

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

HOW CAN I KNOW THAT GOD HAS FORGIVEN ME?

RLJ-1053

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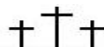
PART 4: THE ATONEMENT

GOD IS NEVER SURPRISED

It is important to understand that God does not react to events; instead, He is developing a master plan He put into place before the creation. Since God can see past, present, and future all at once with a panoramic view, there simply are no surprises for Him. God created the angels with a free will, already knowing in advance that Lucifer would rebel and drag one third of the angels with him. Despite this foreknowledge, God did not put into place a plan of redemption for the angels. Once they fell away from God, they would be discarded in the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10**

THE ATONEMENT

- ❑ As we have discussed previously in this series, man was created for the purpose of proving God's righteousness. **Romans 3:20-31**
- ❑ When God created the vast amount of angels, He did not announce to them that Lucifer was going to become dissatisfied and deceive one third of them. This was a secret that God kept to Himself in order for the angels to have a free choice to either serve Him or rebel. Using this logic, most likely the angels did not know about the consequences of sin and the Lake of Fire. Furthermore, God did not reveal His plan to them for the creation of human beings, their fall into sin, and atonement for those who would repent. The apostle Paul makes this clear. **1 Corinthians 2:1-9; Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 3:1-11; Colossians 1:25-29**
- ❑ God is totally content in Himself; He is not lonely. God created angels to run the universe and man was specifically created to address Lucifer's sin problem. In order to prove His righteousness, God set up Adam in a perfect garden where sin did not exist. If God had intended for man to never be tempted, he would never put in the Tree of Knowledge and precise instructions of what not to do with this tree, otherwise Satan would not have had anything to tempt Adam. **Genesis 2:15-17**
- ❑ The Bible does not say how long Adam and Eve lived perfectly happy and sinless in the Garden of Eden. All we know is that one day the Devil showed up to tempt them with sin. If they had refused the temptation, it would have immediately been all over for Satan and he would have been cast into the Lake of Fire to serve out his sentence. We can draw this conclusion from the fact that God had also planted the Tree of Life in the garden to serve mankind forever. Once Adam and Eve fell for the lies of the Devil, they died spiritually



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as a result of their sin and were driven out from the garden. **Genesis 3:1-8, 22-24**

- ❑ Before God drove Adam and Eve out from the Garden of Eden, blood was spilt to show them and the angels of the first sacrifice with a promise given to Adam and Eve. **Genesis 3:9-21**
- ❑ The times of animal sacrifice had begun, and reading the following Bible verses, it is obvious that Adam and Eve were given instructions what God expected. **Genesis 4:1-11**
- ❑ During the next few thousand years, God would speak to His prophets about a coming Redeemer, who would save mankind from sin. Job was aware of this, and made the following proclamation. **Job 19:25-27**
- ❑ The prophet Isaiah was given a beautiful prophecy of the coming Redeemer. **Isaiah 53:1-10**
- ❑ People living before the cross were not saved from their sins through sacrifices but by repentance and faith in the future Redeemer. **Romans 4:1-5**
- ❑ The angel made it clear to Mary that the child she was going to conceive was going to be the Redeemer, the Messiah. **Luke 1:26-37**
- ❑ ***Only a sinless perfect being could pay for the sins of man.*** God is holy and sinless; He is light and in Him there is no darkness. **1 John 1:4-10**

THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL EXPLAINED

- ❑ **Only God Himself could pay for the sins of mankind. *Thus, the atonement is God reconciling Himself to Himself and paying for all sins of mankind, from Adam to the last person living on this earth!*** This sounds impossible, so let me put it another way: God reconciled man to Himself by having Jesus, the God/man, pay for the sins incurred by the human race. **Hebrews 9:1-28**

SUMMARY

- ❑ Angels are created beings that are eternal. They were created with a free will but there was no redemption they sinned.
- ❑ Humans are created beings with a soul that is eternal and can never die. Man was created with a free will and the possibility to be redeemed if he would turn from his sins and repent. **Isaiah 55:6-11**
- ❑ Satan cannot steal your salvation but he can destroy your testimony and steal your eternal rewards in heaven and reduce you to a pauper who is stripped of all glory. **Romans 8:31-39; 1 Corinthians 3:11-15**

ARE YOU WISE ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THESE TRUTHS OR ARE YOU BEING OUSMARTED BY THE DEVIL?

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?