

Always Look Back to Calvary

Selected Scriptures

1. God is _____
The nature of God and the nature of man provide the necessary background for displaying the magnificence of the gospel of Jesus Christ. God is holy in all that He is and does, and everything that He created was good and holy (Gen. 1:4, 31). Man quickly sinned and brought about the sentence of hardship and death for all creation (Gen. 3:12-19; Ecc. 7:20; Isa. 64:6; Ezek. 18:4; Rom. 8:19-22). The just and ultimate consequence for each man because of his sin is eternal torment (Matt 16:27; 25:46; Rev. 21:7-8).
2. God is _____
For as long as man has been a sinner, God has shown Himself as savior (Isa. 43:11; 45:21-22; Hos. 13:4; cf. Ex 14:30; Acts 7:35-36). God has always saved on the sole basis of faith in Him (Gen 15:6; Hab 2:4; cf. John 3:36). God's love is demonstrated most brilliantly in His saving work (John 3:16; Rom 5:8; 1 John 4:10). God's plan of salvation for sinners required the satisfaction of justice and their possession of righteousness (Prov. 17:15; Rom. 3:25-26; 2 Cor. 5:21). Saving faith is marked by belief in Jesus and His work (John 20:31; 1 John 2:23; 5:10-13) and a repentance for sin (Ps. 7:12; Ezek 18:32; Matt 4:17; Luke 24:45-47) which is always accompanied by confession and obedience (Luke 8:38-39; 19:8-10; 23:40-42; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 John 5:1-3).
3. God is _____
God saves wicked men and changes them to be like Himself (1 Tim. 1:15; cf. Acts 9:1-6). The life of the Christian is marked by the presence of both obedience and disobedience to God (Rom 7:15; Gal 5:16ff; 1 John 2:1-2). God lovingly disciplines believers when we sin in order to help us confess and repent of our sin (Heb 12:4-11; cf. 1 Cor. 11:28-32). Repentance is a necessary step on the road to fixing fellowship (cf. Matt 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:9-13). A repentant and restored believer, like every Christian, is an ambassador for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20) and has an ongoing obligation to love, serve, and obey (1 John 5:1-3; cf. John 21:15-17).