The Gospel of Jesus Christ

From Genesis to Revelation

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ALL HAVE SINNED

God created man...

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. *Genesis 1:1*

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. *Genesis 1:27*

In the beginning, God who made the heavens and the earth, made man in His own image. Earlier, God had made the planets, trees, fish, birds, and all land creatures, but only man was created in God's image.



Man was a living soul...

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. *Genesis 2:7*

Man was unique in all God's creation in that He breathed into man. God made man different from the animals in that He not only had a physical body, but he also had a living soul.

God's one command...

And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food: the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

> And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt <u>not</u> eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 2:9, 15-17

God planted a garden in the land of Eden containing many different varieties of trees. In the middle of the garden there were two prominent trees called the tree of life, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said that they could eat from all the beautiful fruit trees, with one exception. Concerning one of the two prominent trees in the garden, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God said **"DO NOT EAT!"** Not only did God prohibit man from eating of the tree, but promised that in the very day that he ate of it, he would surely die.



pat = death

Man disobeyed God...

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. *Genesis 3:6*

After being deceived and persuaded by the serpent, she ate the fruit. Seeing the beauty of the tree and its fruit, and believing that she would be wise, she ate of it and then gave some to her husband and he also ate.

But remember, God had said...

"in the day that you eat of it" => "you shall surely die"

Adam did eat => did he die?

what saith the scripture? *Romans 4:3a*

Did he die?

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. *Genesis 3:7*

So did they die? Their eyes were opened and they sewed themselves aprons. Physically they were alive and well. It is obvious from this passage that Adam and Eve did not die physically. However, God had said very clearly,

"in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" Genesis 2:17

They did die!



Man's spiritual death...

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And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. *Genesis 3:8-10*

Please notice that before they disobeyed God the scripture declares in Genesis 2:25 that

"they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed".

Now, after eating the forbidden fruit, they knew that they were naked and made aprons, they hid themselves from God's presence, and Adam was afraid when the Lord called. Something had definitely happened to them only it was not physical. The change was on the inside. Yes, they did die, just as God had promised; however, it was not a physical death, but rather a spiritual death (Ephesians 2:5, Colossians 2:13).



In another place the Bible says:

And you... who were dead... Ephesians 2:1

> ...you, being dead... Colossians 2:13

What about Adam's son?

And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth: *Genesis 5:3*

When Adam gave birth to his son, it is written that the child was born in the likeness and image of his father, Adam.



Adam was created in the image of God. Seth was born in the image and likeness of his father Adam, who had become spiritually dead. Therefore, Seth, too, was spiritually dead from birth.

The same is true of all men

In order to understand more about what happened, we must go to Romans 5:12:

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: *Romans 5:12*

Through one man, Adam, sin entered into the world. The result was spiritual death, and this spiritual death then passed to all men so that every human being, every descendant of Adam, comes into the world spiritually dead.



The same is true for you

Concerning Adam's descendants after he rebelled against God, please consider these three verses:

But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be <u>DEAD</u>, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. *Romans 5:15*

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to <u>CONDEMNATION</u>; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. *Romans 5:18*

For as by one man's disobedience many were made <u>SINNERS</u>, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. *Romans 5:19*

Not only are physical descendants of Adam spiritually DEAD, but they are also CONDEMNED and called by God in the scripture SINNERS. Please notice, however, that this condition did not come about by one's own disobedience. The scripture says:

through the offence of one we are dead

by the offence of one we are condemned

by one man's disobedience we are sinners

If our connection to Adam makes us DEAD spiritually... If our connection to Adam makes us CONDEMNED... If our connection to Adam makes us a SINNER, then When did we become tied to Adam?

The answer is AT CONCEPTION.



Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. *Psalm 51:5*

At the very moment of conception, we are connected to Adam. We have two eyes, a nose, and according to the Scriptures -- a dead spirit. So every one of us, when we are conceived, become, at that moment, a member of the human race, a descendant of Adam, and a DEAD, CONDEMNED, SINNER.

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It is written ...

This is what God says about man, in his natural state, being born after Adam:

The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Psalm 14:2-3

> For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not. Ecclesiastes 7:20

All we like sheep have gone astray... Isaiah 53:6a

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. *Isaiah 64:6*

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. *Romans 3:10-12*

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ. Ephesians 2:2,3,5a

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh... Colossians 2:13a In conclusion, all who are members of the human race are:

- spiritually dead
- condemned
- sinners

We are, indeed, in need of a Saviour!

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THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH

Sin separates us from God

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." *Isaiah 59:2*

Because man is a sinner by nature and sin separates God and man, we can illustrate separation from God like this:

×				GOD
Romans 3:23 'All have sinned'	S	I	N	

All have sinned

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23

Since our dead, condemned condition is a result of Adam's disobediance, then this truth is universal. Regardless, of one's race, religion, or socioeconomic status, it is still true that

ALL HAVE SINNED...

The condition of the whole human race can be summed up like this:



All fall short...

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" *Romans 3:23*

Because EVERY human being is born a descendant of Adam and, thereby, a dead, condemned, sinner, they ALL, EVERYONE, fall short of God's expectation.

The Glory of GOD 'All... come short T T T T T A A A A A A

The wages of sin is death

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." *Romans 6:23*

This verse tells us that the wages, or the consequences of sin, is death. At this point we need to identify just what "death" means. Death is used to describe our dead spiritual condition, as in

"Even when we were dead in sins..." Ephesians 2:5

However, here in Romans 6:23, death is used to describe an eternal death as in

"...This is the second death..." Revelation 20:14-15

The second death

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Everyone who is still dead spiritually when they die, everyone not written in the book of life, will be cast into the lake of fire.



So, when the Scripture says

"the wages of sin is death"

it is referring to this death, that is, THE SECOND DEATH, the lake of fire.

Our Filthy Rags

Most people, sensing their need for God, try to "do something" to make themselves right with God. They try to build a bridge to eliminate the separation that they sense exists between them and God. Some try through good works such as helping others, giving to the poor, or doing kind things for people. Some try through religious practices such as attendance at religious meetings, prayer, or fasting. Some hope that through religious rituals such as baptism or taking communion that they will no longer be dead sinners under God's condemnation. When we approach God on the basis of these, our own works, God calls them "FILTHY RAGS", as in the following verse:

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as FILTHY RAGS; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." Isaiah 64:6



Not of Works

Can man, by some action, or actions, save himself from his sinful state? Can he make himself alive spiritually and remove the condemnation that exists in the sight of a Holy God? What does the scripture say?

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that NOT OF YOURSELVES: it is the gift of God: NOT OF WORKS, lest any man should boast." *Ephesians 2:8-9*

"NOT OF YOURSELVES"

"NOT BY WORKS of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;" *Titus 3:5-6*

"NOT BY WORKS"

"Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that WORKETH NOT, BUT BELIEVETH on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." *Romans 4:5*

"WORKETH NOT, BUT BELIEVETH"

"And if by grace, then is it NO MORE OF WORKS: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work." *Romans 11:6*

"NO MORE OF WORKS"

According to the scripture, man, left to himself, is totally incapable of doing ANY work, deed, or act of devotion that would be acceptable in God's sight, seeing that he is unclean by nature and all his righteous deeds are like filthy rags. He is, indeed, weak and helpless when it comes to saving himself, so, he is indeed doomed. He must look to God for help because every time he tries to do anything to please God, it is written...

"... not of yourselves..." "...not of works..." "... Not by works of righteousness that we have done..." "... all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags..."



Death by sin

In conclusion, all who are members of the human race:

- all are born spiritually dead and separated from God by sin, and thus fall short of His glory
- dying without Christ will face a "second death", which is the lake of fire
- totally unable to do anything to save themselves. All their righteous deeds to save themselves are, in God's sight, filthy rags.

We are, indeed, in need of a Saviour!

CHRIST DIED FOR US

 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 3:16-18

Because God loves man and desires to reconcile sinners to Himself, He sent His Son into the world to die and pay the ransom price for sin.



Christ died, was buried, and rose again...

"For I delivered unto you, first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scripture; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Not only did Christ die for our sins, but He was buried, and then, 3 days later, He arose from the dead.

"...He is risen..." *Matthew 28:6* "Him God raised up..." *Acts 10:40* "...God raised Him from the dead." *Acts 13:30*

Then, after walking on the earth with His disciples for 40 days, He ascended into heaven.

"...while they beheld, He was taken up..." Acts 1:9

"This Jesus hath God raised up... being by the right hand of God, exalted." Acts 2:32,33



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Christ...the only way

``Jesus saith unto him, `I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.'" John 14:6

"To wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself..." 2 Corinthians 5:19

"Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. *Acts 4:12*

Jesus Christ, through His death and shed blood, His burial, and His resurrection; has provided the way for dead, condemned sinners, to be forgiven and reconciled to God.

For centuries man has, and is still trying at this very moment, to remedy their sinful conditions by devotion to other gods.

Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure...

"...Jesus saith... I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE; no man cometh unto the father but by Me." John 14:6

"There is no other name under heaven... whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12



The way from death to life

Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my My Word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

In this passage of Scripture Jesus promised to all who would hear and believe, that they would receive these things.

<u>1. Everlasting life</u> This is life that goes on and on, without end, even into eternity. After we die physically, according to this promise, we still live on. What kind of life? Everlasting!

2. No Condemnation In Romans 5:18 God says:

as by the offence of one (Adam), judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of one (Jesus Christ) the free gift came upon all men unto the justification of life."

So, the condemnation that we were born under can be taken away if we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>3. "...is passed from death unto life."</u> Remember, man is born dead spiritually, but according to this promise he can be made alive in the Spirit by faith in Christ.

Even when we were dead in sins, (God) hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved;" *Ephesians 2:5*

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; *Colossians 2:13*

In Conclusion

- Jesus Christ died to pay for our sins.
- He was buried, rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven.
- He is the only way for dead, condemned, sinners to be saved.
- He promises life after death, no condemnation, or judgment for our sins, and that we will no longer be dead spiritually, but alive in our Spirit.

BELIEVE ON

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

According to scriptures, all born into the human race are born spiritually dead, condemned, separated from God by sin, and if they die without Christ will experience the "second death" which is the lake of fire. Also, being that God has declared that all of our righteous deeds are like filthy rags, man is totally unable to do anything to save himself and is completely helpless and without hope. However, God in mercy sent Jesus Christ into the world to die and pay for our sins. He was buried, rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven. As the one mediator who gave himself a ransom for all, Jesus Christ is the only way for dead, condemned, sinners, to be saved. He promises life after death, no condemnation, and that we will no longer be dead spiritually, but alive in our spirit in this physical life. What must a man do in order to receive this everlasting life and be born again in our spirit?

Believe on Him

"Then said they unto Him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered, and said unto them, this is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." *John 6:28-29*

When these men asked Jesus what they had to do in order to satisfy God, the answer was very clear...BELIEVE ON HIM!

Please consider the following scriptures:

"...that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed..." John 3:18

> "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." *John 6:47*

"...Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:31

"And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ..." 1 John 3:23



Hear my word and believe on Him

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24

Looking at this verse again, please notice the two criteria listed in order to receive the promises: "He that HEARETH my word, and BELIEVETH on him that sent me...". God has promised everlasting life, no condemnation, but it is promised <u>only</u> to those who will HEAR and BELIEVE.



Believe Him and receive Him

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13

What did these people do to become "born ... of God?" According to this Scripture, they RECEIVED him by BELIEVING on his name. All who RECEIVE him today, by BELIEVING on his name, shall also be born of God.

All that believe are justified

"Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)... whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day... To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." *Acts 10:36,40,43* "...Jesus...slain...God raised him from the dead... ...through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." *Acts 13:23,28,30,38-39*

Both Peter in Acts 10 and Paul in Acts 13 preached that "remission of sins" or "forgiveness of sins" would be to those who **believed** on Jesus Christ who is the Lord.

Believe with your heart

"...believe in thine heart" "...with the heart man believeth unto righteousness..." Romans 10:9-10

According to this Scripture, those who believe in their heart will become righteous.

"Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)... whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day... that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive <u>remission of sins</u>.; ...through this man is preached unto you the <u>forgiveness of sins</u>;" Acts 10:36,40,43,13:23,28,30,38-39

> we beg you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17

