



SEEING
THE BIG
PICTURE

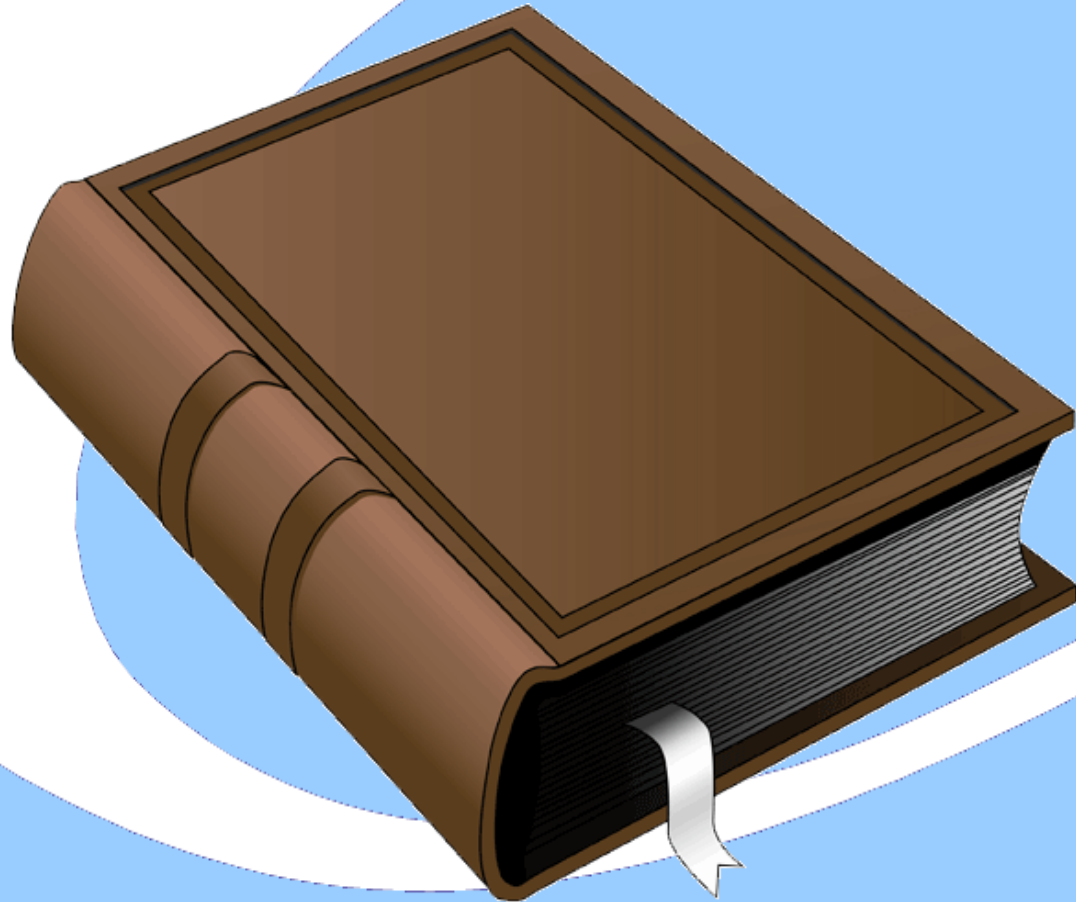
Looking at the Bible Message from Beginning to End

Point:
The Bible

An amazing truth revealed by God

THE BIBLE

**What is it
really all
about?**



An Incredible Book

THE BIBLE

Is fully unified!

It "SEEMS" that there must have been some "purpose" built into it!

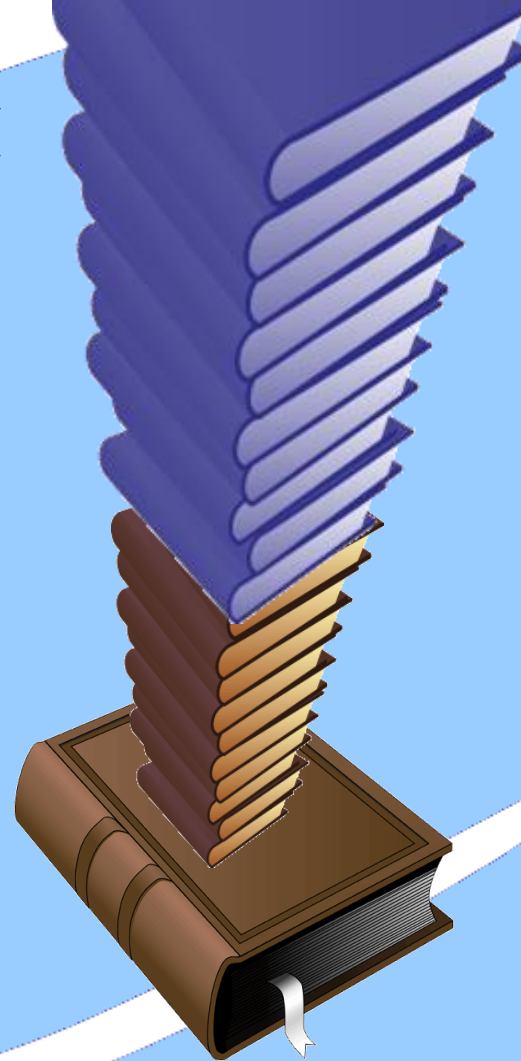
66 Books: 39 OT + 27 NT

Written over **1500** years
(1450 BC – AD 100)

40 different authors

From **3** different continents, different nations, and varying cultures

Contains **3** different languages
(Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek)



HEBREW

וְקִשְׁרָתָם לְאוֹת
עֵינִיד: וְכַתְּבָתָם

ARAMAIC

יצוה לך לשמרך בכל
דאיהו מקטרג ליה

GREEK

ΚΑΙ ΔΟΘΗΤΩΣ ΜΗΓ
ΜΑΚΑΙ ΗΛΟΙ ΠΗ
ΗΜΕΛΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΓΥΝΗ
Η ΑΝΑΡΕΣΗ ΤΩ ΒΑΣΙ
ΛΕΙ ΚΑΙ ΣΙΛΕΥΣΕΙΑΝ

THE BIBLE

Yes, a
purpose to
save man!

A spiritual
rescue
through
God's
"GOSPEL"
(...good
news).

40 Authors...

1500 Years...

66 Books...

3 Continents...

3 Languages...



1

Theme!

amazing

God's Plan Of Spiritual Rescue
Called The "GOSPEL"

Point:
The Gospel

God's good news – there is only one!

THE GOSPEL

God's plan
to bring
mankind to
Himself!



If a
powerful
God can
build the
universe,
then He
can build a
saving
gospel!

The Gospel - The Power of God - "Good News"

"I am not ashamed of
the gospel
for it is the
power of God
for salvation..."

Romans 1:16



The Gospel– A Message of Truth Which Must Be Obeyed!

THE GOSPEL

The importance of the gospel is clearly seen.



To ignore it is to remain away from God...FOR ETERNITY!

“...when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who **do not know God** and to those who **do not obey the gospel** of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power...”

THE GOSPEL

God's gospel
was
designed BY
GOD!

Changing
His map
brings a
serious
penalty!



We must
obey HIS
ONE gospel,
not another!

The Gospel: A Serious Warning... **To Christians**

"I am amazed that you are so quickly **deserting Him** who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort **the gospel of Christ**. But even if **we or an angel** from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally **condemned!**"

Galatians 1:6-12 (see also Acts 20:28)

**It is not religion that
matters, it is the GOSPEL
that matters!**



THE GOSPEL

**If this ONE
gospel is so
important,
where do
we go to
learn about
it?**



**How about
the gospel,
itself...the
Word of
God!**

How can we know what is true?

Where would we start?



GOSPEL

Point:

***God Desires Relationship
With Man***

But Man Has A Problem

***Understanding God's desire for us AND what our
sin has done to us.***

God's Eternal Plan

Ephesians 1:3-6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him

before the foundation of the world,
that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

**Love...Plans Before Creation...
And A Free Will To Choose!**

**God
Desires To
Be With
Mankind
...But We
Have A
Problem**



**God
planned for
us to live
with Him
EVEN
BEFORE HE
MADE THE
WORLD!**

**We begin
to see His
love...**

**God
Desires To
Be With
Mankind
...But We
Have A
Problem**



**GOD IS
HOLY!
(separated
from evil)**

**And, He
wants US
to be holy.**



**"Thus you are to be holy to
Me, for I the LORD am holy;
and I have set you apart from
the peoples to be Mine."**

Lev. 20:26

**God
Desires To
Be With
Mankind
...But We
Have A
Problem**

**GOD IS
HOLY!**



**But our sin
has
destroyed
our
holiness.**



**But we are
NOT holy, we
have sinned!**

***for all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God,***

Romans 3:23

**(Sin: missing the mark,
spiritual crime)**

**God
Desires To
Be With
Mankind
...But We
Have A
Problem**

**GOD IS
HOLY!**



**So, due to
the pure
nature of
God, we
must
separate
from Him!**



GOD

SIN

**The Nature Of Our Holy God
Cannot Receive Evil!**

***"You are of purer eyes than to
behold evil, and cannot look
upon wickedness."*** Hab. 1:13

**So...Sin Separates Us From
Him**

***"Your iniquities have
separated you from your God;
and your sins have hidden his
face from you."*** Isaiah 59:2

**God
Desires To
Be With
Mankind
...But We
Have A
Problem**

**Put
another
way, sin
has caused
spiritual
death!**

**Do you
want to be
spiritually
dead when
you die??**



GOD

**The perfectly HOLY
God also has perfect
JUSTICE...and
JUSTICE demands
DEATH as payment
for sin!!**

"...for the wages of sin is death"

Romans 6:23

**SPIRITUAL
DEATH**

A white skull and crossbones symbol, commonly associated with death or poison, positioned behind the text "SPIRITUAL DEATH".

**"You were dead in your trespasses and sins...
without God and without hope in the world"**

Ephesians 2:1, 13

POINT:
**God's Method To
Save Us**

Let's See How God

**FIXED OUR
PROBLEM**



**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**God has
LOVED
us and
offers us
His
GRACE!**

God's **Love** Provides a Way to Pay the Price

"...our Lord Jesus Christ
Himself, and our God and
Father, who has

LOVED

us and given us everlasting
consolation and good hope by

GRACE"

**GIVEN US
LIFE !!**

**REMOVED
DEATH !!**

2Thessalonians 2:16

MERCY

GOD'S METHOD TO SAVE US

The giving of

- BLOOD -

- LIFE -

can be given
in exchange
for a sinner.

**The Old
Testament
Presented
The Model –
Animal
Sacrifice**



“A ransom paid - the life of the sacrificial animal, specifically symbolized by its' blood, was required **in exchange for** the life of the worshipper.”

*Theological Workbook of the
Old Testament*

THROUGH
BLOOD

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

God wants
to "cover"
sin...

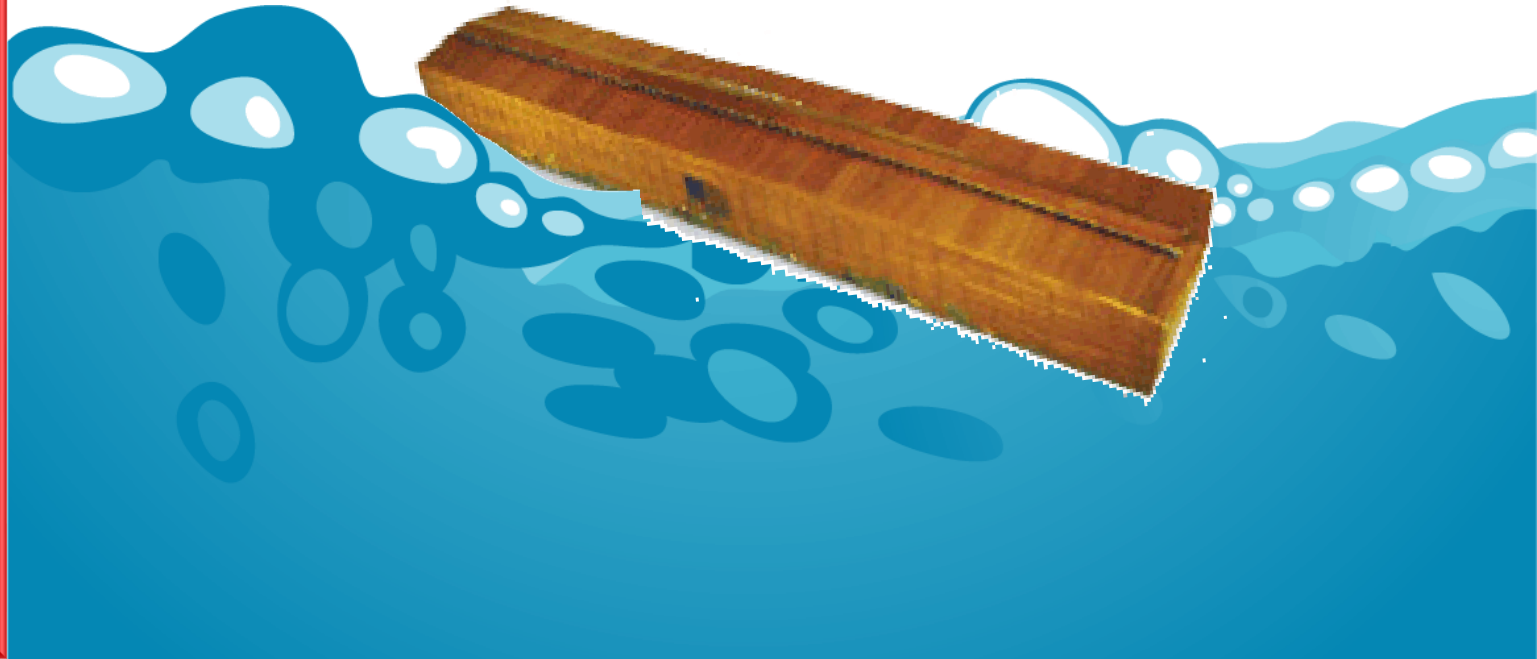


this is
called...

**ATONE-
MENT**

God's Atonement – "To Cover Over..."

Kaphar: **to cover**, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, cover over with pitch



Atonement

GOD'S METHOD TO SAVE US

According
to God's
ways, the
giving of a
life can
bring
atonement!

'For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'

Leviticus 17:11



**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**In the Old
Testament,
God
cleansed
people from
their sins
with an
atonement!**

GOD

Atonement

“...for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you;

you will be clean from all your sins

before the LORD” Leviticus 16:30



CLEAN, thus



HOLY, thus



RECONCILED

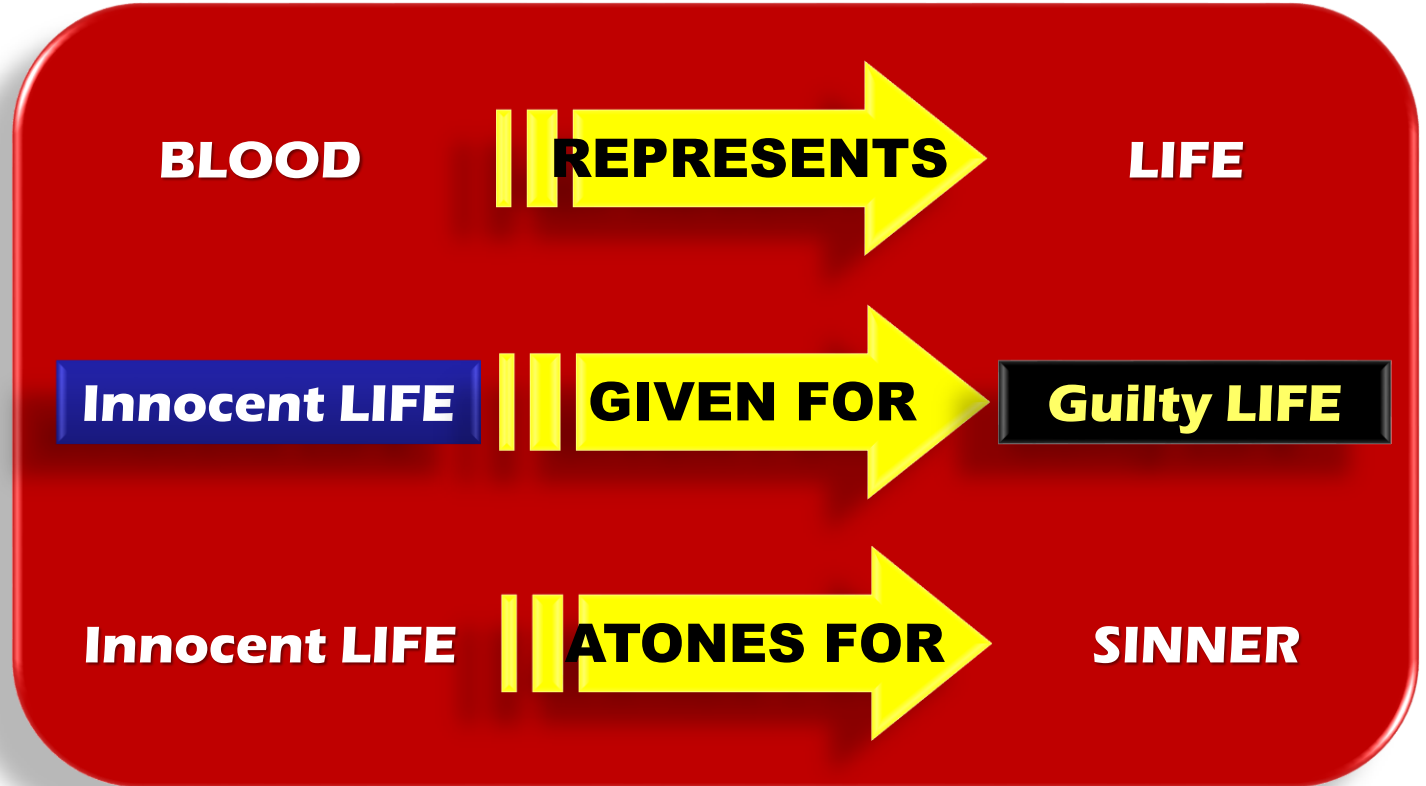


**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

In the Old Testament, God made people clean from their sins with an atonement, this was done through the giving of blood/life!

Payment Made With Blood!

Hebrews 9:22 ...without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness



Sacrifice, Justice, Holiness!

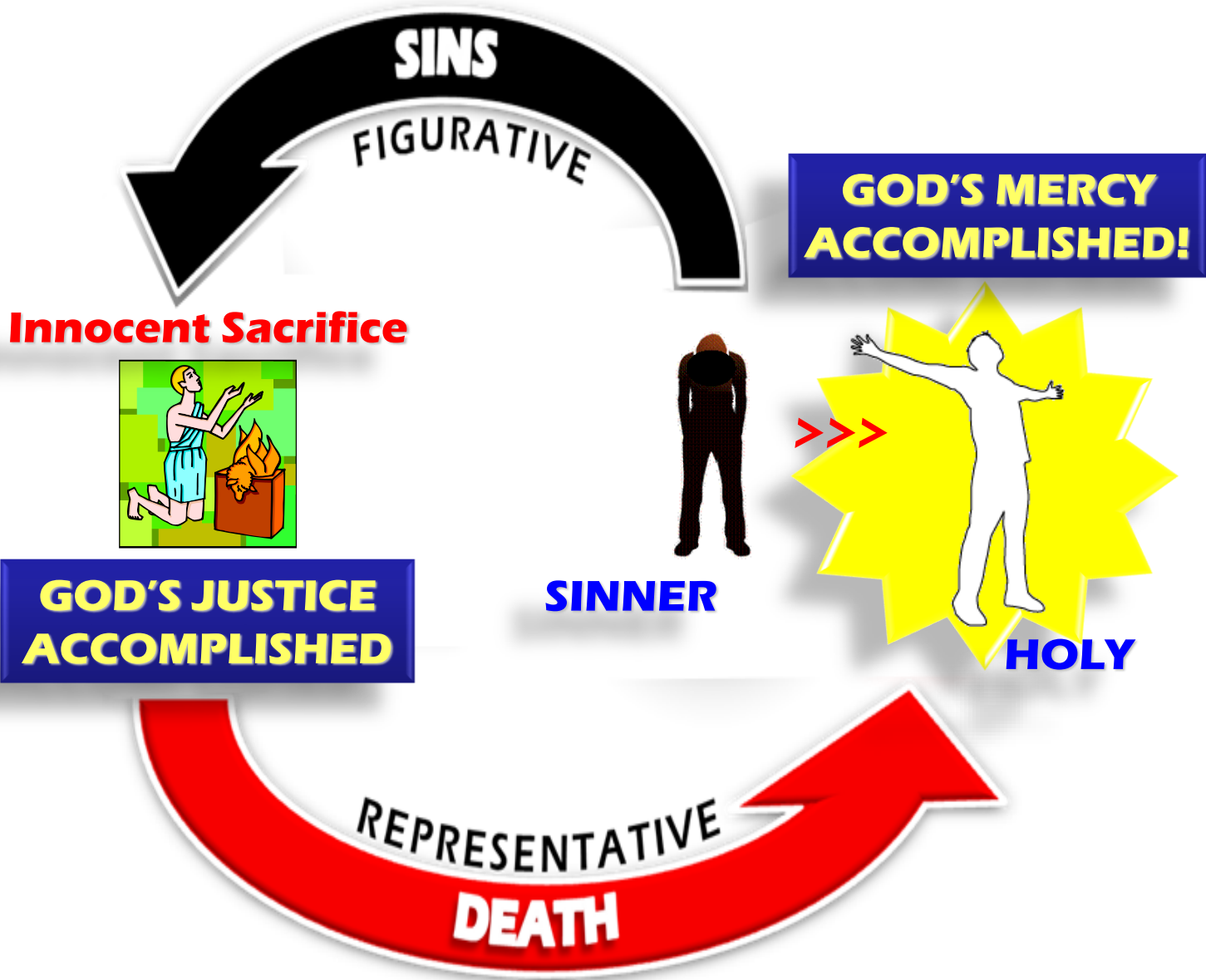
GOD'S METHOD TO SAVE US

In the Old Testament, God used animal life to represent the sinner.



This satisfied the perfect justice of God, for a life was given...

a life given for another.



**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**This
sacrifice for
another did
some very
important
things...**



**Ultimately
bringing
man to God.**



How Did People Grab Hold Of God's Cleansing?

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**What
People Did
To Be
Rescued By
God**

**They used
their**



FAITH!

*Superstition?
Ritual?
Tradition?*



FAITH!

By Faith...

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

Hebrews 11

Romans 10:17

**What
People Did
To Be
Rescued By
God**

They used
their

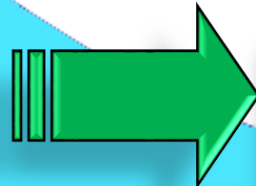


FAITH!

Full faith is
belief, trust,
and
commit-
ment.

Abel	OFFERED
Noah	PREPARED
Abraham	OBEYED
Abraham	LIVED
Sarah	CONCEIVED
Abraham	OFFERED
Isaac	BLESSED
Israelites	PASSED THROUGH
Walls of Jericho	ENCIRCLED

Genuine FAITH requires



Belief-based ACTION

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**What
People Did
To Be
Rescued By
God**

**They used
their**



FAITH!

**Full faith is
belief, trust,
and
commit-
ment.**

Genuine Faith

- Hebrews 11:6 -

But ***without faith it is impossible*** please
Him, for he who comes to God
must believe that He is, and that He is a
rewarder of those who **diligently seek
Him.**

Genuine FAITH requires



Belief-based ACTION

What is Saving Faith?

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**What
People Did
To Be
Rescued By
God**

**They used
their**



FAITH!

**Full faith is
belief, trust,
and
commit-
ment.**

**WORKS ALONE
(Obedience)**

HEBREWS 11

**BELIEF
ALONE
(Heart)**



**Belief Leading To Action
(Obedience, From the Heart)**

**“What good is it, my brothers, if a man
claims to have faith but has no deeds?
Can such faith save him?”**

James 2:14

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**

**What
People Did
To Be
Rescued By
God**

**They used
their**



FAITH!

**Full faith is
belief, trust,
and
commit-
ment.**

BELIEF ALONE?

(James 2:14-26)

(v14) *Can that type of faith save a man?*

(v17) Faith without action is dead

(v18) Faith is shown by action

(v20) Faith without action is "useless"

(v21-23) Abraham's faith was perfected by belief working *with* his actions

(v24) Justified by action, not "faith alone"

(v26) Faith without action is dead

(v19) *Devils are believers!*

THERE ARE BELIEVERS IN HELL!

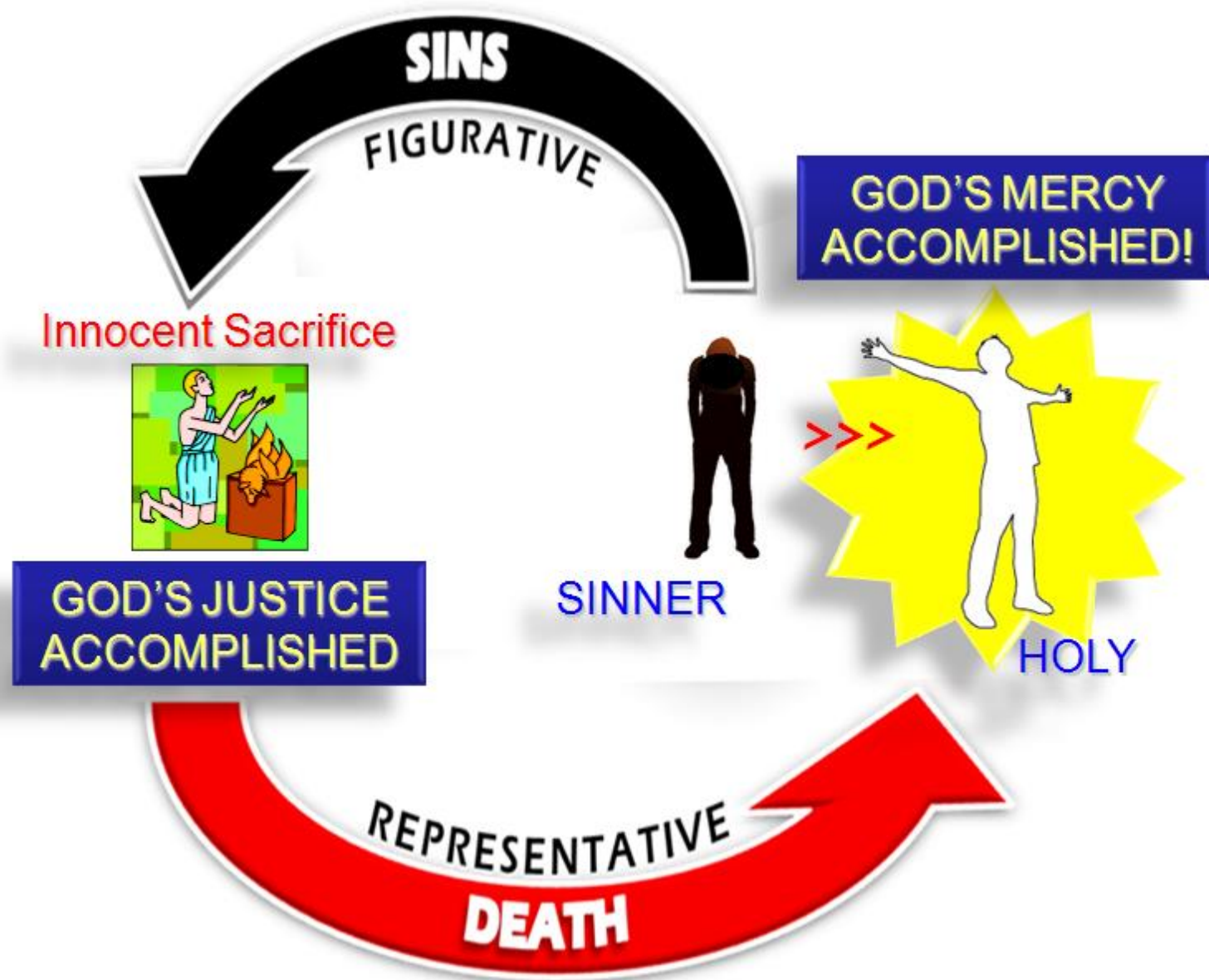
Remember The Animals??

GOD'S METHOD TO SAVE US

God's justice was satisfied in giving an animal life for the life of a human.



The result was man's holiness through God's mercy!



Remember The Animals??

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**The things
in the Old
Testament
pointed to a
greater
reality!**



**OLD TESTAMENT
A TEACHER OF
THINGS TO COME**

Galatians 3:24

*Therefore the law was our
tutor to bring us to Christ, that
we might be justified by faith.*

GOD
ACCOM

REPRESENTATIVE

DEATH

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**God used
animals to
point to
Jesus!**

**Jesus is the
Lamb who
has given
Himself for
man and his
sins.**

"Behold the

LAMB OF GOD

**that takes away
the sin of the world"**

John 1:36

No accidental death

(Hebrews 10:10; Matthew 20:28)

An innocent sacrifice (1 John 3:5)

Removes sin —

**"without the
shedding of blood
there can be no
forgiveness of sin."**

(Hebrews 9:22;
Matthew 26:28)



Death "For" Us: Justice Satisfied

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**JESUS died
for us, to...**

**solve God's
justice...**

**make us
holy...**

**and give us
God's
mercy!**

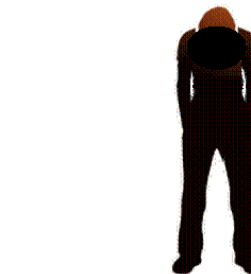


**GOD'S MERCY
ACCOMPLISHED!**

Innocent Sacrifice

A photograph of Jesus on the cross, set against a yellow background with radiating lines.

**GOD'S JUSTICE
ACCOMPLISHED**



SINNER



HOLY



*He Himself **bore our sins** in His body on the cross,
that we might **die to sin**. 1Peter 2:24*

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Isaiah
spoke long
ago of the
Lamb...**



**Isaiah 53 – 750 years
before Christ!**

4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried...

5 He was *pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;*

The *chastening for our well-being fell upon* Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

He would pay our price

6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way;

But *the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.*

He would be a sin offering

8 He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people, to *whom the stroke was due*

10 But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting Him to grief; If *He would render Himself as a guilt offering,*

11 the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As *He will bear their iniquities.*

He would bear our sins

12 He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; *Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,* And interceded for the transgressors.

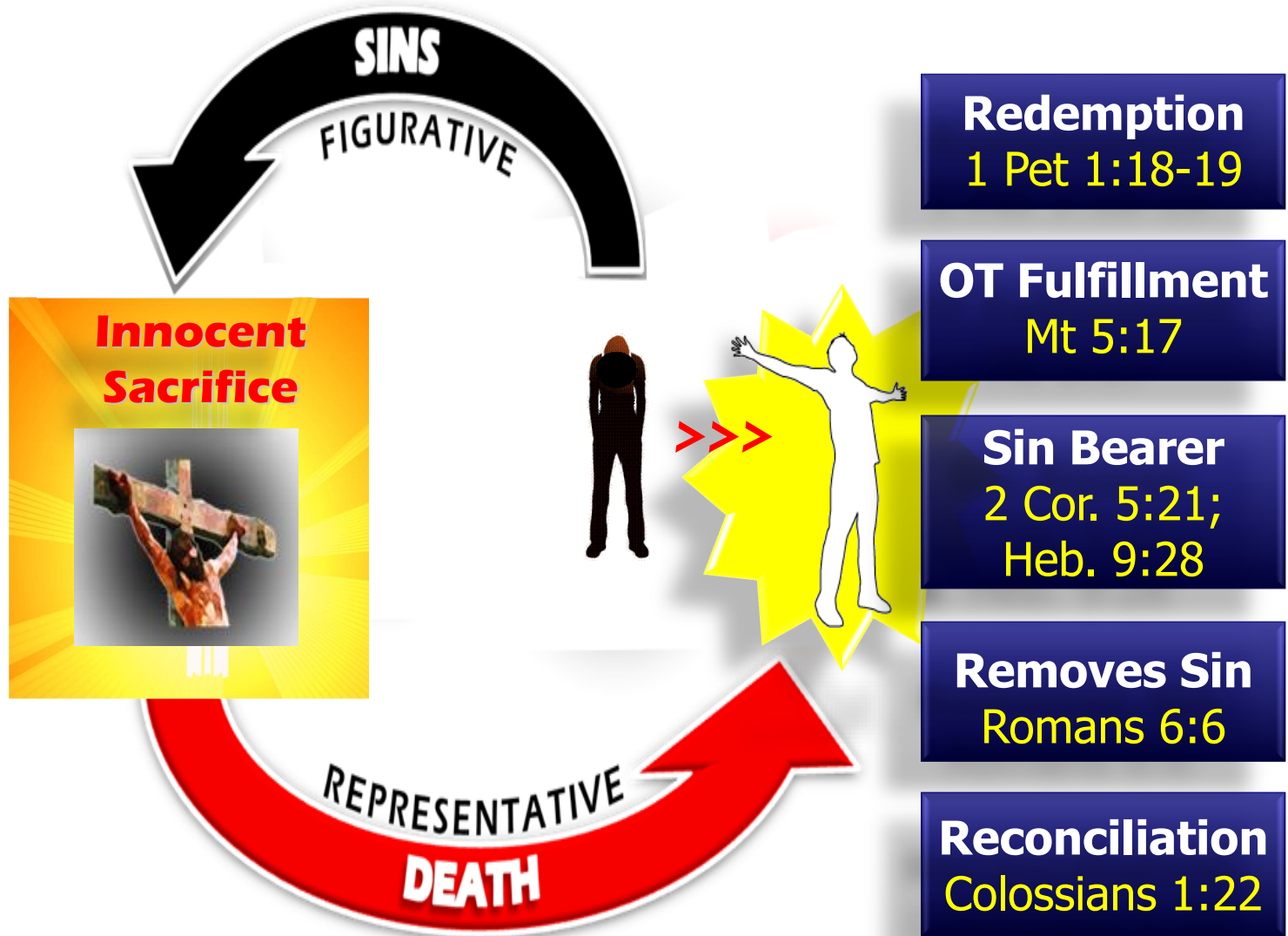


Christ's Sacrifice

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**JESUS'
sacrifice
brings these
necessary
results...**



without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness
Hebrews 9:22 ...

RESURRECTION!

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**If Jesus had
merely died,
what kind
of Savior
would he
be?**

**The power
of the
Almighty
God raised
Him from
the dead.**



**"...who [Christ],
was declared **the Son of God**
with power by the
resurrection
from the dead..."**
Romans 1:4



DEATH & BURIAL

**RESURRECTION
& APPEARANCES!**

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Christ's Sacrifice – Who Died?

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin. 1 Peter 2:24

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



We have a death to die also...death to sin.

This death is accomplished representatively through Jesus!

The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.
Romans 6:10

Innocent Sacrifice



Jesus Died literally

on the cross to pay the judicial price for **our** sin.



Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,
Romans 6:8

The Sinner Died representatively

through Jesus, thus paying **our** judicial price for sin.



Hebrews 9:22 ...without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**It was
necessary
for Jesus to
die...**

**We must
die, also...
represent-
atively.**

The Death of the Believer

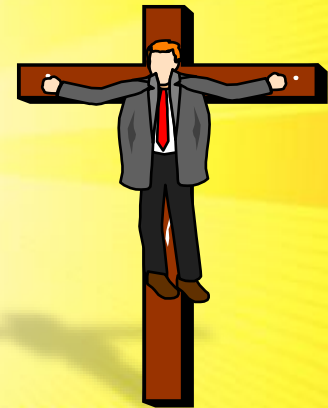
**2 Tim 2:11 "If we died *with* him,
we will also live with him"**

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified *with* Christ..."

2 Cor 5:14 "one died for all, therefore *all* died."



**Christ's death
represents the
death of the
believer!**



Hebrews 9:22 ...without the shedding of blood
there can be no forgiveness

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



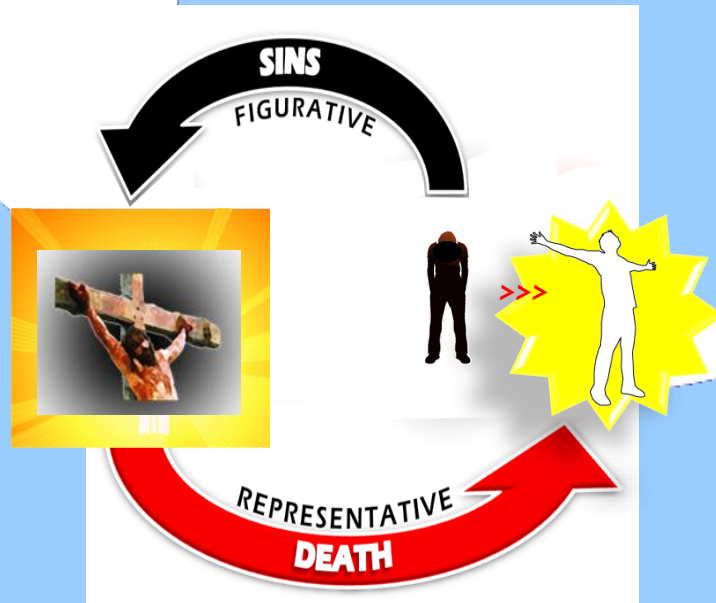
**Summarize:
Forgiveness
is only
through
Jesus'
death...**

**We must
join Him in
death in
some way!**

Our sins **can not** and **will not** be forgiven

UNLESS

We have died *with* Christ
We have been united *with* Christ in His death
We have been crucified *with* Christ
We have died *to* sin



**This is according to
the plan of
redemption for
*“without the
shedding of blood
there is no
forgiveness of sins.”***

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**If I must die
with
Jesus...**

**When and
how do I do
it?**

The fundamental question of the gospel is:

When?

**Or
How?**

At what point in my faith . . .

do I die *to* sin ?

do I die *with* Christ ?

When does God view me as . . .

uniting *with* Christ in *his* death?

crucified *with* Christ ?

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Romans 6
gives us the
answer...**

We must have a Bible answer to our questions!

ROMANS 6



**“What shall we say, then?
Shall we go on sinning so
that grace may increase?
By no means!**

We died to sin.

**How can we live in it any
longer? V 1-2**



“We died to sin.” How?/When?

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



verse 3
informs us
of a baptism
(immersion)
into Christ
and His
death.



ROMANS 6

v3 Or don't you know

that all of us who have been



**baptized
into Christ
Jesus**

have been

**baptized
into His
DEATH?**

INTO CHRIST

INTO HIS DEATH



**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Romans 6
and dying
with Jesus
in baptism.**

ROMANS 6

v2, 11 *We died to sin.*

v3 *Baptized into Christ,
Baptized into His death.*

v4 *Buried with him through baptism
Into death. Receive a new life.*

v5 *United with His death.*

v6 *Crucified with Him.
Sin done away with.*

v7 *Died and freed from sin*

v8 *Died with Christ.*

v12 *Therefore stop sinning.*

v17 *You became obedient from
the heart.*

v22 *The result - sanctification.*

v23 *We accepted the free gift of God.*



**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



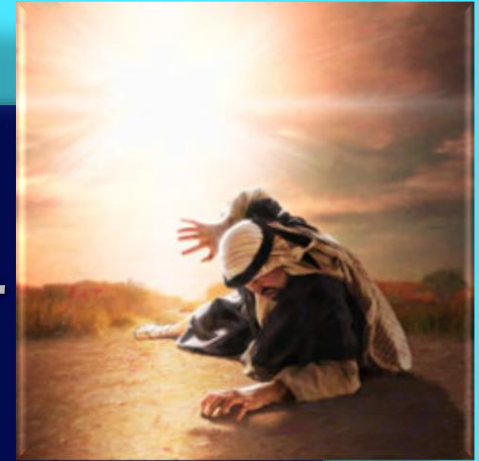
**Testing
Romans 6
with Paul's
conversion:**

**Paul's belief
and
repentance
is clear!**

**But was
that
enough???**

Paul - A God fearing man.
When was Paul Saved? (Acts 9:1-18)

- **Believed -**
"What shall I do,..."
- **Confessed higher power -**
"What shall I do, Lord?"
- **Gave initial response -**
"Get up and go into Damascus"
- **Fasted -**
"three days... and neither ate nor drank"
- **Prayed -**
"for he is praying"



Repentance
PLUS...

Healed-
Miraculous healing of his blindness

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Testing
Romans 6
with Paul's
conversion:**

**He needed
his sins
washed
away in a
death with
Jesus...in
baptism!**

Paul's Conversion

After Repenting for 3 Days

After all of these *acts of repentance* and *a miraculous healing...*

Paul was commanded:

Now why do you delay? **Get up and**

be baptized, and wash away your sins,

calling on His name.'

Acts 22:16

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Romans 6 is
illustrated
in early
church
history.**

Historical Reference Of Early Church Teaching and Practice

Barnabas* (70 ad)

**"Blessed are they who, placing their trust
in the cross, have gone down in the
water...We indeed descend into the water
full of sins and defilement. However, we
come up, bearing fruit in our heart, having
the fear of God and the trust of Jesus in
our spirit."**

**The Epistle of Barnabas, Chapter 11,
Roberts-Donaldson**

* This epistle, while most likely not written by the well-known Barnabas of the New Testament, reflects an accurate picture of the universal early Christian belief, teaching, and practice regarding the role of baptism..

**GOD'S
METHOD TO
SAVE US**



**Romans 6 is
seen in
Jesus'
command
for His
disciples to
preach to
the world...**

**BELIEF
leading to
BAPTISM.**

An Urgent and Important Command

THE GREAT COMMISSION

**"Go into all the world and
preach the gospel to all creation.**

**He who believes and is baptized
shall be saved;**

**but he who has not believed
shall be condemned."**

Mark 16:15-16



Back To The Big Picture



Jesus Christ is the lamb of God and Savior for all of mankind!



“For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.” (Hebrews 10:14)

The Eternal Plan

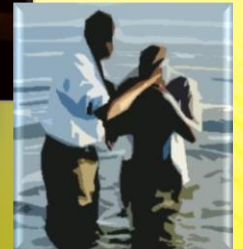
**God's
Eternal Plan**



**Jesus gave
Himself for
us...a gift
from God
for all.**

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, **an offering and a sacrifice to God** as a fragrant aroma.” (Ephesians 5:1-2).

Do you want to die with Christ?



**Do You
Want To Die
With Jesus?**



**Apostles
TAUGHT
death with
Jesus in
baptism.**



What the Apostles Taught About Baptism:

Gal. 3:22-27 Justified by faith...
How/When?

Col. 2:1-12 Raised up with Christ...
How/When? Through what?

1 Pet. 3:21 saved...
How?

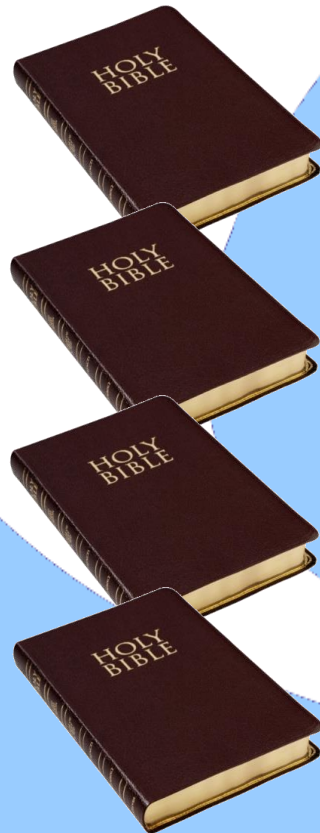
Eph. 5:25-27 Church is sanctified...
How/When?

Eph. 4:3-6 Why baptism on this list?
How many baptisms are there?

**Do You
Want To Die
With Jesus?**



**Apostles
PRACTICED
death with
Jesus in
baptism.**



What the Apostles Actually Practiced:

The power of actual historical examples

Acts 2:36-37: Early Jews
What should we do?

Acts 8:35-39: Ethiopian
Preaching the gospel of Jesus

Acts 8:5-13: Simon
Preaching Christ in Samaria

Acts 9 & 22: Saul
The conversion of Saul

Do you want to die with Christ?

