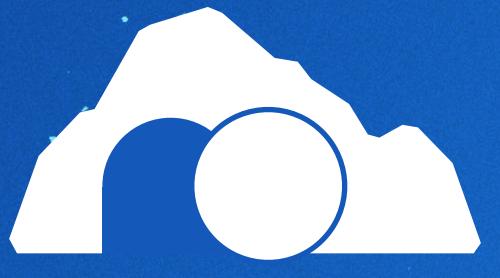
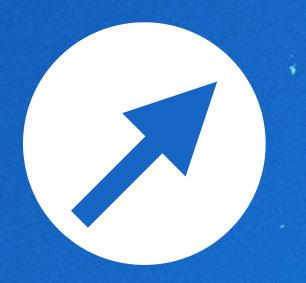


Jesus came to earth

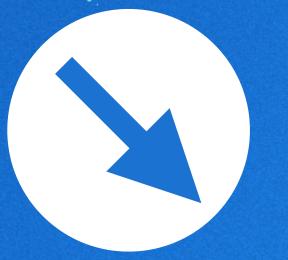
He died for sin



He rose from death



He ascended



He's coming back!

PRESENTATION

The Big Question

What if the Lord returned right now? Do you know for sure, no doubts, that He would take you to Heaven?

We can know how to have eternal life.

1 John 5:13

13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Then, what things have been written?

Is this a life-or-death statement?

John 8:24

24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.

Whose Son is Jesus?

Matthew 16:16

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Is Jesus being the Son of God all that we must believe about His identity?

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Jesus, being the Son of God... Is God!

John 1:14

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

When Jesus came to earth, did He leave His Godhead in Heaven?

Notice, Jesus is 100% man and 100% God

Colossians 2:9

9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

God the Father calls His own Son God

Hebrews 1:8

8 But of the Son He says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.

Who does Jesus Himself claim to be?

Jesus Himself claims to be the great "I AM"

John 8:58

58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM."

So, we must believe Jesus is God, or we will die in our sins.

There are three persons in the Godhead

Matthew 3:16-17

16 After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, 17 and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Jesus is one of the three persons of the Godhead.

So, what did Jesus do and why?

What is Jesus called here?

1 Timothy 2:5

5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

Why do we need a mediator?

What has separated us from God?

Isaiah 59:2

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.

What can save us?

What is the power of God to save us?

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

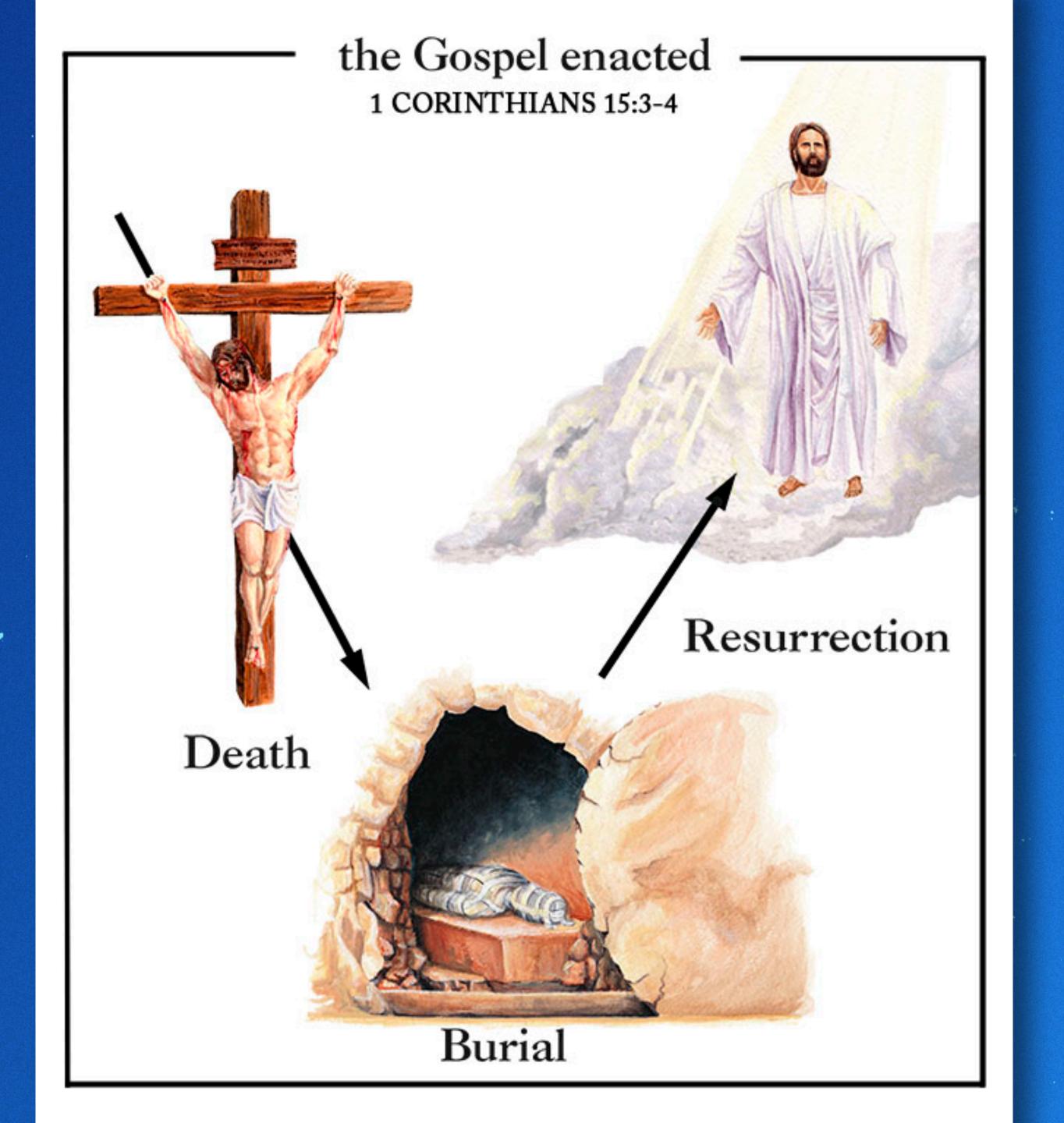
The Bible interprets itself.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

Notice the three main facts that make up the Gospel.

Here is the Gospel in picture form.



Why did Jesus have to do each of these things to save us?

His blood pays the price for our sins.

Ephesians 1:7

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Just how wonderful is this forgiveness and redemption?

He can make us blameless.

Jude 24

24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy,

Jesus takes care of our sin problem with His death. What did Jesus' resurrection take care of for us?

Jesus' resurrection takes care of our grave problem.

1 Corinthians 15:20-23

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. 21 For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,

In a nutshell, what two things does the Gospel bring us?

2 Timothy 1:10

10 but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

What can we be through Jesus' death? What can we be through His life?

Romans 5:10

10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

So, how do we get in on it?

Is this a life or death statement? Must we confess Christ and believe the Gospel to be saved?

Romans 10:9

9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

What about our current lifestyle? Must we change?

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

* *Also see Ephesians 4:17, Ephesians 5:7, Galatians 5:19-26

Is this a life or death statement?

Luke 13:3

3 I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

To get in on the saving Gospel, what else must we do?

What must we do to escape God's penalty for sin?

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

7 ...the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

How can we know how to "obey the Gospel"?

Have YOU "obeyed the GOSPEL"?

Let's find out!

The FACTS of the GOSPEL

- 1. Christ died for our sins
- 2. Christ was buried
- 3. Christ rose on the third day

Do you see the FACTS of the GOSPEL here?

Romans 6:3-6

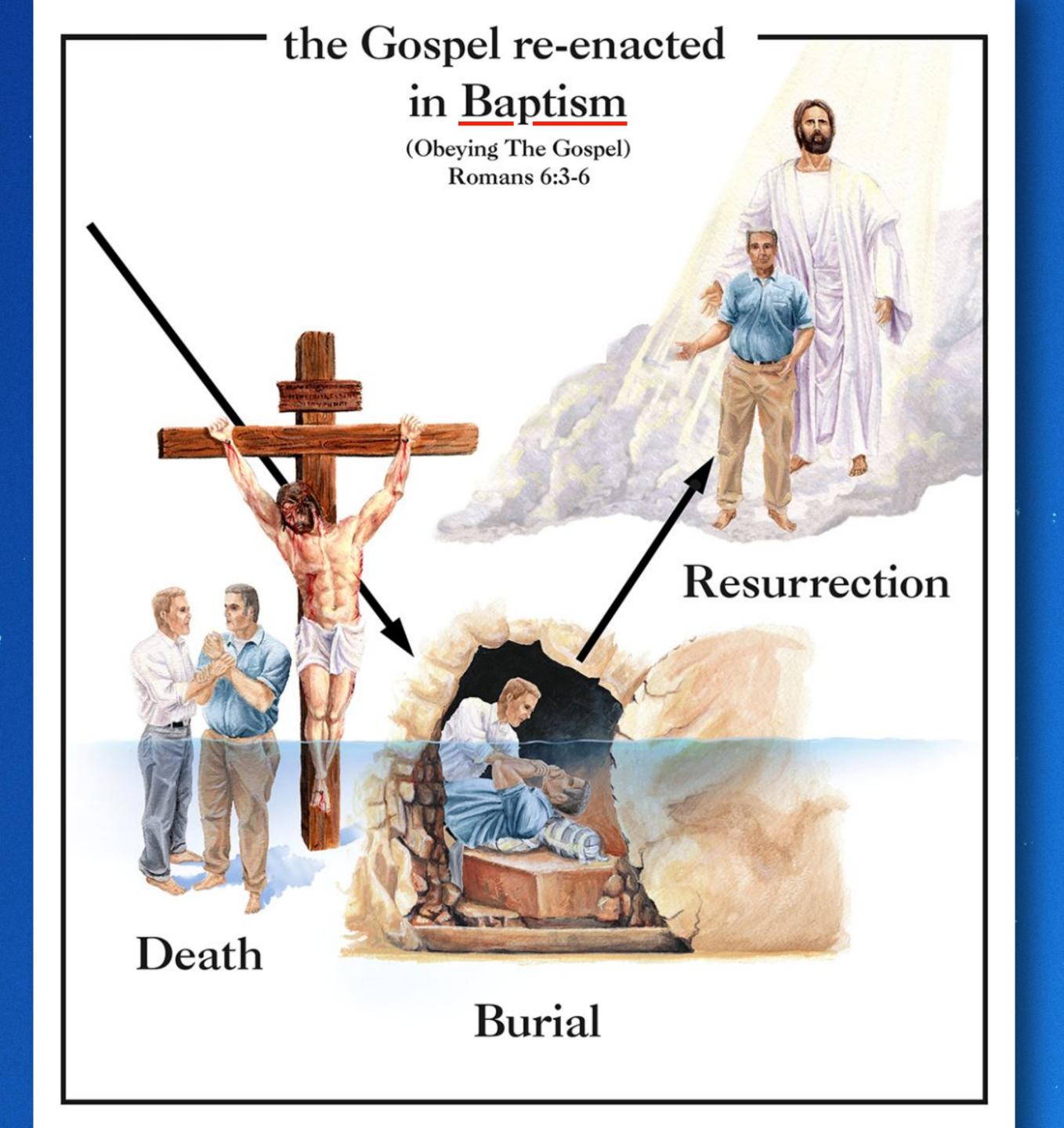
3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

Why would God want us to get "into Christ's death"?

Remember... Ephesians 1:7

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Here is the Gospel being obeyed in picture form.



SLIDE 32

In the Bible, how were people instructed to respond to the Gospel?

Acts 2:37-38

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

According to the Bible, when does one actually become a Christian? ...sons and daughters of God.

Galatians 3:26-27

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Before we become a Christian, Jesus wants us to count the cost of following Him.

What will it cost?

Let's find out!

Jesus has been clear about the cost of following Him.

John 15:20

20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Jesus commands commitment!

Luke 14:26-28

26 "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. 27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?

We must be committed to Him above everyone and everything else.

Be fully prepared to never give up!

2 Peter 2:20-21

20 For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. 21 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them.

Now, read these words, and give God your answer.

Acts 22:16

16 Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

We can know if we have eternal life...

Do you know?