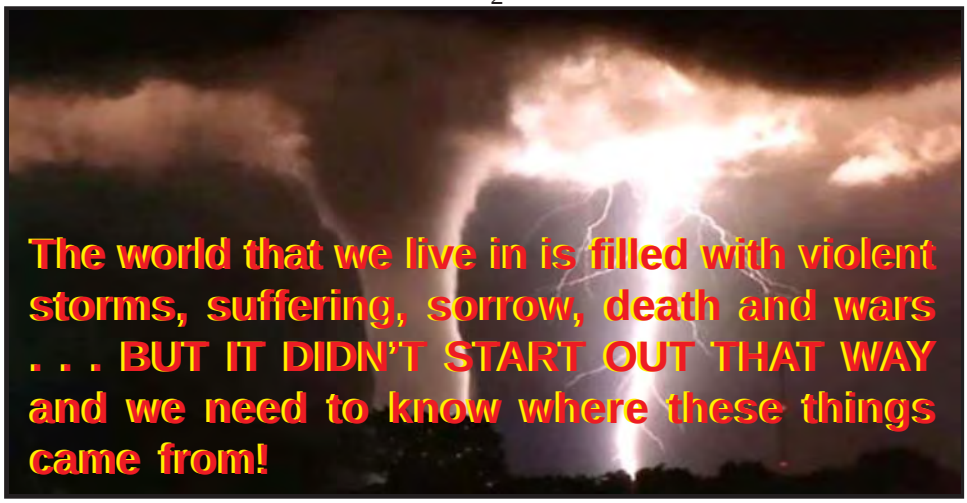
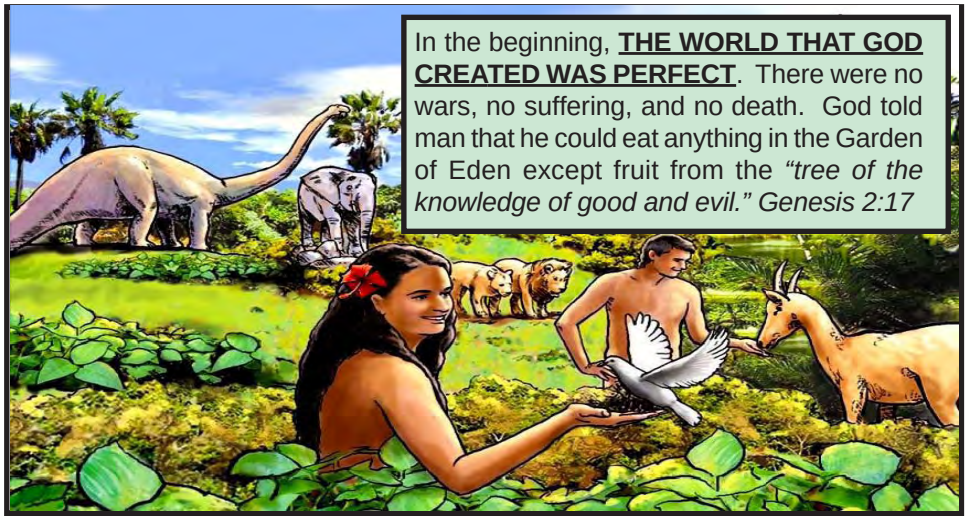
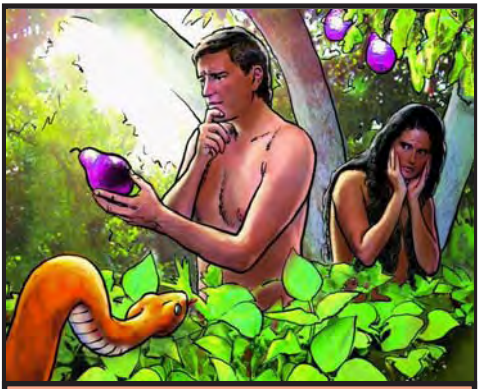

Good News...
for a bad news world
© Discovery Ministries Int'l



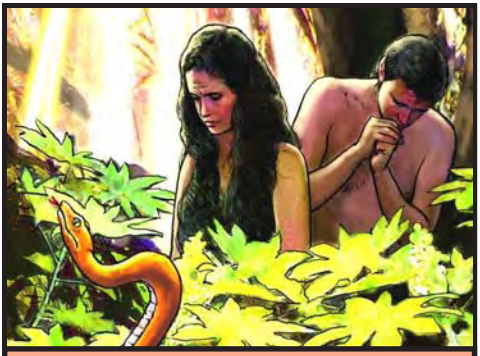




Satan, who is a wicked and fallen angel, came to the woman in the body of a beautiful serpent and tempted her to eat of the forbidden fruit.

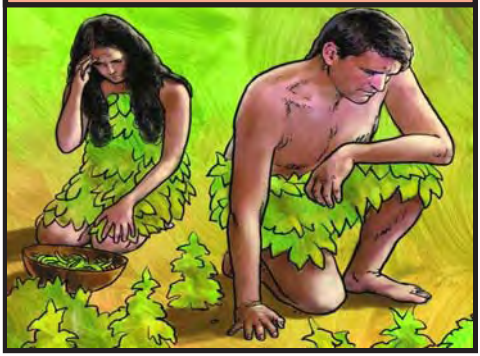


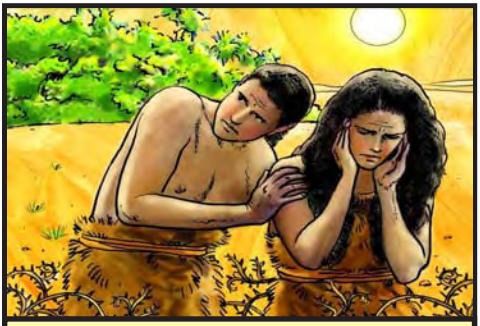
Adam's wife, Eve, ate of the fruit and gave it to her husband. When man disobeyed God, **something tragic happened to them . . . AND TO US.**



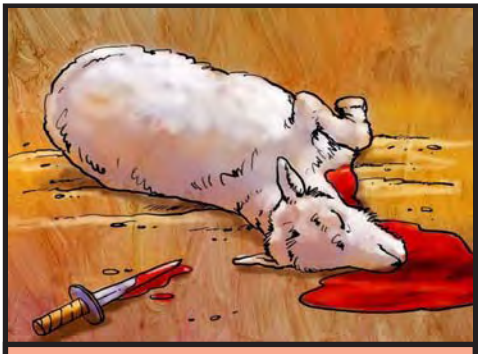
God had warned man that if they disobeyed, they would die. Adam ate of the fruit anyway, thus bringing the terrible curse of death upon all mankind and even upon the animal kingdom.

Adam and Eve became separated from fellowship with the God Who created them. People now live in conflict with one another and under the shame and sorrow of sinful human hearts.





Because of sin, Adam and Eve were expelled from the beautiful garden that God had provided for them. But God still loved them and clothed them in the skin of an innocent animal.



Adam and Eve had never seen death before. God was showing them that an innocent substitute had to die as a sacrifice for the sins of the guilty.



Throughout the Old Testament, people could only come to God by faith through the sacrifices of innocent animals which pointed to a greater sacrifice that would one day be offered to remove sin once and for all.



The LORD was showing His people that some day in the future, **the perfect Lamb of God** would die as a sacrifice and wash away all the sins of every person who would place his or her faith in Him.



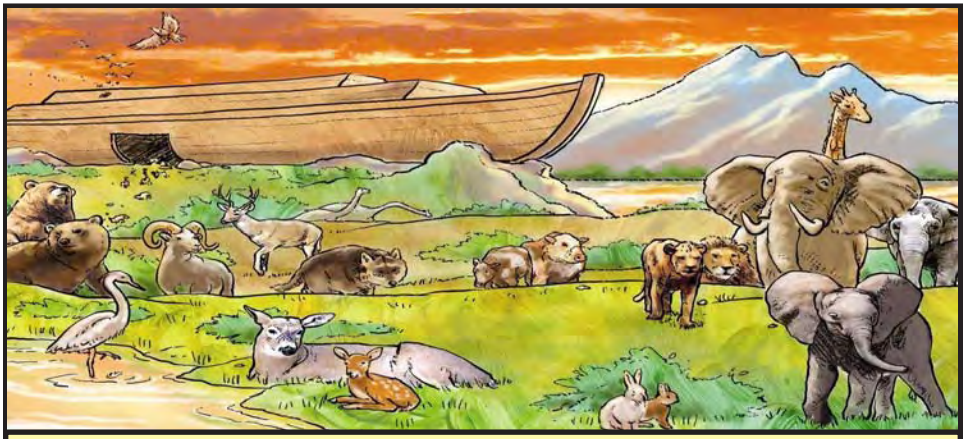
Man became more and more sinful, and soon violence filled the earth. Through Noah, God warned the people that judgment was coming upon the earth but the people laughed and ridiculed Noah and rejected God's message.



Finally, a huge boat that God told Noah to build was complete, and he and his family plus thousands of animals took shelter inside. Judgment was coming!



The Bible tells us that God sent a great world-wide flood upon the earth. Only Noah and his family "found grace in the eyes of the LORD" because they believed what God had told them.



After forty days and nights the rain stopped. The ark finally came to rest on the "mountains of Ararat" a year after the flood had begun.



After coming off the Ark, the first thing that Noah did was to build an altar unto the LORD and sacrifice an innocent animal in payment for his sins and the sins of his family.

Many years later God chose a man by the name of Abraham to give birth to a nation that would be given the Word of God and His Laws.

During all this time, those who knew God continued to sacrifice innocent animals unto the LORD as an offering for their sins. **But the blood of animals could not remove the guilt of man's sin, and the day would come when God would provide a greater Sacrifice.** A perfect and sinless sacrifice would come into the world to die for the sins of all mankind!



One day, Abraham, the father of the Hebrew people, was told by God to go into a mountain to worship and offer a sacrifice for sin.



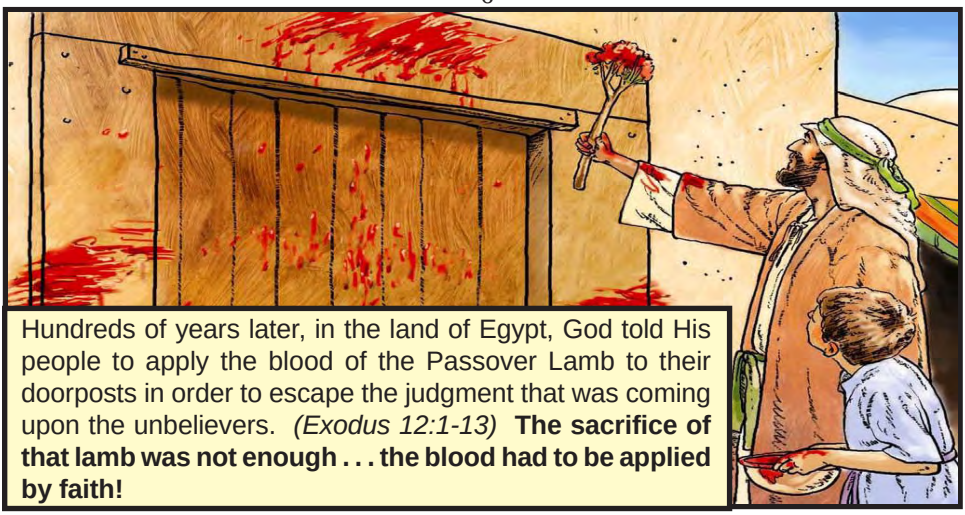
Abraham was greatly tested by God when he was told to offer his own son upon the altar as a sacrifice.



But God provided a ram caught by his horns in a bush as a substitute for Isaac. **This was a preview that <u>God would provide His own Son to die</u> as a sacrifice in our place!**



God was showing Abraham that some day in the future the **perfect Lamb of God** would die and wash away all the sins of every person who would place his or her faith in Him.



Hundreds of years later, in the land of Egypt, God told His people to apply the blood of the Passover Lamb to their doorposts in order to escape the judgment that was coming upon the unbelievers. *(Exodus 12:1-13)* **The sacrifice of that lamb was not enough . . . the blood had to be applied by faith!**

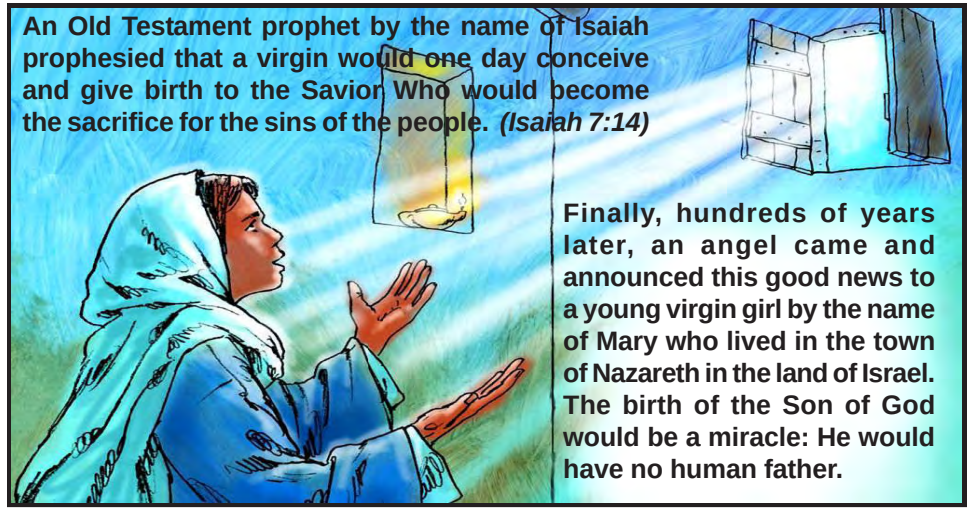
Soon after delivering His people from Egypt, God gave His Law to Moses for the Hebrew peope so that all men would know right from wrong, and to show them that they needed a Savior. Every man is a sinner by birth and by CHOICE, and no man can perfectly keep the holy requirements of God's Law, the Ten Commandments.

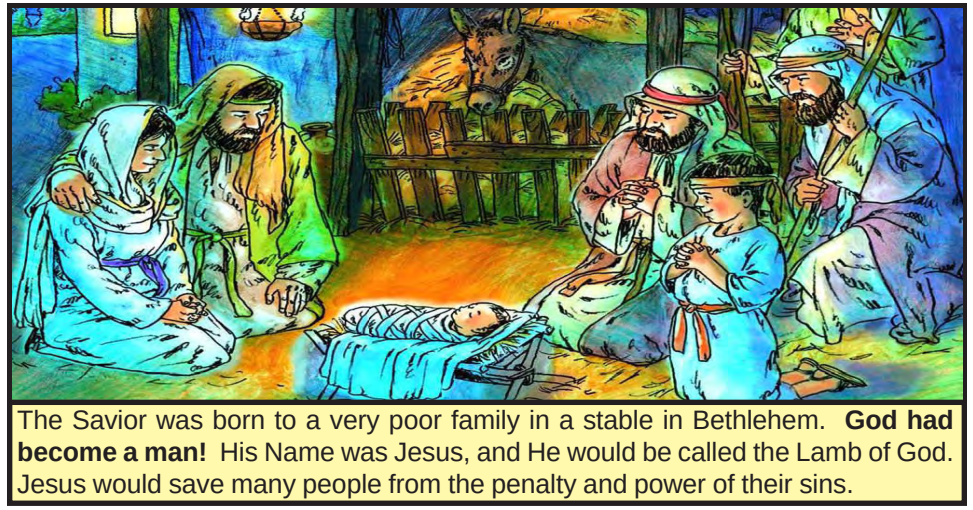
The Ten Commandments

Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
Thou shalt not make any graven images or worship them.
Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD in vain.
Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.
Honor thy father and thy mother.
Thou shalt not kill (murder).
Thou shalt not commit adultery.
Thou shalt not steal.
Thou shalt not bear false witness.
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house or wife.

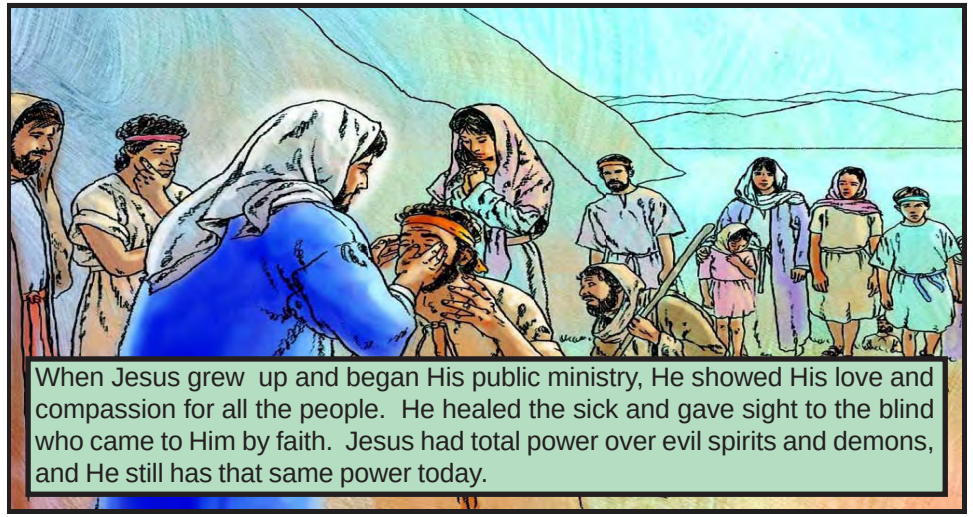
For hundreds of years the continual sacrifices of innocent lambs showed the terrible consequence of sin which is death.

But the sacrifices of mere animals could never remove the penalty of sin . . . it would take a greater sacrifice Who would be called the Lamb of God.

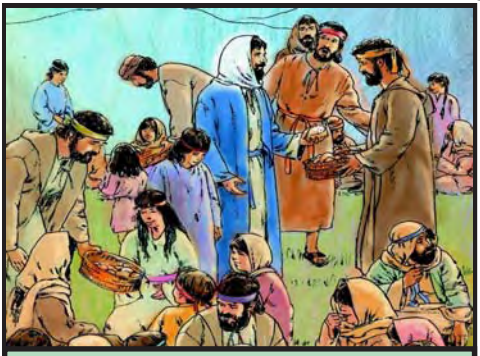




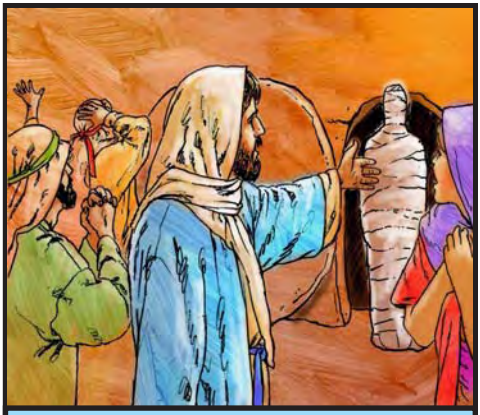
The Savior was born to a very poor family in a stable in Bethlehem. **God had become a man!** His Name was Jesus, and He would be called the Lamb of God. Jesus would save many people from the penalty and power of their sins.



When Jesus grew up and began His public ministry, He showed His love and compassion for all the people. He healed the sick and gave sight to the blind who came to Him by faith. Jesus had total power over evil spirits and demons, and He still has that same power today.

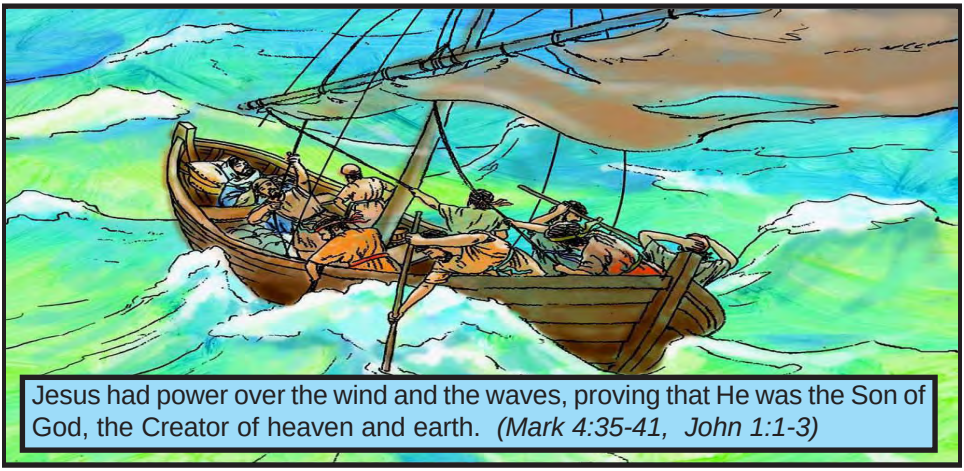


Jesus performed many miracles. Once He amazed a huge multitude when He fed all of them with a little boy's lunch of two fish and five small loaves of bread.



Jesus even raised the dead when He commanded -- *"Lazarus, come forth."*

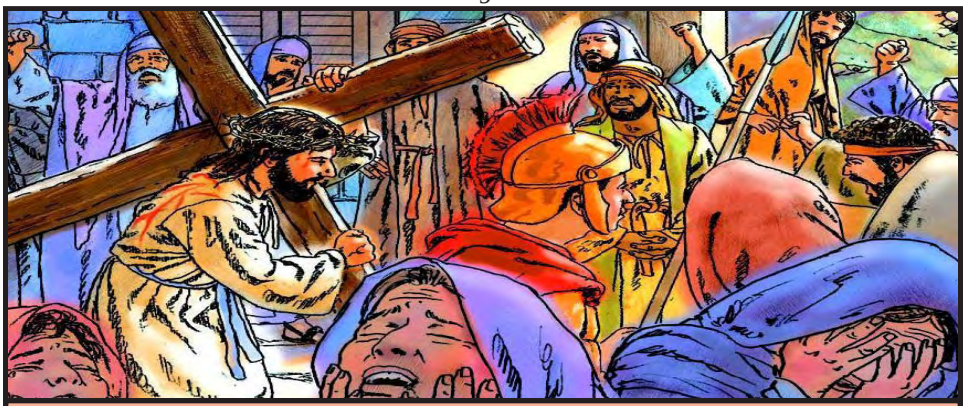
Jesus declared -- *"I am the resurrection, and the life, he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25*



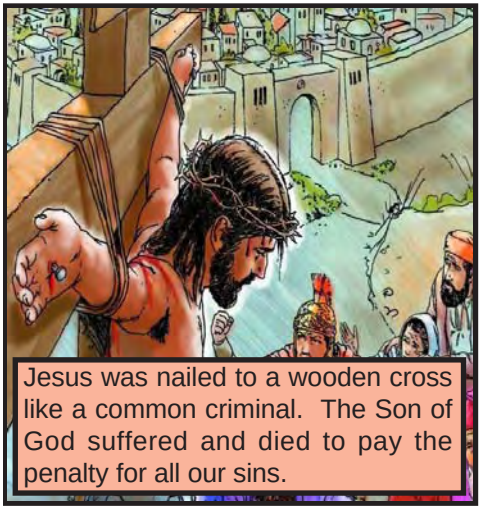
Jesus had power over the wind and the waves, proving that He was the Son of God, the Creator of heaven and earth. *(Mark 4:35-41, John 1:1-3)*



Just as Jesus calmed the angry sea, He can bring peace to the troubled heart that has been scarred by the difficulties and trials of life. *(John 14:27, 16:33, Isaiah 26:3, Psalm 23)*



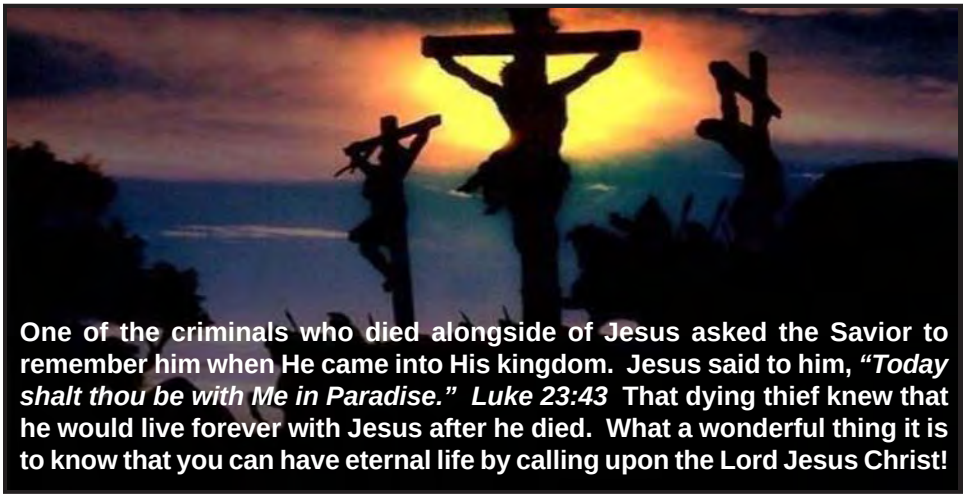
Despite all the good that He did, Jesus was hated by the religious leaders. They arrested Him and falsely accused Him. Cruel men spit upon Him, beat Him, and placed a crown of thorns upon His head, and then led Him away to be crucified.



Jesus was nailed to a wooden cross like a common criminal. The Son of God suffered and died to pay the penalty for all our sins.

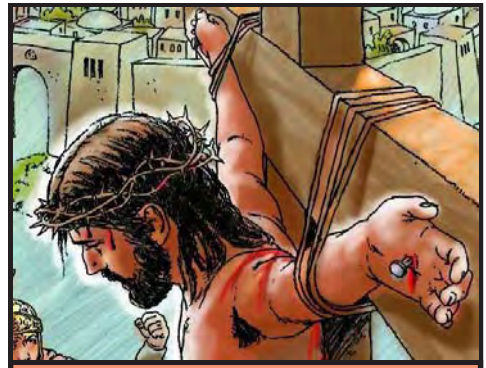


Just like God had promised, the perfect and sinless Lamb of God died in our place!



One of the criminals who died alongside of Jesus asked the Savior to remember him when He came into His kingdom. Jesus said to him, *"Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise." Luke 23:43* That dying thief knew that he would live forever with Jesus after he died. What a wonderful thing it is to know that you can have eternal life by calling upon the Lord Jesus Christ!

"For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13



Before He died, Jesus prayed -- *"Father, forgive them."* Even a Roman soldier knew that this man who prayed for His enemies was the Son of God!



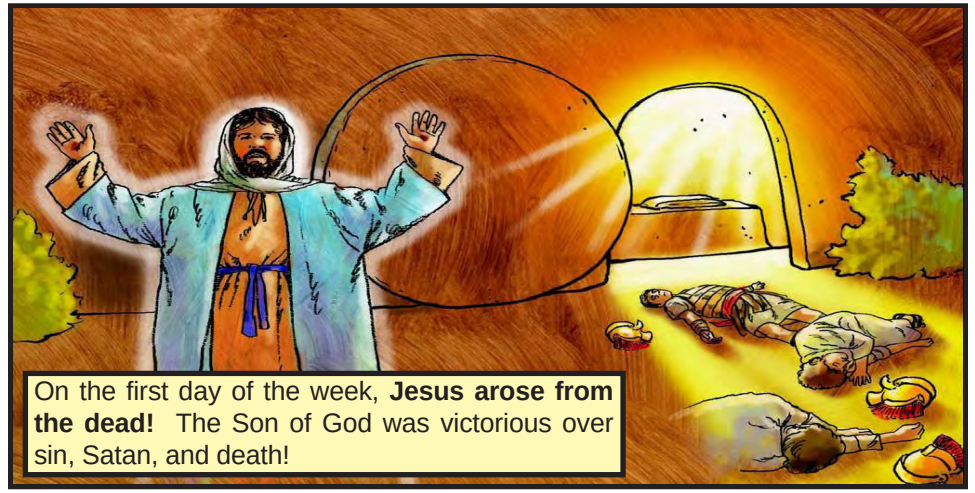
After He died for our sins, Jesus was buried in a new tomb in a nearby garden outside the walls of Jerusalem. That garden tomb is still there today!



Roman soldiers were ordered to seal and guard the tomb so that no one could steal away the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

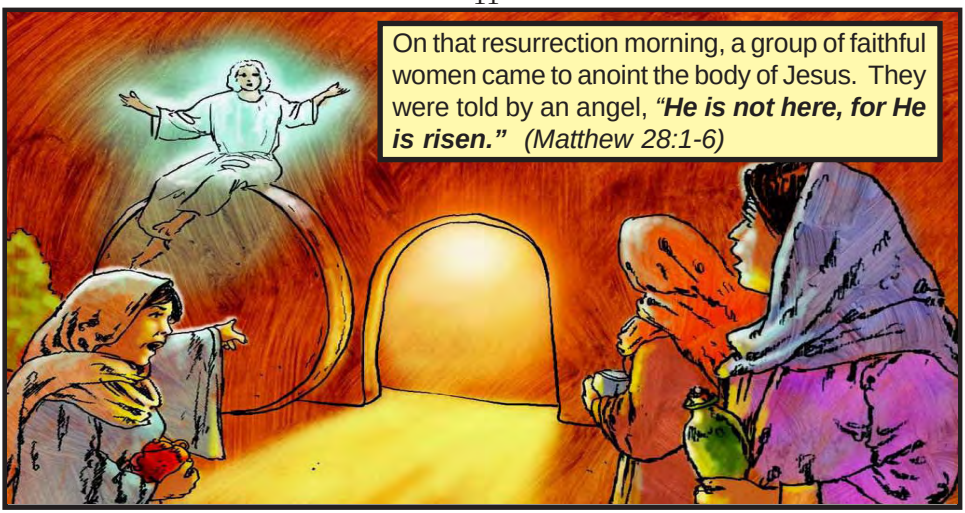
Jesus was buried for three days and three nights during the Jewish Passover and Sabbath.

What a time of darkness that must have been for Jesus' followers who were hiding in fear. In their sorrow and fear they had forgotten what Jesus had told them about His death, burial, and resurrection: *"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matthew 12:40*



On the first day of the week, **Jesus arose from the dead!** The Son of God was victorious over sin, Satan, and death!

Jesus said -- *"Because I live, ye shall live also." John 14:19*



On that resurrection morning, a group of faithful women came to anoint the body of Jesus. They were told by an angel, *"**He is not here, for He is risen."*** *(Matthew 28:1-6)*

Two of Jesus' disciples ran to the tomb and were amazed that the grave clothes were still there, but **Jesus had risen from the dead!** (John 20:1-8)



In our world so filled with death, sorrow, and darkenss, the resurrection of Jesus Christ gives great hope to those who believe in Him. Jesus is alive and promises the gift of eternal life to all who will trust Him as Savior.

Only Jesus can offer eternal life, as He said -- *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." John 14:6*

You can receive God's gift of eternal life if you will turn from your sin and unbelief and trust Him as your Savior!



After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and many other believers. He even asked for something to eat in order to prove to them that His body was resurrected, and that He was really alive! *(Luke 24:36-43)*



After forty days, Jesus went back to Heaven, but before He left He promised that one day He would return to earth for His followers! Jesus said: *"I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,* ***I will come again, and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also."*** *John 14:2-3*





The resurrected and glorified Son of God is now seated at the right hand of His Father in Heaven. He is the Intercessor and Advocate for all of us who trust in Him as our Savior! *(Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:25; 9:24)*

BAD NEWS: *"For the wages of sin is death . . . "*
GOOD NEWS: *". . . but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23*

The moment we acknowledge our sinfulness and truly believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died as the sacrifice for all our sins, we are given the free gift of eternal life, and our name is written in the *"Lamb's Book of Life." (Revelation 20:11-15)*

"For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved."
Romans 10:13

Jesus took the sins of the whole world upon Himself when He gave His life upon the cross.

When we trust Him as our Savior, He forgives us and covers us with His perfect righteousness --

"For He hath made Him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthains 5:21



"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of (His) righteousness . . . " Isaiah 61:10

QUESTION:

Is there anything keeping you from praying and receiving Jesus Christ as your Savior?

Is there anything worth keeping you from praying and trusting Christ right now?

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Mark 8:36

If you believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for you and would like Him to save you from your sins, we suggest the following prayer or one that is similar to it in your own words:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I have sinned and that I do not deserve to live forever with you in Heaven. But I believe You died on the cross in full payment for all my sins. By faith I turn from my unbelief and sins and ask You to save me. I invite You into my life."

"Thank You, Lord Jesus, for loving me and for dying for me on the cross. Thank You for giving me the gift of God which is eternal life. Help me now to live for you each day."

"In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen."

"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name." John 1:12

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10

We would encourage you to read God's Word, the Bible, and pray every day. Wherever you are, find a church that faithfully teaches the Bible verse by verse. Water baptism will not save anyone, but it is the Lord's command and it is a testimony to others that you have trusted Christ. Fellowship with other believers in Jesus and tell your friends what Jesus has done for you . . . and for them!

The Bible declares that you can KNOW that you have eternal life by trusting in Jesus Christ as your Savior:

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:31

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the Name of the Son of God, that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life . . . " 1 John 5:13

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, HATH EVERLASSATING LIFE, and shall not come into condemnation but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24

"There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

"For I am persuaded that neither death, no life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor thing to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Roman 8:38-39

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