

# GOOD NEW NEV

### 1 God created a good world



You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honour and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased.

Revelation 4:11

Everything that exists—from the smallest atom to the distant galaxy—was created by God. Of all God's creation, the first man Adam and his companion Eve were created in the representative likeness of their Creator. They were persons with a soul, dignity and uniqueness, made to reflect their Creator.

### And God said it was good. Very good.

God placed them in a garden paradise to build a family; he gave them the responsibility to care for his world. There was perfect order —God with the first humans, humans among themselves and with the world, and all in complete harmony.

There was only one thing Adam and Eve were not supposed to do: they were NOT to eat the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

### 2 Sin brought chaos and death

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Romans 3:23

The soul that sins shall die. Ezekiel 18:4

Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Their disobedience marked humanity's rejection of God's rule and moral authority.

The tragedy was immediate.

Obedience became rebellion.
Blame overcame delight.
Fear replaced trust.
Chaos displaced order.
Death prevailed over life.

What was once good became terrorised by self-centredness and increasing lawlessness.

### This moral offence is called Sin.

It ushered in brokenness and despair on a cosmic scale. We ALL inherited Adam's sin.

Nothing in God's creation was untouched. No human effort could repair it. God grieved.

### **3** God acted to redeem and restore

For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but

have eternal life. John 3:16

Sin could not go unpunished. Creation could not be unmade. Death could not be undone.

What was a holy God to do?

He sent his only Son Jesus on a rescue mission. Because the only way we will be saved is when God makes us right. This is called the *Gospel*, or, Good News.

### Christ Jesus was God's gift of love.

Jesus' life pleased God where we did not, and his death satisfied sin's judgment where we could not. He died on the cross in humility, but he was raised to life three days later, leaving an empty tomb.

When we acknowledge Jesus' sacrifice and repent of sin, we receive forgiveness and restoration. We are saved!

## 4 Christ came to make all things new

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. **2 Corinthians 5:17** 

For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. **Ephesians 4:8** 

A great exchange took place on the cross: Jesus took our sin; we got his righteousness. By grace salvation becomes ours; through faith we receive new life, satisfying and free.

We are a new creation.

More than that, God is making ALL things new one day—literally! That work has begun.

God's Spirit sets us off in a new direction of wholeness and holiness:

We are called children of God.

We are incorporated as a new community.

We are empowered by God's Spirit for life.

We are sent into the world on a new mission.

We share the good news of Jesus and join God's work to bring order to chaos. The road ahead may not be easy, but we have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

### What next?

**Acknowledge** Jesus as the Son of God our only Lord and Saviour.

Believe that He lived, died and rose again to redeem you from sin and death.

**Confess** your need and repent of your sins, and God will save you.



The Christian journey is a lifelong adventure with the Lord at the head and at its centre. Join us as we travel together and discover God's purpose for our lives.

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