

The Truth of The Bible

A Biblical account from the viewpoint of truth.

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

Genesis 1:3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and darkness has not overcome it.

God created the heavens and the earth with His word. He spoke and the universe was formed, the earth came to be, water, dry ground, vegetation, stars, the moon and the sun, sea creatures, living creatures of the land, livestock, wild animals, and finally mankind in God's image. All with His word. His word formed matter and brought life. God's word was life and is life. God's word is the life that holds the universe together.

God created man and woman and had a personal relationship with them, he walked with them and talked with them (Genesis 3:8-10). When man sinned God banished him from the Garden of Eden so that he would not eat of the tree of life and live forever (Genesis 3:22,23). God maintained a presence with Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16) but after another generation, in the days of Enosh, God no longer maintained a personal presence with man on a regular basis and people began to call on the name of the Lord (Genesis 4:26).

By the time of Noah, only Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 6:8). And so, God saved Noah and his family along with the selected animals and birds while he covered the earth with a flood and destroyed the wickedness of the human race (Genesis 6:5). After the flood mankind multiplied into nations once again and spread out over the earth (Genesis 10:32).

Genesis 12:1-3 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

God chooses Abraham to be the father of God's people and God chooses the land Israel to be the land for God's people. And we see that right from the beginning God's plan for His people was eventually going to include 'all peoples on earth'. From what God says to Abraham we clearly see that God knows the end from the beginning.

Isaiah 46:10,11 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.' From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

God has His purpose, and He will fulfill it. So, from Abraham we have the promise (Genesis 12:7) "To your descendants I will give this land." And from Abraham we get Isaac, then Jacob, and so Reuben,

Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin. And from Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh. God establishes His tribes. Then, through Joseph God moves the family to Egypt where they grow to be a great nation (Exodus 1:7). God used Joseph to provide the Israelites a secure and nourishing place to grow in Egypt. But then a new Pharaoh came to power in Egypt who did not remember Joseph and he makes them into slaves (Exodus 1:8-14).

Exodus 2:23-25 During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So, God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.

Moses who had fled from Egypt was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law on the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb the mountain of God when he came upon a burning bush which did not burn up. And God spoke to Moses from within the bush. (Exodus 3:1-6)

Exodus 3:10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.

God chose Moses to bring His people out of Egypt with signs and wonders. God led the way with fire and smoke. God parted the Red Sea and provided as they traveled through the wilderness to Mount Sinai.

God took His Word. His Word that created life. His Word that is life. God took His Word and gave it to His people through Moses in a written format called the Torah. The Word tells the people how to live as God's people. A Holy people, a separate people, chosen from among the nations for God to dwell with in a temple. The Word instructs the people how to do this. How to build the temple, care for and maintain the temple, how to keep the temple pure for God, and how to keep the people pure for God also. Because God cannot dwell with the impure or corrupt.

God saved His people through His Torah. His Torah gives eternal life to those who abide by it.

Leviticus 18:5 Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord.

That this verse is speaking about righteousness and eternal life is confirmed by Paul in Romans:

Romans 10:4,5 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will live by them."

And confirmed by Jesus in Luke:

Luke 10:25-28 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind', and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

And how can a person obtain eternal life by following the law? Because the Law of Moses is Jesus.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

So, by following the law a person gets to know Jesus even if they don't realize it. And conversely by following Jesus a person gets to know Torah even though they don't realize it. Jesus came to the Jews on Mt. Sinai in the form of the Law of Moses, God's Word of Life. God who makes known the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10) gave his Son, His Living Word, on the Cross for the sins of the world, and that same Son, The Living Torah, saved His Israelites when given on Mt. Sinai. The end and the beginning. And yet, that same Son, The Messiah, will yet come and rule the nations by that same Torah.

Revelation 19:11-16 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh, he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

But let us return to our narrative. With the giving of the Torah was the trials of the Israelites completed? No, their journey had just begun. They struggled with sin, and they struggled with faithfulness. And due to sin and unfaithfulness they wandered in the wilderness for forty years before obtaining their promised land. They struggled with the judges God sent them. Then they cried out for a king but soon divided their land into Judah and Israel. The two tribes of Judah and Benjamin in the south and the remaining ten tribes of Israel in the north.

God sent the Prophets and for hundreds of years warned both the tribes of Israel and the tribes of Judah of the consequences of unfaithfulness that God had proclaimed in the Law of Moses (Leviticus 26:14-46) and among other things he would scatter them among the nations (Leviticus 26:33). Unfortunately, after many Prophets and many failings God had the ten tribes of Israel taken. Followed later by Judah to Babylon. But God is always faithful to his Torah, and he promised also not to reject them completely.

Leviticus 26:44,45 Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not reject them or abhor them so as to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them. I am the Lord their God. But for their sake I will remember the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the Lord.

So, after the proper time for Judah God returned them to the Land, to rebuild Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. Since Daniel heard Jeremiah the Prophet and prayed a prayer of repentance for his people (Daniel 9). We find the story of their return and rebuilding in Ezra and Nehemiah.

The ten tribes of Israel did not repent after their time of exile (Ezekiel 4:4,5) and so according to the Laws of Moses, God added seven times to their burden (Leviticus 26:21). But that burden which was increased to 2,730 years came to an end on Yom Kippur of the Jewish year 5783 or October 4&5, 2022. So, the descendants of Reuben, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan and Ephraim are free to return to the Land and return to God. God knows each of you and has preserved a remnant of each tribe.

And so, we come to the time of Jesus.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

Luke 22:20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

Hebrews 9:15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Hebrews 10:15-17 The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First, he says: “This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.”

Jesus is the New Covenant he is the Living Word and writes Torah on our hearts and minds. He did not do away with the law, he put it in our heart. He did not make a new religion “Christianity” he made a way for Gentiles to become adopted sons of Abraham and enter into the covenant with the people of Israel and the people of Judah.

Galatians 3:29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father”. So, you are no longer a slave, but God’s child, God has made you also an heir.

Jesus fulfilled the law by taking away the sins of the world with the sacrifice of himself. And Jesus fulfilled the promise to Abraham to have all peoples on earth blessed through him (Genesis 12:1-3) by making it possible for Gentiles to be saved and become adopted sons of Abraham.

Are we saved by Grace? Yes, everyone is saved by the grace of God. Are we saved by the Law? It is not the law alone; it is the Living Word of God that brings eternal life. The Word that created the world, that gave life to man, now gives eternal life through the Living Torah Jesus who writes the Torah on our hearts and minds.

The truth of the Bible is that the Jews and the Christians are one people. They are all brothers. All sons of Abraham. The truth of the Bible is that God does not forget his covenant. When God says “forever”, God means FOREVER. Because only God knows the true meaning of the word forever.

We believe in Jesus, we are part of God’s covenant with Israel and Judah, forever.

And that is the truth of the Bible.