

I want to be born again



FOR TEENS

I WANT TO BE BORN AGAIN



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Do you want to be born again?

God has a plan.

It is called:

“The plan of Salvation.”

Let me explain:



In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

On the 1st day, God created light.

On the 2nd day, God created the dome, and called Sky.

On the 3rd day, God separated the waters from the dry land. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. The earth brought forth grass, herbs and fruit trees.

On the 4th day, God created the sun and the moon; the sun to rule the day and the moon light to rule the night. And He made the stars also.

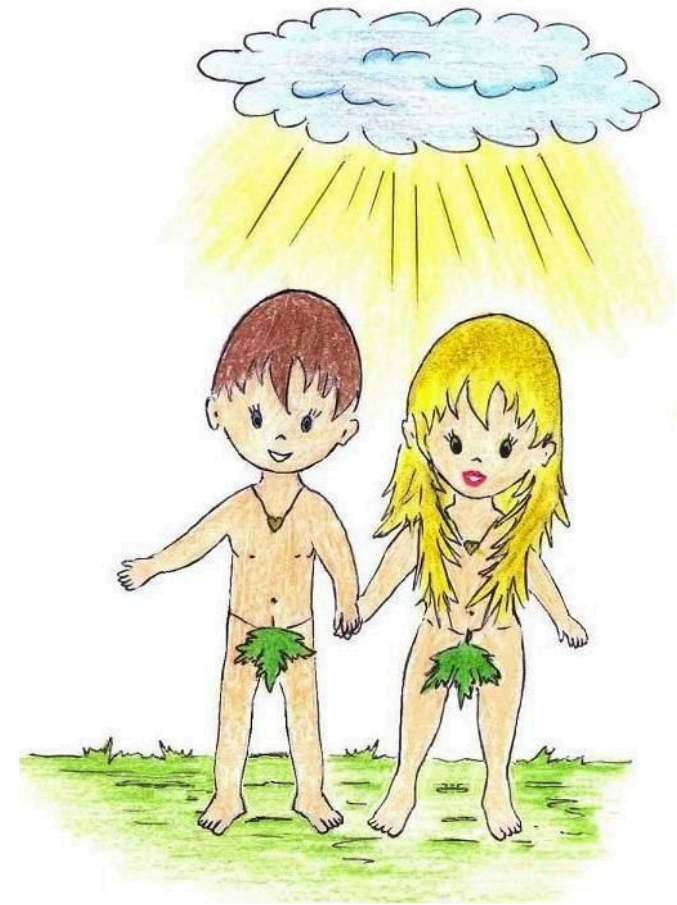
On the 5th day, God created the sea creatures and the birds.

On the 6th day, God created cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind. He also created humankind in His image, according to His likeness.

On the 7th day, God rested from all the work that He had done (Gen. 1: 1-31 – summary – NRSV).

“Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living soul. The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die’... Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.’ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man” (Gen. 2: 7; 15-18; 21-22 – NIV).

God, in His infinite love, created man in His own image and likeness and gave him a wonderful place to live. Also, He put in him all His wisdom, power, holiness, purity and beauty. He gave him orders to be obeyed for his own good.



“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” (Gen. 3: 1).

The serpent beguiled Eve, who ate the fruit and also gave Adam to eat. By their disobedience to God’s commands, they were cursed and expelled from His presence and from the garden. The sin of disobedience created a wall of separation between man and God and generated the deformed nature of Satan in man, that is, the tendency to do everything wrong, things that God does not like.

“Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life” (Gen. 3: 23).

Cherubim are strong angels who know God a lot. A sword of fire moved from side to side to protect the tree of life, that is, the tree whose fruit they could eat when they obeyed God. Now, they couldn't anymore. Man lost his intimacy with God. He, who talked to Adam before, at the end of the day, and told him all His secrets, stopped to talk to him. Adam and Eve begot two sons, called Cain and Abel. By his nature corrupted by sin, Cain killed his brother Abel due to jealousy of his relationship with God. God cursed him and he became a fugitive on the earth.



Adam begot another son and named him Seth. From Seth the humanity multiplied. Thus, from the offspring of Seth, Noah was born. Men, with the evil nature of devil within them, became corrupted and this didn't please God. From that act, murders and all kind of perversions came.

“But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. Noah and the Flood. This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence.” (Gen 6: 8-11 – NIV).

God decided to destroy all the living beings He had created, but He found Noah and told him to make an ark of cypress wood and make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch, because there would be a flood of waters on the earth to destroy all flesh (Gen. 6: 5-22; Gen. 7: 1-10). He should put a pair of animals, the male and its mate, inside the ark.

Noah took one hundred years to build the ark.



The Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. When the waters dried up Noah and his family left the ark and God made a covenant with him. He said that He never again would destroy the earth with a flood. As a sign of this covenant, He would set His bow in the clouds and would remember this everlasting covenant.

This was *the first covenant of God made with man* to try to reattach the relationship broken by sin.

From Noah an offspring was born and, over the years men forgot again their covenant with God. From the offspring of Shem, a son of Noah, Abram was born. When Abram was 75 years old, God called him to do, through him, a new covenant with men.

“Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’” (Gen. 12: 1-3)

Abram left with his wife and his nephew Lot and went to the land of Canaan. The years passed, God worked with the soul of Abram and told him again,

“Raise your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever... Rise up, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.” (Gen. 13: 14-15; 17)

Abram was a shepherd and walked throughout that land.



It took a few more years and Abram felt sad because he was 99 years old and yet he had not children. But the Lord promised him He would give him a child, and his name should be Isaac, meaning 'laughter.' Then, He changed his name to Abraham. And Abraham walked through all that land. Isaac was born, grew up, married Rebekah and had two sons: Esau and Jacob. They got married too. And Jacob had twelve sons, but the one he loved most was Joseph.

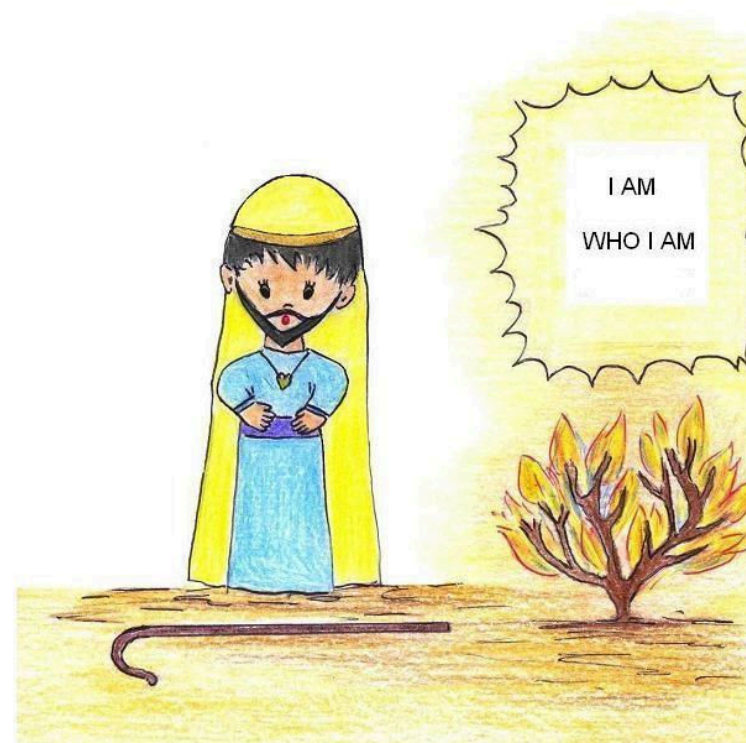
This was *the second covenant of God with men*. The signal of this covenant would be the circumcision of every male child when he is eight days old (Gen. 17: 4-14).

Abraham's great-grandson was Joseph, who was sold by his brothers to some merchants and taken to Egypt. After staying in prison for many years he was released and placed by Pharaoh himself as governor of the nation. Thus, Joseph's family was brought to Egypt and multiplied, generating a large seed, as God said. But they became slaves of the Egyptians and began to suffer. So they remembered the God of their ancestors and began to cry unto Him.

A man named Amram married a woman named Jochebed and had a little baby named Moses. He was the youngest son. His older sister was called Miriam, and his brother was Aaron.

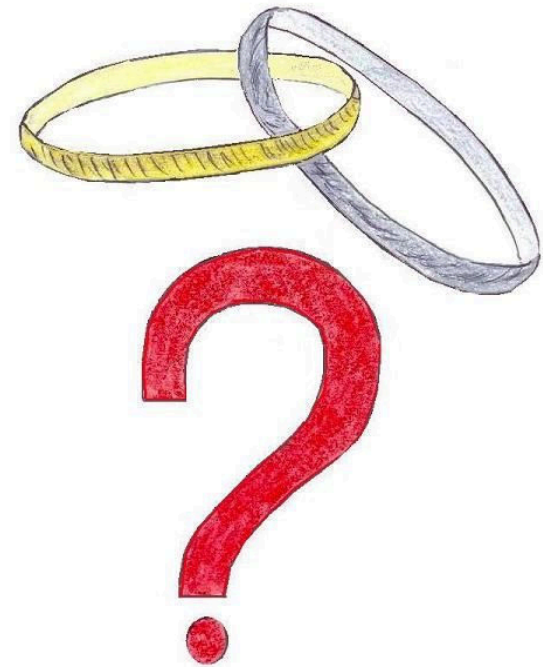
As the Hebrews had multiplied in Egypt, Pharaoh commanded to kill the newborn Hebrew males by casting them in the river Nile. Moses' mother hid him for three months but, later, she put him in a basket and placed it in the river. Pharaoh's daughter adopted the boy and gave him the name Moses, meaning, 'Taken out of the waters', because from the Nile he was taken. He was raised in the palace and prepared to be prince of Egypt. One day, seeing an Egyptian fighting against a Hebrew, he joined the strife and killed the Egyptian. The next day, trying to stop a quarrel between two Hebrews, he found out that the people knew of the murder. Afraid of Pharaoh, he fled to the desert and married Zipporah, daughter of a priest, and went on to herd sheep for forty years. In those days he was on Mount Horeb with the flock, when the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush which, however, was not consumed. Moses heard God's voice calling him.

The Lord told him: "So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt ... I am who I am" (Ex. 3: 7-14 – summary). Moses returned to Egypt and freed the people there.



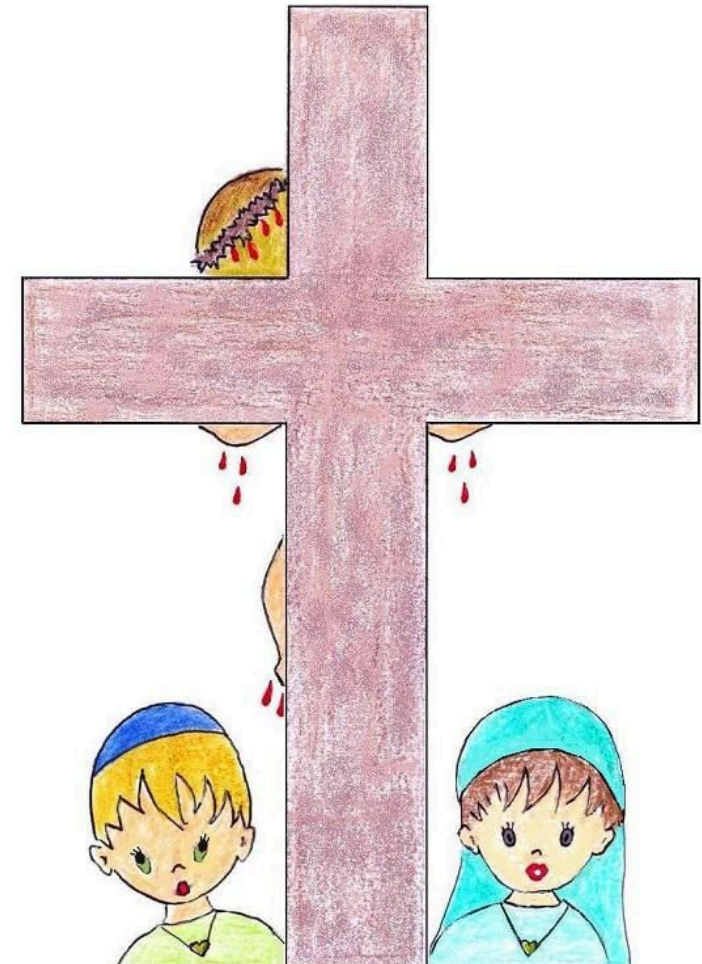
This was *the third covenant of God with His people*, so that they returned to Him again. Through Moses He gave His laws to be obeyed. The people, however, did not obey God's laws; on the contrary, the nature of the devil in their flesh as a result of the sin of Adam and Eve, continued to act and the people became corrupted again.

The sinful nature in man caused illness, addiction, murder, pride, idolatry, love of money, sexual perversion, deformation of character and all sorts of evil, taking man more and more away from God. For centuries He used His servants, the prophets, to call the man back to holiness. The prophets were killed or neglected and the people refused to hear the voice of God. They suffered, but their pride did not let them admit their error, to repent and be saved. God insisted on a covenant of love and restoration with man. Who would accept it?

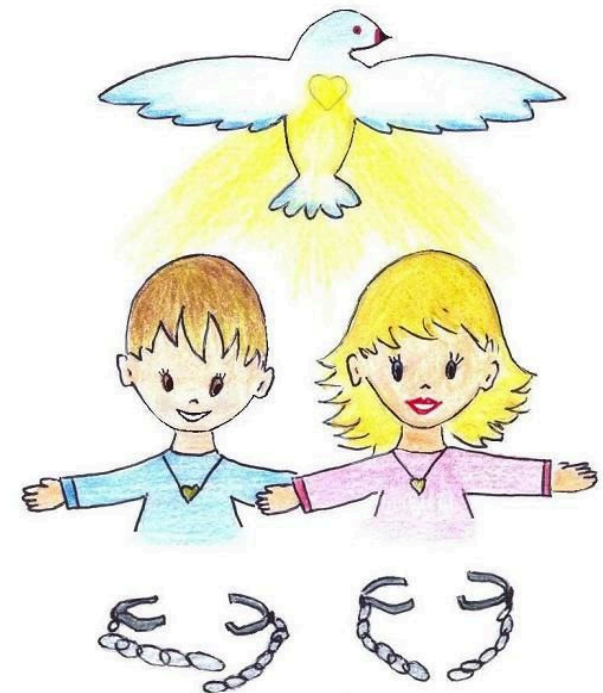


Then, the Father decided to make a definitive covenant with man by sending His only Son to die for us, to take our sins upon Him and thus, to deliver us from death and hell, which symbolizes the ultimate separation from God. Jesus came to the world and died on the cross to pay the debt for our sins and put an end in the separation between us and God. Only the Son of God could pay the debt of humanity. The relationship with the Father would definitely be restored and the chains and bonds of the devil in men's lives would be broken.

“Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.” (Isa. 53: 4-5)



If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who resurrected from the dead and gave His life to save you, repeat this prayer aloud, “Father, in the name of Jesus I believe that Jesus died on the cross to save me, and rose from the dead. So I ask your forgiveness for everything I did wrong and that you may purify my soul and my spirit of the stains of sin. I declare that Jesus is my only Lord and Savior and I receive the Holy Spirit so I can have eternal life. Straighten my paths and stay with me always, as my best friend. In the name of Jesus, I break the commitment I may have with the things of darkness. Amen.”



“What will happen to me now?”

“Now that you’re born again, there is still one more thing for the blessing to be complete. You should be baptized in water to confirm your prayer, to receive the seal of Jesus on your forehead, and to take possession of God’s kingdom. Jesus said to Nicodemus the teacher of the Law, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.’” (Jn. 3: 5)



Water baptism makes us new creatures, and our spirit is washed from every stain of sin. With the water baptism our spirit is created again by the hands of God. It’s brand new. So we stop doing the things we did before and we begin to behave like Jesus, doing the things that pleases Him, and that are written in the bible. But we don’t do this by ourselves. It is the Holy Spirit who goes on transforming us day by day till the end of our lives. We do not serve the world anymore, but we become servants of the Lord. Now we have eternal life.

Baptism is Lord’s commandment. And it is good that you be baptized soon so that you do not risk losing the Lord’s full blessing.

There is no impediment to baptize; just to have faith that from now on you are saved. You need not to be ready or perfect, for it is the Holy Spirit who will perform the sanctification in your life.



When Jesus was born, there was a great feast in heaven and on earth, because God was giving salvation to men. Today you were born again, so there is a feast in heaven because of another child of God that Jesus is gaining.

Welcome to the family of the Lord!