

In the Bible, Job asks the age old question: **If a man dies, shall he live again?** Is there more for a man when his life is over?

The Bible tells us that the answer to Job's question is, 'Yes.' It says that both the just and the unjust will be raised to life again on the last day.

Jesus said in John 11:25, **"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live."**

The Bible says in Hebrews 9:27, **And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.**

However, only the just will be raised to live forever with God in heaven. The unjust will be raised to spend eternity in hell, under damnation, to pay for their sins.

In John 5:28-29, Jesus says, **Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.**

In Daniel 12:2, the Bible says, **And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.**

The problem is that all people from birth are guilty of sinning against God. The Bible clearly teaches that humans are born with a sin condition. They are unjust and vile before God because all have sinned and broken His laws.

The Bible says in Isaiah 59:2, **But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.**

In Romans 3:10-12 the Bible says, **None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.**

In Romans 3:23, the Bible says, **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

All human are born in a state of sin and rebellion against God, and so we are under His judgment.

The Bible says in Romans 2:5, **But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.**

In Luke 12:4-7 Jesus said, **"I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!"**

The Bible says in John 3:36, **Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.**

But, some might say, if God is loving, then why can't He just forget about our sins?

The Bible says in Isaiah 59:2, **But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.**

In Psalm 33:5, the Bible says, **He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.**

Because God is infinitely righteous, just and holy, the price of our sins needs to be paid in order to satisfy His justice. A judge who lets guilty, unrepentant serial criminals go free is not a good judge. God is perfect in all He does; He is a perfect judge, too.

The Bible says in Psalm 145:17, **The LORD is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works.**

Can we pay the debt for our sins by trying to live a good life? What if we go to church, or do good things like helping the poor? Won't the good things we do outweigh the bad things we do? Won't that make us good enough to please God?

The Bible says in Isaiah 64: 6, **But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.**

We cannot do any good works that will pay the debt we owe for our sins, because we are dead in our sins. Dead people can do nothing. As the Bible says in Ephesians 2:1, **And you were dead in the trespasses and sins.**

The Bible says in Ephesians 2:5, **Even when we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—**

So how can we pay for our debt of sin? It sounds like an impossible situation, and that we are doomed.

The Bible says in Matthew 19:25-26, **When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.**

We cannot pay our debt - we are dead in our sins and can do nothing to please God - but God Himself through Jesus Christ paid for the sins of His people. Our sins were put on Jesus when He died on the cross, and we are counted righteous because He paid our debt.

God cancels our debt because of what Jesus did for us on the cross.

The Bible says in Romans 5:8-9, **But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God.**

The Bible says in Colossians 2:13, **And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.**

The Bible says in I Peter 3:18, **For Christ also suffered once for sins, the Righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.**

Jesus also lived a perfect life on earth - for us. Christ's own righteousness is transferred (or imputed) to us so we are declared righteous and are forgiven. He clothes us in His righteousness when He cancels our debt of sin.

The Bible says in I Corinthians 1:30, **And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, Who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.**

In 2 Corinthians 5:22, the Bible says, **For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.**

God says He will cancel our debt of sin. So how does that work? How can we have our sins forgiven by God?

The Bible says in Psalm 32: 5, **I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,’ and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

And in Acts 16:30-31, the Bible says, **Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”**

You must cast yourself on God’s mercy, confessing your sins to God.

By faith when you believe that Jesus Christ died to pay the debt you owe for your sins, trusting in Jesus’ death on the cross as the only way you can be forgiven and reconciled to God, then He will reconcile you to Himself, and forgive you.

The Bible says in Ephesians 2:4-6, **But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.**

The Bible says in Ephesians 2:8, **For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.**

In Romans 6:23, the Bible says, **For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The Bible tells us in Psalm 103:12, **As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.**

After you repent and believe, you will want to read the Bible to learn more about what God has done for you. Let me suggest the Gospel of John as your starting place.

It's also important to pray to God and thank Him often for His love and mercy. Find a good Church to attend, too - one that preaches from the Bible, and that teaches that Jesus is the only way to God.

The Bible verses are in **bold face** and are taken from the English Standard Version and the King James Version of the Bible.