

*God answers questions  
about Himself,  
His Creation  
and His Created*

What Was, What Is & What Is To Come

by Olive Borland

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It is my prayer that all who read this booklet will like me have their hearts thrilled by the amazing truth of God's Precious Word and give thanks and praise for the loving sacrifice of our wonderful Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I was amazed when the thoughts in this little booklet tumbled into my mind within a couple of days. It was as if God was showing me that He could tell us in a few words all we needed to know about who He is: about ourselves: about our position before Him and what we need to do in order to receive the sure and certain hope of eternal life.

While it is not advisable to take scripture quotations out of context, I believe God has packed the truth of the good news He wants to share with us into a few verses throughout His infallible Word, the Bible, yet we need to keep in mind what is said in 2 Timothy 3:16&17. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

It is my prayer that you will know God's blessing and leading as you read this little booklet and go on to search and study God's Word for yourself.

Olive Borland

*Scripture quotations are taken from the New International Version.*

# How did this world come into being?

## Creation:

Genesis 1: 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. v2. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

v3. And God said, “Let there be light”, and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. v5. God called the light “day” and the darkness he called “night”. And there was evening and morning – the first day.

v6. And God said “Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.” v7. So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. v8. God called the expanse sky. And there was evening and there was morning - the second day.

v9. And God said “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry land appear,” And it was so. v10. God called the dry ground “land” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. v11. Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their kinds.” And it was so. v12. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

v13. And there was evening and morning – the third day.

v14. And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark the seasons and days and years, v15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. v16. God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. v17. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, v18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.

v19. And there was evening and there was morning – the fourth day.

v20. And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky” v21. So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. v22. God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.

v23. And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.

v24. And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. v25. God made wild animals according to

their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.  
v26. Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”  
v27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.  
v28. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.  
v29. Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.  
v30. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.  
v31. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening and morning – the sixth day.

*As I again read Genesis chapter 1, the first chapter from God’s precious Word, I noticed what I believe to be very important statements, a number of which were repeated several times, and I know when God repeats something in Scripture He has a very good reason for doing so.*

- Firstly:** Gen. 1v1 In the beginning God created: *This statement declared that there was a beginning and God brought creation into being.*
- Secondly:** And God said: v 3 “Let there be ...” “Let the water...”  
“Let the lights...” “Let the land...”and “Let us ...”  
*God was clearly stating that creation came into being at His command.*
- Thirdly:** *God repeated both “And it was so” and “And God saw that it was good” six times. By making these statements God was reinforcing the fact that when He made a command creation took place*
- Fourthly:** v21 God created ..... according to their kinds:  
*God created living creatures to be distinct from one another.*
- Fifthly:** v26 God created man in His own image.  
*God created man to be like Himself.*
- Sixthly:** v31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

*Within these verses God declared that He was happy with all He had made. It is worth noting, creation took place with order not chaos and everything had purpose.*

*Note the Triune Godhead took part in the creation of this universe.*

Gen. 1v2 ... the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

In Genesis 1v26 we read. "Let us make man" - *God was speaking as a member of the Triune Godhead, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.*

*What is written in the Gospel of John over four thousand years after creation confirms that Jesus Christ the Son of God took part in creation.*

John 1v1. In the beginning was the Word, (*Jesus*) and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. v2. He was with God in the beginning. v3. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. v4. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not understood it.

## **How did God create man?**

Gen. 2v7 .....the Lord God formed man (*Adam*) from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.

## **What instructions did God give to Adam?**

Gen 2v15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. v16. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

## **How did God create woman?**

Gen 2v18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." v19. Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. v20. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. v21. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. v22. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. v23. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of man." V24. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. v25. The man and the woman were both naked, and they felt no shame."

## What happened in the Garden of Eden?

Genesis 3v1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman. “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden’? v2. The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” v4. “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. 5. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” v6. When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye and was also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her and he ate it. v7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. v8. Then the man and woman heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day and they hid from the Lord among the trees of the garden. v9. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” v10. He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” v11. And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?” v12. The man said, “The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” v13. Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” v14. So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. v15. And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will crush his heel.”

## Who was at work in creation?

- God the Father:** Gen. 1v1. In the beginning God  
(*God was then; is now and will be in the future*)
- God the Son:** John 1v1-3. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning, Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
- God the Holy Spirit:** Gen. 1v2 ... the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

v26 God created man in His own image.  
*God created man to be like Himself.*

*In Genesis, we read that God (the Father, Spirit and Son) created man in his image.*

Gen. 1v26 “Let us make man in our image.”

Gen.2 v16 &17 And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”

*It was God’s intention to have a personal relationship with man. God gave man one condition but man foolishly disobeyed, sin was now in the equation.*

*When God told man he would die, God meant he would die both physically and spiritually. Prior to this God communed with Adam and Eve, they were at one with Him but now everything changed. The serpent (or the devil) had come with his subtle inference as we see recorded in Gen.3v1 The serpent said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” v2The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, v3 but God did say: “You must not eat of the tree in the middle of the garden or touch it, or you will die.” v4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent then said to the woman. The serpent contradicted God who as you know had said Gen.2v16&17 ... You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”*

*As soon as Adam and Eve ate the fruit of that tree they were immediately aware that what God had said was indeed the case, they were now ashamed before each other and they were ashamed before God, they knew that they had done wrong. They were now ashamed of their nakedness so they covered themselves with fig leaves and they hid from God, but of course, hiding from God was impossible.*

*After telling Adam and Eve what their situation was now going to be, we read in Gen. 3v21 that God made garments of skin as a covering for them. In other words, God didn’t accept Adam & Eve’s own efforts at covering their wrong-doing by using the leaves of a tree.*

v21. The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

*By doing this God was stating that a blood sacrifice was essential. The animal that was slain to provide a covering for Adam and Eve was a precursor to Jesus who died to take the punishment for our sin upon himself.*

*We read in the Old Testament that the blood of animals covered the sins of all who sought forgiveness. Psalm 32 v 1 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,*



whose sins are covered *and* Psalm 85 v 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins. *Whereas we read in* 1 John 1 v 7 But if we walk in the light as he is in the light we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. KJV

*God went on to explain to Adam and Eve what the consequences of their sin would mean for them and for mankind in the generations to come. But note first of all what God said to the serpent in Genesis 3 v.15 “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel.” The “serpent” spoke of the devil, and “he” spoke of man who would crush the serpents head in the physical sense. In God’s time Jesus, the Son of God and the Son of Eve, the sinless One who was both human and divine would crush the Serpent’s head when he allowed his blood to be shed on Calvary’s Cross as a ransom to set sinners free.*

*God in His mercy set up a temporary system that is spoken of in the Old Testament, He allowed followers who repented and trusted in Him to bring whichever they could afford, a bird or a beast without blemish as a blood sacrifice. God said He would accept their sacrifice as an offering if the people were sincerely sorry for their sin, but His promise was that one day He would send a Saviour. As you know the Lord Jesus Christ overcame Satan by allowing His sinless blood to be shed on Calvary and his resurrection on the third day from the grave fulfilled prophesy and proved He was indeed the Son of God who died to save all sinners who repent and put their trust in Him.*

*When God set up His system of sacrifice the emphasis was on the repentance of the heart. If people did not truly repent even though they made sacrifices, God condemned them.*

Amos 5v22. “Even though you bring me burnt offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them.”

*We all must remember that God knows our heart.*

*Many people will say this teaching does not apply to us in our day but will readily admit that we are powerless to help ourselves if we are drowning, if we are in a burning house, if we are being attacked or if we have an illness that can only be remedied by the assistance of another. In all of these circumstances, we need a “saviour.” We also need to admit to Almighty God that we are sinful and are powerless to save ourselves.*

## ***Why did the birth of Jesus differ from the birth of any other child?***

*Before the birth of the Lord Jesus, an angel appeared to Mary and told her she was going to give birth to a son: Luke 1v31 “You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.” The angel then appeared to Joseph, the man who was to become the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. Matthew 1v20*

*In Luke 2 v 9–11 we are told that at the time of Jesus birth an angel also appeared to shepherds who were minding their sheep at night. v9. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ, the Lord.”*

*Luke 2v52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and men.*

*In the Bible we are told that Jesus did many miracles during his 33years on earth, John ch.2, He turned water into wine. John ch.5.He healed the sick. John ch.6 He fed 5000 people with five small loaves and two small fish and He walked on water. John ch.9 He healed a blind man. John ch.11 He raised the dead. He did numerous miracles that are spoken of in the four Gospels. Jesus fulfilled prophesy that was written hundreds, yes thousands of years before his birth. One of the best known was written 740 years prior to his birth. In Isaiah 53 Jesus crucifixion was prophesied. Isaiah 53v3-6 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God and afflicted. But he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

*He was rejected by the Scribes and Pharisees, the teachers of the Law during his 3 years of ministry; they made false accusations against him and had him crucified by the Romans. Jesus was arrested, tortured, taken to trial and found not guilty. In John 18v38 we are told that Pilate said, “I find no basis for a charge against him.” Yet he was mocked, spat on and crucified, while a guilty man was released in his*

*place. But, thanks to Almighty God, there is good news to tell because on the third day God raised our Lord Jesus from the dead and he was seen by many people. He was seen by as many as 3,000 on one day. After 40 days of ministry, God took him into heaven in the sight of his disciples. We are told he will come again in like manner to judge the living and the dead.*

## **Why did God the Father have to send His only Son, Jesus to earth?**

John 3v16            For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 3v23        For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3vs10&11 There is no-one righteous, no not even one; there is no-one who understands, no-one who seeks God.

Romans 6v23        For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Because I think Romans 6v23 is one of the most amazing verses of scripture, I would like us to take a close look at it and give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ our wonderful Saviour.*

***The wages of sin is death - but - the gift of God - is eternal life - in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

**The wages of sin is death  
but**

*We deserve death because we sin.  
“But” means contrary to expectation.  
 (“What a wonderful word **but** is”)*

**the gift of God**

*In his mercy God is offering us the gift of salvation and eternal life, and a gift only has to be accepted to make it our own.*

**is eternal life**

*Eternal life means life without end in Heaven with God*

**in Christ Jesus our Lord,**

*This gift has been paid for by Christ Jesus when He allowed His blood to be shed on Calvary’s cross.*

*Jesus not only wants to become our Saviour he also wants to become our Lord.*

*What we read in Romans 6v23 is great news, but note, we must personally accept the gift of forgiveness and eternal life that God offers us, salvation is not automatic.*

*It is vital that we understand what is said in Romans 3v10-12 and John 3v 3-7*  
Romans 3vs10-12 ..... “There is no-one righteous, not even one; there is no-one who understands, no-one who seeks God. All have turned away; they have together become worthless; there is no-one who does good, not even one.”

*A few of the best-known verses in scripture are to be found in John’s Gospel ch.3 where it speaks of Nicodemus, a Pharisee, a teacher of the Jewish law. He came to Jesus at night, it is thought that he was afraid to be seen coming by day, but he had questions on his mind because he said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher come from God. For no-one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” As Nicodemus began to address Jesus, Jesus was either able to read the question that was on the mind of this visitor, or He was simply informing Nicodemus of the one thing that was essential if he was to have eternal life.*

*Jesus made one statement and he repeated three times. It is important for all of us to realize that when something is repeated three times in scripture we are meant to pay attention because what is being said is of vital importance.*

*Jesus emphasised the necessity of being born not only physically but spiritually. God tells us in His Word that because of sin we are all spiritually dead but He offers us new life through the Holy Spirit if we repent of our sin, and put our trust in Jesus as Saviour.*

John 3vs 3-7 ....Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” v4 “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born.” v5 Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. v6. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’

*The words “no-one” and “must” are worth noting.*

*To have the assurance of salvation, you must be born again; you must personally repent of sin and have that personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God who died to save us from our sin.*

*The Holy Spirit began to work in my life when I was eight years of age, my Granny Anderson had died, I remember walking up the stairs in her home on the day before her funeral, when I was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> step of the stairs I recall looking down into the sitting-room to my right where her remains were laid and I remember saying to God, "Whatever she had I want." I knew she didn't just know "about" God; she knew Him. I didn't know it then but I now know the Holy Spirit was working in my heart. I knew about God, my parents were both Christians and they took my brother and me to church and to Christian meetings. I knew about the Lord Jesus but I now realized my Granny had a personal relationship with him and I now wanted to have that relationship as well. It was as if the Lord put an engagement ring on my finger. I now wanted to live my life in a way that was pleasing to Him. I tried to do what was right and not do what I believed to be sinful in God's eyes, but there were times when I felt all was not as it should be.*

*When I was fifteen years of age I was playing the organ at a Faith Mission meeting that was being held in a portable hall in our neighbour's field behind our home. During the sermon on that evening, I realized my "trying to be good" would never be good enough, because, if I only did one sin I would still be a sinner and because God is Holy he couldn't look on sin so I wouldn't be allowed into Heaven when I died. I then realized the Lord Jesus; the sinless Son of God had allowed his blood to be shed on Calvary's Cross to pay for the sins of all who would sincerely repent and put their trust in Him. I then asked God to forgive my sins and I asked Jesus to become my Saviour. I remember the peace God gave me in my heart and I remember running home to tell my mother what had happened.*

*Now 55 years later I still give thanks and praise to my Lord for what He did in my heart on that evening and what He is still doing to this very day.*

*A short time afterwards I was at a meeting in the Mission Hall in Milford, we were singing the hymn, Trust and Obey, and again the Holy Spirit convicted me.*

*I had trusted in Jesus as Saviour but I now realized I also had to obey Him as Lord. Galatians 2v20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. "I allowed the Lord Jesus into the driving seat of my life and I can highly recommend all who read my story to do the same."*

*Isaiah 53v4-6: Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God and afflicted. But he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds*

we are healed. V6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray; each of us has turned to his own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

*In Acts 4 v 12 written after the death and resurrection of Jesus we read: Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved*

Romans 5 v 1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. *(justified means just as if we never sinned)*

Romans 8 v 1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 103:11 & 12 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

*When we trust in Jesus as Saviour we are adopted into the family of God and our names are recorded in the Lamb's book of Life, the book that will be opened at the end of time.*

Revelation 20v12 And I saw the dead, great and small standing before the throne and the books were opened. Another book was opened which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. v13. The sea gave up the dead that were in it and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. v14. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. v15. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

*It is God's desire that we allow Jesus to cleanse us from sin, and allow him to become Lord of our lives rather than receiving the judgement that sin deserves and the rejection that is eternal, where the fire is never quenched.*

Revelation 21v27: Nothing impure will enter it, *(heaven)* nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

John 10v10: Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."

John 3vs16&17. v16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life. v17. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

1 Peter 5 v 7: Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.

### **What is God’s attitude to disobedience?**

Gen.3 v 7: The eyes of both of them (*Adam & Eve*) were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Gen. 3 v 8: Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees.

Gen. 3v13: Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” v16. To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing...” v21. The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. v22. And the Lord God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever.” v23. So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. v24. After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

## What was God's Judgement?

- on the serpent:** Gen.3v14 Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life and I will put enmity between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will crush his heel.
- on the woman:** Gen. 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.
- on the man** Gen. 3: 17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. v18. I will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. v19. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return,"

- Gen. 3v20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.
- Rom. 5v12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, (*Adam*) and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.
- Rom. 3v23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- Acts.17v30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people to repent.

## Is there any hope for sinful man?

- Luke 19v10 For the Son of Man (*Jesus*) came to seek and save what was lost.
- Romans 10v13 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."
- 2 Cor. 5v21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



## Who is God?

### How does scripture describe God?

- God is Divine:** Romans 1v20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.
- God is Spirit:** John 4v24 “God is Spirit, and His worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth.”
- God is Holy:** 1 Peter 1v15 But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written; “Be holy, because I am holy.”
- God is Eternal:** Deuteronomy 33v27 The Eternal God is your refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms.
- God is Almighty:** Genesis 17 v 1 ....., “I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless
- God is Omnipotent:** Rev.19 v 6 .....“Hallelujah!” for the omnipotent reigns.  
(King James Bible)

*The dictionary says omnipotent means: Having very great and unlimited power*

- God is Omnipresent:** Psalm 139 v's7-10 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? V 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depth, you are there. V9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

*Omnipresent: of a deity present in all places at the same time.*

- God is Omniscient:** Job 21v22 “Can anyone teach knowledge to God, since he judges even the highest.”  
Psalm 147v5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

*Omniscient: having unlimited knowledge and understanding.*

## **Names by which God is known:**

- Yahweh:** Yahweh is the Hebrew name for God
- Jehovah:** Jehovah, a name by which God called Himself, translated in some biblical translations as “the Lord.”
- Heavenly Father:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 6 v 18 “I will be a Father to you and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”
- King of Kings:  
&  
Lord of Lords** 1 Tim.6 v’s13-16 .... I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in his own time – God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no-one has seen or can see.
- Creator:** Gen. 1v1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. V 26 Let **us** make man in our image (God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
- Judge:** Ps 7v11 God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day.

## **Names by which Jesus is known:**

- Immanuel:** Matt. 1v23 “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel which means, God with us.”
- Wonderful Counsellor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace:** Isaiah 9 v 6 For to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- Jesus:** Matt.1:21“She will give birth to a son and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins.
- The Son of God** Matt. 3:17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”
- Lord,  
God,  
The Holy One,  
Saviour:** Isaiah 43v3 For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour;
- High Priest:** Hebrews 9:11-12 When Christ came as high priest... He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal salvation.
- Resurrection:** John 11v25 Jesus said to her “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

## **Jesus, the Son of God is:**

- Victorious:** 1Cor. 15v56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Unblemished:** Heb. 9v’s12-14 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more then will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our conscience from acts that lead to death so that we may serve the living God.
- Forgiving:** Eph. 1v7 In Him (*Jesus*) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.

- Gentle:** Matt 11v29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.
- Meek:** 2 Cor.10v1 By the meekness and gentleness of Christ I appeal to you.....
- Patient:** 2 Peter 3v9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

## **God is:**

- Just:** Deut: 32v4 He (God) is the Rock, his works are perfect, and his ways are just.
- Sovereign:** Isaiah 25v8 The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces: he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth.
- Teacher:** Ps. 32v8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.
- Trustworthy:** 2 Sam.7v28 “O Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy.”
- Compassionate & Gracious:** Ps. 86v15 But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.
- Righteous:** Psalm 11v7 For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice, upright men will see his face.
- Loving:** Jer. 31v3 The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying; “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.
- Kind:** Jer. 9v24 “But let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord.
- Forgiving:** Eph.2v8 For it is by grace you have been saved through faith – and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast.
- Victorious:** 1 Cor. 15v57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **What did God achieve for man by Christ's death on Calvary?**

- Reconciliation:** Col 1v19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross
- Salvation:** Luke 2v11 "Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."  
Acts 4v12 Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.
- Redemption:** Gal. 4v3&5 .....God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law to redeem those under the law, that we might receive rights of sons  
*(redeem means: to recover ownership by payment of a price)*
- Justification:** Romans 3v23 &24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified freely by His grace through redemption that came by Christ Jesus.  
*(justification: to declare free from guilt.)*
- Jesus became our:**
- Shepherd:** John 10v14 *(Jesus said)* I am the good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep and my sheep know me.
- Mediator:** 1 Tim 2:5-6 For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men,
- Rock:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sam. 22v2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.

## **Jesus gives us:**

- Love:** John 15v13 Greater love has no man than this; that he lay down his life for his friends.
- Strength:** Exodus 15v2 The Lord is my strength and my song, He has become my salvation.
- Friendship:** John 15v14 “You are my friends if you do what I command you.”
- Comfort:** Isaiah 51v12 “I, even I, am He who comforts you.....”
- Refuge:** Psalm 46v1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.
- Deliverance:** Psalm 34v4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me, he delivered me from all my fears.
- Hope:** Isaiah 40v31 But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.
- Healing:** Matt. 9v35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

## **Jesus is the:**

- Way:** John 14v6 Jesus answered, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.”
- Truth:** John 6v47 “I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.”
- Life:** John 6v48 “I am the Bread of Life.”
- Alpha:** Rev. 1v8 “I am the Alpha and Omega, says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”
- Omega:** Rev.22v13 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, beginning and the End.

## What does God ask us to?

- Believe:** John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- Repent:** 2 Peter 3v9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness, He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- Receive:** John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.
- Obey:** Jeremiah 7:23 Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in all the ways I command you that it may be well with you.
- Confess:** Rom. 10:9 Then if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved.

## What did Jesus say about Himself?

Matthew 11:28 “Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.”

John 5:24 “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”

John 10:9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. V10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 14:1-4 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

John 15: 9&10 “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love.”

Luke 12:5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell.

Matt. 6:19-20 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where thieves do not break in and steal. v21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

## **Can anyone give better advice than King Solomon?**

Proverbs 3:5 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your path straight.”

## **What was and is so special about Christ’s death?**

Eph. 2 vs. 4-10: v4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, v5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. v6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, v7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. V 8&9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast. v10 For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Colossians 1:19 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the Head over every power and authority.

Colossians 3:1 Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. v3. For you died and your life is now hidden with Christ Jesus. v4. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Rev. 3:5 He who overcomes will like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.

Rev 3:21. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Rev.5: 9And they (*the angels*) sang a new song: “You (*Jesus*) are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. v10. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.

Rev. 22:7 “Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book.”

Rev. 15:3 ... “Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. v4. Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.

1 Cor. 15: 1 Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. v2. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

*The Bible is no ordinary book. It is not just a history book, a poem book, a book of prophecy, it is, in fact, God's manual of instruction for His created, and we would be wise to take what He has to say very seriously.*

Hebrews 4:12&13. For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Proverbs 30v's5-6 v5 "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him." V6 Do not add to his words or he will rebuke you and prove you to be a liar.

James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Philippians 2: 5-11 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:  
v6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, v7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. V8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!  
V9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, v10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*The Lord Jesus says in Deuteronomy 11v18 Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them to your foreheads. V19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

*When Jesus spoke about wise and foolish builders in Luke:6 v 46-49, He spoke about the importance of knowing His Word and applying it to our lives.*

Luke 6:46. “Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say? I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When the flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house it collapsed and its destruction was complete.

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away.

*God's word ends with these words from Revelation 22: 18-21*

Revelation 22: v18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book. If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. v19 And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are in this book.

V20 He who testifies to these things says, “Yes I am coming soon.” Amen, Come, Lord Jesus.

V21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen

“I commend this book to you, as it encourages us to search God’s Word for answers to all the great questions of life, There are so many ‘isms’ and ‘ologies’ round us that give us false hope and false answers as we search for truth. Real truth and peace can only be found in our Lord Jesus Christ. How blest we are to be able to read that truth within the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. I pray you come to know our Lord Jesus in a personal way and experience the joy of living for Him day by day.

Rev. Ker Graham

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**Rev. Ker Graham**