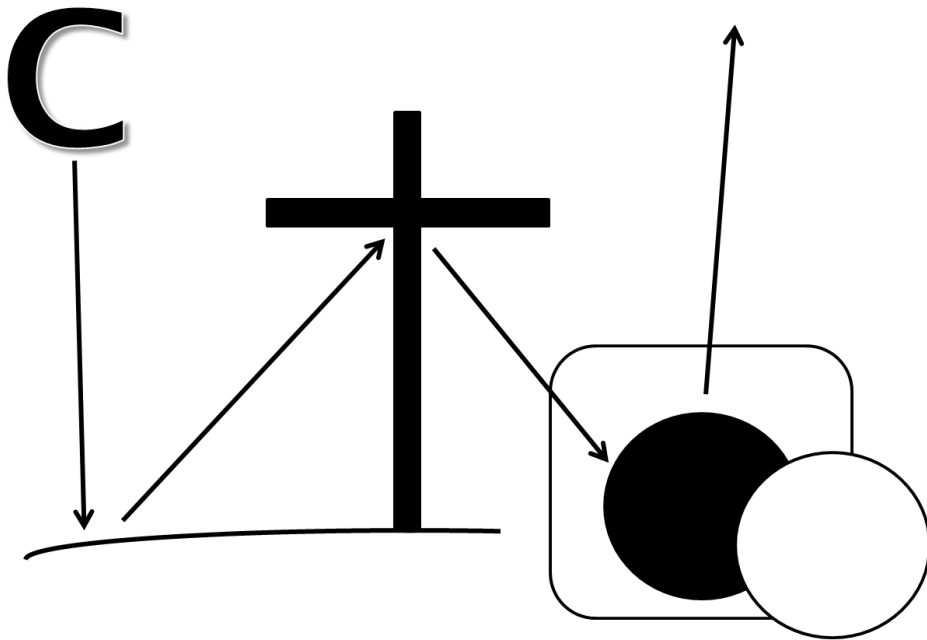
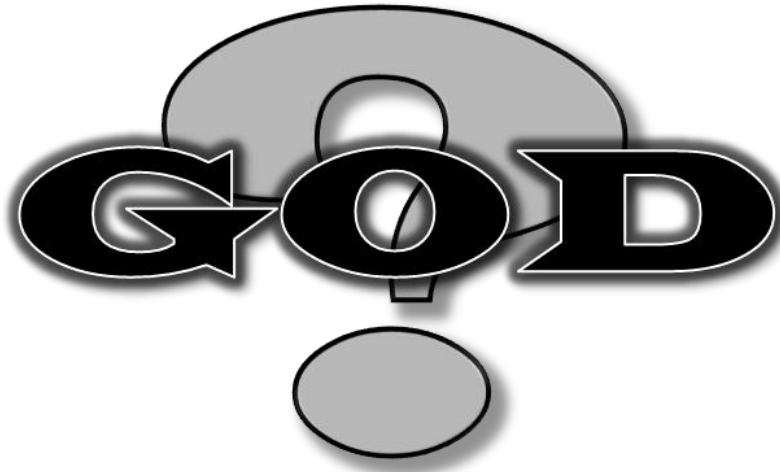


God's Eternal Plan

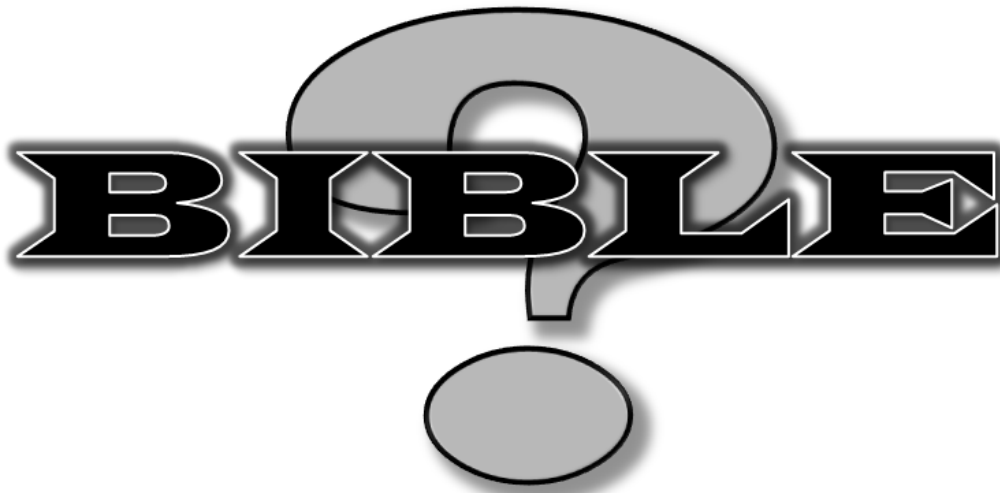
The Gospel of Jesus Christ





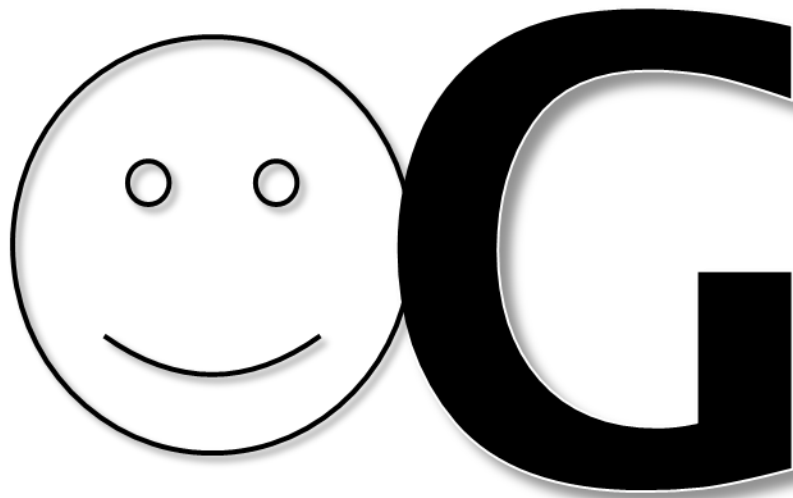
Does God Exist?

- Nature itself speaks of a creator, for a machine is evidence there is a machine maker, so creation is evidence that there is a creator.
 - Romans 1:20
 - Psalm 19:1-2; 97:6
- In addition God has revealed Himself through Jesus and His word
 - John 12:44-45
 - John 10:30
 - Hebrews 1:1-2



What Is The Bible?

- **God's Inspired Word**
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - 2 Peter 1:20-21
- **Chain of Inspiration (New Testament)**
 - Hebrews 1:1-2
 - John 14:26; 15:26-27; 16:13-15
 - Luke 24:49
 - Acts 1:4-9; 2:1-4
 - Ephesians 3:3-5
 - 1 John 4:6
 - Jude 3 (1st century inspiration final)
- **God's word the standard on Judgment day**
 - John 12:48
 - Hebrews 4:12-13



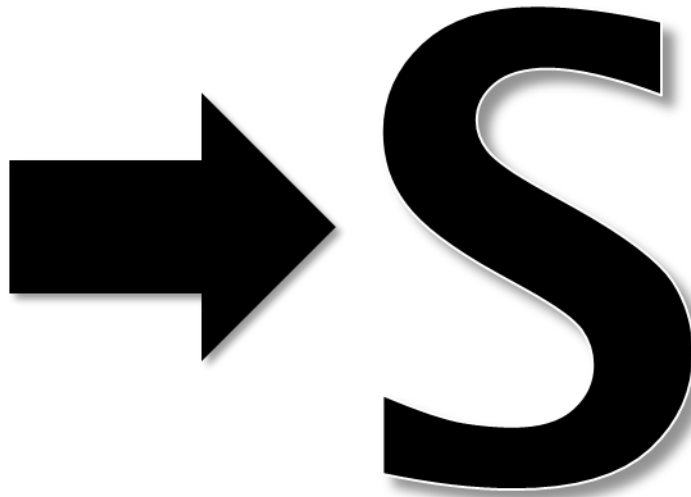
God's Fellowship with Man

- **The first man and woman had an intimate relationship with God.**
 - **Genesis 3:8 – Walked among them**
- **We all begin life in the same spiritual relationship with God. We are born sinless, in a happy relationship with God.**
 - **Ecclesiastes 7:29**
 - **Matthew 18:1-4**
 - **Matthew 19:14**



Freedom to Choose

- **God gave us the power to choose**
 - Genesis 2:16-17
 - Genesis 3:2-3
- **We are created in the image of God**
 - Genesis 1:26-27
 - Not that our bodies resemble God's body but like God we have a spirit and we can think, feel, reason, and decide.
 - We are different than the rest of creation that runs primarily on instinct, but the crowning object of God's creation, man was given something special, the power to choose.
 - We are responsible for our choices.



We All Choose to Sin

- **At some point in our lives we choose to sin and become sinners by our personal choice.**
 - **Genesis 3:5-6**
 - **Ecclesiastes 7:20**
 - **Romans 3:10-12;23**
- **Sin means “to miss the mark”**
 - **1 John 5:17 – Sin is unrighteousness**
 - **1 John 3:4 – Sin is lawlessness**
 - **When we sin we break God’s law and the violation has a penalty**



Sin Separates Us from God

- **When we choose to sin we are absolutely cut off and separated from God because He being perfectly righteous can have nothing to do with sin.**
 - **Genesis 3:22-24**
 - **Isaiah 59:1-2**
- **Once this separation is made there is nothing we can do on our own to eliminate it.**
 - **Even if we try to live a better life, the sin that separates us remains, we don't have the ability to take away the sin.**

DEATH

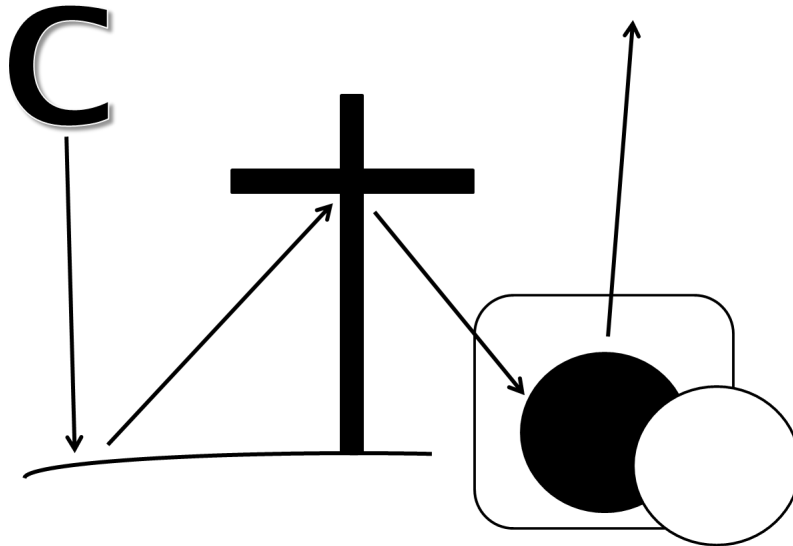
Penalty for Sin

- **Sin causes spiritual death**
 - Ezekiel 18:20
 - Romans 6:15
 - Romans 6:23
- **Entrance to heaven denied to sinners**
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
 - Galatians 5:19-21
- **Instead of heaven sinners will pay the penalty of eternal destruction**
 - 1 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- **We all have sinned and are spiritually dead when that happens. We deserve eternity separated from God. In this state of spiritual death we can never enter into heaven, but will enter into eternal destruction.**

P OR **F**

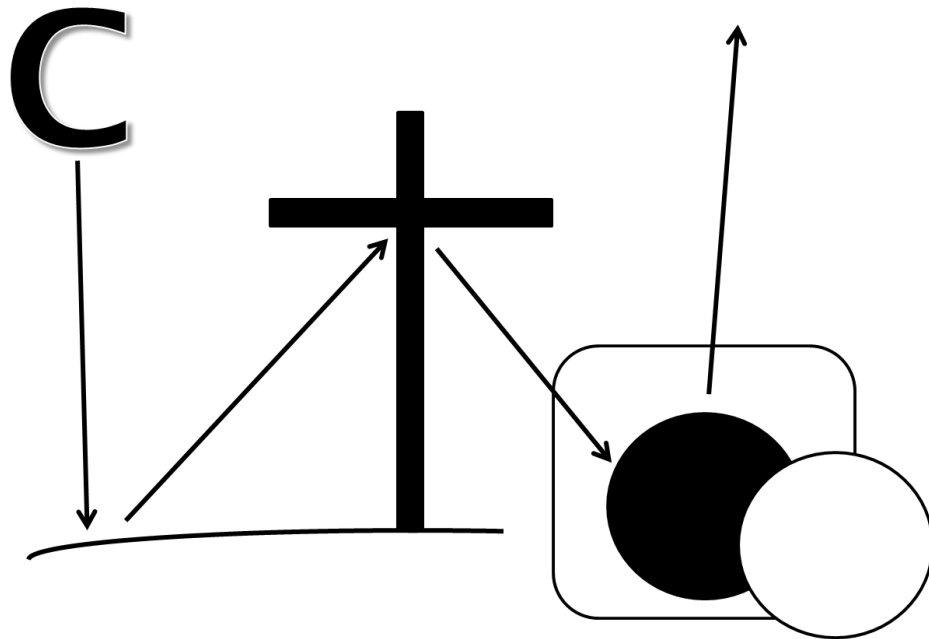
God's Dilemma: Punish or Forgive

- On one hand God is just and demands that sin be punished. He must keep His word that the soul who sins will die.
 - Illustration: A judge cannot let a murder off and be just, God in like manner cannot let someone off who has broken His laws and earned the penalty of spiritual death.
- On the other hand God loves mankind and doesn't want any to suffer eternal destruction
 - 2 Peter 3:9
 - 1 Timothy 2:4



Jesus: God's Dilemma Solved

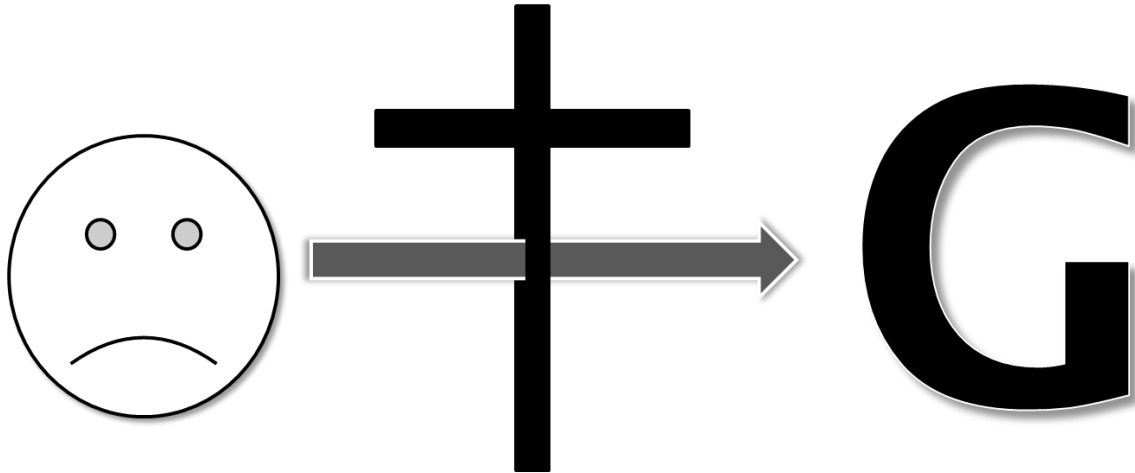
- God planned a way that He can be both just and forgive at the same time.
- Predetermined plan
 - Act 2:22-24
 - Ephesians 1:4
- Plan was promised
 - Genesis 3:15
 - Genesis 12:3
- Plan was prophesied (foretold)
 - Isaiah 9:6-7
 - Isaiah 53:2-12
- Plan was accomplished
 - Matthew 1:1-16 – Fleshly the “seed” of Abraham who the promise was made to.
 - Matthew 1:18-25 – Virgin birth
 - John 19:1-20-20:17 – It is finished!



Jesus: God's Dilemma Solved

- **Jesus: God in the flesh**
 - John 1:1-3; 14
 - Philippians 2:6-8
- **Sinless Sacrifice**
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - Hebrews 2:9-10
- **Resurrected and reigns in heaven as King**
 - Ephesians 1:20-23

God's dilemma is solved in Jesus. God can be just and also forgive, because Jesus who was sinless paid a death He didn't owe. So the penalty for our sin can be paid and we can be forgiven because God will allow Jesus to bear our penalty for the sin we commit.



Jesus Is the Only Way to God

- We must go through Jesus to get back to God.
 - John 14:1-6
 - Acts 4:12
 - 1 Timothy 2:5-6
 - Hebrews 7:25
- Redemption from sin is only in Jesus
 - Ephesians 1:7

Faith

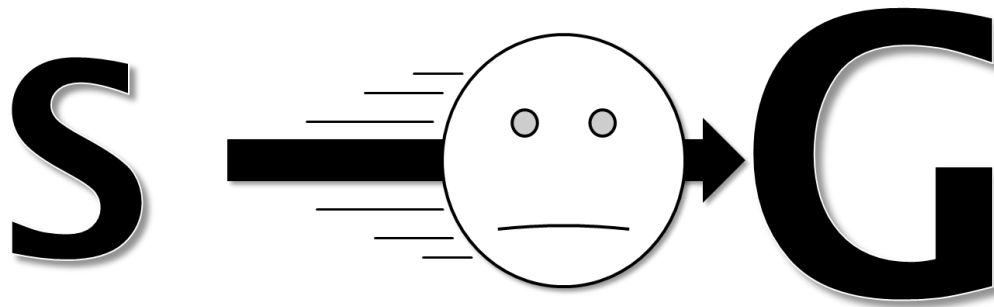
Saved Through Faith

- God has determined that man will access the salvation that is in Jesus by faith.
- We cannot be good enough to earn this gift. By our actions we are sinners and nothing we do takes that away. (Galatians 2:21)
- God has declared that the one who trust in Him to save them through Jesus' death and resurrection, these will be saved.
 - Habakkuk 2:4 – Righteous will live by faith
 - Romans 10:17 – Faith is based on God's promises
 - Hebrews 11:6 – Cannot please God without faith
 - Ephesians 2:8-9 – Faith is our part in salvation
 - Romans 5:1-2 – Justified by faith
 - Romans 3:21-26 – God's righteousness given by faith
 - Galatians 3:26 – Children of God by faith

B + O = F

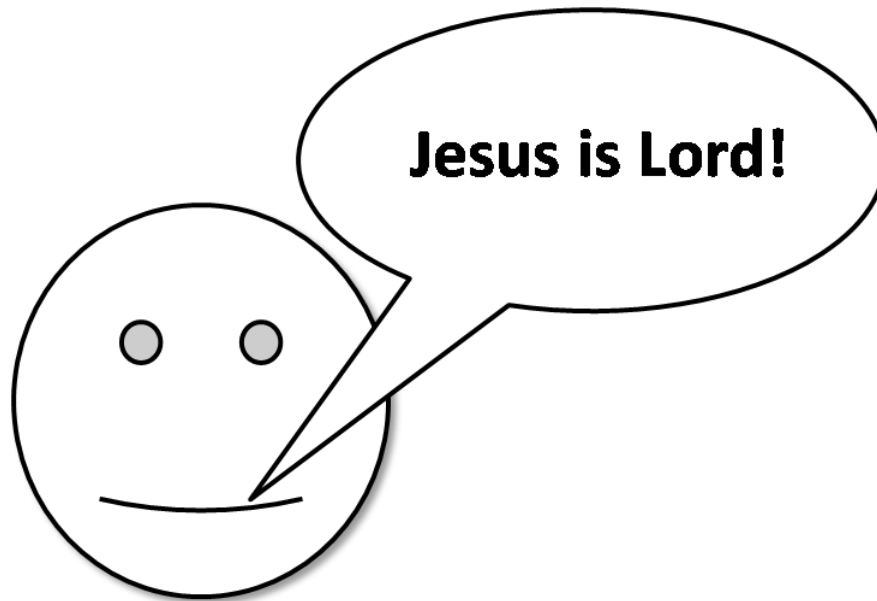
Belief and Obedience is Faith

- **Belief in God and Jesus is essential to faith**
 - Hebrews 11:6
 - John 3:16
 - Mark 16:15-16
 - Romans 1:16
- **Faith also includes the element of action. The faith that saves is the faith that obeys**
 - John 3:36
 - John 14:23-24
 - Hebrews 5:9
 - James 2:17-26 – These are not works to earn salvation but actions done by faith in what God has promised.



Repent

- **Sin in our lives caused the problem to start with, and we must leave a life of practicing sin behind us to live a life of godliness.**
 - **Luke 13:3 – Unless we repent we will perish**
 - **Titus 2:11-12 – God’s grace instructs us to change**
 - **Acts 2:38 – Peter’s instruction when men asked what they need to do to be saved was to repent**
 - **Acts 17:31-32 – Judgment is a motivator for repentance**
 - **1 John 1:5-10 – We cannot have a relationship with God while we live sinful lives.**
- **The greatest gift demands a change in lifestyle, attitude, and priorities.**



Confess

- **God's word instructs us to make our belief that Jesus is the Son of God and that He is Lord a verbal confession.**
 - **Romans 10:9-10**
 - **Matthew 10:32-33**
 - **Acts 8:25-40**

- **Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?**
- **Do you trust that God can save you from your sin through the death of Jesus?**
- **Do you believe that Jesus was resurrected from the dead and now reigns in heaven as Lord over all?**

BAPTISM

Be Baptized

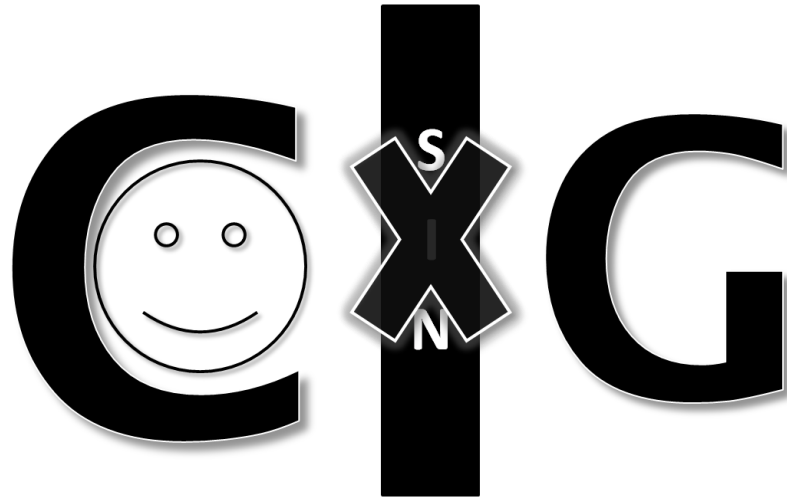
- God's word instructs those who want salvation in Jesus to be baptized
- Baptism means an immersion, where the entire body is dipped under water.
 - Mark 16:16 – Belief and baptism precede salvation
 - Matthew 28:18-19 – Puts an individual in the possession of the Holy Trinity
 - John 3:3-5 – Baptism necessary for entering the kingdom of God (the church)
 - Acts 2:38 – Done in conjunction with repentance for the forgiveness of sin
 - Acts 22:16 – Washes away sin
 - Romans 6:3-5 – Burial into Christ's death
 - 1 Corinthians 12:13 – Puts one into the one body
 - Galatians 3:26-27 – Clothed with Christ at baptism
 - Colossians 2:12 – Done in faith in the work of God
 - 1 Peter 3:21 – Saves through an appeal to God for a clean conscience

- **Would you consider yourself saved?**
- **If yes, how did that happen?**
- **Do you see any difference with how you were saved and what we have learned from the Bible in regards to salvation?**



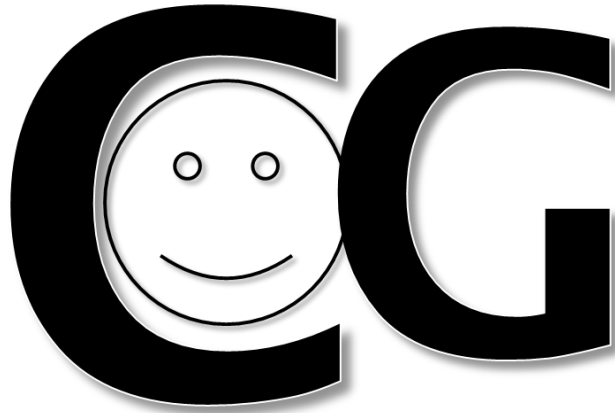
Union with Christ

- **Member of His body (the church)**
 - **Act 2:47**
 - **1 Corinthians 12:13**
 - **Ephesians 1:22-23**
- **Gift of the Indwelling Holy Spirit**
 - **Acts 2:38-39**
 - **Ephesians 1:13-14 – Seal and Pledge**
- **This union essential to having spiritual life**
 - **1 John 5:12**



No Condemnation in Christ

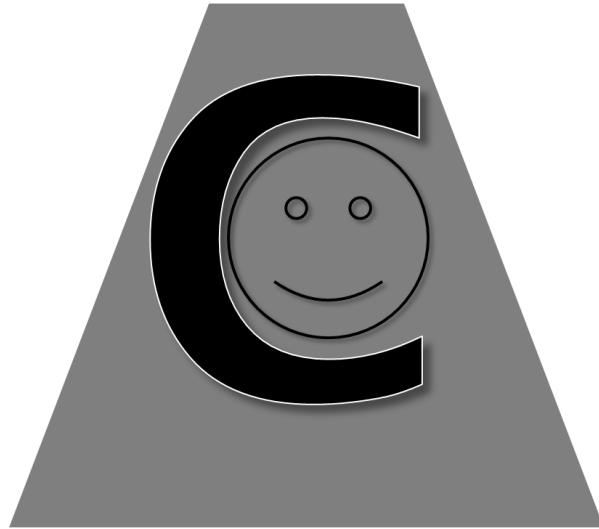
- **When we are united with Christ through belief, confession, repentance, and baptism sin is no longer charged to us even though we are sinners. We no longer are condemned; we are innocent of the guilt and penalty of sin.**
 - **Romans 4:7-8**
 - **Romans 8:1**
 - **1 John 1:7**
 - **Philippians 3:8-9**



Reconciled To God in Christ

- **When the sin that separates us from God is eliminated we can be reunited with God and have a happy relationship with Him.**
 - **Romans 5:6-11**
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**
 - **Colossians 1:13-23**

HEAVEN



Hope of Heaven in Christ

- **In Christ there is the hope of heaven to those who are faithful towards God's promise of eternal life through Jesus**
 - **1 Peter 1:3-5**
 - **Philippians 3:20-21**
- **We will either be alive or resurrected from the dead to meet Christ in the air when He returns to gather His church.**
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**
 - **1 Corinthians 15:50-57**

- **Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?**
- **Do you trust that God can save you from your sin through the death of Jesus?**
- **Do you believe that Jesus was resurrected from the dead and now reigns in heaven as Lord over all?**
- **Are you ready to confess Jesus as Lord?**
- **Are you ready to turn from your sin and commit to living godly?**
- **Do you want to be baptized right now for the forgiveness of sin?**