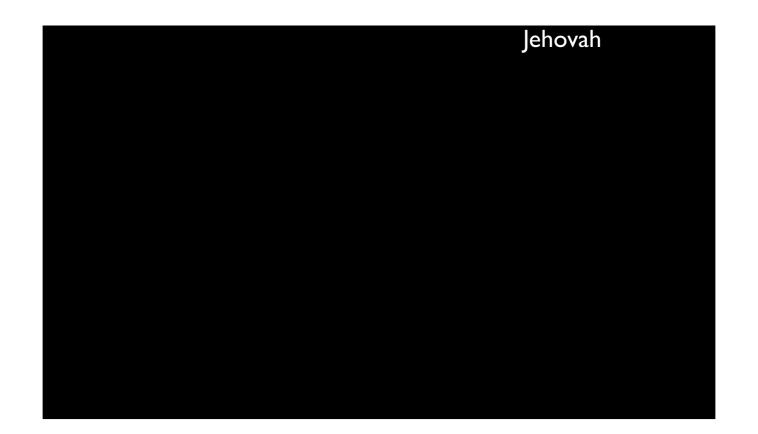


Psalm 103.10: He does not deal with us according to our sins.

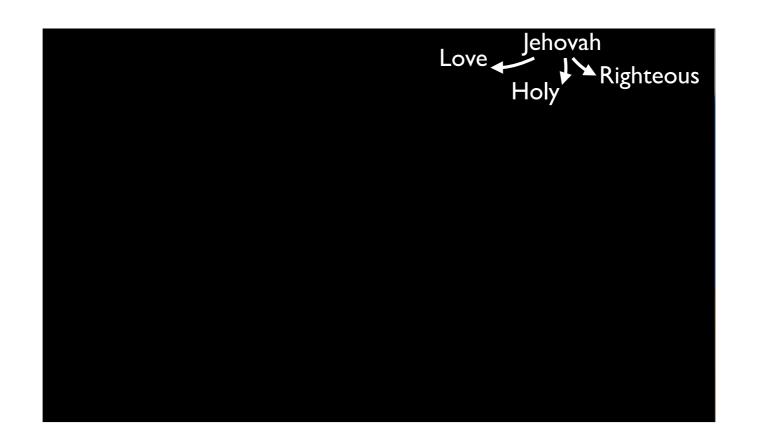
In the beginning God...

In order to answer this question, we must understand who God is.



Genesis 1:1: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

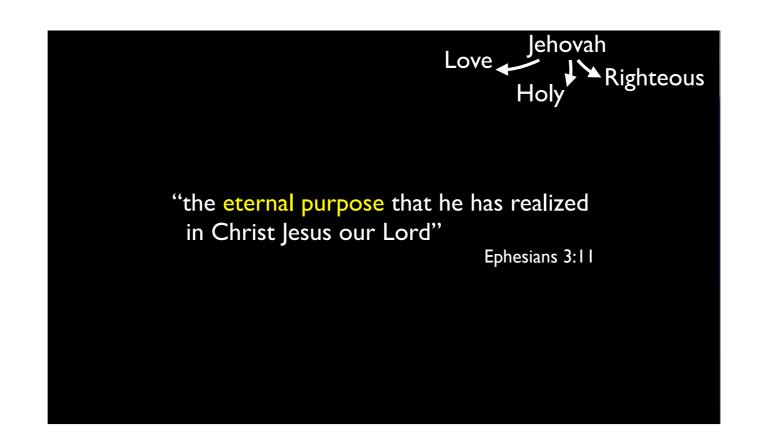
John 1:1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.



1 John 4:8: Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love**.

Psalm 99:9: Exalt Jehovah our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for **Jehovah our God is holy**!

Psalm 11:7: For **Jehovah is righteous**; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.



Ephesians 3:11: This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord

Eph. 1.4: "before the foundation of the world"

None of this happened by accident!



Genesis 1: Creation of Heaven and Earth



Earth: all living things... but



Special about man:

"Let us make man in our image" (1.26): dominion.

different from all other aspects of creation.



"Let us make man in our image" (1.26)

Not physical likeness

Character: love, holy, righteous



Ate of the tree that was forbidden, sinned.

"eyes opened": fig leaves to cover loins

Hide from presence of God when walking in garden: Adam AFRAID!



Why did God force man to leave garden?

Eat from tree of life... therefore sent out.

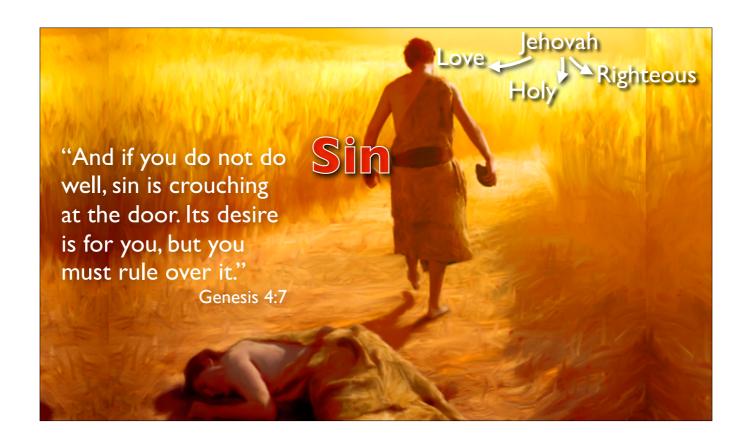
Although cast out... sin continued.

Demonstrates that sin is something that God MUST take seriously, He MUST deal with sin.



Cain and Abel offer sacrifices.

Cain is not accepted, so Cain kills Able.



Genesis 4:7: If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

Jehovah tried to prevent this:

Sin: crouching

Desire for you

Must rule over it.



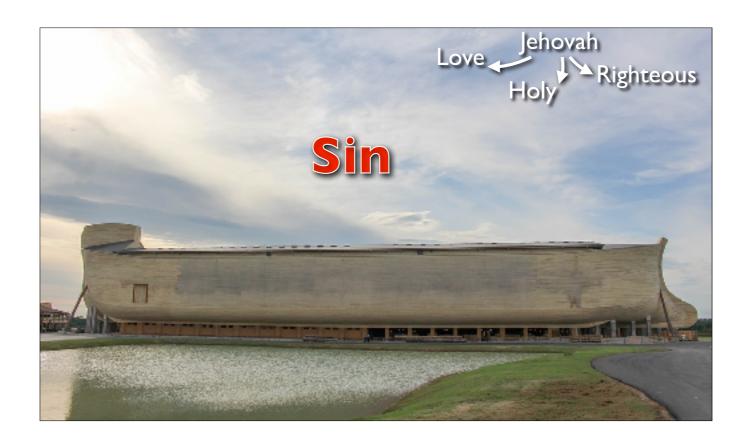
Genesis 6:

Wickedness of man great, every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Jehovah regretted that he made man, grieved to heart.

Earth corrupt, filled with violence

make an end of all flesh.



Noah found favor... made ark.



Flood destroyed all but the 8 on ark.

Why did God flood the whole earth?

Demonstrates that Sin must be dealt with!

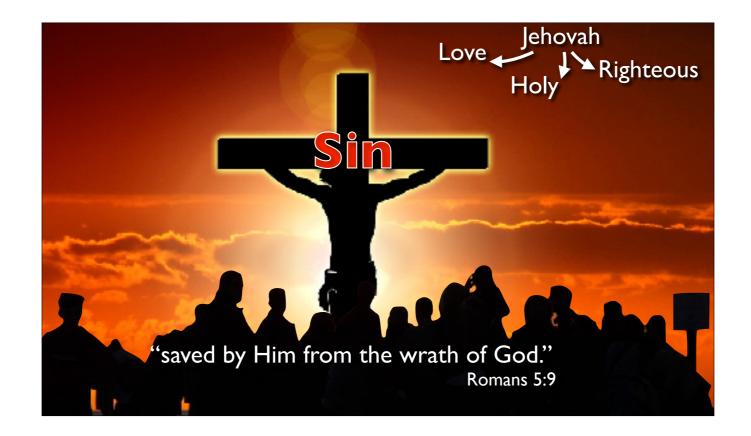


Yet sin continued...

Noah drunk, building of tower.



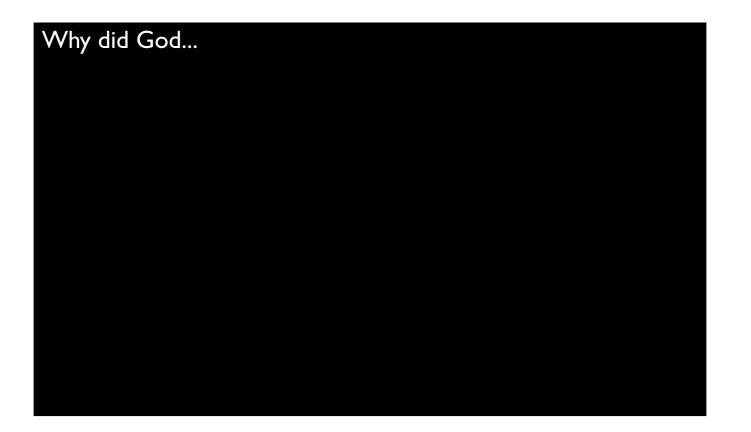
Why did Jesus have to die on the cross?



Romans 5:9: Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Sin must be dealt with.

Not just for him... but for us.



Why did God?



Why did God cast them out of the garden?

For many, first thought is that He was angry.

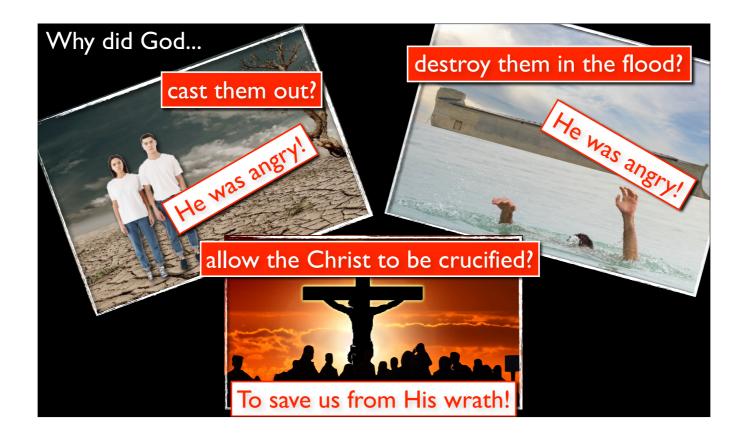
Look at text, it doesn't mention God's wrath.



Why did God destroy them in the flood?

Again... angry!

Text: regretted, grieved, sorry (no mention of wrath)

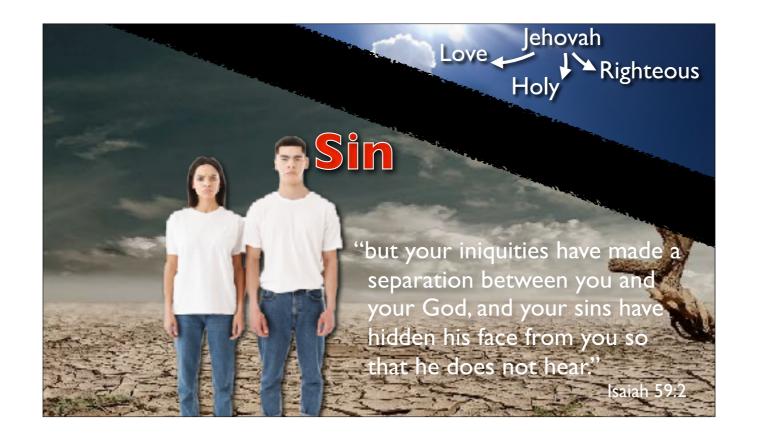


Why did God allow the Christ to be crucified?

To save us from the wrath of God!

Sometimes, we speak as if the only reason God dealt with sin was because he was angry!

Is there more to it than that?



Isaiah 59:2: but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Often picture God, in His Holiness, turning away from sinful man.



Isaiah 59:1: Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;



It's not God who turns away... it's us! it's me!

His hand is not shortened... it's long — to save us!

His ear is not dull... He longs to hear from us.

But we turn from Him!



Isaiah 59:12-13: For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities:



Isaiah 59:13: transgressing, and denying Jehovah, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.



The greatest problem all mankind faces:

Climate change War, nuclear war Disease

SIN!



But really, sin is the biggest problem everyone of us faces.

Not to diminish the sin in the world:

2 Corinthians 5:19: that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Individually we have decided to sin.



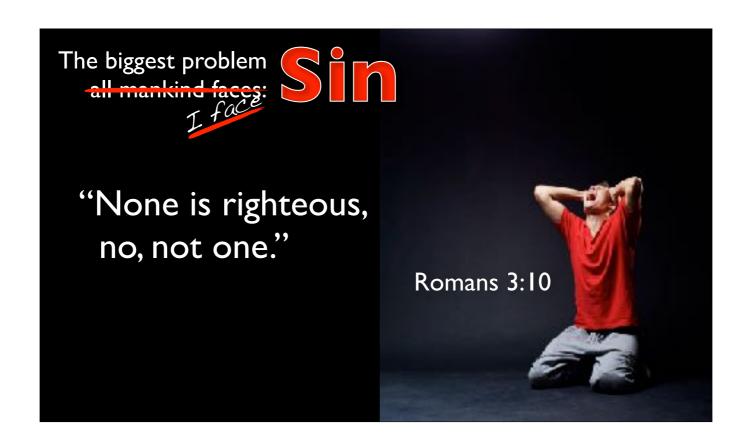
Romans 1-3: Paul: story of sin and salvation

1:16: Gospel is power of God unto salvation

1:18 through ch. 3: shows how all have sinned...

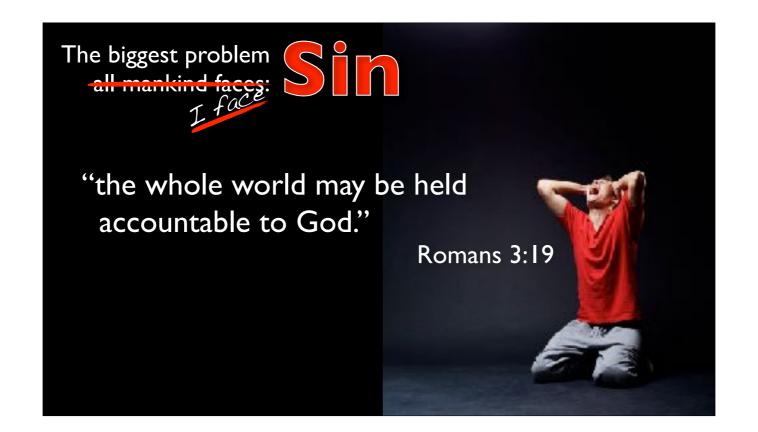


Romans 3:9: For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin



10 as it is written:
"None is righteous, no, not one;
11 no one understands;
no one seeks for God.
12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one."

(from Psalm 14 and 53)



19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.



22-23: For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God



Without Excuse

- Romans 1:20: For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.
- Romans 2:1: Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.
- God has revealed himself to us
 - in nature: power and deity
 - in word: power, truth, righteousness
- None of us can be excused from sin claiming ignorance, pressure of others or blaming others



- God gave them up
 - Romans 1:24: Therefore **God gave them up** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,
 - 26 For this reason **God gave them up** to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;
 - 28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, **God gave them up** to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.
- Not that God quit on man
 - but that God allows us to do as we please.
- Nor was this just because God was angry, walking away in a huff!
- God is sad that it has come to this.



Our problem is sin.

Three ways of looking at sin: legal, internal, relational



Sin is breaking the law. (Legal)

1 John 3:4: Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.



1 John 5:17: All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

KJV, ASV: unrighteousness

Violation of the law



Romans 1:18: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Sin is rebellion, ingratitude, failure to honor.

Pride.



Salvation requires a judicial solution.

Sin is the one thing he will not endure, no peace with sin.



- Of course, to some extent this makes our view of God as always being angry

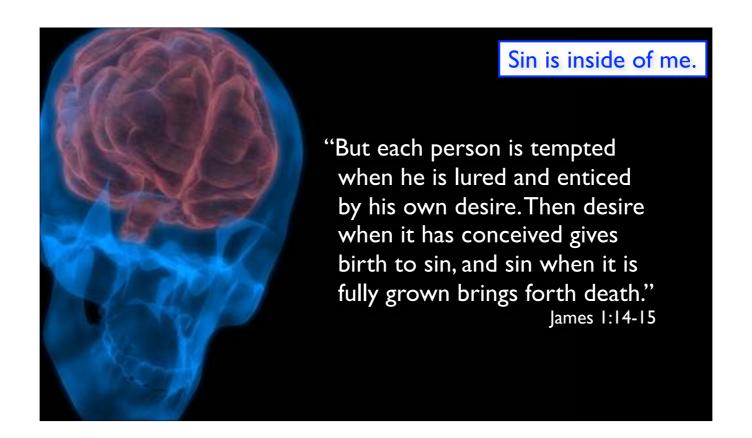
 - always having to be satisfied by judicial means
 always looking for error and holding us against us.



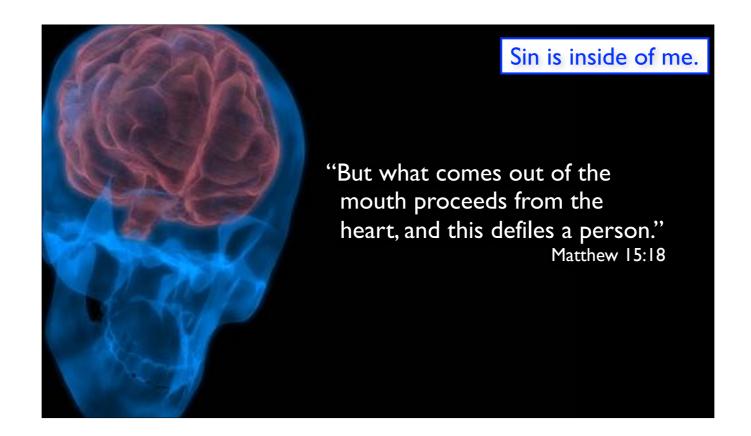
Sin is not just outside us...

It's inside, it changes us (not physical, character) (Internal)

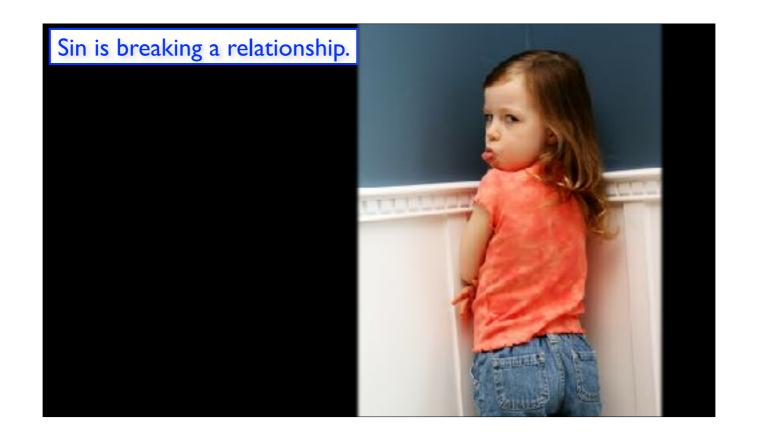
How we see life, how we see God.



James 1:14-15: But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. [15] Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.



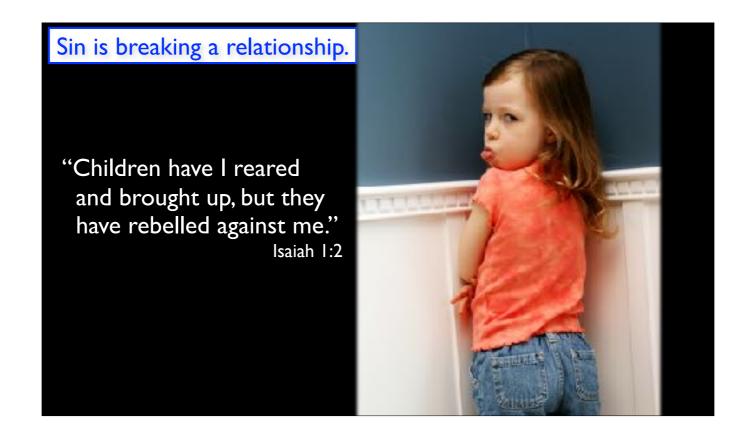
Matthew 15:18-20: But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. [19] For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. [20] These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone."



Sin is relational, too.

A child willfully forsaking a relationship.

We've seen it with our own children, leaving home and seeking something new, different (better in their eyes).



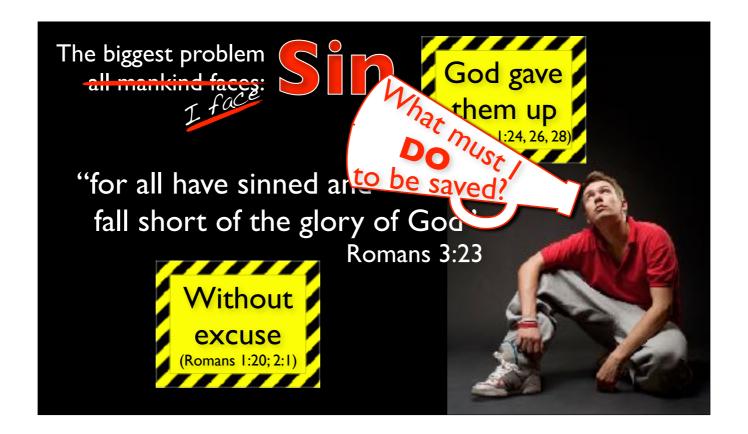
Isaiah 1:2: Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the LORD has spoken: "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.



All of these are true. Judicial, Internal, and Relational.

All too often I have focused more on the judicial... But I think it's really more relational than anything.

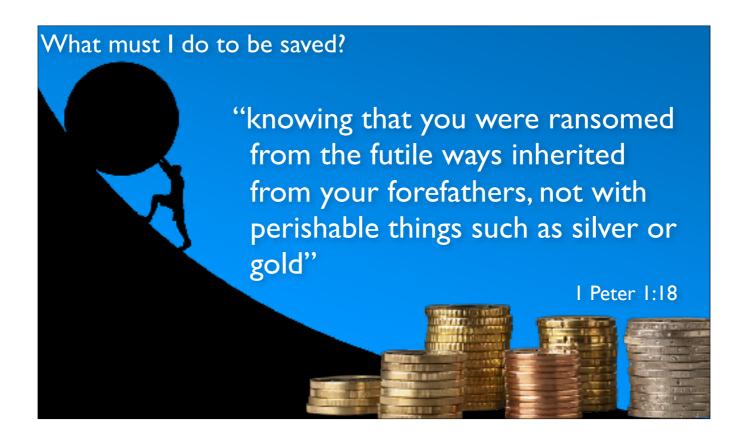
It's important that we keep these all in mind, proper perspective and balance.



- What am I to do?
 - Sinned
 - broken God's law and face His wrath
 - poisoned myself, and failed my purpose
 - broken my relationship with my Father
- Like Philippian Jailer:
 - Acts 16:30: Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"



- What must I do to be saved?
- Explore some ways in which man has sought salvation, redemption, forgiveness, eternal life.



- 1 Peter 1:18: knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,
- Psalms 49:7-9 (ESV) 7 Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, 8 for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice, 9 that he should live on forever and never see the pit.
- Matthew 16:26 (ESV) 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?



• Micah 6:6-8 (ESV) 6 "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?



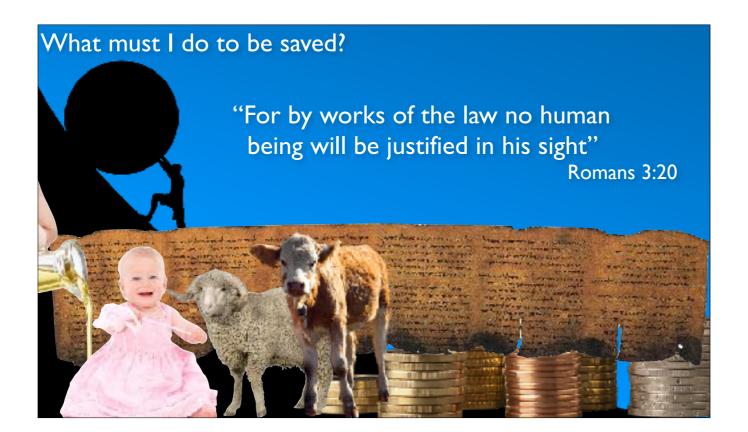
• 7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,



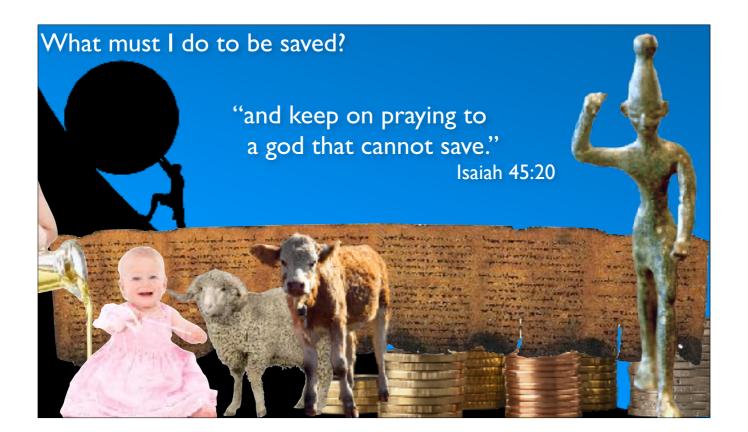
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?



- Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
- the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"



- Romans 3:20 (ESV) 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
- Perfect obedience/law-keeping
- Enough good to outweigh the bad
- but all have sinned



- Isaiah 45:20 (ESV) 20 "Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations! They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.
- Redefining God or Denying God completely
 - Romans 1:21-23 (ESV) 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.
- God is love... won't send anyone to hell.
- God is holy ... salvation is practically impossible.

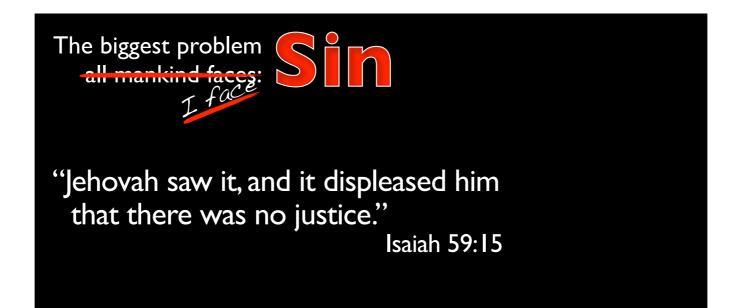


- So what are we to do? According to God, we cannot save ourselves.
- God has chosen to do for us what we could never do for ourselves!
- Isaiah 59:14-20

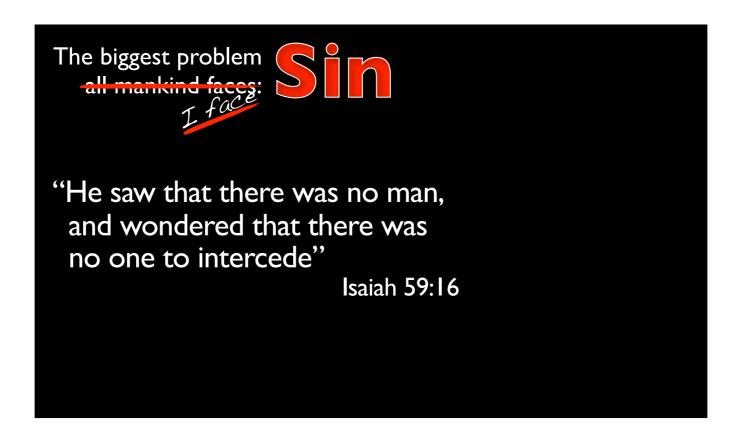


"Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey." Isaiah 59:14-15

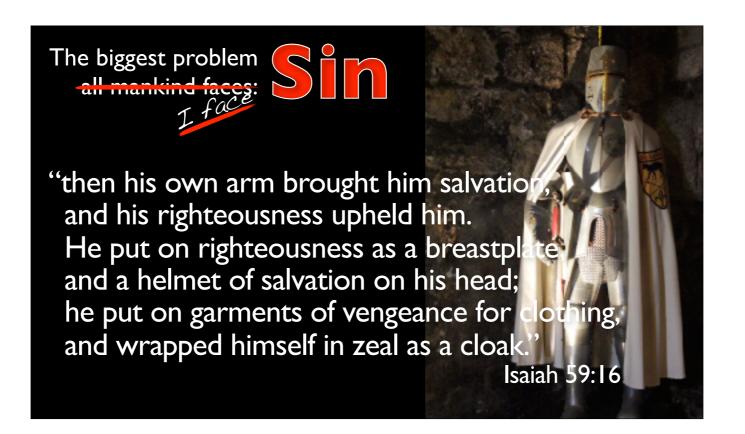
• Isaiah 59:14-15 (ESV) 14 Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. 15 Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Jehovah saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.



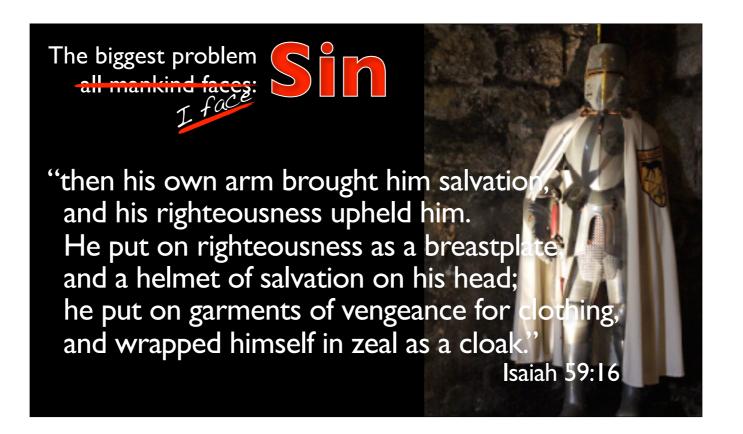
- Jehovah saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.
- Don't think little of God.
- God sees, he knows
 - And he doesn't like it all!



- 16 He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede;
 - None of us have really tried to stand up against sin!
 - "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."
 - Solely Human perspective, true
 - God's perspective: none of us has really tried.
 - There is good in the world, but...
 - We do not really try to save ourselves
 - We cannot save ourselves



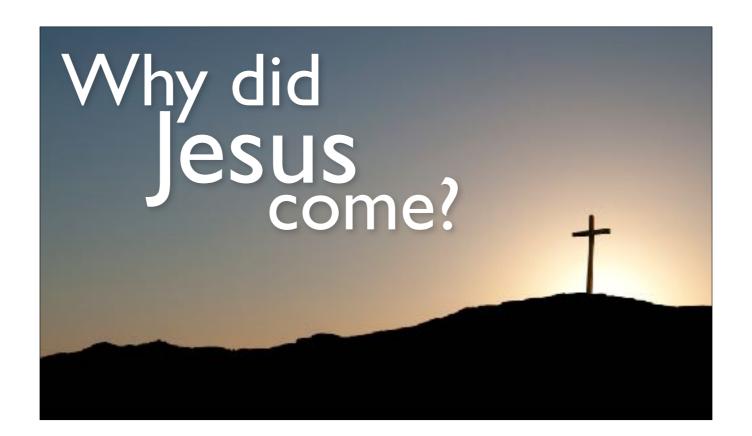
- Isaiah 59:16-17 (ESV) then his own arm brought him salvation,
- and his righteousness upheld him.
- 17 He put on righteousness as a breastplate,
- and a helmet of salvation on his head;
- he put on garments of vengeance for clothing,
- and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.



- Jehovah is going to war against sin!
 - We can't and won't
 - So God is dealing with sin for us!
 - He's doing it to reconcile the world!
 - He's doing it to save me.
 - We love this idea in movies
 - Rambo goes back to Vietnam to bring home the POW's.
- Righteousness: because he wants us to be righteous
- Salvation: because sin enslaves us
- Vengeance: against sin and those who stay in sin
- Zeal: He will do this, can't be stopped.



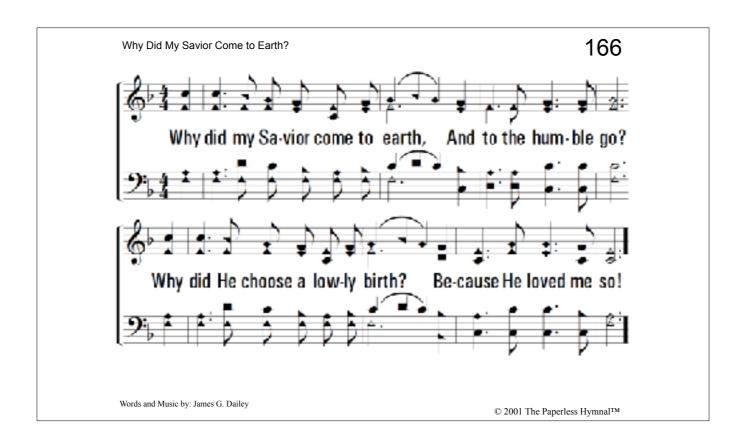
- Isaiah 59:20 (ESV) 20 "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord.
- How does God fight sin? win war?
- The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer

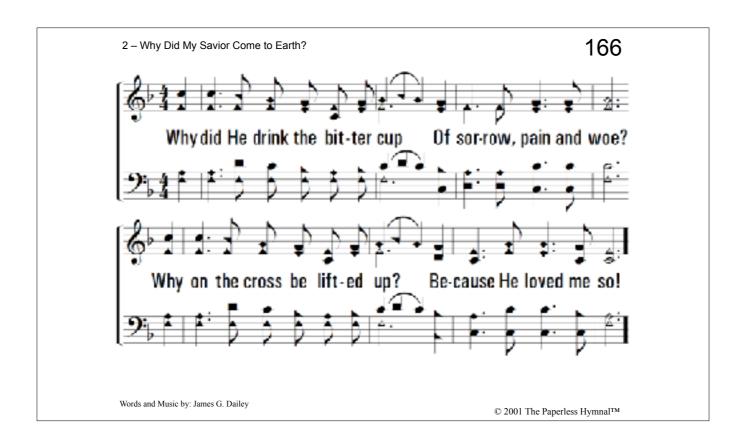


Our problem is sin.

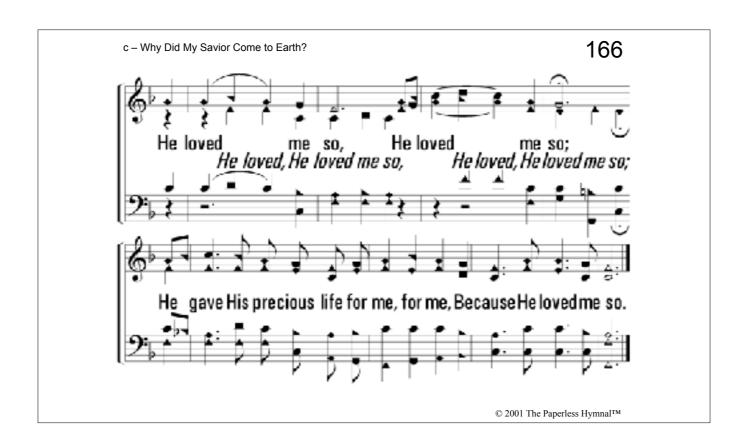
God's problem is how does he deal with sin being just, holy, and loving.

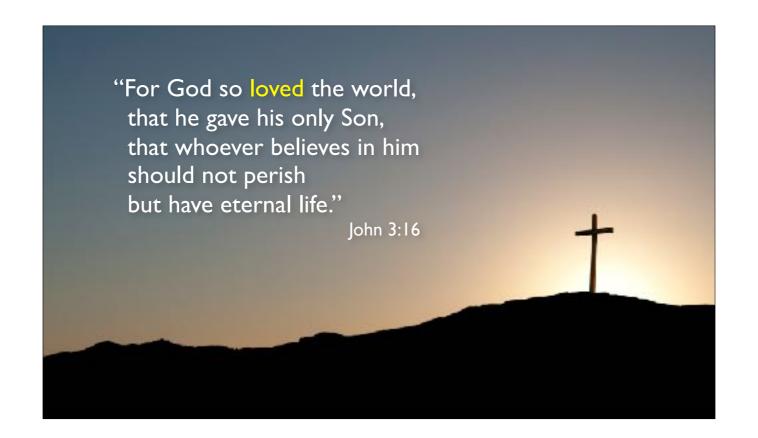
What we know, clearly, is that in Jesus Christ, Jehovah dealt with our sins



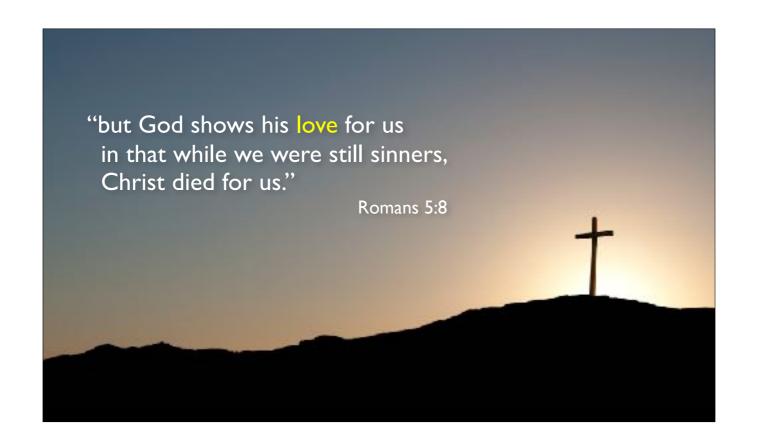








John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.



Romans 5:8: but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



1 John 4:9-10: In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. [10] In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.



Sin is our problem. God is the only solution.

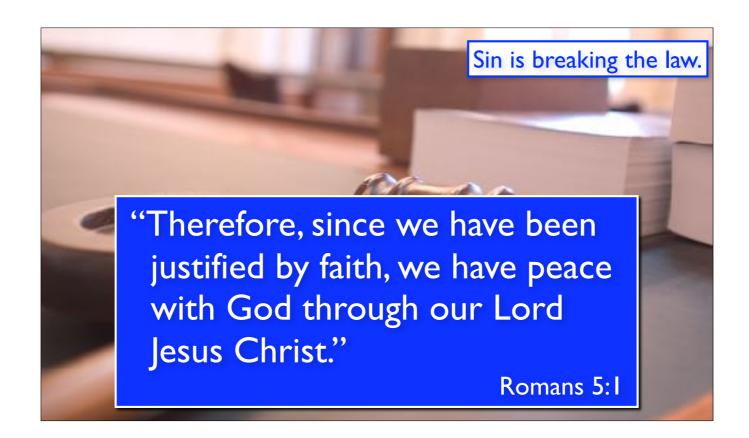
How does He go to war against our sin?

Breaking a relationship Inside me Breaking the law

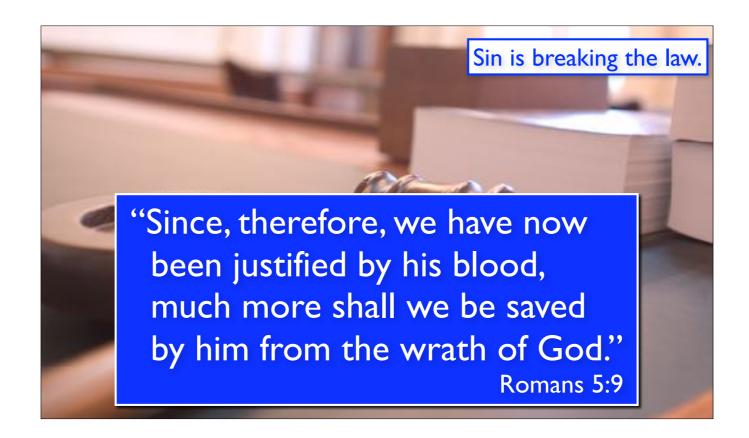




Titus 2:14: who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.



Romans 5:1: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

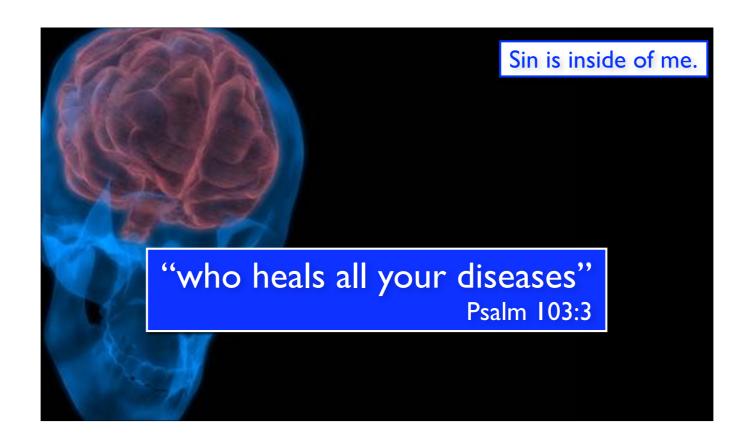


Romans 5:9: Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.



Sin is inside of me.

How

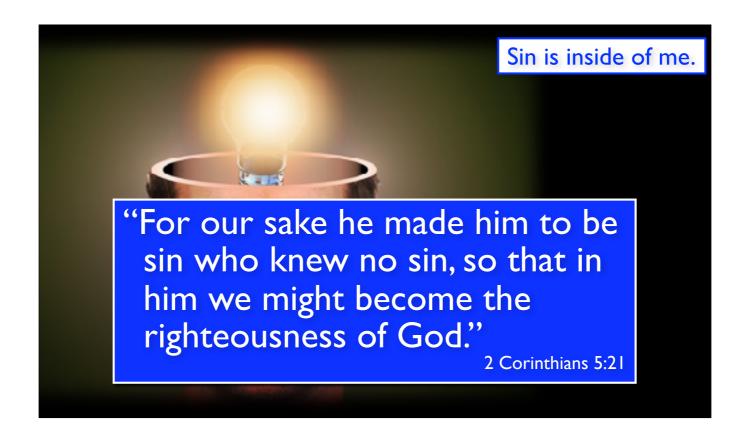


Good surgeon is acts against disease, cuts it out to save the patient!

Psalm 103:3: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,



2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

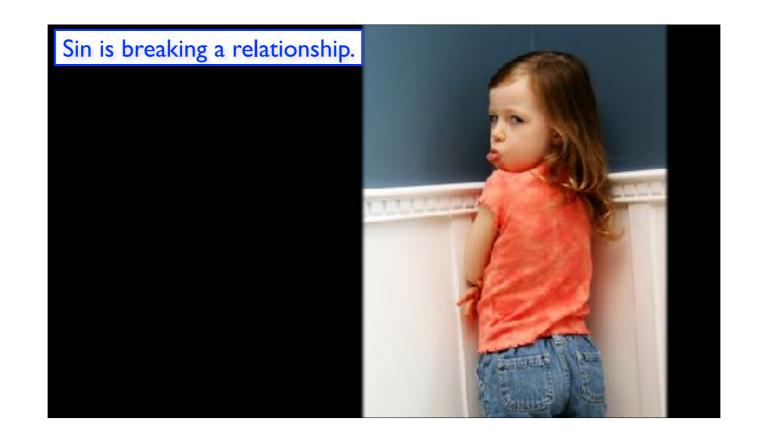


2 Corinthians 5:21: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him **we might become** the righteousness of God.

We are again in the image of God: love, holy, righteous, etc.



Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.





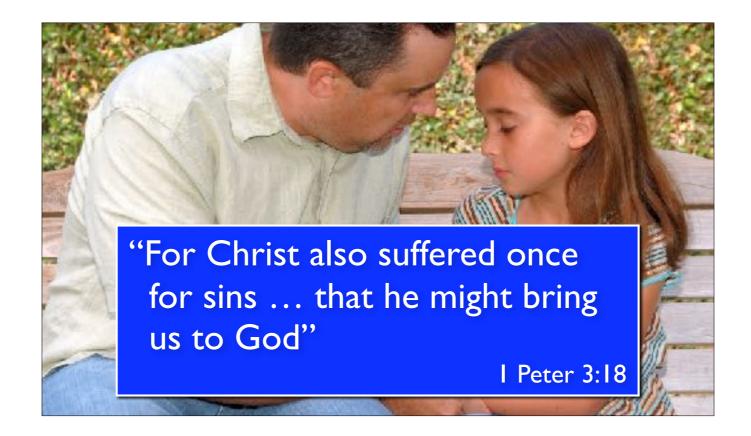
- Consider a loving father who sees his deeply loved child do something very wrong.
 He leaps into action to deal with the sin. Why? What is in his mind?
 Is he angry at the child? Insulted by the contempt? Are these his first and most deep thoughts? Are these his primary motives? I doubt it.
 He moves out of love, to save the child from danger she is facing.



- God as a whole: a Father who deals with our sin because of His holy love.
 Dealing with sin was not an end in itself.
 Our Father is "reconciling the world to himself" in Christ.



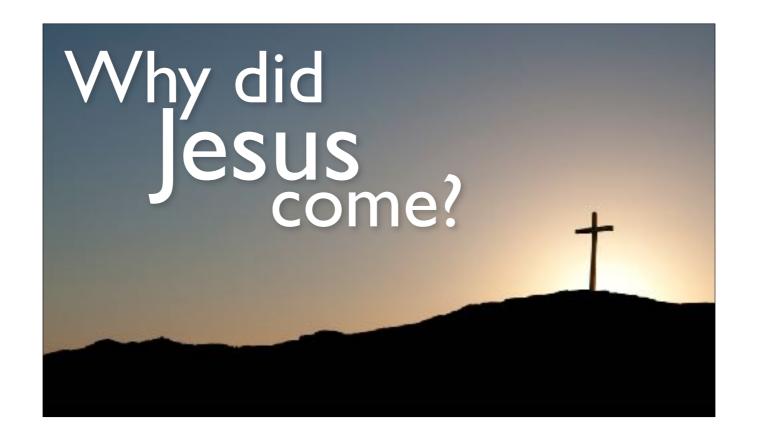
Romans 5:10: For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.



1 Peter 3:18: For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,



1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.



Why did Jesus come?

Why Did God Choose to Deal with Sin?

- 1) to just destroy it... not a loving God; but to dismiss sin as if unimportant... not a holy God: Not options.
- 2) Deal with sin to reconcile us with Him, redeeming us through Jesus Christ
- 3) Mystery and Challenge: that a holy God loves such rebellious, horrible enemies full of sin: human race.

Will today be the day you decide to be reconciled to your Father?

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Miscellaneous 2020

#03

Compiled and Presented by: Dave Stewart 2020 February 23 www.churchofchristmiranda.com

Why Did Jesus Come?

Synopsis: Based on Sermon: Why Did God Deal with Sin? (Dave Stewart), 2014 January 26

The story of man is the story of sin. In this lesson we will examine sin and why a holy and loving God would deal with sin. For many of us, our first thought is that Jehovah dealt with sin because of His wrath. This seems to be an incomplete answer. Rather as a loving Father he dealt with sin to bring us back into a righteous relationship with Him

Many of these thoughts were inspired and borrowed from Jim McGuiggan's book: **The Dragon Slayer**, chapter 2: The Road leading to Bethlehem and Golgatha.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."