



Z1

## The Good News

The good news is the good news of Messiah Jesus (or Jesus Christ). We all know that this can be a terrible world. We all know we can be terrible people. And that includes you and me!

God is Holy and Righteous. That is His nature.

Our rebellion against God, in big ways and little ways, is an eternal problem that has to be dealt with, eternally.

The biggest problem in the cosmos is – how can God forgive you, and me? If God is Holy and Righteous (and He is) then how can He forgive me and you at all? God's holy Law shows us how we should live, and yet none of us do. We fail to live in accordance with God's basic requirements, as summarized in The Ten Commandments, and as exemplified in the life of Messiah Jesus. Instead we live in varying degrees of rebellion against God. The specific word the Bible uses for this rebellion is 'sin'.

If God was to forgive whilst we are still in active sin against Him, He would be neither Holy nor Righteous; in fact He would be just like you and me. And that would be terrible!

The remedy God chose is that Jesus will pay the debt that we owe. His Own Son pays the debt that we owe, *the cost of our sins*. Such an amazing solution to our problem could only have come from the loving Mind of God, because humanly speaking it is completely counter-intuitive. We would never think of getting someone else to pay, especially someone who had never transgressed God's Law. But Jesus went willingly to the cross of crucifixion for you and me.

*The good news is that the good news IS good news!*

Too often the Good News is presented as though it is bad news. But this is untrue. Yes, becoming a disciple of Jesus (often called being born again) will require living as new way in the power of God. But whatever we may 'lose' in the fickle things of this world, we more than compensate in the joy, peace and assurance of being a part of His family, both today and throughout eternity.



So how do we respond to this? Perhaps we need to start by answering *the Peter question*. If you don't know what that is, you'll find it somewhere on our website. And if you come to Lighthouse, someone will happily chat about *the Peter question with you*.

Elsewhere we learn that we need to turn towards Jesus and believe in what He has done for us. Belief is not just a mere mental acceptance, it is a belief that acts!

*There is no time like the present*