

**God Wants
All Men
to be Saved**

God wants all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth, His word, the Bible.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (page 1110)

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Many of us have wondered about how people in the past, before the Bible was written, or people who have been raised in non-Christian households, or even people today who live in remote places with no outside communication will get God's truth and know what God wants from them. Since God wants everyone to be saved, you can be sure that everyone has the opportunity to be saved!

Jesus made it known that man should live by every word God speaks. God knows that we need every word He speaks to live! He will make sure we get them.

Matthew 4:4 (page 893)

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

We find in the Bible, that God has saved all men (past present, and future,) by the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Note the last part of the verse below, “specially of those that believe.”

1 Timothy 4:10 (page 1112)

For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because **we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.**

Even though all men have been forgiven for every sin they will ever commit, no one can be saved and spend eternity with their Savior unless they accept His free gift of salvation.

Romans 3:22-23 (page 1052)

Even **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that**

believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Many of us wonder how men would have access to the knowledge of God's salvation in past times--people who died before Jesus' saving work on the cross. We want to know that everyone has had a chance to make a choice about where they will spend eternity.

The story of Cain and Abel showed that God had told Adam and Eve and their family that blood sacrifice was required to cover up sins. Abel obeyed the Lord but Cain was prideful and wanted to offer the crops that he was growing.

Genesis 4:3-5 (page 4)

And in process of time it came to pass, that **Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.** And **Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof.** And **the LORD had respect unto Abel** and to his offering: But **unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.** And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

You know what happened afterward. Cain killed Abel out of jealousy.

Genesis 4:8 (page 4)

And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

It is ironic that Cain did not kill a lamb to please God but he did kill his own brother!

Job, who wrote the oldest book in the Bible, had a fantastic understanding of what God was going to do for man.

Job 19:25-27 (page 526)

For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And **though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God**: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

Noah, prior to the flood, was a preacher of righteousness, sent to warn people about God's coming wrath and to offer them salvation.

2 Peter 2:5 (page 1140)

And spared not the old world, but saved **Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

God, Himself, shows the way to salvation to everyone, past, present and future.

Titus 2:11 (page 1118)

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

The people who would choose to be God's people, from Adam through the end of the millennial kingdom of Heaven on the Earth, were known by God from before the foundation of the world. God knows what will happen in the end of times, from before the beginning of time itself. That includes those who will accept His salvation and those who will reject it.

Isaiah 46:9-11 (page 686)

Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, **Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done**, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

Your salvation was known to God before the foundation of the world. God's people were known to Him even then.

God did not choose us, we chose Him. Once we did, He predestinated us for eternity in heaven. He knew who would choose Him and who would reject Him.

Ephesians 1:3-5 (page 1092)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: **According as he hath chosen us in him before the**

foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: **Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself**, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein **he hath made us accepted in the beloved**.

Many people misunderstand the word “predestinated,” as if God chose us without anything we did or can do. Peter uses the word “foreknowledge” which simply means, “to know beforehand.” Of course God knows which people will be His and which will reject Him before they are even born.

1 Peter 1:1-2

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father**, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

The Old Testament saints, back to Adam, had their names written in the Lamb's book of life from the foundation of the world. God knew which of them would choose Him.

Revelation 17:8 (page 1162)

The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and **they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world**, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

God causes all people to know Him through His creation.

Job 37:5-7 (page 537)

God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend. For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength. **He sealet up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.**

Paul tells us that the invisible things from the creation of the world are clearly seen and understood by the things created (including us.) He says that what we can know about God is shown in creation. Some people simply choose not to glorify or even acknowledge God.

Romans 1:18-21 (page 1050)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; **Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them;** for God hath shewed it unto them. **For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made,** even his eternal power and Godhead; **so that they are without excuse:** Because that, **when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.**

Job tells us that the other created things, our fellow creatures, understand and instruct us about God.

Job 12:7-10 (page 522)

But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee. **Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this? In whose hand is the soul of every living thing,** and the breath of all mankind.

The sun, moon, stars, and the earth declare the glory of God. Their instruction transcends any language or speech.

Psalm 19:1-5 (page 549)

(To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.) **The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.** Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. **There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.** Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

There will always be scoffers who mock people who believe God and His promises and accept His gifts. Peter tells us that ungodly people have to purposely (willingly) ignore the evidence of God's power and might in His creation.

2 Peter 3:2-5 (page 1140)

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last **days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?** for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. **For this they willingly are ignorant of,** that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, **reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**

Paul gets to the heart of the problem. If anyone who calls on the name of the Lord is saved, how can we get everyone to hear about the Lord?

He then answers his own question with a quote from Isaiah.

Romans 10:13-18 (page 1058)

For **whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and **how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?** and **how shall they hear without a preacher?** And **how shall they preach, except they be sent?** as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. **For Esaias saith,** Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. **But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.**

Next, Isaiah is talking about the (future for him) death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord. The entire rest of the world saw what God did to redeem Jerusalem.

Isaiah 52:9-10 (page 691)

Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: **for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.** The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and **all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

It wasn't just Israel that Jesus redeemed, Jesus' death redeemed everyone.

Ephesians 2:12-13 (page 1093)

That at that time **ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel,** and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: **But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.**

Solomon prayed that all of the people of the earth would know that the Lord is God when they saw how He blessed Israel:

1 Kings 8:59-60 (page 359)

And let these my words, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as the matter shall require: **That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else.**

God's thoughts are not our thoughts and his ways are not our ways. They are higher than ours-- more than the heavens are above the earth. God sends out His word and it always accomplishes what God wants it to accomplish.

Isaiah 55:7-11 (page 693)

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. **For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.** For as the rain cometh

down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**

Remember, God merely spoke to bring the world into existence.

Genesis 1:3 (page 1)

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Isaiah 45:20-22 (page 686)

Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of **the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save. Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together:** who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and **there is no God else beside me; a just God and a**

Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

We even know how God will send out His voice in the future, after we are raptured from the earth. He will supernaturally seal and protect 144,000 young Jewish men to spread His word to the ends of the earth, to save as many people as will listen, from the antichrist.

Revelation 7:4 (page 1154)

And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and **forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.**

Revelation 14:1 (page 1159)

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an **hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.**

Revelation 14:3 (page 1159)

And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the

elders: and **no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.**

We cannot know for certain about anyone's beliefs or their salvation. Samuel tells us that we can only see the outward man, but the Lord can see the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7 (page 298)

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: **for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.**