

One True God

God exists and claims absolute authority

And there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a savior; There is none except Me. Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God and there is no other
Isa.45:21-22

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom endures from generation to generation. And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand, or say to Him, "What hast Thou?"

Daniel 4:34-35

The Bible labels the one who denies God's existence

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."
Psalm 14:1

God is free from all moral impurity

...God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
I John 1:5

God is too pure to tolerate sin in His presence.

Thine eyes are too pure to approve evil, and Thou canst not look on wickedness with favor- -

Habakkuk 1:13

God expects us to be holy

But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior: because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

I Peter 1:15-16

II. Mankind's Basic Problem

What Is the Standard of God's holiness?

The Ten Commandments are the standard of His holiness and how He judges mankind.

What is sin?

Sin is defined as the breaking of God's Law in thought, word, and deed.

Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.
I John 3:4

Appendix A: Do You Know the Gospel?

All men are sinners without exception

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

Romans 3:23

Sin is a matter of the attitude, not just outward actions

Jesus said:

You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery; but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Matthew 5:27-28

Jesus said:

You have heard that the ancients were told, "You shall not commit murder and whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court. But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, "Raca, shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever shall say, "You fool," shall be guilty enough to go to the fiery Hell.

Matthew 5:21-22

Neglecting doing good is sinful

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

James 4:17

God does NOT judge us by a balance scale, whereby if our good works outweigh our bad works (sin) we get to go to heaven.

How many sins does it take to become guilty before a holy God?

*For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in **one** point, he has become guilty of all.*

James 2:10

God expects perfect obedience to His Law

Cursed is he who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them. And all the people shall say, "Amen."

Deuteronomy 27:26

*For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse, for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by **all things** written in the book of the Law to perform them.*

Galatians 3:10

Appendix A: Do You Know the Gospel?

Don't our good works amount to something, especially if we try hard?

Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God; because by the works of no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:19-20

For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy there is no one who calls on Thy name, Who arouses himself to take hold of Thee; For thou has hidden Thy face from us, And hast delivered us into the power of our iniquities.

Isaiah 64:6-7

We are spiritually dead because of our sins

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

Ephesians 2:1-3

What are the consequences of being sinners in God's sight?

Our sins separate us from a holy God and condemn us.

Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; Neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

For the wages of sin is death

Romans 6:23

The ultimate consequence of being a sinner is eternal Hell

...when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lords and from the glory of His power.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

Jesus said:

Appendix A: Do You Know the Gospel?

And if your eye causes you to stumble, cast it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, then having two eyes, to be cast into hell, where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.

Mark 9:47-48

III. Hope For Mankind

We need deliverance from sin's bondage

Concerning man's sinfulness, Jesus said:

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free... Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin...If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

John 8:32, 34, 36

Jesus Christ is God's love gift of salvation to reconcile a Holy God with a sinful humanity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

I John 4:10

Jesus Christ is the only savior of sinners

Jesus said:

I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through Me

John 14:6

And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

What about other religions?

Sincerity of belief in false religions does not save.

Jesus said:

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber...I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved

IV. Jesus Christ's Saving Work

Jesus saves sinners by substitution

Salvation necessitates **two** vital things:

1. Payment to God for the violation of His holy Law
2. A perfect life of obedience to God's Law

Jesus saves sinners by paying the penalty for their transgressions of the Law and by crediting His perfect Law keeping to their account.

God's justice means that He does not ignore any of our sins, not even one.

Jesus had to die on the cross in our place to pay the just penalty for our transgressions

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

I Peter 3:18

And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed

I Peter 2:24

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

As I John 4:10 teaches, God's love is the sending of His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Propitiation means: the satisfaction of God's justice by means of a bloody sacrifice.

Our good works are not good enough to inherit eternal life

For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being justified by His grace we might

Appendix A: Do You Know the Gospel?

be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:4-7

The perfect Law keeping life of Jesus merits for us the title to eternal life

And be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.

Philippians 3:9

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, that just as it is written, "Let Him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

I Corinthians 1:30-31

Jesus' perfect life is credited to us as if it was our own. The demands for perfect obedience to God's Law are met in Jesus as our substitute.

V. Man's Response

What does God expect of us in order to be saved?

God expects two things:

1. Repentance of our sins
2. Faith in Jesus Christ

Repentance begins with confessing our sins in order to find forgiveness

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

I John 1:9

Repent therefore and return that your sins may be wiped away...

Acts 3:19

Appendix A: Do You Know the Gospel?

True faith is a genuine trust from the heart in the resurrected Jesus Christ

That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation...for whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:9-10, 13

VI. New Life In Christ

If one repents and believes only in Jesus, then one can have assurance of salvation

And the witness is this that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.

I John 5:11-13

We are a new creation in Christ

Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away, behold, new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

You do not have to be a slave to sin anymore. Your life does not have to be a miserable wreck. You can avoid God's wrath and dwell forever with Christ.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity...So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him...

Deuteronomy 30:15, 19, 20

Obeying God begins with obeying the Gospel

And this is His commandment that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

I John 3:23

Jesus Christ has come to set you free!