

The Bible

The Bible is the source of information concerning God and his plan for us and the earth. The Bible was written by Godly men and women, eg Moses, the prophets and apostles, under the guidance of God via his spirit. The Bible is therefore God's word and is a true record, with the exception of translation and copying errors. The Bible is the Christian's "handbook" which details all aspects of Christian living. Together with prayer the Bible is an essential part of Christian life.

2 Tim 3:16	<i>God's word, useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training</i>
1 Cor 2:13	<i>Apostles wrote down what "the spirit", God, had told them</i>
2 Pet 1:20-21	<i>God's word via his spirit written by man</i>
1 Cor 14:37	<i>Paul's writings, ie. letters, are God's commands</i>
Neh 9:30	<i>God's word via prophets now in Bible</i>

God

There is only one God. He has always existed and always will, and is in heaven. The God we worship now is the same God who was worshipped by, and appeared to, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses. God showed his character in his Son, Jesus. God is Jesus' father and is in control of the universe, which he created by his spirit, his power. Because of God's power, love and greatness he deserves to be worshipped and praised.

Is 40:13-31	<i>God created the world and is able to control everything - no comparison</i>
Is 43:10-12	<i>Only one God, there has never been another nor will there be</i>
Is 44:6-8	<i>God has always existed and there is no comparison to him</i>
Is 45:5	<i>Only one God, there is no other god</i>
Is 46:9-10	<i>God is in total control of everything - whatever he says will happen, will happen</i>
Job 38	<i>God created the world and arranged and controls the land, sea, wind, seasons, stars...</i>
Job 39	<i>God knows the actions of the animals and birds of his creation</i>
Job 40	<i>God also created man and the animals and in all the world there is no one other than God who can save</i>
Deut 6:1-4	<i>God is one, there is no other god and he is one being</i>
Mark 12:29-32	<i>God is one, and there is no other god</i>
1 Cor 8:4-6	<i>Because there is only one God, worshipping idols is worthless</i>
Eph 4:6	<i>There is one God, and he is the father of everything, his power is evident in everything</i>
1 Tim 2:5	<i>There is one God and there is one mediator, Jesus. Therefore, Jesus and God are separate individuals</i>
Neh 9:6	<i>One God who made everything and has the power to control everything</i>
Job 26:13	<i>God is in total control of the universe</i>
Ps 124:13	<i>"Maker" of heaven and earth</i>
Ps 146:6	<i>"Maker" of heaven, earth and sea and everything in them</i>
Ps 148:1-5	<i>By God's command the earth, sun and moon etc were made</i>
Is 40:25-27	<i>There is no equal to God, who lives for ever, he knows every details of his creation</i>
Jer 10:12-13	<i>God controls the rain, wind etc because he made them with his power and wisdom, grass before the cow</i>
Jer 27:5	<i>The world, and everything in it, is God's, he can do with it whatever he wants to</i>
Jer 32:17-25	<i>A prayer of Jeremiah's. God created the world and is in control of it and everything in it</i>

Jer 51:15	<i>God followed a plan in his creation and maintains the balance of nature</i>
Acts 14:15	<i>God made the world and everything in it, therefore worship him and not other gods that are powerless</i>
Acts 17:24	<i>The world, and everything in it, was made by God</i>
1 Chr 29:11-14	<i>A prayer of David's. Everything in the world is God's.</i>
Ps 145:3	<i>Because of God's power and "greatness" he deserves to be praised and worshipped</i>
Is 26:4	<i>Christians can put their trust in God because he has always existed and always will</i>
Is 40:26	<i>The stars are there to remind us of God's creation and power</i>
Job 9:4	<i>God's power and wisdom is unlimited</i>
Job 36:5	<i>God is mighty. He doesn't change his mind</i>
Ps 92:5	<i>God is great. There is nothing wrong in what he does. He knows everything</i>
Ps 104:24	<i>God made everything, everything is his. He made so much that we cannot count the things he has made</i>
Ps 147:4-5	<i>God knows how many stars there are and knows each by name. There is nothing God can't do</i>
Is 28:29	<i>God's suggestions are perfect, there is no other way. There is nothing that God can't do</i>
Rom 16:27	<i>God is the only God worth worshipping</i>
1 Tim 1:17	<i>God is the only God, he lives for ever, he will not change, he will always exist and is invisible</i>
2 Chr 16:9	<i>God sees everything</i>
Job 28:24	<i>God sees everything</i>
Job 34:21	<i>Every man's thoughts and actions are seen by God</i>
Ps 33:13-14	<i>God sees everything and everyone</i>
Ps 44:21	<i>God knows our thoughts</i>
Ps 94:9	<i>God created the ear and the eye, therefore he knows what we see and hear and say</i>
Ps 139:7-12	<i>Wherever we are God sees and knows. God is everywhere</i>
Pro 15:3	<i>God knows everything, both what the good and the bad are doing</i>
Jer 23:24	<i>There is nowhere in the universe where we can hide from God</i>
Jer 32:19	<i>Everybody's actions and thoughts are known by God</i>
Amos 9:2-3	<i>No one can hide from God</i>
Acts 17:27-28	<i>God keeps us alive, our life is in his control</i>
Ps 123:1	<i>God is in heaven</i>
1 Kings 8:30-43	<i>God is in heaven and he knows our thoughts and hears our prayers</i>
Matt 6:9	<i>Lord's Prayer - God is in heaven</i>
1 Tim 6:15-16	<i>God is the only ruler and will always exist, no one has seen him, nor will anyone see him this side of God's Kingdom</i>
1 Tim 1:17	<i>God is our King, who lives forever, he is the only true God</i>

Jesus' birth

Jesus is God's Son. Jesus' mother is Mary, who became pregnant, via God's power, when still a virgin. Jesus was given the holy spirit (power) by God, at the time of his baptism.

Matt 1:23	<i>Mary, who was engaged to Joseph, was to have a baby. Jesus was to be called "Immanuel", God with us</i>
Acts 2:22-24	<i>God gave Jesus the power to perform miracles to show his own power. Jesus was sinless</i>

Acts 2:36	<i>Because Jesus is God's son, and is sinless, he is Lord (one in authority), and Christ (King).</i>
Matt 1:18-25	<i>Mary became pregnant, when still a virgin, and gave birth to God's Son, Jesus</i>
Luke 1:26-35	<i>Mary told that she would give birth to Jesus, and that God would be his father. Jesus was to become King.</i>
Gal 4:4	<i>God knew it was the right time in the history of the world so he caused Jesus to be born with human nature so he could save</i>
Is 7:14	<i>Jesus' actual birth was prophesied and what his mother would be, also that he would be called "God with us"</i>
Matt 3:16-17	<i>God gives his power, his holy spirit, to Jesus at Jesus' baptism</i>
Is 11:2	<i>Prophecy that Jesus would have God's power, understanding and wisdom</i>
Is 42:1	<i>Jesus was God's servant and, with God's power, would bring justice to the world</i>
Is 61:1	<i>God's power enabled Jesus to preach, help, heal and save those people who would believe in him</i>
John 3:34	<i>Jesus showed us all of God's attributes, we are able to see God in Jesus</i>
John 7:16	<i>Jesus only spoke the words of God, as if God was actually speaking</i>
John 8:26-28	<i>Jesus taught us what God had taught him</i>
John 14:10-24	<i>Jesus' words were not his own, they were his father's. Jesus' thoughts were also the same as his father's.</i>

Jesus to Save

Because of man's natural sinfulness, right from the time of Adam, it was necessary for God to provide Jesus to give his life for us.

1 Cor 15:21-22	<i>Adam sinned, therefore the whole of the human race is subject to death, but we can live through Jesus</i>
Rom 5:12-19	<i>Adam, and man, break God's commands, therefore we die, but Jesus obeyed, therefore there is an opportunity of life</i>
Gen 3:19	<i>God condemns man to a life of work and then death, because of sin</i>
2 Cor 5:19-21	<i>God detests sin, but in his love he provided Jesus so that man can be changed before God if we believe</i>

Adam

Adam was the first human being. He was created by God from the dust of the ground and was considered by God to be "Very good". Adam, and every human since, has been kept alive by God's power through the air that we breathe. Adam's life was conditional in that he had to obey the commandment given by God. Failure to do so would result in Adam's death.

Gen 2:7	<i>Adam was created from the dust and God breathed air into his nose to make him live</i>
Gen 18:27	<i>Abraham accepted that he was dust and ashes</i>
Job 4:19	<i>Eliphaz accepts that man comes from the dust of the ground</i>
Job 33:6	<i>Elihu accepts that man is just dust</i>
1 Cor 15:46-49	<i>A spiritual comparison between Adam and Jesus. Unless we accept Jesus we will also die like Adam</i>
Gen 2:17	<i>Adam given one command by God. If he broke that command God would cease to prevent him from dying</i>

Sin

Adam broke the law that God had given and God carried out the sentence of death for not obeying. Adam died and returned to the ground. Adam was characteristic of all human beings and the sentence of death is now the natural conclusion of all human life.

Gen 3:15-19	<i>Adam broke God's law. Therefore the sentence of death was passed upon him in that he would return to the ground</i>
Gen 3:22-23	<i>Adam was driven out of the garden of Eden</i>
2 Cor 1:9	<i>The sentence of death is on all men. God wants us therefore to rely on him because he has the power to raise the dead</i>
Rom 7:24	<i>Paul knew that man dies and knew that there is no escape</i>
2 Cor 5:2-4	<i>Man's life is temporary and will end up in death, unless Jesus is accepted</i>
Rom 7:18-23	<i>Man is naturally sinful, even if we try to do good we will still fail and die</i>
Gal 5:16-17	<i>Man's natural actions are in conflict with God's laws - sin</i>
Rom 6:12	<i>Man's evil desires</i>
Rom 7:21	<i>Man is naturally sinful</i>
Rom 5:12	<i>Adam, because he broke God's law, sinned; he died. Every human being sins and also dies</i>
1 Cor 15:22	<i>Because we break God's commands we die</i>
Ps 51:5	<i>Our human nature means that we sin from the moment we are born</i>
Job 14:4	<i>Man can be nothing other than sinful, from the time of Adam man has been impure before God</i>
Rom 3:23	<i>Everyone sins</i>

God's Love

God, in his love, provided a way out of death, for those who love him, without detracting from his sentence of death for man's sins. The natural conclusion for man's disobedience of God is total destruction, but God planned that that should not be the case and that the earth will be populated with those who love and willingly obey him. In his love, God provided Jesus to take away sin and die once for all those who follow him.

Rev 21:4	<i>God has promised a time when there will be no more death, therefore no more sin</i>
John 3:16	<i>God's love for his creation, and us, was such that he allowed Jesus to die so that our nature can be changed</i>
2 Tim 1:10	<i>Jesus' death, allowed by God's love for us, meant that death was destroyed and there can be life for those who follow Jesus</i>
1 John 2:25	<i>God has promised those who believe that they will live for ever</i>
2 Tim 1:1	<i>The natural outcome of human life is death, this can be changed through Jesus</i>
Titus 1:2	<i>A better quality of life is offered those who believe in and obey Jesus</i>
Rom 3:26	<i>Our nature is changed through the death of Jesus and our faith in God in that our sins are forgiven</i>
John 1:29	<i>Jesus takes away the natural course of events that comes to man, ie death</i>

Promises

God told Adam, Abraham, David and the prophets of his plan for the human population of the earth that there would be an opportunity for believers to overcome sin and death

Gen 3:15	<i>Serpent's descendants = sin, Eve's descendants = Jesus. Sin, ie death, will be overcome by Jesus</i>
Gen 22:18	<i>People of the world would be blessed through one of Abraham's descendants, ie Jesus</i>
Ps 89:34-37	<i>God promised that David's royal descendants would go on for ever</i>
Hosea 13:14	<i>God promised that he would remove death from his people, ie all those who follow him</i>
Is 25:7-9	<i>God says that he will destroy death in that he will save those who trust and believe in him</i>
Is 51:1-8	<i>God's righteousness will last for ever and he will save and allow into his kingdom all those who trust him</i>
Jer 23:5	<i>God promised that a just and righteous ruler, descended from David, will rule from Israel, ie Jesus</i>

Jesus, the Saviour

The promises that God gave to Adam, Abraham, David and the prophets referred to Jesus, who was a descendant of David and therefore was human like every other person. Because of Jesus' human nature he was condemned to die like everyone else, but because he didn't sin and that he always obeyed God, he didn't deserve to die. Jesus overcame his natural tendency for man to sin and God therefore raised him from the dead because he had overcome sin for himself and for all those who believe in him.

1 Cor 15:45	<i>Difference between Adam (man, sinful) and Jesus (life, sinless)</i>
Heb 2:14-16	<i>Jesus was able to destroy death because of his ability to sin, believers were "slaves to death" before they accepted Jesus</i>
Rom 1:3	<i>Jesus was a descendant from David, therefore human and had the ability to sin</i>
Heb 5:8-9	<i>Though Jesus was human he didn't sin, he obeyed God, therefore is able to save all who believe him</i>
Heb 1:8-9	<i>Jesus obeyed God, because he wanted to, he will therefore rule justly for ever</i>
Rom 5:19-21	<i>Adam sinned, therefore we die. Jesus didn't, therefore we can be saved. Laws existed to expose sin</i>
Gal 4:4-5	<i>God sent Jesus, who had human nature, so that all those who have faith will also be saved</i>
Rom 8:3-4	<i>Believers are free from death because Jesus overcame the law, which couldn't save, and sin</i>
Heb 2:15	<i>Everyone dies, but Jesus can save us from death</i>
Heb 9:26	<i>By his sacrifice, Jesus got rid of sin and death</i>
Gal 1:4	<i>Jesus, voluntarily, allowed himself to be crucified, so that believers could be saved from their sins</i>
Heb 7:27	<i>Unlike the priests, who sacrificed every day, Jesus was sacrificed once for all believers</i>
Heb 2:17	<i>Because Jesus was human he is able to understand our sins and change the way that God looks at us</i>

Rom 6:9-10	<i>Jesus didn't sin so he was raised from the dead, therefore he can't die again, his death saves believers</i>
Acts 13:34-37	<i>Jesus' body was not to decay in the grave</i>
Rev 1:18	<i>Jesus confirming that he had been raised from the dead</i>
John 5:21-22	<i>Jesus has the power, from God, to save believers from the results of sin - death</i>
John 5:26-27	<i>Jesus has the authority, from God, to judge. Jesus does what his father would do</i>
Rev 2:7	<i>Jesus will save all believers from death</i>
Rev 3:21	<i>Jesus will allow all true believers to rule with him, on the earth, for ever</i>
Matt 25:21	<i>Jesus' parable of talents, indicating that just believers will rule with Jesus</i>
Heb 5:9	<i>Jesus is the source of a perfect quality of life because he is sinless</i>
Mark 16:16	<i>For Jesus to save, the believer must be baptised, otherwise the person can't be saved from sin and death</i>
Acts 13:38-39	<i>Because of Jesus' death, believers can have forgiveness of sins and be exempt from God's law of death</i>
Rom 3:22	<i>The only way to be saved from God's punishment is to have faith in Jesus, and obey his commands</i>
Ps 2:6-9	<i>Jesus will rule over the whole world from Jerusalem</i>
Dan 7:13-14	<i>Prophecy stating that Jesus will rule the world with total authority. His kingdom will not be destroyed</i>
Rev 11:15	<i>Jesus will rule over the earth for ever</i>
Jer 23:5	<i>A descendant of David, Jesus, will rule wisely over God's Kingdom</i>
Zech 14:9	<i>Jesus will rule over the whole earth</i>
Eph 1:9-10	<i>When the time is right, Jesus will be the ruler of the whole world</i>

Jesus' life

For Jesus to have been able to overcome sin for himself and believers, it was necessary for him to be born with human nature. Human nature meant that Jesus was condemned to death just the same as everyone who has ever lived, but he overcame all temptations and was therefore a "perfect sacrifice", such perfection was required by God for the forgiveness of our sins. Because Jesus didn't sin God raised him from the dead and through belief in Jesus we are saved.

Matt 1:18-25	<i>Jesus' mother was Mary. Jesus was born to save his people and one of his names meant "God with us".</i>
Luke 1:26-35	<i>Mary, a virgin, was told by God that Jesus would rule over God's Kingdom for ever</i>
Gal 4:4	<i>When the time was right, God caused Jesus to be born with human nature, ie subject to sin and death</i>
Is 7:14	<i>Jesus' birth prophesied that a virgin would give birth to a son who was to be called Immanuel "God with us"</i>
Rom 1:3-4	<i>Jesus, a descendant of David, possessed human nature. His resurrection confirmed that he was God's son</i>
Rom 8:3	<i>God requires that a perfect sacrifice be made for sin, Jesus didn't sin, therefore he was a perfect sacrifice</i>
2 Cor 5:21	<i>Because Jesus didn't sin he overcame human nature, therefore we can also be called "sons of God" if we believe in and follow Jesus</i>
Heb 2:14-17	<i>Jesus was human so that he could understand our temptations and change our position before God</i>

Heb 4:15 *Jesus understands our temptations and helps those who believe in him*

Jesus' teachings

Jesus taught God's words to the Jews at his time. He preached that everyone who heard should acknowledge their sins and ask for forgiveness, that he was God's son and would be the future King of the Jews and that God would restore his Kingdom, on earth, through him. Jesus' teachings weren't new, many of his teachings were expanding the teachings of the prophets in Old Testament times, all teachings were God's.

Mark 1:15 *Jesus preached the Kingdom of God. He said it was near and that people should repent.*

Matt 4:17 *Jesus preached repentance because God's Kingdom was soon to come*

Matt 5:20-48 *Jesus' teachings went further than the laws of Moses, they included Christian living and thoughts*

John 10:36 *Jesus said he was God's son*

John 9:35 *Jesus was the son of man - he had a human mother*

John 11:27 *Jesus was the Saviour, God's son, that was promised by God*

John 19:21 *Jesus was also the King of the Jews, God's people*

John 1:49 *Jesus the son of God, and the King of Israel, God's land*

Matt 27:11-42 *At his trial Jesus confirmed that he was God's son. Pilate accepted that Jesus was the King of the Jews*

John 10:24-25 *Jesus' miracles confirmed that Jesus was the Christ and God's Son*

Matt 19:28 *Jesus promised his 12 disciples that they would judge the tribes of Israel when he becomes King*

Matt 21:42-43 *Jesus warns that the Kingdom of God will be taken away from the Jews and given to others (Ps 118:22)*

Matt 23:38-39 *The Jews must accept that Jesus is God's son before being accepted into God's kingdom when Jesus returns to the earth*

Matt 25:14-46 *Parables of the talents and the sheep and goats. Best efforts are required before being accepted into Kingdom*

Luke 4:43 *Jesus' main object was to preach the "kingdom of God"*

Luke 13:27-30 *Jesus warns that some people will be removed from God's Kingdom*

Luke 19:11-27 *Jesus' parable of talents. Best efforts are required to be saved and enter God's kingdom*

Luke 22:28-30 *Jesus tells his disciples that they would judge the 12 tribes of Israel when he becomes King*

Matt 5:17 *Jesus was not sent by his father to abolish Moses' law but to fulfil it*

Luke 24:44 *Jesus' existence and teachings were prophesied in the law, prophets and Psalms*

Jesus' death

Jesus' teachings were not accepted by the Jews nor did they accept him as God's son, he was incorrectly accused of blasphemy by them, and was crucified by the Jews and the Romans. However, the Jews' actions were foreseen by God in that Jesus would be a "perfect sacrifice" so that sin and death, the result of sin, could be done away with. Jesus was sacrificed once for the sins of human nature so that man's natural position before God was changed, and all those who accept Jesus are forgiven.

Luke 19:47	<i>The Jewish religious authorities looked for ways to kill Jesus</i>
Luke 20:1-16	<i>The Jewish leaders wanted to arrest Jesus but they were afraid of the people</i>
John 11:45-53	<i>Afraid of the Romans taking away their power, the Jewish leaders wanted Jesus dead</i>
Acts 10:38-39	<i>Even though Jesus was seen to have miraculous powers, the Jews still killed him in their jealousy</i>
Acts 13:26-29	<i>Prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus was killed, but as a result everyone has the opportunity of being saved</i>
Acts 4:27-28	<i>The Jews were so desperate to have Jesus killed that they conspired with the Roman authorities, who were normally hated</i>
Rom 8:3	<i>The law was powerless to save, so God sent Jesus with human nature, to be a perfect sacrifice</i>
Heb 10:10	<i>Because of Jesus' sacrifice, once for everyone, believers have been made holy and have been saved</i>
Rom 3:25	<i>Jesus was given by God, as a sacrifice so that God's condemnation of human nature could be changed</i>
Acts 13:38	<i>It is through Jesus that believers can have forgiveness of their sins</i>
1 John 1:7	<i>Jesus' sacrifice gives believers forgiveness of sins if they always attempt to follow Jesus' commands</i>
John 14:6	<i>There is only one way to go to God and have forgiveness, and that is through Jesus' death</i>
Acts 4:12	<i>Through Jesus' death and resurrection, is the only way to be saved</i>
1 Pet 3:18	<i>Jesus died, once, for the world's sins so that believers can have forgiveness and be saved</i>
1 Pet 2:24	<i>Jesus died on the cross for the world's sins, believers therefore have been saved</i>
Heb 9:14	<i>Even though sin leads to death, Jesus' sacrifice allows believers to have forgiveness of their sins</i>
Heb 7:27	<i>Jesus' sacrifice was only required once, and that was for the sins of the world</i>
Heb 9:26-28	<i>Jesus died once to save himself and the world, if they believe</i>
Gal 1:4	<i>It was God's plan that Jesus was sacrificed so that believers could be saved</i>
Rom 15:8	<i>The Gentiles were given an opportunity when the Jews rejected Jesus, this confirmed the prophets' words</i>
Gal 3:21-22	<i>The original law could not save, only Jesus could, therefore what the law promised is given to believers</i>
Gal 2:21	<i>The law could not save believers from sin, and ultimately death</i>
Gal 4:4-5	<i>Jesus was sent, by God, to the human race to save them from sin and to make believers sons of God</i>
Heb 9:15	<i>Jesus' sacrifice saves believers from the effects of sin and through his death, they are brought to a Godly life</i>
Luke 22:20	<i>The wine at the Last Supper represents Jesus' blood that was poured out for the sins of the world</i>
Luke 24:26	<i>It was in God's plan that Jesus was to be sacrificed</i>
Luke 24:46-47	<i>It was prophesied that Jesus would be sacrificed and then be raised so that believers could be forgiven</i>
Matt 26:28	<i>The wine represented Jesus' blood which was poured out for the sins of the world if only they believed</i>

Jesus' resurrection

God raised Jesus on the third day after he was crucified because Jesus overcame the temptations that are experienced by human nature and he didn't sin. Jesus'

resurrection meant that he had overcome the power of sin and death so that all believers can have life just as he has.

- 1 Cor 15:4 *Just as the prophets predicted, Jesus was raised by God from the dead on the third day*
- Acts 10:40 *God raised Jesus from the dead on the third day and this miracle was witnessed by many believers*
- Acts 13:30-37 *Jesus' resurrection was witnessed by the disciples and by fulfilment of prophecy. (Ps 2:7, 16:10, Is 55:3)*
- Acts 2:24-27 *Jesus didn't sin so the punishment of death was not relevant, therefore he was raised (Ps 16:8-11)*

Jesus - mediator between God and believers

Jesus, now in heaven, he became the mediator between God and believers, enabling believers to have forgiveness when they sin and request God's forgiveness.

- Luke 24:51 *Jesus was taken up into heaven, the disciples were told that he would return in the same way*
- Eph 1:20 *After God had raised Jesus from the dead he also brought him to heaven to sit at God's right hand*
- Acts 5:31 *God brought Jesus to heaven to sit at his right hand so that forgiveness of believers could be made*
- 1 Tim 2:5 *Jesus is the mediator between God and men*
- Heb 8:1 *Jesus is now at God's right hand in heaven*
- Acts 15:14 *The implication is that there is a distinction between believers and non believers*
- Acts 13:39 *It is only through belief in Jesus that people can be saved*
- Heb 4:14-15 *Jesus, now in heaven, is able to sympathise with believers' sins*
- John 17:9 *A distinction exists between the believers and non believers, a belief in Jesus is necessary to be saved*
- Heb 10:26 *A believer has a duty to attempt to refrain from sinning*
- 1 John 2:1 *When believers sin, Jesus speaks to God in their defense*
- Prov 28:13 *In order to have forgiveness there must first be a confession of sins*

Repentance and forgiveness

The apostles preached to the Jews and the Gentiles that they needed to be saved from sin and death and that the only way to be saved was through a belief in Jesus. The duty for believers to preach is the same as it was for the first disciples.

- Acts 1:8 *Jesus instructs his disciples that the message of Jesus should be preached to everyone*
- Matt 28:19-20 *Believers are instructed to preach to everyone and to baptise those who believe that they too are saved*
- Luke 24:46-48 *The need for repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to everyone*
- Acts 26:16-18 *The need to preach was so that others (Jews and Gentiles) can receive forgiveness of sins if they believe*
- Acts 4:12 *It is only by a belief in Jesus that anyone is saved*

Belief and baptism

The only way to have forgiveness and to be saved is to believe the teachings of Jesus and be associated with his death by being baptised. The believer is expected to attempt to follow Jesus' commands to maintain Jesus' friendship.

Acts 13:48	<i>The Gentiles believed what they were taught</i>
Acts 16:31	<i>The jailer believed. He knew that if he did he would be saved</i>
Mark 16:16	<i>To be saved a person must believe and be baptised otherwise he will remain condemned to death</i>
Rom 1:16	<i>The teachings of Jesus are the power of God which ensures that people who believe are saved</i>
Acts 2:38	<i>The only way to be forgiven and be saved is to repent of one's sins and be baptised</i>
Acts 2:41	<i>In order to save one's self from death one has to accept Jesus' message and be baptised</i>
Acts 10:47	<i>Cornelius and his family and friends believed and were baptised so that they could be saved</i>
Acts 8:12	<i>People responded to Philip's teachings by believing and being baptised</i>
Gal 3:27-29	<i>By being baptised believers associate with Jesus and are therefore heirs, with him, to God's Kingdom</i>
Rom 6:3-5	<i>Being baptised means that believers associate with Jesus' death and resurrection, therefore are raised</i>
Rom 2:7	<i>God will give a better quality of life to those believers who do good because they want to seek God</i>
Matt 28:20	<i>Baptism is the start, from then on the believer must attempt to obey Jesus' commands</i>
John 15:14	<i>Believers are Jesus' friends only if they follow his commands</i>

Jesus' teaching

The Gospel (Good News) is centred on Jesus' teachings, which were repeated by the apostles, about the "Kingdom of God", and about how to be saved through Jesus.

Acts 8:12	<i>Men and women were baptised after Philip had told them of God's kingdom and about Jesus</i>
Acts 19:8	<i>Paul taught about God's kingdom</i>
Acts 19:10	<i>Paul's teachings consisted of Jesus' teachings of repentance and about God's kingdom</i>
Acts 19:20	<i>Jesus' teachings were told to many people by the apostles</i>
Acts 28:30-31	<i>Paul taught about Jesus and God's Kingdom</i>

God's Kingdom

Aspects of God's kingdom are explained to believers in the Bible.

God's Kingdom on earth

God's Kingdom will be set up on earth, it will be the only kingdom and it will include the whole earth, therefore all existing nations and kingdoms will be overthrown by God. Jesus will rule perfectly and justly and there will eventually be no more violence in the earth.

Dan 2:44	<i>God will set up a Kingdom which will never be destroyed, it will overpower all other kingdoms</i>
Dan 7:13-14	<i>Jesus will have a kingdom on earth, that will last for ever, he will rule over all the earth</i>
Rev 11:15	<i>The earth will become Jesus' kingdom and he will rule over it for ever</i>
Is 32:1	<i>Jesus will reign over the earth justly, he will be a perfect ruler for everyone</i>
Is 2:2-4	<i>All people living in the earth will be taught of God's ways at Jerusalem, there will be no more violence</i>
Is 11:9-10	<i>Everyone in the earth will be taught of God's ways, there will be no more violence - there will be peace</i>

Jesus' return to earth

When God considers the time is right, when man has done enough damage to himself and the earth has become so ungodly, he will send Jesus back to the earth. On his return, Jesus will pass judgement on everyone for their actions.

Acts 3:20-21	<i>Jesus will return, when God considers it appropriate, he will restore the earth as it was at creation</i>
Ps 102:16	<i>God's land will be rebuilt</i>
Ps 102:21	<i>God will be worshipped at Jerusalem</i>
2 Tim 4:1	<i>Jesus will pass judgement on all those who are living and on those who are dead</i>
Acts 1:9	<i>Jesus' disciples saw Jesus being taken up to heaven by God</i>
Acts 1:11	<i>The disciples were told, by the angels, that Jesus would return to earth in the same way as he went</i>
Dan 7:13	<i>Daniel's prophecy that Jesus would return to the earth</i>

Israel

The land of Israel was promised to Abraham and to Jesus, by God, and it would be theirs for ever. The land of Israel was given to God's chosen people as their land and their return to it will be a fulfilment of one of God's promises.

Amos 9:11	<i>Israel will be restored, by God, as a prosperous nation to how it was at the time of David</i>
Amos 9:15	<i>When God restores Israel to their land they will never be made to go into exile again</i>
Ezek 37:21-22	<i>The Jews will return to Israel, to form one nation ruled by one person</i>
Jer 23:3	<i>The Jews will return to their own land from all the nations where they were exiled</i>
Gen 13:14-17	<i>God promised Abraham, and his descendants, all the land he could see, Israel</i>
Heb 11:8-9	<i>Abraham's faith. He was promised the land he walked through, ie Israel</i>
Gal 3:16	<i>The land (Israel) was promised to Jesus as well as to Abraham</i>
Lev 26:42	<i>God promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that he would remember the promises of Jesus and Israel</i>
Micah 7:20	<i>God will remember the promises that he made to Abraham</i>

Jerusalem - God's capital city

God had promised that the Jews, formally his people, would return to Israel from all over the world where they had been in exile since the time of Israel. This process has started. God had prophesied that the Jews and the land of Israel would be under the control of other nations for a very long time, until Jerusalem would be rebuilt. Ultimately Jerusalem will be the capital of the world from where Jesus will rule and only God's people will be living in Jerusalem

Is 11:12	<i>The Jews will return from exile from all over the world</i>
Jer 31:10	<i>God promised that he will bring the Jews back to Israel and that he would look after them</i>
Zech 8:8	<i>God's promises that his people will return to live in Jerusalem</i>
Ezek 36:34	<i>The land of Israel will be cultivated again and be fertile</i>
Is 51:3	<i>God will allow Israel to be cultivated again and the deserts will produce crops</i>
Is 60:15	<i>The land of Israel will be a source of pride and joy for the people of the world</i>
Is 62:4	<i>Israel will be known as God's land and the people who live there as God's people</i>
Jer 3:17	<i>God's throne will be in Jerusalem where everyone will gather to worship God</i>
Micah 4:6-8	<i>The capital of God's kingdom will be Jerusalem, all of God's people will be made into a strong nation</i>
Joel 3:17	<i>Jerusalem will be God's throne and only those people who worship God will live there</i>
Is 24:23	<i>Jerusalem will be a holy city where God will live</i>

The resurrection

When Jesus returns from heaven all of those people who have followed Jesus and have remained faithful will be raised, if they are dead when Jesus returns, and together with those who are still alive will be with Jesus for ever. When Jesus returns there will be a judgement made on those who are God's people and those who aren't.

Dan 12:2	<i>The resurrection and judgement passed by God on the good and the bad</i>
Luke 13:28	<i>Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the prophets will be in God's Kingdom</i>
Rev 11:18	<i>At God's judgement, God's people will be rewarded but those who destroy the earth will be destroyed</i>
1 Thess 4:15-17	<i>Jesus will return, dead Godly people will be raised and with Godly people still alive will be with him</i>
John 5:28-29	<i>Godly people who are dead will be raised to life, those who aren't Godly will be raised to be condemned</i>
John 6:39-40	<i>All Jesus' followers would be saved, those who are dead he will raise, all faithful will be given eternal life</i>
Luke 14:14	<i>All those who do good now will be rewarded when Jesus returns</i>
Matt 24:35-46	<i>Don't know when Jesus will return, therefore all Jesus' followers must live a Godly life now</i>

Judgement

When Jesus returns there will be a judgement on all those people who are alive at his return and on all those who have been raised. The followers of Jesus will be given eternal life whilst those who have neglected Jesus and not followed him will be condemned to death again.

2 Cor 5:10	<i>There will be a judgement on all followers of Jesus</i>
2 Tim 4:1	<i>When Jesus returns he will judge those who are alive and those who have been raised from the dead</i>
Rom 2:5-11	<i>There will be judgement for the good and the bad. The good will be given life, the bad will suffer God's anger</i>
Rom 2:16	<i>God will judge man's secrets</i>
Rom 14:10-11	<i>Everyone will be judged by God</i>
1 Cor 4:5	<i>Jesus' followers' actions will be judged when he returns, they will be rewarded according to their actions</i>
Rev 11:18	<i>When Jesus returns all will be judged and rewarded for their actions</i>

Immortality

The people who have been judged by Jesus as being unfaithful will be sentenced to death, whereas those who have been faithful will be given life. Those who are given life will reign with Jesus over God's Kingdom which will be set up on earth for ever. The life the saints will live will be of a much better quality than now, praising and worshipping God.

Matt 7:26	<i>To be judged faithful a person has to put into practice what Jesus teaches</i>
Matt 8:12	<i>Not everyone will be allowed into God's Kingdom, some will be thrown out</i>
Matt 25:20	<i>Different people have different abilities but they have to be used to the best advantage to please God</i>
Dan 12:2	<i>There is a difference between God's followers and those who aren't</i>
Gal 6:8	<i>The way people's lives are led now dictates their standing before God, we either please God or ourselves</i>
Gal 5:21	<i>Once a person is baptised they have to live a Christian life otherwise they will not enter God's kingdom</i>
2 Thess 1:8	<i>Those who do not know Jesus' teachings and do not obey him will be punished</i>
Heb 10:26-28	<i>Once baptised, the Christian has an obligation to stop deliberately sinning</i>
2 Pet 2:12	<i>Ungodly people are no better than animals in that they die</i>
Rev 21:8	<i>Evil people will die</i>
Mal 4:1	<i>The day will come when there will be no more ungodly and evil people</i>
Ps 37:30-38	<i>Godly people will be saved, ungodly people will be destroyed</i>
Prov 10:25-29	<i>Those who fear God will have life, those who neglect God will die</i>
1 Cor 15:51-55	<i>When Jesus returns the faithful will be changed to immortality and will not die</i>
2 Cor 5:1-4	<i>The believer has the confidence that they will be changed when Jesus returns</i>
James 1:12	<i>The believer knows that if they remain faithful they will receive life in God's Kingdom</i>
Rom 2:7	<i>If believers persist in doing good and seek God they will be given life</i>

John 10:28	<i>Jesus gives us eternal life</i>
Matt 5:5	<i>The meek will inherit the earth</i>
Ps 37:9, 22, 29	<i>Evil people will be destroyed and the people who hope in God will inherit the kingdom and live for ever</i>
Rev 5:9	<i>By his death, Jesus has saved people from every nation in the world - if they believe and are baptised</i>
Dan 7:27	<i>The rulers of God's kingdom will be God's people, the saints, who will rule for ever and worship God</i>
1 Thess 2:12	<i>God is calling those who believe to his kingdom therefore we should live worthy lives</i>
2 Pet 1:11	<i>Believers will be given God's kingdom if they live a Christian life and accept Jesus</i>
Rev 3:21	<i>If believers overcome the natural actions of man and accept that Jesus saves, the Kingdom will be theirs</i>
2 Tim 2:12	<i>The Kingdom will be the believers' if they endure the temptations of life now</i>
Rev 5:10	<i>The believers of Jesus will be made into a nation of priests who will want to serve God</i>
Luke 22:29-30	<i>Jesus will give believers the Kingdom of God where they will rule with him</i>

The Kingdom of God during Jesus' rule

God's kingdom will last for a period of time during which those who haven't accepted Jesus will live mortal lives. Those who had accepted Jesus before he returned, will reign with him.

Rev 20:4-8	<i>Those who are raised when Jesus returns will be made immortal and will reign with Jesus</i>
1 Cor 15:24-28	<i>After this period of time, when death has been finally destroyed, Jesus will hand the kingdom to God</i>

God's ways taught to everyone

God's laws will be taught, by Jesus and the saints, to the people of the world who have not yet accepted Jesus. The result of this teaching is that eventually war will be a thing of the past and everyone who lives will want to serve God. Jesus will rule and settle arguments fairly.

Micah 4:2	<i>People of the earth will want to go to Jerusalem to learn of God's laws and ways</i>
Is 42:4	<i>Jesus will, eventually, bring justice to everyone and everything on earth</i>
Is 11:1-5	<i>Jesus will be a just ruler who knows everyone's motives and acts accordingly</i>
Is 2:4	<i>Jesus will be a just ruler, arguments amongst people will be settled fairly and not by war</i>
Hab 2:14	<i>Everyone will know of God's laws and ways and will want to learn and worship God as he wants</i>

Jesus' actions during his reign

Jesus' main objective is to subdue all of his, and God's enemies which ultimately include death, meaning that no one will break any of God's laws. The people who have not accepted Jesus at his return will have an opportunity to repent and accept Jesus, demonstrating God's love that he is prepared to allow Jesus a long time to teach.

1 Cor 15:25-26 *Jesus will rule over God's kingdom until sin and death have been destroyed*

Rev 21:4 *A time will come when there will be no more sadness and death in the world*

Is 25:6-8 *God will eventually ensure that there will be no more death or sadness in the earth*

God's Kingdom

At the end of Jesus' rule, when there is no more sin and death in the world and all those who are alive will want to worship and praise God, Jesus will hand the Kingdom to God.

1 Cor 15:24 *Jesus will hand the Kingdom to his father once he has destroyed all things that are opposing to God*

God's rule

When God takes over from Jesus everyone will want to worship and be friends of God. God will be everywhere he will be seen in everything and there will be peace and perfection in the world - as God intended in the first place when he created the world. This situation is something that we cannot relate to but we do know that it will be perfect.

1 Cor 15:28 *God will be "all in all".*

Summary of some Bible teachings

- 1 The Bible is God's word
- 2 There is only one God
- 3 Jesus is God's son
- 4 Jesus was born with human nature
- 5 Jesus had the ability to sin
- 6 The Holy Spirit is God's power
- 7 Man, when he dies, returns to the ground
- 8 When man is dead, there is nothing left
- 9 People who do not accept Jesus, when they die, remain dead - there is no hope
- 10 Heaven is where God and Jesus are now
- 11 Man naturally sins and disobeys God
- 12 The Kingdom of God will be set up on earth
- 13 Jesus' teachings are about belief, repentance, faith and Christian living
- 14 Jesus will return to the earth
- 15 Jesus will reward people for their actions when he returns

- 16 Jesus will raise people and judge them justly
- 17 Jesus will raise those who have accepted him and give them immortal life
- 18 An opportunity will be given those who have not accepted Jesus at his return to repent and accept him
- 19 Jesus' teachings have overtaken the law of Moses in that people can be saved by God's mercy and have forgiveness
- 20 God wants his people to worship him willingly
- 21 An association with Jesus' death is demonstrated by baptism
- 22 Jesus will save all those who faithfully accept him
- 23 It is by God's mercy that we are saved
- 24 A faithful Christian will want to live a Godly life by attempting to follow Jesus' commandments
- 25 Accepting the power of God is an integral part of Christian life
- 26 God requires actions by individuals to demonstrate their love for him
- 27 Man naturally is sinful and breaks God's commands
- 28 God has promised that the earth will not be destroyed
- 29 Nothing that God has created is "unclean"

