

## God's Plan of Salvation

**1 John 5:11-12** And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

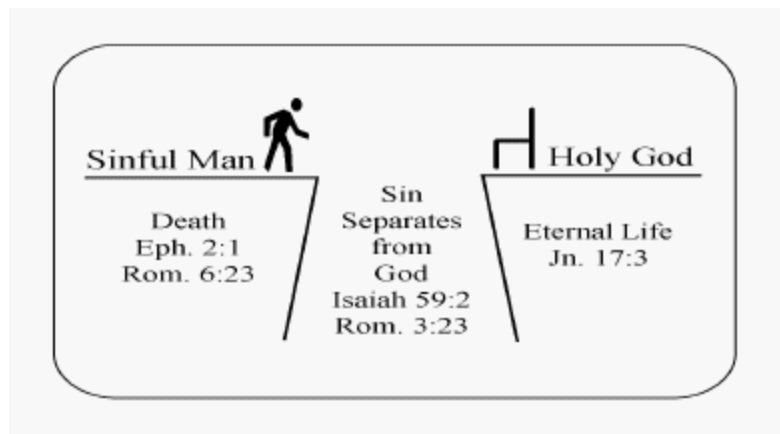
Our heavenly Father has given us eternal life through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. In other words, the only way to possess eternal life is to possess God's Son. How can a person have the Son of God?

### Man's Problem (Separation from God)

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

**Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

According to this passage of scripture, God demonstrated His love for us through the death of His Son. Why did Christ have to die for us? Because Scripture declares all men to be sinful. To "sin" means to miss the mark. The Bible declares "all have sinned and come short of the glory (the perfect holiness) of God" (Rom. 3:23). In other words, our sin separates us from God who is perfect holiness (righteousness and justice) and God must therefore judge sinful man.

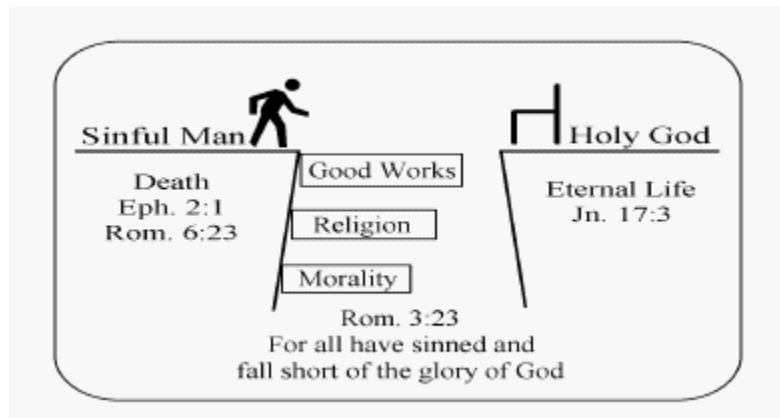


### The Futility of Our Works

Scripture also teaches that no amount of human goodness, human works, human morality, or religious activity can gain acceptance with God or get anyone into heaven. The moral man, the religious man, and the immoral and non-religious are all in the same boat. They all fall short of God's perfect righteousness. After discussing the immoral man, the moral man, and the religious man in Romans 1:18-3:8, the Apostle Paul declares that both Jews and Greeks are under sin, that "there is no one righteous, not even one" (Rom. 3:9-10). Added to this are the declarations of the following verses of Scripture:

**Ephesians 2:8-9** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: <sup>9</sup>Not of works, lest any man should boast.

**Titus 3:5-7** <sup>5</sup>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; <sup>6</sup>Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; <sup>7</sup>That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



No amount of human goodness is as good as God. God is perfect righteousness. Because of this, Habakkuk 1:13 tells us God cannot have fellowship with anyone who does not have perfect righteousness. In order to be accepted by God, we must be as good as God is. Before God, we all stand naked, helpless, and hopeless in ourselves. No amounts of good living will get us to heaven or give us eternal life.

### God's Solution for the Sinner

God is not only perfect holiness (whose holy character we can never attain to on our own or by our works of righteousness) but He is also perfect love and full of grace and mercy. Because of His love and grace, He has not left us without hope and a solution.

**Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

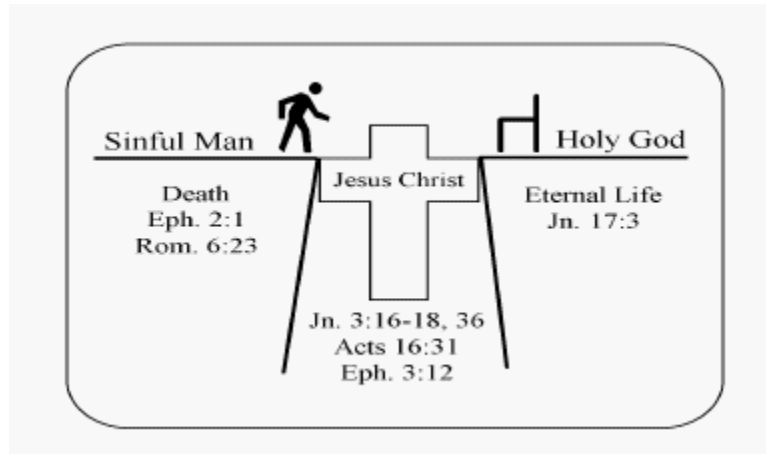
This is the good news of the Bible, the message of the gospel. It's the message of the gift of God's own Son who became man (the God-man), lived a sinless life, died on the cross for our sin, and was raised from the grave proving both the fact He is God's Son and the value of His death for us as our substitute.

**Romans 1:4** And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:.

**Romans 4:25** - <sup>25</sup>Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** - <sup>21</sup>For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**1 Peter 3:18** - For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.



### **How Do We Receive Jesus Christ, God's Son?**

Because of what Jesus Christ accomplished for us on the cross, the Bible states “He that has the Son has life.” We can receive the Son, Jesus Christ, as our Savior by personal faith, by trusting in the person of Christ and His death for our sins.

**John 1:12** 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:

**John 3:16-18** - <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

<sup>18</sup>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.

This means everyone comes to God the same way: (1) as a sinner who recognizes his sinfulness, (2) realizes no human works can result in salvation, and (3) relies totally on Christ alone by faith alone for our salvation.

If you would like to receive and trust Christ as your personal Savior, you may want to express your faith in Christ by a simple prayer acknowledging your sinfulness, accepting His forgiveness and putting your faith in Christ for your salvation.

If you prayed the prayer of salvation, call, email or write us and let us know that you have made a decision to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Welcome to the family of God!