SIMPLE LESSON/ OVERVIEW of the Bible story.

- The Bible is one of the most popular and yet misunderstood books in the world.
- It is possible to know a lot about the Bible without really understanding it and how it all fits together.
- God could have written the Bible so that only Greek scholars or PhD theologians could have understood it. Instead it was written so that it could only be understood by seekers who have the heart of a little child.
- This “Big Picture Presentation” takes an aerial view and checks out the "whole forest." It gives you a framework to understand the Bible.
- Many folks have a hard time understanding it, because they don’t look at things in context and see how it all fits together.

<We will start by looking at a few basic facts about the Bible. >

SIMPLE LESSON/ OVERVIEW of the Bible story.

- The Bible is one of the most popular and yet misunderstood books in the world.
- It is possible to know a lot about the Bible without really understanding it and how it all fits together.
- God could have written the Bible so that only Greek scholars or PhD theologians could have understood it. Instead it was written so that it could only be understood by seekers who have the heart of a little child.
- This “Big Picture Presentation” takes an aerial view and checks out the "whole forest." It gives you a framework to understand the Bible.
- Many folks have a hard time understanding it, because they don’t look at things in context and see how it all fits together.

<We will start by looking at a few basic facts about the Bible. >

- The word “Bible” is from the Greek word for Book. This is the **Holy Book**, made up of 66 books total:

- 39 OT
- 27 NT

El libro increíble
66 libros: 39 Antiguo Testamento y 27 Nuevo Testamento.
Escrito durante más de1500 años (1450 AC - 100 DC)
40 autores diferentes
De 3 continentes distintos, naciones diferentes y culturas variadas.
Contiene 3 idiomas (Hebreo, Arameo y Griego)
HEBREO
וּקְשַׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עֵינֶיךָ: וּכְתַבְתָּם
ARAMEO
יצוה לך לשמרך בכל דאיהו מקטרג ליה
GRIEGO

- The word “Bible” is from the Greek word for Book. This is the **Holy Book**, made up of 66 books total:

- 39 OT
- 27 NT

2

- How could 40 men, separated by language, culture and time, all writing on controversial subjects, speak with one *voice and perfect harmony*? Why do you think this is true of the Bible? (Wait for response) That's right…because it is ***inspired by God!***

- This unity would be impossible without there being **one conductor**, *who orchestrated all of these events,* and moved these men to write by the **Holy Spirit** so it all fits together. Each of these 66 books are like instruments which play together in *beautiful harmony*.

- The internal evidence of the Bible is one of the most powerful evidences that this book was written by God (II Tim 3:16-17).

- This *one beautiful theme throughout history is truly amazing!*

In the New Testament it is often referred to as simply the "gospel."

- How could 40 men, separated by language, culture and time, all writing on controversial subjects, speak with one *voice and perfect harmony*? Why do you think this is true of the Bible? (Wait for response) That's right…because it is ***inspired by God!***

- This unity would be impossible without there being **one conductor**, *who orchestrated all of these events,* and moved these men to write by the **Holy Spirit** so it all fits together. Each of these 66 books are like instruments which play together in *beautiful harmony*.

- The internal evidence of the Bible is one of the most powerful evidences that this book was written by God (II Tim 3:16-17).

- This *one beautiful theme throughout history is truly amazing!*

In the New Testament it is often referred to as simply the "gospel."

3

- We see the importance of the gospel, in that the admonition **to teach it to others are the last words Jesus spoke** on Mt. Olivet before He ascended into heaven.
- God wanted this message to be communicated to all mankind.
- BTW.. Do you know what the word "gospel" means?
- Yes… **good news or glad tidings.**

Un Mandato Urgente e Importante
LA GRAN COMISION
"Y les dijo: Id por todo el mundo y predicad el evangelio a toda criatura."
Marcos 16:15

- We see the importance of the gospel, in that the admonition **to teach it to others are the last words Jesus spoke** on Mt. Olivet before He ascended into heaven.
- God wanted this message to be communicated to all mankind.
- BTW.. Do you know what the word "gospel" means?
- Yes… **good news or glad tidings.**

- The gospel stands between man and salvation.
- It is the **power of God for salvation!**

< It is not some fuzzy feeling, or something mysterious, but . . >

- The gospel stands between man and salvation.
- It is the **power of God for salvation!**

< It is not some fuzzy feeling, or something mysterious, but . . >

5

- It is the truth that sets us free! (Jn 8:32) And it is an objective **truth.**
- **Objective truth is true whether you believe it or not**. Gravity is an example of objective truth. If you jump from a 10-story building, you will be just as dead whether you believe in gravity, or don't believe in it.
- How one responds to the gospel is the critical turning point in each person's life.
- And interestingly, it must not just **be believed, but *obeyed!***

<That is what 2 Thess 1:7-9 makes clear…>

- It is the truth that sets us free! (Jn 8:32) And it is an objective **truth.**
- **Objective truth is true whether you believe it or not**. Gravity is an example of objective truth. If you jump from a 10-story building, you will be just as dead whether you believe in gravity, or don't believe in it.
- How one responds to the gospel is the critical turning point in each person's life.
- And interestingly, it must not just **be believed, but *obeyed!***

<That is what 2 Thess 1:7-9 makes clear…>

6

- It makes sense that those who don't *believe in God or know Him* will be rejected at Jesus' return, but this text says also those who have **NOT *obeyed the gospel*!**

- **How does one obey the facts of the gospel?** How can I obey facts? Illust. I believe George Washington was the first president of the US. I believe that fact and accept it; but how can I *obey* that fact?

- The Bible reveals **how** the facts of the gospel *can be obeyed*! We will discuss this later in the lesson.

- **This is Serious stuff!** God will absolutely *condemn* anyone who rejects the gospel. Wow. **The gospel is critically important!**

<It comes with an amazing warning>

El Evangelio... Debe ser Obedecido
"... Cuando se manifieste el Señor Jesús desde el cielo con los ángeles de su poder, en llama de fuego, para dar retribución a los que no conocieron a Dios, ni obedecen al evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo; los cuales sufrirán pena de eterna perdición, excluidos de la presencia del Señor y de la gloria de su poder..."
2 Tesalonicenses 1:7-9

- It makes sense that those who don't *believe in God or know Him* will be rejected at Jesus' return, but this text says also those who have **NOT *obeyed the gospel*!**

- **How does one obey the facts of the gospel?** How can I obey facts? Illust. I believe George Washington was the first president of the US. I believe that fact and accept it; but how can I *obey* that fact?

- The Bible reveals **how** the facts of the gospel *can be obeyed*! We will discuss this later in the lesson.

- **This is Serious stuff!** God will absolutely *condemn* anyone who rejects the gospel. Wow. **The gospel is critically important!**

<It comes with an amazing warning>

7

UNA SERIA ADVERTENCIA... A LOS CRISTIANOS

"Estoy maravillado de que tan pronto os hayáis alejado del que os llamó por la gracia de Cristo, para seguir un evangelio diferente; no que haya otro, sino que hay algunos que os perturban y quieren pervertir el evangelio de Cristo.
Mas si aun nosotros, o un ángel del cielo, os anunciare otro evangelio diferente del que os hemos anunciado, sea anatema."

Gálatas 1:6-12 (vea también Hechos 20:28)

- It is amazing these Christians began to *change* the gospel message. Tragic. This passage makes it plain, there **is only <u>one</u> gospel and we have to get it right.**
- ONE gospel produces ONE Christian religion. Confusion is caused by the fact that not everyone is teaching the same (the one) gospel.
- Why important? Our salvation is **completely dependent upon our ability to know and respond to the one gospel**. Not even an angel from heaven is allowed to change it or try to improve upon it.

UNA SERIA ADVERTENCIA... A LOS CRISTIANOS

"Estoy maravillado de que tan pronto os hayáis alejado del que os llamó por la gracia de Cristo, para seguir un evangelio diferente; no que haya otro, sino que hay algunos que os perturban y quieren pervertir el evangelio de Cristo.
Mas si aun nosotros, o un ángel del cielo, os anunciare otro evangelio diferente del que os hemos anunciado, sea anatema."

Gálatas 1:6-12 (vea también Hechos 20:28)

- It is amazing these Christians began to *change* the gospel message. Tragic. This passage makes it plain, there **is only <u>one</u> gospel and we have to get it right.**
- ONE gospel produces ONE Christian religion. Confusion is caused by the fact that not everyone is teaching the same (the one) gospel.
- Why important? Our salvation is **completely dependent upon our ability to know and respond to the one gospel**. Not even an angel from heaven is allowed to change it or try to improve upon it.

- So, **there is only one gospel and we have to get it right**. It has grown up from the roots of the Bible and the plan of redemption was put into place as soon as man sinned.

- How can we be certain what the true gospel really is?

- Where would we go **to understand the theme of the Bible**?

<The NT shows us where to begin. >

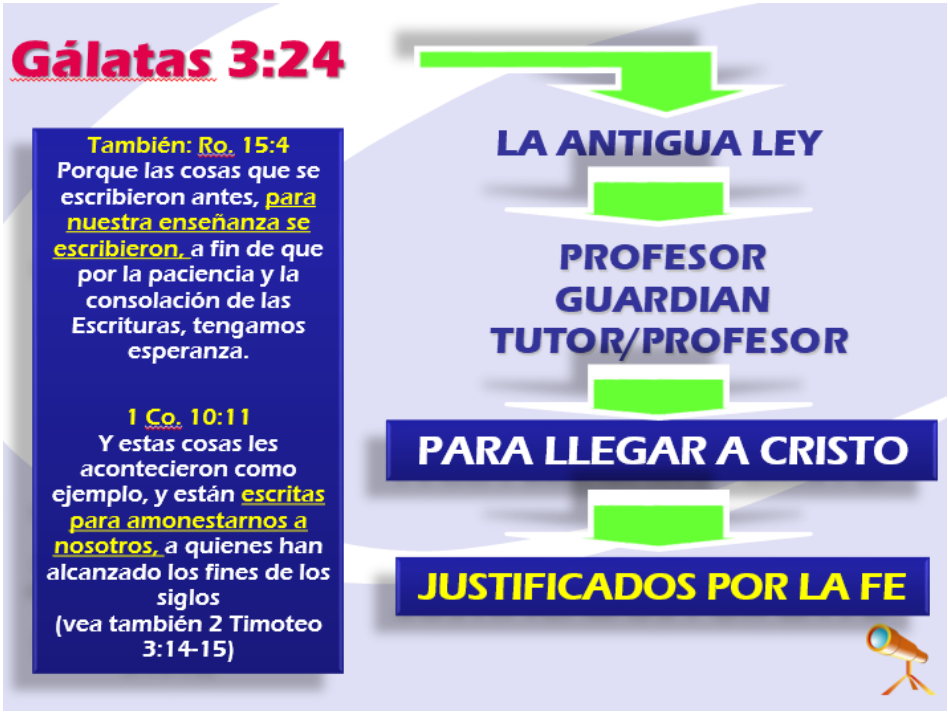
- So, **there is only one gospel and we have to get it right**. It has grown up from the roots of the Bible and the plan of redemption was put into place as soon as man sinned.

- How can we be certain what the true gospel really is?

- Where would we go **to understand the theme of the Bible**?

<The NT shows us where to begin. >

9

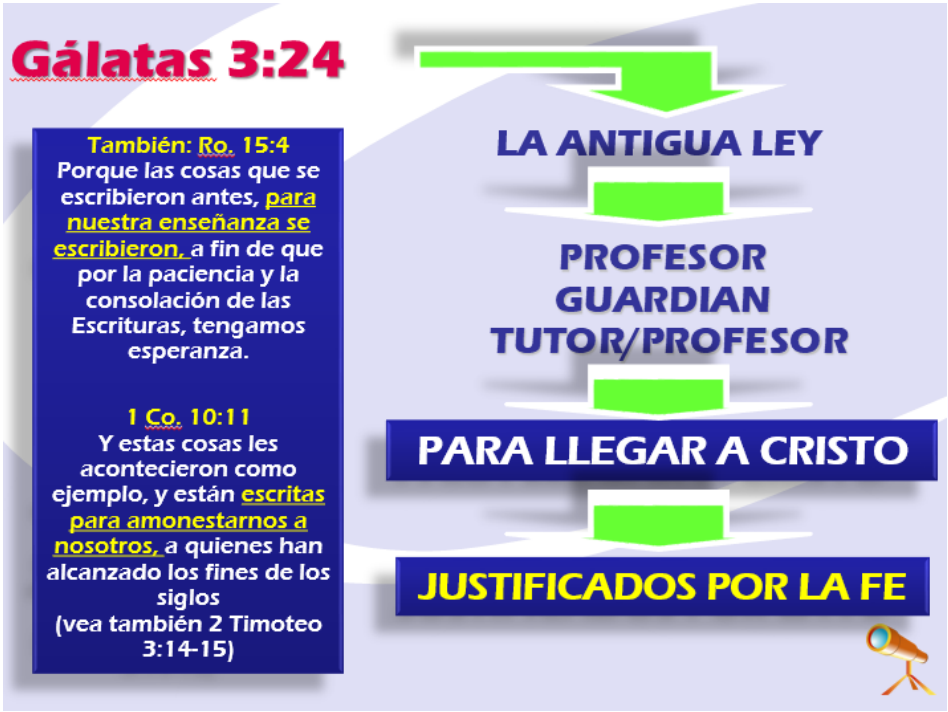


- You see, although we are no longer under the Old Testament, it is still of great value.

- The OT is supposed to teach us something. Something very important. The **OT was a learning/training/teaching period** to bring the Jews, and us, to Christ, so that "we may be justified by faith."

- The OT was "written for our learning" (I Cor. 10:11) to reveal ***foundational principles*** necessary for us to understand the NT and the gospel.

< Before we look at how the OT brings us to Christ, let's look at God's eternal plan and when it was first formulated in God's mind. >

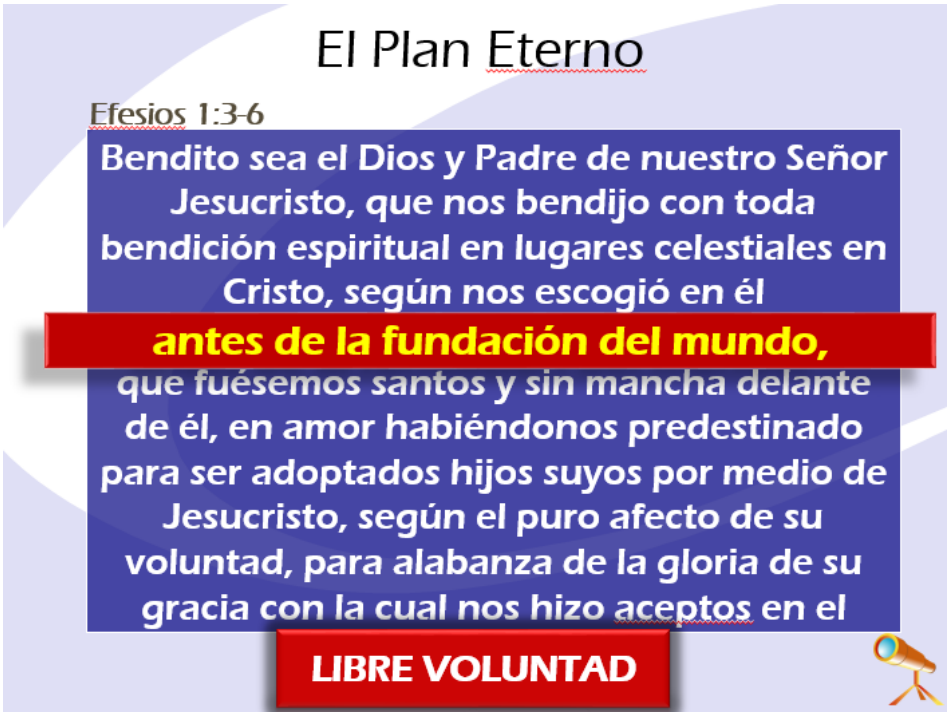


- You see, although we are no longer under the Old Testament, it is still of great value.

- The OT is supposed to teach us something. Something very important. The **OT was a learning/training/teaching period** to bring the Jews, and us, to Christ, so that "we may be justified by faith."

- The OT was "written for our learning" (I Cor. 10:11) to reveal ***foundational principles*** necessary for us to understand the NT and the gospel.

< Before we look at how the OT brings us to Christ, let's look at God's eternal plan and when it was first formulated in God's mind. >



(Read this text as the presenter and stop after you get to the red highlighted portion about the fact it was done **before the foundation of the world**).. Then explain....

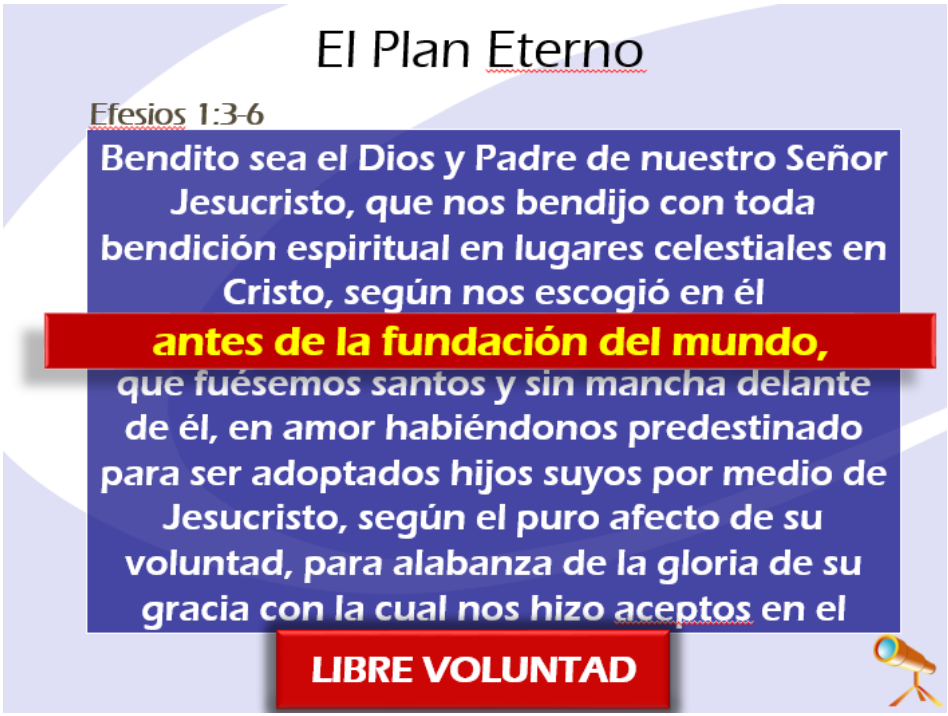
- In the very beginning *before man was even created*, God (who is a Spirit) *purposed* that He would have spirit beings *made in His image*. We are spirits in a fleshly body.
- **We *are here for this short life to show God that we choose to serve and love Him.*** That is our purpose and that is God's purpose in creating us.

Illust. **Similar to parents today**. *Parents have children so they can share their love with them, and hope they will love them in return. We don't want to make our children love us, we want them to **choose to do so.***

- Since God created mankind with a **free will** (the ability to *choose t*o either sin or not sin), doesn't it make sense that he would *make provision* in case man chose to sin? <u>If man cannot sin, then this plan wasn't necessary, Christ's suffering and death wasn't necessary.</u>

- That is why He planned a *scheme of redemption* before man was even created. **He decided in advance He would not abandon us.**

<Another thing we need to look at is our concept of God.>



(Read this text as the presenter and stop after you get to the red highlighted portion about the fact it was done **before the foundation of the world**).. Then explain....

- In the very beginning *before man was even created*, God (who is a Spirit) *purposed* that He would have spirit beings *made in His image*. We are spirits in a fleshly body.
- **We *are here for this short life to show God that we choose to serve and love Him.*** That is our purpose and that is God's purpose in creating us.

Illust. **Similar to parents today**. *Parents have children so they can share their love with them, and hope they will love them in return. We don't want to make our children love us, we want them to **choose to do so.***

- Since God created mankind with a **free will** (the ability to *choose t*o either sin or not sin), doesn't it make sense that he would *make provision* in case man chose to sin? <u>If man cannot sin, then this plan wasn't necessary, Christ's suffering and death wasn't necessary.</u>

- That is why He planned a *scheme of redemption* before man was even created. **He decided in advance He would not abandon us.**

<Another thing we need to look at is our concept of God.>

11

This is it. **God is holy**. The OT emphasizes this over and over again.

- Some things are clean, some unclean. Some things are holy, some are not.
- God is Holy and clean. **Man is sinful and unclean and needs cleansing!**

It is interesting, that the Bible states that ***"God is Love" (I John 4:8)*** but it never says God is ***Love, Love, Love***. But it does state several times both in the Old and New Testament, that God **is <u>HOLY, HOLY, HOLY</u>**(Isa 6:3 Rev 4:8)

- **All of the interaction that we have with God is determined by this fact.**
- Fortunately, the fact that God is holy also means **<u>God is good</u>**.

Omnipotent power. He does not use it to *abuse or manipulate, but uses it only for our good.* All of His power is governed by His goodness and holiness. Everything He has done as a *beneficent* Father is because He wants what is in our best interest.

<There are 2 important characteristics which flow from God's Holiness>

This is it. **God is holy**. The OT emphasizes this over and over again.

- Some things are clean, some unclean. Some things are holy, some are not.
- God is Holy and clean. **Man is sinful and unclean and needs cleansing!**

It is interesting, that the Bible states that ***"God is Love" (I John 4:8)*** but it never says God is ***Love, Love, Love***. But it does state several times both in the Old and New Testament, that God **is <u>HOLY, HOLY, HOLY</u>**(Isa 6:3 Rev 4:8)

- **All of the interaction that we have with God is determined by this fact.**
- Fortunately, the fact that God is holy also means **<u>God is good</u>**.

Omnipotent power. He does not use it to *abuse or manipulate, but uses it only for our good.* All of His power is governed by His goodness and holiness. Everything He has done as a *beneficent* Father is because He wants what is in our best interest.

<There are 2 important characteristics which flow from God's Holiness>

- **God is a God of Justice** – <u>He will always be faithful and do what He says He will do. The rules cannot be broken.</u>

- **God dearly loves His creation**

- He wants to make provision to help man out of the terrible consequences caused by man's rebellion.

Illust. Sometimes people in prayer ask God to overlook their sin! They don't realize they are asking for the impossible.
God's justice will not allow Him to just "overlook "or "sweep man's sins" under the carpet. **No, sin is serious and has to be dealt with!**

<The holiness of God creates a demand and expectation on His relationship with man….>

- **God is a God of Justice** – <u>He will always be faithful and do what He says He will do. The rules cannot be broken.</u>

- **God dearly loves His creation**

- He wants to make provision to help man out of the terrible consequences caused by man's rebellion.

Illust. Sometimes people in prayer ask God to overlook their sin! They don't realize they are asking for the impossible.
God's justice will not allow Him to just "overlook "or "sweep man's sins" under the carpet. **No, sin is serious and has to be dealt with!**

<The holiness of God creates a demand and expectation on His relationship with man….>

SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP ONLY OCCURS WHEN MAN CAN BE SINLESS.

- When man can exhibit the characteristic of holiness, God has a union and relationship with man that is called *spiritual fellowship*.

- **We are spirit beings that inhabit earthly physical bodies.** (***Not bodies with spirits, so much as spirits with bodies***!) The earthly bodies are *temporary and mortal*. Our spirit bodies will soon leave these bodies and inhabit the true reality that God has prepared for eternity.

< This relationship is only possible if man can be found in a state of holiness, because this is the only way we can exist next to God…but alas this is the problem of man!>

SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP ONLY OCCURS WHEN MAN CAN BE SINLESS.

- When man can exhibit the characteristic of holiness, God has a union and relationship with man that is called *spiritual fellowship*.

- **We are spirit beings that inhabit earthly physical bodies.** (***Not bodies with spirits, so much as spirits with bodies***!) The earthly bodies are *temporary and mortal*. Our spirit bodies will soon leave these bodies and inhabit the true reality that God has prepared for eternity.

< This relationship is only possible if man can be found in a state of holiness, because this is the only way we can exist next to God…but alas this is the problem of man!>

14

GOD WANTS A **SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP** WITH US

- God expects us to *be Holy, as He is holy*.
- He is a **Holy Spirit** and in order to have a spiritual relationship with Him, we must have spirits that have been cleansed from sin.
- Once we are cleansed, we can be holy as well.

SANCTIFICATION – to make holy or set apart before God.

- This is usually connected with having our sins cleansed.
- We cannot be presentable to God if we have sin present in our lives.

< God expects man who is made in His image, to be Holy as He is holy. *It is possible!* That fact is part of the good news! But it is not easy…. >

GOD WANTS A **SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP** WITH US

- God expects us to *be Holy, as He is holy*.
- He is a **Holy Spirit** and in order to have a spiritual relationship with Him, we must have spirits that have been cleansed from sin.
- Once we are cleansed, we can be holy as well.

SANCTIFICATION – to make holy or set apart before God.

- This is usually connected with having our sins cleansed.
- We cannot be presentable to God if we have sin present in our lives.

< God expects man who is made in His image, to be Holy as He is holy. *It is possible!* That fact is part of the good news! But it is not easy…. >

- **God is of such purity and sin is such a revulsion, that He cannot look upon sin (Heb 1:13)!**

- The real problem of sin: **it separates us from God.** (Is 59:2). There is no evil in Him whatsoever!

Illust. It is similar to the reverse attraction of magnets. When man's unholy sinful spirit tries to get in close contact with a holy and pure God, there is a natural separation and push back.

- Holiness and impurity do not belong together.

- **God is of such purity and sin is such a revulsion, that He cannot look upon sin (Heb 1:13)!**

- The real problem of sin: **it separates us from God.** (Is 59:2). There is no evil in Him whatsoever!

Illust. It is similar to the reverse attraction of magnets. When man's unholy sinful spirit tries to get in close contact with a holy and pure God, there is a natural separation and push back.

- Holiness and impurity do not belong together.

SIN = SPIRITUAL DEATH, A CAPITAL CRIME

- That's why when sin (any sin) separates us from God, it is described in the most drastic terms- **Spiritual Death! All sin represents a capital crime**!

Illust. Did you see the classic movie "The Sixth Sense?" It came out in 2000 and starred Bruce Willis and a six year old played by Haley Osment. Haley would frequently exclaim**: "I SEE DEAD PEOPLE!"** (*This is an optional illustration*).

- The truth is that we ***walk among the spiritual dead every day.*** Anyone who is alive but is mature enough to be accountable before God and has sinned is spiritually dead! Like the man played by Bruce Willis, **they don't realize they are dead.**

< This is what Romans 6:23 tells us about the wages of sin…>

SIN = SPIRITUAL DEATH, A CAPITAL CRIME

- That's why when sin (any sin) separates us from God, it is described in the most drastic terms- **Spiritual Death! All sin represents a capital crime**!

Illust. Did you see the classic movie "The Sixth Sense?" It came out in 2000 and starred Bruce Willis and a six year old played by Haley Osment. Haley would frequently exclaim**: "I SEE DEAD PEOPLE!"** (*This is an optional illustration*).

- The truth is that we ***walk among the spiritual dead every day.*** Anyone who is alive but is mature enough to be accountable before God and has sinned is spiritually dead! Like the man played by Bruce Willis, **they don't realize they are dead.**

< This is what Romans 6:23 tells us about the wages of sin…>

- PROBLEM: SIN LEADS TO DEATH
- Sin is the problem of each of us. One sin is all it takes.
- All of us at one time or another has exercised our free will and chosen to sin. That causes us to be separated from God.
- I like to tell people that ***"If the wages of sin is death, we better quit before pay day!"****(Optional phrase.. use only if comfortable)bh*

<But here is where the problem gets serious…>

- PROBLEM: SIN LEADS TO DEATH
- Sin is the problem of each of us. One sin is all it takes.
- All of us at one time or another has exercised our free will and chosen to sin. That causes us to be separated from God.
- I like to tell people that ***"If the wages of sin is death, we better quit before pay day!"****(Optional phrase.. use only if comfortable)bh*

<But here is where the problem gets serious…>

18

Las CONSECUENCIAS del Pecado

"...porque de ella fuiste tomado; pues polvo eres, y al polvo volverás."

Génesis 3:19

- Not only do we suffer **SPIRITUAL DEATH, but there is PHYSICAL (MORTAL) DEATH** also. **We all die physically, because of the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin**. (Gen 3:19). Our physical containers will eventually *go back to the dust...*
- So, there are both *spiritual* and *physical* consequences to sin.
- Because of God's justice, as the righteous judge, He has placed a **judicial penalty** over our heads and **a price** that must be paid. **The judicial price that God has set is nothing short of the death of the sinner. A death penalty!**

<As already discussed in Rom 6:23, the wages of sin is death, or put another way, the price for sin is …>

Las CONSECUENCIAS del Pecado

"...porque de ella fuiste tomado; pues polvo eres, y al polvo volverás."

Génesis 3:19

- Not only do we suffer **SPIRITUAL DEATH, but there is PHYSICAL (MORTAL) DEATH** also. **We all die physically, because of the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin**. (Gen 3:19). Our physical containers will eventually *go back to the dust...*
- So, there are both *spiritual* and *physical* consequences to sin.
- Because of God's justice, as the righteous judge, He has placed a **judicial penalty** over our heads and **a price** that must be paid. **The judicial price that God has set is nothing short of the death of the sinner. A death penalty!**

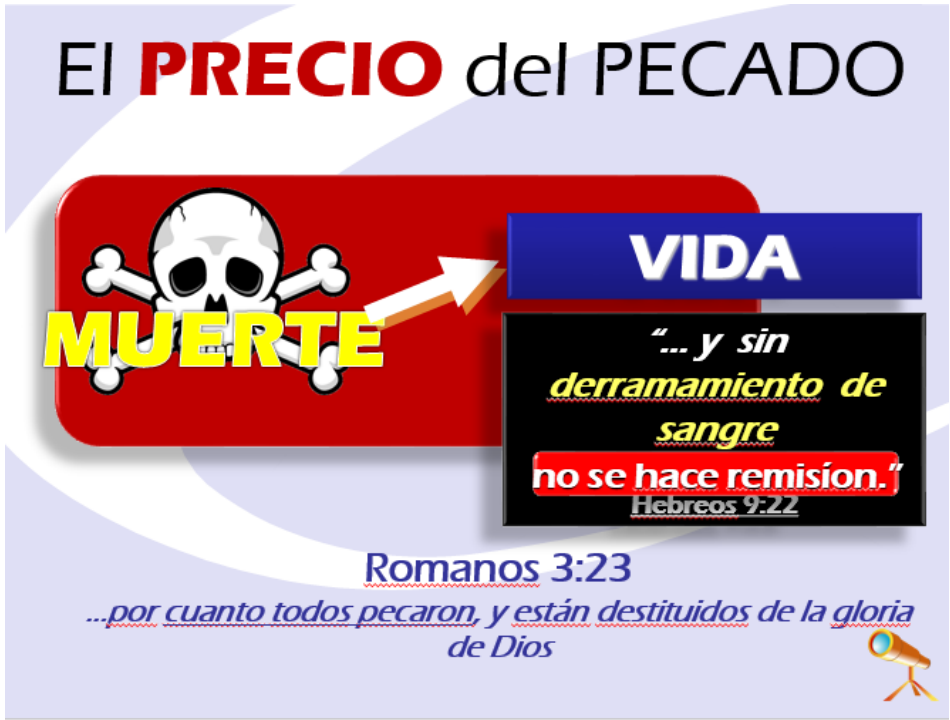
<As already discussed in Rom 6:23, the wages of sin is death, or put another way, the price for sin is …>

LIFE! A LIFE MUST BE PAID. This reflects the *seriousness of sin*. And it is on the head of every sinner.

- **LIFE REQUIRED** God says there is only one thing that will pay for sin, and that is the fact that your **life is required.**
- **BLOOD REQUIRED.**
  Being *good* will not take care of this problem.

If *I* sin, who deserves to die, or pay the penalty for *my* sin?
(Pause and wait for an answer) **That's right: I DO.**
If *you* sin, who deserves to pay the penalty? YOU DO.

<Let's summarize what we have learned so far about the two types of death that we face and the Judicial penalty for sin>



LIFE! A LIFE MUST BE PAID. This reflects the *seriousness of sin*. And it is on the head of every sinner.

- **LIFE REQUIRED** God says there is only one thing that will pay for sin, and that is the fact that your **life is required.**
- **BLOOD REQUIRED.**
  Being *good* will not take care of this problem.

If *I* sin, who deserves to die, or pay the penalty for *my* sin?
(Pause and wait for an answer) **That's right: I DO.**
If *you* sin, who deserves to pay the penalty? YOU DO.

<Let's summarize what we have learned so far about the two types of death that we face and the Judicial penalty for sin>

The judicial penalty results in two serious types of death (remember that death by definition means **SEPARATION**).

- Spiritual death is *separation from God* (Rm 6:23).
- Physical death is *separation from our bodies* (Gen 3:19).

- Spiritual death is the **JUDICIAL PENALTY FOR SIN WHICH IS HANGING OVER OUR HEAD AND IS REQUIRED OF EVERY SINNER.**
- Because of the seriousness of sin, the **price** (someone's **LIFE)** must be given for a sinner to receive forgiveness.

<So what is man's problem? >

The judicial penalty results in two serious types of death (remember that death by definition means **SEPARATION**).

- Spiritual death is *separation from God* (Rm 6:23).
- Physical death is *separation from our bodies* (Gen 3:19).

- Spiritual death is the **JUDICIAL PENALTY FOR SIN WHICH IS HANGING OVER OUR HEAD AND IS REQUIRED OF EVERY SINNER.**
- Because of the seriousness of sin, the **price** (someone's **LIFE)** must be given for a sinner to receive forgiveness.

<So what is man's problem? >

21

PERSONAL SIN

- The principle so many overlook is that the price for sin is *personal* – it is on *my* head – it is on *your* head – it is on the head of everyone who sins!

- **So man is in a miserable situation. He has a price on his head that he cannot pay.**

What is the remedy? Is there any hope?

<Yes, there is hope. God reveals to us another facet of His character and His Holiness. >

PERSONAL SIN

- The principle so many overlook is that the price for sin is *personal* – it is on *my* head – it is on *your* head – it is on the head of everyone who sins!

- **So man is in a miserable situation. He has a price on his head that he cannot pay.**

What is the remedy? Is there any hope?

<Yes, there is hope. God reveals to us another facet of His character and His Holiness. >

- **If we only experienced the JUSTICE of God, it would be a short story for all of us. But the other side of His holiness is His LOVE as demonstrated in His grace and mercy. God says, let Me help you find a way to pay this price that separates us!**

- **Through MERCY we are spared DEATH which we deserve for breaking His** laws, through **GRACE** we receive **LIFE**, which we do not deserve!

- **People often confuse grace and mercy and use them interchangeably. This is a mistake.**

Illust. Assume for a minute that you are caught speeding. You knew the law, you violated it, are guilty and deserve the fine. However, assume you are respectful and apologize. If the police officer says***: "Okay: I will let you off with a warning. Just be more careful next time,"*** you are the recipient of **MERCY.** You did **not get *the penalty you deserved***.

But let's assume that he also smiles and says: *"I just got news I have received a large unexpected inheritance. I am a wealthy man! I want to share my blessings with people today. Here's a check for $1,000. Enjoy! God bless!"*
Wow! *How would you feel?* Would you want to tell others about it? Congratulations -- you are a recipient of **GRACE**. You received ***a gift you did not deserve!***

- Not only did Jesus enable you to avoid hell (something sinners deserve) but He has prepared the way for heaven (something none of us deserve). Do you see why this is good news?

<So how did God show His mercy in the OT?>

- **If we only experienced the JUSTICE of God, it would be a short story for all of us. But the other side of His holiness is His LOVE as demonstrated in His grace and mercy. God says, let Me help you find a way to pay this price that separates us!**

- **Through MERCY we are spared DEATH which we deserve for breaking His** laws, through **GRACE** we receive **LIFE**, which we do not deserve!

- **People often confuse grace and mercy and use them interchangeably. This is a mistake.**

Illust. Assume for a minute that you are caught speeding. You knew the law, you violated it, are guilty and deserve the fine. However, assume you are respectful and apologize. If the police officer says***: "Okay: I will let you off with a warning. Just be more careful next time,"*** you are the recipient of **MERCY.** You did **not get *the penalty you deserved***.

But let's assume that he also smiles and says: *"I just got news I have received a large unexpected inheritance. I am a wealthy man! I want to share my blessings with people today. Here's a check for $1,000. Enjoy! God bless!"*
Wow! *How would you feel?* Would you want to tell others about it? Congratulations -- you are a recipient of **GRACE**. You received ***a gift you did not deserve!***

- Not only did Jesus enable you to avoid hell (something sinners deserve) but He has prepared the way for heaven (something none of us deserve). Do you see why this is good news?

<So how did God show His mercy in the OT?>

- B**lood** in the OT is the mechanism God used to demonstrate His mercy.
- This is what **animal sacrifice was all about**. It was God's way to demonstrate His mercy.
- It is as if God said, *"If you will offer up this animal, I will allow its blood to be shed **instead of yours**, and you can have its death representatively take your place."*

<Man's redemption is all wrapped up in the idea of Blood Atonement, which was pictured for us way back during the time of Noah and the ark. >

- B**lood** in the OT is the mechanism God used to demonstrate His mercy.
- This is what **animal sacrifice was all about**. It was God's way to demonstrate His mercy.
- It is as if God said, *"If you will offer up this animal, I will allow its blood to be shed **instead of yours**, and you can have its death representatively take your place."*

<Man's redemption is all wrapped up in the idea of Blood Atonement, which was pictured for us way back during the time of Noah and the ark. >

- Atonement is the mechanism of *reconciliation.*
- The Hebrew root word **Kaphar means "to cover."** Before Noah went into the ark, he was told to "cover" the ark with pitch so that all the *imperfections* would be covered up and the ark would be watertight (Gen 6:14).
- ***Spiritually,* our atonement through a *blood sacrifice* allows all of our *blemishes and imperfections* to be covered over so that when we stand before God we are seen as forgiven and perfect and Holy in His sight!**

< Atonement is offered by the blood of animals>

- Atonement is the mechanism of *reconciliation.*
- The Hebrew root word **Kaphar means "to cover."** Before Noah went into the ark, he was told to "cover" the ark with pitch so that all the *imperfections* would be covered up and the ark would be watertight (Gen 6:14).
- ***Spiritually,* our atonement through a *blood sacrifice* allows all of our *blemishes and imperfections* to be covered over so that when we stand before God we are seen as forgiven and perfect and Holy in His sight!**

< Atonement is offered by the blood of animals>

25

- God says, "On the day that animal sacrifices are made, blood atonement will be made for you!"
- When this happened, faithful worshippers were forgiven and made **HOLY**. As a result they could now be "set apart" or **sanctified.**

- In short, even though man broke God's laws, God's provision for atonement allows us to experience *spiritual reunion* with Him. This is called **"reconciliation."**

Illust. One way to remember what atonement does for us is to think of it as "at-one-ment" = it is the way we are made at one with God!

<Consider this key statement made in Lev 17:11>

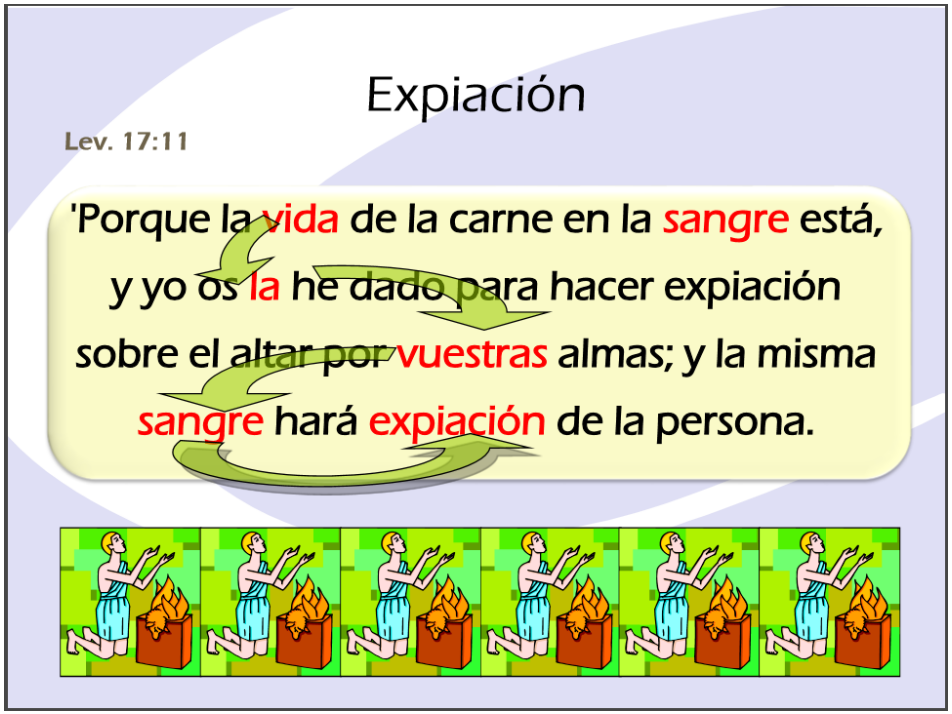
I

- God says, "On the day that animal sacrifices are made, blood atonement will be made for you!"
- When this happened, faithful worshippers were forgiven and made **HOLY**. As a result they could now be "set apart" or **sanctified.**

- In short, even though man broke God's laws, God's provision for atonement allows us to experience *spiritual reunion* with Him. This is called **"reconciliation."**

Illust. One way to remember what atonement does for us is to think of it as "at-one-ment" = it is the way we are made at one with God!

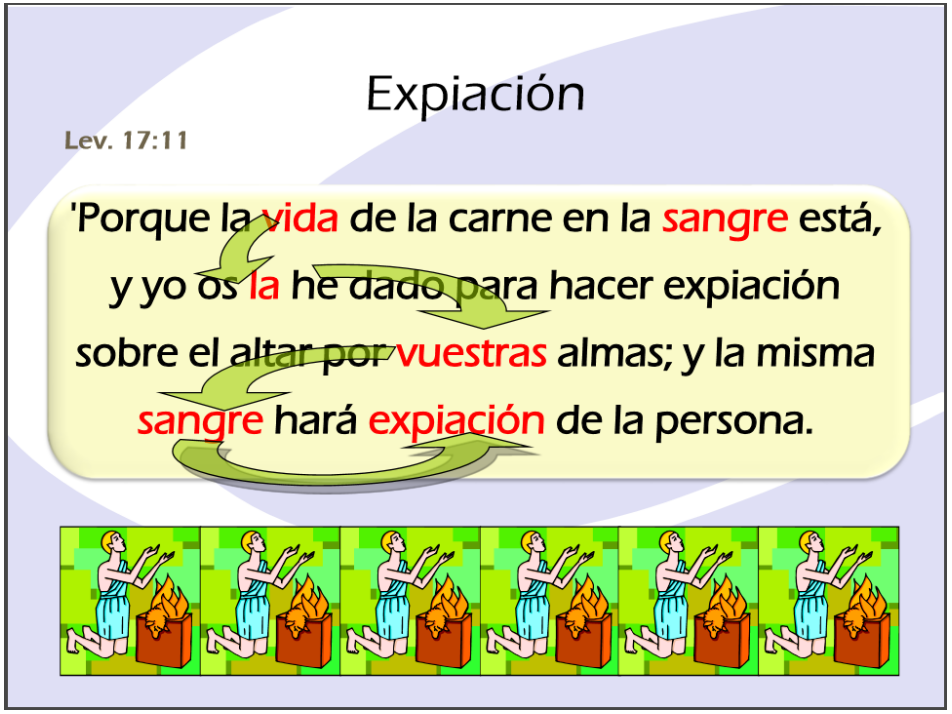
<Consider this key statement made in Lev 17:11>



(The presenter should read this slide due to it being partially covered up by the arrows)

- Blood = life. It keeps an animal alive.
- In the OT, when that blood was shed as a sacrifice, it made ***atonement*** (a covering or cleansing) for sin.
- God uses **blood (or life)** to make atonement due to
    - **blood's *representative nature***
    - **the *seriousness of the crime***

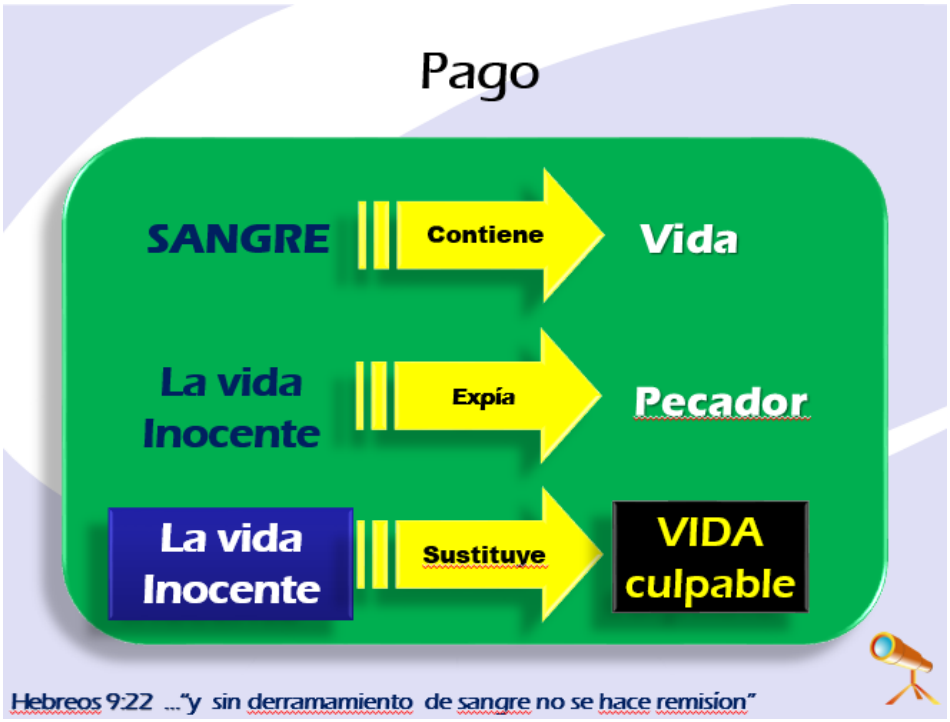
<In summary, animal sacrifices can be described as a payment>



(The presenter should read this slide due to it being partially covered up by the arrows)

- Blood = life. It keeps an animal alive.
- In the OT, when that blood was shed as a sacrifice, it made ***atonement*** (a covering or cleansing) for sin.
- God uses **blood (or life)** to make atonement due to
    - **blood's *representative nature***
    - **the *seriousness of the crime***

<In summary, animal sacrifices can be described as a payment>



- Innocent life was given in exchange for the guilty life!

< Here is a pictorial diagram which summarizes the process of the animal sacrifices that led Old Testament people into reconciliation with God.>

- Innocent life was given in exchange for the guilty life!

< Here is a pictorial diagram which summarizes the process of the animal sacrifices that led Old Testament people into reconciliation with God.>

Here is a "Big Picture" visual of how animal sacrifice worked.
(Start explaining the diagram with the dark image "sinner" as follows):

- Man is **spiritually dead** and separated from God. His sins are *figuratively* taken over and put on the animal (figuratively because the animal has no spirit, it cannot bear sin).
- The animal is killed on the altar. As a result, it is as if the sinner had died… so there is a ***representative death.***
- The sinner is now ***sanctified*** and holy, having received God's mercy. He is allowed to keep living.
- This also shows ***God's justice*** in that a death took place so that the penalty was paid. If the representative death doesn't take place, God's justice demands your death.

<This leaves us with an interesting question>

Here is a "Big Picture" visual of how animal sacrifice worked.
(Start explaining the diagram with the dark image "sinner" as follows):

- Man is **spiritually dead** and separated from God. His sins are *figuratively* taken over and put on the animal (figuratively because the animal has no spirit, it cannot bear sin).
- The animal is killed on the altar. As a result, it is as if the sinner had died… so there is a ***representative death.***
- The sinner is now ***sanctified*** and holy, having received God's mercy. He is allowed to keep living.
- This also shows ***God's justice*** in that a death took place so that the penalty was paid. If the representative death doesn't take place, God's justice demands your death.

<This leaves us with an interesting question>

29

- The biblical concept of **faith** is seen in these animal sacrifices. Faith was essential. ***It would all be meaningless if not done by faith from the heart!***
- However, one couldn't <u>just believe</u> in the animal sacrifice. The animal obviously ***had to be killed*** (Heb 9:22). **Without obedience, no mercy or benefit was received.**

- Similarly, the woman who believes in the doctor's orders and prescribed medicine must take the pills to get well.

Illust: It is similar to receiving a "free gift." Suppose someone gives his sweetheart a **birthday gift of a** $100.00 check. If she has faith and believes the check is good, that is great, but she still has to endorse the check and take it down to the bank to get the cash. **Just because she had to endorse the check and cash it does not mean she in any way *earned* it.** It was "free money" but there were some conditions attached to receiving benefit from the gift. **By signing the check she was just accepting the gift.** Similarly, when they offered the animal sacrifices, they did not *earn mercy*, they were just accepting God's provision through faith.

<The Bible has many examples of what saving faith consists of >

- The biblical concept of **faith** is seen in these animal sacrifices. Faith was essential. ***It would all be meaningless if not done by faith from the heart!***
- However, one couldn't <u>just believe</u> in the animal sacrifice. The animal obviously ***had to be killed*** (Heb 9:22). **Without obedience, no mercy or benefit was received.**

- Similarly, the woman who believes in the doctor's orders and prescribed medicine must take the pills to get well.

Illust: It is similar to receiving a "free gift." Suppose someone gives his sweetheart a **birthday gift of a** $100.00 check. If she has faith and believes the check is good, that is great, but she still has to endorse the check and take it down to the bank to get the cash. **Just because she had to endorse the check and cash it does not mean she in any way *earned* it.** It was "free money" but there were some conditions attached to receiving benefit from the gift. **By signing the check she was just accepting the gift.** Similarly, when they offered the animal sacrifices, they did not *earn mercy*, they were just accepting God's provision through faith.

<The Bible has many examples of what saving faith consists of >

30

Notice what they all had in common. Heb **11 "Faith Hall of Fame"** list:

- **Abel offered up a more acceptable sacrifice. Noah prepared an ark to the saving of his own house. Abraham obeyed God and left Ur, etc.** What do they all have in common? They all demonstrated their faith by their actions.

- **Requires both belief and action.** Belief alone is no good, action alone is no good**.** It is not so much that we are saved by faith or works as much as it is that we are saved by a ***faith that works*** (it takes action)!

Illust: **Fire and heat.** If you have real fire, you always have *heat* as a by-product. *Always.* If you have *real faith,* you will always have *action* as a by-product to show it is real. You will avoid jumping off the building.

< Another example can be found in . . .>

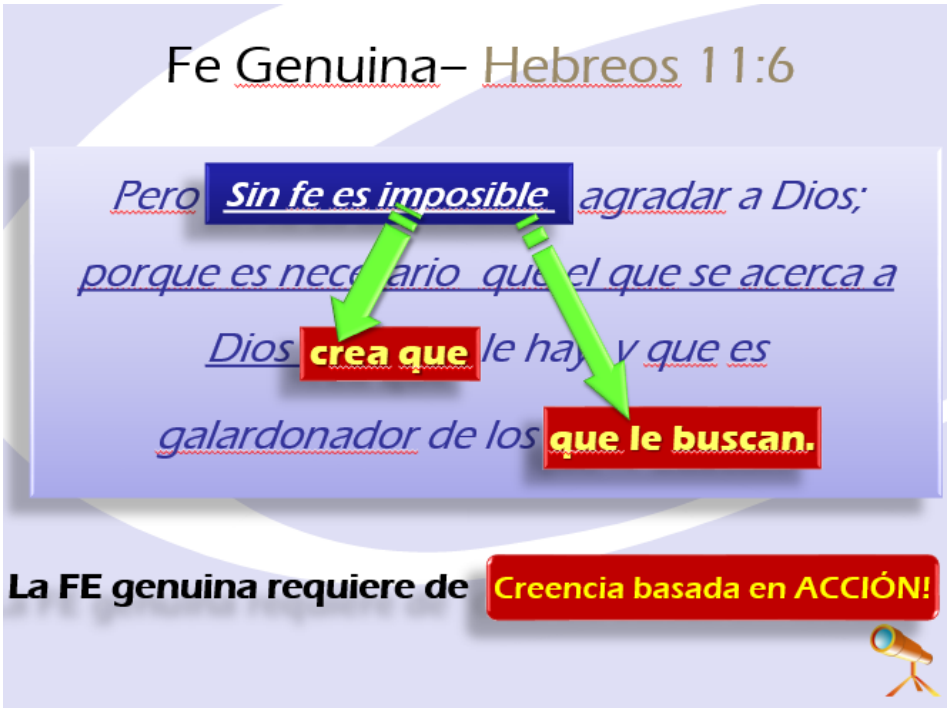
Notice what they all had in common. Heb **11 "Faith Hall of Fame"** list:

- **Abel offered up a more acceptable sacrifice. Noah prepared an ark to the saving of his own house. Abraham obeyed God and left Ur, etc.** What do they all have in common? They all demonstrated their faith by their actions.

- **Requires both belief and action.** Belief alone is no good, action alone is no good**.** It is not so much that we are saved by faith or works as much as it is that we are saved by a ***faith that works*** (it takes action)!

Illust: **Fire and heat.** If you have real fire, you always have *heat* as a by-product. *Always.* If you have *real faith,* you will always have *action* as a by-product to show it is real. You will avoid jumping off the building.

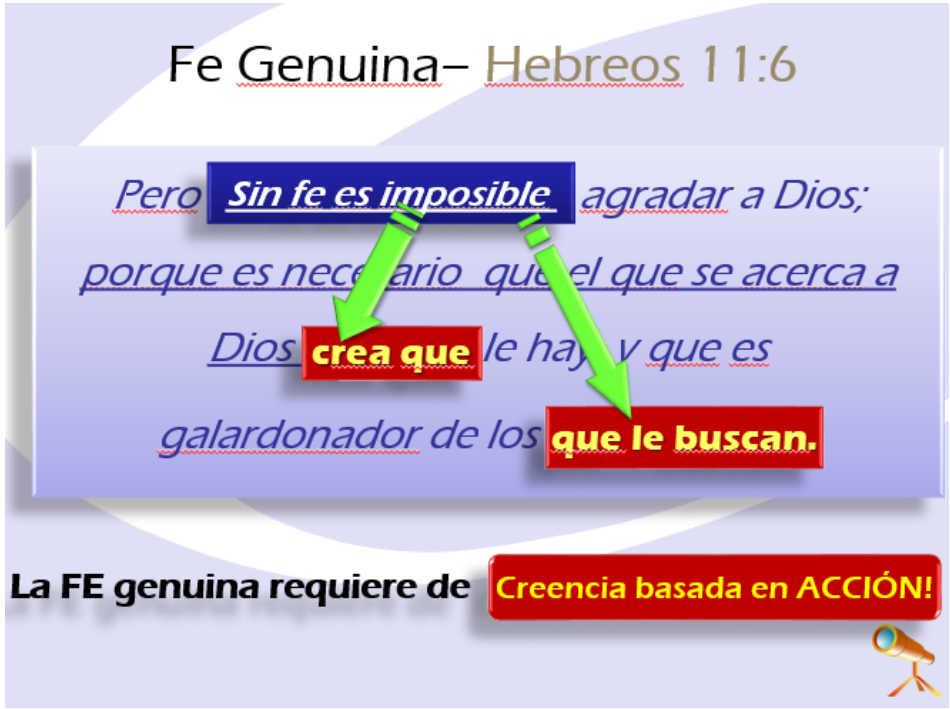
< Another example can be found in . . .>



- Here is this famous definition of faith and we see both components of faith in this verse---- **BELIEF-BASED ACTION!**

- What is it, works alone, or belief alone? It is a combination of the two.

< James addresses this issue further by asking a rhetorical question in Jas 2:14: "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? . . . >



- Here is this famous definition of faith and we see both components of faith in this verse---- **BELIEF-BASED ACTION!**

- What is it, works alone, or belief alone? It is a combination of the two.

< James addresses this issue further by asking a rhetorical question in Jas 2:14: "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? . . . >

32

- James answers his own question. **Faith without action is dead.** Again, faith is shown *by its actions*….. (Presenter reads…phrases from the slide).
- Vs19 says it all. The *devils themselves are all believers*…..that is why they tremble! They are obviously not saved.
- They are like the person who believed in gravity, but disregarded it and jumped anyway.
- Believing is not enough…. ***True Faith works***!

<Let's look at all we have learned from the OT>

SOLO POR FE? (Santiago 2:14-26)
(v14) ¿Puede este tipo de fe salvar al hombre?
(v17) La fe sin obras está muerta
(v18) La fe es demostrada por las obras
(v20) La fe sin acción es "inútil"
(v21-23) La fe de Abraham se perfecciono por sus obras
(v24) Justificados por las obras, no la "fe sola"
(v26) La fe sin obras está muerta
(v19) Los demonios son creyentes!
HAY CREYENTES EN EL INFIERNO!

- James answers his own question. **Faith without action is dead.** Again, faith is shown *by its actions*….. (Presenter reads…phrases from the slide).
- Vs19 says it all. The *devils themselves are all believers*…..that is why they tremble! They are obviously not saved.
- They are like the person who believed in gravity, but disregarded it and jumped anyway.
- Believing is not enough…. ***True Faith works***!

<Let's look at all we have learned from the OT>

(Read off each point on the chart above...)

- What does the O.T. teach us?
- Thousands of years go by with millions of innocent animals being slain representatively. Why?
- **God was preparing for this moment in time.**

<This is certainly one of the <u>most climactic moments in history</u>. John the Baptist is baptizing and looks up and sees Jesus approaching for the first time and he announces Him to the people.

How does John introduce Jesus as He begins His ministry? >

(Read off each point on the chart above...)

- What does the O.T. teach us?
- Thousands of years go by with millions of innocent animals being slain representatively. Why?
- **God was preparing for this moment in time.**

<This is certainly one of the <u>most climactic moments in history</u>. John the Baptist is baptizing and looks up and sees Jesus approaching for the first time and he announces Him to the people.

How does John introduce Jesus as He begins His ministry? >

34

- There it is. **The <u>plan of redemption in a nutshell</u>**
- Why did he call Jesus an animal? What was he communicating to the Jewish mind by calling Jesus an animal? Particularly a *lamb*?
    - **God's lamb**. God's sacrifice!

- In calling Jesus "God's sacrifice"….we can learn that Jesus did not die accidently, or because things went bad and He was unable to set up the kingdom at that time. No this was all a part of **God's eternal purpose!** The very **purpose of a sacrifice is to DIE.**

- **<u>Jesus lived a sinless life</u>**. If he had committed even one sin he could not have died for our sins, because He would have had to die for His own sins! This is why the NT emphasis on His *sinlessness* is so important.
- Jesus is the perfect spirit being. Unlike bulls and goats, He could be a fitting substitute or sacrifice that could save man from sin!

<Consider the following prophecy>

- There it is. **The <u>plan of redemption in a nutshell</u>**
- Why did he call Jesus an animal? What was he communicating to the Jewish mind by calling Jesus an animal? Particularly a *lamb*?
    - **God's lamb**. God's sacrifice!

- In calling Jesus "God's sacrifice"….we can learn that Jesus did not die accidently, or because things went bad and He was unable to set up the kingdom at that time. No this was all a part of **God's eternal purpose!** The very **purpose of a sacrifice is to DIE.**

- **<u>Jesus lived a sinless life</u>**. If he had committed even one sin he could not have died for our sins, because He would have had to die for His own sins! This is why the NT emphasis on His *sinlessness* is so important.
- Jesus is the perfect spirit being. Unlike bulls and goats, He could be a fitting substitute or sacrifice that could save man from sin!

<Consider the following prophecy>

35

Una Profecía Importante

4 Ciertamente llevó él nuestras enfermedades, y sufrió nuestros dolores
...
5 Mas él herido fue por nuestras rebeliones, molido por nuestros pecados;
el castigo de nuestra paz fue sobre él, y por su llaga fuimos nosotros curados.

6 Todos nosotros nos descarriamos como ovejas, cada cual se apartó por su camino; mas Jehová cargó en él el pecado de todos nosotros.
8 Por cárcel y por juicio fue quitado; y su generación, ¿quién la contará? Porque fue cortado de la tierra de los vivientes, y por la rebelión de mi pueblo fue herido.
10 Con todo eso, Jehová quiso quebrantarlo, sujetándole a padecimiento. Cuando haya puesto su vida en expiación por el pecado, verá linaje, vivirá por largos días, y la voluntad de Jehová será en su mano prosperada.

Who is this obviously about?

JESUS!

- This is an incredibly accurate portrayal of what Jesus went through on the cross … Notice…
- Vs 8 ***"to whom the stroke was due."*** To whom was it due? ***Us***, we are the ones who sinned, not Jesus!
- Vs 10 ***"He came to bear our iniquities."***

<Do you know when this was written?>

Una Profecía Importante

4 Ciertamente llevó él nuestras enfermedades, y sufrió nuestros dolores
...
5 Mas él herido fue por nuestras rebeliones, molido por nuestros pecados;
el castigo de nuestra paz fue sobre él, y por su llaga fuimos nosotros curados.

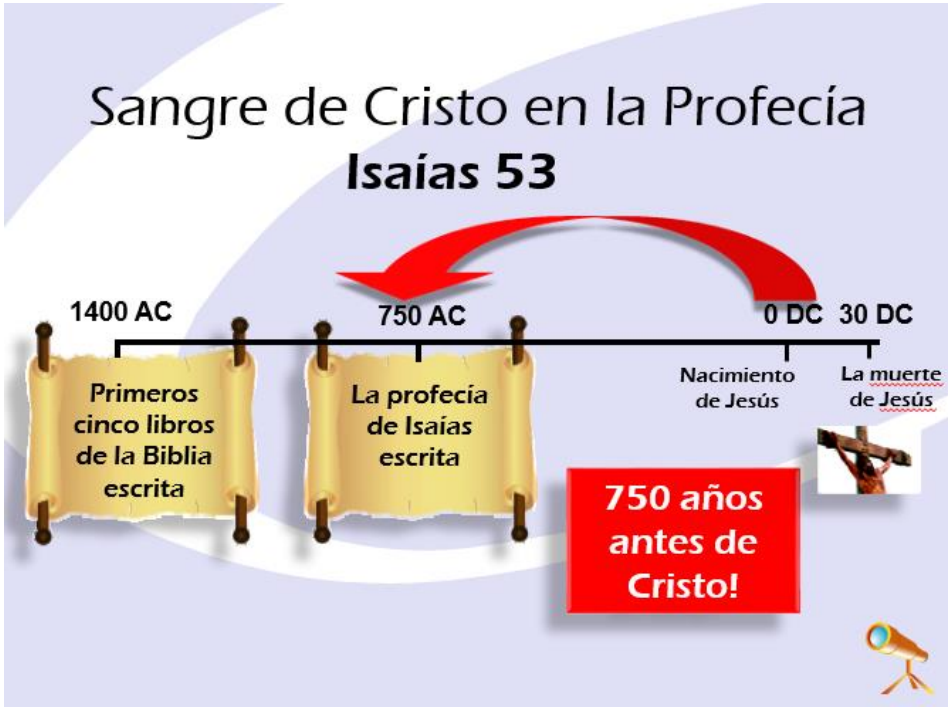
6 Todos nosotros nos descarriamos como ovejas, cada cual se apartó por su camino; mas Jehová cargó en él el pecado de todos nosotros.
8 Por cárcel y por juicio fue quitado; y su generación, ¿quién la contará? Porque fue cortado de la tierra de los vivientes, y por la rebelión de mi pueblo fue herido.
10 Con todo eso, Jehová quiso quebrantarlo, sujetándole a padecimiento. Cuando haya puesto su vida en expiación por el pecado, verá linaje, vivirá por largos días, y la voluntad de Jehová será en su mano prosperada.

Who is this obviously about?

JESUS!

- This is an incredibly accurate portrayal of what Jesus went through on the cross … Notice…
- Vs 8 ***"to whom the stroke was due."*** To whom was it due? ***Us***, we are the ones who sinned, not Jesus!
- Vs 10 ***"He came to bear our iniquities."***

<Do you know when this was written?>

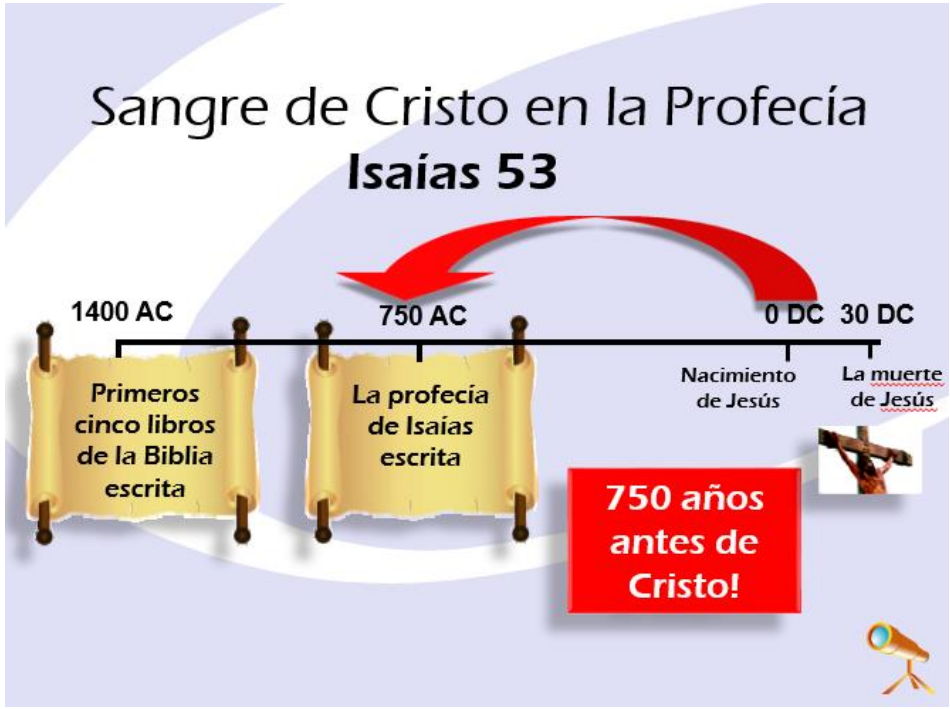


Amazing, huh? **750 years before Christ** was born, Isaiah explains why Jesus came to die!

- The events so graphically portrayed in Mel Gibson's movie, the Passion of Christ have value, but sadly, they **never explained WHY Christ had to die and HOW one benefits from his shed blood**.

- That is precisely what the focus of the "Big Picture" of the Bible does.

<Let's now look at all the things the blood sacrifice of Christ accomplished for those who would believe in Christ and accept His "unspeakable gift." >



Amazing, huh? **750 years before Christ** was born, Isaiah explains why Jesus came to die!

- The events so graphically portrayed in Mel Gibson's movie, the Passion of Christ have value, but sadly, they **never explained WHY Christ had to die and HOW one benefits from his shed blood**.

- That is precisely what the focus of the "Big Picture" of the Bible does.

<Let's now look at all the things the blood sacrifice of Christ accomplished for those who would believe in Christ and accept His "unspeakable gift." >

These passages describe the fact that he came as a **ransom for many. Read Matt 20:28 first.**

- Illust. The idea is that we have been carried off into the captivity of sin by Satan and had no way to get back to God out of the bonds of the strongman…. *Until Jesus came and paid the price for our release!*

- Notice that the ransom paid was not silver or gold, but the precious blood of Christ! Read Matt 26:28.

<Let's look at the idea that Christ actually came to fulfill the Old Testament!)>

These passages describe the fact that he came as a **ransom for many. Read Matt 20:28 first.**

- Illust. The idea is that we have been carried off into the captivity of sin by Satan and had no way to get back to God out of the bonds of the strongman…. *Until Jesus came and paid the price for our release!*

- Notice that the ransom paid was not silver or gold, but the precious blood of Christ! Read Matt 26:28.

<Let's look at the idea that Christ actually came to fulfill the Old Testament!)>

38

- Read Matt 5:17: In coming, Christ came **not to abolish the law but to fulfill it!**

- In fact it is the very purpose of the O. T. Laws to bring us to Christ (Gal 3:24).

Christ was the ultimate ***culmination and fulfillment of all the OT sacrificial system.***

- Read Matt 5:17: In coming, Christ came **not to abolish the law but to fulfill it!**

- In fact it is the very purpose of the O. T. Laws to bring us to Christ (Gal 3:24).

Christ was the ultimate ***culmination and fulfillment of all the OT sacrificial system.***

Notice: We are in the NT era now, so there are no more animals!

- We see Christ on the cross *bore our sins* that we might *die to sin.*
- Christ collectively took all the sins of mankind on the cross, paid the judicial price on our heads for us, so that we could be sanctified.

- Illust. **Imagine all the sins from Adam to the cross, and from the cross to the present, and from the present to the end of time, and all of those sins were borne by Jesus in His body on the cross in one *huge nauseous mass.***

Amazing! It was during this time from 12 Noon – 3:00 P.M. that the world was plunged into darkness. *Jesus went through this time of darkness so that ultimately He could become the light of the world.*

<Jesus not only died physically, but His spirit was separated from the Father on the cross>

Notice: We are in the NT era now, so there are no more animals!

- We see Christ on the cross *bore our sins* that we might *die to sin.*
- Christ collectively took all the sins of mankind on the cross, paid the judicial price on our heads for us, so that we could be sanctified.

- Illust. **Imagine all the sins from Adam to the cross, and from the cross to the present, and from the present to the end of time, and all of those sins were borne by Jesus in His body on the cross in one *huge nauseous mass.***

Amazing! It was during this time from 12 Noon – 3:00 P.M. that the world was plunged into darkness. *Jesus went through this time of darkness so that ultimately He could become the light of the world.*

<Jesus not only died physically, but His spirit was separated from the Father on the cross>

40

- Rev 2:11 "He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the **second death."**
- Rev 20:6 "Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection, over them the **second death** has no power!"
    - As stated earlier, the **first death** is when our spirits *separate from our bodies*. It will be overcome when *all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth.* (Jn 5:28)
- The real mission of Jesus is not just to save us from physical death, but *spiritual death.* He wanted us not to have to be separated from God eternally! That is the most *serious penalty* for sin that Christ paid for us on Calvary. He experienced the **second death on the cross** when He bore our sins and literally *became sin for us.* (2 Cor 5:21)
- Sin always brings about **separation from God** (Isa 59:1-2), which is why Jesus cried out in Matt 27:46, ***"My God, My God, why hath thou forsaken me?*** Jesus was quoting Ps 22:1. He knew this dreaded moment was coming. ***"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."*** (Ezekiel 18:20)
    - Jesus did not sin *personally*, but He chose to suffer the *penalty of sin* for us as the lamb of God so we would not be *hurt by the second death*! He suffered the ultimate --spiritual death-- for us, so we would not have to.

<Here is a great summary of what Christ's sacrifice does for us>

- Rev 2:11 "He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the **second death."**
- Rev 20:6 "Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection, over them the **second death** has no power!"
    - As stated earlier, the **first death** is when our spirits *separate from our bodies*. It will be overcome when *all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth.* (Jn 5:28)
- The real mission of Jesus is not just to save us from physical death, but *spiritual death.* He wanted us not to have to be separated from God eternally! That is the most *serious penalty* for sin that Christ paid for us on Calvary. He experienced the **second death on the cross** when He bore our sins and literally *became sin for us.* (2 Cor 5:21)
- Sin always brings about **separation from God** (Isa 59:1-2), which is why Jesus cried out in Matt 27:46, ***"My God, My God, why hath thou forsaken me?*** Jesus was quoting Ps 22:1. He knew this dreaded moment was coming. ***"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."*** (Ezekiel 18:20)
    - Jesus did not sin *personally*, but He chose to suffer the *penalty of sin* for us as the lamb of God so we would not be *hurt by the second death*! He suffered the ultimate --spiritual death-- for us, so we would not have to.

<Here is a great summary of what Christ's sacrifice does for us>

<And, we need to remember Rom 3:23-25 and the important role of faith>

Sacrificio de Cristo- Reconciliación
PECADOS
MUERTE JUDICIAL
MUERTE
MUERTE FIGURATIVA
Colosenses 1:21-22
Pero ahora Él os ha reconciliado en su cuerpo de carne por medio de la muerte para presentaros santos y sin mancha e irreprensibles delante de Él
También
Hebreos 13:12
Hebreos 10:10
Heb 9:22 ...isn derramamiento de sangre no se hace remisión

<And, we need to remember Rom 3:23-25 and the important role of faith>

42

How are we saved?

- Through our **faith** in what Christ did and His work on the cross.
- The sacrifice allowed Him to be a **propitiation** (a substitute offering which turned away the wrath of God)
- We receive it through **faith, in His blood.**

<There is more. It gets better. After being in the grave for three days there is the . . .>

How are we saved?

- Through our **faith** in what Christ did and His work on the cross.
- The sacrifice allowed Him to be a **propitiation** (a substitute offering which turned away the wrath of God)
- We receive it through **faith, in His blood.**

<There is more. It gets better. After being in the grave for three days there is the . . .>

43

- Christ wanted His resurrection to send this **strong proof of His deity and His power.** This was the sign of Jonah. No other religion has this sign.

- All the apostles except John died martyred courageous deaths. No one would die for something they knew was a lie, would they? No one.

<So, let me ask you another question.>

- Christ wanted His resurrection to send this **strong proof of His deity and His power.** This was the sign of Jonah. No other religion has this sign.

- All the apostles except John died martyred courageous deaths. No one would die for something they knew was a lie, would they? No one.

<So, let me ask you another question.>

44

WHO DIED?

- As we take a look at all the elements of the plan of redemption it is obvious that **Jesus died** paying the judicial price for our sins….
- ***Representatively*** – **the sinner died** with Him, through faith, paying our judicial price for sin as well.
- Therefore, we should not be surprised to see this type of language found throughout the NT.
- Rom 6:6 "Our **old** self was crucified ***with Him*** that **our** body of sin might be done away."
- I Peter 2:24 "that ***we*** might die to sin."

<Take a look at this . . .>

Sacrificio de Cristo - ¿Quién murió?
1 Pedro 2:24
Él mismo llevó nuestros pecados en su cuerpo sobre el madero, para que, muramos al pecado.
1 Pedro1:18-19
sabiendo que fuisteis rescatados de vuestra vana manera de vivir, la cual recibisteis de vuestros padres, no con cosas corruptibles, como oro o plata sino con la sangre preciosa de Cristo, como de un cordero sin mancha y sin contaminación.
PECADOS
Muerte Judicial
SACRIFICIO INOCENTE
PECADOR
SANTIFICADO
MUERTE
MURIO EN LUGAR NUESTRO
Romanos 6:6
sabiendo esto, que nuestro viejo hombre fue crucificado juntamente con él, para que el cuerpo del pecado sea destruido, a fin de que no sirvamos más al pecado.
Jesús Murió
literalmente en la cruz para pagar el precio judicial por nuestros pecados.
El Pecador Murió
en la semejanza a la muerte de Jesús, por lo tanto pago nuestro precio judicial por el pecado.
Hebreos 9:22... y sin derramiento de sangre no se hace remisión.

WHO DIED?

- As we take a look at all the elements of the plan of redemption it is obvious that **Jesus died** paying the judicial price for our sins….
- ***Representatively*** – **the sinner died** with Him, through faith, paying our judicial price for sin as well.
- Therefore, we should not be surprised to see this type of language found throughout the NT.
- Rom 6:6 "Our **old** self was crucified ***with Him*** that **our** body of sin might be done away."
- I Peter 2:24 "that ***we*** might die to sin."

<Take a look at this . . .>

45

Notice these are things written by Christians referring to a point in time in the past when they died with Christ (past tense)

Read these versus above which show the death of the believer.

- **Gal 2 :20 Paul portrays this as if he were hanging on the cross <u>with</u> Christ.**

- **2 Cor 5:14 All died—those who are Christians died <u>with</u> Christ, and were crucified with Him.**

<So….>

La Muerte del Creyente
2 Tim 2:11 "...Si somos muertos con él, tambien viviremos con él."
Gál 2:20 "Con Cristo estoy juntamente crucificado..."
2 Cor 5:14 "...que si uno murió por todos, luego todos murieron."
La muerte de Cristo cuenta por la muerte del creyente!
Hebreos 9:22... y sin derramiento de sangre no se hace remisión.

Notice these are things written by Christians referring to a point in time in the past when they died with Christ (past tense)

Read these versus above which show the death of the believer.

- **Gal 2 :20 Paul portrays this as if he were hanging on the cross <u>with</u> Christ.**

- **2 Cor 5:14 All died—those who are Christians died <u>with</u> Christ, and were crucified with Him.**

<So….>

- This is the gospel message: ***Christ died in my place when He died for me.*** These four points become important requirements connected with the death of Christ. (Read them off the red rectangle.)

- After hearing the gospel message (that by dying with Him by faith and accepting God's grace, a person can have their sins forgiven), **what would be the first question you would ask?**

<Hint - One word.>

Nuestros pecados no pueden y no serán perdonados
a menos que
Hemos muerto con Cristo
Hemos sido unidos con Cristo en su muerte
Hemos sido crucificados con Cristo
Hemos muerto al pecado
PECADOS
Muerte Judicial
SACRIFICIO INOCENTE
PECADOR
SANTIFICADO
MUERTE
MURIO EN LUGAR NUESTRO
Esto es de acuerdo con el plan de redención "y sin derramiento de sangre no se hace remisión."

- This is the gospel message: ***Christ died in my place when He died for me.*** These four points become important requirements connected with the death of Christ. (Read them off the red rectangle.)

- After hearing the gospel message (that by dying with Him by faith and accepting God's grace, a person can have their sins forgiven), **what would be the first question you would ask?**

<Hint - One word.>

Now if you ask this to people today you get a lot of different answers. Why?

Different gospels. THE CONFUSION DOESN'T COME FROM GOD. Do you suppose that God would put in place the scheme of redemption and have millions of animals killed over thousands of years just to prepare the way for His son (the Lamb of God), and then have Christ go through the anguish, suffering, and cruel death on the cross – to die in my place – and then leave us in confusion as to when Christ's death became mine? Can you believe it? That God would make this some fuzzy mystery? **The confusion doesn't come from God.** It comes from man.

- We need a Bible answer, not an answer based on human reasoning, tradition, or human emotion. **We want God to answer the question and we want to accept His answer.**

< Let's go to the book. Paul in Romans 6 deals with an error in his day>

La cuestión fundamental del Evangelio es:
¿Cuándo?
O
¿Cómo?
¿En qué momento de mi fe. . .?
qué debo hacer para morir al pecado?
qué debo hacer para morir con Cristo?
¿Cuándo me ve Dios
uniendome con Cristo en su muerte?
crucificado con Cristo?

Now if you ask this to people today you get a lot of different answers. Why?

Different gospels. THE CONFUSION DOESN'T COME FROM GOD. Do you suppose that God would put in place the scheme of redemption and have millions of animals killed over thousands of years just to prepare the way for His son (the Lamb of God), and then have Christ go through the anguish, suffering, and cruel death on the cross – to die in my place – and then leave us in confusion as to when Christ's death became mine? Can you believe it? That God would make this some fuzzy mystery? **The confusion doesn't come from God.** It comes from man.

- We need a Bible answer, not an answer based on human reasoning, tradition, or human emotion. **We want God to answer the question and we want to accept His answer.**

< Let's go to the book. Paul in Romans 6 deals with an error in his day>

The error that Paul answers is, **"Is grace a license to sin?" In answering that error he answers our four questions for us.>**

Here is one of our **four questions:**

At what *point do Christians die to sin?*

<He answers that in our next verse for us....>

The error that Paul answers is, **"Is grace a license to sin?" In answering that error he answers our four questions for us.>**

Here is one of our **four questions:**

At what *point do Christians die to sin?*

<He answers that in our next verse for us....>

WHEN does a Christian die to sin?

- There is a clear answer to the question of the point when a Christian dies to sin: when he/she **is baptized into His death!**

- It makes sense doesn't it? Christ shed His blood in His death, and the power is in the blood. **One contacts the blood of Christ when one is baptized into His death where His blood was shed!**

- That is the point…immersion in water, which symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It is the point at which one ***dies with Christ and is baptized into His death.***

WHEN does a Christian die to sin?

- There is a clear answer to the question of the point when a Christian dies to sin: when he/she **is baptized into His death!**

- It makes sense doesn't it? Christ shed His blood in His death, and the power is in the blood. **One contacts the blood of Christ when one is baptized into His death where His blood was shed!**

- That is the point…immersion in water, which symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It is the point at which one ***dies with Christ and is baptized into His death.***

50

- ***When or how*** does this happen? Again, when we were baptized into His death our sins were removed, we are then able to arise into a new life - "*newness of life."* (Rm 6:4)

- Other places refer to this as a **new birth.** (Jn 3:5) ***"Except one be born again of the water and the spirit you cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven."***

- ***When or how*** does this happen? Again, when we were baptized into His death our sins were removed, we are then able to arise into a new life - "*newness of life."* (Rm 6:4)

- Other places refer to this as a **new birth.** (Jn 3:5) ***"Except one be born again of the water and the spirit you cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven."***

51

- Here is the answer to question #2: At what point are **we united with Him in His death?**

- Again: when we are baptized into *the likeness of His death*, and also the *likeness of His resurrection*.

- Here is the answer to question #2: At what point are **we united with Him in His death?**

- Again: when we are baptized into *the likeness of His death*, and also the *likeness of His resurrection*.

52

- Here is the answer to question 3: When are we ***crucified with Christ?***

- ***Again:*** When we are **baptized into Christ….and into His death.**

- What is the result? Read verse 6. **"Our body of sin is done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin!!"**

- Here is the answer to question 3: When are we ***crucified with Christ?***

- ***Again:*** When we are **baptized into Christ….and into His death.**

- What is the result? Read verse 6. **"Our body of sin is done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin!!"**

- The **Judicial price of death** has been paid by Christ…..
- Notice here the reference is to the sinner, who, when he/she repents and lives by faith, dies to his/her old life, and is **united with Christ's death**--then he is freed from sin and its bondage!
- When does this happen? Again: **When I am baptized into Christ and His death!**

- The **Judicial price of death** has been paid by Christ…..
- Notice here the reference is to the sinner, who, when he/she repents and lives by faith, dies to his/her old life, and is **united with Christ's death**--then he is freed from sin and its bondage!
- When does this happen? Again: **When I am baptized into Christ and His death!**

54

- The whole purpose of Christ coming to this earth and being the Lamb of God is so that those who come to Him could **die with Him** and have our sins removed.
- *Here is the answer to question #4:*
- ***When or How* do I die with Christ*?* <u>When I am baptized into Christ and into His death…</u>**

The following is optional material if needed:

Notice what the Bible says about the blood of Christ:

- It Cleanses us from all unrighteousness (I John 1:7)
- It Obtains for us forgiveness of sins (Eph 1:7) We are redeemed by His blood (Col 1:14)

Identical or similar things are said about Baptism: Cleanses/washes away sins(Acts 22:16) Obtains forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38) Served as a good conscience/doth now save us (I Peter 3:21)

<u>CONNECTION OR CONTRADICTION?</u> Nothing but the blood of Jesus saves us, but the act of faith as we respond to the gospel is the point when we connect to His blood, because that is where He shed His blood in His death (Jn 19:34)!

- The whole purpose of Christ coming to this earth and being the Lamb of God is so that those who come to Him could **die with Him** and have our sins removed.
- *Here is the answer to question #4:*
- ***When or How* do I die with Christ*?* <u>When I am baptized into Christ and into His death…</u>**

The following is optional material if needed:

Notice what the Bible says about the blood of Christ:

- It Cleanses us from all unrighteousness (I John 1:7)
- It Obtains for us forgiveness of sins (Eph 1:7) We are redeemed by His blood (Col 1:14)

Identical or similar things are said about Baptism: Cleanses/washes away sins(Acts 22:16) Obtains forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38) Served as a good conscience/doth now save us (I Peter 3:21)

<u>CONNECTION OR CONTRADICTION?</u> Nothing but the blood of Jesus saves us, but the act of faith as we respond to the gospel is the point when we connect to His blood, because that is where He shed His blood in His death (Jn 19:34)!

- **Christians must determine to serve God and make the decision to sin as little as possible.**
- In other words, you've just been cleaned up. **Don't go out and get dirty again!**
- **We can do whatever we set our minds to do. It happens at the point of conviction. When one repents and makes a U- turn. It is a change in life!**

- **Christians must determine to serve God and make the decision to sin as little as possible.**
- In other words, you've just been cleaned up. **Don't go out and get dirty again!**
- **We can do whatever we set our minds to do. It happens at the point of conviction. When one repents and makes a U- turn. It is a change in life!**

- Vs 17 tells us how this works…. It is not some superstitious act where we could just grab people and put them under the water and they would be saved after we said the "magic words" over them.
- Baptism is done *by* someone, not *to* someone!
- A PERSON must become *obedient from the heart*--- baptism is an ***act of faith!*** In essence, once one has received the "free gift" – (eg. similar to the check one has been given, if one believes in it, then by faith they will endorse it and take it to the bank.)
- The action of baptism is simply the **action of an obedient faith**.

- Vs 17 tells us how this works…. It is not some superstitious act where we could just grab people and put them under the water and they would be saved after we said the "magic words" over them.
- Baptism is done *by* someone, not *to* someone!
- A PERSON must become *obedient from the heart*--- baptism is an ***act of faith!*** In essence, once one has received the "free gift" – (eg. similar to the check one has been given, if one believes in it, then by faith they will endorse it and take it to the bank.)
- The action of baptism is simply the **action of an obedient faith**.

57

Notice: One here must be obedient to that "form of teaching" to which you were committed.

- Ex. I can't obey a series of facts – like the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ, but I can obey a form of those facts….when I ***participate in the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ*** when I am buried with Christ and arise to walk with Him in newness of life!
- Remember, it is not enough to just believe the Gospel, one must **obey it** (2 Thess 2:1-7)! This is how one applies the blood of Jesus to his or her account in heaven, to cover (atone) for his sins.

Optional material if you think would be helpful:

IMPORTANT ANALOGY: Think of baptism as the "Believer's Wedding Ceremony." The important thing is that you have love and faith in the person who you want to marry. But you are not married and do not become one with that person, until you exchange your vows and go through the marriage ceremony. Similarly, we must love Christ, and be touched by the gospel, and decide to become one with Christ. All of this comes to fruition when by faith we go through the ceremony by which we become one with Christ! Once you become one with Him in the watery grave of baptism, you now live with Him and for Him and take on His name!

Notice: One here must be obedient to that "form of teaching" to which you were committed.

- Ex. I can't obey a series of facts – like the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ, but I can obey a form of those facts….when I ***participate in the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ*** when I am buried with Christ and arise to walk with Him in newness of life!
- Remember, it is not enough to just believe the Gospel, one must **obey it** (2 Thess 2:1-7)! This is how one applies the blood of Jesus to his or her account in heaven, to cover (atone) for his sins.

Optional material if you think would be helpful:

IMPORTANT ANALOGY: Think of baptism as the "Believer's Wedding Ceremony." The important thing is that you have love and faith in the person who you want to marry. But you are not married and do not become one with that person, until you exchange your vows and go through the marriage ceremony. Similarly, we must love Christ, and be touched by the gospel, and decide to become one with Christ. All of this comes to fruition when by faith we go through the ceremony by which we become one with Christ! Once you become one with Him in the watery grave of baptism, you now live with Him and for Him and take on His name!

- We did not do anything to *earn this*….
- **It is a free gift that we accept by faith.**
- Romans 6 answers these four questions and how baptism fits into God's plan.

- We did not do anything to *earn this*….
- **It is a free gift that we accept by faith.**
- Romans 6 answers these four questions and how baptism fits into God's plan.

59

In summary … (Explain this chart).

- This Spiritually dead man is buried into Christ's death…sins are removed in baptism and he/she is united with Christ's death…

- **SANCTIFICATION** occurs---he is made *holy*…. Can be set apart to God's service. Simultaneously, with the sins washed away …

- **JUSTIFICATION** occurs…. The price of sin is no longer on his head.

Finally, the key objective is achieved.

- **RECONCILATION** occurs with a Holy God. A new life and spiritual fellowship is regained!

<Do you see why the NT places such an emphasis on Baptism? >

In summary … (Explain this chart).

- This Spiritually dead man is buried into Christ's death…sins are removed in baptism and he/she is united with Christ's death…

- **SANCTIFICATION** occurs---he is made *holy*…. Can be set apart to God's service. Simultaneously, with the sins washed away …

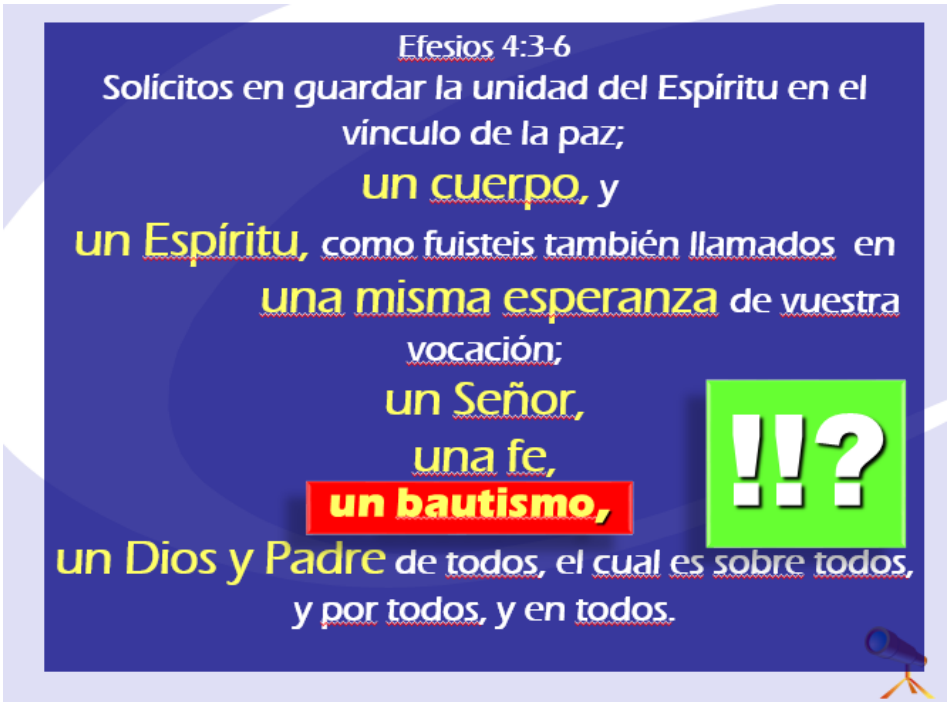
- **JUSTIFICATION** occurs…. The price of sin is no longer on his head.

Finally, the key objective is achieved.

- **RECONCILATION** occurs with a Holy God. A new life and spiritual fellowship is regained!

<Do you see why the NT places such an emphasis on Baptism? >

60

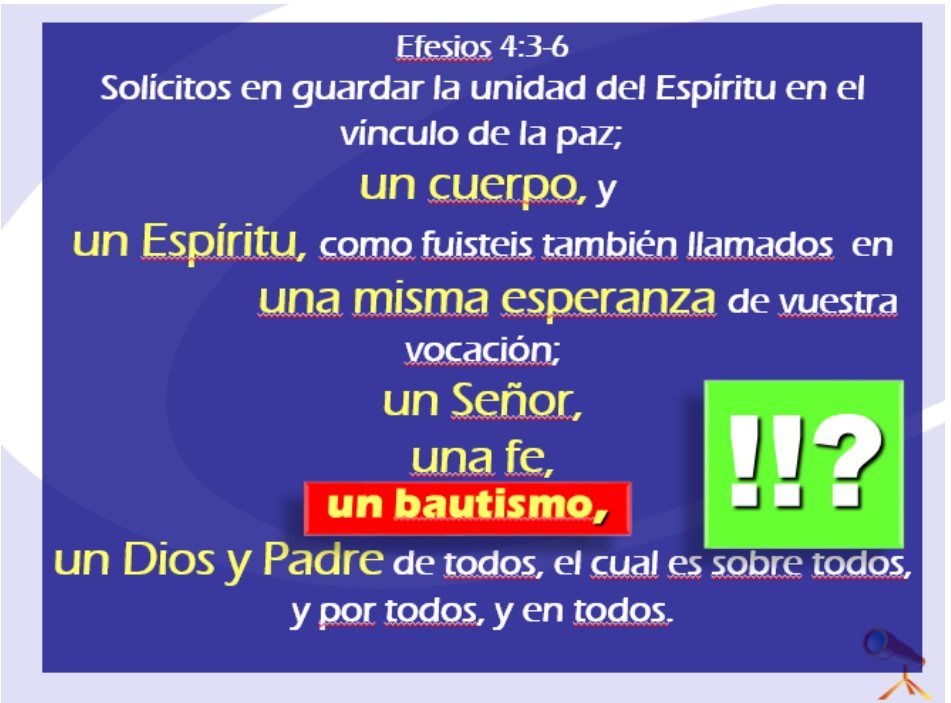


Here we have a very important list. **Seven things upon which Christians must be unified. Why is baptism on this list?** If baptism were just optional, not very important, just something you do as a sort of fuzzy symbol reenacting the DBR of Jesus, why is it on this list? It is up there with *one lord, one faith, one spirit, one father… amazing…..* **Why is this given such a place of importance?**

- If we understand from Rom 6 that baptism is the ONLY PLACE where one is **united with Christ, contact His blood, and become one with him…it becomes clear.** Baptism is where we are put into Christ, and have our sins forgiven…so this is of monumental importance!

- Notice there is only **ONE baptism**, just like there is only one gospel. It is not the gospel, but it is the *response to the gospel*, where each individual taps into its power by faith.

<How could we find out what the one baptism is? The book of Acts shows us historically what is being referenced here and why it is so important.>

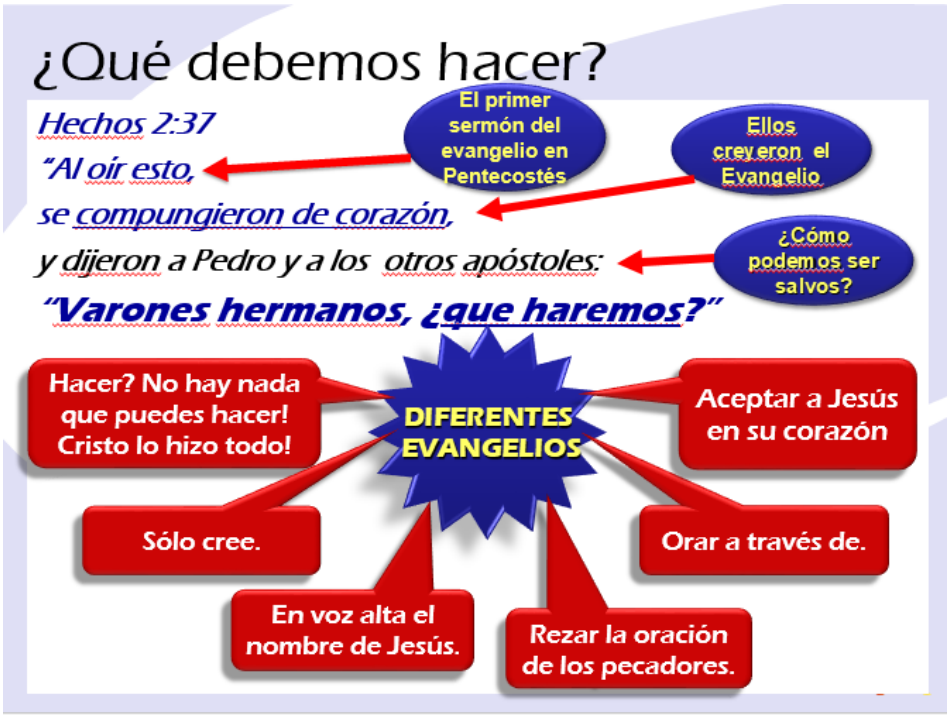


Here we have a very important list. **Seven things upon which Christians must be unified. Why is baptism on this list?** If baptism were just optional, not very important, just something you do as a sort of fuzzy symbol reenacting the DBR of Jesus, why is it on this list? It is up there with *one lord, one faith, one spirit, one father… amazing…..* **Why is this given such a place of importance?**

- If we understand from Rom 6 that baptism is the ONLY PLACE where one is **united with Christ, contact His blood, and become one with him…it becomes clear.** Baptism is where we are put into Christ, and have our sins forgiven…so this is of monumental importance!

- Notice there is only **ONE baptism**, just like there is only one gospel. It is not the gospel, but it is the *response to the gospel*, where each individual taps into its power by faith.

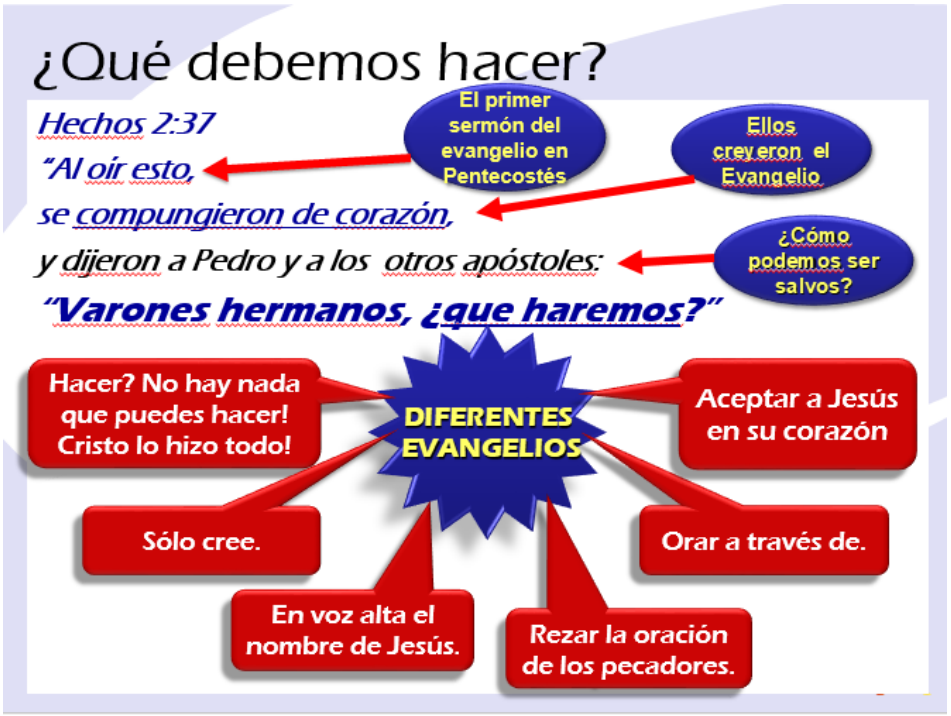
<How could we find out what the one baptism is? The book of Acts shows us historically what is being referenced here and why it is so important.>



- Acts 2 records Peter preaching the gospel for the first time…
- The people have heard it and believed it…. They ask: ***What must we do? (Acts 2:37).***

  Peter could have answered their question in all sorts of ways….
  (See above)

- **Why are so many possible answers given today?** Because over the centuries so many **DIFFERENT gospels have emerged. This is so sad, because there is only ONE GOSPEL and we must get this right!**



- Acts 2 records Peter preaching the gospel for the first time…
- The people have heard it and believed it…. They ask: ***What must we do? (Acts 2:37).***

  Peter could have answered their question in all sorts of ways….
  (See above)

- **Why are so many possible answers given today?** Because over the centuries so many **DIFFERENT gospels have emerged. This is so sad, because there is only ONE GOSPEL and we must get this right!**

This is the clear simple response…

- **Repent…stop sinning!!!! And then become one with Christ by being baptized for the remission of your sins!**

That is the Gospel Response!

¿Qué debemos hacer?
Al oír esto,
se compungieron de corazón,
y dijeron a Pedro y a los otros apóstoles:
"Varones hermanos, ¿que haremos?"
Pedro les dijo:
"Arrrepentios, y
bautícese cada uno de
vosotros en el nombre de
Jesucristo para perdón de
los pecados; y reciviréis el
don del Espiritu Santo.
La respuesta
al evangelio

This is the clear simple response…

- **Repent…stop sinning!!!! And then become one with Christ by being baptized for the remission of your sins!**

That is the Gospel Response!

- This chart summarizes very well the **"Big Picture" of the "Big Picture Bible"** and how it is all about Christ's blood and how it flows backwards and forwards!

- In the OT period, through faith in God and animal sacrifices that looked forward to the coming of Christ, sins were forgiven sort of "on credit," awaiting the coming of the Messiah.

- In the NT, faith in Christ as the perfect sacrifice and the lamb of God is accredited to your account in heaven when you respond to the gospel by participating in the death/burial/and resurrection. This is how you "obey the gospel."

- This chart summarizes very well the **"Big Picture" of the "Big Picture Bible"** and how it is all about Christ's blood and how it flows backwards and forwards!

- In the OT period, through faith in God and animal sacrifices that looked forward to the coming of Christ, sins were forgiven sort of "on credit," awaiting the coming of the Messiah.

- In the NT, faith in Christ as the perfect sacrifice and the lamb of God is accredited to your account in heaven when you respond to the gospel by participating in the death/burial/and resurrection. This is how you "obey the gospel."

64

- Let's go back to Jesus' final commands that he gave to His followers before he ascended up into heaven….

- We started off by saying that Jesus commanded that **the gospel be preached**, but if you complete the command you see he also said ***"He who believes and is baptized shall be saved."***

- Christ knew how important this was… it was not just by virtue of keeping this command, per se, but by virtue of ***accepting the gift of salvation by grace, and being united with Him.***

- Let's go back to Jesus' final commands that he gave to His followers before he ascended up into heaven….

- We started off by saying that Jesus commanded that **the gospel be preached**, but if you complete the command you see he also said ***"He who believes and is baptized shall be saved."***

- Christ knew how important this was… it was not just by virtue of keeping this command, per se, but by virtue of ***accepting the gift of salvation by grace, and being united with Him.***

65

- **REMEMBER: Every person has in their life, a <u>cross and a throne</u>.** The call of the gospel is for those who have been their own tin god, sitting upon their own throne and turning up their nose at Jesus on the cross, to humbly get off the throne of their lives and enthrone Jesus there instead, so they can then take up His cross and follow Him!
- **<u>Won't you accept the promise and gift of God's son today</u>? And be baptized for the remission of your sins by faith in the blood of Christ?**
- If you believe in Christ and have faith in His blood, and are willing to repent of your sins and confess His name… then you are ready to die with Him and have your sins removed, and enter His kingdom and live a life of faithful loving obedience to Christ as king and have every confidence that you will spend eternity in heaven.
- But, if you reject this gift there will be no hope for you… there is no other basis upon which God will forgive sin…nothing but the blood of Jesus!

Do you want to die with Christ today?

- **REMEMBER: Every person has in their life, a <u>cross and a throne</u>.** The call of the gospel is for those who have been their own tin god, sitting upon their own throne and turning up their nose at Jesus on the cross, to humbly get off the throne of their lives and enthrone Jesus there instead, so they can then take up His cross and follow Him!
- **<u>Won't you accept the promise and gift of God's son today</u>? And be baptized for the remission of your sins by faith in the blood of Christ?**
- If you believe in Christ and have faith in His blood, and are willing to repent of your sins and confess His name… then you are ready to die with Him and have your sins removed, and enter His kingdom and live a life of faithful loving obedience to Christ as king and have every confidence that you will spend eternity in heaven.
- But, if you reject this gift there will be no hope for you… there is no other basis upon which God will forgive sin…nothing but the blood of Jesus!

Do you want to die with Christ today?

66

If the answer is yes, I am ready…. **count the cost…(Lk 14:25-32).** Remind them that baptism is not the end, it is just the beginning. Jesus in the Great Commission made it clear that there is to ***be teaching after baptism in order for one to understand the work and worship in the Kingdom.***

- **One can't have Christ and reject His body, which is the church family!** (Col 1:18) They need to continue to die with Christ and that means to die to sin and live for Him. Otherwise, this new relationship is meaningless.

- Remember: Baptism is the point where one comes to be "wed" to Christ and wear His name. It is the day you make your commitment to Him to serve Him and "be faithful until death" (Rev 2:10). The church family is here to help you. That is God's plan and we must make a commitment to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

- Keep in mind that once you "obey the gospel" you are added to the ***church universal.*** A separate decision needs to be made concerning where you choose to worship -- at which **local church** you choose to place your membership.

Would you like to become a part of the congregation here and worship with us as well, as a part of your commitment?

If the answer is yes, I am ready…. **count the cost…(Lk 14:25-32).** Remind them that baptism is not the end, it is just the beginning. Jesus in the Great Commission made it clear that there is to ***be teaching after baptism in order for one to understand the work and worship in the Kingdom.***

- **One can't have Christ and reject His body, which is the church family!** (Col 1:18) They need to continue to die with Christ and that means to die to sin and live for Him. Otherwise, this new relationship is meaningless.

- Remember: Baptism is the point where one comes to be "wed" to Christ and wear His name. It is the day you make your commitment to Him to serve Him and "be faithful until death" (Rev 2:10). The church family is here to help you. That is God's plan and we must make a commitment to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

- Keep in mind that once you "obey the gospel" you are added to the ***church universal.*** A separate decision needs to be made concerning where you choose to worship -- at which **local church** you choose to place your membership.

Would you like to become a part of the congregation here and worship with us as well, as a part of your commitment?

Final thoughts for the presenter from Brent Hunter:

The last one third of the **Big Picture** booklet by Ken Craig contains excellent material which further validates and provides Biblical evidence which complements what has been shared in this condensed "flip chart version."

If your truth seeker needs additional information to be convinced of these truths, set up another time to go over the material entitled: **The Four Testimonies.** It deals with the following: **1. What *Jesus taught. 2. W*hat the *apostles taught* (the testimony of the epistles) 3. What the *apostles practiced* (the power of actual historical example), 4. What the *early church taught and practiced.***

It is also recommended that you have extra copies of the Big Picture booklet handy so that you can present one to the person after you have shared the presentation. I suggest you write something in the front and date it as a personal memento of the presentation. Booklets can be ordered from www.deward.com. If you buy a box at a time you can get a good discount price from Dan DeGarmo. A great guy! Give him a call at 740-412-7866 for bulk orders.

For further help and guidance in sharing the Big Picture, please go to the Kirkland church of Christ website at: www.Kirklandchurchof Christ.com and click on the "Big Picture Resources" tab. There you will find a handout on "**Sharing Ken Craig's The Big Picture of the Bible," "Asking for a Decision," "Counting the Cost of Discipleship,"** along with other motivational audio files and practical lessons that you will find helpful and encouraging in motivating individuals and congregations to be more evangelistic.

I believe the problem with evangelism today is not **"*motives* but *motivation*,"** and not **"*want to* but *know-how*."** These resources help to provide the **motivation** and this flip chart with the notes helps to provide the **"know-how."** My hope and prayer is that this will aid in making the sharing of the gospel *duplicable*. That is the key and follows the model laid out for us in 2 Tim 2:2. Also, check out some of the testimonials on the site, it will brighten your day!

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you in your evangelistic efforts. My email is: cbhunter53@gmail.com. May God bless you in your efforts at sowing the seed and sharing the gospel! Remember***: "He who wins souls is wise"*** (Prov. 11:30). Amen!

Final thoughts for the presenter from Brent Hunter:

The last one third of the **Big Picture** booklet by Ken Craig contains excellent material which further validates and provides Biblical evidence which complements what has been shared in this condensed "flip chart version."

If your truth seeker needs additional information to be convinced of these truths, set up another time to go over the material entitled: **The Four Testimonies.** It deals with the following: **1. What *Jesus taught. 2. W*hat the *apostles taught* (the testimony of the epistles) 3. What the *apostles practiced* (the power of actual historical example), 4. What the *early church taught and practiced.***

It is also recommended that you have extra copies of the Big Picture booklet handy so that you can present one to the person after you have shared the presentation. I suggest you write something in the front and date it as a personal memento of the presentation. Booklets can be ordered from www.deward.com. If you buy a box at a time you can get a good discount price from Dan DeGarmo. A great guy! Give him a call at 740-412-7866 for bulk orders.

For further help and guidance in sharing the Big Picture, please go to the Kirkland church of Christ website at: www.Kirklandchurchof Christ.com and click on the "Big Picture Resources" tab. There you will find a handout on "**Sharing Ken Craig's The Big Picture of the Bible," "Asking for a Decision," "Counting the Cost of Discipleship,"** along with other motivational audio files and practical lessons that you will find helpful and encouraging in motivating individuals and congregations to be more evangelistic.

I believe the problem with evangelism today is not **"*motives* but *motivation*,"** and not **"*want to* but *know-how*."** These resources help to provide the **motivation** and this flip chart with the notes helps to provide the **"know-how."** My hope and prayer is that this will aid in making the sharing of the gospel *duplicable*. That is the key and follows the model laid out for us in 2 Tim 2:2. Also, check out some of the testimonials on the site, it will brighten your day!

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you in your evangelistic efforts. My email is: cbhunter53@gmail.com. May God bless you in your efforts at sowing the seed and sharing the gospel! Remember***: "He who wins souls is wise"*** (Prov. 11:30). Amen!

68