

"Thy Way O God is in The Sanctuary"

"Let Them Make Me A Sanctuary"

Introduction:

Sin had brought to Adam and Eve and all their descendants guilt, shame and fear of God, guilt, shame and fear of God being the natural consequences of sin. How would God communicate to man that death is the natural consequence of sin, thus the law cannot be transgressed, and that God's plan was to dispel the lies of Satan regarding His character? Satan communicated to Eve that she could transgress God's command not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil without dying. Satan suggested to her that God was holding back knowledge that would benefit her and that He could not be trusted with her best interest. Satan subtly suggested that God would destroy them should they rebel against Him. How can we know this is true? We simply need to read the account found in Genesis three where we find Adam and Eve hiding from their Creator because they were naked and ashamed. Instead of God destroying them, He devised a plan where He could reveal the truths regarding His character, the true nature of sin and the immutability of the law. The laws could not be transgressed without leading to death, and He could be trusted to save and not to destroy.

He must find a way to veil His glory in order to protect them from experiencing the full consequences of their sin. God must find a way to teach them His remedy for sin without His presence causing them to experience the destructive guilt and shame that accompanies sin. Thus He would veil the glory of His character in the Sanctuary revealing the "way" He would lead us back to the face to face intimate relationship with our God.

Psalms 77:13 Thy way, O God, is in the Sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

After leading His people, Israel, out of the bondage to Egypt, He instructed them to make a Sanctuary where He could dwell among them veiling His glory and directing them in the way of salvation.

Exodus 25:8 And let them make me a Sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

The Lord's purpose was twofold. Not only did He desire to reveal His glory and His power to save, but we were created for His pleasure.

Psalms 67:2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

Psalms 63:2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the Sanctuary.

Psalms 68:24 They have seen thy goings, O God; even the goings of my God, my King, in the Sanctuary.

Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Through the Sanctuary plan revealing His character, the nature of sin, and the immutability or unchangeability of the law, He would be able to restore the kingdom to us.

Luke 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Even though it is God's desire that we all should inherit the kingdom, all will not inherit it. The promise of inheriting the new kingdom is accessible to those that overcome.

Revelation 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of Heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Revelation 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Psalms 15:1 LORD, who shall abide in thy Tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2) He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3) He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4) In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. 5) He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Psalms 27:4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in His Temple.

What does it mean to fear the Lord?

To fear God is to know and honor God, trusting that His commandments are based on love and the keeping of them will lead to life eternal.

Deuteronomy 10:4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice, and ye shall serve Him, and cleave unto Him.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

1John 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments. 3) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.

Will there finally be a people of faith who keep the commandments? Scripture reveals that the final generation, the remnant, will indeed keep His commandments.

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:12 Here is the patience [endurance] of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Christ is the way:

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Christ is the Captain of our salvation, He is the One who will sanctify us.

Hebrews 2:10 For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11) For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Psalms 85:13 Righteousness shall go before Him; and shall set us in the way of His steps.

1Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps:

2Samuel 22:31 As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried: He is a buckler to all them that trust in Him.

Psalms 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. 5) Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

There is a way of life and a way of death:

Jeremiah 21:8 And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.

Isaiah 30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Matthew 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14) Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Unfortunately, many will choose the way of death. God gave us life and then gave us liberty. We may choose whom we serve, but there are consequences to our choices.

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? ... 20) For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. 21) What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. 22) But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

The Lord's ways are higher than our ways:

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 10:23 O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

The NLT Translation renders the above verse this way.

Jeremiah 10:23 I know, LORD, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course.

1Kings 3:7 And now, O LORD my God, ... I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

The Lord's ways are trustworthy:

Proverbs 3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: 2) For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. 3) Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: 4) So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. 5) Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6) In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. 7) Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

Our ways lead to death:

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14) But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15) Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16) Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Salvation by man is impossible:

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7) Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8) So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Jeremiah 13:23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

Mark 10:26 And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? 27) And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Matthew 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7) For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8) A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

The majority of humanity will not choose the way of life. They will harden their hearts and forfeit salvation.

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

Psalms 95:8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

The same gospel was preach to the church in the Old Testament times as in the New Testament Times. In the O.T. the gospel was preached in the Sanctuary and its services in types and symbols, also referred to as shadows. In the N.T., the gospel was preached by Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into His rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2) For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

Hebrews 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds.

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

The Word of God has power to save:

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

God is merciful to forgive:

Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

1John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Conclusion:

God's way is not just the best way, it is the only way!