### 4. God demands a respond to the Gospel Message.

Since salvation is only through faith in Jesus Christ, it cannot be obtained by human merit (good works).

Ephesians 2:8-10 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. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Salvation is the work of God, not man. This is why God demands that all men at all-times and in all places repent and come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Acts 17:30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

Repentance means a change of the mind. It means you now see God as holy and yourself as sinful and condemned. It means you have sorrow because of your sin and are willingly turning your back on it and walking in the direction towards God.

Only those that genuinely repent will receive the forgiveness of their sins and the gift of eternal life; and they will worship their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for all eternity. **Revelation 21&22** 

For those that do not repent there will be devastating consequences for their sin. They will be condemned because they will not have Jesus Christ as their Savior (the substitute).

### Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

Repent and believe in Jesus Christ and you will receive the forgiveness of your sins and the gift of eternal life.

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#### **ANSWERED QUESTIONS**

WHAT IS GOD'S CHARACTER LIKE?
WHO AM I?
IS GOD LOVING AND MERCIFUL?
DO I HAVE TO RESPOND TO THIS MESSAGE?
WHAT HEPPENS WHEN I DIE?



The word "Gospel" signifies good news. Its main theme is how men and women can have peace with God. The Gospel explains to us how we can receive the forgiveness of sins and obtain eternal life.

The Gospel also shows us the desperate situation in which all humans are currently in and the need of a Savior. The Gospel message explains to us the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the necessity and responsibility of every person to respond to it.

### 1. The Gospel begins with God.

God is the creator and the sustainer of the universe.

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

Acts 17:24-27 "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.

"Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

"And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

"so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; God is the legitimate owner of everything created and deserves all the worship and obedience from every human being.

1 Timothy 6:15 which He will manifest in His own time, [He who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

The word of God (the Bible) also shows us that God is holy and just.

**Deuteronomy 32:4** [He is] the Rock, His work [is] perfect; For all His ways [are] justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright [is] He.

God's character is holy and just. God cannot be touched or reached by sin. Because of this, no human is capable of getting close or reaching God by his or her own methods. This is because all men are sinful and unrighteous in **all** their actions.

### 2. " Depraved", the true condition of man.

The earth and man were created originally without sin and without evil, until the first man and woman named Adam and Eve disobeyed God. This first sin introduced evil, suffering and death to the world.

#### Genesis 3:7-19

This contaminated all human beings because we are all descendents of Adam.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned As a result, every person who has ever lived with the exception of Jesus Christ, is a sinner by nature and by choice.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me

All human beings are sinners, no one can obey God and worship him perfectly.

## James 2:10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one [point], he is guilty of all.

We are all sinners and deserve to be punished. This punishment comes to every sinner in two ways. First, "physical death", we all will die. Second, "spiritual death" this is the death of eternal punishment in hell that separates us from God for all eternity. The tragic truth about this, is that man can do absolutely nothing to save himself.

### 3. The substitutionary death of Christ.

God, in His infinite mercy has demonstrated His love by offering the forgiveness of sins. He knows that we can do nothing to save ourselves, for that reason He sent His only son Jesus Christ to die on the cross to save us.

John 3:16 "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.

Jesus Christ, being God; became flesh and lived a perfect life, to die on the cross paying the price for all sin.

# 1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

Christ did not deserve to die because He never sinned. Nevertheless He did this to take the place of the ones who could not save themselves. He suffered the shame and the pain on the cross that others deserved, in other words He died a substitutionary death. He is our substitution.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin [to be] sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

As the only Savior of the world He offers forgiveness and eternal life to all that come to Him in repentance and faith.

John 6:40 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

The Bible is very clear on this, "Jesus is the only Savior". John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me

The Bible also shows that the forgiveness of sins is not obtained by any other means.

Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

There is only salvation through Jesus Christ, because He alone is the solution from God for our salvation.