

God Gave a Bridge

1. There is only one God.

- A. God exists eternally in three equal Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- B. Jesus Christ claimed to be God. (John 8:56-59 referring to Exodus 3:14 and also see John 10:30)
- C. Thomas the Apostle (aka "*Doubting Thomas*") called Jesus God. (John 20:28)
- D. Paul the Apostle called Jesus God (Titus 2:13) and says that Jesus created the world. (Col. 1:16-17)
- E. John the Apostle says Jesus was God from the very beginning (John 1:1-3), which is a valuable verse for refuting the idea that Jesus became a god by living a good life as some cults claim.

2. There is only one way for people to approach Him- through the human who was God in the flesh, Christ Jesus.

- A. Regarding His being both God and human:
 - Luke and Matthew record the words of the angel.
 - Here is how John explains it:
 - Here is how Paul the Apostle describes it:
- B. Regarding His being the mediator between God and people:
 - A mediator is "one who intervenes between two, either to make or restore peace and friendship, or to form a compact, or ratify a covenant."
 - To be of any use, a bridge across a chasm or divide must be anchored on both sides. Christ closed the gap between deity and humanity, between God and people, when He, as the Son of God, became the Son of Man.
And across this Bridge, our Mediator, we come into God's presence.
- C. Regarding His being the only way to God:
 - Jesus Christ claimed to be the only road of access to God the Father. (John 14:6)
 - Jesus Christ claimed that those who believe in Him will have eternal life, and that those who do not believe in Him will perish. (Jn 3:16-18 & 8:24)

- John the Baptist taught that you had to believe in Jesus to get eternal life and that if you didn't God's wrath would remain on you. (John 3:36)
- Peter the Apostle proclaimed that the only name on earth by which any one could be saved was "Jesus". (Acts 4:12)
- John the Apostle said that if you have Jesus you have eternal life and if you don't have Jesus you will not have eternal life. (1 John 5:11-12)

3. This Jesus gave Himself up to die on the cross as a ransom for the human race. (Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45)

- A. Ransom is what is given in exchange for another as the price for his freedom. The term is used for the ransom price paid to free a slave.
- B. Christ paid the ransom price to free us from the slavery of sin.
- C. Because of this we are rightfully His possession. (1 Cor. 6:18-20; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Rev. 5:9)

4. His payment for sin was a clear testimony offered at just the right time.

- A. Jesus was born and died on God's timetable, as part of His eternal plan. (Gal. 4:4; Titus 1:2-3)
- B. The apostles testified / witnessed to this truth. (Heb. 1: 1-3, 1 John 5:10-13)
 - The gospels record the facts.
 - The Book of Acts records their ministries.
 - And the NT letters record their teaching and instruction to the churches.
- C. Christ's followers still testify to this day that God came to save us.

5. God's desire is that all people be saved. (2 Peter 3:9)

- A. Jesus came for everyone. (1 Peter 3:18)
- B. Have you come to Jesus yet?

Message

Jesus was born to die so you could live.

So What? Now What? Action Points

- Turn to Jesus alone for your forgiveness and cleansing.
- Share this good news with others.
- Live like He owns you...like He is your Lord.