

God's Christmas Plan: There is no "plan B"

TRUTH 1: ALL PEOPLE HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Romans 1:19-20 (NIV)

(19) since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. (20) For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

TRUTH 2: ALL PEOPLE REJECT GOD

*All people reject true knowledge of God. All people if they are worshipping, other than the only true God are worship created things not their creator. **Romans 1:21**

Romans 1:21 (NIV)

(21) For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

*People don't get credit before a holy God for worshipping gods they created or imagine. Our idolatry is not good enough for God. We are all idolaters, whether American, African or Asian, NO ONE worships God truly, because in our hearts we reject the true God.

TRUTH 3: ALL PEOPLE ARE GUILTY BEFORE GOD

*Between **Romans 1:18 and 2:16**, Paul describes the Gentiles as those who have sinned against God, but then turns his sight to the Jews as well in **Romans 2:17** and continues all the way to

Romans 3:10-12

*All people regardless of religious, cultural or ethnic background stand guilty before God. **Romans 3:19**

*An 'innocent' person though does not exist anywhere. Heaven is not our "default" eternal state.

TRUTH 4: ALL PEOPLE ARE CONDEMNED FOR REJECTING GOD

*Not only are we guilty there is nothing that we can do to change it. **Romans 3:20**. The more we try to do good only exposes how evil we really are.

*So does this mean people are going to be judged based on the truth of Jesus whom they have never heard of? No, people are going to be judge based on the truth of rejecting God. **Romans 3:23**

Romans 3:10-12 (NIV)

(10) As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; (11) there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. (12) All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Romans 3:19 (NIV)

(19) Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

Question:

"What happens to the innocent guy in the middle of Africa who dies without hearing the gospel, does he go to heaven?"

Answer:

"Yes" That is if he was truly innocent.

Romans 3:20 (NIV)

(20) Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

Romans 3:23 (NIV)

(23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

TRUTH 5: GOD HAS MADE A WAY OF SALVATION FOR THE LOST

*Finally good news. God has made a way of salvation for the lost. Not a way as one of many but one and only way. **Romans 3:21-26**

TRUTH 6: PEOPLE CANNOT COME TO GOD APART FROM FAITH IN JESUS

*Faith in Jesus is the only way to be made right before God. **Romans 3:27-31, 5:1, 10:9-10**

TRUTH 7: JESUS COMMANDS THE CHURCH TO MAKE THE GOPEL KNOWN TO ALL PEOPLES

*Paul quotes from the book of Joel 2:32 — **Romans 10:13-15**

God sends his servants

His Servants preach

People hear

Hearers believe

Believers call

Everyone who calls is saved.

TRUTH . . .

*God's dream is for the WORLD not just America.

*Population of the World 7 Billion plus

*1/3 claims to be Christian

*4.5 Billion are facing a Christ-less Eternity

*1 Billion have never heard the name of Jesus. *

More than 5,000 people groups, are unreached or unengaged.

***Unreached** means that a people group does not contain an indigenous community of evangelical Christians with adequate numbers and resources to spread the gospel within the people group.

***Unengaged** means no church or organizations is actively working within that people group to spread the gospel.

*Average Birth Rate Per Day- 340 births per minute = 489,600 births a year

NO TIME TO WASTE

Romans 3:21-26 (NIV)

(21) But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. (22) This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, (23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (24) and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (25) God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- (26) he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:27-31 (NIV)

(27) Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. (28) For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. (29) Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, (30) since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. (31) Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

Romans 5:1 (NIV)

(1) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

(9) That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved

Romans 10:13-15 (NIV)

(13) for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (14) How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? (15) And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"