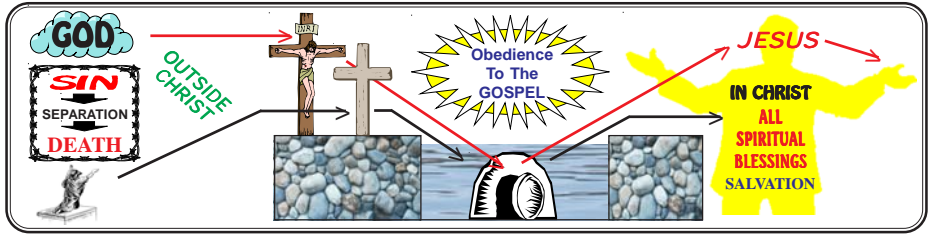


# OBEDIENCE TO GOOD NEWS



## OUR ORIGINS & SPIRITUAL CONDITION

### All Men Were Created

**1. Genesis 1:1,26,27:** God is the **CREATOR** of man and all things. There is only **ONE** God who is three in being: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **READ: Isaiah 40:21-31; Romans 1:18-32**



Because God is the Creator of man, He has the right to require worship and obedience from all men in response to His love. **READ: Micah 6:8; John 4:23,24; 1 John 5:2**

### All Men Have Sinned

**2. Romans 3:9,10,23:** All men have sinned against God. If one says that he has not sinned, then God says he is a liar. Because of our voluntary and individual sin against God, we live in a state of separation from God, and thus, condemned in sin. **READ: 1 John 1:8-10**



### Definition Of Our Spiritual Condemnation In Sin

**3. 1 John 3:4: SIN BY TRANSGRESSION:** Sin is not doing what God has commanded us to do in His word. Sin is also doing what God has told us not to do. Each person is personally accountable before God for his own sin. **READ: Ezekiel 18:4,20-24; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 John 1:5-10**

**4. James 4:17: SIN BY NEGLIGENCE:** Sin is not doing what one knows to be defined as a biblical principle of good. **READ: Matthew 25:41-46; Galatians 6:10**

### All Men Are Spiritually Dead In Sin

**5. Isaiah 59:1,2: SEPARATION** from God is the result of sin in our lives. In a state of being separated from our Creator, we must seek reconciliation with God in order to be saved. **READ: Isaiah 1:15,16; Romans 5:10; 2 Corinthians 5:19**



**6. Romans 6:23: DEATH** is the result of being separated from God because of sin. In sin, all men are in a state of condemnation before God. **READ: Romans 8:1; Galatians 3:22**

### SPIRITUAL DEATH

**7. Romans 5:12: Spiritual death** is separation from God because of sin. Spiritual death was introduced into the world by Adam because he was the first man to sin. Adam personally suffered the guilt of spiritual death for his own sin because he ate of the forbidden fruit. All men suffer the result of their own sin because all men personally sin. **READ: Romans 3:9,10,23; Ephesians 2:1-3,12; James 1:14,15**

### PHYSICAL DEATH

**8. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22: Physical death** was introduced into the world when Adam and Eve were the first to sin personally by eating of the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, and subsequently, being driven from the Tree of Life. The consequence of Adam's separation from the Tree of Life was that all humanity was separated from this source of eternal life. Because all men have been separated from the Tree of Life, all men must physically die. **READ: Genesis 3:22-24; Hebrews 9:27**

## THE OFFER OF GOD'S GRACE

**9. Titus 2:11:** The grace of God was revealed to all men through the sacrificial offering of the incarnate Son of God on the cross of Calvary. **READ: John 1:1,2,14-17; 3:16; Ephesians 2:4-10**

**10. Galatians 2:16:** Since it is not possible that any person can live without sinning, out of His grace God sent Jesus Christ as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Since it is not possible to atone for our sins with good works, Jesus had to make atonement for us on the cross of Calvary. **READ: Romans 3:20-31; 5:6-11**



### All Men Are Offered The Grace Of God

**11. Colossians 1:18:** Jesus, the Son of God, is now reigning from heaven as the **HEAD** of His **BODY**, the **CHURCH**. He is the center of reference and controlling King of His kingdom. **READ: Matthew 7:21-23; John 12:48; Ephesians 1:19-23; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Timothy 6:15; Hebrews 8:1**



**12. Ephesians 1:3:** Since no one can be saved without God's grace, all men must individually respond with obedient faith to the gospel (good news) in order to come **INTO CHRIST**. All those who respond by obedience to the gospel will receive all **SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**, and thus salvation in Christ. **READ: Mark 16:15,16; Romans 6:3-6; Ephesians 2:1-10; 2 Peter 3:9**

**13. Ephesians 1:7: REDEMPTION** from the bondage of sin by the **BLOOD** of Jesus is enjoyed by those who are **IN CHRIST**. **READ: Romans 3:24,25; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Hebrews 9:12-15**

**14. Colossians 1:13,14: FORGIVENESS** of all our past sins, and the continual cleansing of sin in this life are **IN CHRIST**. **READ: Acts 5:31; 13:38; Colossians 2:13; 1 John 1:7-9**

**15. Romans 8:1:** Those who are **IN CHRIST** are in a relationship with God where there is **NO CONDEMNATION** because of the cleansing blood of Jesus. **READ: John 5:24; 1 John 3:14**

**16. 2 Corinthians 5:17:** Because one is washed in the blood of Jesus, he is a **NEW CREATURE**, in fellowship with those baptized **INTO CHRIST**. **READ: Romans 6:6; Ephesians 4:17-24**

**17. 1 John 5:11: ETERNAL LIFE** is given to all new creatures who are **IN CHRIST**. **READ: Matthew 25:31-46; John 10:27,28**

**18. 2 Timothy 2:10:** As a result of having all **SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS** that are **IN CHRIST**, one has eternal salvation in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. **READ: Ephesians 1:9-13**

Since all **SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS** are for those who are **IN CHRIST**, then there are no spiritual blessings for those who are **OUTSIDE CHRIST**. Therefore, all men must come into Christ where they are washed of their sins and have all spiritual blessing. In order to understand what God requires of our faith in response to His grace, we must consult His word for instructions. **READ: John 6:45; 8:31; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; 1 Peter 1:22-25**

19. **Mark 1:14,15:** God wants all people to believe in Jesus as His Son who was revealed for the salvation of all. **READ: Acts 2:22-36; John 8:24; 20:30,31; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 11:6**

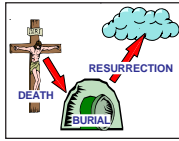
20. **2 Thessalonians 1:6-9:** Jesus is coming again! He will cast us into destruction from the presence of God all who have not **OBEYED THE GOSPEL** (the good news). **READ: Acts 17:30,31; 1 Peter 4:17**



**Therefore,  
WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?  
HOW CAN ONE OBEY THE GOSPEL?**

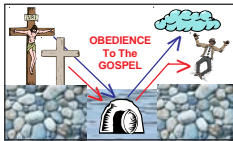
**The Gospel**

21. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Verses 1,2:** The **GOSPEL** is the historical event of Jesus' atoning sacrifice that was first **PREACHED** and **RECEIVED** by people on the day of Pentecost in A.D. 30. In obedience to this first announcement of the revealed grace of God, people were saved when they obediently responded. **Verses 3,4:** The gospel is the atoning **DEATH** of the Son of God on the cross for our sins. It is His **BURIAL** and **RESURRECTION** to give us hope that we, in obedience to the gospel, will also be resurrected when Jesus comes again. Jesus was resurrected and ascended to the right hand of God to be our **MEDIATOR, HIGH PRIEST** and **KING**. **READ: Ephesians 1:20-23; Colossians 3:1; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 8:1**



**Obedience To The Gospel**

22. **Romans 6:3-6; Verse 3:** In order to come into a saving relationship with God in Christ, one must be baptized in obedience to the gospel. **Verses 4,5:** Since Jesus was crucified for us, we must be buried in a tomb of water in order to contact the cleansing blood of Jesus. We are then raised with Him to walk in the light as He is in the light. **Verse 6:** Before Jesus went to the tomb, He went to the cross. Before we go to the water, we must go to the cross with Him. One is thus crucified with Him as a penitent believer who will be raised with Him in newness of life. **READ: Romans 6:7-23; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3:1-4; RESEARCH: Acts 2:41-47; 8:5-17; 8:30-39; 9:17,18; 10:34-48; 16:13-15; 16:25-34; 18:8; 19:5; 22:16; STUDY: Repentance: Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 2 Peter 3:9; Confession: Matthew 10:32,33; Romans 10:9,10; 1 Timothy 6:12; Baptism: Matthew 3:13-17; 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16; John 1:1-5; 1 Peter 3:21**



**Cost Of Obedience To The Gospel**

23. **Luke 14:25-35:** Being a disciple of Jesus means living the example of Jesus for others. Before making a commitment to live the crucified life, one must consider seriously the sacrifices he must make to walk in the new and living way. **READ: Matthew 10:34-39; John 13:1-17; Philippians 3:7-14**

**All The Obedient Are Added To The Church**

24. **Matthew 16:18,19:** During His ministry Jesus prophesied He would build His church of obedient disciples on the fact that He was the Christ and Son of God. **READ: John 14:15; 15:13**

25. **Acts 2:36-47:** Thousands obeyed the gospel on the day of Pentecost when the kingdom reign of Jesus was first announced in A.D.30. God added to the fellowship of His people those who obeyed the gospel by immersion into Christ. The church of Christ began when penitent believers were added to the church of God's people by God after they were immersed for remission of their sins. **READ: Acts 5:14; Galatians 3:26-29**

**IDENTITY**

26. **Romans 16:16:** There is no specific name given to the fellowship of God's people. Christians are blessed by God with unity because of their common obedience to the gospel. They are one universal fellowship as the church of Christ. **READ: Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 12:12-31; Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:19; 4:11-16; 1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 5:2,3**

**MEMBERS**

27. **1 Corinthians 12:12:** Those who are added by God to the one body of Christ are identified with phrases that explain who and what they are in their covenant relationship with God. **READ: Acts 11:26; Romans 1:7; 8:16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Ephesians 1:1; 5:8; Galatians 3:26-29; 1 Peter 2:5,9,17; 4:16**

**WORSHIP**

28. **John 4:21-24:** In contrast to traditional religionists who seek to worship God according to their own desires, Christians worship God according to the instructions of His word. **READ: Mark 7:1-9; Acts 17:23-31; Romans 10:2,3; Colossians 2:23**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

29. **Romans 12:1,2:** In giving their lives daily as a sacrifice in service to God, Christians sing spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16), pray in thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:17), give to others (Galatians 6:10), assemble together (Hebrews 10:24,25; 1 Corinthians 16:19), and fellowship with one another around the **Supper of the Lord** (Matthew 26:26-29; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:17-23). **READ: 1 Corinthians 10:31; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 4:15; Colossians 3:17**

**MINISTRY**

30. **Mark 10:42-45:** Christians are servants to one another and their communities. As servants to others, they seek to be the spirit of Jesus Christ wherever they live. Some are **evangelists** who preach the gospel to the lost (2 Timothy 4:2,5). Some are **shepherds** who care specifically for the flock of God (Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9; 1 Peter 5:2,3). Some are in **special ministries of service** (Acts 6:1-7; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-12). All are servants to everyone (Galatians 6:10; James 1:27). **READ: Luke 22:24-30; John 13:1-17; 1 Corinthians 16:15,16**

**MISSION**

31. **Matthew 28:19,20:** Every disciple has a mission to proclaim the good news to the world, for only through faith and obedience to the gospel of Jesus can people be saved. **READ: Mark 16:15,16; Acts 5:42; 4:12,20; 8:4; 2 Timothy 4:1,2**

**GREATEST HOPE**

32. **Revelation 14:13:** Christians work out their salvation that they have by the grace of God, for they know that they were saved by grace through faith, not by meritorious obedience. **READ: 1 Corinthians 3:8,14; Ephesians 2:4-10; Philippians 2:12,13; Colossians 2:18; 3:23,24; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

**WORST FEAR**

33. **Matthew 25:41:** Christians minister to others because Jesus ministered to them in delivering them from the bondage of sin. The grace by which they were delivered from the condemnation to come causes them to serve and preach the gospel. **READ: Matthew 7:15-23; 24:31-41; 2 Corinthians 4:15; 1 John 4:19**

**INVITATION OF JESUS**

34. **Matthew 11:28-30:** Jesus offers the opportunity to every person to come unto Him for the redemption that He offered on the cross. God is not willing that any person should perish, and thus He seeks to bring people into His eternal presence through their obedient response to the sacrificial offering of His Son on the cross. **READ: John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 3:20**