

The Gospel:

We were made for a relationship with God, but we have messed that up with **our sin** (Romans 3:23). Sin is anything that goes against how God has told us to act, think, and feel and it has sad consequences. Because God is perfect, he requires us to be perfect as well. Since we are not perfect, we are separated from God. God does not want to be separated from us though, so out of His love (John 3:16), He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from ourselves. **Jesus loved us so much** that he was willing to lay down His life for us (Romans 5:8). This wasn't just any life; this was God walking with us as a man. Jesus is the **King of kings** and the Lord of lords. He is amazing and He loves you.

Jesus paid what we owed to God the Father by shedding His blood for us. He gave his life for us, but he didn't stay dead. Three days after his death, Jesus came alive again. As the sun came up on Easter morning, it became apparent that the tomb he was buried in was empty. Jesus had risen from the grave, alive and well, which showed that the Father accepted His sacrifice and now a way to salvation was available. If we will repent of our sin, put our faith in Jesus, and make Him our Lord, we will be saved from being separated from God forever (Romans 8:1). When we do this, we receive a new life in Christ. We are no longer slaves to our sin and we are no longer enemies of God. Jesus has cleansed our heart, and when God looks at us, He sees His Son Jesus.

Unfortunately, this doesn't mean that we never sin again, but it does mean that God loves us and will forgive us as we mess up throughout our life if we ask for forgiveness (1 John 1:9). When we give our lives to Jesus, we will notice that our wants and desires change. We will find joy in Christ and we will seek to please Him and become like Him in all that we do.

When we finally come to the end of our lives, or when Christ returns, we will be in God's presence forever. There will be no more sin; there will be no more pain, or grief, or death. God will wipe away every tear from our eyes and we will live in peace and harmony with our God forever (Revelation 21:1-7).