

Do you want to go to heaven?

Do you know how to pay
for your sins?



The Bible says,
"For it is by grace you have
been saved through faith.
And this is not from yourselves;
it is the gift of God,
not by works,
so that no one can boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9



www.discoverthegospel.org

Do you want to go to heaven?

If I asked you today if you were going to heaven, how would you respond? If you are like most people, you would probably answer, "I hope so!" But why do people use the words "I hope so" and not the words "I know so"? It's simple, **they don't know! They have too many sins!** Guilt has destroyed their sense of certainty. All they have left is a fragile, feeble hope. In order for a person to **know** that they are going to heaven, they need to **know** that **ALL** of their sins are paid for. Do you **know** if **ALL** of your sins are paid for? Because, if you did, you would **know** where you were going! **Remember, it only takes one sin for God to condemn a person!** How can God condemn a person after **just one sin**? Well, unlike human judges, God's judicial standard is **perfection**.



Where is the evidence that God's judicial standard is perfection? It's found in His judgements: How many sins did Adam and Eve have to commit in order for God to condemn them? **Just One!** How many sins did Lucifer commit in order for God to condemn him? **Just One!** Clearly, God will not allow even **one sin** on our account. This is how we know that God's standard is **perfection**. How many sins do you have on your account today? Too many? You may be wondering, "**then who can be saved?**¹" The answer is **YOU** if you follow God's plan. God has saved millions of people down through the ages. **But first, we need to acknowledge that we are sinners who are now only capable of producing flawed, imperfect "good" works,** which God will not accept because they no longer have any **real value** to Him.

¹ Matthew 19:24-26



Think about it! Have you ever tried to pay for a sin using one of your "good" works? Were you successful? How do you know? **Did you get a receipt?** The truth is you don't know. No one knows. We're all just guessing! **The truth is God cannot accept our "good" works because they are not perfect!** We must come to terms with God's perfection and how it prevents Him accepting our works.

When God compares our "good" works with our bad works, there is very little difference. They are like septic tank water to Him. The water at the top of a septic tank may be cleaner than the water at the bottom, but that doesn't mean you would drink it! **They are both polluted, like our works!** God's standard for getting into heaven is still **perfection**, and He will never lower it, **even though He knows we can't reach it.**

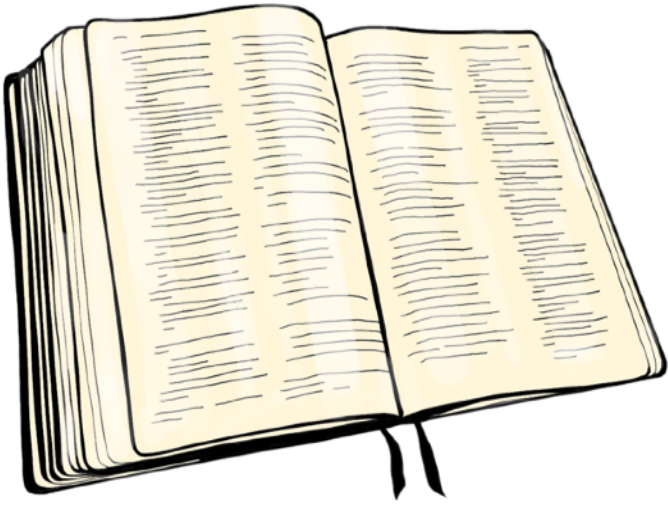


God has another plan to get us into heaven, and it doesn't depend on our good works! Why haven't we heard of it? Satan doesn't want us to know! He wants us to trust in our own "good" works because he knows that God will **never** accept them. Satan's schemes take many forms, but his cherished favorite is the adoption of a parental religion **without asking any questions!** Did you know that over **90%** of the earth's religious population are just following their parents? It's true. If their parents were Catholic, they became Catholic! If their parents were Hindu, they became Hindu! If their parents were Muslim, they became Muslim! **But is that any way to determine truth? Choosing a religion should be based solely on the evidence!** What if our parents are wrong? Parents are often wrong.



God is more trustworthy than our parents because He is sinless and all-knowing, which makes Him the perfect eyewitness. He has given us His eyewitness account in the Bible. This makes the Bible the highest form of evidence in the universe. Now, if we accept the eyewitness testimony of men in a court of law, how shall we not accept the eyewitness testimony of God, which is greater? 1 John 5:9 says, "If we accept human testimony, the testimony of God is greater!" With that in mind, we created this e-booklet to help explain God's plan in the most evidential way possible because people can't believe something if they don't understand it! We want you to understand the evidence and decide for yourself: is my current plan of salvation better than God's plan of salvation?





1. We believe that the Bible is the highest form of evidence in the universe because God is holy and cannot lie. The fact that He is all knowing and the author of the Bible is very reassuring. In 2 Timothy 3:16 it says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness." The testimony of an eyewitness depends on the character of that witness, and our eyewitness is God!





2. Is your religion based on the eyewitness testimony of God?

Where you spend eternity depends on who you believe.

Isaiah 1:18 says, "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD, "though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will become like wool."

God has a lot of experience in getting people to heaven. This is why it's so important to trust God and not just blindly follow our parents.





3. Do you know your history?

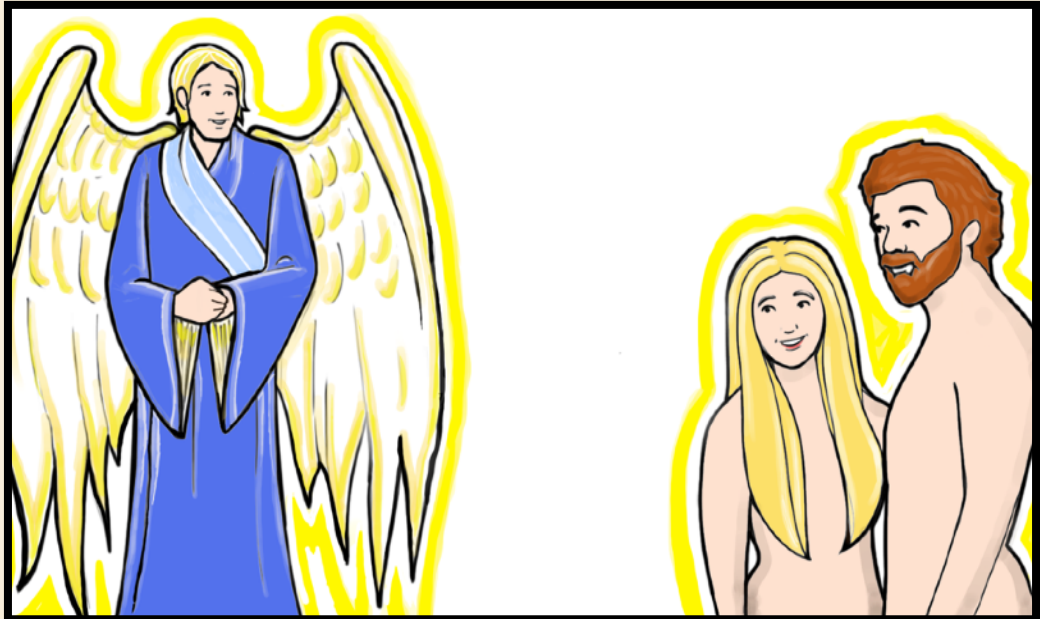
Adam and Eve are the father and mother of the human race. They are our **first parents**.

In the beginning there was only one true religion, but now there are thousands! **Which one can you trust? The one that got Adam and Eve to heaven!**

If you are going to follow your parents' religion, you should follow your **first parents!**

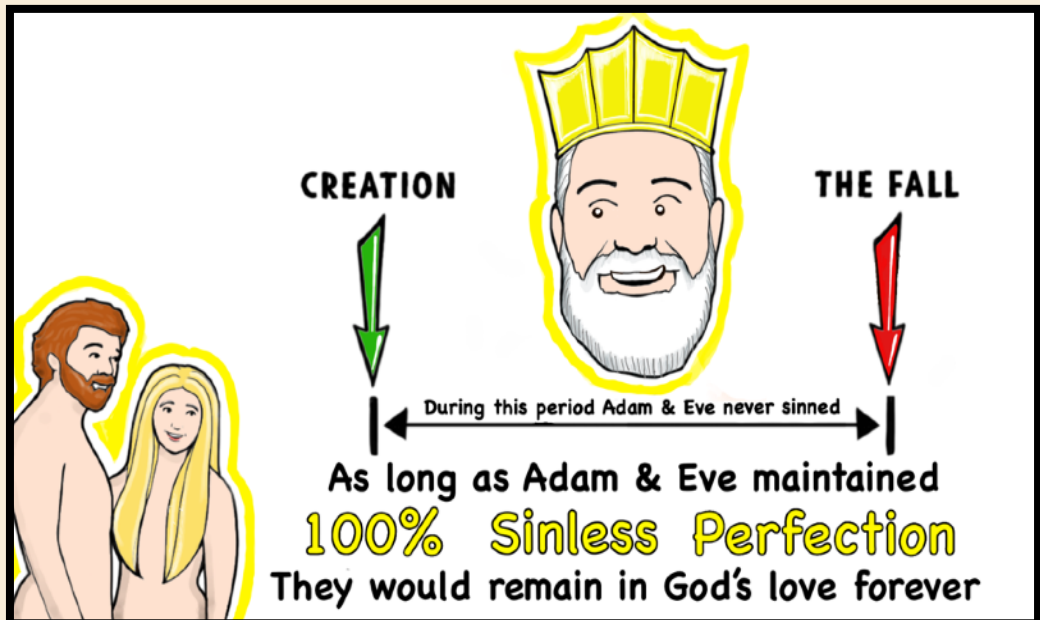
Conclusion: If your religion is different than the religion of Adam and Eve, it will not get you to heaven.





4. If you want to know how Adam and Eve got to heaven, then you need to start at the beginning! When God first created Adam and Eve, they were perfect like the angels! Everything they thought, said and did was only perfect continually. Psalm 8:5 says, "You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor." **Question:** If Adam and Eve were given perfection as a gift at birth, why do we have to earn ours? Or do we?





5. As long as Adam and Eve maintained sinless perfection, they would continue to enjoy unbroken fellowship and love from God.

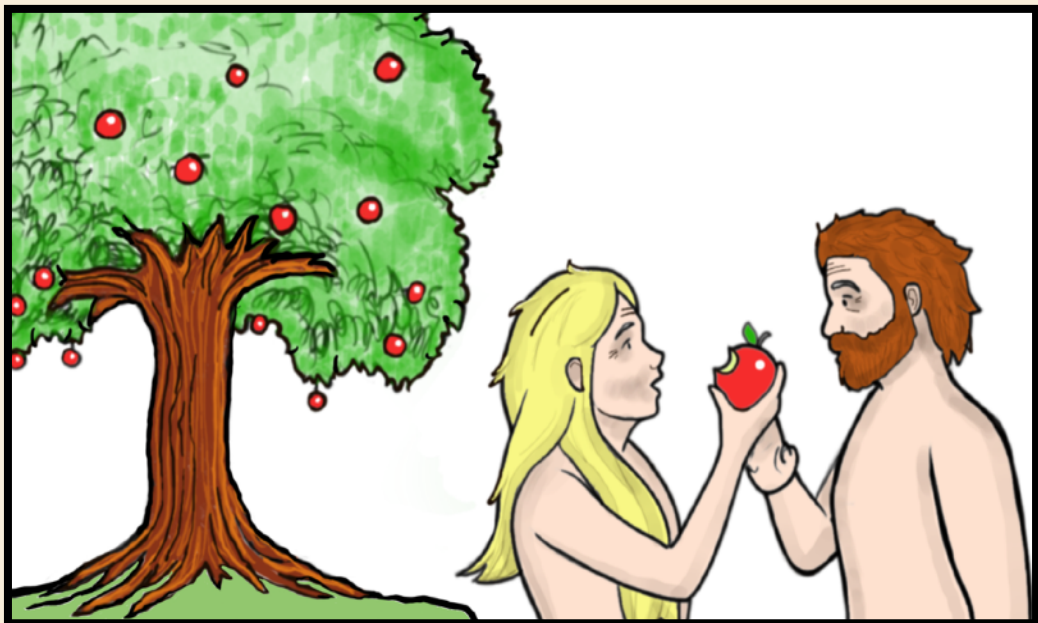
Adam and Eve did maintain **100% sinless perfection** for a long time without committing a **single sin!** Up until this point, everything that Adam and Eve thought, said and did was **only perfect continually**, not like the flawed "good" works that we now produce.





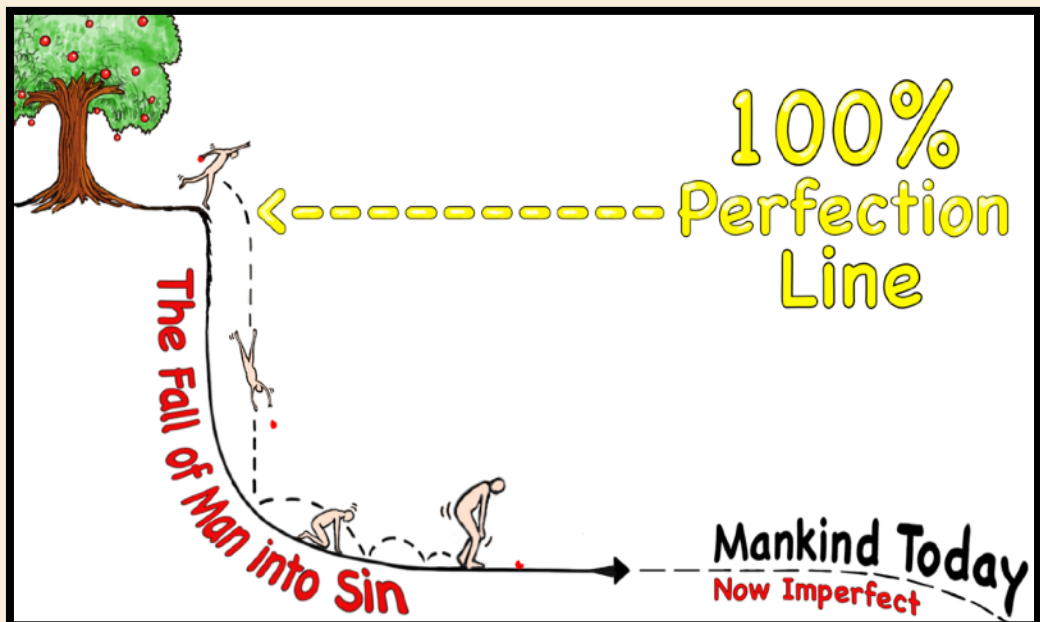
6. **100% sinless perfection!** It's hard for us to even imagine a standard that high! But that was God's standard in the beginning, **and it is still His standard today!** Psalm 18:30 says, "As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him." Although God created Adam and Eve in **100% sinless perfection**, if they chose to sin, **He would disown them and condemn them to hell forever.**





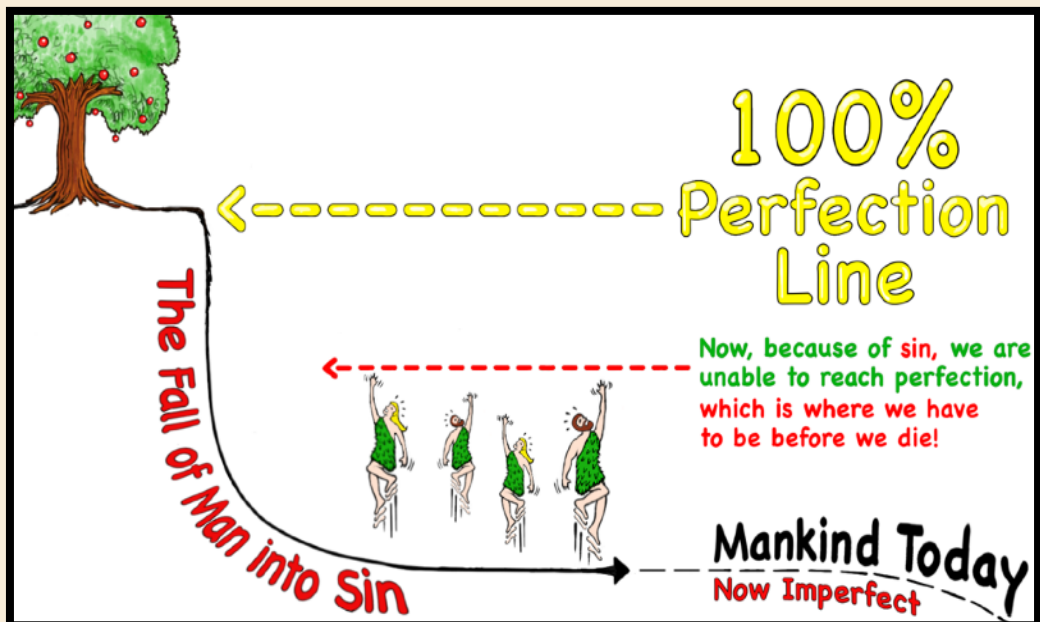
7. In time, God tested Adam and Eve to see if they would remain faithful. He planted a special tree in Eden but told them **NOT** to eat from it. In Genesis 2:17, God said, "for in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die." Sadly, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the fruit. Spiritual death came instantly, and physical death came later. This is how they fell from **perfection** and brought sin and condemnation upon the whole human race.





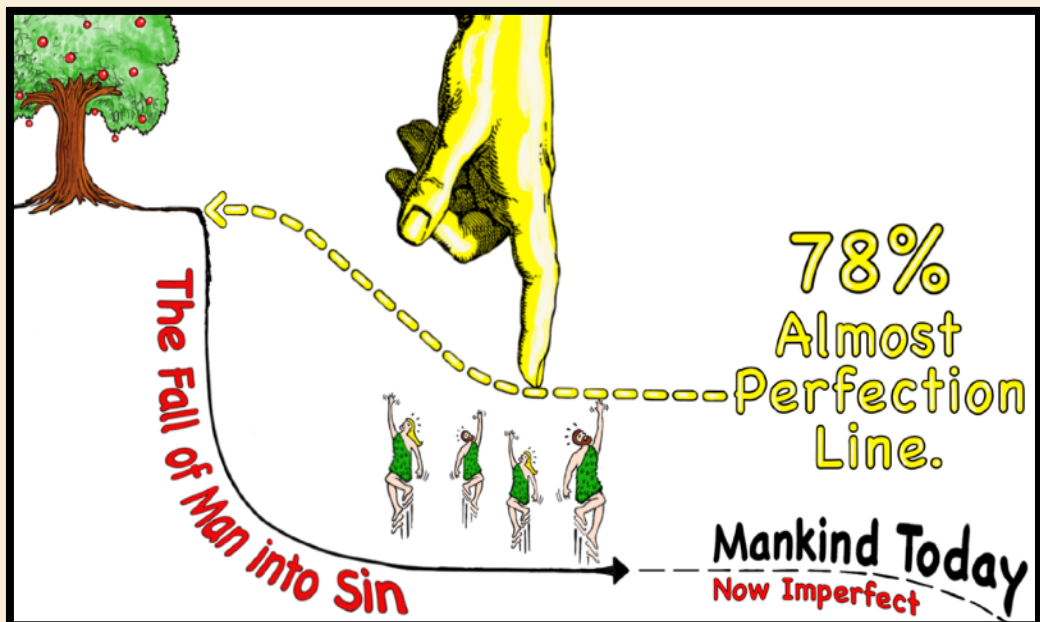
8. **Falling, falling, falling!**
The once **perfect** Adam and Eve were now sinners condemned by God. As a result of their fall, sin was now polluting everything that they thought, said and did. They were no longer able to do anything **perfectly**, which is what God requires if a person wants to go to heaven. Romans 5:12 says, "**Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, so also death passed to all men, because all sinned.**"





9. Adam and Eve were now trapped below the perfection line! No matter how hard they tried, their “good” works could no longer reach perfection. Romans 3:12 says, “All have turned away, together they have become worthless; there is no one who does good¹, not even one.” (¹God is referring to perfect goodness here.) False religions are easy to detect because they will accept our imperfect “good” works. But the God of the Bible ONLY accepts perfect “good” works!

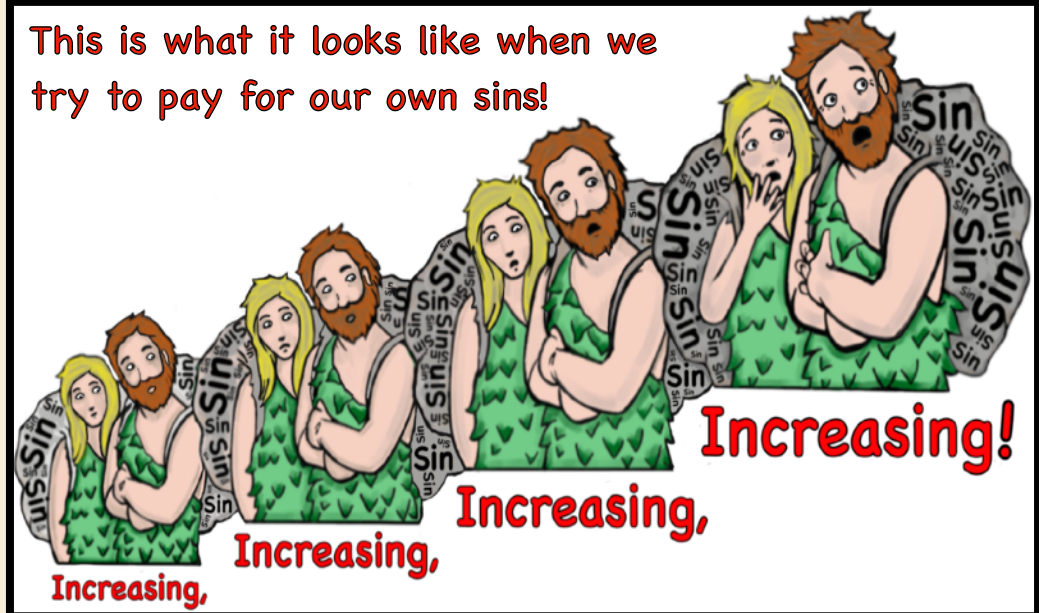




10. Some people believe that God has lowered His standard so that imperfect people can still reach it. This is false. They **NEED** to believe this! Because, in their minds, if God doesn't lower His standard, they will never get to heaven. Sadly, when they do this, they "create a god in their own image." A god who accepts people on their own terms, regardless of their imperfections. This "fix" has given birth to every false religion in history and accounts for more souls in hell than any other sin.



This is what it looks like when we try to pay for our own sins!



11. Increasing, Increasing, Increasing!
Adam and Eve tried to “fix” their problem, but no amount of fig leaves (good works) could cover their guilt and shame. Instead of running to God, they ran away from Him, like we do. We need our Creator’s help if we want our sins to **decrease!** People who take comfort in their good works are like people who take aspirin to cure cancer. Isaiah 59:12 says, “**For our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us.**”



**"Each of us has become
like something unclean,
and all our righteous
acts are like filthy rags."**

Isaiah 64:6

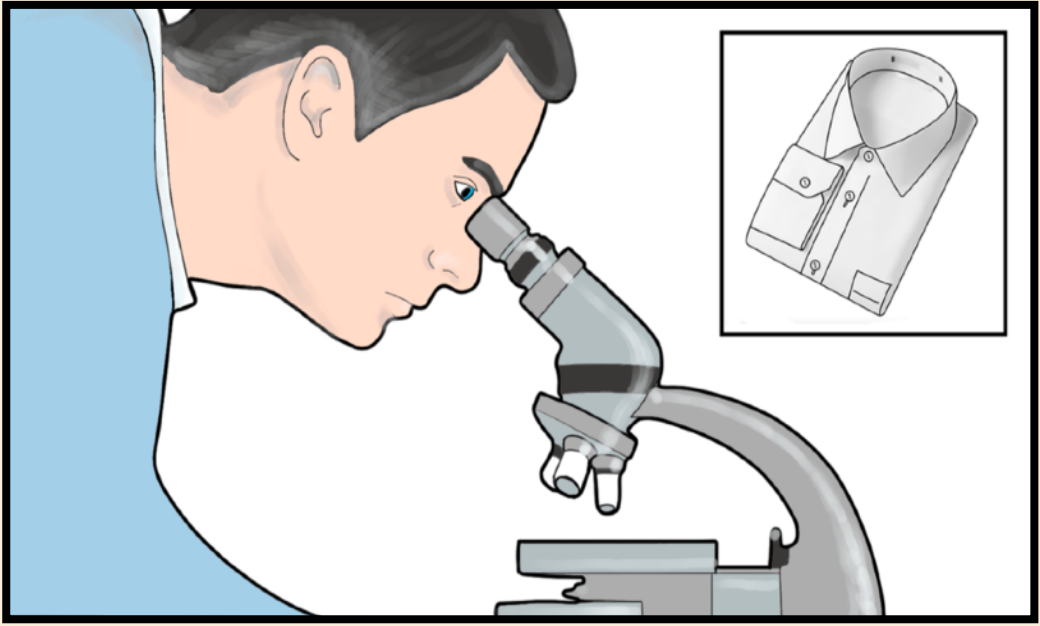
12. If God sees our "good" works like filthy rags, imagine how He sees our bad works! We have nothing to offer God! False religion is lying to us! It keeps telling us that if we do more "good" works than bad works, we can still make it to heaven. But this is false because God cannot change, and He will NEVER allow anything that is imperfect to enter His presence. Even if a person manages to do many "good" works during their lifetime, God will still regard them as "filthy rags."





13. God has rejected them! Every “good” work you have ever offered to improve your chances of getting to heaven has been in vain. In fact, all of your sins are still on your account and that number is only increasing with each passing day! We have to understand that **human-level righteousness** is just not righteous enough! Our imperfect nature makes everything we think, say and do worthless. **We need a higher quality righteousness.** Hebrews 10:5 says, **“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire.”** And here’s why...





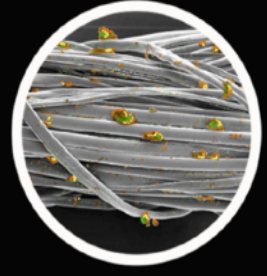
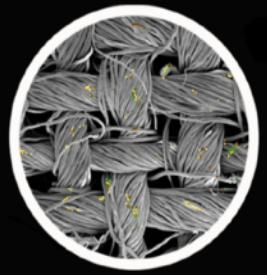
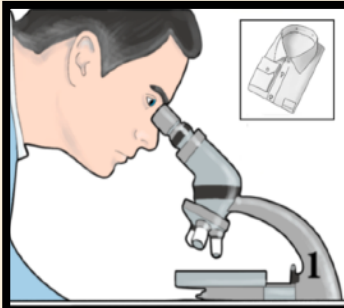
14. Imagine for a moment that we had a brand-new white shirt, one that had never been worn. Then I asked you, "Is this shirt clean?"

How would you respond?

You would probably respond, "It's clean! It's brand new!"

Really? Now imagine that we put that brand-new white shirt under a microscope...





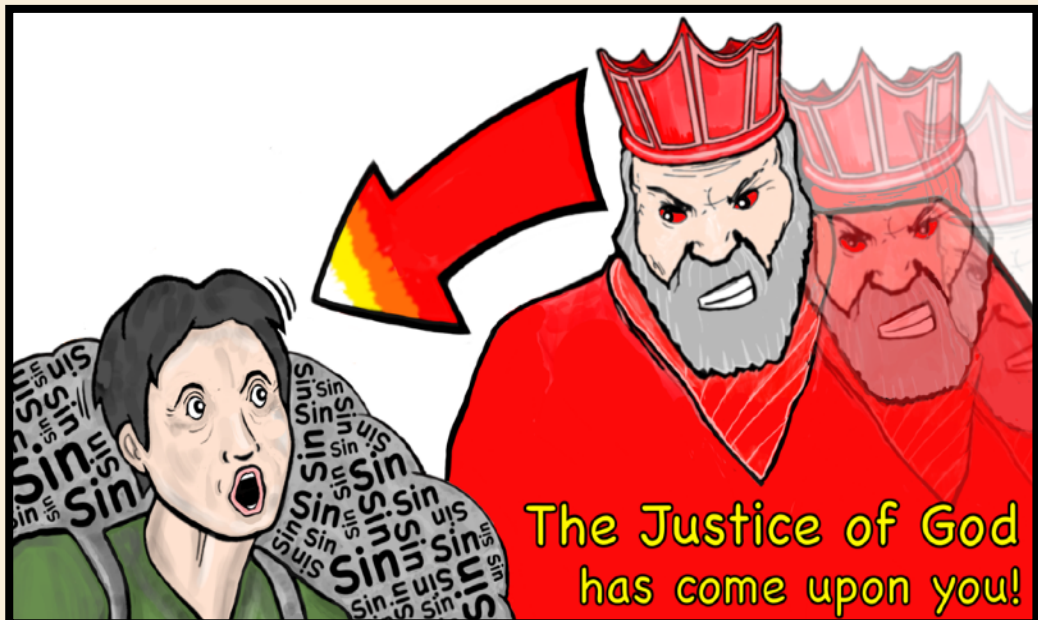
15. As we increase the magnification, what do we begin to see? We begin to see every spot and imperfection. Is our brand-new white shirt **truly clean?** **No!** It's filthy! Now, imagine for a moment that God put your "good" works under His microscope! What is He going to see? Every sinful thought and imperfection! Are your "good" works **truly good?** **No!** They're filthy! Psalm 130:3 says, "If you, O Lord, kept track of iniquities, then who, O Lord, could stand?"





16. Now that you know your “good” works are like filthy rags to God, will you still try to offer them? Don’t expect to go to heaven! God only accepts **perfection, which is why our imperfect “good” works have **no value**. What can we expect to hear if we disregard His warning? “**Take those filthy rags away!**” Isaiah 57:12 says, “**I will expose your righteousness and your works, and they will not profit you.**”**





17. The justice of God is coming upon you because you refused to listen! Even though you knew that God's standard was perfection, you resisted! You were so busy validating your own religion that you failed to submit to God's religion! Our righteousness is not good enough, we need God's righteousness. Romans 10:3 says, "Because they were ignorant of God's righteousness and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness."





18. Do you give up?

If God doesn't want our good works and God doesn't want our bad works, **how** can anyone get to heaven? **It's simple: God wants to give us salvation as a free gift, even though He knows we don't deserve it.** If God made us pay for our own sins, He would have to send **US** to hell. You may be thinking, "If this is true, how does God satisfy His justice **AND** forgive me at the same time?"

He doesn't forgive you!





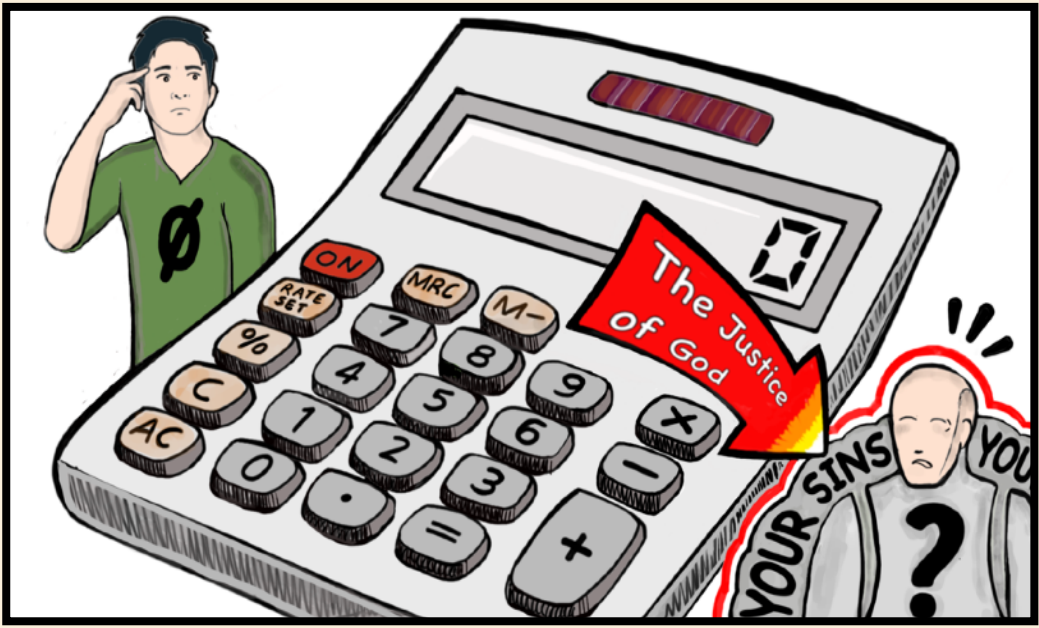
19. He punishes someone else for your sins!

Imagine God sending someone else to hell so that you can go to heaven! Does that sound appealing to you? **No, why not?** Now, the only way that God can forgive our sins is by punishing someone else for our sins! By doing it this way, God is able to forgive those He loves **and** still get the justice He deserves. **Would you want God to punish someone else for your sins?**



20. If you are like most people, you will probably respond, **"No, That's not fair, I don't want that! It's not right to punish someone else for another person's sins!"** But what if God did punish someone else for your sins? How many sins would still be left on your account? **ZERO!** Remember God's holy standard! If we die with even **one sin** on our account, we will go to hell. But, if we follow God's plan, we will go to heaven because **He** removes our entire sin debt.





21. Before you reject God's plan, let's do the math. If God did take all of your sins and put them on someone else's account and punished that person instead of you, how many sins would still be left on your account? **ZERO!** And what do we call a person with **ZERO** sins? **PERFECT!** And where do perfect people go when they die? **HEAVEN!** So, you have to admit, the math looks good! Still not convinced? Let me explain how God is able to do this with a little story...





22. Imagine that you have a little boy about 6 years old.

One day he comes home from school and asks, "Father, can I go play soccer with my friends before dinner?"

You reply, "Ok, but I don't want you playing near the Rich Man's house because he has big windows!"

To which your little boy replies, "Ok!"

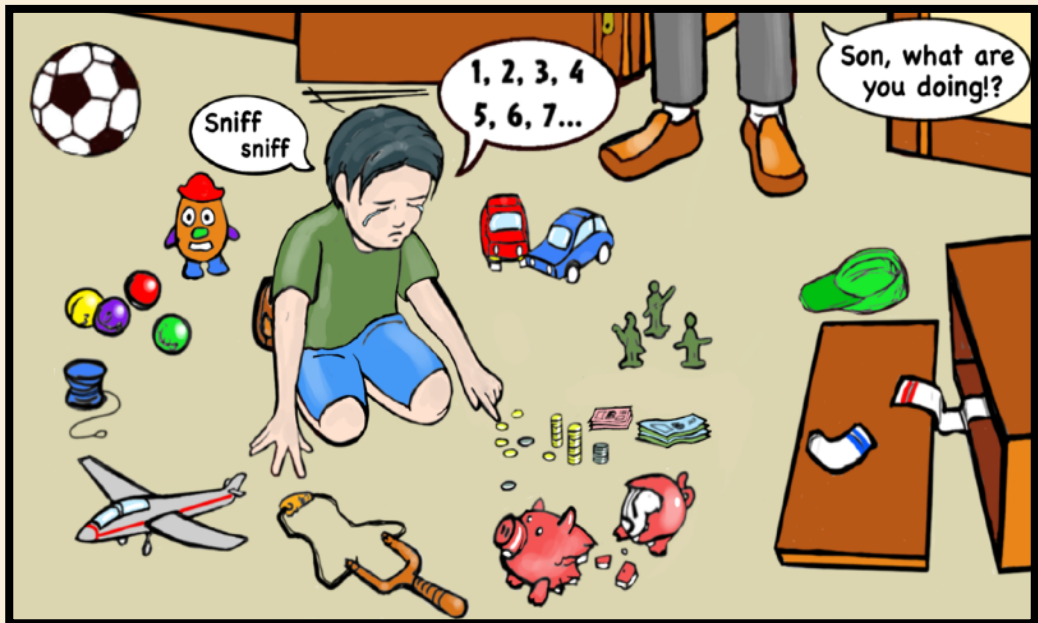
But he does not obey!





23. As your little boy begins to play with his friends, he forgets about your warning, and soon the game drifts dangerously close to the Rich Man's house. Then, without thinking, your son kicks the ball harder than he ever has! Stunned, all of the boys watch helplessly as the ball **((CRASHES))** right through an **\$800** custom window! After staring in disbelief, the boys all run home, **but the Rich Man saw which boy broke his window!**





24. After running home, your son goes straight to his room! As his door closes, the phone rings, and it's the Rich Man. He informs you that your son just broke an **\$800** window and he wants to know who's going to fix it. After assuring him that you will look into it, you go directly to your son's room. As you open the door, you find him on the floor crying, with his piggy bank open and his toys all around him. He's counting his money! "1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7..." **What's he doing? He's trying to pay for the window himself!**





25. But Friend, isn't that exactly what you're doing? The only difference is, now you're an adult, and instead of paying for a window with toys, you're trying to pay for the sins of a lifetime with works. Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death." Trying to pay for your own sins may seem like the right thing to do, but in the end, it will not remove a single sin, and you will still end up in hell.





**26. With that in mind,
let's go back to our story.**

As you stand there, staring
down at your son, angry that
he disobeyed and then tried
to cover it up by paying
for the window himself,
you slowly start to wonder,
“Is this how God sees me!?”

He's only 6 years old...

He has no money...

He has no job...

And you're the father...

What are you going to do?





27. You would pay?

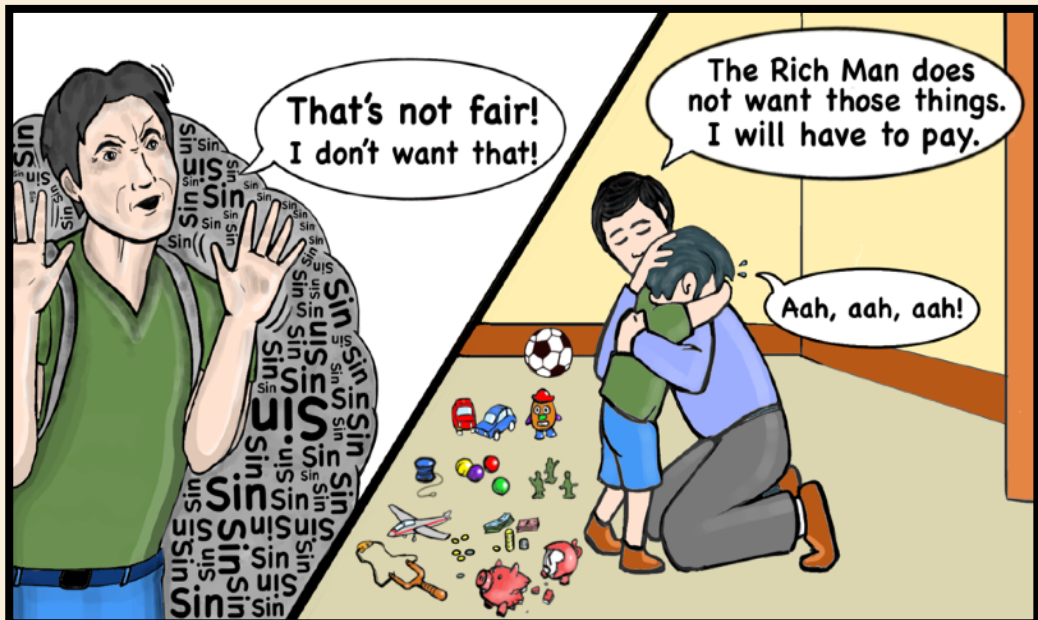
Why would you pay?

You didn't break the window! Your son broke the window.

According to your earlier objections, a person should have to pay for their own sin.

Now you're contradicting yourself.





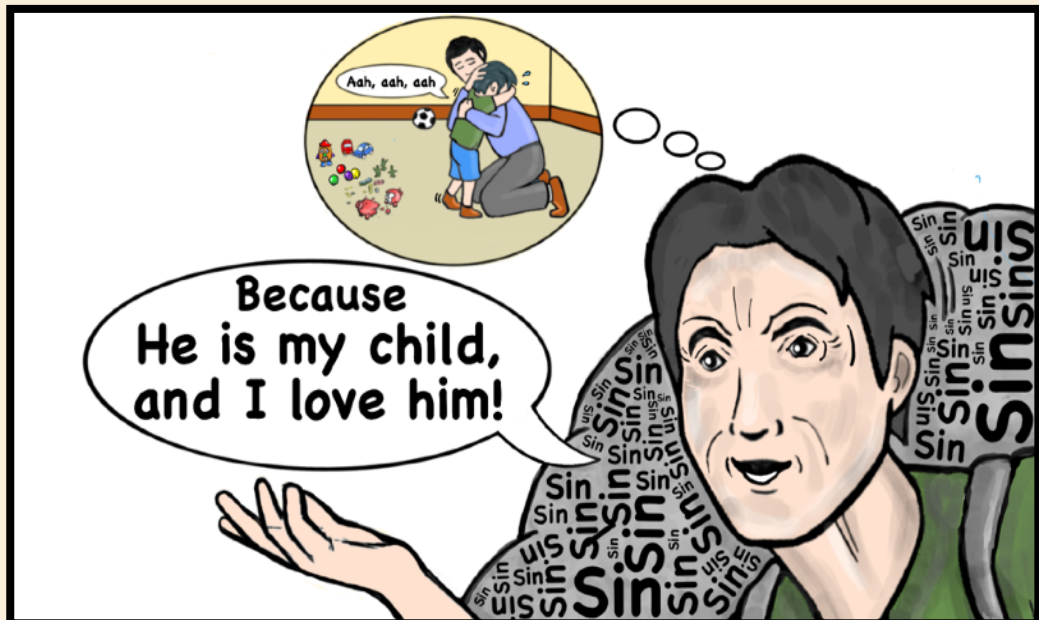
28. You said earlier,
"That's not fair!" and
"I don't want that!"

You also said, "It's not right
to punish someone else for
another person's sins!"

According to you, the fair
thing to do would be to let
your son pay for his own sin!

Why did you change your
mind? Why all of a sudden
did you get involved?





29. Because he's
your child, and you
love him?

Well, isn't God a
father???

What would God do
if you were His child,
and He knew that **YOU**
could not pay for
your sins?





30. God would pay?

Yes, God would pay!

This is God's plan, and Satan doesn't want you to know it.

If we, as sinful parents, know how to save our children, how much more does God know how to save His children?

God saves His children the same way we save our children.

He pays! When I told you the story of the little boy who broke the window, you replied, "I would pay!" Even though it wasn't fair to you!





31. You never knew?

Now that you know, are you going to obey God? He is willing to adopt you and be your "Everlasting Father" but only if you are willing to repent from your sins. The reason why so many people are still trying to pay for their own sins is because they do not have a father in heaven to help them! They are orphans! **Note: It is forbidden to call God your father unless He has legally adopted you!**



I repent! I want an
"Everlasting Father"
like that to pay
for my sins!



32. Once you realize that sin has made us orphans and our "good" works have no value, it leaves you with two choices:

1. Humble yourself and ask God to adopt you and be your "Everlasting Father" and He will pay for your sins, or...

2. Refuse adoption and stubbornly try to pay for your own sins and fail horribly.

Matthew 18:3 says, "Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."



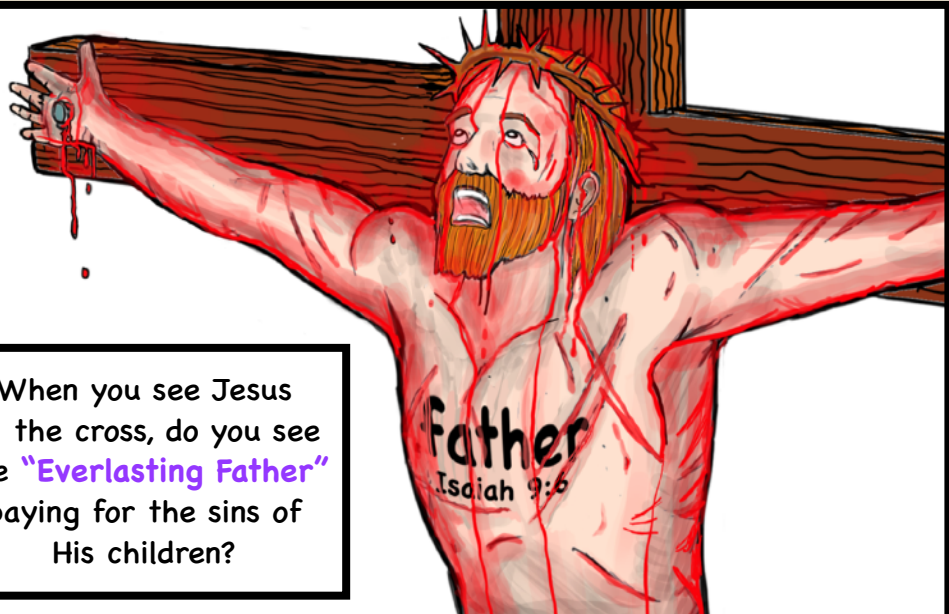


33. I Repent!

Remember, true repentance also means turning away from our false religions and calling God by His correct name! You can't call your wife by another woman's name and expect to stay married, and you can't call upon God by the wrong name and expect to get to heaven.

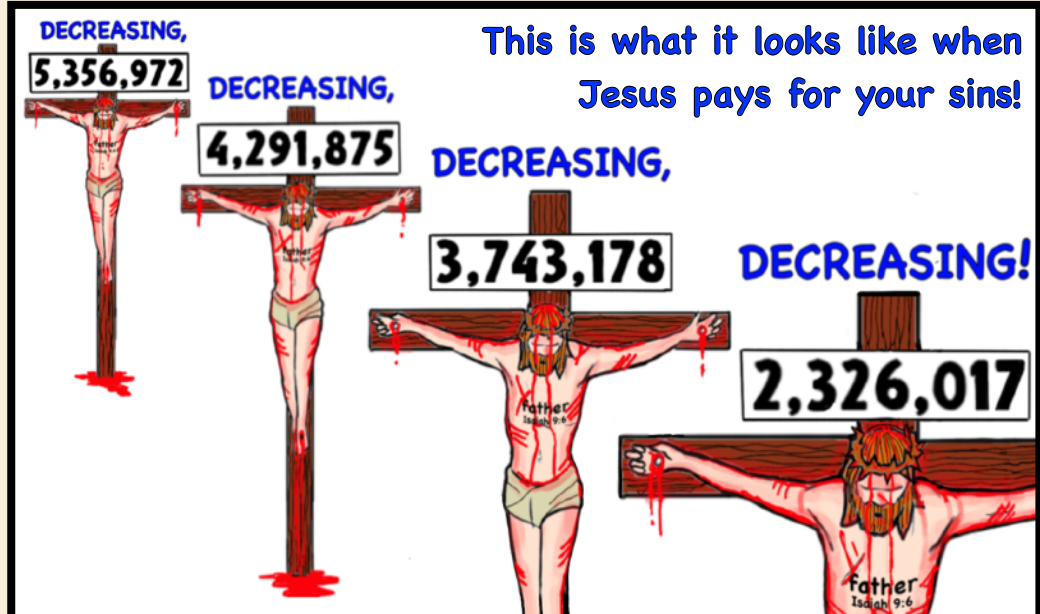
Matthew 6:24 says, "No one can serve two masters: Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other." So, you need to make a choice: Obey the Everlasting Father or pay for your owns sins.





34. It's JESUS!
 He is the "Everlasting Father."
 When you look at Jesus on the cross, what do you see?
 Do you see a father paying for the sins of his children?
 Isaiah 9:6 says, "For unto us a child is born (baby Jesus), unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."





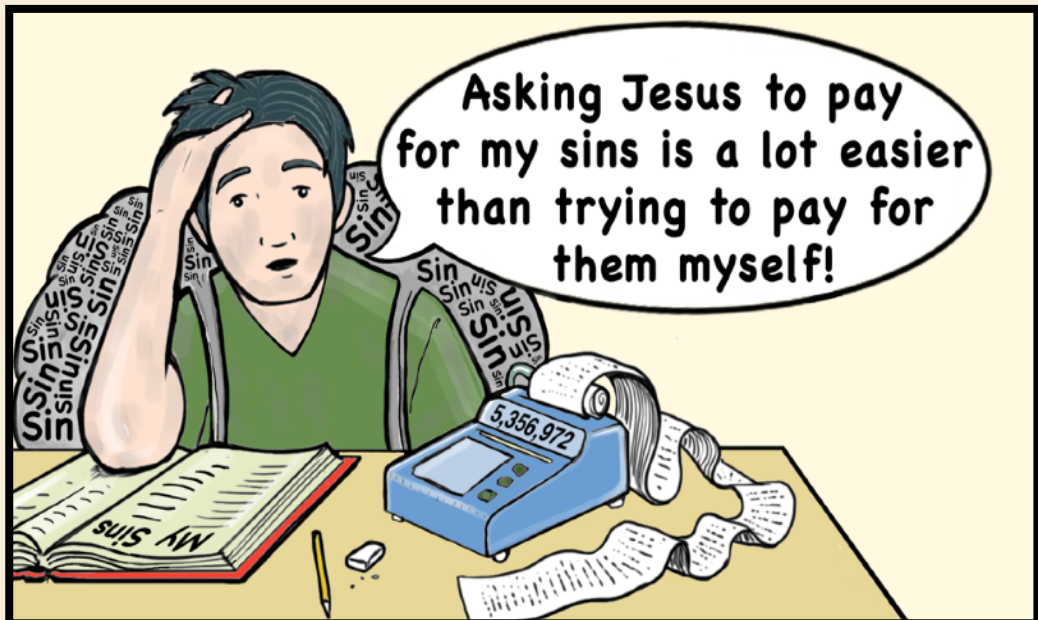
35. Decreasing! Decreasing! Decreasing!
When Jesus was on the cross, God was punishing Him for the sins of all His adopted children. With each blow, their sins began to **decrease** until their entire sin debt was paid! Isaiah 53:11 says, "By His knowledge My righteous Servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities." Jesus accomplished two things on the cross: He satisfied the justice of God and paid our sin debt at the same time.





36. It is finished! Jesus accomplished the work that God sent Him to do. He paid for the sins of His children and made them **perfect** again, earning their salvation for them. The Bible tells us in John 19:30 that when Jesus was at the end, He said, **"It is finished!"** Then He cried with a loud voice and gave up His spirit. Jesus is the most amazing, self-sacrificial **parent** in all of human history!





37. Being your own savior is not easy and it's extremely dangerous if you fail!

If Jesus is not your **father**, then **YOU** are responsible for your sins.

Question: Do you know how to pay for the sin of lying, stealing, anger, or lust? **No?** Well, how can you pay for your sins if you don't know these basic things?

If you truly want to do a good work that pleases God, then believe on the One He has sent: **Jesus** said in John 6:29, "**The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent!**"





38. It sounds too easy?

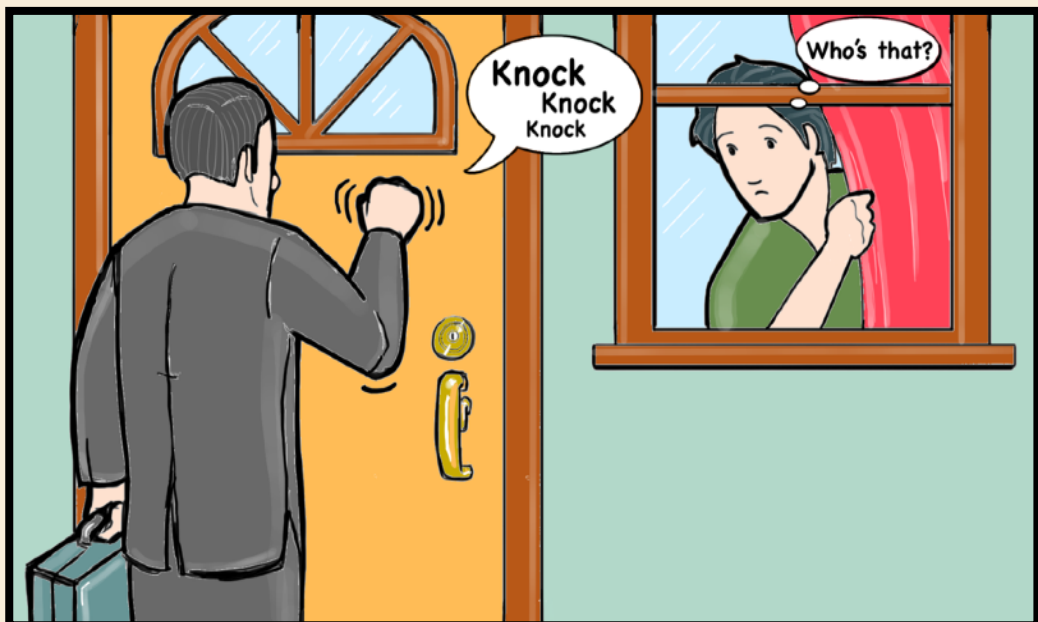
Why? Because someone else is doing all the work while you do nothing? Why does everyone think salvation must be hard?

In Matthew 11:30, Jesus said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." If Jesus says obtaining salvation is "easy," then we should be thankful!

Sometimes, getting things the "easy" way is also the best way.

Here is one example...





39. Imagine one day you are sitting at home, and you hear a knock at the door.

Curious, you look outside to see who it is.

Standing at the front door, you see a well-dressed man holding a briefcase...





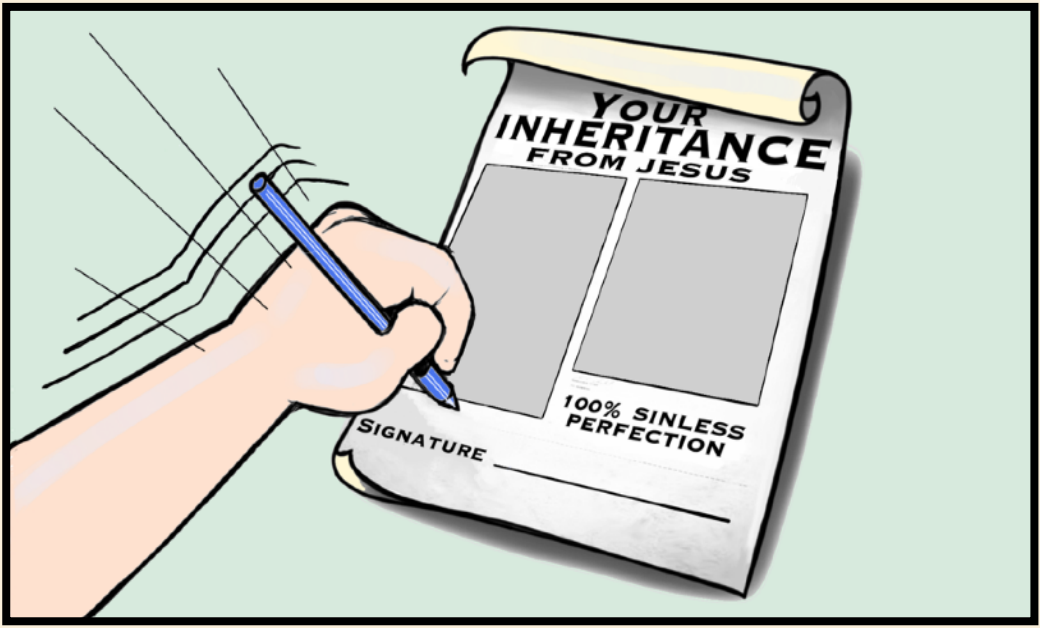
40. After introducing himself as an attorney, he informs you that your father has passed away and he left you a vast inheritance. Sadly, you inform the attorney that you've been estranged from your father for many, many years. The attorney replies, "Well, he must have loved you very much because he left you a vast inheritance!" Then He asks, 'Would you please sign these documents so that I can transfer the money to your account?'





41. Now, would you sign the papers and accept your inheritance? Or would you reject it because you didn't earn it and according to you, that would be too easy? As long as you stubbornly insist on earning your own salvation, you will never allow someone else earn it for you. Romans 6:23 says that, "The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." A gift can't be earned.





42. An inheritance is free!

You can't earn them, they are a gift from our parents. It is the same with God's salvation. Acting as our "Divine Parent," Jesus gives salvation to His children through inheritance. Ephesians 1:11 says, "In Him (Jesus) we have obtained an inheritance." Now, would you rather try to earn your own salvation and risk failing or receive it by inheritance which guarantees your salvation?

God says, It's a free gift. Pride says, No, I have to earn it!

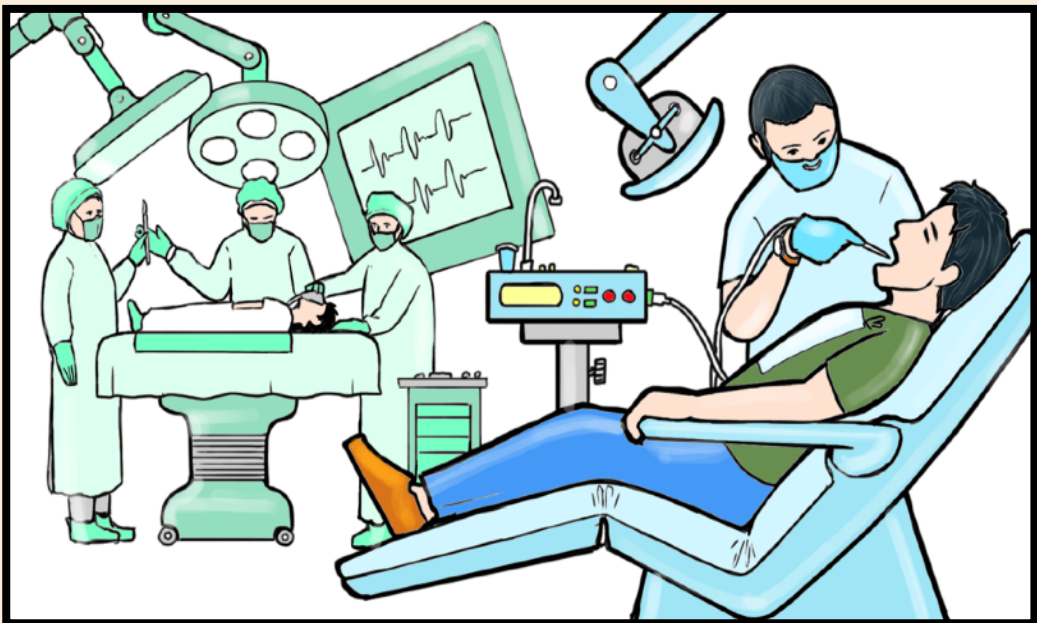




43. Would you ever do your own dental work or take out your child's appendix? Of course not!! That's absurd! Why? Because you don't know what you're doing! You would probably make it worse! **Well, what do you know about paying for sins? Nothing!** The truth is, we can't even remember the sins we committed last Tuesday, and even if we could, we have no idea what to pay God.

!!!We need an expert!!!





44. What do we do when we don't know how to do something ourselves?

We hire an expert!

We find someone who knows what they're doing, and we are not ashamed to let them do all the work, in fact, we expect it!

We would be **ashamed** if we even tried to do it ourselves!

Jesus is that expert Savior!

Now that you know why Jesus came, are you still going to try to pay for your own sin? Or ask Him to do it?

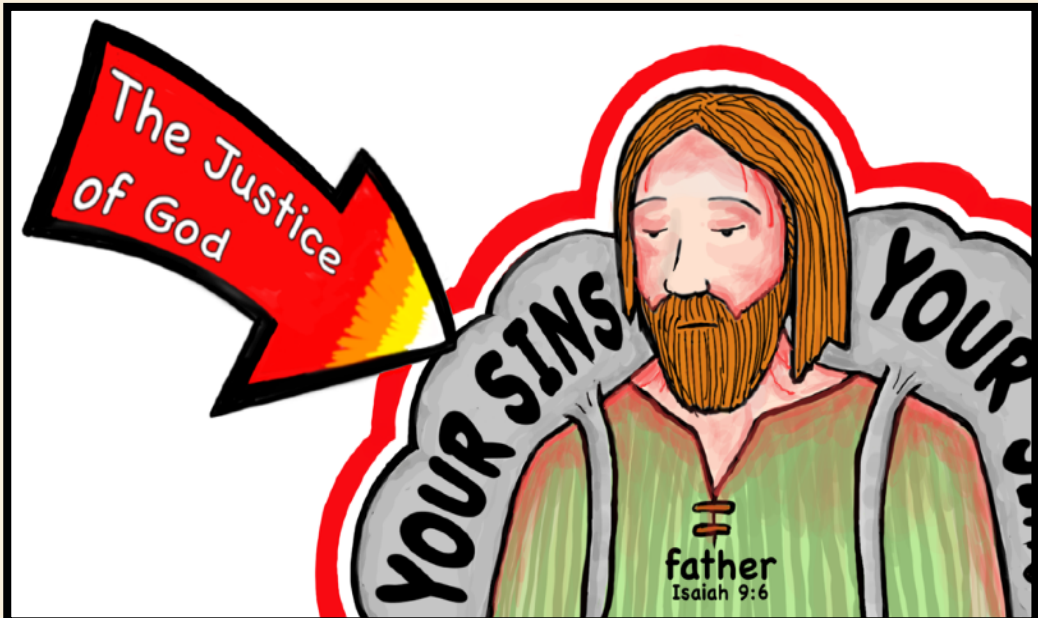


Come to Me all of you
who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.



45. Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest!" What does Jesus mean when He says, "Come to me?" He means, I don't want you to do this yourselves. What does "weary" mean? It refers to those who are exhausted from trying to pay for their own sins and failing. What does "I will give you rest" mean? It means Jesus will pay our sin debt and make us perfect; permanently ending the cycle of dead works to earn God's forgiveness.





46. We have to stop trying to **earn** our salvation and let Jesus do it for us! Only Jesus, acting as our **"Divine Parent,"** can pay our sin debt. Colossians 1:21-22 says, **"Once you were alienated from God and were hostile in your minds, engaging in evil deeds. But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy, unblemished, and blameless in His presence"**



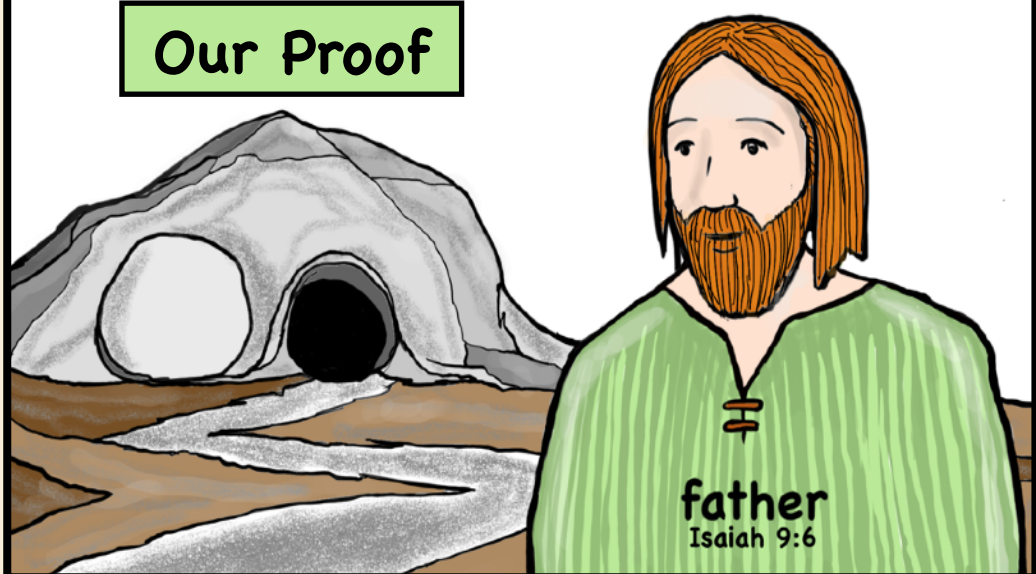
Hell is where people go who try
who try to pay for their own sins!



47. Hell is a very real place!
Hell is where people go who
try to pay for their own sins!
Imagine being tormented day
and night forever and ever.
This is what's coming for you
if you try to pay for your
own sins. Isaiah 33:14 says,
"Who of us can dwell with a
consuming fire? Who of us
can dwell with everlasting
flames?" If you want to
avoid hell, then must ask
Jesus to adopt you, and He
will pay for your sins!



Our Proof



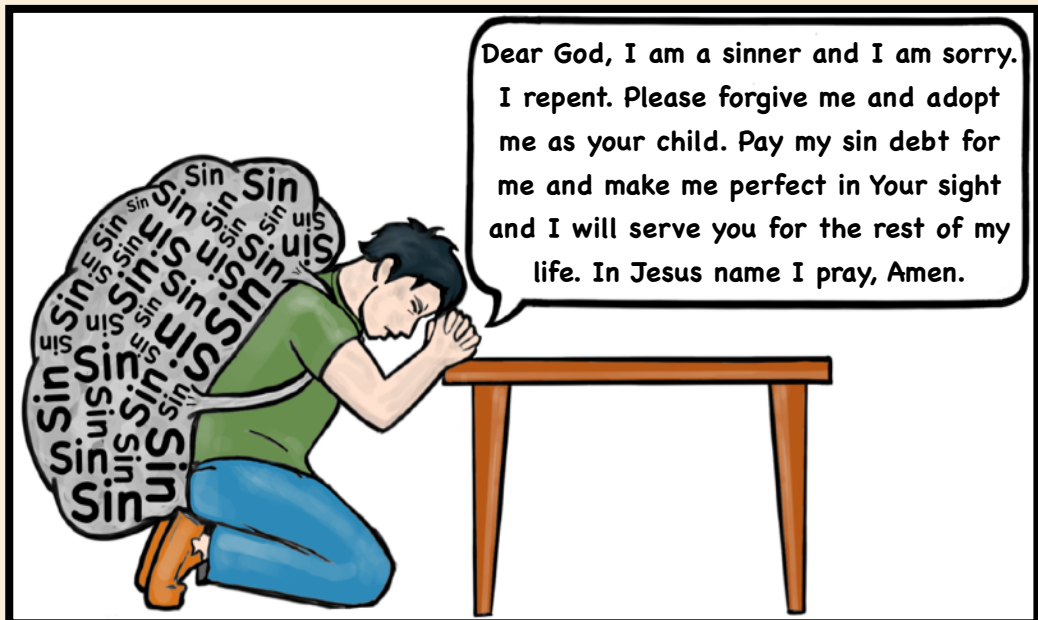
48. After Jesus paid for the sins of His children, God raised Him from the dead! Acts 17:31 says, "He has given proof of this to everyone by raising Him from the dead." God raised Him from the dead to give **proof** to the world that Jesus satisfied the justice of God. After paying their sin debt, Jesus gave His children **100% sinless perfection**. This was their inheritance, and it was totally free.





49. Today, if you hear His voice, soften your heart! 2 Corinthians 6:2 says, "In the time of favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the time of favor; now is the day of salvation!" Do not let your love for sin or this present world keep you from obeying. Ask Jesus to adopt you and become your "Everlasting Father." Only He can pay your sin debt and give you peace!





50. Pray to Jesus!

Many people are amazed when they hear this message, but it does not benefit them because they never pray and ask. Acts 17:30 says, "Although God overlooked the ignorance of earlier times, He now commands all people everywhere to repent." Now that you know what God wants you to do, **you have no excuse!** If you don't know how to pray, follow the simple prayer above or in **frame 50.**





51. Jesus is the **ONLY WAY** back to **100% sinless perfection!** Acting as our "Everlasting Father," Jesus took the sins of His children and put them on His own account and paid their debt. This act brought their sins back to **ZERO**, restoring them to their original state of **100% sinless perfection.** Hebrews 10:14 says, "By a single offering He has made perfect for all time those who are being sanctified."



HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN



52. If you want to become a Christian, use this prayer to guide you: "Dear God, I am a sinner, and I am sorry. I repent. Please forgive me and adopt me as your child. Pay my sin debt for me and make me perfect in Your sight, and I will serve you for the rest of my life. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen." In John 6:37, Jesus said, "Everyone the Father gives Me will come to Me."



AFTER YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN



53. Read your Bible.

When you read the Bible, God talks to you. This is where we learn about God and find instruction on how to live the Christian life on a daily basis. In 2 Timothy 2:15 it says, **“Make every effort to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman who accurately handles the word of truth.”**



AFTER YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN



54. Pray.

When you pray, you talk to God. After you become a Christian, God desires to have an intimate, personal relationship with you. In the book of Philippians 4:6, it says, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."



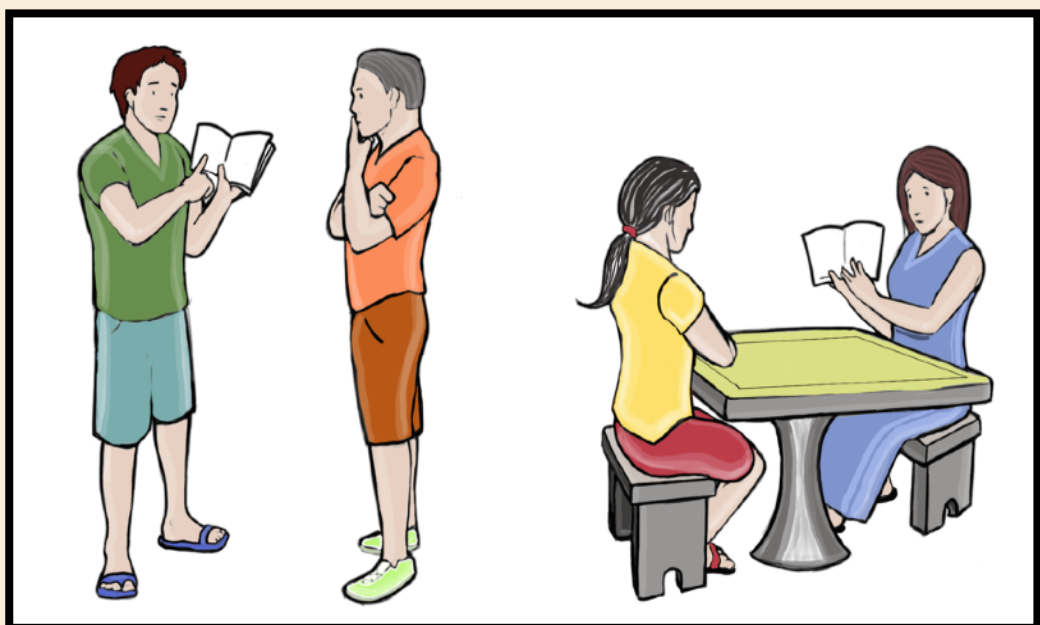
AFTER YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN



55. Attend a Bible Church.

One of the many blessings of being a Christian is gathering together with like-minded believers for Bible study, prayer and worship. In Hebrews 10:25 it says, "Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

AFTER YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN



56. Share the Good News.

It is wonderful to know that you are going to heaven. It's also important to share this Good News with others so that they can go to heaven! Matthew 28:19-20 says, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you."



The illustrations used in this e-booklet are for educational purposes only. They are not to be construed as an attempt to represent God Himself, but rather to illustrate His attributes, such as His holiness, justice, patience, and love, etc. It is especially designed to help in those areas where theological education or illiteracy have become too great a barrier for full Gospel understanding.

We are not Modalists. Our decision to represent Jesus as “father” throughout this e-booklet is deliberate. Based on Isaiah 9:6, we believe that the “parenthood” of Jesus is critical to a correct understanding of the Gospel and His mission to rescue us from the consequences of our sins. Let it be known to all that no father saves like our “Everlasting Father!”



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Illustrated by: Jon Paquette

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“Now the Bereans were more noble-minded than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if these teachings were true.” - Acts 17:11

**Scripture quotations found in our
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**We chose the Berean Standard Bible
for its faithfulness to the original
Greek and Hebrew while maintaining
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