

ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH JESUS

I've read and heard people, mainly religious theologians, state that we can only get to heaven through Our Lord Jesus Christ.

In my early years, I used to ignore these types of pronouncements, the main reason was that I never understood what they meant. Over many years, I came to my interpretation of them. It all started when I began to investigate Jesus's reply when asked about his mission here on earth. He replied:

TO SAVE SINNERS

I believed then, and still do that this meant helping people understand what they must do whilst alive, for their immortal souls to get to live with God in the wonder of heaven for all eternity when they died.

Through the Old Testament of the Bible, we know that God repeatedly told the Hebrews, through prophets, what they must do to achieve the same thing.

God had also given the Hebrews a covenant. In very simple terms, this said that they must obey his Ten Commandments if they want their souls to live with him in heaven for all eternity when they die.

I asked myself, if God had done all this, why was it necessary to send his Son to help us do the same?

It was only when I discovered what Jesus said and did in the New Testament of the Bible that it all started to become apparent.

Some parts of the Old Testament promise the coming of a Messiah, Jesus himself. God knew that as mankind grew in numbers, His message would have to reach all peoples, not just the Hebrews. It needed more than prophets to achieve this.

Knowing that God is aware of how all people suffer the very effective torments and temptations of Satan, and on top of this, the free will God gave to each person when they are conceived also provides temptations against God's covenant, such as greed, lust, envy, jealousy, and others. Is it any wonder that they needed special help?

All the above are effective ways of losing God's great promise for our eternal souls. It seemed obvious that it all needed a special remedy, hence sending his only Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to assist. There could be no better way.

The Son of God's actions are recorded in the Bible, which is available for all to read and digest. Do you have one, and if you do, do you ever read it?

The Bible illustrates what Jesus does, teaches, and demonstrates, using parables to convey his message to ordinary people.

Jesus' greatest advice was, "Love **the Lord your God** with all your heart, soul, and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself. '(Matthew 22:37-39,). The simple beauty of this is that we automatically obey the TEN COMMANDMENTS when we do it, thus saving our souls.

In addition, Jesus showed us the power of God via miracles, how to forgive, be good neighbours, be aware of Satan's temptations, pray effectively, and refrain from offending God. He made sure we knew all the ways of saving our eternal souls. There are many such examples in the Bible.

By doing what Jesus demonstrated in many ways, we automatically refrain from sinning, hence **saving our souls through Him**.