

The Glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ

Adam, the first man created by God, became separated from God by a single sin. Since all human beings have sinned (Romans 3:23), all are separated from God (Isaiah 59:2). However, God made a way for us to have a relationship with him that will last forever. Jesus Christ, the son of God, is the way! “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). God holds out to us the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23). “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life” (1 John 5:12).

Those who don't have their sins forgiven will have to pay for every wicked or impure thought, every sexual sin, all the boasting they have done, every unkind word, every lie, every selfish deed, every good deed gone undone, every “good deed” done to look good to others and/or impress God, and every other sin. They “will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on the day he comes” (2 Thessalonians 1:9—10). Anyone who dies without Jesus will never again have an opportunity to have all his sins completely wiped out.

God gave us the Ten Commandments (i.e., the law) which can be summed up in this: Love God and love your neighbor. Have you loved God perfectly? Have you bowed down to, prayed to, or worshiped anyone besides God? Have you perfectly loved friends, neighbors, co-workers, strangers, enemies? Do you treat your loved ones with the utmost respect and love? Have you ever paid back evil with evil instead of with good? When you were a child, did you disobey your parents? Allow the commandments of God to humble you and convict you of sin, for that is their purpose. “The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith” (Galatians 3:24). In order to be saved by the law, we would have to never once disobey it. Let the knowledge of your disobedience drive you into the arms of the Savior of the world—the only Savior, your Creator and the Creator of all that exists—the one who died in your place. Jesus's death paid the price for every sin you have committed or will commit. He paid the penalty that you deserve.

Think about it: Jesus who was with God and was God, came to earth from heaven and became flesh (John 1:1, 14). He, the sinless one, died a horrible death on a cross so that you could be completely forgiven. He, now in heaven, having been raised from the dead, the Shepherd of his sheep, is longing to bring you into his fold. Humble yourself before God and ask for mercy (Luke 18:9—14). Turn to the Lord from your sins, wanting forgiveness, abandoning prideful thoughts of trying to save yourself through any deeds, including religious rituals,

church attendance, or prayers. Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, to save you.

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." (John 4:10)

"Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. (Revelation 22:17)

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Acts 2:21)

The very moment you call on the name of the Lord, asking him to save you, the Lord will put his Spirit in you and begin the work of lovingly and patiently molding you into the person he wants you to be. The power to do that belongs to him and him alone. We cannot love the way he wants us to until his Spirit resides in us. He is love, and all love comes from him (1 John 4:7, 16).

The best and wisest thing you could do with your time is devour the following to find out if all of the above is true: Luke 18:9—13; Romans 1—6; Ephesians 1—2; Titus 3:3—7; Galatians; 2 Peter; Colossians; John; and Hebrews 10:11—18. If you become a follower of Jesus, you will hunger for more.

He who believes in Jesus does not fear death, for God has made it known to him that he is a child of God and has eternal life (Romans 8:16; 1 John 5:13; Ephesians 1:13—14). He knows all his sins are forgiven, washed away by the ever-so precious blood of the Lamb shed on a wooden cross.