

Lesson #4 Concepts of Sin and Righteousness

Opening Shot:

God is righteous. Only He is good. All others (meaning all of us) have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Mankind is under a curse of death. Jesus, when He came and died on the cross to pay for all sin, freed us from having to die a “second death”. God will ultimately judge all mankind. Our only hope of salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Introduction to Bible Truths:

Read **Romans 3:19-26**; **Romans 3:23** *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*
Read **Revelation 20:12-15**; **v.14-15** *Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

Read **Revelation 21:6-8**

Ask Me No Questions/ I’ll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) How come I had to have Jesus die for me? Why couldn’t I just try to make up for my own sins?
- 2.) How about all those people who never heard of Jesus? Does God send them all to hell?
- 3.) What about all the babies that die right after they are born? They never even had a chance to sin, why do they die like those of us who have sinned a lot?

We’ve Got Questions/ God’s Got Answers:

- 1.) We can’t make up for our own sins. Even our very best efforts are like filthy rags. **Isaiah 64:6** *All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags: we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.* But Jesus is righteous and His death paid for our sins. God gives us righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ. **Romans 3:22** *This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.*
- 2.) God will judge all people justly. **Romans 1:18-20** and **Romans 2:12-16**
- 3.) People die (even little babies) because of sin that came into the world when Adam first broke God’s command. **Romans 5:12-14** *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.*

Parting Shot:

God is good. We “mess up” often. If we had to try and make up for our own sins, we would never be able to do so! On our own, our very best is like filthy rags. But because Jesus was righteous and died in our place, God gives us a new righteousness. This righteousness comes to us through faith in Jesus Christ!

