



Life's Origin

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground NIV"

*Genesis 1:28 God blessed them and said to them, "**Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.**"*

The Problem

Romans 5:19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Romans 5:12-14 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-- for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

The Problem

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Physical death

Genesis 3:19: By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

Spiritual death

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you so that he will not hear.

The Problem

Eternal death

*Revelation 20:11-15 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then, death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. **The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.***

The Problem

II Thessalonians 1:9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power.

What Happens when Some one dies

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

The Bible talk about seven different words to describe the afterlife

- *Heaven: Matthew 6:9, 2 Cor 5:8*
- *Sheol: Job 17:13*
- *Hades: Luke 16:23*
- *Paradise: Luke 23:43 2 Corinthians 12:3-4; Revelation 2:7*
- *Bosom of Abraham: Luke 16:19-31*
- *Hell: Matthew 5:29; 23:33*
- *Lake of Fire: Revelation 19:20*

Four views of Hell

1. *Traditional view of Hell*
2. *Conditional Immortality or annihilationism*
3. *Restorationism or Universalism*
4. *Hell & Purgatory*

The Warning

Matthew 10:28: Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Mark 9:43-49 If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off.

It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where "the worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched." Everyone will be salted with fire.

Facts about God

1. *God is love*
2. *God is just*
3. *God is not cruel*
4. *God is Holy*
5. *God weeps over every child of God who refuses to accept His 'Sons sacrifice.*
6. *God does not take pleasure in pain.*
7. *God longs for a relationship with all the men and women he created.*
8. *God sent his son so that all who believe in Him will not perish*

I John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God because God is love.

God & Holiness

Exodus 15:11: "Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you-- majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?

Psalms 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the LORD our God is holy.

Atonement

Atonement: the process of paying a price for wrong doing. It was a way of reconciling ("bringing together") God and man. God wants to bring man and Himself back into friendship and relationship.

Psalms 51:16,17 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Atonement



John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

I John 4:9-10 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

God's Attributes



- *Omnipotent: All Powerful*
- *Omniscient: All Knowing*
- *Omnipresent: Everywhere at the same time*

Jesus Christ



John 1:1,14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 2:9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

Jesus Christ



Phil 2:5-8 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus :

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Jesus Christ



1. **Christ is God** and, therefore, sinless. Therefore, He did not have to die for His own sins and was in a position to die for ours.

II Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2. **Christ was a man.** He lived as a man. He put aside all his Godly attributes (Omnipotent Omniscient Omnipresent)

Galatians 4:4-5 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

I Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds, you have been healed.

I John 3:5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

Jesus Christ



3. **Christ was our substitute for sin** and is identified with the lamb in the Old Testament, which was sacrificed at the Passover Feast.

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

4. **Christ is now the go-between or mediator between God and men.**

I Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 9:15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance— now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

The Atonement through Jesus

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. He ransomed us from the result of sin.

1 Peter 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

2. He justified us or deemed us to be righteous or acquitted.

Romans 5:1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

3. He adopted us into His family.

Galatians 4:4-6 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, <"Abba">, Father."

Benefits of the Atonement

1. We receive forgiveness, & peace with God,

Romans 5:1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

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Benefits of the Atonement

2. We will receive new immortal bodies

1 Corinthians 15:50-54 I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

Grace

What is grace:

- favour or service freely rendered
- clemency or mercy
- God's unmerited favour

Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works so that no one can boast.

Titus 3:5 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God;

God the Father sent the son!

John 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

1 John 4:9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

How do I receive Salvation?

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God;

1. Repentance

Acts 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent

2. Believe

John 1:12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

Acts 16:31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved-- you and your household."

Believe

Faith is placing our complete trust in Jesus Christ alone and His death for our sins on the cross.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 6:47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.

What do we need to Believe

We need to believe (To trust, to think that something is true, correct, or real)

1. *We are sinners*
2. *We are separated from God as a result of our Sin*
3. *God loves us and wants a relationship with us, so he sent Jesus to pay for the punishment for our sins on the cross.*
4. *Jesus died on that cross but was raised from the dead and rules today, and is our mediator with God*

Faith and Deeds

James 2:26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

James 2:17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

20 You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?

21 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.

Faith and deeds

Matthew 10:38 and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

Luke 6:46-48: "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like: who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it because it was well-built.

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?

1. You become a child of God

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God;

Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

2. You become part of the Body of Christ

Ephesians 1:22-23 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

I Corinthians 12:12-13 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body-- whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free-- and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?

3. You become part of the Kingdom of God

John 3:3 In reply, Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

4. You become part of the Bride of Christ

Revelation 21:2,9 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ... One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?



5. You become part of the Flock of Christ

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood

6. You become a sheep, and sheep know their Shepherds voice

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

John 10:4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?



7. You have access to God

Ephesians 2:17-19 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Hebrews 10:19-20 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body.

Hebrew 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?



8. You shall receive the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I Corinthians 6:19 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;

9. You become a new creature.

II Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

The New Birth: What happens when we are "saved"?



10. You receive eternal life, .

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him

11. You start a war.

Romans 7:21-23 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members

The Goal: Christlikeness



II Corinthians 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Romans 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Patterns of this world



Galatians 5:19-21 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery (absence of restraint); idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Patterns of Christ

Galatians 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

God's Tools to change us

1. The Bible

II Timothy 3:16,17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work

2. Prayer

Philippians 4:6,7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

God's Tools to change us

3. Fellowship with other believers

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

4. Circumstances

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose..

Knowing God: Developing a Relationship with God this week

1. Read His Word

2. Pray for guidance

3. Listen to Him

4. Pray/Talk to Him

• Adoration/Worship

I Chronicles 29:11 Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour; for everything in heaven and earth, is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all

Knowing God: Developing a Relationship with God this week

• Confession

I John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

• Thanksgiving

Ephesians 5:20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

• Supplication

Matthew 7:7 says, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.

Personal Application: Journaling Exercise

Father, what would you like to say to me about Knowing you?