

# Tasting the Heavenly Gift.

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**Hebrews 6:4** Those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come.

All those of us who have been born from above, of heaven, have been destined to live in the heavenly places. To be on the earth, but not of it.

**John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:18 **“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”**

What does ‘received Him’ and ‘them that believe on His name’ mean? His name in Hebrew is Yah’Shua which is Yah = I AM = the name Moses was told to tell the children of Israel as the name of the God who sent him; and ‘Shua which means Salvation. Joseph was instructed by the angel Gabriel to call His name Yah’Shua – Jesus in English- because He would save His people from their sin.

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived (literally generated) in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

**Acts 4:7** And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, “By what power or by what name have you done this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. This is the *‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’* Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Here Peter demonstrates the power there is in the name of Jesus where the one who uses this name has faith in this name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth. He is demonstrating that he, Peter, is a son of God through faith in His name. Salvation that Peter speaks of here is the same that the angel Gabriel announced – salvation from sin. To obtain salvation from sin Jesus went to the cross, hung there, was cursed for our sakes, had our sin and iniquity laid on His body, and poured out His blood an offering for sin. Jesus was the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world through the sacrifice of His God generated body and blood on the cross.

Because of this God ordained and provided sacrifice we can by the grace of God repent, be baptised in the name of Jesus the Christ for the remission of (release from) sin and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

By being immersed in water in the name of Jesus we are putting our trust in His name; calling out on, invoking, the name of Jesus, the only name that can save us from our sin. This is being born of water.

By receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit we are born of the Spirit. Born from above. Really. Actually become new creations in Christ Jesus the Lord! And so as Jesus said to Nicodemus the Pharisee; **John 3:5** Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Jesus knew Who his Father was and was living in the presence of His Father. Our Heavenly Father is in the heavenly places, and that is where we meet with Him. The kingdom of heaven is within us, right here, right now. Not pie in the sky for when we die.

**Luke 12:29** "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

We can choose to live in the heavenly realm, or to make our dwelling place in the world. Our earthly self loves the world. The way out of this is to take up our cross daily, reckoning our self dead, that we may live unto Christ. (Repentance)

**1Co 15:47** The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.

Part of the earthy is religion. For those of us who have by the grace and unmerited favour of God been granted repentance to eternal life, to be born from above, the great danger is in the deception that is evangelical Christianity. Religion is a feature of all human existence. It is born of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Christ Jesus came to give us eternal life (of the heavens) so that we could live in that life, not act it, learn it or preach it.

If we 'act' spiritual, rather than die to the flesh and live in the spirit, we are dead while we are alive.

The kingdom of heaven is to be entered into, not just discussed. The Holy Spirit is to immersed in, taught by, led by, not just theorized about. Jesus is here to be eaten, not described in detail like a course on a menu.

The heavenly demands obedience, fear, awe and reverence.

**Act 26:19** Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

Our hope is in the heavenlies;

**Eph 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:

**Eph 1:20** Which he worked in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,

**Eph 2:6** And has raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

We are transported there in the spirit as we are partakers of the Spirit, through faith in the Son of God, operating upon us and in us. This has to be experienced. Are we desperate for this Kingdom?

**Heb 3:1** Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider (set your thoughts upon) the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

As he is seated at the right hand of the Father in the heavens, that is where we are to earnestly look and set our affections.

Living in the Spirit is living in the Heavenly places.

We make our choice daily, whether to settle for the present earthly life, perhaps with religious embellishment, or the heavenly, which is through the Spirit Whom God gives to those that obey Him.

**Heb 11:16** But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he has prepared for them a city.

**Heb 12:22** But you are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels.

The Lord Jesus, the Christ, looked for the source of things and men.

**Luke 20:4** The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?

The Father who is the Spirit is in heaven and is now looking for those who will worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. Not in an earthly form, centred on places, rituals, personalities, structures etc.

We can now enter beyond the veil, (of our flesh) into the heavenly realm by the Spirit.

**Eph 1:20** Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,

**Heb 12:2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Will we despise the shame and sit down with Him in heavenly places?

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