Exploring the Christian Gospel
PART ONE

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### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Who Is God?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Human Problem</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Who Is Jesus Christ?</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Why Did Jesus Christ Die?</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. What Is Sin?</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. All Will Not Go To Heaven</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Your Move Next</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. How Can I Be Sure of Salvation?</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Who Is God?

Sooner or later everyone is compelled to think about God

**God is a Spirit**


Unchangeable in His -Being, Wisdom, Power, Justice, Goodness and Truth.

God is the Creator, Maker of heaven and earth.

**How do we know there is a God?**

God has revealed Himself

**In Creation.**

Romans 1. 19 - 20

**In Conscience.**

The mechanism placed in you by God that approves or condemns

**In Christ.**

He came into the world to reveal God whom no man has seen John 1. 18.
The Bible Revelation of God

He Is:

Unique Isaiah 46. 9
Creator Isaiah 40. 28.
Judge Genesis 18. 25.
Sovereign Daniel 4. 37
Holy Isaiah 6. 3; 1 John. 1.5
Righteous Psalm 145. 17.
Good Mark 10. 18.

GOD IS DIFFERENT
The perfections of God show Him to be utterly different from His creatures, and elevated far above them.

God Is:
Boundless in His Love.
Limitless in the Power He wields.
Infinite in Wisdom, and Understanding.
Unquenchable in His Zeal for righteousness.
Absolutely and Essentially Holy
2. Is There a Human Problem

The Fact of Sin

1. SIN IS UNIVERSAL
   ‘There is no man that sins not’
   1 Kings 8. 46
   ‘All have sinned’
   Romans 3.23

2. SIN IS SLAVERY
   ‘Whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin’
   John 8. 34

3. SIN SEPARATES
   ‘Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, your sins have hid His face from you’
   Isaiah 59. 2

4. SIN HAS RESULTS

WRATH
   ‘The wrath of God is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men’
   Romans 1. 18

DEATH
   ‘The wages of sin is death’
   Romans 6. 23
IT WASN’T ALWAYS LIKE THAT

MAN

WAS CREATED IN GOD’S IMAGE
Genesis 1. 27

MADE A LIVING SOUL
Genesis 2. 7.
1 Corinthians 15. 45

RECEIVED A SPIRITUAL NATURE
Genesis 2. 7
Ecclesiastes 12. 7

WAS MADE LORD OVER GOD’S CREATION.
Genesis 1. 28.
Psalm 8. 4 - 9.

Before Adam’s fall into sin
God intended man
to live in a perfect
environment
in fellowship with his Creator
5. How Can I Be Sure Of Salvation?

**ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**
COMES BY BELIEVING THE FOLLOWING FACTS

**Christ’s Sacrifice on the Cross**

1. Justifies you (ie makes you right with God, acquitting you of all guilt. Romans 3. 24-26. 5. 9.

2. Reconciles you (ie) You have peace with God. Romans 5. 1, 10.

3. Sanctifies you (ie0 You are set apart to God. Hebrews 13. 12.

**Words of God - Assures You.**

‘Him that comes to Me I will in no wise cast out’. John 6. 37.

‘As many as received Him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God, to them that believe on His name’ John 1. 12

**The Witness of the Holy Spirit.**

His presence in the Christian confirms such are children of God. Romans 8. 9, 16.

**The Holy Spirit is the Seal of Ownership**

He is (1) God’s mark that you belong to Him. (2) The Promise of Future Blessing. Ephesians 1. 13-14.

1 Peter 1. 4.

2 Corinthians 1. 22.

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### 16 Why Did Jesus Christ Die?

**The Moment of Truth**

Man Disobeyed God

*Genesis 3. 9 - 17.*

The Result:

1. Man became a fallen creature, separated from God

   *Genesis 3. 24.*

2. All mankind inherited a sinful nature from birth

   Romans 5. 12.

3. The wrath of God rests upon all sinful men and women

   John 3. 36.

**Facing the Facts.**

**SIN IS EVERYWHERE**

You see it around you - in drug abuse, murder, theft, drunkenness, sexual promiscuity.

You hear it around you - in profanity and dirty jokes.

You find it in you - in your thought-life and habits.

‘All have sinned’ without exception

Romans 3. 23.
3. Who Is Jesus Christ?

INTRODUCTION

JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD
John 1. 18; 9. 35 - 38.
Galatians 2. 20

The Bible States - Jesus is the 'only begotten Son of God'
John 1. 18

God Confirmed He was His Son at His Baptism ‘Thou art My beloved Son’
Mark 1. 11.

Peter Confessed -‘Thou art the Son of the Living God’
Matthew 16. 16

JESUS CLAIMED

1. Eternal Existance John 1.1
‘Before Abraham was I am’
John 8. 58

2. Equality with God
‘I and My Father are one’
John 10. 30
John 5. 17 - 27

YOUR MOVE NEXT

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE IS TO BE SAVED.

THE QUESTION
What must I do to be saved?
Acts 16. 30

THE ANSWER
Repent and Believe the gospel
Mark 1. 15.

WHAT IS MEANT BY REPENT AND BELIEVE?

1. To Repent is a - Complete change of mind regarding sin. A deep seated realisation that you are a sinner, a rebel against a holy God.

2. To Believe is to -
   (a) Abandon all thoughts of saving yourself by personal merit.
   (b) Put your trust in Christ, and to rely on Him who shed His blood to pay the price of your sins making salvation available for you.

IF YOU THINK IT COSTS TOO MUCH TO BE A CHRISTIAN
REFLECT ON WHAT IT COSTS NOT TO BE A CHRISTIAN!

’If heaven went by merit. You would stay out and your dog would go in’.  
MARK TWAIN
**THE WORD (JESUS) WAS GOD John 1. 1**

**He Possessed Essential Attributes of Deity**

**HE WAS OMNISCIENT**

Jesus ‘Knew’ all men John 2. 24

**HE WAS OMNIPOTENT**

I.E. ALMIGHTY

Jesus had power over:

- Demons
- Disease
- Death

Mark chapter 5

**JESUS WAS A REAL MAN**

John 1. 14. Philippians 2. 5 - 8

He knew
- hunger Matthew 4. 2.
- temptation. Mark 1. 13.
- tiredness John 4. 6.
- tears John 11. 35.

He loved.
- John 11. 5; 13. 1
grieved. Mark 3. 5.
sighed. Mark 8. 12.

**ALL WILL NOT GO TO HEAVEN**

Not all scores are evened in this life.

- Crimes go unsolved
- Debts go unpaid
- Wrongs go unrighted

*You sow - You reap*

**EVERYONE MUST STAND BEFORE GOD**

‘After death the judgement’

Hebrews 9. 27.

Nothing will escape God’s scrutiny

Every idle word, random act, thought and motive of the heart will be exposed.

After Judgement - The lake of fire

Revelation 20. 11-15; 21. 8.

**ISSUE: WAS JESUS CHRIST GOD AND MAN? Did He have a real human body, soul, spirit?**

**14 Why Did Jesus Christ Die?**

There cannot be only one eternal state and place for Mary and for Judas The penitent thief and the impenitent

Saintly men and women and wilful evil doers

**7 Who Is Jesus Christ?**
WHAT JESUS SAID

I AM

The Bread of Life
John 6. 35

The Light of the World
John 8. 12

The Resurrection and Life
John 11. 25-26

WHAT JESUS DID

HE WORKED MIRACLES
Luke 11. 20

Healed the sick
Gave sight to the blind
Made the lame to walk
Cleansed the leper
Raised the dead

HE FORGAVE SINS.

To a man - Jesus said:
‘Son your sins are forgiven you’ Mark 2. 5.

To a woman:
‘your sins which are many are forgiven’

SIN
BROUGHT THE LORD JESUS FROM HEAVEN TO THE CROSS

God laid on Him (Jesus) all our iniquities Isaiah 53. 6.

Jesus Christ paid in full the punishment of man’s sins
2 Corinthians 5. 21.

Jesus Christ bore the penalty of a broken law. Galatians 3. 13.

ON THE CROSS THE LORD JESUS MET THE DEMANDS OF DIVINE JUSTICE.

Jesus Christ the Creator died for His creatures
Colossians 1. 16 - 22.

The Sinless Son of God died for sinful men and women
2 Corinthians 5. 21.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd died for the lost sheep John 10. 11.
**WHAT IS SIN?**

**SIN IS LAWLESSNESS**  
1 John 3. 4  
Rebellion against a Holy God.

**SIN IS SEPARATION**  
Isaiah 59. 2.  
A yawning chasm exists between man and God.

**SIN IS DEATH**  
Ephesians 2. 1.  
Both physical and spiritual death is the result of sin.

**SIN RESULTS IN WRATH**  
John 3. 36.  
All men and women are under the wrath of God.

God warns of Judgement and wrath  
Romans 1. 18; 2. 2 - 6.

Jesus spoke often of hell  
Mark 9. 43, 45, 47;  
Luke 12. 5; 16. 22 - 31

God’s displeasure is shown in His wrath and judgement against sin.  
**SIN IS AN AFFRON'T TO GOD’S HOLINESS.**

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**HE DIED ON THE CROSS**

His death was real  
John 19. 17, 18, 30  
His death was voluntary  
John 10. 17, 18.  
His death was sacrificial  
Hebrews 10. 12.

**HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD**

‘He is not here: He is risen’  
Matthew 28. 6

**Evidence for Resurrection**

The empty tomb  
John 20 5 - 8  
The nail prints seen by Thomas  
John 20. 27.  
The women to whom Jesus appeared  
The 500 witnesses who saw the Lord at one and the same time  
1 Corinthians 15. 6.

**RESULTS FROM CHRIST’S RESURRECTION.**

The Holy Spirit sent into the world  
Men and women were saved.  
The Church had its beginning.  
Acts 2. 1 - 12, 36 - 47

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**God’s judgement is a present reality and a future certainty**  
John 3. 18, 19  
Romans 2. 1 - 6.
4. Why Did Jesus Christ Die?

**God’s Holiness Required It.**

God is Holy.

In His holiness He cannot look on sin, neither will He overlook sin.

Habakkuk 1. 13.

God regards man’s sin as an affront to His holiness.

**God’s Justice Demanded It.**

God is Righteous.

To maintain His righteous character Sin must be punished.

Romans 2. 11, 12, 16.

**God’s Love Was Proved by It.**

God is Love.

‘God loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins’

1 John 4. 8 - 16.

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10 Why Did Jesus Christ Die?

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11 Why Did Jesus Christ Die?

**On the Cross**

Jesus Christ was ‘made sin for us’

‘He who knew no sin was made sin for us’. Christ bore God’s righteous judgement against sin.

2 Corinthians 5. 21.

**Because of the Cross**

God can be ‘Just (righteous) and the Justifier of him that believes in Jesus’.


**The Cross of Christ is God’s Provision to Remove Our**

Sin

John 1. 29.

Guilt

Romans 5. 9

Enmity

Colossians 1. 21, 22

Distance

Ephesians 2. 13

What do you think about the holiness of God and the necessity of Christ’s death to satisfy its claims?