

The Mark of Forgiveness:

*All the information gathered by religious people does not produce a relationship with God. It produces a massive assortment of interpretation, with great theories and doctrines, called religion...organized form of worship. It demonstrated that men can know a lot about God, but in the end, it did not provide intimacy with God. Information is useless until it results in an **action**, in this case a relationship. To have a relationship we must not only know of the other's thoughts and desires, **what is important to them**, but also align with their focus to be **at one with** them. That requires an action on our part, not just a verbal commitment or knowledge.*

*Once learning of Yah's truth, to have a relationship with Him we must align ourselves and walk as He walked. The difference is in the **doing**, not the **knowing**. We can't see and feel the love of Yah through His blessing until we align ourselves according to His will... not ours. It's the difference of theology: bring God into your life to feel better about ourselves -verses- the act of changing our life into the teachings of His truth.*

*It all comes down to the question; **who needs to change...and for whom?***

Mt 9: 1~8 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city. And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus **seeing their faith** said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; **thy sins be forgiven thee**. And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, **Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?** But that ye may know that **the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins**, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and **glorified God**, which had given such power unto men.

*Notice the entrance into this story; "**Yahshua seeing their faith.**" It was an outward manifestation of their belief that Yahshua can heal them for that is why they came to Him. At that point it's only a matter of "**if**" Yahshua will heal them? With their faith being present through their actions, Yahshua fulfills their request. But note Yahshua's response; "**thy sin be forgiven.**" Yahshua does not just grant relief from the effects of the sickness...palsy, but goes to the origin of the sickness, and takes away the cause for the sickness... **sin**. The principle of cause and effect is the basis of much of our problems. A **physical change** had taken place, from the forgiveness of his sin, lying in bed to arise and walking. This man did not just imagine a change had occurred "**but felt it,**" physical proof that something had happened. Just as Yahshua saw their faith, so is the sign of forgiveness...**visible**.*

*Can we claim to experience forgiveness when there is no **visible sign** of change in our lives? Can I claim victory in the Greek philosophy of mental knowledge apart from claiming success in the Hebrew realm of action? Do not both have to co-exist at the same time? To see victory is to know that it has happened. To claim victory without any physical sign of its reward is denying the truth. Without change there is no victory. **Change is the mark**, the sign, the evidence that a conversion has transpired. We have replaced one physical action with another visible, outward sign.*

Mt 18: 21~35 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I **forgive him**? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would **take account of his servants**. And when he had begun to **reckon**, one was brought unto him, which **owed** him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying,

Lord, **have patience with me**, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was **moved with compassion**, and loosed him, and **forgave him the debt**. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which **owed** him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellow servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, **Have patience with me**, and I will pay thee all. **And he would not**: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants **saw what was done**, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that **was done**. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou **wicked servant**, I **forgave thee** all that debt, because thou desiredst me: **Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?** And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye **from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses**.

*Note that the King in this parable takes account of His servant, according to their **actions, judged by your doings**, your works as the book of James tells us; **“Faith is the action of your belief.”** The King finds his servant in debt, owing Him a reward or profit for a service. Remember each servant is given substance called talents with which to increase by and bring a profit. This servant who is in debt lacks profit in his service and requests compassion from the King meaning **“forgiveness”**. **Forgiveness is given through action**. An outward, physical, visible response to compassion is experienced by that servant, who was indebted to the King. That servant left with a physical substance...**freedom of debt**, not with a feeling of future payment or punishment awaiting him.*

Change is the mark, the sign, the evidence that a conversion has transpired. We have replaced one physical action with another visible, outward sign. This servant is now walking free. Yet, as the story continues, this servant does not learn from his experience of forgiveness, and refuses a similar change to take place in one that is indebted to him. **No forgiveness, no change**. Sometimes we seem to walk in a vacuum, as if no one sees us, that Yah does not see what we do in our houses or under our roofs. As like superman, who could not see through lead, we put on spiritual blinders and think no one sees us. The conclusion is quite simple; **“So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses”**.

*Look at the depth of forgiveness that is required as being; **“from the heart.”** Not just for the moment, or just verbally, but from the heart, deep down where feelings live and resentment has its roots. Where evil thoughts originate and vengeance is the judgment that quenches our thirst, not just for the moment, but every time the offence is thought of or seen. Where the seed of evil grows until there is a constant resentment. True forgiveness, is far from the words of our lips, it has to do with **action**. One cannot forgive others until one sees himself for who he is...an unworthy servant lacking profit for what has been given to him!!!*

Jerm 17: 5~10 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that **trusteth in man**, and maketh flesh his **arm**, and whose heart **departeth** from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that **trusteth** in the LORD, and whose **hope** the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. **The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?** I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to **give** every man **according to his ways**, and **according to the fruit of his doings**.

*Once again the message; **“don’t tell me you love me ...show me”** ...action. As the **“mark of forgiveness is change”**, so we must physically do something different to prove forgiveness has happened. Yah is **giving** to each man according to the **“fruit of his doing”**.*

Lk 7: 36~50 And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, **which was a sinner**, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself (*the heart were sin originates*), saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: **for she is a sinner**. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had **two debtors**: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly **forgave them both**. Tell me therefore, which of them will **love him most**? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, **Thou hast rightly judged**. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, **Her sins, which are many, are forgiven**; for she **loved much**: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, **Thy sins are forgiven**. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, **Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace**.

First note that Yahshua answers a question with a question. This is done to allow the listener to form the answer on their own, through their own reasoning and not having it forced upon them. This is the principle of placing the information at their feet, without offence. There is nothing to defend when you yourself have formulated the answer.

*Again, the origin of sin starts in the heart and is seen by the lack of love which is “outgoing concern for others.” Yet the woman did show **through her actions**... love. All this would have not been noticed if the Pharisees did not accuse and condemn her while elevating their own actions as righteous. The Pharisees did invite Yahshua to a meal, showing forth love. The fact of the matter is that Yahshua say's; **her faith**, by **her actions**, the “**actions of belief**” is what has rewarded her with the forgiveness of her sin.*

Mt 6: 9~15 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And **forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors**. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. **For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

*Do not the words cry out “**show me the change?**” You'll know them by their fruits is stated in Mt 7:15~20 which is their actions. Don't just say that you have forgiven your offender, “show him by your actions.” One must look deep into one's own heart from where resentment lingers, and rid self of those feelings. Not just for the moment, or just verbally, but in sincerity before resentment takes root. True forgiveness is far from the words of our lips, it is a reflection of **our actions**. We must see and respond in the likeness of Yah, showing mercy.*

Ro 12: 17~21 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, **as much as lieth in you**, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine **enemy** hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: **for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head**. Be not overcome of evil, but **overcome evil with good**.

*By one's fruit, our actions, the lack of responding in kind to one's enemies is forgiveness **seen**, a conversion has taken place. As a question was the tool to answer a question stated earlier by Yahshua, so is the same here. You are answering the offence with acts of kindness, which in turn will cause their own conscience to condemn **themselves**. They will be changed from **within**, as you get yourself out of view and replace it with self reflection from within. But it all starts with you!*

Eph 4: 17~25 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth **walk not as other Gentiles walk**, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God **through the ignorance that is in them**, because of the **blindness of their heart**: Who being **past feeling** have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye have not so learned Christ; **If** so be that ye have **heard** him, and have been **taught** by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the **old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be **renewed in the spirit of your mind**; And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in **righteousness** and **true holiness**. Wherefore **putting away** lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

Scripture is telling us not to walk as we did in the past, being ignorant to the feelings of the heart. Being past feelings meaning; not willing to take correction of what one has heard or been shown, but to rid yourself of the old you, and put on that newness which is Yah in you, His Holy Spirit, alive and seen through...actions of love.

Eph 4: 26~32 Be ye angry, and **sin not**: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: **Neither give place to the devil**. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him **labour, working** with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to **give** to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may **minister grace** unto the hearers. And **grieve not the holy Spirit of God**, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, **be put away from you**, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you**.

*Sin not, neither give place to the evil, meaning don't let evil thoughts take root in your heart. We will not be able to forgive while we're holding resentment and looking for revenge. These are the characteristics of the evil one in controlling you. If they be in you, then he (Satan) can call upon them as he wills, to your down fall. Is this not grieving of the Holy Spirit? You are fighting for the control of your heart, the inner you. Remember Yah's Holy Spirit waits to be invited in, He will never take it by force. Ergo, the response to the question is; **you must convince self ...to change**.*

*It's one thing to stop sinning against Yah's laws, that's like moving on a scale from a minus to a zero. It is a far more difficult thing to forgive sin committed against us. That is like being God; to move from a zero to a plus. To walk with Yah you have to act like Yah, O that's right ---He calls us to be son's...**if you be His**.*

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

*Can we claim forgiveness when there is no **visible sign** of change in our actions? Can I claim victory in words alone apart from **visible signs of righteous fruit**? To claim victory in forgiveness without any physical outward, **visibly seen evidence**, is to be walking as a fool, deceiving yourself,...**hypocrisy**. As if walking naked for all to see our pretense as we try to convince others and self of our deception in **denying the truth**.*

Lk 23:32~38 And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the

right hand and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father, **forgive them; for they know not what they do.** And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him **save himself**, if he be Christ, **the chosen of God.** And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, **save thyself.** And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, **THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

*“Forgive them; for they know not what they do.” They didn’t realize they had offended Yah by rejecting His son, their Messiah. Yahshua did not respond in kind to their offence. He saw past it, to see what **could be.** They all mocked Him as He tried to save them from their sins. And they responded by saying; **“save thyself”.** Yet that is just what He did, not only for us, but for Himself also.*

Lu 9:24 For whosoever will **save** his life **shall lose it:** but whosoever will **lose** his life for my sake, the same **shall save it.**

*Even to the very end Yah gives us an example through His son to forgive. This does not replace repentance on the part of the sinner, but as the book of Revelation and others show us; **He sees us as we shall be...forever with Him.***

*This is just one side of forgiveness, the part of **you forgiving another.** There is also the part of the offender. There are three kinds of sin; hidden, ignorant and presumptuous. Both hidden and ignorant sin is correctable through repentance...change, presumptuous is not. There is no forgiveness for the unrepentant.*

***You cannot forgive repeated error, shown by unwillingness to change.** We have been given an example to be like Christ, to forgive and see others as they potentially **can be.** But it all starts by seeing self ...first.*

*Without **change** there is no victory. **It is the sign,** the evidence that a conversion has transpired. We have replaced **words and thoughts** ...with a **visible action.***

“For Change is the Mark of Forgiveness”

So the next time someone say’s **“I forgive you”**
Be thankful and **“Look for the change”**

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