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# Chapter 11-Part 1

## Righteousness of God & Eternal Life

- Jesus raises Lazarus from the Dead
- "I AM the resurrection and the life"

# Why You Need to Trust in Jesus

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- What is the main message of Jesus and Christianity? Is it about happiness, success, being a better person, helping others, etc.? NO

**IT'S ALL ABOUT ETERNAL LIFE!!!**

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**We Need to be Resurrected to Life**

- Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- **IT'S ABOUT OVERCOMING SIN AND DEATH AND JUDGEMENT!**
- **WE NEED THE SALVATION & RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD TO RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE. ONLY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST CAN PROVIDE THIS.**

# What is Our Greatest Need - LIFE

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- **Man has one problem...DEATH – how can we become immortal and live forever?**
  - But the Bible says that the real root problem is sin, since **death is the result of sin.** (Romans 5:12)
  - Therefore if people can resolve the sin problem, they also resolve the death problem.
  - **The only thing humanity really needs is LIFE!!!** Eternal Life.
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**John 10:10** <sup>10</sup> The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.**

**John 17:3** <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

# ETERNAL LIFE

## 1 John 5:9-13

• <sup>9</sup> If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for **this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son....**

• <sup>11</sup> **And this is the testimony: that God has given us ETERNAL LIFE, and this life is in His Son.**

• <sup>12</sup> **He who HAS the Son has LIFE; he who does not have the Son of God does not have LIFE.**

• <sup>13</sup> 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.

Salvation comes from God

Salvation is a gift – not of works

Only Two Options: Eternal Life or Eternal Death

How do we get what we want (eternal life)? It can only be obtained from receiving God's Son, Jesus Christ, in faith.

This is about FACT (Know, reckon, count on it) based on the Word of God, not your feelings

# I “KNOW” Whom I Have Believed in

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## 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

### You Don't need to Understand, Just Believe! (Know)

<sup>1</sup> For **we know** that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, ...

<sup>5</sup> Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has **given us the Spirit as a guarantee**.... (a down-payment)

**<sup>7</sup> For we walk by faith, not by sight.**

**<sup>8</sup> We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.**

## John 11:17-36

# I AM the Resurrection and the Life

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- V.25 - “**I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. <sup>26</sup> And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?**”
- This is the whole purpose of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- This is the 5<sup>th</sup> great “**I AM**” statement, using the name of God
- Everyone must die physically, and we are not in control of when or how we will die. Without God, and eternal life, our lives would be purposeless.

# What the Bible Says About Life & Death

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## Ecclesiastes 8:8

- <sup>8</sup> No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, **And no one has power in the day of death.** *There is* no release from that war, And wickedness will not deliver those who are given to it.

## Job 14:1-2

- **14 “Man who is born of woman is of few days** and full of trouble.  
<sup>2</sup> He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.

## Psalms 90:10

- <sup>10</sup> **The days of our lives are seventy years;**  
**And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,**  
Yet their boast *is* only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

## 1 Timothy 6:7

- <sup>7</sup> **For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.**

# What the Bible Says About Resurrection

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## Job 14:14

- **If a man dies, shall he live *again*?** All the days of my hard service I will wait,  
Till my change comes.
- **Job 19:25-27**
- <sup>25</sup> **For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;**  
<sup>26</sup> **And after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, That in my flesh I shall see God,**  
<sup>27</sup> **Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold,** and not another.  
*How my heart yearns within me!*

## Daniel 12:2

- <sup>2</sup> **And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,  
Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.**

## Hosea 13:14

- “I will **ransom** them from the **power of the grave**; I will **redeem** them from death.  
O Death, I will be your plagues! O Grave, I will be your destruction!



# What the Bible Says About Resurrection

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## 1 Corinthians 15:55 - Our Final Victory

- <sup>50</sup> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. <sup>51</sup> Behold, I tell you a **mystery**: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”
- <sup>55</sup> **“O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?”**
- <sup>56</sup> **The sting of death *is* sin,** and the strength of sin *is* the law. <sup>57</sup> But **thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- <sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

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# What Happens When We Die?

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## Hebrews 9:27

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment”

- Everyone will be judged as either **Righteous or Unrighteous**, and then to Heaven or Hell.
- **John 5:19-29**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgWQbyfMIGc&list=PLcJVluhI8isK1RYcLxY0L929cnN3vALi8&index=11>

# On Judgement Day, there is only one Question Jesus will Ask you...

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## Do I know you?

### Unbelievers Who Reject Jesus as God

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- **‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’** Matthew 25:11
- **‘I never knew you; depart from Me,’** Matthew 7:23

### Believers Who are Faithful/Loyal

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- **‘Well done, good and faithful servant;** you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’
- Matthew 25:23

# Judgement – Heaven or Hell

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## The most serious truth in the Bible:

- Jesus loves you and died for you (John 3:16).
- If you don't ask Jesus to come into your heart and be your saviour (John 1:12), you will die in your sins (John 8:24) and be judged to go straight to hell (Rev. 20:11-15).

# How Can You Live Forever?

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• **Job 14:14** <sup>14</sup> **If a man dies, shall he live again?**

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• **Job 25:4** **How then can man be righteous before God?**

- These is the most important questions of humanity. In other words, **how can a person be Saved?** There is only one person who spoke with authority on these questions... Jesus Christ – The GOSPEL

# How is Righteousness Attained?

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## ROMANS 1

- <sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes**, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- <sup>17</sup> **For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”**

# What is the Gospel?

- A means of forgiveness of sins?
- A means of getting to heaven and avoiding hell?
- How to Live is being imparted to us?

Forgiveness is the cause

Eternal Life is the result

Lifestyle is the result

- **Apostle Paul in Romans describes the Gospel primarily as a Salvation from Unrighteousness to Righteousness**

- Salvation is The Righteousness of God.
- Therefore, The Gospel is all about receiving the gift of **Eternal Life** by attaining the Righteousness of God by faith in Christ.
- Man is made in God's image – we need to be reconciled to God.

**The Gospel provides Salvation through the Righteousness of God!!**



# Humanity's Greatest need is to be Judged Righteous to avoid Hell

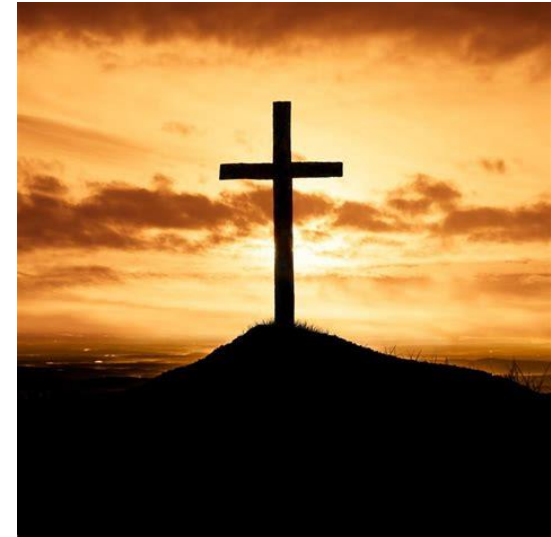
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- God is a God of both Love and Justice, and justice is the attribute that condemns a man.
- If we break the law, we are “**condemned**” and must pay the penalty.
- If we pay the penalty of the legal charge or are acquitted or pardoned in court, we are **justified** or declared righteous and just. **This is “justice”**.
- God declares that we are condemned as sinners, and since His justice requires the **penalty of death for sin (hell)**, we need to be forgiven, or to have the penalty of our crimes paid for by a substitute (grace an undeserved gift).
- **So, how can we ensure that when we die, we are judged “right” with God in order to avoid the punishment ? This is the big question. (Job 9:2)**
- The Bible says **there will be a judgement** (Rev. 20: 11-15) and **Jesus Christ is the judge** (John 5:16-30; Rev. 7:17). Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life (Rev. 21:27) will avoid hell. (the lake of fire).

# How do we attain Righteousness or Salvation and Eternal Life

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- **How can a sinner be justified (“declared righteous”)** before a holy and righteous God and avoid his wrath?
- **Jesus’s blood shed on the Cross was the price of our redemption.**
- He atoned & substituted his death for ours.
- We appropriate this redemption by first acknowledging our need for forgiveness of our sins and then putting our **faith** in the Jesus Christ as God and trusting in faith that His death, burial and resurrection was the greatest gift and act of love by God for you.



**FAITH is the Key that unlocks “the Door” to Heaven**

# The Righteousness of God

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- **Romans 3:21-28**
- “<sup>21</sup> **But now** (because of Jesus’ sacrifice on the Cross) **the righteousness (without guilt or sin) of God** has been manifested ...**through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.**
- For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
- <sup>24</sup> and **are justified (declared righteous) by his grace (unmerited favor) as a gift (not anything you can do),** through the **redemption (price paid to free a guilty slave-debt paid off/cleared)** that is in Christ Jesus...<sup>28</sup> For we hold that **one is justified by faith** apart from works...”

# Grace of God Revealed is Revealed through the Cross

DEATH

LIFE

**Our Sin**

Total Human  
Depravity &  
Unrighteousness



**God's  
Righteous-  
ness**

The Law

God's Justice

**Grace &  
Salvation**

(The Cross)

God's Love

# Romans 3:24

Being  
**justified**  
**freely** by  
His **grace**  
through the  
**redemption**  
that is in  
**Christ**  
**Jesus:**



**Ransom:** The price paid to buy someone back (the price of redemption – Mark 10:45 – we had a debt that we could not pay, and we did not deserve it, but Jesus paid the ransom price for us through His blood)



**Ransom:** Referred to the price of a slave in Jesus' time

# Righteousness Analogy

The arbitrary requirement made by a city Police Force is that all new officers must be at least 7 Feet Tall to be accepted as Police officers (i.e. 10 Commandments).

**7 Feet Tall = Righteous Requirement of Law = Glory of God**

Don't measure yourself by judging others (works)



**Jesus Christ Fulfills the Righteous Requirement**  
(Rom. 3:21-22; Matt. 3:15; Matt. 5:17)

**“For there is no difference (drug addict, morally nice person, self-righteous person) for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”** (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

No one will ever measure up to the acceptable standard to become a police officer on the Calgary Police Force (Rom 3:10). Nothing we do on our own can make us tall enough. **The Righteousness of God (Salvation) is found only through faith in Christ.**

# How Do we Get Righteousness

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- **Righteousness comes from God and is revealed in Jesus Christ.**
- You now have the medicine to cure death and live forever in heaven with this knowledge.
- **Righteousness must be received by putting your faith in Jesus Christ.**
- Believing a Tylenol will cure your headache won't take away your pain. You must receive the Tylenol and appropriate it through faith.

# The Cross – Reveals God’s Righteousness

- Divine & above human wisdom – this is not philosophy
- Through the Cross, God not only allowed, but planned before the foundation of the world that the most unjust act that men would ever commit, would reveal His divine righteousness through the ultimate sacrifice of His Son.
- **Because of His Justice**, all sin will be punished (eternal death - hell).
- **Because of His Grace**, all sin can be forgiven by placing faith in Christ
- Redemption of mankind through God’s **love and grace** is the greatest spiritual mystery... why, “**while we were still sinners, Christ died for us**” (Rom. 5:8). We had a sin debt that we could not pay, and were lost and heading to destruction at judgement, but Christ paid it all out of love to save us.
- This kind of love and salvation makes a Christian’s primary purpose to Glorify God. A Christian should feel convicted and confess sin given the price God has paid for your salvation.



# Answers to Common Questions

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1. Q. **Where do I go when I die?**

**A. Heaven** – a believer’s soul goes to be with Jesus in Heaven and your body turns to dust. You will be given a new heavenly body and be fully alive. People who rejected Jesus will perish and not go to heaven.

(Matt. 22:32; Luke 16: 19-31; John 14:3; Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:6-8; Phil. 1:23; Rev. 14:13; Heb. 12:1)

2. Q. **What Happens to me if I am alive in the End Times?**

**A. Rapture** - You will be taken up to heaven prior to the full Wrath of God before the great and awesome Day of the Lord. (1 Thess. 4:16, 5:9)

3. Q. **What happens when Jesus Returns to the Earth?**

**A. You Return Too** - The believers who died in the past return to earth with the believers who were taken up just prior to His return. (Rev 20:4-6)

4. Q. **Will I see my loved ones who trusted in Jesus in Heaven?**

**A. Yes** – 2 Samuel 12:23 (David speaks of seeing his dead son); Mark 9:1-8 (Moses, Elijah are recognized by Apostles); 1 Samuel 28:7-20 (Saul sees Samuel); Mary recognized Jesus after resurrection; Gen. 37:35 (Jacob and his son in the grave)

# What is Heaven?

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- Heaven is a place above where God dwells and everyone who has died trusting in the one true God, Jesus Christ: “**Our Father who art in Heaven**”. Heaven is sometimes referred to as a Country, a City, a Kingdom, a Paradise and a House.
- There are 3 heavens:
  - 1. First Heaven** - Atmosphere – the space above earth – **Is. 55:9-10**  
“<sup>9</sup> For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.  
<sup>10</sup> “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
  - 2. Second Heaven** – Stars, Moon and Planets – **Gen 1:1, 14** “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night;”
  - 3. Third Heaven** – Where God, the Angels and Believers dwell. Many prophets saw visions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven: Paul in 2 Corinth. 12:1-4; Daniel 7:9-14; Ezek. 1:26-29; John in Revelation, etc.

# Heaven

**As Described in the Bible  
Video of Revelation 21 & 22**

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**Excellent Video of Heaven**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wP-SXkwEpkg>**