



## A Passport for Your Spiritual Journey

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Shalom. We all share a common path: birth, life, death, and judgment day. What happens between birth and death makes a big difference concerning our final destination. We invite you to prayerfully consider this passport information as you travel life's bumpy roads.

### **Do you ever wonder how everything came into existence?**

- God creates:

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. -- Genesis 1:1*

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. -- Genesis 1:26-27*

*The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." -- Genesis 2:15-17*

### **Do you ever wonder why there is so much evil in the world?**

- Man falls:

*Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." -- Genesis 3:1-5*

*When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. -- Genesis 3:6-7; 22-23*

### **What guidance did God provide?**

- The Ten Commandments:



*And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. "You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor." -- Exodus 20:1-17 (These were part of the 613 commandments God gave to Israel at Mt. Sinai)*

- The people's response:

*When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do." Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said. -- Exodus 24:3-4*

- The consequence of sin:

*There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins. -- Ecclesiastes 7:20*

*Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wicked things. No one calls for justice; no one pleads his case with integrity. They rely on empty arguments and speak lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil. -- Isaiah 59:1-4*

*The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: "The fathers eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son — both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die." -- Ezekiel 18:1-4*

*At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time*



*your people — everyone whose name is found written in the book — will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. -- Daniel 12:1-2*

*Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. You come to the help of those who gladly do continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. -- Isaiah 64:4-6*

## **What hope is there for our future?**

- God extends grace:

*For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. -- Leviticus 17:11*

*Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, we have turned each to his own way. But the Lord placed upon him the iniquity of us all. - - Isaiah 53:1-6*

*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Messiah even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. -- Ephesians 2:1-5*

- God promises a new covenant:

*"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...." This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." -- Jeremiah 31:31-34*



- God invites us to turn to Him:

*Go, proclaim this message toward the north: “Return, faithless Israel,’ declares the LORD, ‘I will frown on you no longer, for I am merciful,’ declares the LORD, ‘I will not be angry forever. 13 Only acknowledge your guilt — you have rebelled against the LORD your God, you have scattered your favors to foreign gods under every spreading tree, and have not obeyed me,’” declares the LORD. 14 “Return, faithless people,” declares the LORD, “for I am your husband. I will choose you — one from a town and two from a clan — and bring you to Zion. 15 Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding. -- Jeremiah 3:12-15*

*Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! 2 Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: “Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips. -- Hosea 14:1-2*

*“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. -- Joel 2:12-13*

*[Jesus said] For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. -- John 3:16-17*

## **Who and what is Jesus?**

- Jesus has come to be your savior and to restore you as God's person.
- Jesus is the promised Messiah who lived, did miracles, died for our sins and rose from the dead – all according to the scriptures.
- Jesus is God's provision of salvation. He is the atoning sacrifice and the promised Messiah.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. -- Ephesians 2:8-9*

## **Why wouldn't you accept this free gift?**

“Lord Jesus (or Y’shua), in response to your working faith in my life, I confess that I have sinned against you in thoughts, words, and deeds. I repent of my sins knowing that you died for my sins and rose again from the dead. Help me to follow you all the rest of my days. Amen.”

*That if you confess [profess] with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. -- Romans 10:9-10*



## Where to next?

- Find community and grow:
  - ✓ Find a local congregation to get involved with
  - ✓ Start reading and meditating on the Bible daily
  - ✓ Learn the disciplines of prayer as God works in your life
  - ✓ Be baptized
  - ✓ Tell others of your faith in Jesus
- Learn God's promises:

### **1. You are forgiven for all your sins**

*There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. -- Romans 8:1*

### **2. You are protected by God**

*[Jesus said] My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. -- John 10: 27-29*

### **3. You are a new creation**

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come! -- 2 Corinthians 5:17.*

- Learn to use the full armor of God:

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for the saints. -- Ephesians 6:10-18*



**Affirm your faith through the Apostles Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit;  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried;  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven  
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian church; The communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins;  
The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting.  
Amen.

May the peace of God go with you in your journey towards forever!



## **For More Information**

If you have recently professed Jesus as your savior, please let us know so that we might pray for you and send you some literature. Please contact us at:

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