



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

UNBLAMABLE IN HOLINESS

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Jeff Lingerfelt / PO Box 12131, Columbia, SC 29211 / Jeff.Lingerfelt@capitolcom.org / 803-467-7634

As we continue our study in First Thessalonians, the Apostle Paul has come to the section of exhortations to the church. The opening of Chapter 4 continues the thought of Chapter 3:11-13, especially verse 13 "unblamable in holiness."

All Christians have been given instruction to please God and are obligated to conduct their manner of life to be "pleasing to the Lord." Paul concluded;

2 Corinthians 5:9 Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.

Colossians 1:10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

Pleasing God is not an option for mankind. It is mandated by the creator!

I must pause at this point and ask the question; If you were to die after reading this question, do you have the assurance that you would spend eternity in Heaven with The Lord Jesus? If not why? If your answer is "yes" and you were to stand before the Lord and He ask; "Why should I let you into Heaven" what would you say? Your eternity hinges on your answer to this thought provoking question. Who is Jesus? Who does He claim to be?

Jesus is God. Although while on earth there was much debate and consternation on among those in society on who Jesus was! Not unlike the debate today. Jesus said, "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30). He claims deity and for that the religious elites sought and eventually had Him killed.

John 5.18 For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

John 10:33 The Jews answered Him, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God."

C.S. LEWIS OBSERVED, "YOU CAN SHUT HIM UP FOR A FOOL, YOU CAN SPIT AT HIM AND KILL HIM AS A DEMON; OR YOU CAN FALL AT HIS FEET AND CALL HIM LORD AND GOD. BUT LET US NOT COME UP WITH ANY PATRONIZING NONSENSE ABOUT HIS BEING A GREAT HUMAN TEACHER. HE HAS NOT LEFT THAT OPEN TO US. HE DID NOT INTEND TO" (MERE CHRISTIANITY [MACMILLAN, 1952], PP. 40-41).

As God, Jesus is Holy! In Jesus all deity dwells.

Colossians 2:9 "For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.

Hebrews 1:3 "And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

God requires holiness and righteousness from us also. Our neglect to fully comply to His demands places us in grave danger—eternal danger. By nature man is bent toward rebellion which is tantamount to "sin." Therefore, we ALL are in need of Jesus as our Savior, because we all have missed the mark of God's demands—perfection.

Man in his depravity and rebellion stand at the crossroads. We stand condemned when measures in light of God's perfect standard, knowing that we missed the mark placing us in a dilemma—God's Standard and our inability to measure up.

God Himself takes the initiative, even though God's holiness and justice demands that ALL sin be punished by death. Man is in a damnable plight. *The soul that sins shall surely die* (Ezekiel 18:4).

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: WEDNESDAY AT 8:30AM, BLATT BUILDING ROOM 317

STAFF: MONDAYS AT 12:00 NOON, BLATT BUILDING ROOM 317

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The greatest two words in Scripture *"but God"* (Ephesians 2:4). In Exodus 34... *"The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; ⁷ who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished"*... God Himself took the initiative. His love for man, while he was yet spiritually dead (helpless, ungodly, sinners and enemies—Romans 5:6-10) provided a perfect sacrifice—a Savior who paid the penalty and died for mankind—the sinner.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God.

The death of Jesus fully satisfied the perfect demands of God's law—Justice; enabling Him to forgive and save those who would place their faith in Him.

Romans 3:23-26 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; ²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

The Lord Jesus is the Only way to God. *Jesus said, "I am The Way, and The Truth, and The Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me* (John 14:6).

Romans 10:9 says, "that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Confessing Jesus as Lord is submission to His authority (Philippians 2:10-11).

Repentance is agreeing with God that you are sinful, confessing your sins to Him, and making a conscious choice to turn from sin and pursue holiness (Isaiah 55:7). *Jesus said, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments"*

(John 14:15); and *"If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine"* (John 8:31). Jesus is the sovereign Lord. When you obey Him you are acknowledging His lordship and submitting to His authority.

All who would reject God's free gift and Jesus' sacrifice will face The Judge of all the earth.

Acts 17:30-31 "God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 says, "The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power."

What is your conclusion? Your Response? Is Jesus God? The living God, the Holy One, the Savior, the only valid object of saving faith, the sovereign Lord, and the righteous Judge.

He alone can redeem you—free you from the power and penalty of sin. He alone can transform you, restore you to fellowship with God, and give your life eternal purpose. Will you repent and believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?¹

Please know that Capitol Commission is here to serve and minister to you. We desire nothing more than to minister the love of Jesus to everyone in the Capitol Community. If you have spiritual need, prayer request, or mutual encouragement, please do not hesitate to contact me at jeff.lingerfelt@capitolcom.org

¹ <http://www.gty.org/Resources/Articles/2425>