

God's Solution – Part 2

Last week we had talked about God's plan for mankind and their fall into sin and death. Now we will look at God's Solution to man's dilemma to the sin problem.

God's Solution

Meanwhile back in the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had taken that fatal bite from the forbidden tree. The Lord provided them an opportunity to come clean and confess their sin.

Please Read: Genesis 3:1-19

- The term "Sin" refers to anything less than perfection or to miss the mark
 - o Origin: came from archery, when one missed the bulls eye- it was called sin
- Sin, disobedience or failing to obey God's commandments makes a spiritual criminal
 - o Just like Satan who was the original sinner, man joined his kingdom of lawlessness

Please Read: 1 John 3:7-15

- Notice, there is only two camps we belong to- God's or the Devil's – no neutral ground!
- Romans 3:23- states that all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God
- Romans 6:23- also states the penalty of sin is death- physical, spiritual and eternal death
 - o If we do the crime, we have to do the time- someone has to pay – no exceptions
- It is impossible for man to save himself by good works or any other means- we're guilty

In the natural, if a person commits a crime, even if it is only one, it does not matter- there is a penalty. The judge is obligated to uphold the law and execute judgment. Unless of course some innocent person comes along and as a substitute takes their punishment for them.

Question: Do you know anyone who would perform such an act of love- to be our substitute?

Mark 10:26-27, "The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.'"

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!'"

In the midst of God pronouncing judgment in the Garden after Adam and Eve's transgression, a promise was made that would change the destiny of mankind and undo what Satan had just done in the Garden and set in motion a chain of events that would drive human history.

Genesis 3:15

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Jesus, the seed of the woman, as God took on a human body, born of a woman; came to crush Satan's authority and release mankind from the slavery of sin and death. In other words, it would bring about the eventual doom of Satan. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and free us from sin and his dominion of death- in Jesus we are RANSOMED and FREE!!!

Revelation 1:17-18, "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hell."

Please Read: Hebrews 2:14-18

Question: What is the difference between how Christians & unbelievers view physical death?

A New Reality

- Thomas in John 14:5 asked Jesus a question that all mankind is asking today
 - o "So how can we know the way?"
- It's confusing for people with all the different religions and belief systems in the world
 - o The Bible calls them hollow and deceptive philosophies in Colossians 2:8
- Jesus identified religion as beautiful tombs on the outside, but full of death Mt. 23:27-28
- Unlike all the religious founders of the world's religions, Jesus rose from the dead is alive
 - o Jesus boiled it all down to one simple eternal truth

John 14:6, "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

- The bottom line of who gets to heaven are those who are born again spiritually

Please Read: John 3:3-8

Question: What does it mean to be Born Again?

1 Corinthians 3:11

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

- It's only because of Jesus that we are saved and going to heaven

Ephesians 2:8-10

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. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Acts 4:12, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

- Christianity is not a religion of man's making, but supernatural reality
 - o Colossians 2:17- “...*the reality, however is found in Christ.*”
- Only by abiding in Jesus Christ can we live out the Christian life

Please Read: John 15:5-8

Question: How do we abide in Jesus?

When we confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior and become born again, we are no longer the same on the inside, our spirit being becomes something brand new- in the Greek it refers to a new species, something that never existed before.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17, “So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.”

Galatians 6:15-16

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation.

- God has only one requirement for mankind- He made it very simple for everyone:

John 6:28-29, “Then they asked him, ‘What must we do to do the works God requires?’ Jesus answered, ‘The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.’”

Through Jesus' death, burial and resurrection the gift of salvation has been bought and paid for in the blood of Jesus- His life was given as a substitute for the ransom of our souls.

1 Timothy 2:5-6, "For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men."

- Notice, Jesus is our only mediator between us and God the Father
- He may be God to the world, but He is Father to us
- **Please Read: Romans 8:15-17**

Since man had committed high treason in the Garden, renegade man has always been in enmity with God from the very beginning. Through Jesus we are now reconciled back to God and have received the free gift of righteousness- right standing with God!

- **Please Read: 2 Corinthians 5:18-21**
- **Question: What do you believe it means for us to be righteousness in Jesus?**

We have been redeemed- to buy something back. God's plan of redemption was spoken about thousands of years before Jesus even came to earth in order to consummate God's plan upon the earth. In fact, the entire Bible is a written record of God's glorious blue print to redeem man from Satan, Sin and the Fall through Jesus Christ. The Father devised it, the Son fulfilled it, and the Holy Spirit enforces it today when we act upon God's Holy Written Word.

Ephesians 1:7-8

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

According to Hebrews 9:26, Jesus has done away with sin once for all. For the unbeliever it is now a Jesus issue, not a sin issue that sends them to hell. The blood of Jesus is so powerful that it paid the penalty of sin, and all that it encompasses- sickness, poverty, kingdom of darkness, hell, demonic oppression etc.

Hebrews 9:26, "But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself."

Question: When witnessing to the lost, if Jesus removed our sin, what is left for people to do?