

Are you a good person?

Have you kept God's Ten Commandments fully and consistently all your life? Have you lived a sinless life? Test yourself:

I. "I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:2)

God hates idolatry. Anything (ambition, career, plan, money, possession, self, other people, etc.) which takes our focus away from God is an idol.

II. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them:" (Exodus 20:3-6)

III. "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Exodus 20:7)

Using God's name as a guarantee in vows, oaths and promises and not fulfilling them dishonors God. Irreverent use of God's name brings dishonor to His character or ways.

IV. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8)

God has set a day (Sunday in our times) for us to worship Him. Are you using this day for selfish pursuits rather than worship?

V. "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." (Exodus 20:9)

Lack of respect, obedience and gratitude towards parents, and failing to take care of them in their old age are sins.

VI. "Thou shalt not kill." (Exodus 20:13)

Being angry with your brother or sister without a just reason is sin. "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. (Matthew 5:21-22)

VII. "Thou shalt not commit adultery." (Exodus 20:14)

Sexual relations outside of marriage is sin. Looking at another person with lust is already a sin. "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart (Matthew 5:27-28). Viewing pornography on the Internet is sin.

VIII. "Thou shalt not steal." (Exodus 20:15)

Taking things, however small in value, without permission from the owner, is stealing.

IX. "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." (Exodus 20:16)

Lying or gossiping about others is sin.

X. "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's." (Exodus 20:17)

Covetousness is the mental attitude or mindset of envy for what others have; this shows lack of satisfaction with what we have.

Whoever breaks one law breaks the whole law.

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law." (James 2:10-11)

The law brings knowledge of sin.

"Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." (Romans 3:19-20)

We have to admit that all of us have broken God's Ten Commandments. We are all sinners by nature and by choice. We have offended God's holiness by our sins.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Romans 5:12)

"There is none righteous, no, not one:" (Romans 3:10)

Who is God? The Creator and sovereign Lord

People need to know who God is and where they stand in relation to Him. God exists. He is the Creator. Because He made us, we are totally dependent upon Him. He can do as He pleases. He is in charge of the universe. God is the sovereign ruler of the universe. He is the King of kings.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

"He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding." (Jeremiah 51:15)

"Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth" (Psalm 57:5)

As Creator, God is worthy of man's worship.

"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." (Revelation 4:11)

God is holy. He never sins. He always does what is right.

"And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory." (Isaiah 6:3)

"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." ((1 Peter 1:15-16)

"Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest." (Revelation 15:4)

Because God is holy, sin deserves to be punished. That punishment is eternal separation from God. Sinners are separated from and under the wrath of God. This is man's primary problem, and he cannot solve it by himself.

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness." (Romans 1:18)

"Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." (Isaiah 59:1-2)



“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.” (Isaiah 64:6)

“For the wages of sin is death ...” (Romans 6:23a)

Unrepentant sinners will spend eternity in hell.

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” (Revelation 21:8)

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” (Revelation 20:15)

God loves us. He wants us to be saved and has provided the means of salvation.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

Who is Christ? The sacrifice, Savior and Lord

Jesus Christ is the Son of God and God in the flesh. He lived a perfect, sinless life. Jesus is the Savior. He came to save us from our sin.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1)

“... thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

“For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

“Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:” (1 Peter 2:22)

Christ died for our sins, was buried, and arose the third day.

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:” (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)

Christ took the punishment for our sins. He suffered and died instead of us. He was our substitute.

“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.” (Isaiah 53:4-7)

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

He is the only way of salvation. Good works, a moral life, baptism, religion or church membership cannot save us.

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

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done but according to his mercy he saved us” (Titus 3:5)

Jesus is both Lord and Savior. We must recognize His Lordship.

“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11)

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 6:46)

Repentance is turning away from or rejecting sin and turning to God. It is being sorry for sin and wanting to be forgiven.

“Except if ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:3)

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)

“Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)

“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” (Acts 17:30-31)

“For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.” (1 Thessalonians 1:9)

Faith or belief is trusting that God sent Jesus Christ to die the death we deserve for our sins and to reconcile us to Him. It is a wholehearted trust in and commitment to Christ.

“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36)

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” (John 5:24)

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Ephesians 5:8-9)

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1)

Today is the day of salvation.

“Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” (James 3:13-14)

“Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2)

Today, you must repent and believe!

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