



# WHY STUDY THE BIBLE?

*It is the Instruction Manual from God.*

## Lesson 3C - What is the Purpose of the Bible

**➡ TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, "HOW WILL GOD RESCUE MAN?"**

### Let's Get Started

- The only creation that can reflect God's image & character is MAN.
- All the rest of God's creation (heavens and earth) were created for MAN.
- God's plan was to give MAN a purpose for life, and then enjoy helping him do it forever.
- MAN knew all this, yet he chose to question & disobey God; that's what we call "sin".
- That "sin" polluted MAN'S nature, and disqualified him from being in God's holy presence.
- God STILL has a plan for MAN, and He STILL wants to help him with that purpose forever.

Isaiah 59:2 - But your sin has separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you; He will not hear you.

1.  Yes  No In your opinion, is God & man separated because a holy God cannot be around sin?
2.  Yes  No Could a man ever make himself holy enough to be close to God?
3.  Yes  No In Genesis 2:15, it says that God and man were not separated then.

Ephesians 2:13 - But now in Christ Jesus, you who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 2:14 - For Jesus Himself is our peace, who has made us one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation ...

- "in Christ Jesus" means "to be a believer in Jesus as your Savior."
- "once far off" means "before you were a believer, you were separated from God."

4. How was the separation of God and man dealt with? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is more likely? In order for the separation between God & man to be removed:  
 God needs to do something first.  Man needs to do something first.

- The term used to describe God and man being separated is "Spiritual Death".
- When anything is dead, no human being can fix that; man cannot make a dead thing alive.
- God, however, has the power to make a dead thing come alive if He chooses to.
- That dead thing could be the physical body, or it could be the spiritual part of a person.
- Keep in mind that the physical body will stop existing one day; the spiritual part exists forever.

Ephesians 2:1-3 - As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh<sup>[a]</sup> and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.

6. I am a pretty good guy; I obey the laws; I pay my bills; I treat people right most of the time; I have a respectable family; I go to church more than not; I have prayed.
  - a.  Yes  No Could I be dead in trespasses & sins?
  - b.  Yes  No Could I follow some of the evil ways of this world?
  - c.  Yes  No Could I be someone who is disobedient to God?
  - d.  Yes  No Could I be gratifying the cravings of my fleshly desires/thoughts?
  - e.  Yes  No DON'T TELL ME - COULD A GOOD GUY STILL BE A SINNER?
  - f.  Yes  No COULD A RESPECTABLE MAN BE SEPARATED FROM GOD?

## AFTER MAN & WOMAN WERE REMOVED FROM THE GARDEN (GOD'S PRESENCE)

### Access

7. In Genesis 2:15-17, man: \_\_\_ had access \_\_\_ did not have access to the Garden.
  8. In Genesis 3:23, man \_\_\_ had access \_\_\_ did not have access to the Garden.
  9. In Genesis 2:15-17, man \_\_\_ had access \_\_\_ did not have access to the Tree of Life.
  10. In Genesis 3:23, man \_\_\_ had access \_\_\_ did not have access to the Tree of Life.
- We have the same Garden, the same Tree of Life, and the same God. Man's not the same.

### Life Goes On

- Sex and children continued. (Genesis 4:1)
- The sons learned trades: Cain worked the soil, and Abel tended animals. (Gen. 4:2)
- Sometime during this period, the boys learned to make sacrifices to God for worship. (Gen. 4:4)

Genesis 4:6-7 - So the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? [It shows in your face.] If you do well (My way), will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well (Your way), sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

1. Where did Cain get the idea that **ignoring God's way** would work? (Gen. 4:4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where did Cain get the idea that his **anger** would get him his way? (Gen. 4:6)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Where did Cain get the idea that **blaming** everyone else would work? (Gen. 4:7-8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What could motivate a man (Cain) to lie to God? (Gen. 4:9)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Look at Gen. 4:7 again. What does Cain need to be **rescued** from? \_\_\_\_\_  
" \_\_\_\_\_ lies at the door. Sin's \_\_\_\_\_ is to control you; you should rule over sin."

### Separation from God still Exists

- In this condition, man cannot get away from guilt, over-using human effort, wandering in life, fearing punishment, expecting pending danger, & seeing sin repeat itself. (Gen. 4:11-16)
6. But God is still at work during the godless period between Adam & the Flood: Adam's son, \_\_\_\_\_, was born; later his grandson, \_\_\_\_\_, was born. Both these men followed God in an evil generation. (Gen. 4:25-26). God's rescue was still underway.
  7. What did man start doing? (Gen. 4:27) \_\_\_\_\_
  8. In Gen. 5:29, Adam's great-great-great-great-great grandson was born? \_\_\_\_\_
  9. What kind of man was he? (Gen. 6:9) \_\_\_\_\_
  10. Even though God was raising up Godly men, what was still going on? (Gen. 6:3-5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  11. What does God still have to **rescue** man from? (Romans 3:23) \_\_\_\_\_
  12. How is that rescue done? (Rom. 6:23) \_\_\_\_\_
  13. What would motivate someone to pull off this kind of rescue? (Jn 3:16) \_\_\_\_\_
  14. \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No There is no escaping the eternal merry-go-round of sin by ourselves.
- Sin entered mankind through Adam & Eve; I was born a human being descended from them; I am a sinner; there is no way to escape it unless someone sacrifices their life to pay for that sin; I cannot do it; Jesus did it; He rose from the dead; He beat sin; He stopped the cycle; I accepted His payment for sin; He lives in me now; He helps me win over sin everyday. I'm rescued.