

TWO KINDS OF WORSHIPERS OF GOD

John 16:8a The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, the need for righteousness, and judgment. There have always been at least two opposing and different responses to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. One response, which is a wrong response, is to try to change God's attitude by doing something or believing in something that will appease God so that our sin will not count against us and so that we will not face God and His judgment. The correct response to Holy Spirit conviction is that we call upon Jesus to change us by taking away our sin and changing our way of life to conform to the commandments of God. Jesus calls this change a new birth and a new creation. It is first a spiritual change in that we become a child of God. The child of God learns to worship in spirit and in truth. Through the study of Scripture and aided by the Holy Spirit the child of God learns what it really means that Jesus died for our sins. The good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ involves individual and personal trust in God changing the worshiper but also the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven being brought down to earth in which all things in heaven and earth are reconciled to God. Let's concentrate first on what it means that Jesus died for our sins according to the Scripture.

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus died to defeat sin. By defeating sin, Jesus defeated death.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 1 Corinthians 15:3,4

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus died to have the right as Second Adam to remove sin from all creation. John 1:29 Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus gained the right to take away sin by dying a sinless death.

For what the Law could not do [that is, overcome sin and remove its penalty, its power] being weakened by the flesh [man's nature without the Holy Spirit], God did: He sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful man as an offering for sin. And He condemned sin in the flesh [subdued it and overcame it in the person of His own Son], Romans 8:3

And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. 1 John 3:5 Jesus allowed sin to kill His physical body and this act of sin upon and against Jesus condemned sin to extermination. Since a sinless man should not be killed, sin has proven itself to be worthy of extermination. The Court of Heaven has declared the Lamb of God to be worthy to judge sin and remove sin. Revelation 5:9

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus died a sinless death and defeated Satan. Colossians 2:15
When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities [those supernatural forces of evil operating against us], He disgraced them publicly, having triumphed over them through the cross.

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus died to reconcile all things to Himself.

Colossians 1:20 and through him to reconcile all things unto himself, having made peace through the blood of his cross; through him, I say, whether things upon the earth, or things in the heavens.

Romans 8:18-25 Creation will be rescued from the effects of sin and death.

Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus reconciles to God all who cooperate with Holy Spirit conviction and allow the Spirit to bring them to believe in Jesus and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Romans 10:9, 13 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

John 1:12 But to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.

John 11:25 Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

You may have thought that Jesus died for our sins so that God could forgive us our sins. But this is backward from the truth. God always freely and willingly forgives us of our sin, that is He lets go of any sin committed against Him, and because He loves us that is why He sent Jesus to die for our sins so that we could receive new life in Jesus by believing in Him.

God freely forgives sin. What is the meaning of God has forgiven your sin? God has always let go of any sin committed against Him. 2 Cor. 5:19; Romans 5:8; Colossians 3:13 God does not hold anyone back from receiving eternal life. This is provisional forgiveness. It saves no one. Through your cooperation with the Spirit, you must receive forgiveness of sin (rescue from sin). Calling on God to save you through Christ results in eternal life and rescue from sin. God is rescuing from bondage to sin. If we confess our sin, He is faithful... 1 John 1:9 Receiving eternal life results in judicial forgiveness and parental forgiveness.

God will complete the work He began in you including releasing you from sin. Philippians 1:6

2 Cor. 5:19 God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting people's sins against them [but canceling them]. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation [that is, restoration to favor with God].

Colossians 3:13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

JESUS DID NOT DIE ON THE CROSS TO CHANGE GOD IN ANY WAY

Jesus did not die on the cross to enable God to love humanity or any person in humanity. God already loved humanity and that is why He sent Jesus to the cross.

God demonstrated His love toward us that even while we were in our sins.....Romans 5:8

Jesus did not die on the cross to change God's attitude toward humanity or any person in humanity. God's attitude never changes. James 1:17

Jesus did not die on the cross to appease God's wrath toward humanity or any person in humanity. God's wrath is never appeased toward sin. God hates sin and God will ultimately remove sin from all creation. Romans 1:18-32 Revelation 6: 16-17

Jesus did not die on the cross to pay the sin debt for humanity or for any person in humanity. Paying the sin debt would imply that God needed payment in order to forgive, love, and have a better attitude toward humanity. Colossians 3:13

Jesus did not die on the cross to satisfy justice by being punished for sin. God was not punishing Jesus. God was in Christ on the cross reconciling all things to Himself, not counting men's sins against them. On the cross, Jesus said, "Father let go of this sin committed against Me, don't count it against them for they know not what they do." Jesus did not die on the

cross because God's justice demanded that sin be punished. Jesus was not being punished by God for our sin. Jesus was not taking God's penalty for sin upon Himself to satisfy God's justice for any person. God's justice does not require an innocent person to die in place of a guilty person. Justice is satisfied by making the believer a new creation. There is no penalty for being totally sinless and totally righteous which is the final position of the believer in glorification. God has no need to satisfy anything in Himself. God changes the believer. God reconciles the believer to Himself. God does not reconcile Himself to the believer. God has no need to change Himself. Romans 5:6-11 We are changed through the life of Jesus in us.

Jesus did not die on the cross to satisfy the offended God. Jesus did not become sin on the cross. Jesus became the sin offering for the purpose of condemning sin to its ultimate extermination. Romans 8:3 2 Corinthians 5:21

Jesus did not die on the cross to take on the guilt of sinners and bear the wrath of God for our sin. God does not need the innocent to bear guilt or His wrath for sin. God was not pouring out His wrath on Jesus to satisfy any need that He had toward humanity. God did allow sin to crush Jesus in order for sin to be condemned to extinction and give the Man Jesus the right to take away the sin of the world. Psalm 22:24; 34:20 John 19:36

There are two kinds of worshipers of God. The correct kind of worshiper understands that the worshiper must be changed into a new creation in Christ Jesus.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship God. Romans 12:1

If you have fallen into the Satanic deception that Jesus has changed God's attitude toward you, then repent, turn away from this deception and know that Jesus is willing to change you into a new creation, born from above, and bound for eternity with God in Christ. Turn to God and say, Yes God, I need to be changed into a new creation.

Have you been changed into a new creation in Christ?

“In Christ” you have met the condition for salvation. The condition is that you cooperate with Holy Spirit conviction and allow the Spirit to bring you to belief in Jesus and to receive Jesus.

The result is that you are born again into a relationship with Jesus, you are no longer solely in Adam, you are indwelled by the Holy Spirit, and you have eternal life.

John 1:12 To all who received Jesus, He gave the right to become children of God, born of God.

“In Christ” you are chosen by God the Father to a completed salvation with three stages. These stages are justification, sanctification, and glorification. God promises to complete the stages unconditionally in all those He began His work in.

Ephesians 1:4 For He (the Father) chose us in Him (the Son) to be holy and blameless in His sight, and God designed this plan before the foundation of the world.

This means that God determined that all those who receive Jesus, that is, are “in Christ”, will be saved from sin and have eternal life. And this salvation will be completed. The new creation in Christ will be totally sinless and totally righteous in his glorified body.

Philippians 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.

“In Christ” the fruits of the indwelling Spirit are your tools with a “power cord.” These fruits are action words. By the power of the Holy Spirit you can produce God’s kind of love by your actions.

Galatians 5:22 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control)

“In Christ” we do seek after God, we do works of righteousness, and we are not worthless.

Contrast this with the following:

Romans 3:10-12 There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands, there is no one who seeks after God. All have turned away, they have all become worthless, there is no one who does good, not even one.

These verses mean that God must convict us of sin, the need for righteousness, and the fact of judgment before any person will respond. And without these convictions no one would seek God. A person is worthless and does “no eternally good thing” until he cooperates with the Holy Spirit and receives Jesus becoming a new creation. God changes us. We are reconciled to God.

“In Christ” you are a child of God who still commits sin even though you have been saved from the power of sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive (rescue, release us from) our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

“In Christ” you are disciplined by the hand of your Heavenly Father and you still pay for your sins due to their consequences. Hebrews 12:4-13 Do not make light of the Lord’s discipline.

Jesus paid the price for gaining the right to make you a new creation. Jesus’ sinless death condemned sin to the utmost, subdued sin and defeated sin. But Jesus was not paying for your sin so that the Father would not be angry or be able to forgive you. God never changes. Jesus died for your sins to be removed. We are being changed. We are reconciled to God by the change in us.

“In Christ” God loves you unconditionally and you can daily repent of sin, agree with God about your sin, turn from it, and return to living in dependence upon Christ.

John 15:5 Without Me, you can do nothing.

“In Christ” you are complete.

Colossians 2:10 You are complete in Christ who is the head of all power and authority.

Ephesians 2:10 We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.

OUTLINE

- 1 “In Christ” you have met the condition for salvation**
- 2 “In Christ” you are chosen by the Father**
- 3 “In Christ” the fruits of the Spirit are your tools**
- 4 “In Christ” you have been saved from the power of sin**
- 5 “In Christ” you are disciplined by the Father**
- 6 “In Christ” you can be a repentant and live in dependence on Christ**
- 7 “In Christ” you are complete**

TWO DECEPTIONS WITHIN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

1 Satan deceives the world into thinking that something must be done to change God's attitude.

The world tries many avenues for hoping to change God's attitude toward their sinful condition. To God or false gods, they offer sacrifices to appease and gain favor. One error they make is that God never needs to change anything about Himself. God doesn't need to be appeased. God doesn't need to love us more. God doesn't need to diminish His wrath. God did not need to punish Jesus in order to satisfy His justice. God is justified in giving eternal life to believers because He changes believers into new creations. God does not change Himself. God changes believers.

2 Satan deceives the fallen church into thinking that something must be done to change God's attitude. Jesus defines the fallen church as leaving their first love and tolerating false teachings.

The fallen church, because of false teaching, proclaims that Jesus must do something to change God's attitude toward our sinful condition. Satan is using a similar deception inside and outside the church to get people to worship a false god.

True Christianity is all about Jesus changing the cooperating person who believes Jesus and receives Jesus as Savior and Lord. Jesus died for our sins means that Jesus died a sinless death to show He has the right as a Man to take away the sins throughout the whole Universe. In His resurrection life, Jesus has the power and authority to give new birth, eternal life, the indwelling Holy Spirit, and produce acts of righteousness in a believer.

OUTLINE

SATANIC DECEPTION IN THE WORLD

YOU MUST DO SOMETHING TO CHANGE GOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD YOU.

JEWES BELIEVE GOOD WORKS WILL GET YOU TO HEAVEN.

SATANIC DECEPTION IN THE FALLEN CHURCH

JESUS DID SOMETHING TO CHANGE GOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD YOU.

THE FALLEN CHURCH BELIEVES JESUS' DEATH SAVES.

TRUE CHRISTIANITY

WE ARE SAVED BY HIS LIFE. (THE RESURRECTED LIFE OF CHRIST)

JESUS DIED SINLESS TO SHOW HE HAS THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ANY COOPERATING PERSON.

WITHOUT JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION WE COULD NOT BE SAVED.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CROSS WAS:

NOT TO APPEASE GOD'S EMOTIONS

NOT TO CHANGE GOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD SINNERS

NOT TO DIMINISH GOD'S WRATH

NOT TO PUNISH THE INNOCENT TO SATISFY JUSTICE

NOT TO PAY A DEBT TO GOD FOR SIN

NOT TO ENABLE GOD TO LOVE US MORE

GOD DOES NOT NEED TO BE APPEASED, CHANGED, DIMINISHED, SATISFIED, PAID, OR ENABLED

THE CROSS WAS ALL ABOUT GOD POURING OUT THE LOVE HE ALREADY HAD FOR US. TODAY GOD POURS OUT HIS LOVE ABUNDANTLY ON THOSE WHO ARE "IN CHRIST" BECAUSE THEY RECEIVED CHRIST AS SAVIOR AND LORD.

WE ARE SAVED BY THE LIFE OF CHRIST WHO IS RESURRECTED AND WE ARE SAVED WHEN WE COOPERATE WITH SPIRIT LED CONVICTION AND RECEIVE JESUS. ROMANS CHAPTER 5

Believing that Jesus did something to change God's attitude toward us may result in thinking that God excuses us from the consequences of our sin by punishing Jesus in our place. This false teaching can result in a person putting their faith in a false Jesus which is not saving. And for some truly born again people this false teaching can lead to personal and moral failure in life and ministry. God never excuses sin because He knows that sin is deadly in our lives.

DANGER OF A FALLEN CHURCH: Leave first love, tolerate false teaching

Fallen church: Thinking Jesus died to change God's attitude.

Thinking God punished Jesus in your place.

Thinking God excuses your sin because you believe in Jesus.

Thinking we are saved by His death. Romans 5:10

If there is no change toward fruitfulness in your life, then the Holy Spirit cannot bear witness with your spirit that you are a child of God. Fruits are love, joy, peace, patience, etc. Romans 8:1-17

