• The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)

We are separated from God because we have sinned against the Most Holy, Supreme, God of the Universe. All of us have rejected God's loving instructions found in the Bible. We have all gone our own way. God's wrath is against the hard-hearted, sinful ways of mankind, and He will reward or punish everyone for what they have done. (see Romans 2:5-6)

However, our Creator God, who is full of compassion, gracious, and merciful, has made the Way for reconciliation with Him! God sent His Son to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sins that we might be forgiven! This is why Messiah said, "No one comes unto the Father, but by Me". Our recovery to God, our salvation, can be found only in Jesus the Messiah. Everyone who believes in Messiah and receives Him and follows Him, will receive the Gift of God – "the Gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23)

But we must *personally* acknowledge to God that we need Him. God loves you and **He has provided an entrance for you into His Kingdom!** But you must personally come to Him and call out to Him. Ask Him to forgive you, to cleanse you of your sin with the **only** provision given for removal of sin – the precious blood of His Son, Jesus Christ (Yahushua the Messiah):

- But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. (1John 1:7)
- By His own blood (Christ Jesus) entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. (Hebrews 9:12)

In the Bible, God tells us He sent His Son Jesus to die in our place, to become the **perfect, sinless sacrifice** on our behalf. Jesus then rose from the dead and is now at Father's right hand, praying for you.

Jesus Christ (Yahushua Messiah) came to seek and to save Thirsty Souls — all the hurting souls who are separated from Him because of sin. Jesus offered Himself to pay the price for our sins, to redeem us from our iniquities (our rebellion).

We can't save ourselves by anything we do! We might be a 'nice' person, doing good things, but these things will never be enough to cleanse us from our sin or satisfy our thirsty soul. We must come to Jesus and be 'born of God'!

God is calling to **you**! By His Holy Spirit, He is right beside you calling you to come to Him. He rejoices whenever a thirsty soul turns to Him and receives Him. He wants to be near you and save anyone who will come to Him!

The Way is open! But you must call out to God, dear Thirsty Soul. He loves those who trust Him, who turn to Him! He is near to all who call on Him in sincerity. Call out to God today! Say a simple prayer. Tell Him out loud, that you believe Him. Here's a prayer that may help you know what to say to God:

"Dear God: I know I am a sinner. I believe Your Son died in my place. I ask You to save me and cleanse me from my sins by the blood of Jesus, and forgive me for my sins. I want to turn to you and do what pleases You. I ask You to come into my life and fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Please help me turn away from sin. Please bring me into Your Kingdom, and make me Your child. Amen."

See the "Good News" article at https://coldwaterstoathirstysoul.wordpress.com



As Cold Waters To A Thirsty Soul

Everyone knows what it's like to have a thirsty throat. But do you recognize the aching dryness of your **thirsty soul**? A thirsty soul is searching – soul-searching for something that is fulfilling and refreshing. Thirsty souls are looking for that something that will quench our thirst.

I was searching for something, though I was not sure what my searching was all about. **Perhaps you too are searching**. Perhaps you too feel like something is missing. I did know this: I wanted to find something that was fulfilling, truly satisfying. So I began to try various suggestions that claimed to provide answers for my thirsty soul.

During my college years, I sampled several **so-called solutions** that claimed to offer me peace and satisfaction. But these foolish, so-called solutions were immature, harmful, immoral, and based solely on the twisted, corrupt thinking of very selfish people. Nothing worked!

I began to see that the **noble pathway** to satisfying my thirsty soul could not be found from my self-important friends. More than ever, I was a restless, disillusioned, broken soul. I felt hopeless. Finding genuine love and truth always ended in bitter disappointment!

But, finally - I found what I was looking for, what I was thirsting for!! Right after graduation, I met a fellow student who was a Christian. I shared with him my struggles and the so-called solutions I had tried in searching for peace. He asked me, "**Have you ever tried Jesus?**" For me, that was an anointed question!! I thought, "Well, I've tried everything else. Why not try Jesus?"

I started reading the Bible and some Christian-authored books. Little by little, I began to understand that God's Word – not my reasonings, not my feelings, not my family's religious or social status, not my closest friends or favorite celebrity, but only God's WORD [the Bible] is the source for truth, direction, and counsel. I began to know deep inside me that there is a God who sees me and loves me.

Within a few weeks, I had a personal encounter with the Living God! I finally knew the truth about who Jesus Christ actually is, and that He is alive!

- Jesus Christ said, "I am the Way, the Truth, the Life: no man comes unto the Father (God), but by Me" (John 14:6).
- Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. He was buried, and He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. Jesus Christ died for all, so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died for them, and rose again from the dead. (1Cor 15:3-4; 2Cor 5:15)

I began to have a strong conviction that I needed to reach out to God. I knew I had to talk to God. I knelt by my bed, saying a simple prayer: "God, I believe You are real. I believe Your Son is alive." By the power of the Holy Spirit, I received Jesus into my life and became Born Again, just as Jesus urges: *Marvel not that I said*

unto you, <u>You must be Born Again</u>. (John 3:7)

Something deep within me changed. I found a verse that told me what had happened, If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2Corinthians 5:17)

Immediately I had a consuming desire to read the Bible and to follow God's Word. My sister said I had changed "like night and day!" The more I read the Bible, the more I felt a bubbling confirming "Yes!" rising up from within my spirit.

Oh what joy that came into my life when I finally found that something I was looking for! That 'something' is the **Lover of Souls** – the Master of the Universe, Jesus Christ (Yahushua Messiah, His Hebrew name). He is the Mighty God, the Wonderful Counselor who loves us, intimately, personally! He calls to each one of us, "Come My Love, My Beautiful One!"

Now that I had been 'born of God', I began to know true satisfaction for my thirsty soul! And I discovered that King David also had a thirsty soul: O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You: my soul thirsts for You, my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is (Psalms 63:1). So I wasn't the only one who was thirsting for something.

If you are searching for something, then the refreshing cold waters from our loving Saviour, God's Son, is the <u>only</u> real satisfaction for Thirsty Souls! He is The <u>Source</u> of the Fountain of the Water of LIFE: He [Jesus] said, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him that is thirsty of The Fountain of The Water of Life freely! (Revelation 21:6).

Messiah (Jesus Christ) wants to give you the Living Water! He wants be your guide out of darkness, your helper in times of trouble, your strength in times of weakness – if you will only look to Him, acknowledge Him, and receive Him!

- But as many as <u>received</u> Him (Jesus Christ), to them He gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. (John 1:12)
- This is the will of Him that sent Me (Jesus) that every one who sees the Son, and believes on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. (John 6:40)
- Truly I say unto you, He that believes on Me has everlasting life. (John 6:47)

When you turn and receive the Living Son of God, Jesus the Messiah, you will begin to understand the great love God has for you! God loves you so much that He gave His most prized possession to redeem you from harm and death: For God so loved the world, that He gave His most precious Son—He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

But Why is it so hard to find Him, to know Him?

Why does it seem like we are separated from Him? The separation from the Lover of Souls is due to our own sins (our disobedience to God). The empty feeling inside is because **each one of us** is separated from our One True Friend, the Maker of Heaven and Earth:

- But your iniquities have separated between you and your God; your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear. (Isaiah 59:2)
- For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)