



Sin separates us from Him who is Life (see Jn. 1:4; 1 Jn. 5:11-12). There can be no hope of everlasting life apart from the Source of life. This is why the Lord says "All those who hate Me love death." (Prov. 8:36).

10. Did Jesus come to call the righteous? Lk. 5:27-32

11. What was represented by the sacrificial blood? Lev. 17:11

12. What did Jesus "trade" us? Gal. 1:4

I've made some pretty poor trades in my life, especially when I didn't really know all I was getting (or giving)! But this is a trade anyone would be foolish to pass up. Jesus offers to trade places with us, and trade us His righteousness for our sin and its penalty. What is it we give up? A sin-polluted soul for Jesus to purify? The deep soul longing and conscious guilt that comes from carrying the weight of sin? What a trade!

13. What did the trade "cost" us? Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9

14. Do we live the same way after this "trade" is made? 2 Cor. 5:17

Part of the trade is a new nature. Not only does Jesus offer to forgive us, but also to cleanse us – to give us pure motives, right desires, moral strength. He truly re-creates us, and we are a "new creation" in Christ.

15. Could the sacrificial blood of animals ever take away sin? Heb. 10:1-4

16. Does the sacrifice of Jesus take away sin? 1 Jn. 1:9; Jn. 1:29

17. What are the steps to receiving Jesus as our Savior? Repent and Confess our sins (Prov. 28:13; Ac. 2:38), believe God forgives us and cleanses us (1 Jn. 1:9), and receive the gift of eternal life by living the life of faith (Eph. 2:8-10; Gal. 2:20)

The victory over sin comes by faith. Faith is not seeing, but in spite of seeing. The Bible says "we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Cor. 5:7). The two are opposite. Faith means we believe what God has spoken. We believe the promises in His Word. We believe that the God who created all things can re-create us, and we live in accordance with our faith. Then, the words of Jesus tell us "According to your faith let it be to you." (Mt. 9:29).