All the religions of the world attempt to solve the problem of sin through man's efforts, in order to please God!

In the Judeo-Christian "religion" once an individual is saved through faith in what Christ did on the cross; they then go about trying to solve the problem of post-salvation sin through man's efforts once again!

7.A.16

Salvation and the serpent's Sting

the sting of the serpent is sin

What Is the Purpose and the Effect of Confessing Our Sins ?

*1. Salvation: Definition for: **Salvation** = forgiveness of sin resulting in ETERNAL LIFE

The Bible teaches **God's exclusive solution for sin**, Jesus Christ the perfect sacrifice.

John 1:29 (NKJV)
29 The next day John saw **Jesus** coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

Acts 4:8–12 (NKJV)
8 And it came to pass, on the next day, that their rulers, elders, and scribes,
9 and Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.
10 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?"
11 This is the "stone which was despised by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.
12 Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

10 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.
11 This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.

12 Nor is there **Salvation** in any other, for there is no other **name**, under heaven given among men by which we must be **saved**."

*2. **God's exclusive method to receive this Salvation:**

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NKJV)
8 For by **GRACE** you have been **saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; **IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD**,
9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

GRACE is the unearned un-deserved kindness and favor of God toward man

through by; in the Genitive, a marker of **means** between two events

1223 διὰ (**dia**) – Dia 1223; TDNT 2:65 – LN 90.4 kc; through, in the genitive, a marker of agency BR 1:20; Mk 16:20 (+), LN 89.8 kc, with, in the genitive, a marker of means Mt 21:24; Gl 2:16; LN 89.76

4102 πίστις (**pistis**) noun feminine, by (mid) nouns – 4102/pistis; 270; 28 occ. (Gen 15:6 (+), LXX) (Gen 15:6 (+), LXX) (see verb) believed, a state of certainty with regard to belief (Gn 17:20 (+), LN 31.35 Mark; believe in a conscious man (Mt 17:20 (+) Jn 20:29, Eph 3:20 (+), LN 31.98

Commentary: In view of complete impossibility (Rm 4:19 (+), LN 31.102 **Christian faith**, belief in the Gospel (Rm 1:8; Eph 2:8

*3. The serpent's Sting :

The bite of the serpent Metaphorically was as the result of sin; it brought death due to sin and, it brings a death like experience in the Christian's life

Metaphorically, the serpent on the pole, are the sins of all mankind placed upon Jesus when He was on the cross. Jesus paid the penalty

Numbers 21:4–9 (NKJV)
4 Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way.
5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread."

6 So the Lord sent fiery **serpents** among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.
7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "**We have sinned**, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

8 Then the Lord said to Moses, "**Make a fiery serpent**, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live."
9 So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

John 3:14–18 (NKJV)
14 And as Moses lifted up the **serpent** in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

15 that whoever **believes** in Him should not perish but have **ETERNAL LIFE**.
16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,

Would the world do this sooner?

that whoever **believes** in Him should not perish but have **EVERLASTING LIFE**.
17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18 "He who **believes** in Him is not condemned;

Why is he 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.

Eternal life is conditional upon **belief**

Eternal life is conditional upon **belief**

John 1:29 (NKJV)
29 The next day John saw **Jesus** coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

The only reason a person will be condemned or if they choose not to believe that Jesus died for their sins

Condemnation is not due to personal sin, no matter what the sin is

The serpent's Sting

For the believer, when he is not obeying doctrine; he's living life on his own terms and that always brings destruction

When the Bible uses this phrase **ETERNAL LIFE**, there is something more going on there than continuous non-ending existence.

But the eternal life the believer receives refers to **a quality of life**.

You don't get it when you die. **It's available to you at the moment you put your faith alone in Christ alone, but not all receive the present quality of life available to them; through obedience to Scripture**:

John 10:10 (NKJV)
10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.**

*4. Cleansing for the Believer after has received eternal life

The question is: now that I'm saved, how do I deal with sin in my life?

1 John 1:9 (NKJV)
9 If we

John 8:31–32 (NKJV)
31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed;
32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth **shall make you free**."

1662 ἐλευθεροῦω (**eleutheroō**) ab. – 1x – 1662; verb to start – LN 37.135 **set free**, liberate (Jn 8:32)

Ephesians 5:25–27 (NKJV)
25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,
26 that He might sanctify and **Cleanse** her **with the washing of water by the word**,
27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

1. The free gift of salvation through faith alone, and
2. after salvation mere confession of sin for forgiveness

is in complete contrast to all human viewpoint opinion