

"<u>EVERLASTING LIFE!</u>"

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

<u>#1 – FOR GOD – Who is this GOD?</u>

- GOD is: the <u>CREATOR</u> and <u>SUSTAINER</u> of the universe who has provided humankind with a revelation of Himself through the natural world and through His Son, Jesus Christ and by creating you! The Bible does not seek to prove the existence of God; it simply affirms His existence by declaring, *"In the beginning God..."* (Gen 1:1). It makes more sense to accept the idea of God as Creator of the universe than to assume that our orderly universe came into existence through accidental chaos (i.e. "big bang"). Jesus stated, *"He that has seen me, has seen the Father"* (John 14:9).

> The NAME OF GOD: "I AM" - When Moses encountered God at the burning bush, he asked what His name was. God replied: "I AM that I AM… You must say this to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" (Exodus 3:14). God made it clear to Moses that He is eternally present. He has always been, He is now and He will always be. This name of God also speaks about His eternal presence with His people. He is present to help us, comfort us, guide us, and so much more.

> Jesus Christ applied this unique name of God on Himself, when He said: "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (John 8:58) When the Jewish religious leaders heard Jesus say this, they tried to kill Him. By applying the very name of God on Himself, Jesus Christ declared that He is God. To the Jews this was the highest form of blasphemy. In the book of Revelation Jesus reveals Himself to the apostle John with a name that is very similar to 'I AM": "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." (Revelation 1:7-9). Jesus Christ made it clear that He is the I AM, who appeared to Moses, He is the One who always existed and He is the one and true God who will always be.

 $\frac{#2 - SO \ LOVED \ THE \ WORLD}{P}$ – God Is Love! Love is the essential, self-giving nature of God. God's love for man seeks to awaken a responsive love of man for God. Divine love runs like a golden thread through the entire Bible. Only in the Bible, however, do we discover God giving Himself and all He possesses to His creatures, in order to win their response and to possess them for Himself.

- WORLD - The world is associated with mankind. Current World Population 3/24/2016 - 7,410,842,576.

<u>#3 – THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON</u> – God loved and gave! God loved and suffered, providing His love by giving His all on the cross for the redemption of humanity. God, in His love, wills good for all His creatures (Gen 1:31; Ps 145:9; Mark 10:18).

- The phrase "<u>only begotten</u>" translates the Greek word *monogenes*; defined as "*pertaining to being the only one of its kind or class, unique in kind.*" John was primarily concerned with demonstrating that *Jesus is the Son of God* (John 20:31), and he uses *monogenes* to highlight Jesus as uniquely God's Son—sharing the same divine nature as God.

<u>#4 – THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH:</u>

- What does it mean to "BELIEVE" in Jesus Christ? – The Greek word for believe is *pisteuo*, <u>"to</u> believe," also "to be persuaded of," and hence, "to place confidence in, to trust, reliance upon, not <u>mere credence</u>." Of the writers of the Gospels, Matthew uses the verb ten times, Mark ten, Luke nine, John ninety-nine. - "<u>SHOULD NOT PERISH</u>" - John 3:17-21 - For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, <u>but that the world through Him might be saved.</u> "He who <u>believes in Him is not</u> <u>condemned</u>; but <u>he who does not believe is condemned already</u>, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

What is this CONDEMNATION? Condemnation is to declare a person guilty and worthy of punishment. (The Bible says in Romans 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord; Revelation 21:7-8 - He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.")

- Condemn and condemnation are judicial terms, the opposite of JUSTIFY and <u>JUSTIFICATION</u> (<u>Matt 12:37; Rom 5:16,18</u>). God alone is the judge of men; in His demand for righteousness, <u>sin leads</u> invariably to condemnation and death.

- The <u>MISSION OF JESUS, THE SON OF GOD</u> was not to condemn the world but to <u>OFFER</u> <u>SALVATION</u> to all and for all who would <u>REPENT AND BELIEVE</u>; this Jesus did by bearing on the cross the sin that belonged to <u>YOU!</u> (John 3:17-18)

There is no condemnation for sinners who repent and believe in Him. Jesus not only bore the consequences of sin, but also condemned (destroyed) sin itself so that believers are released from its power (Rom 8:1,3).

- In Romans 3:21-26 - But now <u>the righteousness of God</u> apart from the law is <u>revealed</u>, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <u>even the righteousness of God</u>, <u>through faith in Jesus Christ</u>, to all and on all <u>who</u> <u>believe</u>. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being <u>justified freely by</u> <u>His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus</u>, whom God set forth as a <u>propitiation by His blood</u>, through <u>faith</u>, to demonstrate <u>His righteousness</u>, because in His forbearance <u>God had passed over the sins that</u> <u>were previously committed</u>, to demonstrate at the present time <u>His righteousness</u>, that He might be <u>just and the</u> <u>justifier</u> of the one who has faith in Jesus. GOD LOVES YOU!!! JESUS LOVES YOU!!!

<u>#5 – BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE! – HOW?</u> Let's look at Luke Chapter 24 > "*Everlasting life*" comes:

- By the <u>RESURRECTION</u> of JESUS CHRIST! (v1-12)

- Through the <u>REVELATION</u> of JESUS CHRIST! (v13-48)

- In the <u>REALIZATION</u> of JESUS CHRIST! (v49-53)

> ARE YOU SAVED? Give your heart to God through Jesus Christ TODAY!

God	> the greatest <u>GIVER</u> !
So loved	> the greatest <u>MOTIVE</u> !
The world	> the greatest <u>NEED</u> !
That He gave	> the greatest <u>ACT</u> !
His only Son	> the greatest <u>GIFT</u> !
That whosoever	> the greatest <u>INVITATION</u> !
Believes in Him	> the greatest <u>OPPORTUNITY</u> !
Should not perish	> the greatest <u>DELIVERANCE</u> !
But have everlasting life	> the greatest <u>JOY</u> !

> GET SAVED TODAY!

Romans 10:9-13 says, <u>"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe</u> in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

For the Scripture says, "<u>Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame</u>." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."