



**IS GOD FOR US?
OR
IS GOD AGAINST US?**



Preface

This booklet will show the main purpose of the events recorded in the Bible. It is intended to help the inquirer understand what God's message in Scripture is conveying to us. It will benefit an honest inquirer who desires to understand God's main purpose for man.

Before you start to read, may I encourage you to read verses 7 and 8 of chapter 7 in the gospel of Matthew. In this passage Jesus states: "ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." One who seeks truth and the power in his life to overcome, will not be disappointed in the revelation of God, revealed in Scripture.

Some basic questions one should ask when he finishes reading this booklet are: (1) Is it God's purpose to demand from man? (2) Is God's main purpose to give to man? (3) If there is realistic benefit to be gained from God, how do I receive it?

the knowledge of good and evil. It was one thing for man to hear the words; it was another thing to understand the implications and repercussions that would come from violating that prohibition.

Adam's sinless state did not keep him from responding to Satan's temptation through the woman. When Adam responded, he fell from the perfect state in which God had created him. Adam, by falling from this open eternal fellowship with God, would now begin a journey back to the dust of the earth from which he was created (Genesis 3:19). God designed Adam to walk with Himself, and to live by faith in what God had told him. Adam, in violating God's prohibition, became aware of his physical and spiritual nakedness (Genesis 3:6, 10). By this act of eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Adam had moved from being a sinless man to a man indwelt by sin. Adam's perception of life was now distorted. Adam's person and nature had become unrighteous and unacceptable before God.

To deal with their new state of un-righteousness, Adam and his wife sewed fig leaves together to cover their nakedness. Genesis 3:8, records God walking in the garden. The man and the woman's awareness of their nakedness increased with God's presence to the point that

Man's part is to believe God in faith, which brings him under the covering of this blood sacrifice, (as he looks forward to the future sacrifice that God would provide, the Lamb of God). This was the place in which man would be required to live and walk if he was to have a divine covering.

Cain, son of Adam, tilled the ground and brought the fruit of the ground to God as a sacrifice (Genesis 4:3). Cain's sacrifice was from the work of his own hands; his sacrifice was not acceptable to God. His brother Abel, by faith, brought a lamb, a blood sacrifice. God accepted Abel's sacrifice (Genesis 4:4). Next we read that Cain was wroth, because his works were not acceptable to God; he acted as if there was no barrier between God and man (Genesis 4:6). Cain's approach to God was according to the works of his own hands, based on his own religious ideas. God told Cain that if he did well, he would be accepted. This has direct reference to the offering of a blood sacrifice. The statement of God is clear; without a blood covering, man cannot enter into a relationship with God (Leviticus 17:11). Cain had to exercise obedience to truth, by faith, to enter into this place of favor.

Abram. God tells Abram that He is going to give the land of Canaan (Israel) to Abram's seed. Abram then built an altar unto the Lord. As with those in the Godly line before him, Abram approaches God only through a sacrifice.

In Genesis 15:1, God again appears to Abram, and tells him, "I am your shield and your exceeding great reward." In verse 5 God tells Abram that if he can number the stars, "so shall your descendants be." In verse 6, a most startling thing is written, "And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted (reckoned) it to him for righteousness." Abram's faith, had brought him from his natural unrighteous state to be made righteous. This righteousness was imputed to Abram, **by the work of God** (Romans 4:22). Romans 4:23-24, tells us this same imputation of righteousness is given to everyone who will believe God in faith as Abram did. Abram came from an unrighteous state, to a righteous state in the moment he believed God in faith (Geneses 15:6).

This same truth is also conveyed to us in the gospel of John, 1:12-13. Here, the truth is made known that receiving Christ whom the Father has sent is the way a person can be born of God. He is made acceptable to God and becomes a son of God, by faith, believing on His name. By believing on Jesus the Lamb of God, (John 1:29), one believes God and the sacrifice which God has supplied.

10; Romans 3:2; 9:4). The law was added because Israel did not receive the Word of God with faith (Deuteronomy 32:20). “But the word preached did not profit them. Not being mixed with faith in them that heard it” (Hebrews 4:2). God chose Israel to be His people. Israel chose anything and everything, except Jehovah, to be their God (Jeremiah 22:17; Hosea 9:17).

3. How did the Law Improve God’s Blessing upon Israel?

The blessing upon Israel was and is totally connected with the Messiah. The Messiah, who was to come, was made known in the Old Testament Scriptures in the types, shadows, sacrifices, prophecies, and plain statements, as to the coming Anointed One of God. These are written in the Law of Moses, the prophets, and the Psalms (Luke 24:44). Without the fulfillment of the Messianic promises, Israel has no hope in this world or the next.

However, Israel prophetically fulfilled what was written about it. The promised Messiah did come through the seed of Abraham (Abram), and Israel’s hope as a nation, is in the fulfillment of future prophecies, such as Isaiah 11, and Jeremiah 31:31-34. This will take place in the reign of Christ on this earth. These promises will place Israel as the

a. Gentiles also included in the promises

Now we know that the Gentiles are also included in God's promise (Isaiah 9:2; 49:6; Acts 15:7-9; Ephesians 2:11-18). This hope would come through the Messiah, fulfilling the promises of God given to Israel. This hope becomes a reality for Gentiles who are in faith as well, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28).

"Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified (made right with God) by faith apart from the deeds of the Law" (Romans 3:28). In this Scripture, we learn that a man is placed in a justified (accepted) state with God, by faith alone in the Messiah, without the Law (man's efforts). A failure in our conduct as revealed by the Law, does not control our relationship with God, but our faith in Christ does (Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17).

4. What is God's Purpose for those who belong to Him?

a. To Israel

What was and is the purpose of God in choosing Israel for His earthly people? **First**, He chose Israel as a place of habitation for Himself, choosing them from among all people

God is found in the only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 3:16-17; John 1:18).

The Church is the object of the affections of Christ, as He gave Himself entirely for it (Ephesians 5:25). Every Christian shares in this blessing. We read of this intimacy Christ has toward the Church in Ephesians 5:30, “For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones.” This oneness with God in Christ is the inheritance of everyone who has the Spirit of Christ within him. The purpose of God for His Church is spiritual blessing. This starts with every believer the day he commits his life to Christ in faith. The Christian has the full favor of God upon him in his new life and position in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:18).

5. Favor?

The favor and blessing that God has placed in the Christian, is it entirely a gift of the grace of God, or is it necessary to continue in some part of the Law of Moses (613 commandments), to keep this favor? We might ask this; is this blessing of God lost by our inability to always respond in faith properly? The answer to these questions is found in Scripture. This is shown in Ephesians 2:8, where the word grace means ‘unmerited favor.’ This gift of God

promises of God. The Christian's security in these promises is assured by these words, "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Romans 11:29). This simply means that God will not change His mind, and take away from the believer the gift of life, once He has given it to him. To the Christian these words apply, Jesus said: "I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Again, Jesus speaks of His own when He states, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them and they follow Me, and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand" (John 10:27-29). Once more Jesus spoke, "And I will ask the Father and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever" (John 14:16).

Are these things true? The answer to that question is found in this Scripture; "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent; has He said and will He not do it, has He spoken and will He not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19). Jesus, praying to His Father for those who belong to Him, said "Sanctify them through your truth: Your word is truth" (John 17:17).

6. Chosen in Christ for Spiritual Riches

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3). Spiritual poverty in us is our natural condition, for we are children of the first Adam, with Adam’s sinful nature dwelling in us. Also, Scripture reveals to us that our natural inheritance through Adam is eternal death. In contrast to this place are the spiritual riches given to us in Christ Jesus. This should make us speechless, with empty hands as to what value we have in ourselves to offer to God. The riches of His grace toward us are above our ability to comprehend. However, by walking after the Lord Jesus Christ in faith, we enter into those riches. The Holy Spirit who reveals Christ Jesus to us will open these spiritual riches of God to our understanding (Ephesians 1:17-18). Here are a few Scriptures to tell us what some of these riches are. The riches of the grace of God directed toward the Christian come forth in this way:

- A Christian is the recipient of being called and chosen by God to be his child (Ephesians 1:4).
- He reconciled us to Himself, when we were still sinners (Romans 5:10).
- He forgave us, through the blood of Christ, for all

7. How do we Enter into These Truths in a Practical and Beneficial way in our Earthly Journey?

“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). In ourselves, we cannot enter into these Spiritual blessings. Jesus showed us the way to receive these blessing when He said: “All things are possible to him who believes” (Mark 9:23). God has opened up the heavens to them who will believe Him. Faith will open spiritual eyes to see the things that God has given to those that come to Him in faith through the Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:18).

God gave the land of Canaan (Israel) to Abraham’s seed as a gift. In order for Israel to possess this gift of God, the enemies of God had to be routed out of the land through warfare. It is no different for a Christian if he is to claim the territory that God has given him. A war is inevitable. When the Christian fights with the weapons that the Spirit of God has given to him, victory is assured.

A list of these weapons for the Christian’s use is found in Ephesians 6:14-18. In order to fight a victorious war, the Christian must know who the enemies of God are, and what their tactics are. This information is necessary to fight intelligently. In short, the three enemies, which the Christian

powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord” (Romans 8:37-39).

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