



**WHAT DO CHRISTIANS
BELIEVE?**

GOD



- **There is only one GOD (Mark 12:29)**
- **HE is eternal (1 Timothy 1:17)**
- **HE is the Creator of everything (Genesis 1:1, Isaiah 44:24)**
- **HE is all-powerful (Ephesians 1:18-23)**
- **HE is everywhere, at all times (Psalm 139:7-12)**
- **HE is all-knowing (Psalm 147:4-5, 1 Chronicles 28:9)**

GOD IS PERSONAL



- **God is a personal being. We are created to be like Him in our emotions, relationships, spiritual nature, and ability to be good and moral (Genesis 1:26).**
- **God is love (1 John 4:8, 16)**
- **He is gentle and kind (Psalm 18:35, Psalm 103:8–14)**
- **He is also just, morally perfect, and unalterably good (Romans 2:4, 2 Thessalonians 1:5–8, Matthew 5:48).**

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



- **God wants to have a relationship with mankind. He had a face-to-face friendship with the first man and woman (Genesis 2-3).**
- **He created man and woman with moral free will. They were free to choose good or evil (Genesis 2:16-17). God allowed this because true love, obedience, and relationship can only exist if mankind is free to choose it. Compulsory love is not actually love (Deuteronomy 30:19-20).**

SIN SEVERED THE RELATIONSHIP

The background of the slide features three crosses silhouetted against a sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The crosses are dark and stand on a dark, silhouetted ground line.

- **When man and woman chose to commit sin, their face-to-face relationship with God was severed. He is a fully perfect being. His moral, just, essentially-good nature cannot tolerate sin (Psalm 5:4-6). Therefore, man and woman were cast from the personal presence of God.**
- **This separation resulted in physical death and spiritual condemnation, a condition that exists in all men and women when they choose to sin (Romans 5:12-19).**



**OUR TWO GREATEST PROBLEMS:
SIN AND DEATH**

GOD'S JUSTICE DEMANDS...

The background of the slide features a sunset sky with three crosses silhouetted against the horizon. The crosses are of varying heights and are positioned across the width of the image. The sky transitions from a dark blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon.

- **God's justice demands penalty for sin. In the immediate aftermath of the original sin in Genesis 3, God sent Adam and Eve away from His presence. But He allowed them to commune with Him from a distance through acts of sacrifice.**
- **A sacrifice is when something/somebody else is punished on our behalf. This was accomplished through animal sacrifices in the Old Testament (Leviticus 6:1-7) — a system that God never intended to be the permanent solution to sin (Hebrews 10:1ff).**

ULTIMATE SACRIFICE



- **Animal sacrifices in the Old Testament were a temporary solution to sin until the perfect sacrifice could be made for us. God Himself, by His incredible mercy, sacrificed His own Son – Jesus – so that no other sacrifices would ever need to be made.**
- **Jesus was the guilt-offering, who paid the price for our collective sin. By His sacrifice, the ability to be free from sin is available to all people (1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Hebrews 10:10–18).**

HE DEFEATED SIN AND DEATH



- **Jesus lived a morally perfect life, making Him a sinless, pure sacrifice. However, he was rejected by His contemporaries and killed on a Roman cross (John 19). By dying, He bore the penalty of humanity's sins (Isaiah 53).**
- **To defeat death, He was raised up from the grave after three days by His own divine power (John 10:17-18). He paved the way for all of us to share in the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20-26).**

RECONCILIATION WITH GOD



- **Christians believe forgiveness of sins cannot be earned by our own good works. It is a free gift from God (Ephesians 2:1–10), that we receive when we obey the Gospel (the Good News).**
- **By believing in Jesus, confessing that belief (Romans 10:8–10), repenting of our sinful behaviors (Acts 2:38), and being baptized (Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16), we are given the gift of eternal salvation. In other words, we are reconciled to God!**