



# Could God Love Even Me?

**Austin Square Baptist Church, Lynn, MA**

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## Who Is God?

God is the eternal Father, the Creator, who is perfect and holy in all that he is, and merciful and good in all that He does. He loves His creation and desires intimate relationship with His creatures. He is:

1. **Creator:** "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1
2. **Holy:** "Who will not fear, O LORD, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; for all the nations will come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed." Revelation 15:4

**Good:** "Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in goodness and truth...' " Exodus 34:6



## **Who Is Man?**

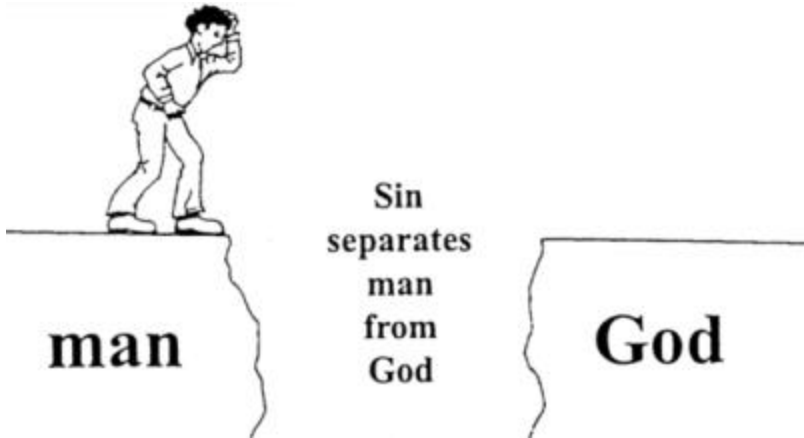
**Man is God's creation: "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."**

**Genesis 1:27**

**But why is man struggling? Why is he separated from God? The answer is sin. Sin is a lack of conformity to or violation of the Law of God. Sin has devastating results:**

- 1. Separation from God: "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." Isaiah 59:2**
- 2. Eternal Judgment and Death: "...dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power..." 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9**

**Sin is universal: "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..." Romans 3:23**



**Each of us has fallen short of a life that would bring glory to God. We don't even come close to measuring up to the love of God and to His standards. That's bad news. But there is hope. God has provided a way back to him – a way home.**

## **Who Is Jesus Christ?**

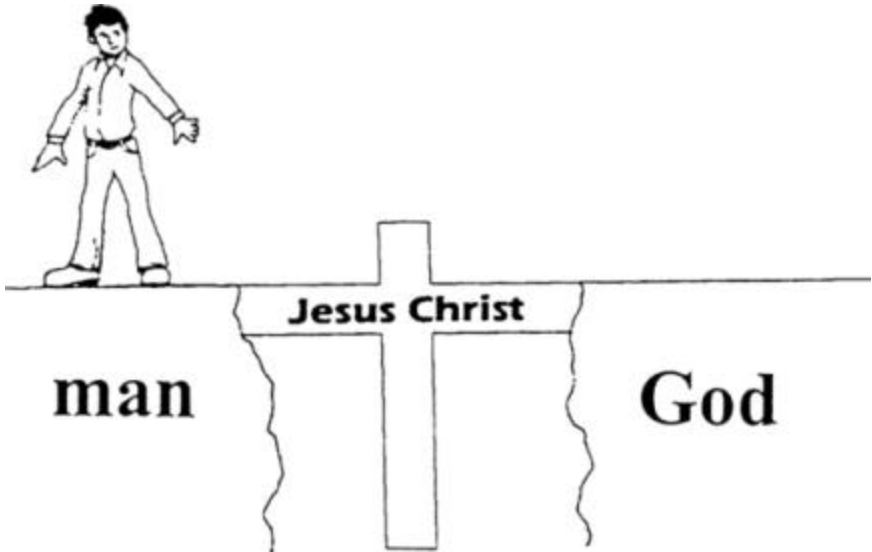
**God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross and conquer sin and death. He proved this by raising Him from the dead. We deserve eternal death, but Jesus took the penalty for sin upon Himself so that those who would believe in Him could be forgiven and have eternal life.**

**"For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit..." 1 Peter 3:18**

**"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures..." 1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

**Jesus is the only way to God. He is God, the only Savior from sin: "For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus..." 1 Timothy 2:5**

**"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.' " John 14:6**



**But you must do more than just know this.**

## **What Is Faith?**

**You must receive the gift of forgiveness and eternal life.**

**"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name..." John 1:12**

**"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9**

**Faith includes:**

- 1. Confession: Of my need for Jesus as Savior due to the fact that I am a sinner.**
- 2. Belief: A complete trust in Jesus alone to save me from my sins and have access to God. I am trusting in nothing else.**
- 3. Repentance: Surrender to Him as Lord of my life with a heartfelt desire to follow Him. This includes turning from sin.**

**Receive**

**Jesus Christ**

**man**

**God**



**But how do I tell God I want to be saved? Through prayer. Prayer is the means by which we can tell God of our intent. It is how we communicate with Him directly. You may pray this simple prayer right now:**

**"Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and have broken Your Law. I desire to know Your love and I am willing with Your help to turn from my sins and believe in You. Please come into my life. Forgive me of my sins and be Lord of my life. I receive You as my Lord and Savior as best as I know right now. Amen."**

**"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9**

**"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.' " Acts 2:38**

## **How Can I Be Sure I Am Saved?**

**It is important to remember that we rely upon God's Word rather than our own feelings for proof that we have become God's child in Jesus Christ.**

**"And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. 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." 1 John 5:11-13**

**"In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory." Ephesians 1:13-14**

**If you truly believe, then you belong to Him forever.**

## **Then How Should I Live?**

**So what's next? You need to learn all you can about God so that you can honor Him and please him with your life.**

**"...so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God..." Colossians 1:10**

**"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds." Titus 2:11-14**

**The best way to do this is to find a local church that preaches the clear truths of the bible. God's Word teaches us how to live so that we will glorify Him, as well as love and serve other people. †**