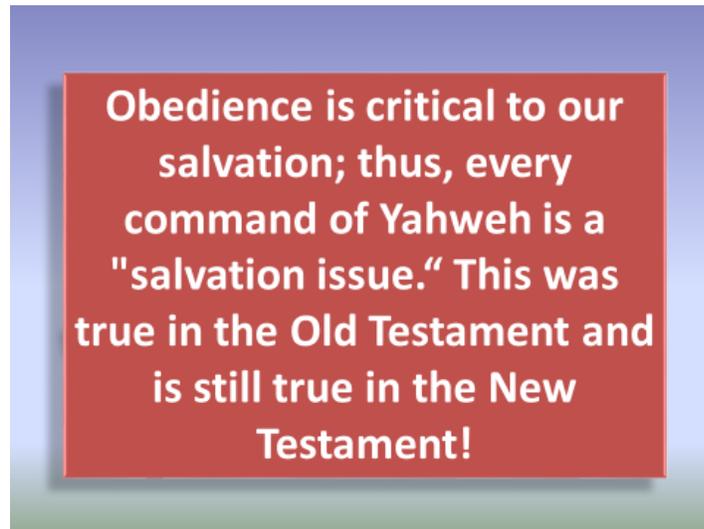
What about, when Saul kept back some of the animals and king Agag, when he was ordered to destroy a nation? **Was that a salvation issue?** Yet Saul lost his kingdom because of it (*I Samuel 15:1-23*).

Surely keeping the ark from falling over wasn't a salvation issue? But Uzzah lost his life because of it (*II Samuel 6:1-7*).

What about that small lie concerning the amount of money given to the apostles, that couldn't have been a salvation issue, could it? But once again, we find Ananias and Sapphira losing their lives over this seemingly small matter (Acts 5:1-11).

When we claim to love YHVH, that love implies that we will be obedient. "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15 KJV). "For this is the love of Elohim (Elohim), that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3 KJV).

In other words disobedience demonstrates, that we do not believe our Heavenly Father, that He really meant what He said and that we don't really love Him.



All through the book of Deuteronomy, Moses drives home the message: "Keep Yah's Torah." When Israel failed to keep the Torah, Elohim sent prophets warning them to repent and turn back to Torah.

When they repented, they were rewarded and blessed. When they did not, they suffered the curses threatened in the Torah. Yahuwah continuously told His people for 1,400 years to walk in His commandments, statutes and judgments and to keep His covenant. Does it make sense to imagine that after 1,400 years, Yahuwah suddenly changed His mind? Would it make sense to suppose that after all the pain and suffering of invasion, exile, re-gathering and so on, He would suddenly change the program and announce to His people, "From now on don't keep the commandments, statutes and judgments of the Torah", **and then punish them when they did?**

That could be compared to a father who warned his son not to play ball in the house. Every time the boy played ball in the house, his father would spank him and send him to his room. This went on for three years. Then one day, his father seized him and spanked him. The boy cried out, "Why are you spanking me?" "Because you weren't playing ball in the house," the father explained. "From now on, you must play ball in the house, and if you do not, I will beat you." **We would call a father like that capricious and deranged.**

Yet many theologians claim that this is what our Heavenly Father has done to Israel. For 1,400 years He punished them when they did not keep the Torah. Then when Yahusha came, He canceled the Torah and henceforth punished them for keeping it. Obviously Yahuwah is not a capricious and deranged father. Rather He is the Unchanging One, the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

**Obedience was salvational then
and it is salvational today!**

Obedience to Yahuwah's Word is our life, our happiness. Obedience to HIS Word is the condition of entrance into the kingdom of YAH (Elohim)!

Hebrews 4:11 "Therefore, let us do our best to enter that rest; so that no one will fall short because of the same kind of disobedience."

Complete Jewish Bible

"Therefore, let us exert ourselves to enter into that rest, that not anyone fall in the same example of disobedience." Literal Translation of the Holy Bible

The question of being a salvation issue in today's society comes up, when one mentions YHVH's 7 annual appointments, falsely called "Jewish Feasts".

What about YHVH's seven annual appointments or feast days?

Are YHVH's feast days really a salvation issue?

Is that an important question?

That is a good question **only**, if the one, that is asking, is sincerely seeking truth!

It is not a good question, if he or she is not interested in knowing the truth and to please the Savior. The Scripture is extremely clear, that Feast Days are Statutes, lasting forever for all people through all ages!

All we have to do is read Leviticus chapter 23

Leviticus 23:14 "it shall be a statute"
[2708] Unleavened Bread

Leviticus 23:21 "it shall be a statute"
[2708] Pentecost

Leviticus 23:31 "it shall be a statute"
[2708] Day of Atonement

Leviticus 23:41 "It shall be a statute"
[2708] Feast of Tabernacles

King David, who is a type of the Messiah teaches in Psalm 119:155: "Salvation [is] far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes." Therefore, are statutes an issue of salvation?



To resist, reject and fight against the statutes is tantamount to saying "I'm satisfied with my own righteousness and have no interest in being purified and fitted for translation."

Let's also remember that keeping the Sabbath (*weekly or annually*) is a sign that YHVH sanctifies us, as he states in Exodus 31:13

Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: "Surely My Sabbaths (*plural*) you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am YHVH who sanctifies you." Exodus 31:13, NKJV.

"Moreover also I gave them my Sabbaths (*plural*), to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I [am] YHVH that sanctify them." Ezekiel 20:12 KJV

"And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: I [am] YHVH which sanctify you." Leviticus 20:8 KJV



YHVH made a covenant with His people at Sinai, which is recorded in Exodus 20 to 23 and was ratified by blood in chapter 24.

The feast days are recorded in chapter 23 of Exodus. The ordinances of the altar were not given until about 9 months later, starting in chapter 29.

The feast days are part of that covenant! That covenant is still in force, because YHVH does not change! (*Malachi 3:6*)

The evidence is clear and plain that the covenant is still valid. If this is the case, why are people refusing to accept one of the most important part of the covenant, the invitation to meet with their Heavenly Father at HIS appointed times?

It is mostly due to a lack of knowledge, could it be **willful** ignorance? Could it be a lack of love for Yahweh or even rebellion that people refuse to keep the festivals?



Again the question: Is keeping the yearly appointed times a Salvation issue?

It depends on the light that we have or could have had and can have, meaning, that is available to us, and of course our desire to receive that light.

The words in James 4:17 states: **“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth [it] not, to him it is sin.” KJV**



By the way, it is always a salvation issue when our hearts are not right with YHVH.

The Bible states in 1. Corinthians 13:1:

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, **and have not charity (LOVE), I am become [as] sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.”**

1. Corinthians 13:1

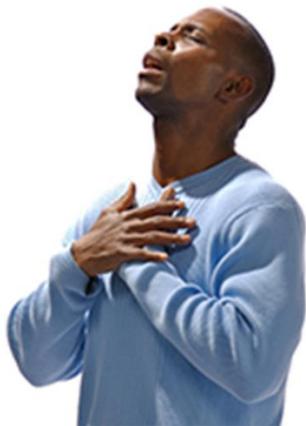
”And though I have [the gift of] prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove

mountains, **and have not charity (LOVE)**, I am nothing.” 1. Corinthians 13:2

“And though I bestow all my goods to feed [the poor], and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity (LOVE), it profiteth me nothing.” 1. Corinthians 13:3

We are NOTHING WITHOUT AGAPE LOVE!

The question is: Do we spend our time defending a tradition that is contrary to the words of Yahusha? Or do we spend our time trying to figure out the real meaning of a passage, so we exonerate the words of Yahusha and are in harmony with Him?



When we love YHVH, we will live our lives in such a way that HE is glorified in our every action and attitude. When we love YHVH, we want to do what pleases HIM and if He commands us to meet on the weekly Sabbath and three times a year at His appointed feasts, we will not argue with HIM but be delighted to accept the invitation and be there!

Keeping the covenant including the Feast days is salvational!

Let's forget the short list, let's please HIM that is the truth, the way and the life! May we tax our mental, moral and physical powers in an effort to please our Heavenly Father is my prayer!

THE END



Supreme Provider is
Y'shua Ha Mashiach!

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