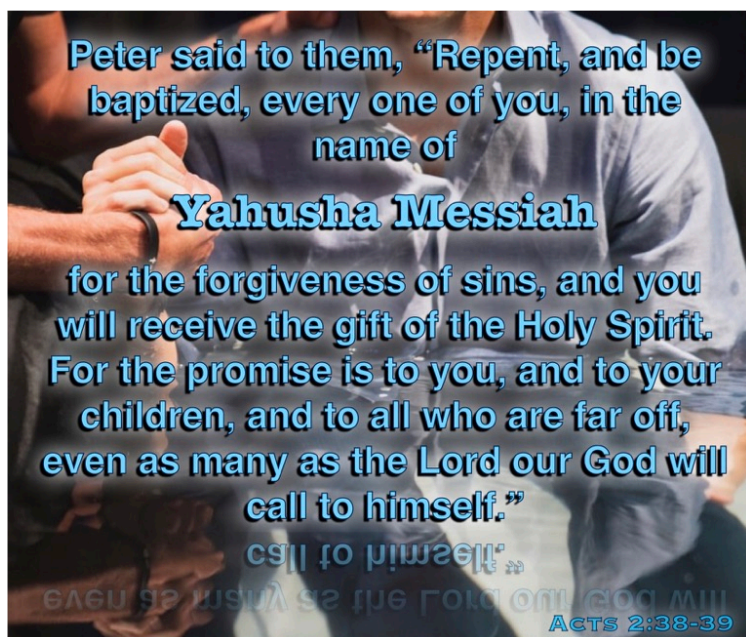


Exhort One Another

Biweekly Newsletter



Pop Quiz

According to *Proverbs 4*, if it costs all you have you are to get:

- (a) Hand Sanitizer
- (b) A Wife of Noble Character
- (c) Understanding
- (d) Everlasting Life

Answer to last issue's:

(b) Not harm you by day
Psalms 121:5-6, NIV

"The LORD watches over you– the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night."



Interesting Observation

In *Numbers 15:38-40* God says to wear tassels as a reminder to keep His ways; specifically so that we do not become unfaithful by following our own hearts and eyes. What a striking contrast to the unfaithfulness described in *2 Peter 2:14*!



Memory Verse

1 John 2:3-4

"This is how we are sure that we have come to know Him: by keeping His commands. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," yet doesn't keep His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

Food For Thought

John 4:34

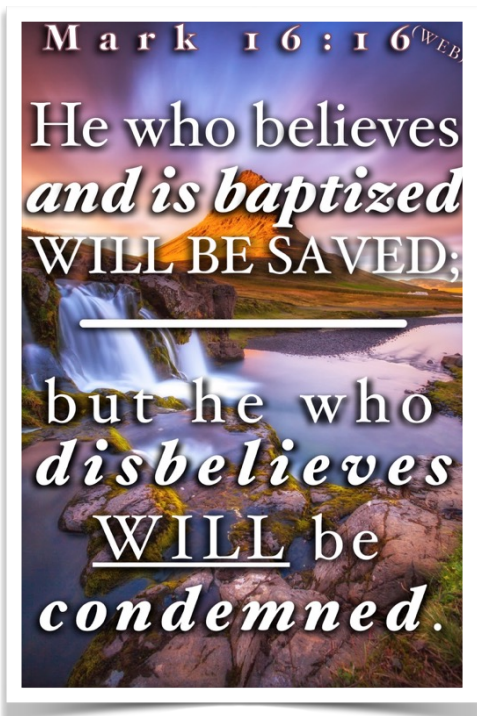
" "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work," Jesus told them."

So far in our mini-series, examining the concepts outlined in *Hebrews 5:12-6:3*, we have looked over the two mentioned in *Hebrews 6:1*; beginning with *faith in God*, and building on that as we examined how *repentance* ties into the walk of faith from the start. We continue with the next thing on our list: the "**doctrine of baptisms**" (NKJV).

This is an interesting subject, since it could be thought of as just a 'normal part of christian culture', yet it can be seen in many different ways. Here we will explore a few of the things said in scripture about the meaning *behind* baptism, and how it relates to our walk as believers. We will also look at some of the different things

associated with baptism in scripture, including a brief examination of some of the words used in the text. Let's get to it!

In **1 Peter 3:21**, Peter refers to baptism as a “pledge of a clear conscience toward God” (NIV), showing that one has made a personal decision to dedicate their lives to following God. In the same passage, Peter also mentions the salvation of this person as being “through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (HCSB); interestingly, Paul wrote something similar, saying that we are being baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection, in order that we may “walk in a new way of life” (**Romans 6:1-5**): dying to sin, yet being made alive to God in Christ (**Romans 6:11**).



We can see in this transition—from *death* through sin, to *life* through Christ—that this baptism is part of a covenant-making between us and God, in which we commit (“pledge”) ourselves to “walk in a new way of life” as Paul says, and through which we receive the promises of the covenant which were promised through the Messiah (**2 Corinthians 1:20**; **Ephesians 2:12-13**). This connection to joining God’s covenant gives a good reason for why baptism is talked about with such importance in a number of passages, and why it is included in the list given in Hebrews, alongside faith and repentance. **Mark 16:16** says “whoever *believes* and is *baptized* will be *saved*,” showing the association between faith and baptism, with faith compelling us to be baptized, and baptism becoming the pledge of our faith in commitment to God.

With how closely baptism is connected to our faith, it is only fitting that throughout scripture it consistently follows the repentance brought about by belief, such as in **Acts 2:38-39**, or the numerous times they are put together in reference to John the Baptist. Baptism is referenced approximately 28 times in the book of Acts alone, 110 times in the New Testament as a whole! It is also a command given to us by Yahusha (Jesus) our Messiah as His disciples:

CONVERSATION STARTER

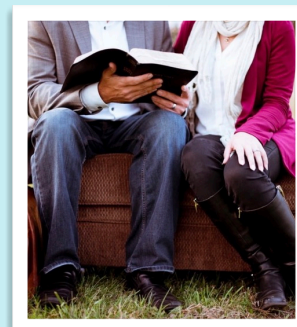
How do these two passages relate? How does **Hebrews 10:22** connect to **1 Peter 3:21**? What other passages talk about the cleansing of our hearts?

Hebrews 10:22

“... let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water.”

Acts 15:9

“He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.”



Matthew 28:19

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

And now for a closer look into the word itself!

The Greek word used in Hebrews 6:2, *baptismos* (Strong's #G909, derived from *baptizo* #G907), is translated in different ways depending on your translation: sometimes as “baptism”, and other times as “washing.” The word *loutron* (#G3067) (used twice) is also translated “washing” (*Titus 3:5; Ephesians 5:26*); and *katharismos* (#G2512, derived from *katharizo* #G2511) is used to refer to both cleansing of the body, and cleansing from sin (*Luke 2:22; Mark 1:44; John 3:25; Hebrews 1:3; 2 Peter 1:9*).

These words are used both in the New Testament, as well as Greek translation of the Old Testament to speak of the *purification instructions* prescribed by Moses.

So why do these ideas share the same words? Well, they are actually very closely related! As mentioned earlier, baptism has a distinct connection to our entry into Yahuah's covenant. Likewise, these acts of purification (as prescribed in scripture) —although sometimes seen as merely ceremonial— have a spiritual meaning of entering (or reentering) into covenant with God (and being purified from the effects of sin and decay)!

Many different words are used in scripture for the concept of cleansing, but each bears the same significance of a spiritual connection that we find in the baptisms of the New Testament scriptures. The only significant difference is that what we would *generally* think of as “baptism” is when we are “*baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus Christ*” (*Acts 2:38*) to *begin* our walk with God, while cleansing beyond this is something one does whenever he/she has become defiled in some way (whether spiritually or physically), in order to be *renewed* to covenant and brought *back* into fellowship with God.

The idea of cleansing from sin in order to be brought back into covenant permeates scripture, the washing of water being a physical representation of the washing away of our sins by the blood of the Messiah (just as the blood of the paschal lamb represents the same).

Isaiah 1:16-18

“Wash yourselves. Cleanse yourselves. Remove your evil deeds from My sight. Stop doing evil. Learn to do what is good. Seek justice. Correct the oppressor. Defend the rights of the fatherless. Plead the widow's cause. "Come, let us discuss this," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.”

Also see *Psalms 51:2, 7; 2 Corinthians 7:1; James 4:8; 1 John 1:7, 9*

As previously mentioned, the physical washing represents a simultaneous spiritual washing. We are baptized physically, *spiritually* dying to sin and being resurrected to life; being baptized into covenant with our Messiah and washed in the blood of the Lamb (*Galatians 3:27; Revelation 7:19*), so that we might be purified from all of our transgressions.

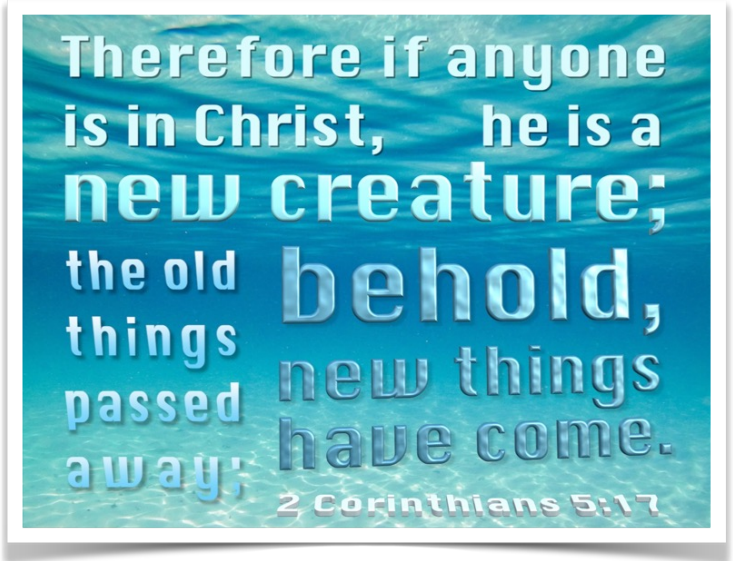
So far we have looked at some amazing passages that tie baptism pretty strongly to our covenant relationship with God. But are there any other places we can find this? Interestingly, there are several events in scripture recorded as a form of baptism, each of which correspond directly to the establishment of a covenant between God and His people!

In **1 Peter 3:20-21**, the Flood is likened to a baptism, as the world was renewed, and Yahuah made a covenant with Noah and his descendants (**Genesis 9**); the crossing of the Red Sea is also mentioned as a form of baptism by Paul (**1 Corinthians 10:1-2**), as the Israelites left the ways of Egypt and came into covenant with Yahuah, while He instructed them in His ways by the hand of His servant Moses (**Exodus 14, 20**).

In studying the occurrences of baptism in the New Testament, there is also a close association with the Holy Spirit (**Matthew 3:11, 3:16, 28:19; John 1:33; Acts 2:38-39, 10:47-48; 1 Corinthians 12:13**), where baptism is the *pledge* of a clear conscience toward God (**1 Peter 3:21**), and the Holy Spirit is the seal (or “pledge,” *Strong’s #G4972*) of His promise of redemption (**2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30**).

Every time baptism is recorded in the book of Acts, it is connected with the Holy Spirit in some way; in fact, when Paul ran into men who had not received the Spirit, they were baptized a *second time*; giving their pledge (or “seal”) of a clear conscience, and then being sealed with the Holy Spirit (**Acts 19:1-7**); the “down payment” of our salvation (**2 Corinthians 1:22**).

I hope that you might be inspired to look into this further, and find a deeper appreciation for, and meaning in, the biblical teaching of baptism. If you have not yet been baptized, but have determined to enter into Yahuah’s covenant and the hope of His magnificent promises (**2 Peter 1:4**), I encourage you to consider the words of Peter, and those of the Messiah (mentioned earlier), and be baptized! Not as a show for others, or as the entrance into any group, but as a sign —a pledge— of personal commitment to God, in desiring to join Him in covenant through the work of Messiah. ;)



Courtesy of Μαρία

1 Peter 3:21

“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

Acts 2:38-39

“ “Repent,” Peter said to them, “and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” ”

Be Separate

1 Thessalonians 3:13

“May He make your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. Amen.”

Today’s Topic: **Keeping our Eyes Away From Evil (Part B)**

Last week we looked¹ at *keeping our eyes away from evil*. As a brief recap, we covered the importance of keeping our eyes under control; keeping them off of what is wrong, and focused on what is good.

Hebrews 12:1-4 sets the principle of keeping Jesus as our example of love and righteousness in *everything* we do, including what we look at — as do *1 John 2:3-6*, *1 Corinthians 11:1*, *Ephesians 5:1-3*, *3 John 1:11*.

“The one who says he remains in Him should walk just as He walked.”

1 John 2:6

If you recall, in the last issue I mentioned that this issue would cover some more specific things to think about, beyond the generic “good” and “bad”. I decided to divide these specifics between this issue and the *next* issue, closing the topic with Part C.

First, let’s look at a couple of (good) things to keep our eyes *on*, then we’ll talk about some things to watch out for and keep our eyes *off* of; and we’ll cover more in the next issue.

¹ *Pun intended*

“Therefore, since we also have such a large CLOUD OF WITNESSES surrounding us, let us lay aside EVERY weight and the sin that SO EASILY ENSNARES US. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on *Jesus*, the source and perfecter of our FAITH, who for the joy that lay before Him endured a cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the RIGHT HAND of God’s throne.”

Hebrews 12:1-2, HCSB

📖 Matthew 6:22-23

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness—how deep is that darkness!”

In the surrounding context, this passage has a lot to do with money, worry, and seeking earthly treasures. Nonetheless, it’s a principle that is readily applicable to our lives in general: if we don’t take care to keep our eyes on what is good, then what is evil will inevitably pollute the rest of us as well.

Rather than using our eyes for looking at what is worthless (*Psalms 119:37*), or *downright wrong*, we can use our eyes to seek out the good we can do.

We can pay attention to what is good, rather than what is evil; the deeds of those who serve God rather than of those who don’t (*Psalm 101:5-6*).

We can be attentive to the needs of others, always looking for ways to help and to do good (see *Proverbs 28:27*, *Titus 3:8*). Yahuah instructs us not to withhold our *hands* from the

needy, so it makes sense that we would not turn our eyes from those whom we can help *either*. (See *Proverbs 10:14; Deuteronomy 15:11; Matthew 6:1-4, 6:22-24; James 1:27, 2:1-26*).

We can also use our eyes for looking into scripture, from which we learn how to walk out our faith (see *James 1:22-27; Psalms 119:18 [with the rest of the psalm!]; Matthew 13:52; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Hebrews 4:12*).

Our eyes can be put to *good* use in looking for ways to honor God, and taking notice of what honors Him.

Okay, let's shift tracks a little bit and talk about something we ought to avoid using our eyes for at *all costs*: **Adultery**.

What? I mean, of course we should be avoiding adultery but what would that have to do with our eyes? Good question...

📖 **Exodus 20:14**

"Do not commit adultery.

📖 **Proverbs 6:23-26**

"For a command is a lamp, teaching is a light, and corrective discipline is the way to life. They will protect you from an evil woman, from the flattering tongue of a stranger. Don't lust in your heart for her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyelashes. For a prostitute's fee is only a loaf of bread, but an adulteress goes after a precious life."

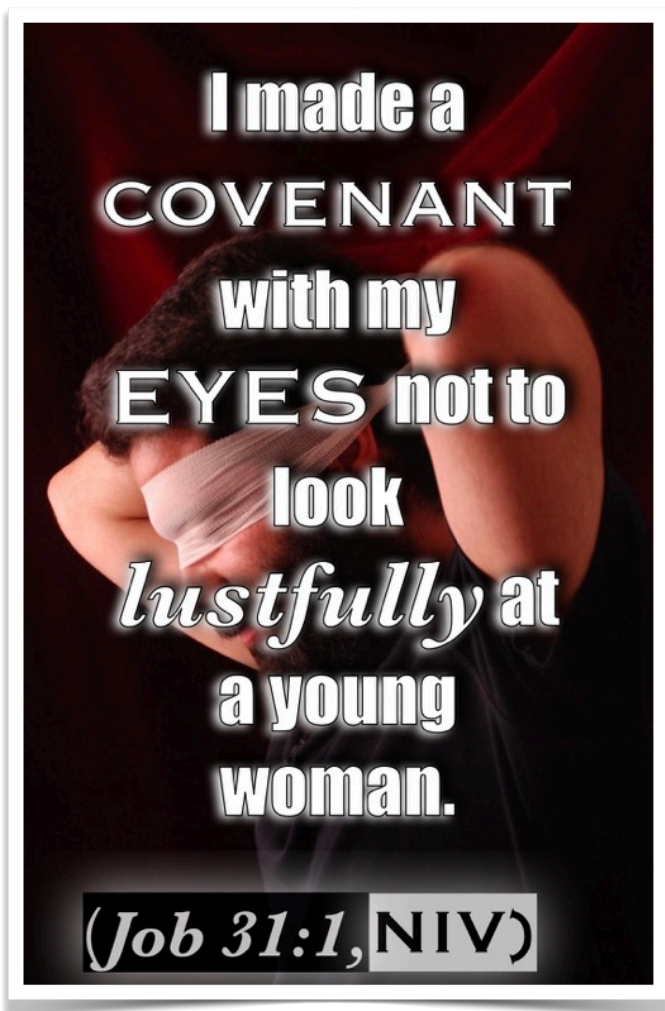
And now it all comes together:

📖 **Matthew 5:27-29**

"You have heard that it was said, **Do not commit adultery**. But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell."

Also see *Leviticus 20:10; Proverbs 6:32; Jeremiah 7:9-10; Matthew 15:18-20, 19:16-19; Mark 7:20-23, 10:17-19; Luke 18:18-20; Romans 2:22-24, 13:8-14; James 2:11; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Hebrews 13:4*.

'All costs' just got literal! Notice that there is no discrimination in scripture between the sins of lust and adultery (at heart), which Jesus says are exactly *the same* (that is, if you have done the former, you have sinned before God the same as if having done the latter).



While the concept of adultery may seem somewhat irrelevant to someone who is not already married, the truth is that faithfulness begins **before** marriage! Premarital relationships oftentimes involve lust (whether only of the eyes or of the body as well), which is adultery, (a sin deserving of death! *Leviticus 20:10*; *1 Corinthians 6:9-10*; *Colossians 3:5-7*; *Jude 1:4, 7*; *Revelation 21:8*).

Such lust (adultery) has become even worse in recent years, due to one of the most addictive forms of it becoming so widespread (mainly through the use of the internet).

This form is *pornography*, a **vile** gratification of sinful pleasure; in essence, sacrificing God's children (who are created in His image) on the altar of self-pleasure (or should I say *demonic pleasure*?) in order to fulfill the desires of the flesh. Whatever we do to the least of these we do to Jesus himself (cf. *Matthew 25:40, 45-46*); we would not treat our Messiah in this way if he stood before us now, would we? (That's rhetorical: the answer is NO!)

This sort of fornication has an interesting presence in the books of the law and the prophets, where Israel is seen lusting after the idols of the nations, instead of being *faithful* to their God — the only true God. Not only do these references frequently associate lust with adultery (as we have already looked at), but they reveal some important concepts in the face of the Israelites' idolatry.

As Isaiah says, "Indeed, your husband is your Maker" (*Isaiah 54:5*); yet "They provoked His jealousy with foreign gods" (*Deuteronomy 32:16*). Ezekiel even goes to mention lusting after *images* in this idolatry, with words that should bring to question just how closely it relates to the subject at hand.

📖 Ezekiel 23:14, 16

"But she [Jerusalem] increased her promiscuity when she saw male figures carved on the wall, images of the Chaldeans, engraved in vermillion, [... 16] At the sight of them she lusted after them and sent messengers to them in Chaldea."

Also see, *Ezekiel 16:17-21*

The prophet mentions *increase of promiscuity* due to this lust after images, showing the pattern of *thought* to be carried out in *action*; indeed, they sinned first in their *heart* when they lusted for such things, but it did not stop there, but resulted in even further defilement and disobedience to God.

📖 Hosea 4:12

"For a spirit of promiscuity leads them astray; they act promiscuously in disobedience to their God."

It's worth noting one of the reasons *why* Israel was to have nothing to do with the idols of the other nations: "it will be a snare for you." (cf. *Exodus 23:32-33*).

Likewise (though some may try to excuse it), for anyone to lust after images in this way, it will *surely* be a snare for them as well, to the end that they would "act promiscuously in disobedience to their God"; and to think otherwise would only be deceiving ourselves.

So not only is this lust in itself a serious sin, but it will also lead into *further* sin (*disobedience to God*), which leads to death (cf. *Romans 6:20-23*).

When we walk contrary to the law of God in promiscuity (even of the eyes, as we are specifically discussing today) we are serving

another master, not our Maker (cf. *Romans 6:11-23*); committing adultery spiritually, just as the ancient Israelites did! But our idolatry in this sense goes still further; for idolatry is, by definition, the worship of demons!

1 Corinthians 10:20-21

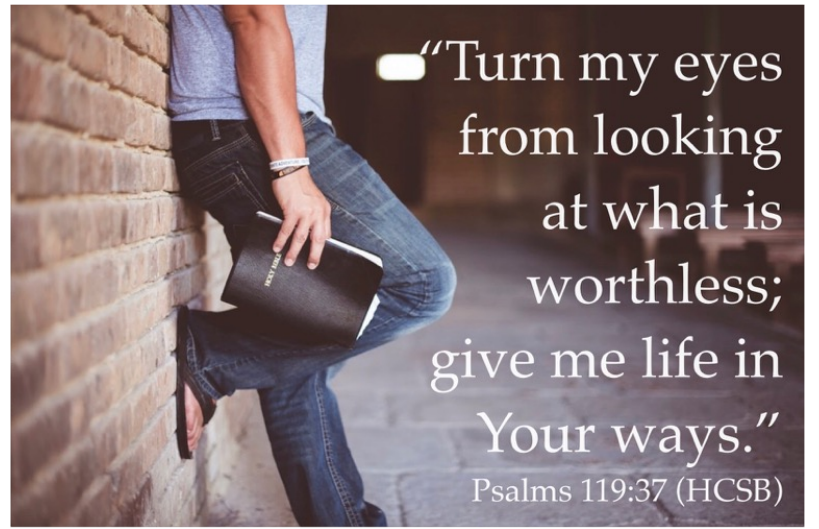
“No, but I do say that what they sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to participate with demons! You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot share in the Lord's table and the table of demons.”

Those who walk according to the doctrines of demons will share in the flames of justice reserved for their judgement (*Matthew 25:41-46*, *Revelation 20:10-15*).

As believers, we are not to continue in willful sin (*Hebrews 10:26-28*, also *Hebrew 6:4-6*). We must get past these things and not let them hinder us and drag us out of the race.

Jesus's words were unmistakable: to *look* with lust is no less than the physical *act* of adultery in Yahuah's book. Without a doubt it is sin, and as such is **inexcusable** and impossible for a true believer to justify having a place in their lives. Something to repent of, to be sure! Scripture says that Jesus came to “**redeem** us from **all lawlessness**” —why then would we let the lawlessness (*sin*, *1 John 3:4*) of adultery reign in our lives? (*Titus 2:14*)

Job also recognized the connection between our eyes and our actions, and explained his actions as being pure in this regard because he had made a *covenant with his eyes* (*Job 31:1*)!



He then continues with this concept several verses later:

Job 31:1, 7-11

“I have made a **covenant with my eyes**. How then could I **look at a young woman**? [...7] If my **step has turned from the way**, **my heart has followed my eyes**, or **impurity has stained my hands**, let someone else eat what I have sown, and let my crops be uprooted. If **my heart has been seduced by my neighbor's wife** or I have **lurked at his door**, let my own wife grind *grain* for another man, and let other men sleep with her. For that would be a **disgrace**; it would be a **crime deserving punishment**. For it is a **fire that consumes** down to Abaddon; it would destroy my entire harvest.”

**Emphasis added in this passage.*

“For that would be a **disgrace**; it would be a **crime deserving punishment**”! What strong words, coming from one of the most righteous men in the Bible (cf. *Ezekiel 14:14, 20*)!

We should also remember the words of Paul:

 **1 Corinthians 5:11**

“But now I am writing you not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer who is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or verbally abusive, a drunkard or a swindler. Do not even eat with such a person.”

 **1 Corinthians 10:8**

“Let us not commit sexual immorality as some of them did, and in a single day 23,000 people fell dead.”

 **1 Corinthians 6:18**

“Run from sexual immorality! ‘Every sin a person can commit is outside the body.’ On the contrary, the person who is sexually immoral sins against his own body. Don't you know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.”

Also see, *2 Corinthians 12:21*

Remember that *looking* and *doing* are of equal concern in this case. This gets more clear as we start to see what those who do *not* love God are involved in:

 **2 Peter 2:14**

“They have eyes full of adultery and are always looking for sin. They seduce unstable people and have hearts trained in greed. Children under a curse!”

Looking at pornography is “having eyes full of adultery” indeed! It begs the question: if one cannot—or more appropriately, *will not*—let

go of this vice, do they truly have love for God?

The passage defines these people as “children under a curse”; so clearly the answer is *No*.

If you have had an issue with this (or any other form of lust/adultery), I pray that you would return to the scriptures and fill your eyes with the *Word of God* instead; “cleanse hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, double minded people!” (*James 4:8*). We are called to throw off *everything* that hinders, including *all* immorality — whether done with our hearts and eyes only, or with our bodies as well.

 **Hebrews 12:1, 4**

“Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. [...4] In struggling against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.”

When will believers struggle against this terrible sin — even to the point of shedding their blood if need be? Those who persist in sin knowingly are not truly believers according to scripture. Sexual immorality is one of the four things that gentile converts were instructed to cast off as soon as they became believers, before they even learned the rest of God's instructions (*Acts 15:20-21*).

John also likened the lust of the flesh to the lust of the eyes; warning us against both, and saying that if we love such things — the things of this world — then the love of God is not in us. Those who love the world will also perish with the world (*Mark 8:34-38*; *1 John 2:15-17, 5:18-21*; *Colossians 3:5-7*; *2 Peter*

1:4; Romans 3:5-8; 1 Corinthians 11:31-32; James 4:4).

1 John 2:15-17

“Do not love the world or the things that belong to the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For everything that belongs to the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride in one's lifestyle—is not from the Father, but is from the world. And the world with its lust is passing away, but the one who does God's will remains forever.”

Flee immorality! Flee this idolatrous adultery which ends in death, lest it consume you! This is something that is done with the eyes and the heart, equal to what is done with the body, and is but a step away from such. Addiction to sexual immorality is addiction on a spiritual level, and he who is involved in it sins against himself, God, and other people. This is why we must keep our eyes from evil: lest we be shut out of the kingdom of God!

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

“Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom.”

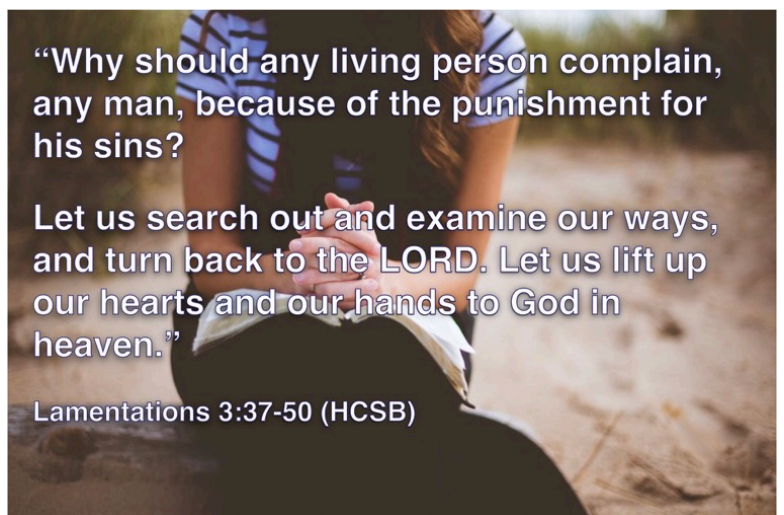
James 4:4

“Adulteresses! Don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the world's friend becomes God's enemy.”

Brethren, do not let this evil enslave you; do not be an enemy to the Giver of life and salvation! All is not lost for those who have been held captive by slavery to sin: repent! Let Yahuah wash away your sins, and you can turn back to him and be in covenant again. There is no temptation we cannot resist with the help of our Lord, for He will provide a way of escape no matter how strong the temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

“So, whoever thinks he stands must be careful not to fall. No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. God is faithful, and He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape so that you are able to bear it.”



“Why should any living person complain, any man, because of the punishment for his sins?

Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the LORD. Let us lift up our hearts and our hands to God in heaven.”

Lamentations 3:37-50 (HCSB)

QUESTIONS

Do you have immorality that you need to purge from your own life?

How can we purify our hearts and eyes and choose to only look at what is pure, rather than what is evil?

Reader's Comments

"This is *your* comment. The space reserved for you to share *your* thoughts! Don't be shy, we want to know what you think about these topics!" —*YOU* ;)

Fear the Maker (Not the Made)

Poem by *The Righteous Rhapsodist*

"What can man say?
What lies can he bring forth?
To demean and to dismay
The Creator's view of worth?

The thoughts of man so wrongly
wrought
His sinful state disturbing
With evil words and selfish ways
His rock hard heart is churning

He elevates his own agenda
Piles on impedimenta
Justifies his corrigenda
Puffs up his irredenta

But what has man that conquers
death?
Where is man when death
succumbs?
Yah is greater, He is breath
That which saves and overcomes

Sing to Him oh daughter
Play for Him our son
Worship Him dear father
Mother praise the One

His commands are holy
His right rulings just
His righteous ways walked wholly
By His Son in whom we trust

Fear the One who bans the soul
Walk with Him 'til final toll
His instructions are the goal
Of every man before Sheol"

 **Ecclesiastes 12:13 (ESV)**

"The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

To Wrap It All Up

I hope this blessed you!

Baptism is one topic that I am continually amazed at. It seems so simple, yet the more I continue to study it, the more meaning I find in scripture. I will be honest, I had no idea until fairly recently that the different reasons for baptism in scripture were all pieces of the same puzzle: covenant.

As for our 'Be Separate' section, I am aware that pornography is a sensitive subject. It is easy to be defensive of our sin, and attempt to justify ourselves rather than acting in truth on the Word of God; however, the way to life does not lie in self-justification, but in repentance and true faith: that proven by our deeds.

The reason I called this out today is because Yah (God) does not wish for anyone to perish, but **all** to come to repentance (*2 Peter 3:9*). His kindness *leads* us to repentance (*Romans 2:4*). I care about the salvation of my brothers and sisters in Messiah Yahusha, and have no desire for any one of you to fall short of the goal. This is why I act in faith, and share openly what scripture says about the snares that lie all around us, so that others can be aware, and purge the evil from their lives; being conformed more and more to the likeness of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.

Yahuah be with you all, and may His Spirit move greatly within your hearts.



LIVE IT!

This week, let's challenge ourselves to live out *Colossians 3:5*. How can we strive to make this passage true for our own lives?

Psalms 101:3

"Therefore, put to death what belongs to your worldly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry."

Notes from the Editor

At last the long-awaited 4th issue is out! I'll try to be as consistent as possible in the future, but I *did* have a good reason for not releasing this issue sooner: I and the rest of the editorial team had a *very* busy few weeks, and life must come before newsletters!

Things are settling down now, and Issue #5 of this newsletter should release on time on January 21st, 2022. If not, well, Yah's plan goes, not mine! This newsletter releases when Yahuah provides for it to, and I pray the timing of this issue (very late by my own timing!) has blessed you, and been very timely indeed for how Yahuah is leading you this week.

I hope it was worth the wait!

– *The Editor*

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Always Remember:

1 Thessalonians 5:14-25 (NKJV):

“Now we **exhort** you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is **good** both for yourselves and for all.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in **everything** give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Do not quench the Spirit.

Do not despise prophecies.

Test all things; **hold fast** what is good.

Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace Himself **sanctify** you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is **faithful**, who also will do it.

Brethren, pray for us.”

May our Lord Yahuah, bless you all. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.



Song of the Week

“Return”

by *Teshuva*

[YouTube](#) • [Apple Music](#)



Bonus Song!

“Love You With the Truth”

by *Casting Crowns*

[YouTube](#) • [Apple Music](#)