

Seeing the BIG PICTURE. Presentation by J.P. Croft **Graeme Morrison** 

Looking at the Bible from beginning to end.

#### The Incredible Book

66 Books: 39 OT + 27 NT.

Written over 1500 years. (1450 BC - AD 100)

#### **HEBREW**

במו קיר פנימי של בית מאַע: יִשְׁנֵי אָמִיטִי ווּנְעָּל זְאֵישִׁאַ זְאָיִשִׁאַ זְאָיִשִּׁאַ זְאָיִישִׁאַ זְ

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Contains 3 different languages. (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek.)

### 40 Authors. 6 Major Empires.

1500 Years. 66 Books.





One Theme God's Way of Redeeming Man!

# An Urgent and Important Command THE GREAT COMMISSION. Matt 28;18-19; Luke 24:44-49; Mark 16:15-16;

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."



### The gospel is a spoken MESSAGE that is to be PREACHED to every person.

This is a command of Christ to all His followers:1 Tim 2:2; that means you and me.
Why is the gospel so important?



#### The Gospel is "The Power of God."



"I am not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power of God for salvation."

Roman 1:16;

The gospel stands between man and salvation.

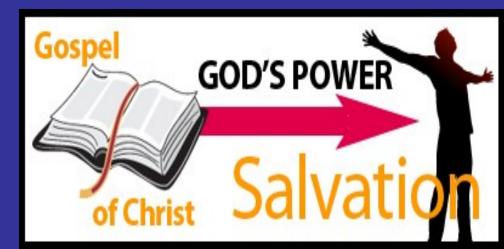
The gospel is the power of God – not a fuzzy feeling, not money, or wealth or fame – but the gospel.

#### THE GOSPEL is A Message of Salvation.

The gospel is a MESSAGE that is to be PREACHED to every person - a message of SALVATION.

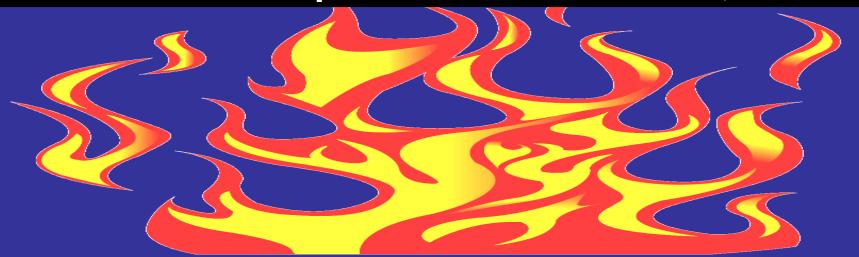


The Gospel is Objective Truth!



### The Gospel:- Must be accepted and applied or we will DIE in our SINS.

"when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power..." 2 Thess 1:7-9;



#### A Serious Warning:- To Christians!

"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:6-12;

There is only one gospel and we have to get it right.

Our salvation is completely dependent upon our ability to know and respond to the one gospel.

Acts 4:12;

#### **Some Critical Observations!**

Any deviation from the one gospel is a different gospel

Different gospels exist today, just as then.

Good sincere people, believers, or churches can teach or follow a different gospel Different gospels may be taught by those with considerable knowledge, education, influence, or authority, e.g. apostles or angels.

It is the responsibility of each individual Christian to discern between the one gospel and false gospels. The gospel belongs to God!

#### **Some Critical Observations!**

Any deviation from the one gospel is a different gospel

Different gospels exist today, just as then.

What the Holy Spirit was warning us about has happened!

to discern between the one gospel and false gospels. The gospel belongs to God!

### The Gospel is God's plan of how to redeem Man through Jesus!

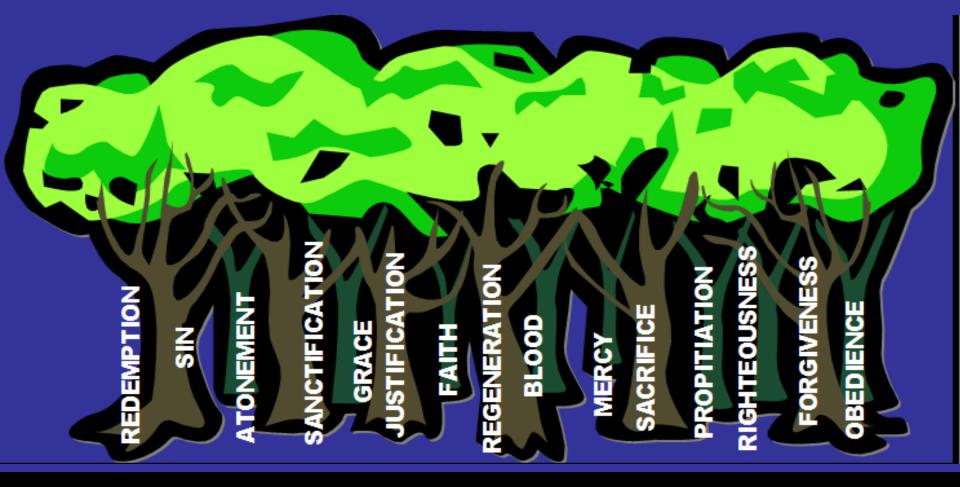
The plan of redemption is the underlying foundation of the gospel and is the message of the entire Bible.

The gospel in this sense can refer to all biblical teaching.

However, the apostles often used this phrase to mean, what will put someone into a relationship with Christ.



#### The Gospel is God's Plan of Redemption!



God's plan of redemption is the "forest" in which all the trees (doctrines) of the Bible need to be understood. We often get these very fragmented when we don't have the big picture in mind.

#### THE ONE GOSPEL!

"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:6-12;

If there is only one gospel we have to get it right.

How can we be sure that we get this right.

The NT gives us a direction of where to begin to understand the theme of the Bible.

"Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith." Galatians 3:24;

Also: Rom. 15:4
For whatever things
were written before
were written for our
learning, that we
through the patience
and comfort of the
Scriptures might have
hope.
1 Cor. 10:11

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction

(see also 2 Tim 3:14-15)



SCHOOLMASTER, TUTOR, TEACHER, SLAVE.



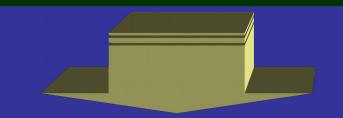
TO BRING US TO CHRIST Justified by Faith.

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TEACHER, SLAVE.



TO BRING US TO CHRIST

The OT is supposed to teach us something very important.

What we learn from the OT is to "bring us to Christ" so that "we may be justified by faith"

#### The Eternal Plan!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,"

"having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved." Ephesians 1:3-6;

#### **The Eternal Plan!**

### Before God created man He had a plan for man's redemption.

#### Why?

If God created man with a free will (the ability to choose to either sin or not sin,) it make sense that He would make provision in case man sinned? Free will demands it. That is why He had a plan of redemption planned before He ever created man.

FREE WILL.

### Which God?



#### Which God?

Is God just a God of love – hearts and flowers.

Some look at the NT and only see a God of love,
mercy and forgiveness....

But the OT God is this Darth Vader character – a God of wrath, punishment and vengeance.

Is that really the case? No. The God of the OT and the God of the NT are one and the same. We might get the perception that the God of the OT was more of a disciplinarian but remember, this was a period for learning.

When children are young they were disciplined a lot more than they are now that they are all grown up. We need to recognize the one chief characteristic of God that more than anything else defines His relationship with man.

### GOD IS HOLY!

#### **GOD'S ATTRIBUTES...**

OMNISCIENT! (ALL KNOWING.) OMNIPOTENT!
(ALL POWERFUL.)

OMNIPRESENT! (EVERYWHERE PRESENT.)

#### **ARE GOVERNED BY HIS CHARACTER!**

This is it. God is holy. All of the interaction that we have with and from God is determined by this fact.

God can only act in a just way. He will do nothing wrong, ugly, or evil. His ways will always be fair and just.



There is no hint of moral evil in His nature "For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; No evil dwells with You." Psalms 5:5;

He inhabits eternity with a dominion of purity defined by His nature.

"Far be it from God to do wickedness, And from the Almighty to do wrong. Surely, God will not act wickedly, And the Almighty will not pervert justice."

Job 34:10-12:



For the word of the LORD is upright, And all His work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; The earth is full of the <u>loving kindness</u> of the LORD."

JUSTICE.

LOVE.

God's holiness is demonstrated in His justice and love toward His creation.

### GOD IS HOLY!

So we do see a God of Justice – what Punishments or edicts He pronounces must be executed.

We also see a God that dearly loves His creation even to the point that as we will see, He even wants to make provision to help man out of predicaments caused by His justice

The holiness of God not only sets Him apart, but creates a demand and expectation on His relationship with man.

### GOD IS HOLY!

"Thus you are to be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy; and I have set you apart from the people to be Mine." Leviticus 20:26;

God demands moral uprightness in His creatures because He is Holy!

This is the idea of SANCTIFICATION – to make holy or set apart before God. Usually connected with having our sins cleansed because we cannot be holy and presentable to God if we have sin present in our lives.

God expects man, that is made in His image, to be Holy as He is holy. We are to be "set apart."



### A DESIRED RELATIONSHIP: SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH A HOLY GOD.

When man can exhibit the characteristic of holiness, God has a union and relationship with man that is called spiritual fellowship.

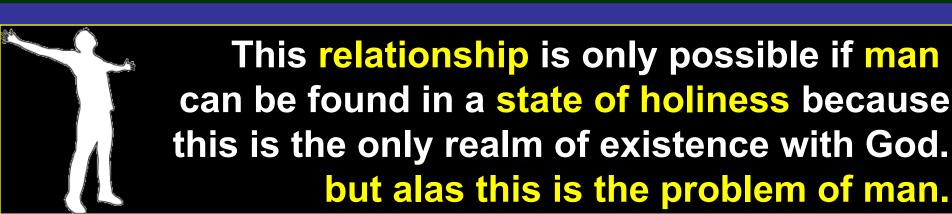
# SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH A HOLY GOD.

We are really spiritual beings that inhabit these earthly physical bodies.

The earthly bodies are temporary and mortal.

Our soul will soon leave these physical bodies and inhabit the true reality that God has prepared for eternity.

This is why we try to get our kids to be holy.



## SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH A HOLY GOD.

God exhibits an attitude of abhorrence and hatred to all that is wrong "You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look upon wickedness."

Hab 1:13;

God is of such purity, and sin is such a revulsion, that He cannot look upon sin. (Like Charged iron filings when confronted with a magnet.) It is even worse.



Sin Separates us from God!

"Your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you." Isa 59:2;



# SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH A HOLY GOD.

That's why sin (any sin) that separates us from God is described in most drastic terms.

Spiritual Death.

(Not 5 minutes in the naughty corner.)

Our culture continues to diminish sin, while God demands holiness.
This is what Romans 6:23; tells us "...for the wages of sin is death."





#### THE DEADLEM OF OIM

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one." (Rom 3:10;)

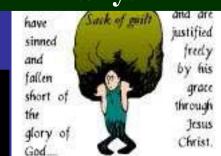
"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

#### GOD'S GLORY - MAN'S FULL POTENTIAL.



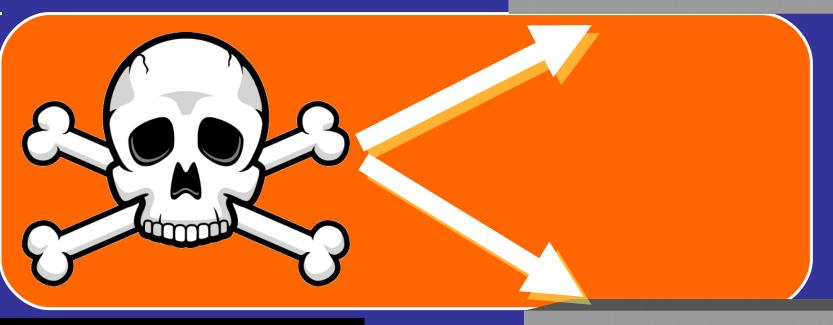
Notice how the terms SIN and DEATH are related, here is where the problem gets serious.

**Romans 3:23;**) **Because of** our sin we all fall short! In a factory assembly we would be seen as rejects and thrown away.



The consequences or penalty for sin.

SPIRITUAL.



DEATH.

MORTAL.

"For out of the dust you were taken; for dust you are, and to the dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19;

#### We cannot deny that we experience sin.

Missing the mark: Hamartia. - ἀμαρτία

"Sin is anything that causes us to miss the target of God's will for our lives."



Life diminishes where sin is, because sin creates an obstacle to grace.

#### The PRICE for SIN.



DEATH.

LIFE.

"without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness of sins." Heb. 9:22;

When we have suffered the consequences of sin have we done anything that takes care of sin? (Removes or covers sin)?

#### The PRICE for SIN.

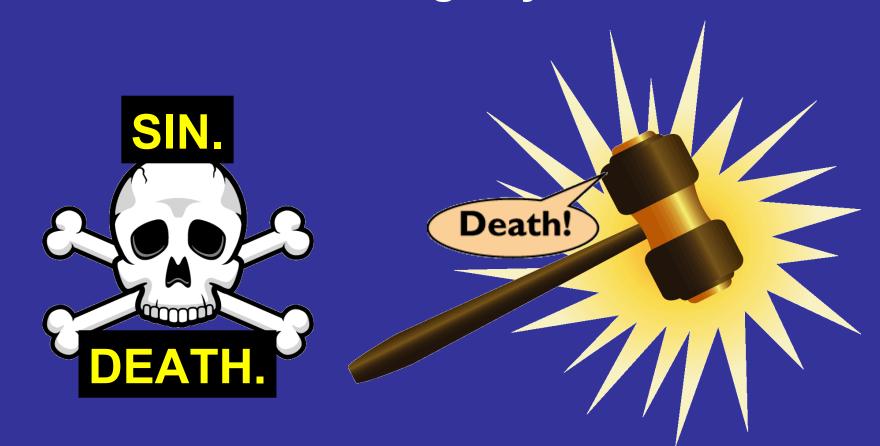
"The LORD God commanded the man, saying, 'From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." Gen 2:16-17;

"but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die'." Gen 3:3;



#### God is a Just God.

"5 and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;" 2 Peter 2:4-9;



#### God is a Just God.

"6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly lives." 2 Peter 2:4-9

The person who sins will die.
Ezekiel 18:20;

We all make choices. God is trying to teach us through these historical examples.

That sin is bad. That sin is REALLY bad!

That death is the deserved punishment and that death is the price for sin.

### **Three Deaths?**

#### SPIRITUAL.



**Separation From God.** 

Result of individual sin.

"The wages of sin is death." Romans 3:23;

### MORTAL.



Death of our bodies.

Result of Adam & Eve's first sin.

"for dust you are, and to the dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19;



#### JUDICIAL.



Life payment for sin.

Required of

"without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness of sin." Hebrews 9:22;

every sinner.

## **Three Deaths?**

SPIRITUAL.

MORTAL.

GOD CONSEQUENCES.

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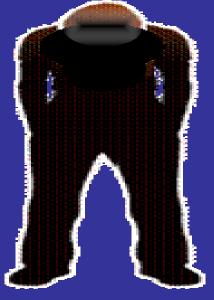
"without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness of sin." Hebrews 9:22;

## The Price is Right.

We deserve to die for breaking the laws of the God of the universe! Who deserves to die for my sins?



God's Justice Demands Death as Payment for Sin.





We find ourselves in a very desperate situation:We have broken the laws of the God of the universe,
this has separated us from a Just and Holy God,
the price of death hangs over our head.
(Which we cannot pay.)

God's Justice Demands Death as Payment for Sin.



The principle so many overlook is that the price for sin is personal. No thing or no one else is responsible for the price for my sin.

It is on my head, – it is on your head, – it is on the head of everyone who sins.

Being good will not take care of this problem.

God's Justice Demands Death as Payment for Sin.

Man is in a miserable situation.

He has a price on his head that he cannot pay.

Is there any hope? What is the remedy?

If we only experienced the JUSTICE of God it would be a short story for all of us. But the other side of His holiness is His LOVE as demonstrated in His grace and mercy.

# God's Love Provides a Way to Pay the Price.

God's Justice Demands Death.

GRACE.

God GIVES what is not deserved.

(Romans 3:23-26; 5:6-11;)

MERCY.

God does NOT give what is deserved.
(Romans 1:18;)

LIFE!

**DEATH!** 

#### **MERCY!**



This is where we see that God's loving kindness comes in to help man out from the penalty demanded by His justice.
All that blood in the OT is the mechanism that God uses to demonstrate His mercy.

This is why the Bible is a book that drips blood.

This is what animal sacrifice was all about.

It was God's way to demonstrate His grace or mercy.

Man's redemption is all wrapped up

in the idea of Atonement.

Kaphar:- to cover, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, cover over with pitch.

"...for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you will be clean from all your sins before the LORD."

Lev 16:30;

Atonement is the mechanism of reconciliation also the result of reconciliation between man who broke God's laws and God himself so that spiritual reunion can take place.

Atonement is offered by the blood of animals.

When man can exhibit the characteristic of holiness God has a union and relationship with man that is called spiritual fellowship.

Holiness for man can only take place if the price for sin can be paid thereby removing sin.

This relationship is only possible if man can be found in a state of holiness because this is the only realm of existence with God... but alas this is the problem of man. It is even worse.

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement." Leviticus 17:11;

Life makes atonement:- One thing we must realize is that God is not a God with some sort of bloodlust.

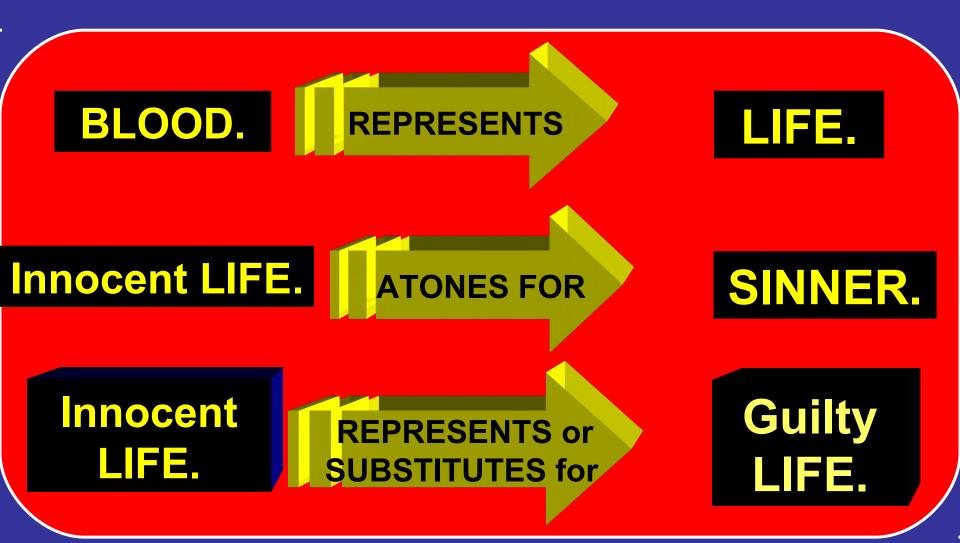
Like the "throw the virgin in the volcano and appease the gods" kind of God.

Animal sacrifice is another tremendous evidence of God. Every culture in the world, all over the world, has practiced sacrifice.

We read that the scholars are puzzled as to how man could have gotten this universal idea that killing something would bring good fortune.

No. God uses blood (or life) to make atonement due to its representative nature and the seriousness of the crime.

# GOD'S MERCY and ATONEMENT! PAYMENT?



Heb 9:22; "without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness of sins."

## SANCTIFICATION.



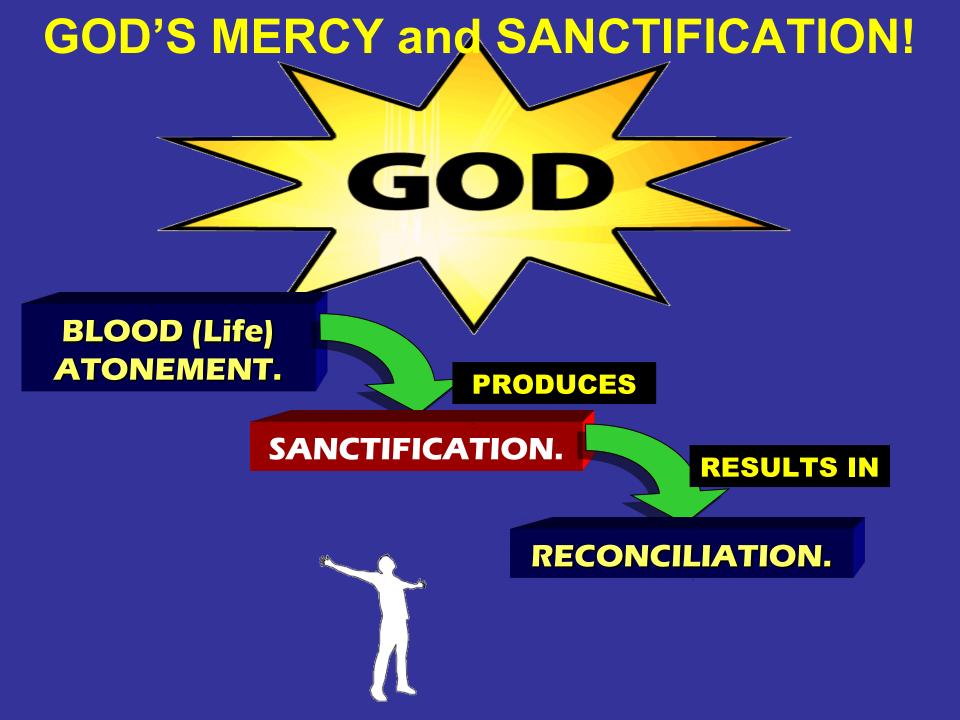
"...that He might sanctify her [the church], having cleansed her ..." Eph. 5:25-26;

### **GOD'S MERCY and SANCTIFICATION!**

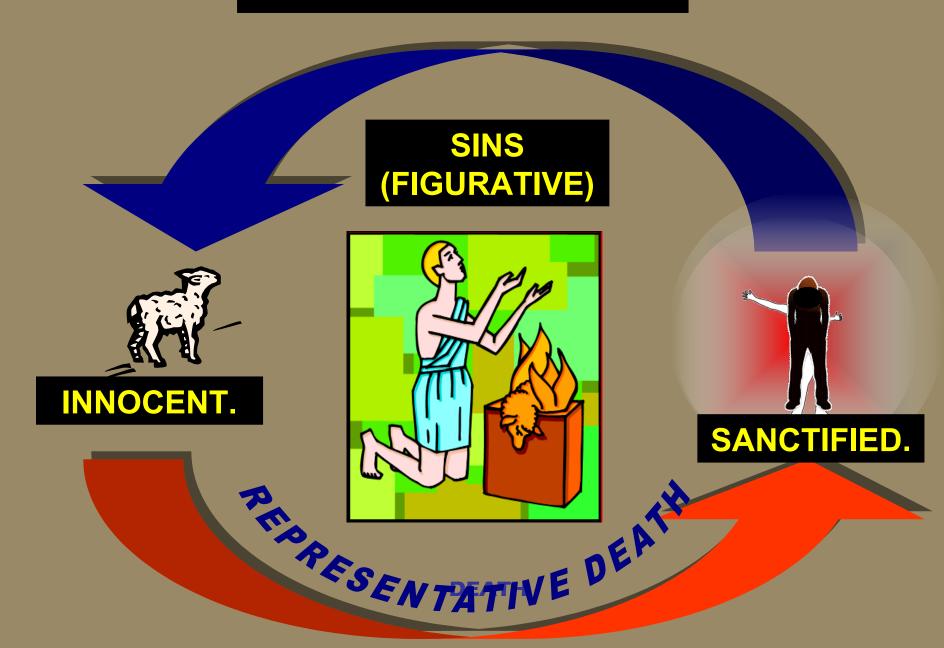
This is where the concept of sanctification comes in.

Sanctification is the process
by which sin is removed.

When sin is removed a person is then without spot or blemish, holy. As a result spiritual union or reunion takes place with a holy God.



## **Animal Sacrifice.**



#### The Price Paid.

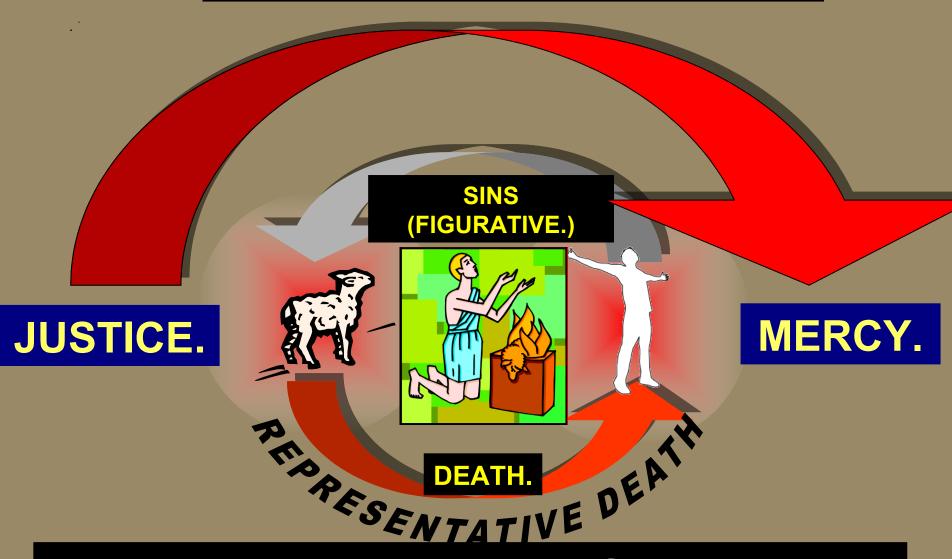
Gen 3:21; "The **LORD God made** garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them."



Adam & Eve "died" through the animal deaths.

While Adam and Eve died spiritually, also biologically. because of their sin we also see that a physical death did take place, – animals.

## God's Justice and Mercy.

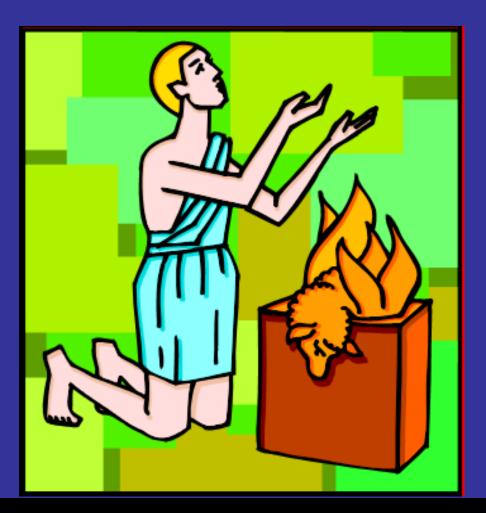


We will never appreciate God's *mercy* if don't understand His *justice*.

#### What Made Animal Sacrifice Work?

## FAITH!





The biblical concept of faith is even seen in animal sacrifice. They couldn't just believe in animal sacrifice. The animal had to be killed. Heb 9:22;

### The Bible has MANY examples of faith.

Abel. Noah. Abraham. Abraham. Sarah. Abraham. saac. Israelites.

Walls of Jericho.

OFFERED. PREPARED. OBEYED. LIVED. CONCEIVED. OFFERED.

OFFERED.
BLESSED.
PASSED THROUGH.
ENCIRCLED.

Genuine FAITH requires Belief-based ACTION.

The Bible has MANY examples of faith.

Notice what they all had in common!

Suppose it was time for animal sacrifice and you decided it was too cold, the lambs had to be chased down and you decided that God knew your heart so you would just skip the yearly sacrifice.

You could not JUST BELIEVE in animal sacrifice.

Likewise, suppose you were killed and your children decided that a yearly sacrifice was a good tradition to keep up without any knowledge of why that animal was killed.

They could not just kill the animal.

They had to know WHY it was being performed.

Believe alone was no good, action alone was no good. It required BOTH.

The Bible has MANY examples of faith.

Romans 10:17 "Faith comes by Hearing and hearing by the word of God."

Genuine Faith – Hebrews 11:6;

"without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

**Genuine Faith – Hebrews 11:6;** 

"without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who cortes to God must believe that He is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

## What is Saving Faith?

WORKS ALONE. (Obedience.)

HEBREWS 11;

BELIEF ALONE. (Heart.)

Action, Based upon Belief. (Obedience, From the Heart.)

"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?"

**James 2:14**;

## What is Saving Faith?

Saving Faith is also called trust or acceptance.

This is only effective when it is belief-based action.

Most of our religious friends don't really believe in the doctrine of belief only.

They use words like you must trust...
you must accept...
God again illustrates this point by asking
the rhetorical question "Can such faith save him"

Faith is never passive.

Saving faith must be belief-based action.

## FAITH / BELIEF ALONE? (James 2:14-26;)

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(v14) Can that type of faith save a man?
(v17) Faith without action is dead.
(v18) Faith is shown by action.
(v20) Faith without action is "useless."
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- (v21-23) Abraham's faith was perfected by belief working with his actions.
  (v24) Justified by action, not "faith alone."
  (v26) Faith without action is dead.
  - (v19) *Devils are believers!* and are lost. There will be believers in Hell.

## God's Grace gift of Salvation through Jesus' Death Burial and Resurrection.

We recognize that accepting a gift is not the same as earning a gift.

A gift is not earned. Accepting a gift or meeting the conditions of acceptance is not earning a gift.

Naaman didn't earn his healing from leprosy by dipping in the river Jordan 7 times any more than we earn a birthday gift from mum and dad by endorsing their cheque!

## God's Grace gift of Salvation.

Receive the envelope. Open the envelope. Open the card "Shake out" the cheque. Endorse the cheque. Take it to the bank. Receive your cash. Still a gift? You did nothing to EARN the gift - you just accepted the gift!



God's Grace gift of Salvation.

if we understand Heb 9:22;

we understand that there is one thing
that will take away our sin! – Jesus blood.

This is why good works will not save a person. We can do good works from now until the day we die and it will not remove one sin.

Only blood atonement will take away our sin. Because that is what God has set as the price to pay to redeem man from sin.

## The Old Testament Guardian.

SIN

**HOLINESS** 

**SACRIFICE** 

**FAITH** 

SINS (FIGURATIVE)

**GRACE** 

**JUSTICE** 



**ATONEMENT** 

TEACHER
Gal 3:24;

**MERCY** 

**REDEMPTION** 





RECONCILIATION

**DEATH** 



DEATH

**SANCTIFICATION** 

## The Old Testament our Guardian.

Look at what we've learned from OT animal sacrifices.

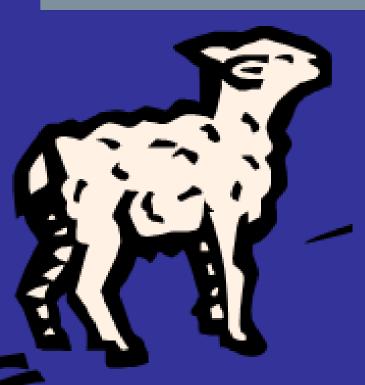
Thousands of years go by with millions of innocent animals being slain representatively. Why?

God was preparing for this moment in time.

John the baptiser is baptizing and looks up and sees Jesus approaching for the first time and he announces Him.

## "Behold the

# LAMB OF GOD,



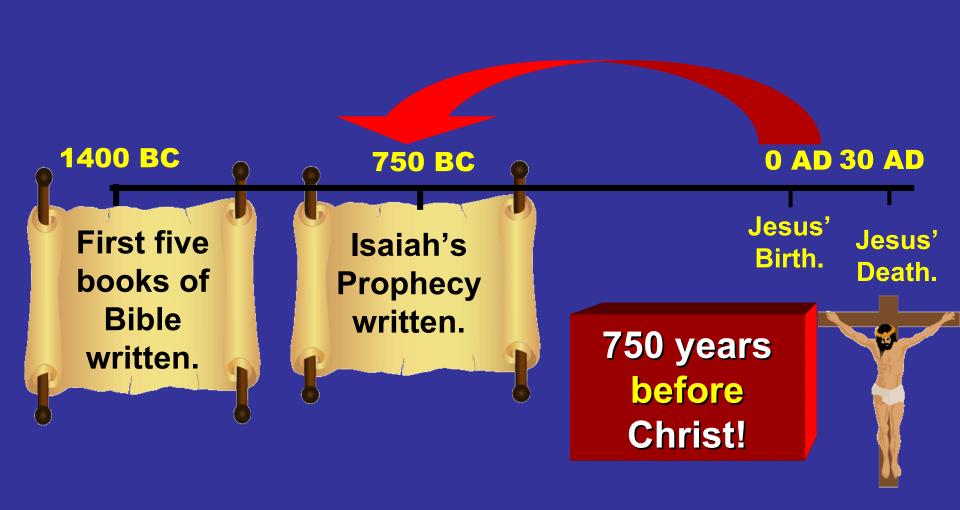
that
takes away
the sin
of the world."

The Lamb of God.
There it is. The plan of redemption in a nutshell. Why did he call Jesus an animal?
What was he communicating to the Jewish mind by calling Jesus and animal?
Particularly a lamb?

Did Jesus come to die by accident?
Hardly. He was announced to be God's lamb which meant he had to be God's sacrifice.

The O.T. contains much more information,the promises made to Abraham, the chosen people
the Jews, the law and the covenants, –
but the reason for all of those was ultimately
the salvation of His people through Christ.

#### Christ's Blood in Prophecy. Isaiah 53.



## Christ's Blood in Prophecy. Isaiah 53. 750 years before The Christ.

"Surely He has borne our grief's And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

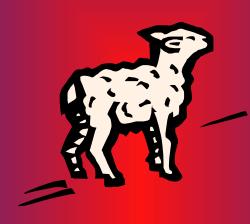




### Christ's Blood in Prophecy. Isaiah 53. 750 years before The Christ

- "8. From prison and trial they led him away to his death. But who among the people realized that he was dying for their sins-that he was suffering their punishment? 9. He had done no wrong, and he never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave."
- "11. When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of what he has experienced, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins."
- 12. "I will give him the honours of one who is mighty and great, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among those who were sinners. He bore the sins of many and interceded for sinners."

#### The Lamb of God – Redeemed.





1 Pet 1:18-19; "knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

1 Cor 6:20; "For you have been bought with a price."

#### Christ's Blood in Prophecy.

Mark 10:45; "the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Matt 26:28; "for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."

1 John 3:5; "But you know that He appeared so that He might take away our sins.

And in Him is no sin.

#### The Lamb of God – Ransomed.



Mark 10:45; "the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Matt 20:28; "for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."

1 John 3:5; "But you know that He appeared so that He might take away our sins. And in Him is no sin.

#### Christ's Sacrifice - OT Fulfillment.





"you were redeemed with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ."

#### Christ's Sacrifice – OT Fulfillment.

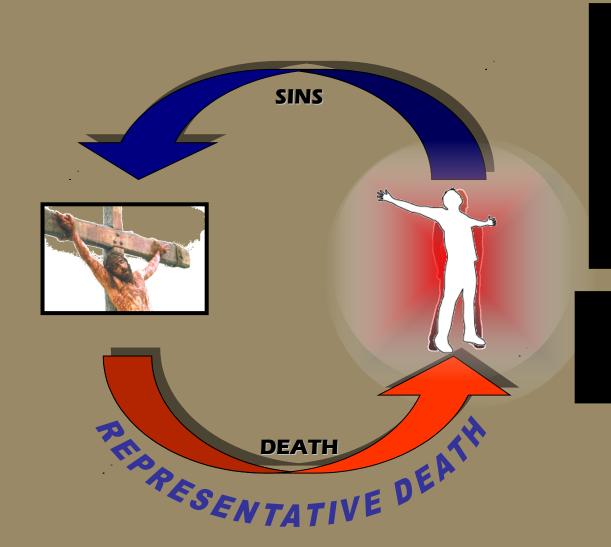




"you were redeemed with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ."

"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill." Matt 5:17;

#### Christ's Sacrifice - OT Fulfillment.

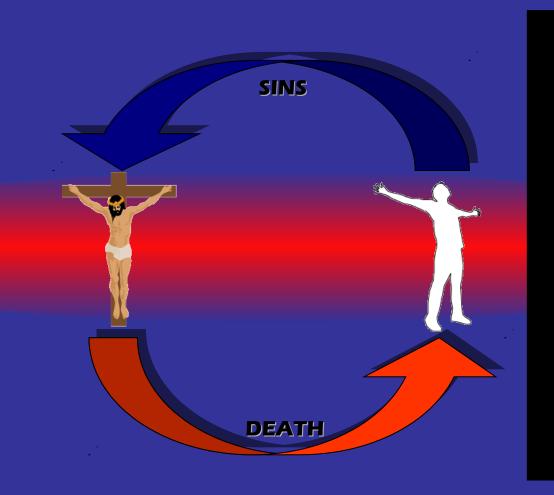


1 Peter 2:24;
"He Himself
bore our sins
in His body
on the cross,"

"that we might die to sin."



#### Christ's Sacrifice - The Sin Bearer.



"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Cor 5:21;

#### Christ's Sacrifice – His Experience.

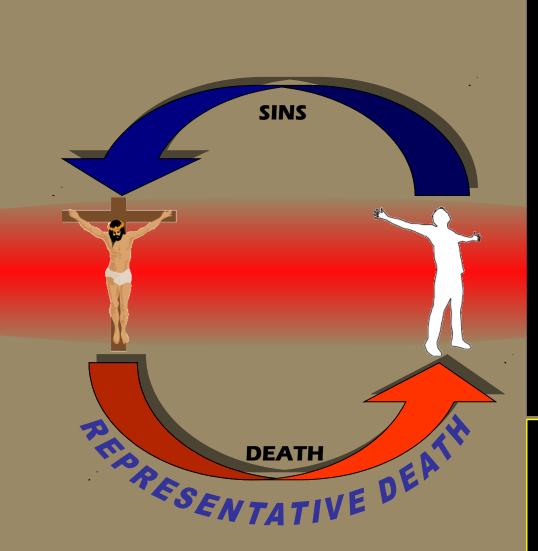
My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?

"Your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden his face from you." Is 59:2; "You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look upon wickedness."

Hab 1:13;

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Cor 5:21;

#### Christ's Sacrifice – His Experience.



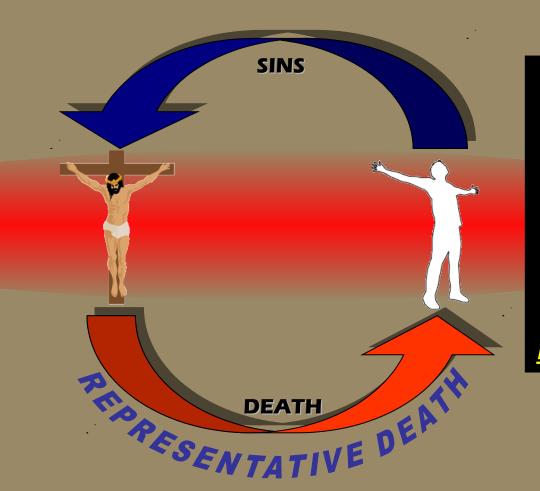
"He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight." Col 1:22;

See also Hebrews 13:12; Hebrews 10:10;

An Undeserved Sacrifice. Romans 5:8-10; "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him."

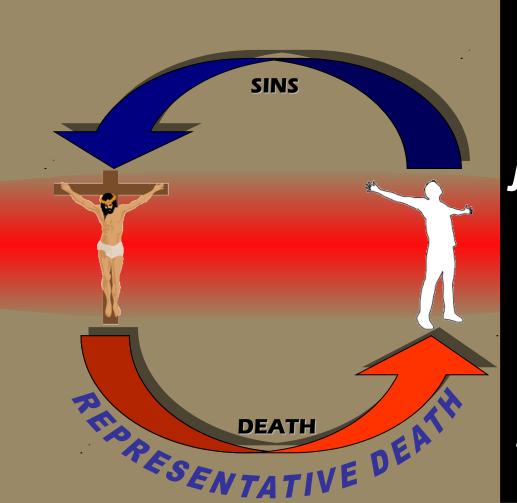
"For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

#### Christ's Sacrifice – Removes Sin.



Rom 6:6;
"Our old self was
crucified with Him,
That our
body of sin might
be done away with."

#### Propitiation – By Faith. Romans 3:23-25;

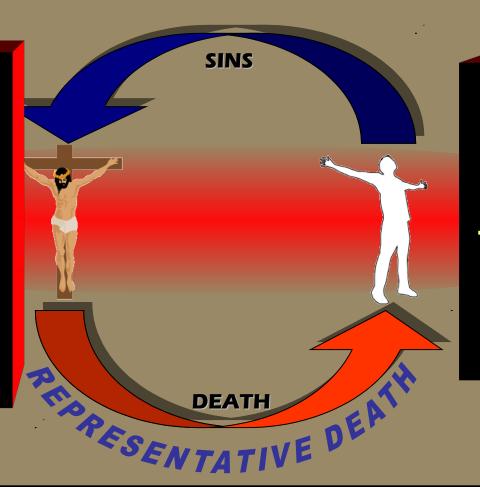


"for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God set forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in His blood..."

#### Christ's Sacrifice – Who Died?

1 Peter 2:24; "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin."

"you were redeemed with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ."



Romans 6:8;
"Our old self
was crucified
with Him,
That our body
of sin might
be done
away with."

#### The Death of the Believer? 2 Tim 2:11;

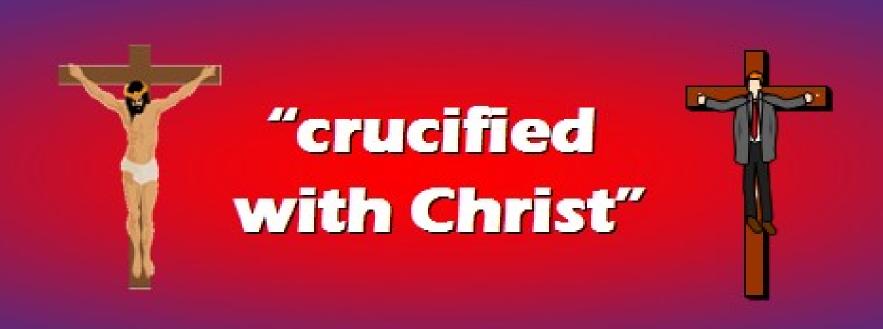
"It is a trustworthy statement:
For if we died with Him,
we will also live with Him;"



Christ's death results in the death of the believer!

#### The Death of the Believer? Gal 2:20;

"I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me"



#### The Death of the Believer? 2 Cor 5:14;

"For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all lied."



# Our sins can not and will not be forgiven,



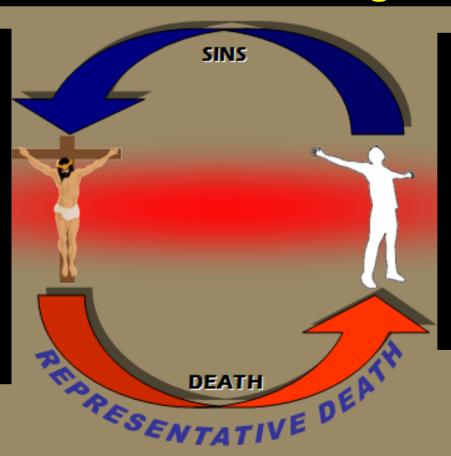
"We have died with Christ.
We have been united with Christ in His death.
We have been crucified with Christ.
We have died to sin."

This is according to God's scheme of redemption for "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

#### Christ's Sacrifice.

1 Peter 2:24; "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin."

1 Peter 1:18-19;
"you were
redeemed with
precious blood,
as of a lamb
unblemished
and spotless,
the blood
of Christ."



Romans 6:6;
"Our old self
was crucified
with Him,
That our
body of sin
might be done
away with."

How did we die with Jesus? When did we die with Jesus?

At what point in my faith . . . do I die to sin? do I die with Christ?

When does God view me as . . . uniting with Christ in His death? Being crucified with Christ?

#### How did we die with Jesus? When did we die with Jesus?

Now if you ask this to people today you get a lot of different answers. Do you suppose that God would put in place the scheme of redemption and have millions of animals killed over thousands of years just to prepare the way for His son.

(The Lamb of God).

Then have Christ go through the anguish, suffering, and cruel death on the cross – to die in my place – and then leave us in confusion as to where Christ's death became mine! Can you believe that.

#### How did we die with Jesus? When did we die with Jesus?

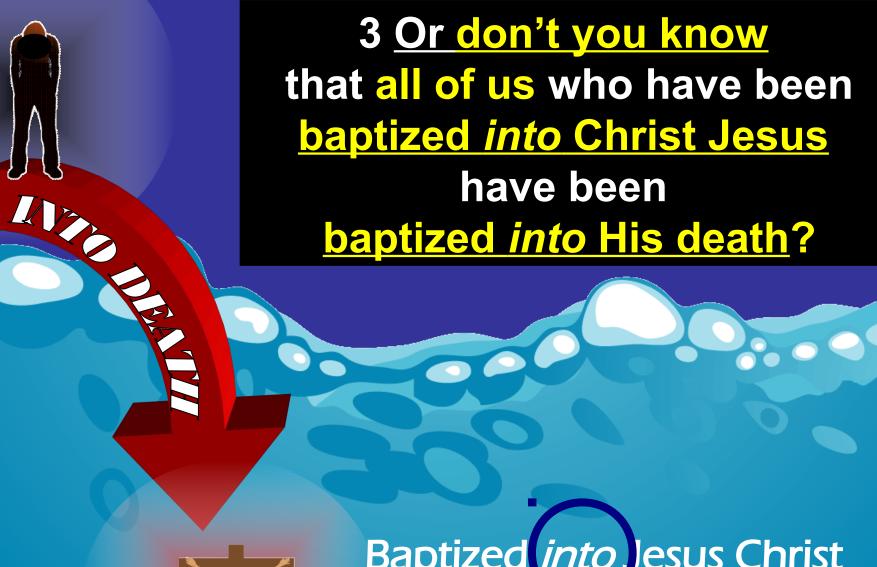
The confusion doesn't come from God. It comes from man.

We need a Bible answer, not an answer based on human reasoning, tradition, or human emotion. We want God to answer the question and we want to accept His answer.

Let us look at what the bible says?

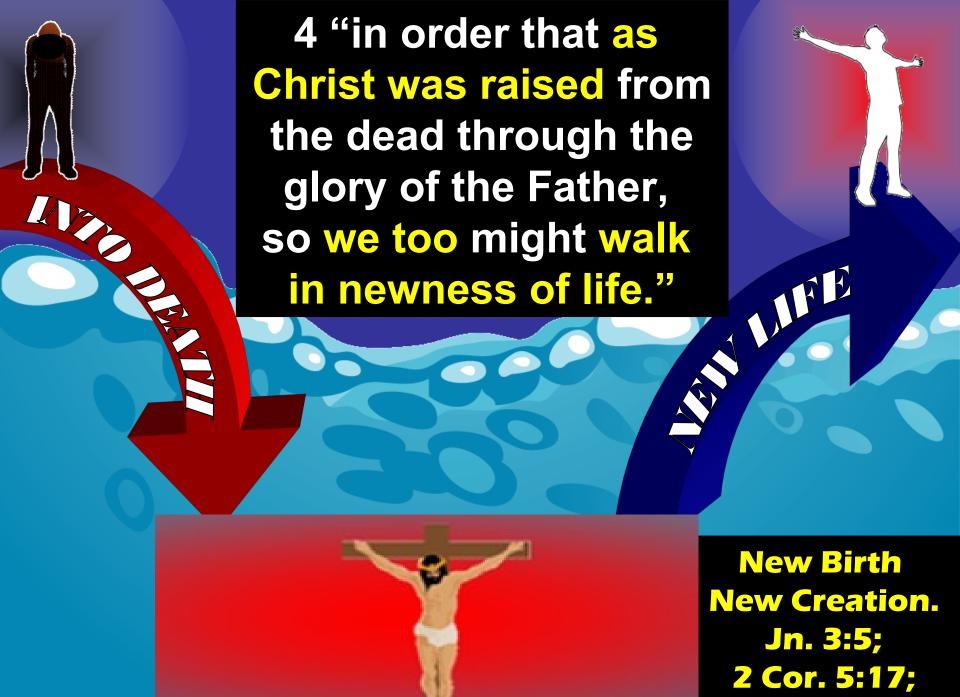
## How did we die with Jesus? When did we die with Jesus?

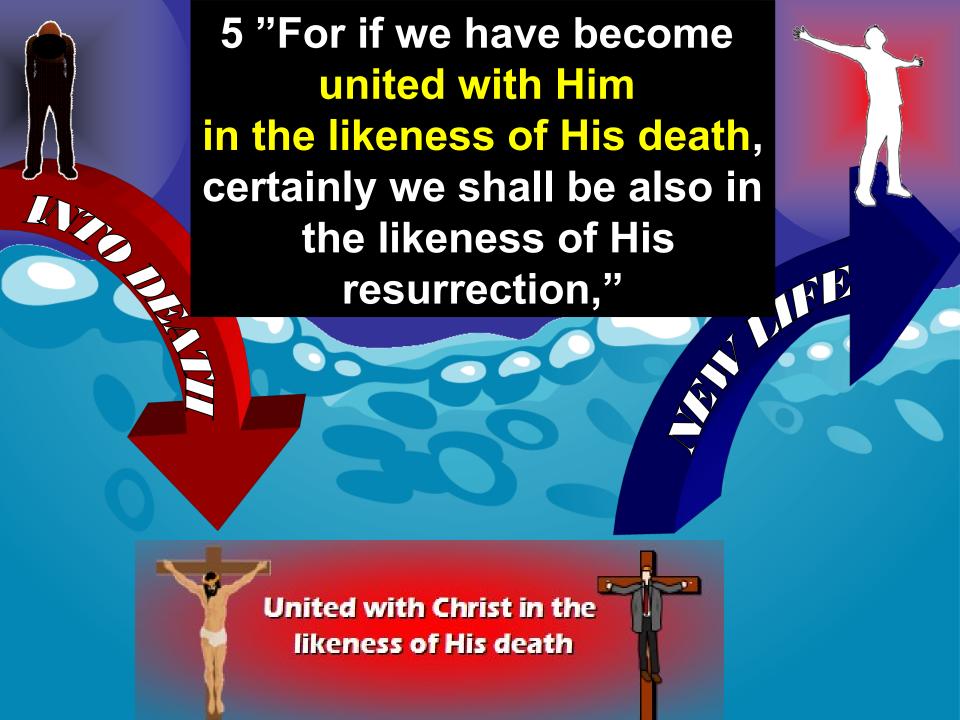
Romans 6:1-2;
1 "What shall we say then?
Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase?
2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?"



Baptized *into* lesus Christ Baptized *into* lis Death!







# Our Death and the Death of Jesus. 6 "knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin;"

7 "for he who has died is freed from sin."



8 "Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him..."

Our Death and the Death of Jesus.

10 "For the death that He died,
He died to sin, once for all;
but the life that He lives,
He lives to God"

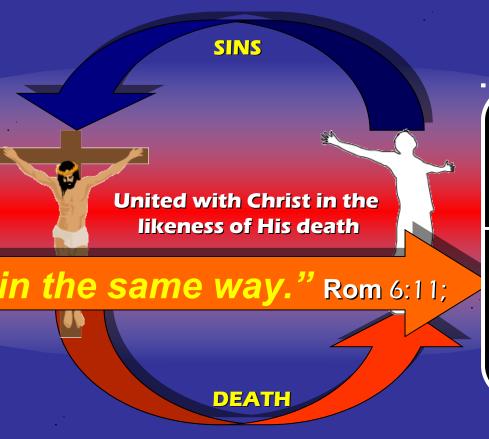
11 "In the same way count yourselves to be dead to sinbut alive to God in Christ Jesus."

#### Christ's Sacrifice - "Dead to sin."

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might <u>die to sin</u>. 1 Peter 2:24;

Judicial
Payment of
Death.

The death He died, Christ "died to sin."
Rom. 6:10;



Judicial Payment of Death.

"count yourselves dead to sin." Rom. 6:10;

#### Christ's Sacrifice - "Dead to sin."

Dying to sin involves removing us from the effects or consequences of sin.

The only way to be removed from the effects of sin is to have our sins removed.

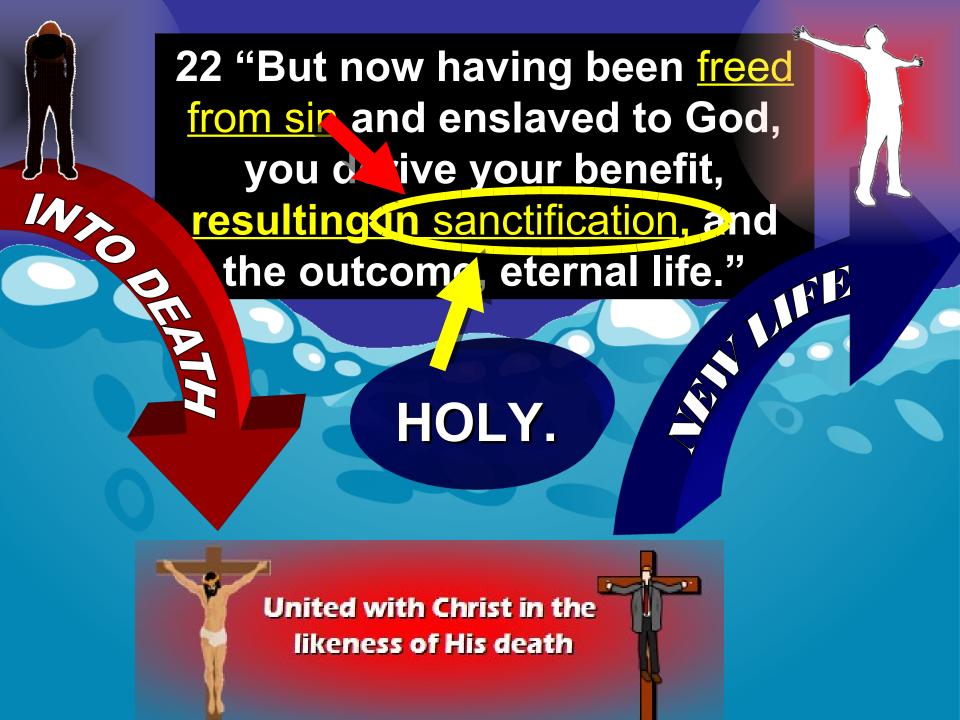
The only way to have our sins removed is by blood atonement. (juducial price for sin.)

The only way for the price to paid for the sinner is by:-

- dying with Christ.
- uniting with Christ in His death.
  - being crucified with Christ.









Jesus at our Baptism cleanses us from sin through his blood and saves our soul.

"(That, by the way, is what baptism pictures for us:-In baptism we show that we have been saved from death and doom by the resurrection of Christ; not because our bodies are washed clean by the water, but because in being baptized we are turning to God and asking him to cleanse our hearts from sin." 1 Peter 3:21; The Power In Baptism Is Not The Water, **But Through The Death and** The Resurrection of JESUS.

To say that baptism is NOT necessary is to cast an insult upon the resurrection!

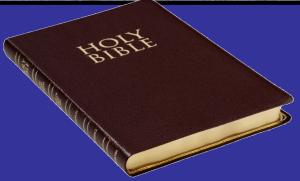
#### Have you died with Christ?



As a young man responded to the gospel message and was about to be immersed in the Indian Ocean he looked up and said, "It is a good day to die." He got the message. Did you?

# 4 Testimonies to the One Gospel.





The Power of the Apostle's Teachings.



JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. Gal 3:22-26;

to Scripture has shut up one oder sin, so that the in Jesus Christ might promise fail ' en to th e who believe... be gi as become our 24 Therefore the Lav lead us to rist, so that tutor t be justified by faith. we ma 25 But pw that faith has come, o longer under a tutor. we are ou are all sons of God h faith in Christ Jesus."

#### JUSTIFIED BY FAITH.

The fundamental question of justification is:-

## When? or How?

At what point does God view me as justified by faith?
As a son of God by faith?

### JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. Galatians 3:22-27;

22 But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe... 24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no loger under a tutor. 26 For you are all so so God through faith in Claist Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.



#### JUSTIFIED BY FAITH.

...being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; (Romans 3:24;)

#### JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH. Colossians 2:9-13;

"For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodi<mark>ly form, and <u>in Him</u> you have been</mark> made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority; and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not by human hand, but by the complete stripping of your natural self. This is circumcision according to Christ."

JUSTIFIED THROUGH FAITH. Colossians 2:9-13; "For you were buried with Christ when you wer baptized. And with Fine-vou were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and your human pature was not circumcised, God brought you back to life

with Christ. He forgave all of our sins."

"But by *His doing* you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption." 1 Cor 1:30;

JUSTIFIED THROUGH YOUR FAITH IN THE POWER OF GOD AND THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

"For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with Him you were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead."

Colossians 2.9-13;

We are baptized BECAUSE WE HAVE FAITH IN / WE TRUST IN THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD.

Baptism Saves You. 1 Peter 3:21; "And this is a picture of baptism, which now saves you BY the power of Jesus Christ's resurrection. Baptism is not a removal of dire from your body; it is an appeal to God from a clean conscience."

"For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with Him you were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead." Colossians 2:12;



#### F.F. Bruce on Baptism and Faith.

"In apostolic times baptism appears to have followed <u>immediately</u> on confession of faith in Christ."

"The repeated accounts of baptism in Acts give ample proof of this.

What is expressly related in Acts is implied in the Epistles."

"Faith in Christ was an essential element in baptism, for without it, the application of water, even accompanied by the appropriate words, would not have been Christian baptism."

### Washing - The Figure of Baptism.

Acts 22:16; 'Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

(Rev 1:5) ... Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

(1 Corinthians 6:11) Such were some of you;

but you were washed,

but you were sanctified,

but you were justified

in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ

and in the Spirit of our God.

#### Creating a Holy People, His Church.

Ephesians 5:25-27;

"Husbands, love your wives,
just as Christ also loved the church
and gave Himself up for her,
so that He might sanctify her,"

## HOW?

"having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He washing of water to Himself the charch in all her glory, having no some or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless."

#### Saved by the Washing of Regeneration. Titus 3:3;

- 3. We also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. 4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for appeared,
  - 5 He saved us, not contains of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
    - 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
  - 7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.









"...God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth."

2 Thes. 2:13; (see also 1 Pet 1:2;)





(Relationship with a Holy **God restored.**)



(Buried with **Christ INTO death.)** 

United with Christ in the likeness of His death

JUSTIFICATION.

(Penalty removed.)



(Sins removed, made Holy and righteous.)





#### God's Role in Redemption. Titus 3:3-7;

3. "We also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. 4 But when the kindness of God our Saviour and His love for mankind appalled, 5 He saved us, not on the basis of dec which we have done in righteousne s, bu according to His mercy, by the washing of regel vration and renewing by the Holy Spirit 6 w m He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, 7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

#### Saved By His Grace. Titus 3:3-7;

3. "We also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. 4 But when the kindness of God our Saviour and His love for mankind appeared, he saved us, not on the basis of deeds which. have done in righteousness, but according whis mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 when He poured out upon us richly through sus Christ our Saviour, 7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

Eph 4:3-6;

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit -just as you were called one hope when you were called one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all

who is over all and through all and in all."

# What the Apostles Practiced The Power of Actual Examples.



#### WHAT SHALL WE DO?

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the he

They believed the gospel.

First gospel sermon Pentecost.

"Brethren, what shall we do?"

#### WHAT SHALL WE DO?

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart,

They believed the gospel.

Do? There is nothing you can do! Christ did it all!

DIFFERENT GOSPELS!

First gospel sermon Pentecost.

Accept Jesus into your heart.

Just believe.

Pray through.

Call out Jesus' name.

Pray the sinners prayer.

#### WHAT SHALL WE DO? Acts 2:37-38;

"Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles."

### "Brethren, what shall we do?"

Peter said to them,
"Repent, and each of
you be baptized in the
name of Jesus Christ
for the remission of your
sins; and you will
receive the gift
of the Holy Spirit."



#### The Gospel Result – Added to Church.

"And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying,

"Be saved from this perverse generation!"

So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls...

And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."

Preaching Jesus? Acts 8:35-39;
"Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water!

What hinders me from being baptized?"

And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

"And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord led Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing."

#### The "ONE BAPTISM" of Ephesians 4;

The "ONE BAPTISM" of Eph. 4 is clearly demonstrated in the book of Acts, from two examples (Acts 2 & 8) we learn:-

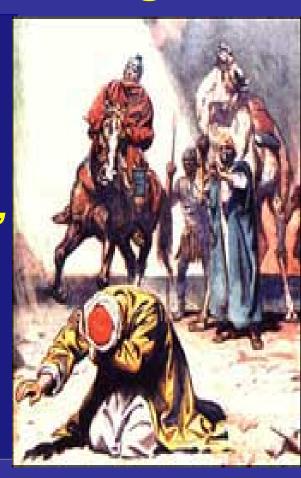
Baptism was for BELIEVERS.
Baptism was FOR REMISSION OF SINS.
Baptism was IMMERSION in water.
Baptism ADDED one to the KINGDOM.

Therefore we see water Baptism was COMMANDED, it was not a promise.



#### Saving Paul - Already a God fearing man.

- Believed. -"What shall I do."
- Confessed -"What shall I do, Lord?"
- Obeyed. "Get up and go into Damascus."
- Fasted. –
  "three days... and neither ate nor drank."
- Prayed. "for he is praying."



Saving Paul - Already a God fearing man. After all of these acts of repentance Paul was commanded: "Now why do you delay? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

#### **How Far to Aberdeen?**

The answer to the question depends on where the person is when they ask the question!



#### What Must I Do to be Saved?

Macedonian Jailor (unbeliever)

"Believe"

Pentecost (believed and confessed)

"Repent and be baptized"

Paul (believed, confessed, and repented)

"be baptized and wash away your sins"



### **IMPORTANT QUESTION**

### AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS FORGIVEN?

#### Washed in the BLOOD

be baptized confess repent

believe

hear

**TIME LINE** 

OLD MAN (LOST IN SIN)

Saved by God's Grace Through the Blood of Jesus

SINS FORGIVEN

RECEIVE
INDWELLING
HOLY SPIRIT

NEW MAN (REBORN IN CHRIST)

148

## What Jesus Taught:The Power of Jesus' Teaching.



#### **Great Commission.**

Matthew 28:19-20; "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and Io, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

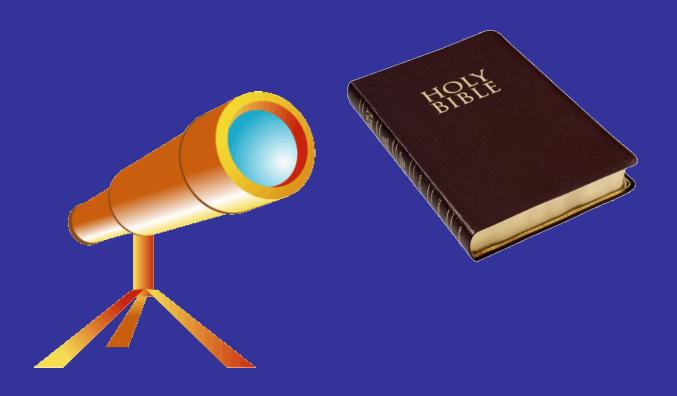
Mark 16:16-17; "And then he told them,
"Go into all the world and preach
the Good News to everyone, everywhere. Anyone
who believes and is baptized will be saved. But
anyone who refuses to believe will be
condemned.

#### **Born of Water and the Spirit?**

5 "He saved us, not are the basis of deeds which we have done in righter es, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,"

"Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to ou, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5-6;

## The Testimony of History in the Early Church.



#### 1st Century Teaching and Practice.

"Blessed are they who, placing their trust in the cross, have gone down in the water...
We indeed descend into the water full of sins and defilement. However, we come up, bearing fruit in our heart, having the fear of God and the trust of Jesus in our spirit."
The Epistle of Barnabas. Chapter 11. (70 A.D.

Who better to understand what the apostles were teaching – men that sat at their feet and were taught by them – or the reformation leaders 1500 years later reacting to the abuses of Catholicism.

These are not inspired accounts but are universal.

#### 1st Century Teaching and Practice.

"As we are lepers in sin, we are made clean from our transgressions by means of the sacred water and the invitation of the Lord.

We are thus spiritually regenerated like newborn infants, even as the Lord declared,

'except a man be born again." (John 3:3;) Irenaeus. (150 A.D.)

"Fragments From Lost Writings." no. 34, Ante-Nicene Fathers. vol. 1, pg. 574

#### Carrying out the Great Commission.

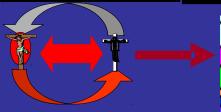


**Great** Redemption. Commission.

Acts.

**Epistles.** 

**Early** Church.













**Following** the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ in the plan of redemption we see.

**What Christ** commanded in the Great Commission.

We see the apostles carrying out in the book of Acts.

**Followed** by what the apostles taught in the letters. Which we see taught and practiced by the early Christians.



#### **Everyone Deserves the Opportunity.**



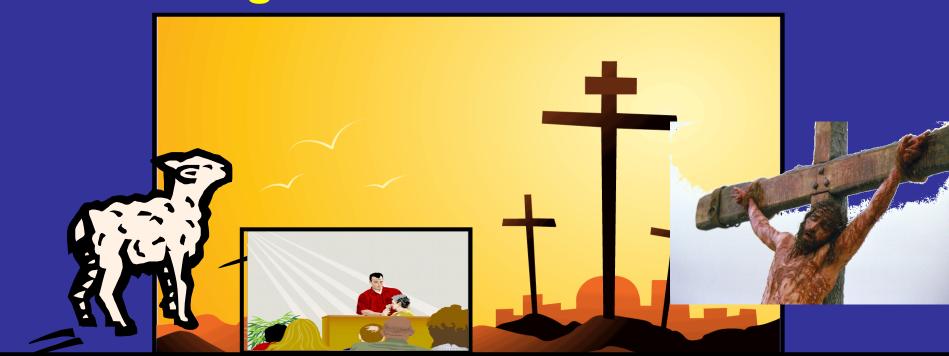
#### God's Incredible Plan. Romans 3:23-26;

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness,"

"because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."

#### just and the justifier.

## What can wash away my sins? Nothing - but the blood of Jesus!



This is the theme of the bible.

Christ came to be the sacrifice that would pay

the price for sin so that God would be able to have a people that are holy and unblemished, a people for his possession and spiritual fellowship.

## Who I am when I ignored God and His commands?

was a sinner. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:8-23;

I was broken. "As it is written: "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT ONE; THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS; THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS AFTER GOD. THEY HAVE ALL TURNED ASIDE; THEY HAVE TOGETHER BECOME UNPROFITABLE; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, NO, NOT ONE."



I was living my life for myself. "among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." Ephesians 2:3;

### I was not living by God's instructions.

"because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened." Rom 1:21;



"who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.." Rom 1:25;

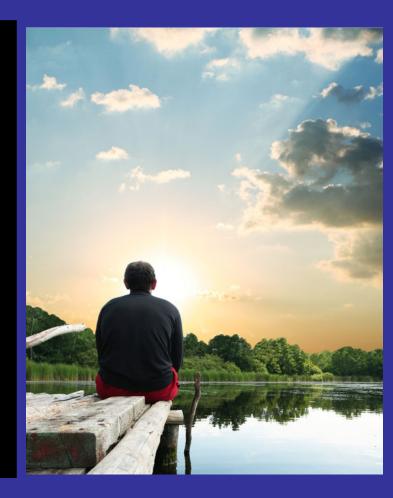
#### was a mess.

"For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death." Romans 7:5;



#### was dead.

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient." **Ephesians 2:1–2-9**;



was a sinner. was broken. was living my life for myself. was not living by God's instructions. was someone who worshipped my own way. was a mess. was dead.

Now that I accepted what God
Has done for me through Jesus'
death burial and resurrection
and have obeyed what God
has asked me to do to accept His Grace.

l am!

Because Jesus died, He can offer forgiveness.

Because Jesus rose from the dead,

He can give us life and victory.

Forgiveness, life, and victory give us identity, allowing us to live forgiven, abundant and victorious lives.

Our lives are not perfect since we still experience pain and suffering, but our hope is firmly based on Jesus' victory over death.

I am forgiven. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence." Eph 1:7-8;



I am forgiven.

All my sins are forgiven before God.

God will not condemn me for:-

**Bad things I have done.** 

Good things I have left undone.

**Evil things I have said.** 

Wrong things I have thought.



I am reconciled with God. "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation." 2 Cor. 5:18-19;

## Because of what God has done! The three R's Reconciled. Ransomed. Redeemed.

#### Reconciled

To be reconciled means to be united again or to become friends again. Human sin and rebellion caused hostility between God and humanity. However, Jesus united us again with God by His death on the cross.

I am reconciled with God.

I have been reunited with God.

The anger that was between us is gone.

Because of Jesus, I now have free access to God.

I am rescued and ransomed.

"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:28;

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all men" 1 Timothy 2:5–6;



## Because of what God has done! The three R's Reconciled. Ransomed. Redeemed.

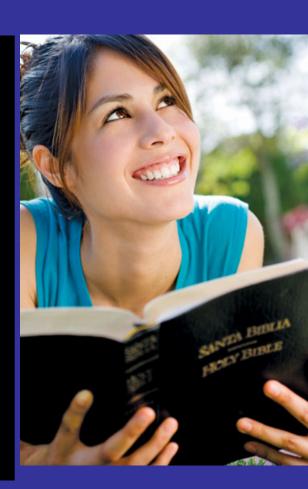
#### Ransomed.

A ransom is a price that is paid for release; to be ransomed is to be freed at a cost. The Bible tells us that humanity was held hostage to sin, death, and the Devil. Jesus' death was the ransom paid to free us from that slavery and reconcile us to God.

I have been rescued from a life-threatening situation.

Jesus paid the ransom for my life with His own life.

Sin no longer holds my life hostage.



#### I am redeemed.

"... looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works." Titus 2:13-14;

# Because of what God has done! The three R's Reconciled. Ransomed. Redeemed.

Redeemed
To redeem means to buy back again.
Jesus' death paid the voucher,
cancelling the debt we owed.

I am redeemed.

I have had my life debt covered, and my future holds an inheritance from God. My life is no longer a worthless debt to sin. I now look forward to rich meaning and purpose in God's future plan for me.

I am bought with a price. I belong to God. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body." 1 Cor 6:19–20;

I am bought with a price and belong to God.
I have been paid for by God.
God owns me; I no longer belong to myself.
My old way of life no longer owns me.

"Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal:
"The Lord knows those who are His." 2 Tim 2:19;

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah 1:5;



I am known by God.

I have been known and cared about all along.

God has been watching out for me

From the beginning.

He has cared about me from day one.



I am chosen.

"For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight."

Ephesians 1:4;



I am justified before God. "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,"

"whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,"

"to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." Romans 3:23–26;

I am justified before God.

God has declared me innocent

because of Christ.

Jesus has won my case by paying my penalty

for me.

I have been acquitted of all my crimes.



I am accepted.

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Romans 15:7;

I am accepted.

I have been welcomed by God.

I am no longer rejected.

I am no longer an outsider.



## Because of what God has done! I am saved.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephes 2:8–9;

"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love." Colossians 1:13-14;

Because of what God has done!

I am saved.

I have been rescued:

From God's just anger.

From sin.
From myself.
From death.
From Satan and a sinful system.

I am alive.

"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:11;

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)." Ephesians 2:4–5;

# I am alive. I have received new life from God. My spirit has been brought to life

My body will be made new after I die And I will live forever.

I have new meaning and purpose and a new way of looking at life.

and will never be dead again.

I am free. "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone.



"How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." Jn 8:32–36

# Because of what God has done! I am free. I have been set free. I am no longer a slave to sin.

#### I am secure. Romans 8:38-39;

"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I am secure.

I know that God works things for my good in all circumstances.

I am free from all condemnation.

I know that nothing can separate me from the love of God.



I am sealed.

"Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." 2 Corinthians 1:21–22;



I am sealed.

I am safe because God has:-

Anointed me.

Set His seal of ownership on me.

Put His Spirit in my heart as a guarantee.

### Because of what God has done! I am a new creature.

"Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new!" 2 Cor. 5:16-17;



I am a new creature.

I have had a total makeover of my mind and spirit and my new body is on order. My inner self has been recreated after a new model of human being - Jesus. My body will be made new after the pattern of Jesus' resurrected body.



What does it mean to have a new mind? At the centre of the good news about Christ is the transformation of individual lives. Paul tells us in Romans 12:2; That this transformation involves the renewing of our minds:-

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." What does it mean to have a new mind?

Paul says in Philippians 2:5; That this renewal is about having a new mindset or attitude that Christ himself had:"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus."

We are to identify with and take for ourselves Jesus' whole way of thinking and living.

I am born of God.

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."

1 John 4:7;



"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:29;

I am born of God.

I have been born into God's family. I am now a child of God after the likeness of Jesus. Jesus is the "firstborn" example from the dead of what I shall be in the resurrection.

I am adopted of God.

"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:15;

"For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN; IN THE MIDST OF THE ASSEMBLY I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOU."

Hebrews 2:11–12;

I am adopted of God.

God has selected me to be His child.

I am no longer an orphan.

Jesus is my older brother. Because of Him, I now share in the glory of being God's child.

"That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed." Romans 9:8

I am a child of Abraham, a promised child.

I am a spiritual descendant

of the father of faith.

I am called to carry on this
spiritual heritage in the world.

I am Jesus' friend.

"No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you." John 15:15;



I am Jesus' friend.

Jesus considers me His friend. I am a servant of Jesus Christ, yet He calls me friend.

I am a citizen of heaven.

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:19;

"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." Philippians 3:20;

## Because of what God has done! I am a citizen of heaven.

I belong with all those through history who have loved God.

I am a member of God's heavenly kingdom. My true identity is with the people of God.

I am blessed with every spiritual blessing.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
with every spiritual blessing in
the heavenly places in Christ." Ephesians 1:3;

"... that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." Ephesians 2:7;

I am blessed with every spiritual blessing.

I have all that can be had of God's treasures.

I have been given unfathomable riches in Christ. It will take the rest of eternity to unfold all these blessings.

I am God's workmanship. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." **Ephesians 2:10**;



I am a work of art, having been made by the most creative Artist ever.

Because of what God has done!

I am a temple of the Holy Spirit.

"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own." 1 Corinthians 6:19;

I am a temple of the Holy Spirit.
I have God living through me.
I am God's house.

Because of what God has done! I am a member of Christ's body. "so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another." Romans 12:5;

"Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually." 1 Corinthians 12:27;

I am a member of Christ's body. I am connected in a living way to Jesus. I am a part of a living organism bigger than myself.

I have a purpose and function in that body.

I am sealed.

"Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

2 Corinthians 1:21–22



I am sealed. I have God's royal seal upon me; His seal of ownership. I have God's guarantee of a quality product in me.

I am made pure.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9;



"And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."

1 John 3:3;

I am made pure.
I am made clean.
Christ's life and death purify me.
I am being made holy for God
by His Word and Christ working in me.

I am loved.

"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

Romans 5:5;

Because of what God has done!

"By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

1 John 3:16;

I am loved.

God deeply loves me. I know this because He has given me His most precious gift – His Son, Jesus.

I know that I am loved because God's Spirit of love is in my heart.

## Because of what God has done! I am taken care of. All that the Father gives Me will come

"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me will by no means cast out." John 6:37;

"... being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6;

"And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.." Philippians 4:19;

# Because of what God has done! I am taken care of. I am secure in God's hands. I will not be abandoned; God will complete His work in me. God will supply all that I need.

I am victorious.

"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

—Romans 8:37;

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 15:57;

I am victorious.
I cannot be beaten.
I cannot be stopped by death,
thanks to Christ.
I shall be a winner in the
end because God is for me.



"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life." John 5:24;

## Because of what God has done! I am going to live forever.

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Do you believe this?" John 11:25–26;

I am going to live forever.

I will live on with God. My spirit shall not die but go to be with God.

Even when my body dies, I will live again and get a new body in the resurrection.

I am in God's planned will as an heir of all creation.

"and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."

Romans 8:17; / Eph 1:9-11;

I am going to inherit all things with Christ.
I know this because God has given all authority and power to Jesus And I belong to Him.

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." Colossians 3:15;

#### THE BIG PICTURE

**PPT lesson by** 

http://www.radfordchurchofchrist.com/

**Amended by Graeme Morrison** 

graemestudy@gmail.com

www.graemebibleresources.com