

## No Matter Who You Are

No matter who you are, no matter where you live, no matter what you've done, no matter your religion or lack of religion; Jesus died for your sins! He loved you so much that He left heaven and came to earth to offer Himself as a sacrifice in your place! He died on the cross to pay the full price for every sin you have ever committed! As a result, He offers you forgiveness of sins and an eternity in heaven free of charge!

After Jesus died on the cross, He was laid in a tomb. Even His most loyal followers thought that He would never be heard from again. But then on the third day, something occurred that changed history forever. Jesus rose from the dead!

No other religious leader in the history of the world has ever come back from the dead. They all died and stayed that way, never to be heard from again.

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to 500 eyewitnesses at one time. He spent 40 days teaching His followers and then He ascended into heaven.

The significance of Christ's death is clearly explained in the Bible. The Bible says, "God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for our sins. We are made right with God only by believing that Jesus shed His blood for us." (Romans 3:23-25 paraphrase) This explains the purpose of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. He sacrificed Himself to pay the full penalty for every sin we ever committed. He did everything God required to cleanse, forgive and bring us to Himself. This is how God provided a way for us to live forever with Him in heaven. Although we deserve God's judgment, Jesus was punished in our place. As a result of Christ's death and resurrection, God offers us forgiveness of sins and eternal life freely and without cost. "For by grace are you saved through faith and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God, not as a result of your works." (Ephesians 2:8&9 paraphrase)

The Bible makes it clear that there is no ladder of success that we can climb to reach God. No one will get to heaven by being religious, doing good or trying their best. Devoting your life to God, trying to be like Jesus or obeying the 10 Commandments can never take away your sin. Because no matter how long or hard you tried, you could never make yourself good enough. "A person can never be made right with God by obeying the law." (Romans 3:20 paraphrase) "Not by acts of righteousness which we have done, but only by His mercy He saves us." (Titus 3:5 paraphrase)

God offers salvation as a free gift to anyone who simply believes in Jesus Christ alone. The Bible says, "The gift of God is eternal life [never-ending joyful life] through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23b paraphrase). "We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true of everyone who believes, no matter who you are." (Acts 10:43 paraphrase) "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved [saved from sin and eternal damnation]." (Acts 16:31 paraphrase) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only and dearly loved Son, that whoever believes in Him, will not perish [and face judgment] but will have everlasting life." (John 3:16 paraphrase)

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