

THE STORY

Introducing The Story

- The Bible points to one problem (sin) and one solution (Jesus).
- Many struggle with the Bible. The Story shows the big picture in 5 parts.
- The Bible reveals how great God is by telling how he saves people from sin.
- Bible: 66 books, written in 1500 yrs, 40 authors, inspired (2 Pet. 1:20-21).

I. Sin Brings Separation and Death (Genesis 3)

- A. Sin Is Tempting (Genesis 3:1-6)
 1. You Cannot Eat of Any Tree? (3:1)
 2. You Will Not Surely Die (3:4)
 3. Your Eyes Will Be Opened (3:5)
- B. Sin Is Shaming (Genesis 3:7-13)
 1. They Covered-up and Hid (3:7-10)
 2. They Shifted the Blame (3:11-13)
- C. Sin Is Painful (Genesis 3:16-24)
 1. The Woman's Consequences — pain in family (3:16)
 2. The Man's Consequences — pain in work (3:17-19)
 3. Driven from Eden — loss of life and God's presence (3:22-24)
- D. Hope for the Woman's Offspring (Genesis 3:14-15, 12:1-3)
 1. The Serpent's Curse (3:14-15)
 2. All Blessed through Abraham's Offspring (12:1-3)

II. The Law of Moses Exposes Sin (Exodus 20, etc.)

- A. The Law of Moses is Given (Exodus 20:1-17)
 1. Love the LORD Your God (20:1-11)
 2. Love Your Neighbor As Yourself (20:12-17)
- B. The Law of Moses Is Broken (Daniel 9:11, etc.)
 1. Rebellion (Daniel 9:11)
 2. Failure to Keep the Whole Law (James 2:10-11, Deut. 6:25, 27:26)
 3. None Is Righteous, Sin Earns Death (Romans 3:9-12, 23, 6:23)
- C. The Law of Moses Exposes Sin (Gal. 3:19-22, Rom. 3:19-20)
 1. The Law Exposes Sin
 2. Knowledge of Sin Causes Faith in God

III. A New Covenant Promises Hope (Jeremiah 31, etc.)

- A. The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
 1. I Will Put My Law within Them (31:31-34)
 2. I Will Remember Their Sin No More (31:34)
- B. The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)
 1. Successful, Exalted, Marred, and Sprinkling Many Nations (52:13-15)
 2. No Beauty, Rejected, Sorrows, and Pierced for Our Sins (53:1-6)
 3. Silent, Overlooked, Innocent, Prolonged Days, Bear Iniquities (53:7-12)
 4. Jesus' Suffering for Sins Was Prophesied 700 Years Beforehand
- C. The Spirit Poured Upon Us (Isaiah 32:9-18)
 1. A Spiritual Desert (32:12-14)
 2. A Spiritual Garden (32:15-18)

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IV. Jesus Conquers Sin and Death (Matthew 1, 4, 9, 27-28)

- A. Jesus Is the Son of God (Matthew 1:17-25)
- B. Jesus Is Perfect against Temptation (Matthew 4:1-11)
- C. Jesus Shows Mercy to Sinners (Matthew 9:9-13)
- D. Jesus Is Crucified to Conquer Sin (Matthew 27:11-56)
- E. Jesus Rose to Conquer Death (Matthew 27:57-28:15)
- F. Jesus Tells Disciples to Make Disciples (Matthew 28:16-20)

V. The Spirit Brings Restoration and Life (Acts 2, etc.)

- A. The Apostles Speak in Different Languages (2:1-13)
- B. Languages Signify the Arrival of the Spirit and Judgment (2:14-21).
- C. Jesus Is Lord and Christ (2:22-36): Crowd saw Jesus' miracles (32); David foretold resurrection (25-31); apostles were witnesses (32); Jesus caused the languages the crowd heard (33); Jesus is the Lord at the Lord's right hand David wrote of (34-36).
- D. What Shall We Do? (2:37-41): Repent, Baptism (forgiven/Spirit), New Image/Life.
- E. The Fellowship of Believers (Acts 2:42-47): Devoted, Gentiles, Purpose (glory).
- F. The Judgment (Revelation 20:11-21:8)

Appendix

A. Optional Help for Baptism

- 1. **1 Peter 3:21** — baptism saves and appeals to God for cleansing.
- 2. **Matthew 28:18-20** — Jesus' command to baptize the nations.
- 3. **Acts 19:1-7** — people can be re-baptized (Ephesian example).
- 4. **Acts 22:6-16** — baptism truly washes away our sins (Paul's example).
- 5. **Colossians 2:11-13** — baptism is faith in God's work, not our works.
- 6. **Romans 6:1-8** — our sinful body dies and is buried like Christ.

B. Jesus Is the Only Way

- 1. **John 3:18, 36** — wrath remains on us unless we believe in the Son.
- 2. **John 14:6** — Jesus is the only way to come to the Father.
- 3. **Acts 4:8-12** —salvation can come through no one but Jesus.
- 4. **1 Timothy 2:5** — there is only one mediator between God and man.

C. Jesus' Resurrection

- 1. **Jesus' Brothers.** Before, Jesus' brothers did not believe (John 7:5). Post-resurrection, they became believers (Acts 1:14). James, Jesus' brother, became a leader in the Jerusalem church (Gal. 1:19; Acts 15:13, 21:18). Why? Jesus appeared to James after Jesus' resurrection (1 Cor. 15:7).
- 2. **Paul's Change.** Paul harmed disciples until something caused him to make disciples. Unbelieving historians don't doubt this. If Paul did not see Jesus' resurrected, why did Paul change (cf. Acts 22; 1 Cor. 15:1-10; Phil. 3:2-11)?
- 3. **Empty Tomb.** News of Jesus' resurrection spread from Jerusalem. Enemies could have killed the gospel's spread if the body was in the tomb.
- 4. **Apostles' Motivations.** Nearly all the apostles died for preaching Jesus' resurrection. What would the apostles gain from stealing Jesus' body?
- 5. **Resurrection or Apparition?** Some say the apostles believed they saw Jesus after his resurrection, but they only saw an apparition. This argument fails because it demands the existence of mass visionary experiences.

VI. Jesus Conquers Sin and Death (Matthew 1, 4, 9, 27-28)

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