

Christ's Sacrifice Is Sufficient

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Introduction

The title of this book is “Christ’s Sacrifice Is Sufficient”. What do I mean by this statement? We know Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, so my purpose here today is to explain exactly what this means for every individual who has ever lived on this earth created by God and that we all call home.

After Jesus died on the cross, does God expect us to do anything else to earn our way into his kingdom? Are good works now necessary? Is faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour enough, or do we need to do more? Will some of us go to Heaven when we die, and some to eternal punishing in Hell and maybe even a few end up in purgatory waiting for all of their sins to be purged from them? What is the truth on these all important matters, and can we uncover any clues from God’s written words the Bible?

In the book of Proverbs, God tells us he has concealed truth throughout his bible and it is up to each individual to find what he has concealed. Read Proverbs 25:2.

Pro 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.

Then, in Isaiah, he tells us how to go about searching for the truth. Read Isa 28:9-10.

Isa 28:9 “To whom will he teach knowledge, and to whom will he explain the message? Those who are weaned from the milk, those taken from the breast?”

Isa 28:10 “For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.”

This is the way we are to search the scriptures for the truth. Comparing verses and looking for ideas to uncover what God has concealed. It is also very important to remember the only bible Jesus had was what we today call the Old testament. It was only after Jesus died on the cross that the New Testament was written. Therefore, we must consider and believe everything that the entire Bible reveals to us,

both in the Old and the New Testaments. When the apostle Paul wrote the book of 2 Timothy, he stated the following.

2Ti 3:16 Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 that each person who belongs to God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

So let us apply these ideas as we search for the truth about whether Christ's sacrifice is sufficient, or do we need to do more to earn our salvation?

Christ's Sacrifice Is Sufficient

The first topic I would like to tackle is the question about the existence of this place called purgatory. Is it an actual place, and if it is, then what purpose does it have in God's creation?

The idea of a place called purgatory is totally inconsistent with the teaching from the bible. Heb 10:12-14 teaches that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross perfected those who are sanctified, rendering the idea of a place called purgatory completely inconsistent. If the death of Jesus Christ on the cross sanctified us, then surely this means we are right with God and can enter his kingdom, with no need to be purified beforehand. Christ's sacrifice has made us perfect. There is no improvement on perfect.

Heb 10:12 but he, when he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Heb 10:13 from that time waiting until his enemies are made the footstool of his feet.

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Perfected for ever, surely this means without sin, and if this is the case, then there is no need for a place to be scourged of remaining sins before entering Heaven. We should examine the record in Gal 2:16.

Gal 2:16 yet knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the law, because no flesh will be justified by the works of the law.

This verse makes it very clear how we are justified before God. It is by our own faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord of Lords and King of Kings. Nothing to do with any type of works. Not our own, not the works of the church, or the works of others on our behalf. There is no need for a place to further cleanse us from our

sins. The blood of Jesus Christ was good enough to cleanse everyone from every sin.

The bible tells us in many places that when Jesus died for all humanity on the cross, this sacrifice was sufficient. Read Rom 5:18-21 to see the same idea explained again.

Rom 5:18 So then as through one trespass, all men were condemned; even so through one act of righteousness, all men were justified to life.

Rom 5:19 For as through the one man's disobedience many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the one, many will be made righteous.

Rom 5:20 The law came in besides, that the trespass might abound; but where sin abounded, grace abounded more exceedingly;

Rom 5:21 that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

When we unite with Christ, He completely cleanses us of all sins. As explained in the following verses, Jesus nailed our sins to the cross.

Col 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Col 2:13 You were dead through your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh. He made you alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

Col 2:14 wiping out the handwriting in ordinances which was against us; and he has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross;

Jesus Christ has taken our sins on Himself and has dealt with them on our behalf. How can we possibly be in Jesus, but still sinful? It makes little sense to believe this. More proof follows.

2Co 5:21 For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf; so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

So, from these few verses above, we learn several things. Hebrews 10:14 teaches us we are made perfect forever. Second, in Romans 5:21, righteousness will reign through Jesus Christ. Third, Colossians 2:13 assures us that God forgives all our trespasses. Jesus Christ nailed them to the cross. Fourth, in 2 Corinthians 5:21 we become the righteousness of God and then in Romans 6:23 we see where we can have the free gift of God that is eternal life in Jesus Christ.

The last scripture I will use here is powerful. That should have you believe we are completely clean of all sins and unrighteousness thanks to what Jesus did for us by his self sacrifice on the cross.

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

To believe in purgatory is to believe the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is not enough to take away our sins. When he died on the cross, he only did a part of the job of saving us from our sins and now we must add to his work of salvation. We must do more. We must undergo scourging to make ourselves clean. This is completely against the clear teachings of the bible. Another part of this purgatory idea is your relatives, who are still alive, can pay “indulgences” to the church to help you get out of purgatory and into Heaven sooner.

The idea of purgatory is not a biblical one. I sincerely hope you can see this from the above scriptures. Please ask yourself these questions.

Does the sacrifice of Jesus Christ cover our sins or not? (1Jo 1:7 and Heb 10:19)

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Heb 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,

Does God give us eternal life as a free gift? (Rom 5:15-17, Rom 6:23)

Rom 5:15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

Rom 5:16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.

Rom 5:17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Does the sacrifice of Jesus Christ make those who are being sanctified perfect? (1Joh 2:5, Heb 10:14)

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

When Jesus Christ offered Himself as a sacrifice, was it one sacrifice to cover all sins forever? (Heb 9:24-28, Heb 10:12)

Heb 9:24 For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Heb 9:25 Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own,

Heb 9:26 for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Heb 9:27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

Heb 9:28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Heb 10:12 but he, when he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God.

Is it from our faith in Jesus Christ that we are saved? (Gal 3:22, Col 2:12)

Gal 3:22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Col 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Does the word of God have anything to say about being justified by doing anything other than hearing and believing the truth? (Rom 3:28, Rom 5:1, Gal 3:21, Act 13:39, Gal 2:16)

Rom 3:28 We maintain therefore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

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

Gal 3:2 I just want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by hearing of faith?

Act 13:39 and by him everyone who believes is justified from all things, from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

Gal 2:16 yet knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the law, because no flesh will be justified by the works of the law.

Does the blood of Jesus Christ cleanse us all from all sins? (1Jn 1:7, Joh 1:29, Heb 10:10)

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Joh 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Heb 10:10 And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Does our faith in Jesus Christ benefit us in any way? (Gal 3:26)

Gal 3:26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

This short verse tells us so much about our faith and what it does for us. We are, through our faith, sons and daughters of God. Surely, being a son or daughter of God is sufficient proof of the power of the blood of Jesus Christ to remove all sins from us. We could not dwell with God if there was any sign of any sins left in us.

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, then how do you conclude that when Jesus Christ died for all people on the cross, he only did half of the job of cleansing us of our sins? Why do we need to add to the sanctifying work of our Lord?

What have we seen from this chapter so far? Justification is by faith in Jesus Christ. We can never be justified by keeping the law, not that we do not need to keep the law, we need to keep it. But our justification is only by faith. If you have this true faith in Jesus, then you will automatically want to keep the law. As you come to know Jesus, you will also come to know the benefits of keeping his laws. In the book of Matthew 22:36-40, Jesus gives us the two greatest commandments, and they are to love God and to love your fellow man. If we all lived this way, there would be no more crime or poverty in the world.

Mat 22:36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

Mat 22:37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Mat 22:38 This is the great and first commandment.

Mat 22:39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Mat 22:40 "On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

The following passage of scripture plainly states that believing in Jesus is the only way for us to be saved, for those who will listen to the words of God and actually believe them.

Rom 10:9 that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Rom 10:10 For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Rom 10:11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed."

Rom 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, and is rich to all who call on him.

Rom 10:13 For, "Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Rom 10:14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? How will they hear without a preacher?

Rom 10:15 And how will they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Rom 10:16 But they didn't all listen to the glad news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?"

Rom 10:17 So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Verse 12 tells us there is no distinction between Jew and Greek. The Lord is the Lord of us all, regardless of our nationality. Both Jews and Greeks need the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse us all from our sins and to make us all righteous in the eyes of God.

The Catholic Church invented this fictional place called purgatory and claims it is a good thing because it provides a place where we can finally be cleansed from our sins. But surely the best thing possible is that believers in Jesus Christ, and his self-sacrifice for all humanity, are thoroughly cleansed from all sins just by believing. If Jesus has done this for us, then there is absolutely no need for a place where our sins are further scourged from us. By the actions of Jesus, and our faith in Him, there is no trace of any sin left in us. Therefore, we are at peace with God, and we should also be at peace with ourselves.

Why Does all this matter?

Believing in a place called Purgatory, is to believe the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross only partially cleansed us from our sins. But this is contrary to what we have seen in this chapter. Read 1 John 1:7 again.

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

If you believe God is the author of the bible, then the many scriptures I have quoted in this chapter must convince you of the real cleansing power of the blood of Jesus Christ. He sacrificed himself on the cross for all humanity and for all time. He did not do just a part of removing our sins from us. No, he removed every trace of every sin we have ever committed. What does God say about this matter in the book of Isaiah?

Isa 43:25 "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

God does not remember our sins when we accept the sacrifice of Jesus, when we accept his blood has obliterated all our sins forever.

Christ's death on the cross cleanses us from ALL sin. Therefore, there is absolutely no need for a place where we undergo further cleansing. This is a false teaching, no doubt having its origins in the "Father of Lies", or Satan.

Now that we have discovered the truth about purgatory, let us concentrate on the false teachings of Hell.

Punishment In Hell Is Not Eternal

People have used the idea of hell as a place of eternal punishing for centuries to keep sinners in line. The old-fashioned “fire and brimstone” style of preaching was very effective when preaching to the illiterate. They had no way of exploring the word of God for themselves, so they believe what they were told. This form of preaching should be of little use today, as most people are no longer illiterate. The vast majority of Christians have their own bibles to read.

The only problem now is that people still do not read or study their bible to find the truth. They are still content to accept what they are told. But if you are seeking the truth about this place called hell, then the bible must be your only source of knowledge. With that thought in mind, let us explore this topic.

God Is Omnipresent, he is omnipotent, and he is omniscient. This all means God is everywhere in his creation. He has total power over everything, and he also knows all things.

Christians must believe in these three characteristics of God otherwise, they are diminishing who God is and what he is capable of. Therefore, if God is omnipresent, there is no place in all of creation that God is not present. He created the entire universe, so he can obviously be present in any part of his creation. So let us see where God must be. We understand he dwells In Heaven; he is present there. He is also present here on the earth, even though we cannot see Him. And now what about this place called hell? If it is a part of his creation, then he must be present there as well. I know this will cause many arguments, but either God is omnipresent, or he is not. He cannot be both.

Therefore, if sinners go to Hell for all eternity to suffer for their sins, can God see them in this terrible place suffering for all time? Remember, even though they are sinners, God still loves them as much as he loves any other person he has created in his own image. So it is his children created in his image, whom he loves, and they are being tormented by the fires of hell for all eternity.

God is love, and his love for everyone is the same. It is total, complete, and it is unconditional. Unlike most humans, who only love people if it suits them. So

God loves everyone in this place called Hell, and He will watch them suffer for all eternity. This concept is one I struggled with in my early teenage years, even before I looked into God's holy scriptures for any answers to this dilemma.

So what does the bible say on the matter of eternal punishing in Hell? You can find the answer to that in Rom 6:23.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Do you understand the start of this verse? The wages of sin are death. Not everlasting punishing, but death, and death is the exact opposite to life. If you receive the appropriate wages for the sins you have committed according to this verse, those wages are death. You will no longer be alive, and if this is the case, then how can your punishing be eternal?

This verse reveals the truth for anyone who will believe God's words over the teaching of men. It exposes two very different and opposing ideas. And they are death and life. Two diametrically opposite ideas.

It is unfortunate that the idea of an immortal soul also means the souls of the wicked must go somewhere after the body dies. And of course, this would be correct, but only if the soul is immortal. What if someone could completely annihilate the soul and it was not immortal? If someone had the power to annihilate the soul completely, then the idea of going to either heaven or hell for all eternity is now debatable.

Read what God has to say on this matter in the following passages of scripture, starting in Ezekiel 18:4.

Eze 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

Eze 18:20 The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Jas 5:19 My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back,

Jas 5:20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The wicked, the sinners, those whose souls have died. What is their future like? Read Malachi 4:3.

Mal 4:3 And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

The wicked will be ashes under the feet of the righteous. God will destroy them in the fires of Gehenna, the fires of hell. This is the reward for the wicked. Complete and permanent destruction in the fires of hell. Not suffering in these fires for all time. No, just total destruction. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The actions of a loving God.

We are told in the Old Testament to make a choice, and notice we have only two things to choose from. Life or death.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

We are here given two options. Choose either life or death. Death here does not mean eternal life suffering in hell. No, it means exactly what it is saying. Death, a cessation from life. So what can we learn from all we have read so far? It is he who believes in Jesus that has eternal life. Therefore, those who do not believe in Jesus do not have eternal life. There is no other alternative. Either life or death.

Now let us read the best known and most repeated scripture in the entire bible, John 3:16.

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

Therefore, if we choose to believe in Jesus Christ as the son of God, we are choosing life over death. We will not perish but will live for all eternity with God in his kingdom.

Some churches grade sin into “mortal” or “venial”. Mortal sins are those that deserve eternity in Hell whereas the venial are lesser sins require time in “purgatory” to fully cleanse us of sin. But we covered the lie of “purgatory” in the last chapter. Let us look at a dictionary definition of the word venial.

All right. Allowable, Defensible, Excusable, Explainable, Forgivable, Justifiable, Minor, not serious, not too bad, Okay, Permissible, Slight, Tolerable, Trivial, Understandable.

How do these descriptions of venial sin compare with the description God gives us for any sin? What is the wages for sin, any sin?

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

You will notice God does not divide up sin into different categories, but lumps them all into just one. And the penalty of any sin, no matter how serious or how minor, is death.

Many traditional churches today assume that anyone who commits a mortal sin is cut off from the sanctifying grace of God. This deceives people and heaps shame onto them and will drive them away from Jesus instead of drawing them to Him.

We are all sinners. Some sins are committed before being called to Jesus and others after having been called. These sins may temporarily interrupt our relationship with God, but they will never separate you from his grace. The only sin that can be mortal is the one we refuse to repent of. If someone sins and then seeks God's forgiveness, they will once again be reconciled with God. But the repentance must be genuine. You cannot fool God with a phoney repentance. Genuine repentance will lead to the forgiveness for even the worst of sins.

Rom 3:21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it.

Rom 3:22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

Rom 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom 3:24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Rom 3:25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Rom 3:26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

That is an amazing piece of scripture. Thanks to the sacrifice of our Lord on the cross, we are justified if we repent and confess our sins to God. Having faith in Jesus is the only way to receive forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

Heaven, Or The New Jerusalem

Now I will discuss the idea of the good going to Heaven when they die. I believe this to be just another false teaching. Now, if you consider all the wonderful people from the old testament, you have to ask if any of them ascended into Heaven. John 3:13 below provides the answer to this question.

Job 3:13 No one has ascended into heaven, but he who descended out of heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.

If you are prepared to believe what God reveals in his holy scriptures, then you must believe this statement no matter how different it may be to what you may already believe. Either God got this right, and no one ascended to heaven right up to the time of Jesus Christ, or God has made a mistake in his Bible.

Next, let us look at Hebrews chapter 11, what is commonly called the Faith Chapter. The people mentioned here were all praised for their faith. Some big names are here, including Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Jacob, to name a few. Then, at the end of this chapter, we read the following two verses.

Heb 11:39 These all, having had testimony given to them through their faith, didn't receive the promise,

Heb 11:40 God having provided some better thing concerning us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

None of these amazing people received their rewards. None of these mighty men and women of God have entered their ultimate reward. The reason for this is in the last verse. They will achieve perfection only at the same time as the disciples of Jesus Christ, and this will occur on the last day, as stated in Joh 6:39-40.

Job 6:39 This is the will of my Father who sent me, that of all he has given to me I should lose nothing, but should raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:40 This is the will of the one who sent me, that everyone who sees the Son, and believes in him, should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

When Christ made the statement, “This is the will of the one who sent me, that everyone who sees the Son, and believes in him, should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day”, this sums up a cornerstone of Christian faith. It speaks to the core of salvation, faith, and the promise of eternal life through belief in Jesus Christ.

Now we need to look at the following verses from Rev 22:12-14.

Rev 22:12 Behold, I come quickly. My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work.

Rev 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Rev 22:14 Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.

When Jesus returns, this is when we can all expect to receive our rewards. Jesus now explains he is the first and the last, and in doing this, he is pre-eminent and supreme over all of creation. Then, what does verse 14 reveal? First, Jesus is returning soon and what is he bringing with Him? It is his reward. And just what is this reward? The answer is in verse 14. The tree of life is theirs. This is the tree Adam and Eve should have eaten from and received eternal life. Notice they may have the right to enter in by the gates to the city. It is not into heaven, but into the city. What city is this?

Rev 21:9 Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

Rev 21:12 It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed.

Rev 21:13 on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.

Rev 21:14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Rev 21:15 And the one who spoke with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls.

Rev 21:16 The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia. Its length and width and height are equal.

Rev 21:17 He also measured its wall, 144 cubits by human measurement, which is also an angel's measurement.

Rev 21:18 The wall was built of jasper, while the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every kind of jewel. The first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald,

Rev 21:20 the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.

Rev 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev 21:24 By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it,

Rev 21:25 and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

Rev 21:26 They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

Rev 21:27 But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Verse 21 advises us this new Jerusalem is coming down out of Heaven and then verses 12 and 13 tell us the city has 12 gates. Verse 21 declares that a single pearl makes each gate, and verse 25 reveals that these gates will never close.

These are the gates Rev 22:14 is referring to when it advises us those who keep his commandments have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. Not a single gate, but gates. The gates of the Holy City, the New Jerusalem.

Modern day churches have their own ideas about purgatory, heaven, and hell. Unfortunately what they teach is contrary to what God has recorded for us in his holy scriptures. The only question you have to ask yourself now is this. Am I going to believe the words of God, or am I going to believe the words and traditions of man and the modern day churches?

If you are a bible believing Christian, then you may have to rethink your beliefs on these three all important places. Only you can decide what is right and what is wrong in your own opinion. But remember that your opinion counts for nothing when compared to God's opinion. I hope and pray you will make the right decision and continue to seek God's truth.

Thank you for reading this book and may God bless you and your family.

Conclusion

In this very short book I have endeavoured to cover some vital information such as

1. Christ's sacrifice is sufficient to cover all of our sins forever.
- 2 Purgatory is a fictional place created by the Catholic church.
3. Hell is not a place for eternal suffering for sinners.
4. The New Jerusalem is the destination for God's elect.

I pray you will understand and see past the lies most modern day churches will try to teach you. Please do your own diligent research in God's holy scriptures and remember. God is the ultimate authority in the universe, and the thoughts and traditions of man or church will never replace what he has disclosed for us in his "Holy Bible".

God bless you for reading this book, and may he lead you into all truth as you study his words.

About The Author

Leslie Rendell has always believed in the existence of Almighty God. But it is only in the last 34 years that he has become more dedicated to researching the Holy Bible to find answers to his own questions.

We all have our own personal question to ask as we wonder why things are a certain way in our lives, and in the lives of other people as well. Leslie has always relied only on the Bible for his answers to religious questions because this is the only place one can expect to find the truth. The thoughts and teachings of any man, church, or religion, mean nothing to him.

If there is a conflict between what man claims to be right, and what God has had recorded in his holy scriptures, then the word of God will always be regarded as correct. The traditions of man, no matter who he is, will never be seen as more important, or more authoritative than the words in the Bible.

This is the way Leslie has always written, and will continue to write, as he seeks to find answers to his own questions that will hopefully also help to answer questions other Christians, and Non-Christians, may have.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

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