

Where we were once spiritual dead to God, deaf and blind to his presence, now we can experience his power, presence and reality guiding and shaping our lives. God is Spirit and if you are spiritual dead then you cannot have a relationship with God. Jesus opens the spiritual way back to God – We are by faith **Spiritual Born Again** so that we can spiritually experience God.

**What the Bible says:- Read – John 3 v 1 – 7**

Like any relationship the more time we spend with the Lord in prayer, worship and in reading His Word the more He reveals himself to us and we get to know him better. **Jesus is the Only Way to a relationship with God** because only Jesus has lived a perfect human life, paid for our sins, died in our place and taken away the offending barrier between us and God. Only Jesus is the one who has satisfied God’s justice in regard to sin.

Salvation comes through faith in Jesus and claiming what he has done on the cross. No amount of good works, or religious duties can earn for you what you can freely receive through faith in Jesus. We are saved **BY GRACE**, (God’s undeserved favour,) **THROUGH FAITH ALONE** (in Christ)

**Teaching point 3 : - Jesus is relevant to us today, because Jesus has secured for us Eternal Life!**

The Bible says even more wonderful things about what Jesus has accomplished for those who believe. It says that after he died on the cross, his body was taken down and put into an air tight tomb, guarded by Roman soldiers. On the third day some women came to anoint the body, as was their tradition and found that the body was no longer there. Jesus had raised physically from the dead. He appeared to well over 500 people. He talked to them, ate and drank with them.

He also promised that through His resurrection we would have the promises of eternal life!

**This eternal life means two things:-**

**Firstly – Fullness of life now**

When we become a Christian, God gives us his presence and power so that we can fully live our lives for him. This presence of God that fills our lives is called the Holy Spirit. He comes to live within us so that we can become better people and experience real intimacy with God.. This regeneration is only possible because Jesus died on the cross and rose to new life three days later. It is the Holy Spirit that develops within us a real quality of life. He enables us to reach our full potential as people, developing our gifts and abilities in line with the plan that God has for us. Through this New Birth we become new people.

2 Corinthians 5 v 17 says

“ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. All this from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ.”

**Secondly – Everlasting life when we die**

Revelation 21 makes it clear that when Jesus **Comes Again** there will be a making of all thing new. This will result in a physical resurrection. Those who’s hope is in Jesus will receive a new body which will not age, get sick or be damaged. We will live forever in the presence of God in perfect happiness, fulfilment, peace and joy. There will be no longer any death, suffering, sickness or pain for the old order of fallen society and man will be done away with. We will be God’s children and He will be our visible eternal Father.

**Famous Quote**

“ All heaven is interested in the Cross of Christ, all hell terribly afraid of it. While men are the only beings who more or less ignore its meaning to their eternal damnation. Get alone with Jesus and either tell him that you do not want sin to die out in you – or else tell him that at all costs you want to be identified with his death. Today Jesus is being dispatched as the figurehead of a religion, a mere example. He is that, BUT he is infinitely more; He is salvation itself, he is the Gospel of the living God and in him eternal hope and the destiny of humanity meet.” **Oswald Chambers**

Jesus is God’s personal invitation to this relationship and like all invitations we need to decide how we will respond to his free gift of life! **“For God demonstrated his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!”** (Romans 5 v 8) How will you respond?