



THE 4 MINUTE GOSPEL

PURE, SIMPLE, AND UTTERLY PROFOUND

ASK ANYONE if they believe they're going to heaven when they die, and the vast majority will answer, "Well, yes, I believe so." When asked why they believe this to be the case, the answer usually goes something like this: "Well, God is a loving God, and I'm a pretty good person."

God is indeed a loving God. All of His attributes are perfect. Yet He is also a God of perfect justice. Therefore, the "not so good" part of "pretty good," as well as the supposed good, also involve sins against God. Everyone is included in the category of sinner, because "all have sinned," according to Romans 3:23. The Bible tells us that the penalty for sin (even one sin, e.g., lying, stealing, sexual immorality, etc.) is separation from God forever, and God's justice demands that the penalty for sin must be paid. Consequently, because the penalty is eternal (infinite), man, in his finite state, is incapable for atoning for his own sin.

But there is good news for mankind. In fact, "Good News" is what the word "gospel" means.

God is perfect in love and mercy, and He has already paid the penalty for all humanity—for every single sin of every man and woman—past, present, and future! The Word of God declares: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).

This is what God the Father did through His Son Jesus Christ, whose death, burial, and resurrection satisfied divine justice, providing eternal reconciliation with God (1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 5:8-11).

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What is man's part? It is simply this: we are to repent by turning to Him, believe in Him for who He is and for what He, and only He could, and did, accomplish by His experience upon the Cross for all humanity.

Salvation is a free gift that has already been paid for in full by Jesus our Savior. As a gift, it must be received by faith in Him. That is the only necessity. Any attempt to add to that clear biblical requirement (Titus 3:5) of faith alone in order to achieve salvation, such as good works, religious rituals, Old Testament Law keeping, etc., constitutes a rejection of Christ's finished and acceptable sacrifice.

Our prayer is that you will accept by faith the wonderfully profound and immeasurable gift provided by Jesus Christ, our Lord, our God, and our Savior. All you must do is to acknowledge that your sins have separated you from God and believe that only Jesus could—and did—pay the full penalty for your sins. Then thank Him for His precious gift of eternal life that you have received!

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing [in Jesus], that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. —Romans 15:13

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. —Romans 8:1-2

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. —2 Corinthians 5:17

These verses are not the word of man but what the Word of God teaches. We encourage you to find out more of what God has said by reading the Bible.



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