

Christianity - Beliefs -

part 2

Problem

The problem human beings have is their sin. The first man and woman (Adam and Eve) were created with the ability to not sin but chose to disobey God's one command not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. This is called the Fall of Man, the separation of a sinful people from a holy, righteous, and just God before whom they are guilty and deserving of eternal punishment. As a result, Adam and Eve's very nature changed from being able to not sin to being unable to not sin. All human beings have inherited their fallen nature of sinfulness. God's moral law requires perfection, something we cannot attain given our sinful nature. Our sin has separated us from God and we are unable to reconcile ourselves to him.

God loved the world so much that he provided a solution to the sin that separates us from God. He sent his son, Jesus Christ, the second member of the Trinity, into the world to become fully human, live as we live, and be tempted as we are tempted. But unlike us, Jesus kept God's law perfectly. He then willingly laid down his life, offering himself up as a sacrifice on the cross, paying the full penalty of the sins of those who would believe in him. Not only that, but his perfect obedience is credited to all who believe in him, allowing them to stand before

and be united with a holy, righteous, and just God. Jesus did for us what cannot do for ourselves. And he offers the forgiveness of sins freely, the gift of eternal life. This is called the Gospel which means "good news." Jesus' resurrection is a picture of what will happen to those who believe in him: they will be raised to new bodies that cannot get sick or die, and will live forever unable to sin. Those who are not judged by Christ's works are judged by their own sinful works and will be punished by suffering God's eternal wrath. Those who believe in Christ receive mercy, those who don't receive justice.

Solution

JUDAISM - ORIGIN -

PART 1

The Jewish people are descended from Abraham, who lived around 2000 BC. God revealed himself as the one true God, making Judaism the first monotheistic religion. God promised Abraham he would father a nation and promised them land. The covenant was reaffirmed with Abraham's son Isaac, and Isaac's son Jacob (also known as Israel). Although they were in a covenant relationship with God, there was no formal religious system of worship until God raised up Moses about 500 years later.



As a baby, Moses had been adopted by the daughter of Pharaoh and was raised as his heir. When Moses was 40 years old, he killed an Egyptian soldier and then fled to Midian where he married and became a shepherd. When Moses was 80, God revealed himself in the form of a burning bush and told Moses he was chosen to lead his people out of Egypt back to this mountain, Sinai. Moses went before Pharaoh ten times, asking him to let the Israelites go. Each time Pharaoh refused and God sent a plague. After the tenth plague struck down all the firstborn in the land unless the household had followed God's

commands, Pharaoh relented and let the Hebrews go. They quickly headed for Sinai, but Pharaoh changed his mind and pursued them to the edge of the Red Sea. God had Moses stretch out his hand over the sea which parted to let the 2 million people through. When Pharaoh and his army began to cross, God had Moses stretch out his hand again and closed the waters, drowning Pharaoh and his army. This event, called the Exodus, is so important for Israel's becoming a nation it is celebrated as Passover in the religious calendar - the time God led his people out of slavery.



MOSES

After arriving at Mt. Sinai, God gave Moses ten commandments containing his moral law. He also made a nation out of the people by giving them civil laws. And he revealed how he was to be worshipped by giving ceremonial laws. He also revealed plans for a special tent called the tabernacle where the ceremonies would take place. He then led them to the land he gave them to live in. Centuries later, King Solomon built a temple at Jerusalem to replace the tabernacle. The temple was destroyed in 586 BC and then rebuilt 70 years later after the Babylonian exile. In 19 BC,

Herod the Great began rebuilding it to restore it to its original splendor, but the temple was destroyed again by the Romans during the Jewish revolt of AD 70. Today a mosque exists where the temple once stood.

