

one GOD.one gospel.

there is only one God so there can be only one gospel

Are you going to heaven?

When asked most people believe that they are going to heaven...

Unfortunately, according to the Bible, we do not automatically go to heaven. Heaven is not our default destination. The Bible does not teach that we are bound for heaven and then we “do something” to disqualify ourselves nor does the Bible teach that we can “do something” to get in. We are disqualified from heaven the day we are born and we can do nothing ourselves to change that.

What keeps us out of heaven?...**Our sin...** (Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12-21; Galatians 3:22; 1 John 1:8-10; Proverbs 20:9)

Are you a good person?

When asked most people believe that they are a good person...

Unfortunately, according to the Bible, that isn't true either. In Jesus' own words He says “*No one is good but One, that is, God.*” Matthew 19:17 The Bible is clear that no one is “good” in the sight of God and no one will go to heaven because they are “good”. That is not the qualification to enter into eternal life with God. (Matthew 19:17; Isaiah 64:5-6; Romans 3:9-20; Ecclesiastes 7:20)

Are you perfect?

What is the qualification to enter into eternal life with God? Good question...**the qualification is perfection...we must be perfect.** Impossible you say? **Exactly.** It is impossible for us to enter into heaven as we are. We are not perfect, we have **all** sinned and transgressed God's laws. If we look at the scriptures, we will quickly see that we have not lived up to **God's standard** of moral and ethical behavior. His standard is perfection as He is perfect. God is holy and righteous and just and we were created in His image. Even though we were created in His image, we are not God; we are human and have not lived our lives **perfectly**. We have not kept to God's holy standard...we have broken God's holy laws...we have sinned against **Him**. Not only have we not lived perfect lives, but we have lived as if there were no God, we have lived ungodly lives not wanting to be accountable. We have **all** sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The result of our sin is death...spiritual death, physical death and eternal death separated from God forever.

There is nothing **we** can do to take away or remove our sins against God. God knows that we can't live up to His standard. That's why He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, **to die on our behalf.**

Why? **Because He loves us...** (John 3:16-21; Romans 5:6-11; 1 John 4:9-10; Eph 2:4-9)

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... The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9... “He who believes in Him [Jesus] is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:18... Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.” John 6:28-29

Beloved, the Lord has commanded us to believe Him. He does not want us to perish, but we will surely perish if we do not trust in Jesus for our salvation. We need to have our sins forgiven by God...and the only way God has provided for our sins to be forgiven is **through faith**...faith in Jesus' sinless life, sacrificial death and glorious resurrection. There is no other way

...Jesus said "**I am the way, the truth, and the life.**
No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Only through faith...faith in Jesus' sacrificial death on our behalf, will we enter into the presence of our Holy God. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Isaiah 45:22-23)

***"Now when God declares that
there is salvation in
Christ Jesus,
I must either believe Him at once
or call Him a liar."***
Charles Spurgeon

The Gospel...

***...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
He was buried,
and He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures...*** 1 Cor 15:3-4

Beloved, the Gospel is the good news of salvation for **sinners**. Jesus said "***I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.***" (Luke 5:32) Jesus did not leave heaven, humble Himself and die on our behalf so that He could show us how to live a good life. Jesus, who is God in the flesh, came to earth, in the form of a man like us, to die for our sins **so that we can be reconciled to God.** (Col 1:20-22; 2 Cor 5:18-21; John 10:17-18; 1 Pet 3:18; 1Tim 2:5-6; Philipians 2:5-8; Ephesians 2:13-16; John 1:29; Luke 19:10)

We must believe in the Gospel...

Jesus said "Repent and believe in the gospel". Mark 1:15

From R.C. Sproul... "***The Gospel is called the 'good news' because it addresses the most serious problem that you and I have as human beings, and that problem is simply this: God is holy and He is just, and I'm not. And at the end of my life, I'm going to stand before a just and holy God, and I'll be judged. I'll be judged either on the basis of my own righteousness – or lack of it – or the righteousness of another [Jesus]. The good news of the Gospel is that Jesus lived a life of perfect righteousness, of perfect obedience to God, not for His own well being but for His people. He has done for me what I couldn't possibly do for myself. But not only has He lived that life of perfect obedience, He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice to satisfy the justice and the righteousness of God. The only way you can receive the benefit of Christ's life and death is by putting your trust in Him – and in Him alone.***"

"The great misconception in our day is this: that God isn't concerned to protect His own integrity. He's a kind of wishy-washy deity, who just waves a wand of forgiveness over everybody. No. For God to forgive you is a very costly matter. It cost the sacrifice of His own Son. So valuable was that sacrifice that God pronounced it valuable by raising Him from the dead – so that Christ died for us and He was raised for our justification."

We must be perfect...

God does not save His chosen people by lowering His moral standards. The very reason why we need His saving mercy is because we have violated **His** laws. God will not ignore His laws nor will He ignore our transgressions.

From Charles Spurgeon...*If we have sinned against God, it is God's power to forgive, for the sin is against Himself. That is why David said in Psalm 51:4 "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight," for then God, against whom the offense was committed, could put the offense away.*

With no other reason for it but His own infinite goodness, [God] has prepared a glorious way by which He can make scarlet sins "as white as snow". Isaiah 1:18 He can remove our transgressions for us "as far as the east is from the west". Psalm 103:12 He says, "Their sins and iniquities will I remember no more". Hebrews 8:12

Therefore, the Lord Jesus did not come into the world expecting to find goodness and righteousness, but to bestow them upon those who do not have them. This is a miracle reserved for the Lord alone. God, the infinitely just Sovereign, knows that there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin. Therefore, in the infinite sovereignty of His divine nature and in the splendor of His ineffable love, He undertakes the task not so much of justifying the just as of justifying the ungodly.

If we had never broken the laws of God, we would not have needed justification, for we would have been just in ourselves. He who has always done the things that he should have done, and has never done anything that he should not have done, is justified by the law. However, I am quite sure that you are not one of that sort. You are too honest to pretend to be without sin, and therefore you need to be justified....a compilation of excerpts from All of Grace by Charles Spurgeon

We are not perfect and we must be perfect to stand before a Holy God for He is **Holy, Holy, Holy**. We do not measure up to God's standard...only Jesus has lived a perfect life; we however have missed the mark...we have sinned against Him. You see if man had never sinned and made himself an enemy of God there would have been no reason for the Son to come in the likeness of men and there would be no reason for God Himself to die for us.

Jesus Christ's perfection is God's measuring stick. Jesus was tempted at every point with respect to obeying the commands of God, yet He **remained sinless** throughout. Because He kept the law **perfectly**, Christ had no need to offer up sacrifice for His own sins. Instead He offered Himself up without spot to God, a lamb without blemish as the law required, in order to cleanse us of **our sins**.³ *"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquitiesJehovah has laid on Him the iniquity of us all".* Isaiah 53:5-6 Sin cannot avoid the dreadful judgment of God. Christ had to come and undergo the curse of the law in the place of His chosen people; **He had to satisfy the justice of God**. That is why it can be said that the death of Christ is the outstanding evidence that God's law cannot be ignored.³ (Hebrews 1:3; Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 85:9-10)

Why did [Jesus] suffer if not to take the penalty away from us? If God Himself bows before His own law, what more can be done? God will spare the sinner because He did not spare His Son. God is gracious; therefore, sinful men are forgiven, converted, purified, and saved. It is not because of anything in them or that can ever be in them that they are saved. It is because of the boundless love, goodness, pity, compassion, mercy, and grace of God. All of Grace, Charles Spurgeon

The pivotal event in the accomplishment of redemption was Christ's laying down His life and taking it up again — His death and resurrection.³ Christ obeyed His Father's commandment. He was subjected to God's law and justified us by His obedience. (1 Corinthians 15:17; John 6:38; Romans 8:32)

From the book Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges (pg.48):

“Not only has God forgiven us our sins, He has also credited to us the perfect righteousness of Christ. In every area of life where we have been disobedient, Jesus was perfectly obedient. Are we prone to be anxious? Jesus always perfectly trusted His heavenly Father. Do we have trouble with selfishness? Jesus was always completely self-giving. Are we guilty of unkind words, gossip, or sarcasm? Jesus spoke only those words that would be appropriate for each occasion. He never once sinned with His tongue. For some thirty-three years, Jesus lived a life of perfect obedience to the moral will of God, and then He culminated that obedience by being obedient to the Father’s specific will for Him—and obedience unto death, even death on the cross for our sins. In both His sinless life and His sin-bearing death, Jesus was perfectly obedient, perfectly righteous, and it is that righteousness that is credited to all who believe...we must always keep in mind this twofold truth: Our sins are forgiven and we are accepted as righteous by God because of both the sinless life and sin-bearing death of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 3:21-22; Philippians 3:9)

We must have an atonement for our sins...

Why did Jesus have to die for our sins? Good question. Because of Adam’s sin and our own personal sins, no one is worthy of a relationship with God. Since we are helpless to correct this situation and can do nothing to hide our sin from God, we all stand condemned by sin. It is human nature (our sinfulness) and God’s nature (His holiness and hatred of sin) that makes us “enemies”.¹ God has declared that the penalty for sin is death. He requires a blood sacrifice to remove sin and appease His wrath against us. That sacrifice is called an “atonement”. It is written...*“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.”* Leviticus 17:11 (1 Cor. 15:22; Heb. 4:13; Rom. 5:6-11; Romans 6:23; Lev 17:11)

Atonement means the reconciliation of the guilty to God by a divine sacrifice. Jesus was our divine sacrifice. God requires a **sinless blood sacrifice** to atone for sin. Jesus was our **sinless substitutionary atonement**. In the **atonement** work of Christ, Jesus **substituted** Himself for sinners and paid the requirement of the punishment for sin which is death. As a result of Jesus’ atonement, our sin is transferred from us to Him, and God then grants us forgiveness. Jesus’ substitutionary atonement is the **basis for our salvation**. (Matthew 1:22-23; 1 Timothy 3:16; Colossians 2:8-9; John 1:1; John 1:14) (Galatians 4:4-5) (Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 7:26-28; John 8:46; 1 John 3:5)

God’s justice was served in the death of Jesus Christ as our **substitutionary atoning sacrifice**¹:*“Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption”*. Hebrews 9:12 *“But this Man [Jesus], after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.”* Hebrews 10:12 *“The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”* 1 John 1:7 (Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 9:22-26; Luke 24:46; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:12; Hebrews 10:12; 1 John 1:7; Heb. 10:3-4; 1 Cor 5:7; 1 John 2:2; Matt 26:26–28; 1 Pet. 1:19-20)

Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God, so that those who believe in Him might receive atonement and be saved from God’s wrath through His precious blood.¹ (Mark 10:45; Eph. 5:2; Gal 1:4; 1 Thess 1:10; Matthew 20:28)

Although **our own obedience to the law is flawed and thus cannot be used as a way of justification before God**, we are saved by the imputed obedience of the Savior. Our justification is rooted in His obedience. **By a righteousness which is alien to ourselves—the perfect righteousness of Christ—we are made just in the sight of God.** "He made the One who did not know sin to be sin on our behalf in order that we might become the righteousness of God in Him".

We are to have in ourselves the attitude which was in Christ Jesus, who humbled Himself and became obedient.³ No believer who truly understands the awesome holiness of God’s wrath and the terrible hopelessness that comes from personal sin can fail to be overwhelmed by the deep love of Jesus for each of us, and the wonder of God’s gracious gift of eternal atonement through Christ.¹ (Jude 24; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9)

We must be justified...

We need to be forgiven by God. He is the One we are indebted to. We owe a debt to God for our sins that we cannot pay. God will only pardon our debt and forgive our sins **through faith**. "*Justification*" is the process by which we are made acceptable to God.⁷ Justification is based on the work of Christ, accomplished through His blood [His death], and brought to us through His resurrection.¹ (Rom. 4:24-25)

When God justifies, He **charges** the sin of man to Christ and **credits** the righteousness of Christ to the believer. Thus, through Jesus' [sacrificial death] God's free gift of salvation came to all men, resulting in eternal life for those **who believe**.¹ We are **justified** through faith alone in Christ alone.¹ The Bible says "*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 (Acts 13:39; Rom. 3:21-30; Rom. 4:3-22)

Salvation is offered freely to all who repent of their sins and believe and trust [*have faith*] in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. When you come to **saving faith** you have seen your need for a Savior and you understand that you are a sinner worthy of death and cannot earn God's forgiveness in any way. You abandon all self-righteousness and self-confidence in your own works and deeds and cast yourself completely on Him for mercy and forgiveness. You put your trust in Jesus Christ as your only hope for eternal life with God. It means that you have come to know that salvation is completely of God and not of you in any way, and it is to the glory of God alone. (John 1:12; Hebrews 11:6; John 3:36; John 6:40; John 6:47; John 8:24; John 11:25-26; John 12:44-46; John 14:1; John 17:21; John 20:29; John 20:30-31; 1 John 5:13; Romans 1:16; Romans 10:7-10)

We must have the righteousness of Christ...

What God requires is that we put our trust in Him and not in ourselves. We must see that we are not righteous. We must admit that we are ungodly and unjust. It is God who justifies the ungodly! He does not justify those who are righteous in their own sight. Our righteousness must be according to God's righteousness as revealed in His word. (Luke 18:9-14; Isaiah 64:5-6; Romans 3:9-18; Romans 10:2-4; Philippians 3:7-9; Romans 10:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 6:33; Titus 3:4-6; Romans 4:5; Romans 4:2-4; Galatians 2:20-21; Romans 3:21-26; Matthew 25:46; Acts 17:30-31)

Righteousness is holy and upright living, in accordance with **God's standard**. God's character is the definition and source of all righteousness. **Therefore, the righteousness of human beings is defined in terms of God's righteousness.**¹ (Psalm. 50:6; Jeremiah 9:24; Gen.18:25; Deut. 32:4; Rom. 9:14).

Since the FALL in the Garden of Eden, people have been inherently unrighteous. As the prophet Isaiah said, "*We are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags*".¹ Isaiah 64:6 We cannot be righteous in the sight of God on our own merits. Therefore, **people must have God's righteousness imputed, or transferred, to them.**¹

The cross of Jesus is a public demonstration of God's righteousness. God accounts or transfers the righteousness of Christ to those who **trust in Him**. We do not become righteous because of our inherent goodness; **God sees us as righteous because of our identification by faith with His Son.**¹ At the time of our death we will be judged on the basis of Jesus' righteousness, not ours. We do not want to stand before Jesus Christ on that day, still in our sins, with the burden of our sins on our back and have our Lord say to us "*I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!*"^{Matthew 7:23} We want to stand before Him perfect in God's sight, clothed in His righteousness, having laid the burden of our sins at the foot of His CROSS. (Romans 10:2-4; Gal. 3:6; John 1:12; Heb 11:6; John 3:36; John 6:40, 47; John 8:24; John 11:25-26; John 20:30-31)

We must repent...

Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Biblical repentance is a change of mind, prompted by a change of heart, resulting in a change of life. Repentance is both internal and external. Internally we change our way of thinking; externally we change our way of acting.⁴ It includes expressing regret for sin. It means a change of life direction; a turning away from one thing and a turning to another. A U-turn. The reason we need to "turn around" is that we have been going the wrong way. We have not been going God's way. Instead, we have been going our own way.⁵

Repentance means that we stop living for ourselves and we turn around and start living for God. We stop serving ourselves and we turn around and start serving God. Very often we misunderstand repentance. Instead of seeing it as a u-turn we see it as a right turn. We turn to the right. We try to do things better. We think that all we have to do is say we are sorry to God and behave a bit better than we have in the past. We try and live according to **our list** of religious rules. That is not what it means to repent. To repent does not mean to try harder. It doesn't mean to turn more to what is right according to our religious laws. To repent is to do a u-turn not a right turn.

When we repent we turn our life completely around from our self and towards God.⁶ Those who come to God decide to leave sin behind...that is repentance. This doesn't mean that a Christian is perfect, but it does mean that a Christian is trying to do God's will and live righteously according to His word.⁷ (Ezekiel 18:30-32; Ezekiel 14:6; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 5:31-32; Acts 3:19; 2 Corinthians 7-10; 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 2:4; Acts 26:20; 1 John 1:8-9; Acts 17:30-31; Psalm 51:1-17)

Are you going to heaven?

Beloved, we will not enter into Heaven with our sins. Jesus said, *"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."* John 8:24 Not only will you not enter heaven with your sins, you will be subject to the wrath of God. (Luke 12:4-5; Romans 1:18-19; Romans 2:5-6; Psalm 7:10-11; Genesis 6:5-8; Hebrews 10:30-31; Revelation 6:15-17; Revelation 19:15-16; Nahum 1:2-3; Matthew 13:36-43)

When we die we do not cease to exist. Our souls live on forever...for eternity. We were created in the image of God and we have an eternal soul. We will either spend our eternity **with God** in heaven or we will spend our eternity **separated from God** and eternally tormented in Hell. The God who created you loves you and has made a way for you to be reconciled to Him. Without His "justification" you are an enemy of God. God is holy, He will not allow unrighteousness in His presence. We are inherently unrighteous...we are not holy...we need His forgiveness...we need the righteousness of God to enter His presence. Only God can forgive us, only He can give us His righteousness. He loves you...hear Him...*today*. (Isaiah 45:19-21)

We beg of you to receive the reconciliation that comes through the Cross of Christ alone. It is only by that narrow gate that you will be made right, reconciled to your Creator, and without that reconciliation you have **no hope**. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 12:4-5; Heb 10:30-31; Rev 19:15-16; 2 Thess 1:7-10; Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:22-27; Luke 6:46; Matthew 7:21-23; John 10:27; John 8:24; John 5:23; 1 John 2:22-23)

When you have come to the end of yourself, then you will believe God...

When you have come to that end, you can speak to Him in prayer something like this...

Father, I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done evil in Your sight. I know that my sins have separated me from You. I have come to see the great love that You have for me and I am truly sorry and repent for my sins and I ask for the forgiveness that is found in the Cross of Jesus Christ. I believe that Jesus died for my sins, was resurrected from the dead and is alive with You now at Your right hand. I wish to turn from my past sinful life and turn to You. I seek to submit to Jesus Christ as Lord, Savior and my only hope. Father, give me Your Holy Spirit so that I may know the truth and seek to do Your will. In Jesus' Holy Name I pray. Amen.

1. Youngblood, R. F., Bruce, F. F., Harrison, R. K., & Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1995). *Nelson's new illustrated Bible dictionary* 2. [How to Stay Christian in College](#), J. Budziszewski . 3. <http://reformed-theology.org/ice/newslet/be/be.01.79.htm>; 4. www.studythebible.com; 5. www.charitybaptist.org
6. www.donegalpresbyterianchurch.com; 7. www.s8int.com

Verses to study:

Narrow Gate:

Jesus said... Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Matthew 7:13-14

Jesus said... And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, '**I do not know you**, where you are from,' then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' But He will say, 'I tell you **I do not know you**, where you are from. **Depart from Me**, all you workers of iniquity.'" Luke 13:22-27

Jesus said... "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" Luke 6:46

Jesus said... "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, '**I never knew you; depart from Me**, you who practice lawlessness!'" Matthew 7:21-23

Jesus said... My sheep hear My voice, and **I know them**, and they follow Me. John 10:27

Jesus said... Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for **if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.** John 8:24

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me.**" John 14:6

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

Jesus said... "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. **But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**" Matt 10:32-33

Jesus said... all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. John 5:23

Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. 1 John 2:22-23

Jesus said... "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**"...Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**" John 3:3,5

Jesus said "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, **you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.**" Matthew 18:3 "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child **will by no means enter it.**" Mark 10:15

Sin:

But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. Galatians 3:22

For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin. Ecclesiastes 7:20

Sin includes...but is not limited to...lawlessness, unrighteousness, blasphemy, heresies, idolatry, unbelief, sorcery, cowardness, pride, proud looks, selfishness, ambitions, envy, jealousies, foolishness, foolish talking, coarse jesting, contentions, dissensions, sowing discord, drunkenness, revelries, hatred, outbursts of wrath, an evil eye, evil thoughts, evil desire, covetousness, wicked plans, wickedness, running to evil, extortion, theft, false witness, lying, deceit, passion, lewdness, uncleanness, filthiness, adulteries, fornications, sexual immorality, homosexuality, sodomy, shedding of innocent blood, murder.

1 John 3:4; 1 John 5:17; Romans 6:23; Romans 3:22-23; 1 John 1:8,10; James 1:13-15; Matthew 18:8-9; James 2:10; James 4:17; Proverbs 6:16-19; Mark 7:21-23; Colossians 3:5-7; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-7; Revelation 21:8

The Ten Commandments...

Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words, saying:

1. You shall have no other gods before Me
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy
5. Honor your father and your mother
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. *1 John 1:8-10*

Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"? *Prov 20:9*

Jesus said... "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, **you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.**" *Matthew 5:20*

Do you not know that **the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. *1 Corinthians 6:9-11*

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things **will not inherit the kingdom of God.** *Galatians 5:19-21*

Jesus said... The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and **will cast them into the furnace of fire.** There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear! *Matthew 13:41-43*

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. **And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.** *Revelation 20:11-15*

And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 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 21:6-8*

But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. **But there shall by no means enter** it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but **only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.** *Revelation 21:22-27*

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and **may enter through the gates** into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. Revelation 22:14-15

Atonement:

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul. Lev 17:11

Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. Heb 9:12

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. Eph 1:7

But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. Heb 10:12

...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 1 Cor 5:7

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:45

The love of God:

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall **love** the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:4-5

“Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who **love** Him and keep His commandments. Deuteronomy 7:9

I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may **love** the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days. Deuteronomy 30:19-20

We **love** Him [God] because He first **loved** us. 1 John 4:19

Jesus said...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. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. John 3:16-17

In this is **love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so **loved** us, we also ought to **love** one another. 1 John 4:7-11

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great **love** with which He **loved** us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 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 2:4-9

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:7-8

By this we know **love**, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 1 John 3:16

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the **love** of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy **He saved us**, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:3-7

...Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you **love**. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—**the salvation of your souls**. 1 Peter 1:7-9

Jesus said...“As the Father **loved** Me [Jesus], I also have **loved** you; abide in My **love**. If you keep My [Jesus] commandments, you will abide in My **love**, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His **love**.
John 15:9-10

Jesus said... “**If you love Me [Jesus], keep My commandments.** John 14:15

And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.” Exodus 34:6-7

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. Psalm 103:8-13

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and **wrath of Almighty God**. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**. Revelation 19:11-16

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