

Some of us find all this hard to accept. With our limited human perspective, we may be attracted to other ideas, from astrology through to yoga and Zen, but God says *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” Prov. 14:12.*

Almighty God is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe (including us), and so has the right to make the rules. We need to get right with Him, by the only way He offers. *John 14:6.* We need to humble ourselves, and accept that we are sinners and repent of our sins. Confess your sins to God right now, and put your trust in Jesus to save you from your sins. Pray something like this: ...*“Dear God, I have broken your law and sinned against You. I am sorry for all my sins and turn away from them.*

I believe You sent Your son Christ Jesus as a man to earth. I believe that Jesus paid for my sins on the cross, and that He rose from the dead. I believe that He is the only way for me to be saved. This day I put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. Please forgive me for my sins, change my heart so that I want to do the right thing, and grant me the gift of spending **eternity** in heaven with You. Thank You Lord. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.” From now on you should be inspired to read the bible every day, obey what you read, and live a life of good works. *Eph 2:10.*

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ETERNITY ETERNITY ETERNITY IS..... FOREVER

Is it your desire to spend eternity in heaven or in hell? Thankfully, God sent Jesus to die on the cross to pay for our sins, because we are all guilty of breaking one or more of God’s commandments. God says we can choose to believe in Jesus, accept His offer of salvation, and spend eternity in heaven, or face His judgement.

Some of us hope that our good deeds will be enough to get us into heaven. Many of us think that we are not that bad, but we need to look at God’s standard of goodness, the ten commandments, (*Exodus 20:1-17*), to understand that we have broken His law, and to fully appreciate just how much we as humans have sinned. We don’t like to admit that we have done wrong, but can you in all honesty, and with a good conscience, say that you have always obeyed all the commandments?

Jesus summed up the spirit of the law as follows *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,*

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Jesus summed up the spirit of the law as follows *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,*

and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind .” And also your neighbour as yourself. This means that we are to love God more than anything else, including ourselves, money, material goods, idols etc., and to serve him only. We can't just make up any God we like, or believe anything we like about God, nor imagine ourselves to be gods. We need to have a true understanding of God, and to worship and serve Him according to his holy law. *John 4:23,24*. We should not use His name without due reverence, in a flippant way, or as a swear word, or an oath.

To love your neighbour as yourself, was also expressed in the following way by Jesus; *“And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.” Luke 6:31*. The idea is that we should “do unto others as we would have them do unto us”. This includes always treating your father and mother with honour and respect. Have you always done this? We should not hate anyone, since God considers hatred to be the same as murder, and obviously we should not murder. *Matt 5:21-22*. We should not commit adultery, and this includes even looking at someone with lust. *Matt 5:27-28*. We don't want others to steal from us, so we should not steal, even small things such as pens and paperclips. Have you ever stolen anything? We do not like it when others lie to us, or about us. We should always be truthful. We shouldn't tell lies, deceive, defraud, cheat or be dishonest even “white lies”.

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Can you honestly say you have never told a lie? It may be hard to take, but a person who tells lies is a liar. We should not covet (desire) what belongs to others. Have you ever wanted something that belongs to someone else?

The Bible says *“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” Rom 3:23*. We have lied, stolen, lusted, coveted, and failed to love God and our neighbour. When God judges us we will all be found guilty. No one is good enough to go to heaven by their own merit. The bible says that God is a just judge, and is angry with the wicked every day. *Psalms 7:11*. He will rightly punish all murderers, rapists, thieves, liars, adulterers etc. God's Law requires justice, and the penalty for sinning against Him is death and hell. If you die a sinner, there is no second chance. God will judge you, which means you will end up in hell for **eternity**. Fortunately, God loves you and doesn't want you to go to hell. *2 Pet 3:9*.

The good news is that God provided a way where His love, goodness and righteousness could be reconciled. God showed how much He loves you when He sacrificed His Son on the cross for you. *Rom 5:8*. We broke the law, but He became a man **to pay our fine**. God can pardon us because Jesus suffered and died on the cross to pay for our sins. Jesus fulfilled the requirements of God's perfect law, justice and love. Jesus then rose from the dead, defeating death, so that God can give us the gift of life for eternity. It is a gift we should gratefully accept, we cannot earn it by good works. *Eph 2:10*.

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