

Jesus replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

- Luke 18:27

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

- Luke 19:10

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

- 1 Peter 1:8-9

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

- Mark 16:16

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

- Matthew 7:13-14

So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

- Hebrews 9:28



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Scriptural Insight

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Prior to the establishment of Scriptural Insight, Inc., Helen, sent books to the mission schools supported by the Henwood Foundation in Zambia, Africa, to the Sunday Schools of the New Apostolic Church in Lahore, Pakistan, and to various ministers, counselors and youth leaders all over the world. Helen sought, and was in direct contact with, those who desired to promote the word of God in regions where Christianity was being threatened. They welcomed any written material which helped in their teaching and thus her articles became very popular to bring testimony, support youth leaders, and be the basis for church services." of a church service. Please visit our website at www.scripturalinsight.org and let us know how you liked this booklet, how else we can serve you, and how you can become one of our volunteers to help in the vineyard to find that last soul God longs for!

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God's Plan of Salvation

God began His plan by creating the earth in its limited universe and then created Adam and Eve to live happily in the Garden of Eden, walking and talking with Him. But the angel Lucifer, later known as Satan, rebelled against God because he was jealous of Christ, and jealous of the new being, man, who God said he would elevate above the angels. (Isaiah 14:12-15)

As a result of his rebellion, Satan was thrown to earth with the angels who had rebelled along with him and thereby also disobeyed God. (Revelation 12:9) These numbered one-third of all the angels.

Satan knew God's plan and understood that when the plan was completed, and God had obtained the number of faithful loving souls He longed for, Satan and his angels would be thrown into Hell for what they had done and with them all evil would be forever bound.

To prevent God's plan from moving forward and thus forestall his own destruction, Satan destroyed God's relationship of trust and loyalty with Adam and Eve by enticing them to sin through disobedience. Satan knew that sin would automatically separate man from God because He knew that God labored under perfect righteousness.

Satan fully understood God's plan and knew that when God's Plan of Salvation was completed and the number of faithful loving souls God longed for was obtained, Satan would be thrown into the Lake of Fire and bound for eternity for what he had done. He knew that God wanted to separate good from evil for all eternity. Therefore, to prevent God's plan from moving forward and thus forestall his destruction, Satan destroyed God's relationship of trust and loyalty with Adam and Eve by enticing them to sin through disobedience. Satan knew that this would force God to banish Adam and Eve as He had banished Satan.

But God, knowing what Satan would do, provided a way for Adam and Eve and the generations to follow, to escape the captivity Satan proposed for them and teach them how to return to God. As mankind laboured toward this goal, they would learn the difference between good and evil. They could either choose God's way, or ignore God's teachings and remain in captivity to Satan. Out of His immense love for us, Christ offered to sacrifice His life to pay the price for the sins which man would commit as he moved through his life.

Satan dedicated himself to interfering with God's plan, trying to break the faith and goodness of those who would follow God. Satan understood that when God collects the number of souls He wants for his new creation, Satan will be bound forever. Thus Satan is fighting for his continued freedom when discouraging the faithful through the heartache he brings into their lives. But through God's love, many of those who are attacked by Satan will be strengthened as they endure these tests, and they will become like gold refined in the fires of tribulation. It is from these faithful that God is building what the Bible calls the Bride of Christ.

God also provided for those who died in sin by creating a means of testimony in eternity, but this opportunity will last only while grace is still available on Earth. When Christ triumphed over death on the cross, He entered Hades to give testimony of His resurrection and what this could mean to those who had died in sin before He brought His perfect sacrifice. While in hell, Christ told these souls that now they too could find forgiveness through grace if they would but seek it.

God has allotted a certain amount of time for His children, the Bride, to be made ready. Only He knows when that

time frame will end (Matthew 24:36; Acts 1:7), and when that time is up, His Son (Christ) will return to earth for the First Resurrection to take to heaven both those from eternity who have obtained forgiveness and those alive who are faithful. (James 1:18; 1 John 5:4; Revelation 2:7, 11, 26; Revelation 3:5, 12, 21, Revelation 12:5 and 11; Revelation 21:7) When they are gone, grace as we know it will also be gone, and there will be no more forgiveness of sin. A great destruction will begin where one third of all the people on Earth will die. (Daniel 12:1-2; Matthew 24:21-22; Thessalonians 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 3:1-9)

When the destruction ends, God will send His Son back to earth with those He had taken at the First Resurrection. They will have celestial (perfect) bodies and will reign as kings and priests for one thousand years of peace during which they will bring testimony to everyone living or dead who was not taken in the First Resurrection. Satan will be bound during this time, unable to influence mankind, so all mankind will learn about... and accept... God's offer and become all that is required of them. (Revelation 20:2; Isaiah 4:2-6; Isaiah 11; Isaiah 12; Daniel 2:44; Daniel 7:27; Amos 9:11-15) These who receive this testimony will not have the opportunity to become a part of the Bride of Christ, but will be given the opportunity to become a "lamb"; an inhabitant of God's new kingdom.

However, after the one thousand years of peace, Satan will be loosed again for a little while so those who accepted God's offer during this time period can be tested. (Revelation 20:7-10) Satan, knowing that his time is almost up will wreak havoc on those not firm in their faith and many will fall. Then will come Judgment Day (John 5:22; Revelation 20:12-14) when everyone, except those taken by Christ for the First Resurrection, will be judged by what they did or did not do during their lifetime.

Those who were taken by Christ at the First Resurrection and will reign as kings and priests in the new kingdom God will create will never have to be judged because their sins had been forgiven and entirely wiped away by God. But those who were not taken will face the judgment which will separate the "goats" from the "lambs". The "goats," will be cast into the Lake of Fire with Satan forever. This is called the second death and because the soul never dies.... it is torment for all eternity.

But others, those called the "lambs," those who remained

faithful to God's words after receiving testimony during the thousand years of peace, will inhabit God's new kingdom where there will be no sorrow and no tears. (Revelation 21:1-4) In the end, only those who did their best to learn God's words and do God's will and worked to develop in love will share God's new heaven and earth. All evil and evil things, all hate and hateful things will be bound forever with Satan and the fallen angels, never to harm God's children again. (Revelation 21:1-4)

Follow Up Scriptures:

1 Peter 2:5, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 2:9, "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

Revelation 1:5-6, "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen."

Revelation 5:10, "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."

Revelation 12:5, "She gave birth to a son, a male child, who "will rule all the nations with an iron scepter." And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne."

Revelation 19:14, "The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean."

Revelation 20:6, "Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."

Revelation 22:5, "There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever."