

TOPIC: *The Missing Puzzle!*

TEXT: John 3:1-16



After man sinned, the Spirit of God left man and he lost the image of God. Man became very evil doing all kinds of wickedness without any feeling of shame, because wrong doing had become his nature. This made God to be very unhappy! However, God had a plan. What was the plan?

First God sent Prophets, Priest, kings, Judges etc. to teach people to be good. The more these Prophets, Priests taught them the way of God, the more evil they did! But why? There is a missing puzzle! God's Spirit.

Have you ever arranged a puzzle and one piece was missing? If you get any other piece can it fit in? A very big no! Except that very piece.

Man, since then have tried many ways to get back to God:

- Some make New Year Resolutions every year for example, 'I will be a good boy this year'. Have you ever done this? How long did it last?
- Some people try to be in church always.
- Some people try to be very kind.

These behaviors are very good but they will not put God's Spirit on your inside.



But, how can I get God's Spirit
On my inside?

That is easy, God had it all planned out right from the garden of Eden when man sinned. Look at what God did, He killed an animal and used the skin to cover them; in that process blood was shed which covered their sin. The Bible said in

Heb. 9:22^b “without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin (NLT)

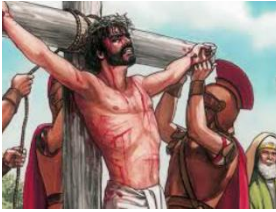
Many, many years ago, God began to announce His plan to the world through His Prophets like:

- Ezekiel.
- Jeremiah.
- King David etc.

Eze. 36:26-27 “And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new Spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations” (NLT)

Jer. 31: 31-34. “But this is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days,” says the Lord. “ I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbours, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘you should know the Lord. ‘For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already, ’says the Lord. “ And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins” (NLT)

Jesus was God's special plan: Jesus came just for this reason. First He took our punishment for



this sin of disobedience in the garden and with His blood removed this sin and gave us His Spirit. He restores to man the lost image as explained in the 3rd edition.



Rom 5:19 "Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous" (NLT)

Rom 5: 15 "But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and His gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ" (NLT)

As discussed in the 3rd edition, God is not a bully: He will never force any issues against your will on you. Will you accept God's provision through Jesus? This is completely your choice! Remember you will bear the consequences of your choice.

John 1:12, Rom 10:9 -10, Eph. 2:8-9

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (NIV)

2 Corinth. 5:21 "For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ" (NLT)

What is your decision? If you want to invite Jesus into your life, then pray this prayer.

Dear God,

I realize that I have sinned against you. I am so sorry.

I invite you into my life and confess that you are my Lord. In Jesus name. Amen.

If you have done this sincerely, God sees you as clean, no more a sinner. Your past sins are forgiven and forever forgotten.

Heb. 8:12 “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sin” (NLT)

John 1:12 “But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God” (NLT)



Are you sure that all my sins are forgiven? How am I sure that Jesus had come into my life? Watch out for the next edition.



Activity

1. What is the “missing puzzle” in this edition?

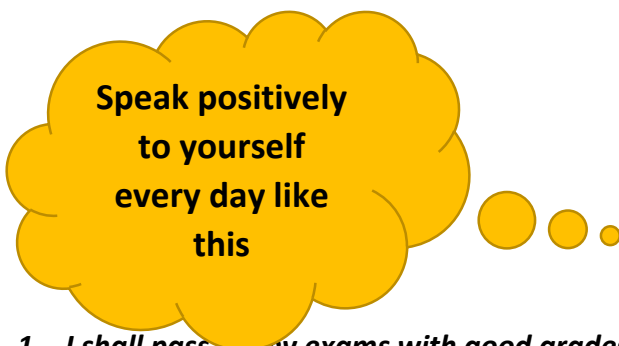
2. Why did people not change their ways after the preaching by the Prophets?

3. What was God’s plan to save man from sin?

4. Why does God not force everyone to become Christians?

5^A. What did Adam disobedience bring to man?

5^B. What did Jesus obedience bring to man?



1. *I shall pass all my exams with good grades.*
2. *I am courageous.*
3. *I am smart and intelligent.*
4. *I am gifted*
5. *I am blessed.*
6. *I am strong.*
7. *I am fruitful.*



- 8. I can do all things through Christ that gives me strength**
- 9. I am beautiful**
- 10. My family is peaceful**
- 11. My country is great.**
- 12. My school is great.**
- 13. I am healthy.**
- 14. I am anointed**



Are you sure that all my sins are forgiven? How am I sure that Jesus has come into my life? Watch out for the 6th edition.