

God has a wonderful plan for your life. He loves you and wants you to live forever with Him in a glorious paradise that is perfect, without sorrow, suffering, pain or death!

HAVE YOU COME TO THE PLACE IN YOUR LIFE WHERE YOU ARE CERTAIN YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE? Do you know for certain that you will go to heaven when you die? *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:13).* **Do you know for certain that you can count on your Creator to help you in time of need?** The Bible says, *"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment" (1 John 3:21-23).*

THERE IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM THAT SEPARATES US FROM GOD, OUR CREATOR. That problem is sin. All of us were born with a tendency to sin. It is a bird's nature to fly, it is a dog's nature to bark and it is our nature to sin against God. *"As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside" (Romans 3:10-12a).* *"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6).* Jesus said, *"Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Matthew 5:28).* He also said, *Llet your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No'" (5:37).* Jesus taught us that when we harbor anger in our hearts refusing to forgive others and calling them derogatory names, we are guilty of committing murder in our hearts (5:21-26). We all sin and our sin separates us from a Holy God.

THE BIBLE SAYS GOD IS HOLY AND HE MUST PUNISH SIN. *"For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a).* *"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).* *"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators (any sex outside of marriage), nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).* It is very clear that God will not clear the guilty (Ex.34:5-7) *"Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty. He must punish the sinner!"*

SINCE ALL OF US HAVE SINNED AND GOD MUST PUNISH THE SINNER, HOW IS ANYONE SAVED FROM HIS OR HER SINS? God provided a substitute. He provided someone to stand in our place and take the punishment on our behalf. Jesus Christ, God's only Son, is that substitute. Jesus lived a sinless life, yet sacrificed his life to pay the penalty for OUR sins. He rose from the dead and appeared to over 500 people, commissioning them to tell the good news that we can have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ that will last for all eternity. *"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).* *"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:5-6).*

WHAT THEN MUST WE DO TO BE SAVED? Trust in Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross to save you from your sins. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).* Repent from your sins. Jesus commands all of us to repent (turn away) from our sins. We must be willing to turn away from sin. Be willing to accept the gift of eternal life for *"the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).* *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).* Receive Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior. *"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12).* Invite Jesus Christ to come into your heart. Jesus said, *"Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).*