Resurrection Life of Jesus Church UNDERSTANDING THE REDEMPTION PLAN RLJ-1183 CHARLES THORELL APRIL 26, 2009

WHO IS GOD?

Many people acknowledge the existence of God but they don't know or understand Him. They form an idea in their minds of what He is like and quote certain portions of the Bible that agree with what they believe and simply discard the rest.

THE CREATION

God created the universe and filled it with angels who would eternally serve Him. But some of them rebelled and there was a great war in heaven. The rebellious angels lost and were cast down to the earth. God then created Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden where they were perfect and sinless until they rebelled against God and were evicted. Some 6,000 years later, sinful humans still inhabit the earth.

God knew in advance that Satan would rebel and entice the other angels to join him and He also knew Adam and Eve would choose to embrace sin. As a result, He provided an exclusive redemption plan for mankind that was not offered to the angels and would show God's love. This plan was put in place before Creation began and God kept the details to Himself. **1 Corinthians 2:7-8**

THE BACKDROP OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

After the fall of Adam, God began to reveal the plan and told of a Messiah that would come one day and atone for mankind's sins. The stories of the Old Testament clearly showed the depravity and sinfulness of mankind.

He provided us with the Law to show our sinfulness and the need for a Savior. **Romans 3:10-26; Galatians 3:22-24**

Sin is very real and can be classified black and white; it is not relative.

God's call to Abraham to sacrifice Isaac in Genesis chapter 22 was symbolic of what He would do later with Jesus.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Some 4,000 years later, Jesus finally arrived and fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. He was God's sacrificial lamb to pay the price and forever abolish the need for blood sacrifices.

This is the Apostle John's unique introduction of Jesus. John 1:1-34

Then he shows us the conversation Jesus had with Nicodemus, a Pharisee who came to Him secretly, looking for answers to his difficult questions. **John 3:1-21**



It is important to note that we are all sons and daughters of God but Jesus is the ONLY begotten son of God.

THE WORK ON THE CROSS

What Jesus did on the cross was a legal transaction wherein He paid the fine for our sins with His life because God the Father is perfect and holy and sin cannot exist in His presence. As a result, grace and forgiveness is available to everyone who meets God's stipulations. **Ephesians 2:1-10**

It is the Father's will that all should be saved. 2 Peter 3:9-10

After death, many people will stand before Jesus and claim to know Him, but they will be rejected because they never repented and weren't born again. **Matthew 7:21-23**

Man comes up with flimsy excuses for rejecting God, Jesus' redemptive work on the cross, and negates the need for repentance. **Psalms 19:1-14**

Nevertheless, God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness. **Hebrews 9:27**

Don't take your salvation for granted and don't be indifferent about sharing it with others. Everyone's soul is eternal; it's just a matter if they will spend eternity in heaven or hell.