

# The Christian Arsenal

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## WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT THIS PASSION FOR YOU Understanding the Passion

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Part 3 of 3

### INTRO:

*"By the Gospel you are saved."* I Cor. 15:2 (NIV)

Gospel means "good news"

In other words, by the good news you are saved.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His Only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not Perish but have Everlasting Life."*

Notice some things about this verse:

- There are 25 words in this verse
- The middle word is Son
- The first half of the verse is all about God.
- The second half of the verse is all about man.

Jesus Christ came from heaven to earth to be the bridge between God and man so we could know what God is like.

### HOW TO SETTLE YOUR ETERNAL DESTINY (Four Essentials in Preparing for Eternity)

#### 1. YOU NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S GREAT PASSION.

You need to realize how much God loves you. God is not mad at you – He's mad about you.

*"God SO LOVED the world..."*

*"God showed how much He loved us by sending His only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love. He sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins."* I John 4:9-10 (NLT)

God didn't just say He loved you; He showed He loved you.

*"What an incredible quality of love the Father has shown us that we should be permitted to be called and counted as the children of God."* I John 3:1 (Amp)

### GOD'S LOVE IS FOUR-DIMENSIONAL

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*"May you be able to feel and understand how long, how wide, how deep and how high God's love really is and experience this love for yourself." Eph. 3:18-19 (LB)*

- How long is God's love? – Long enough to last forever.
- How wide is God's love? – Wide enough to be everywhere.
- How deep is God's love? – Deep enough to handle anything.
- How high is God's love? – High enough to overlook your mistakes.

## 2. YOU NEED TO APPRECIATE GOD'S PRESENT.

*"... That He gave His only begotten Son..."*

Let's review the **THREE OPTIONS TO THIS CLAIM**

- Jesus is a lunatic.
- Jesus is a liar.
- Jesus is Lord.

He is either delusional, deceptive, or He is Deity.

*"Out of sheer generosity God put us in right standing with Himself, a pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where He always wanted us to be. And He did it by means of Jesus Christ. He sacrificed Jesus on the altar of the world to clear that world of sin." Rom 3:24-25 (Mes)*

*"When we were unable to help ourselves at the moment of our need Christ died for us although we were living against God." Romans 5:6 (NCV)*

*"God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. Then in exchange He poured God's goodness into us." 2 Cor. 5:21 (LB)*

**THE WORD FOR THIS IS CALLED – GRACE** (When God gives you what you need, not what you deserve.)

*"Saving is all His idea and all His work. All we do is trust Him enough to let Him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish." Eph. 2:8 (Mes)*

NOTICE: It's not what you do that gets you into heaven. It's what Jesus Christ already did.

## 3. YOU NEED TO ACCEPT GOD'S PROPOSAL.

*"...That whosoever believes in Him should not perish..."*

*"The free gift of eternal salvation is offered to everyone." Titus 2:11 (LB)*

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Jesus is an equal opportunity Savior.

*“One’s nationality or race or education or social position is unimportant. Such things mean nothing. Whether a person has Christ is what matters and He is equally available to all.” Col. 3:11 (LB)*

Who is this proposal for? Everyone!

How do you accept it?

*“God says He will accept us and acquit us – declare us “not guilty” – if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. We can all be saved in this same way by coming to Christ no matter what we are or what we’ve been like.” Rom. 3:22 (LB)*

There’s only one condition to accepting God’s proposal of eternal life for you. You TRUST HIM.

Greek word for believe is “pisteno” – means to trust in, cling to, rely on, to commit to.

A lot of people know about Jesus, but they don’t know Him.

*“Right now God is ready to welcome you into His family. Today He is ready to save you!” 2 Cor. 6:2 (LB)*

## **4. YOU NEED TO ANTICIPATE GOD’S PROMISE**

*“...should not perish but have everlasting life!”*

Did you know you were made to last forever?

*“We are now members of God’s own family. And God has reserved for His children the priceless gift of eternal life. It is kept in heaven for you and God will make sure that you get there safely to receive it, because you are trusting Him.” I Peter 1:3-5 (LB)*

All of God’s children are guaranteed heaven. The problem is not everybody is in God’s family.

Everybody is created by God, but not everybody is a child of God.

## **THREE BENEFITS OF BEING IN GOD’S FAMILY**

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*“What a God we have... Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we’ve been given a brand new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven, and the future starts now!” 1 Peter 1:3-4 (Mes)*

- Past forgiven
- Purpose for living
- Home in heaven

*“Open your eyes and see how good God is ...” Ps. 34:8 (Mes)*

**YOU MUST AND WILL ANSWER THIS QUESTION TODAY**

**“What will you do with Jesus?”**

It is the most important question you will ever be asked in your life. It not only determines the rest of your life, but where you’ll spend eternity.