

The



Principles
of the



Doctrine
of



Christ

Lesson 2:

Repentance from Dead Works

The wise man kept digging until he reached the ROCK.



The ROCK

He laid his FOUNDATION on that Rock.



The FOUNDATION

The ROCK

The CORNERSTONE is the first stone set on the foundation.

A diagram illustrating the layers of a building's foundation. It consists of three horizontal layers: a light blue top layer representing the sky, a brown middle layer representing soil, and a dark grey bottom layer representing rock. A grey rectangular block, representing the cornerstone, is positioned on the boundary between the soil and the rock. The text 'The CORNERSTONE' is written in blue above the block. The text 'The FOUNDATION' is written in white on the grey block. The text 'The ROCK' is written in white on the dark grey rock layer.

The Cornerstone

The FOUNDATION

The ROCK

Jesus is the **ROCK**,
the **FOUNDATION**,
and the **CORNERSTONE** of truth.

Isaiah 28:16

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD,
Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone,
a tried stone, a precious corner stone,
a sure foundation:
he that believeth shall not make haste
[be shaken].

 The Cornerstone

The FOUNDATION

The ROCK

A house built on this foundation will stand.



The FOUNDATION

The ROCK

A life built on Christ will not be shaken
when the storms of life come.



The ROCK



The six principles of the doctrine of Christ begin with **Repentance from Dead Works.**

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

Christ the Rock



The six principles of the doctrine of Christ begin with **Repentance from Dead Works**.

This lesson has three parts:

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

Christ the Rock

The Goodness of

God

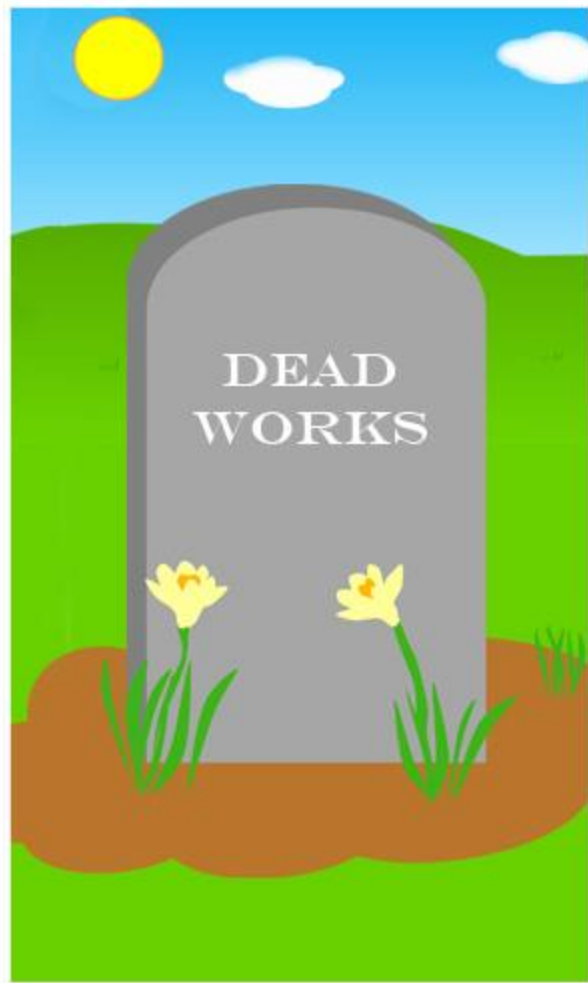
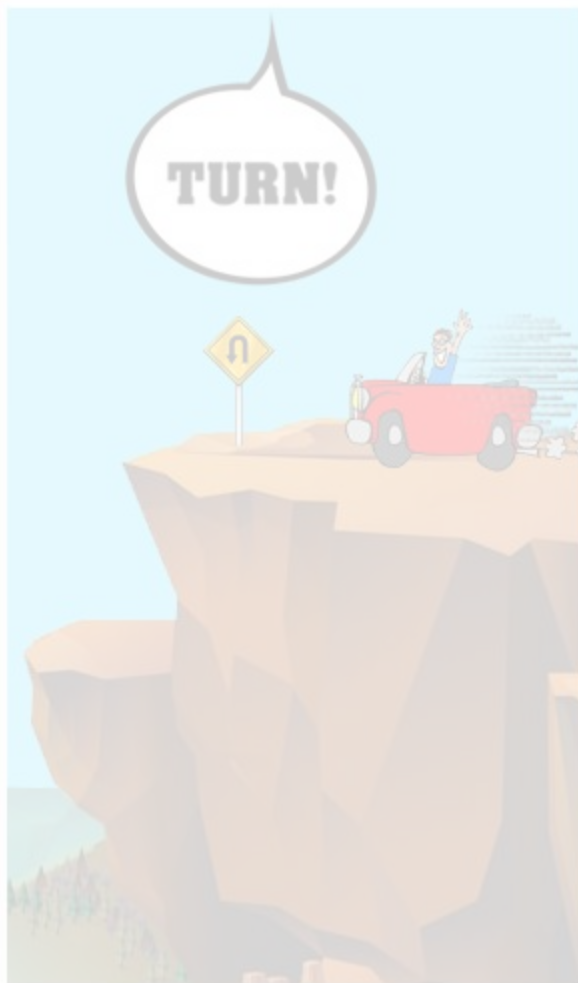
The Goodness of

God



The Goodness of

God



The Goodness of

God

The call to Christianity begins with a call to repentance.

Luke 5:32

³² I came not to call the righteous,
but sinners to repentance.

The Goodness of

God

The call to Christianity begins with a call to repentance.

Luke 5:32

³² I came not to call the righteous,
but sinners to repentance.

To REPENT is to turn from the darkness of sin
to walk in the light of God.

The Goodness of

God

Before a man can be saved, he must realize 3 truths:

1. He is a sinner
2. He needs to be saved
3. Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

¹⁵ This is a faithful saying,
and worthy of all acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;
of whom I am chief.

The Goodness of

God

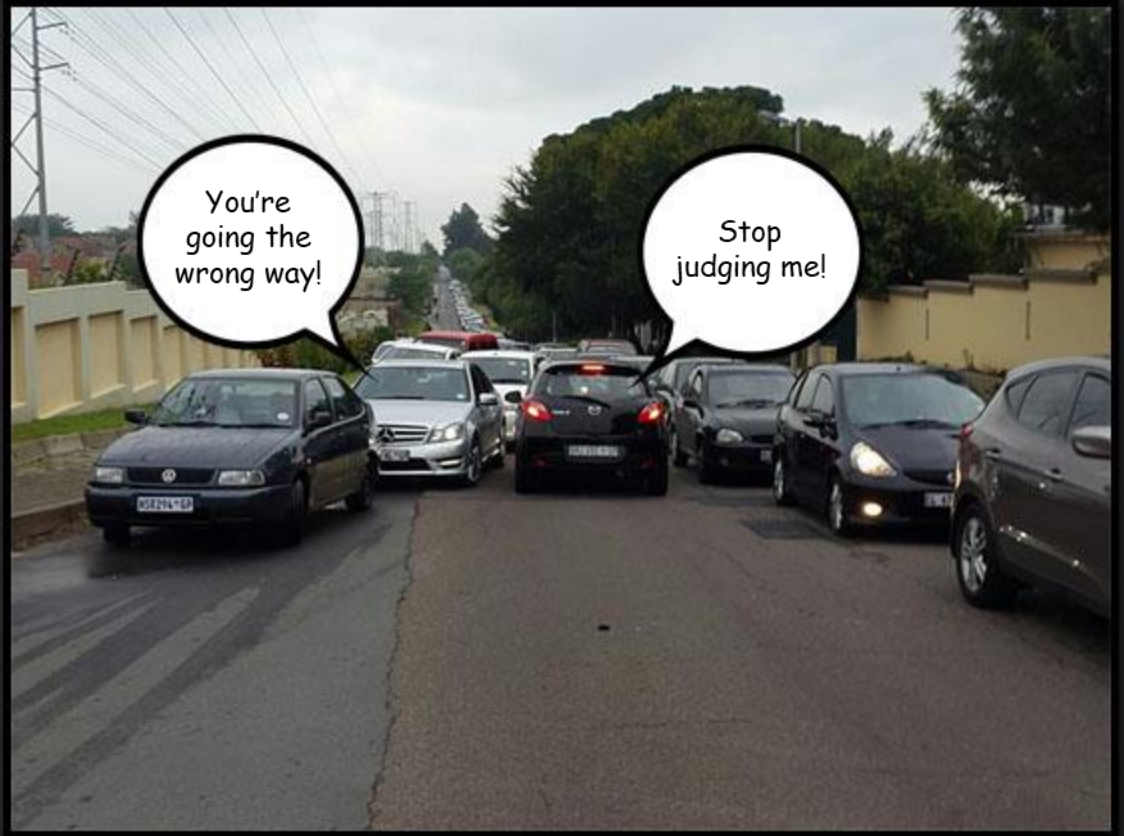
But the most difficult thing for man to accept is the fact that he is sinful, and his sins make him worthy of damnation. Why is this?

Proverbs 21:2a

² Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes ...



No one likes being told he is wrong and needs to change!



Man thinks everything he does is acceptable,
or at worst, excusable.





It takes a revelation from God for man to know what GOOD really is. And when man sees the goodness of God, there is fear and trembling.

Isaiah 6:1-3a, 5

- 1 In the year that king Uzziah died
I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high
and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.
- 2 Above it stood the seraphims:
each one had six wings;
with twain (two) he covered his face,
and with twain he covered his feet,
and with twain he did fly.
- 3 And one cried unto another, and said,
Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts:
the whole earth is full of his glory...
- 5 Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone;
because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell
in the midst of a people of unclean lips:
for mine eyes have seen the King,
the LORD of hosts.



The Goodness of

God

After we meet Jesus, we are forced to change our definition of goodness.

Mark 10:17-18

¹⁷ And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him,
Good Master,
what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

¹⁸ And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good?
there is none good but one, that is, God.



The Goodness of

God

If only God is good,
what does that say about the rest of us?

Psalm 14:2-3

- 2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, *and* seek God.
- 3 They are all gone aside, they are *all* together become filthy:
there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

The Goodness of

God

If only God is good,
what does that say about the rest of us?

Job 15:15-16

- ¹⁵ Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints;
yea, the heavens are not clean in his sight.
¹⁶ How much more abominable and filthy *is* man,
which drinketh iniquity like water?

The Goodness of

God

The first revelation God gives anyone is a look at their own sinful condition. He shows us our sin so we will realize our need for a savior.

John 3:17

¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.



The Goodness of

God

It is the goodness and forbearance of God that give sinners the chance to repent. His generosity towards us should not be taken for granted.

Romans 2:4

4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that **the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**

When someone is discovered doing something wrong, their natural response is to feel the sorrow of regret. But there are different kinds of sorrow.

The Bible talks about GODLY SORROW and THE SORROW OF THE WORLD.

2 Corinthians 7:10

¹⁰ For **godly sorrow** worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:
but **the sorrow of the world** worketh death.



Godly sorrow leads a man to make his life right with God. It leads him to repentance, and on to salvation.

2 Corinthians 7:10

¹⁰ For **godly sorrow** worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:
but the sorrow of the world worketh death.



The sorrow of the world is the sorrow of being caught. It is sorrow without repentance, and that is why it leads to death.

2 Corinthians 7:10

¹⁰ For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:
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Even a thief feels this kind of sorrow.

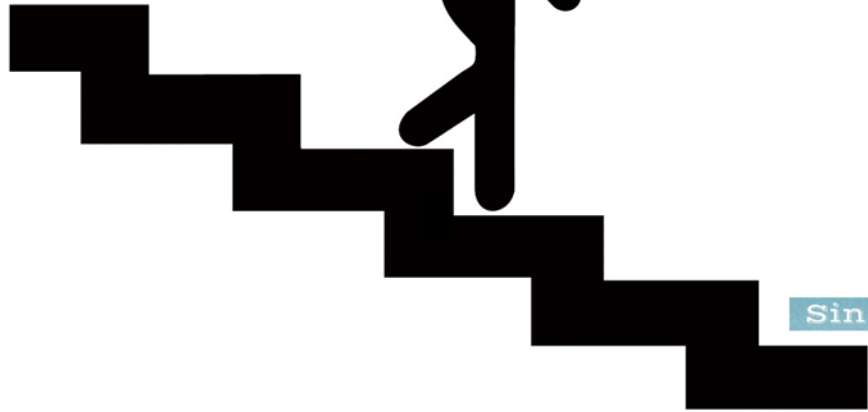


The Goodness of

God



Holiness



I should not be doing this!

REPENTANCE is **more** than confessing your sins.

I am going to obey God!

Holiness



Sin

REPENTANCE is turning away from your sins and turning toward GOD.



God wants to save us from the *consequence* of our sins.
That is what repentance is all about.

Ezekiel 18:30b

³⁰ ... Repent, and turn yourselves from all your
transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.



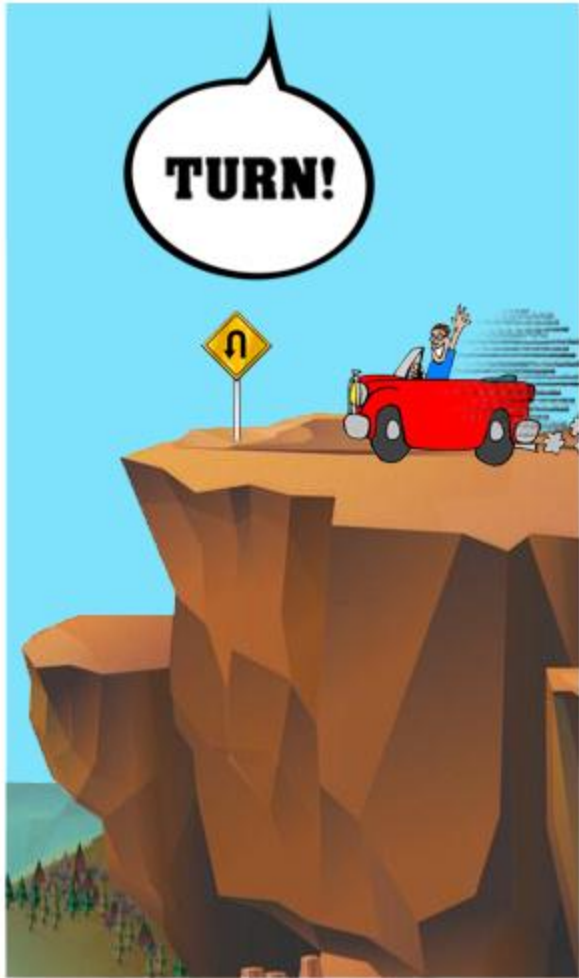
God does not punish us for sinning.
Our *sins* punish us.
We reap the consequence of our unholy lifestyle.

Romans 6:23a

²³ For the wages of sin *is* death...



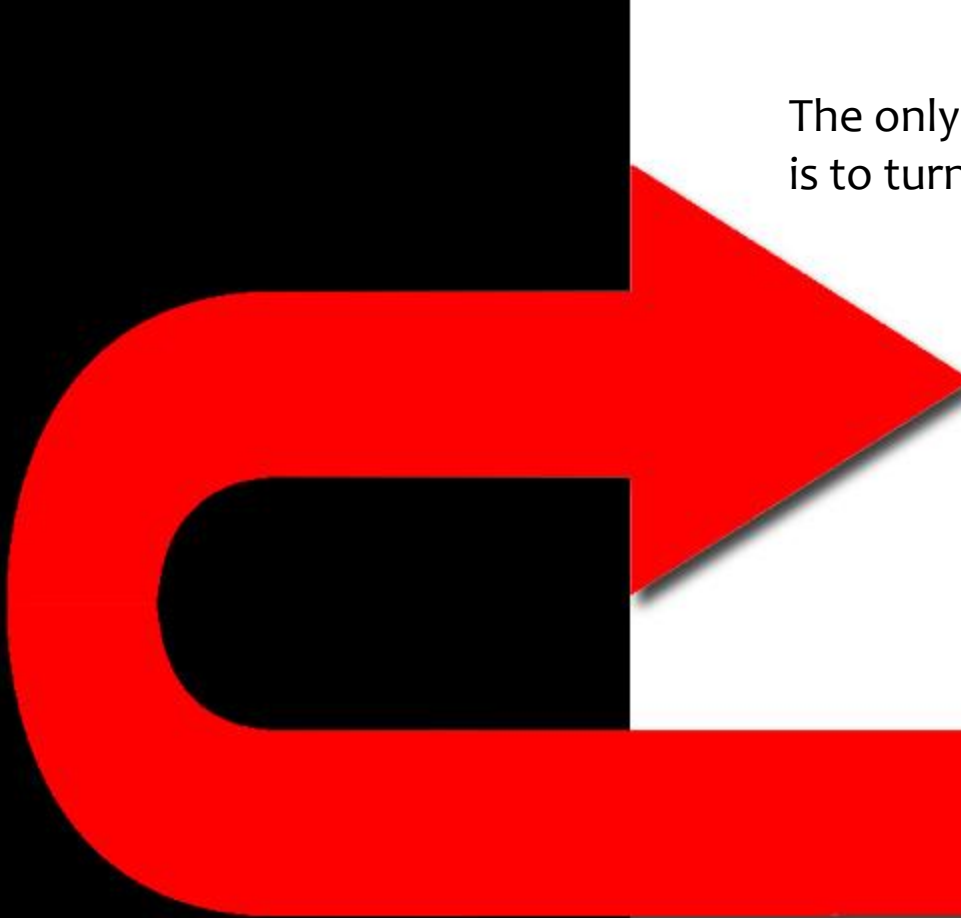
You cannot be reckless and wreckless.



God wants us to turn away from our sins before they kill us.

Ezekiel 33:11

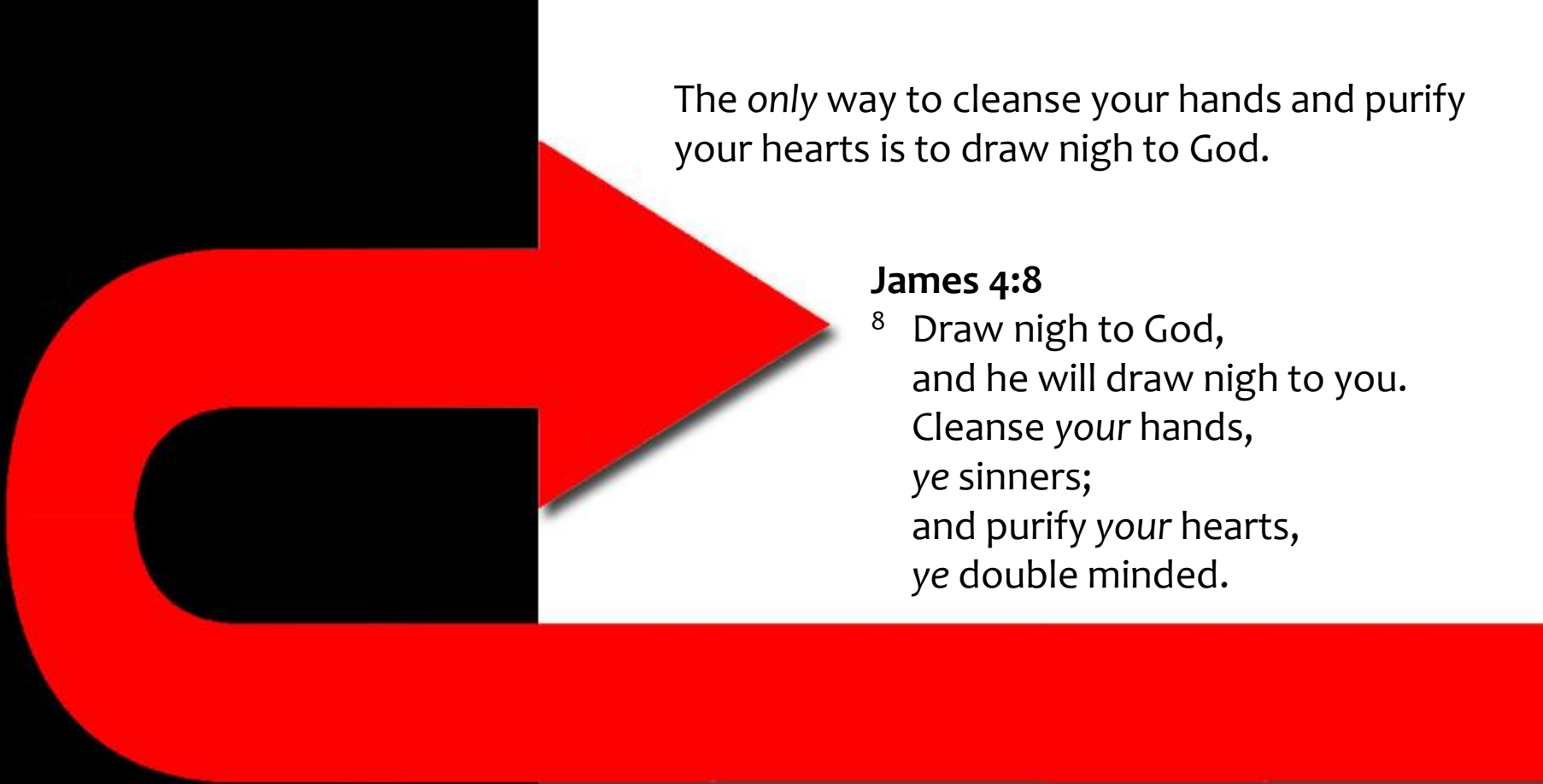
¹¹ ... As I live, saith the Lord GOD,
I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked;
but that the wicked turn from his way and live:
turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways;
for why will ye die, O house of Israel?



The only way to turn AWAY from sin
is to turn TOWARD God.

Zechariah 1:3

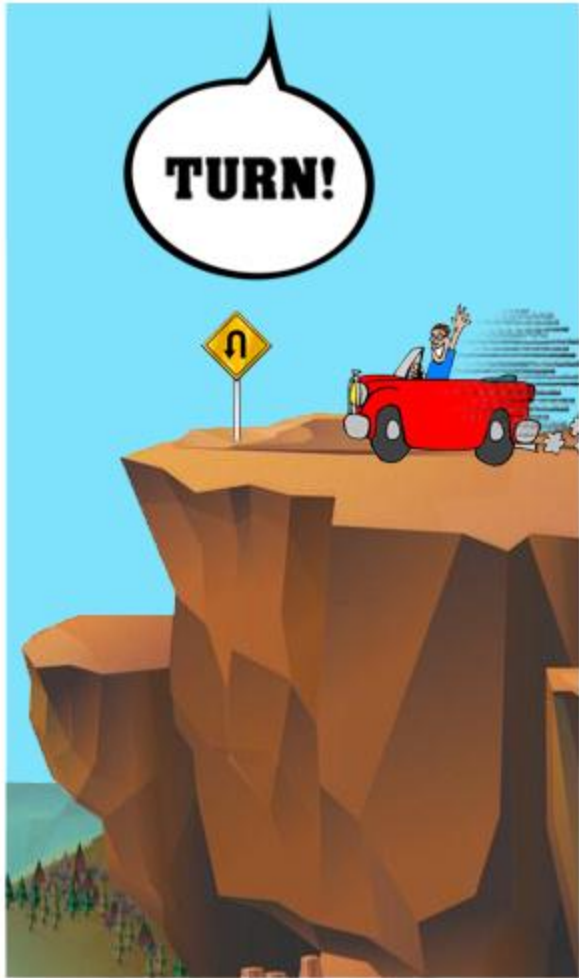
³ ... Thus saith the LORD of hosts;
Turn ye unto me,
saith the LORD of hosts,
and I will turn unto you,
saith the LORD of hosts.



The *only* way to cleanse your hands and purify your hearts is to draw nigh to God.

James 4:8

⁸ Draw nigh to God,
and he will draw nigh to you.
Cleanse *your* hands,
ye sinners;
and purify *your* hearts,
ye double minded.



God would rather see you saved than destroyed.

Luke 9:54-56a

- ⁵⁴ And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?
- ⁵⁵ But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.
- ⁵⁶ **For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save *them*.**



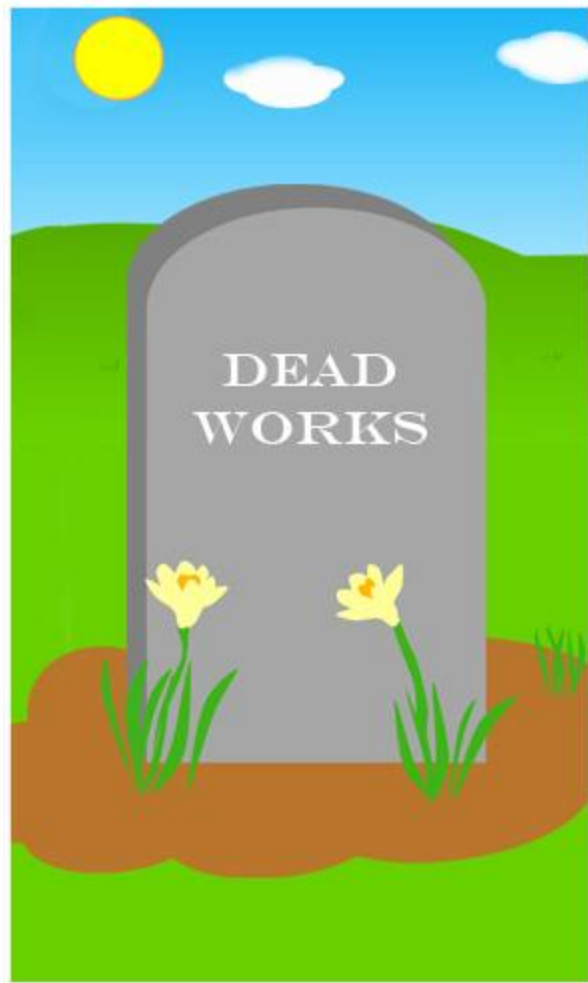
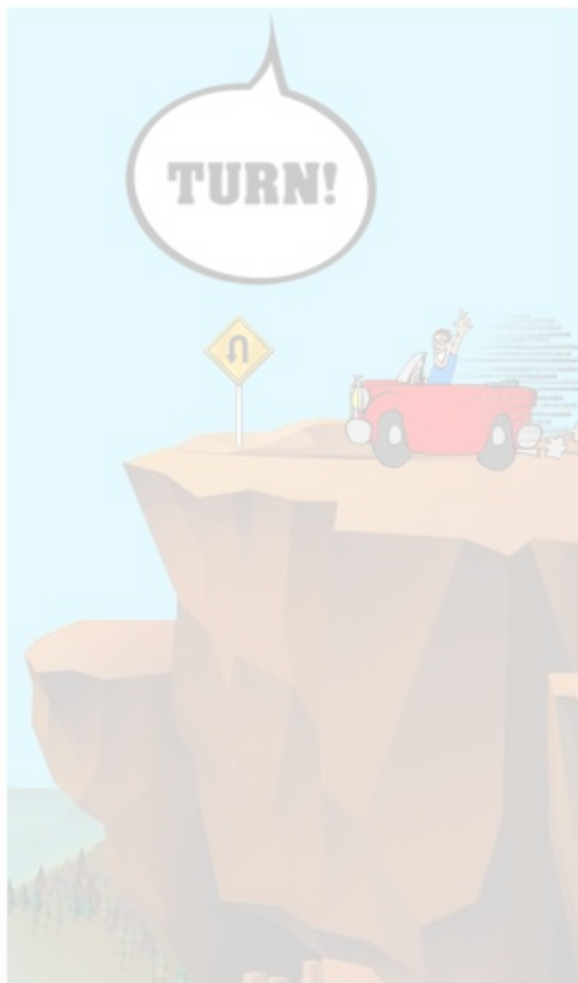
The last person to be saved will surely thank God for his patience.

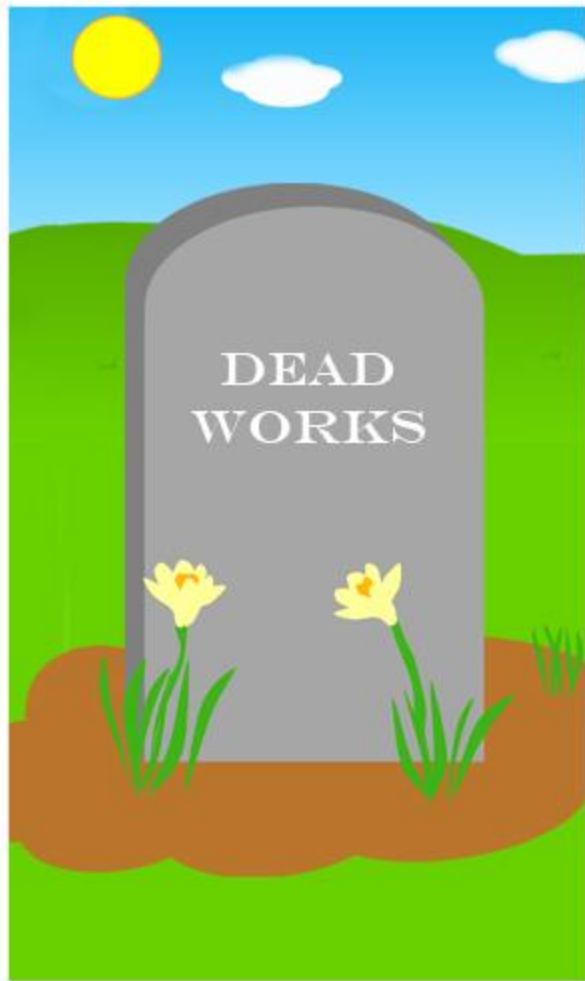
2 Peter 3:9

⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

The Goodness of

God





The first principle of the doctrine of Christ is not just repentance. It is repentance from **DEAD WORKS**.

What are dead works?



DEAD WORKS are the nice things people do to hide their sin.



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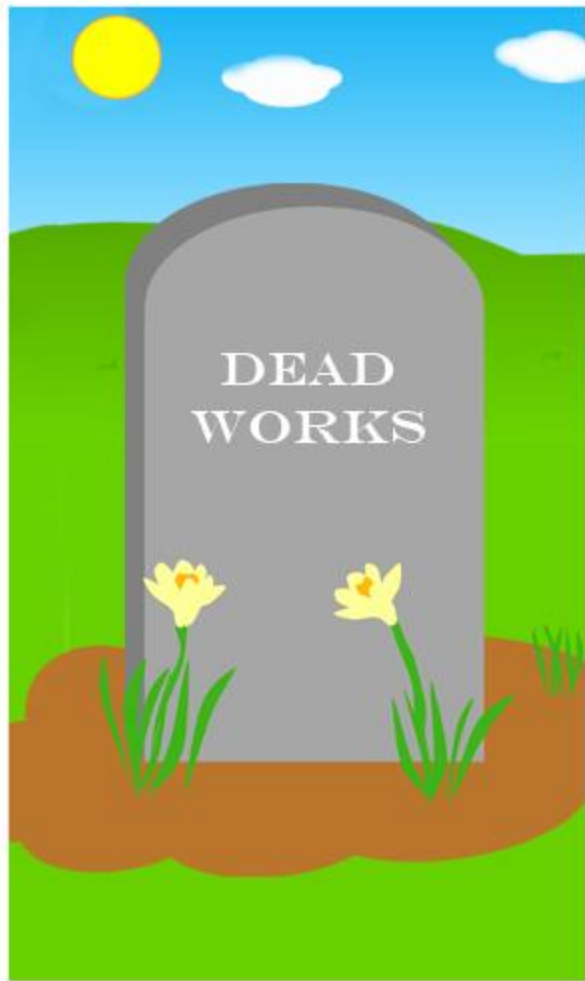
The first dead work was when Adam and Eve tried to cover their nakedness with fig leaves.



The Bible calls these works of self-righteousness our **filthy rags**.

Isaiah 64:6

But we are all as an unclean *thing*,
and all our righteousnesses *are* as **filthy rags**;
and we all do fade as a leaf;
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away.



This is false religion at its worst – man trying to make himself righteous by his works, just like the scribes and Pharisees.

Matthew 5:20

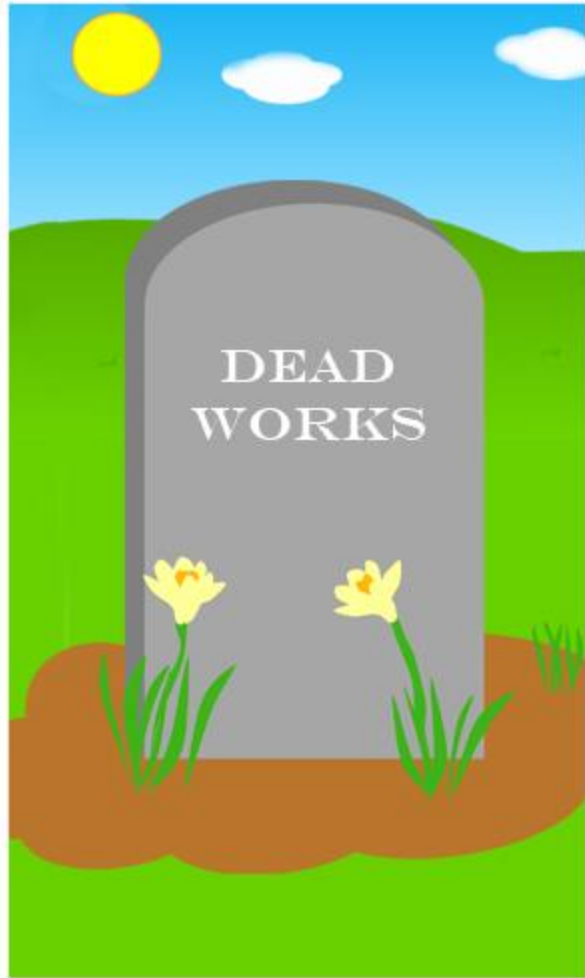
²⁰ For I say unto you,
That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees,
ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.



Man's insistence that he can earn his way to heaven denies the depth of his sinfulness. You cannot wash the spots off a leopard.

Jeremiah 13:23

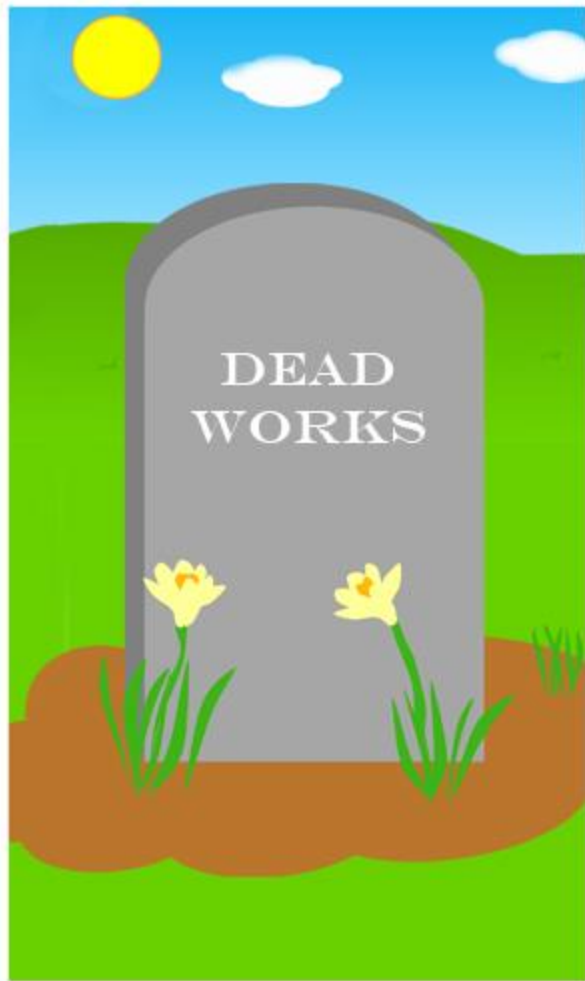
²³ Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? *then* may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.



Instead of submitting to God, he exalts himself as his own savior. This leads him further away instead of closer to God.

Romans 10:2-3

- 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.
- 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, **and going about to establish their own righteousness,** have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.



No one can make himself good enough for God.

Psalm 39:5b

⁵ ... verily every man at his best state
is altogether vanity.

Until they are built on the Rock of Christ, all of man's acts of "holiness" stink of pride and unbelief.



Isaiah 1:13-15

- ¹³ Bring no more vain oblations [offerings];
incense is an abomination unto me;
the new moons and sabbaths,
the calling of assemblies,
I cannot away with;
it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.
- ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts
my soul hateth:
they are a trouble unto me;
I am weary to bear *them*.
- ¹⁵ And when ye spread forth your hands,
I will hide mine eyes from you:
yea, when ye make many prayers,
I will not hear:
your hands are full of blood.



Adam's two sons, Cain and Abel, demonstrated the difference between a *living* work of repentance and a *dead* work.



Genesis 4:3-5

- 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.
- 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof.
And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
- 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.
And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.



Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground – ground that had been cursed by his father’s sin. He thought God should be pleased with his works.

Abel offered a sacrifice, a life for a life. This showed his faith in the blood of the lamb who would pay for his sins.





God accepted Abel's living faith,
but he rejected Cain's dead work.



All of man's efforts to forge his own righteousness are dead works. That is why the first thing he needs to do is repent of those dead works and turn to God.

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

Christ the Rock



UP NEXT:

Faith Toward God

FAITH TOWARD GOD
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

Christ the Rock

Test your understanding of this lesson:

1. According to Proverbs 21:2,
“Every way of a man is right
_____.”

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_____.”

In his own eyes.

Test your understanding of this lesson:

2. In Mark 10:18, Jesus said,
“There is none good but one,
that is, _____.”

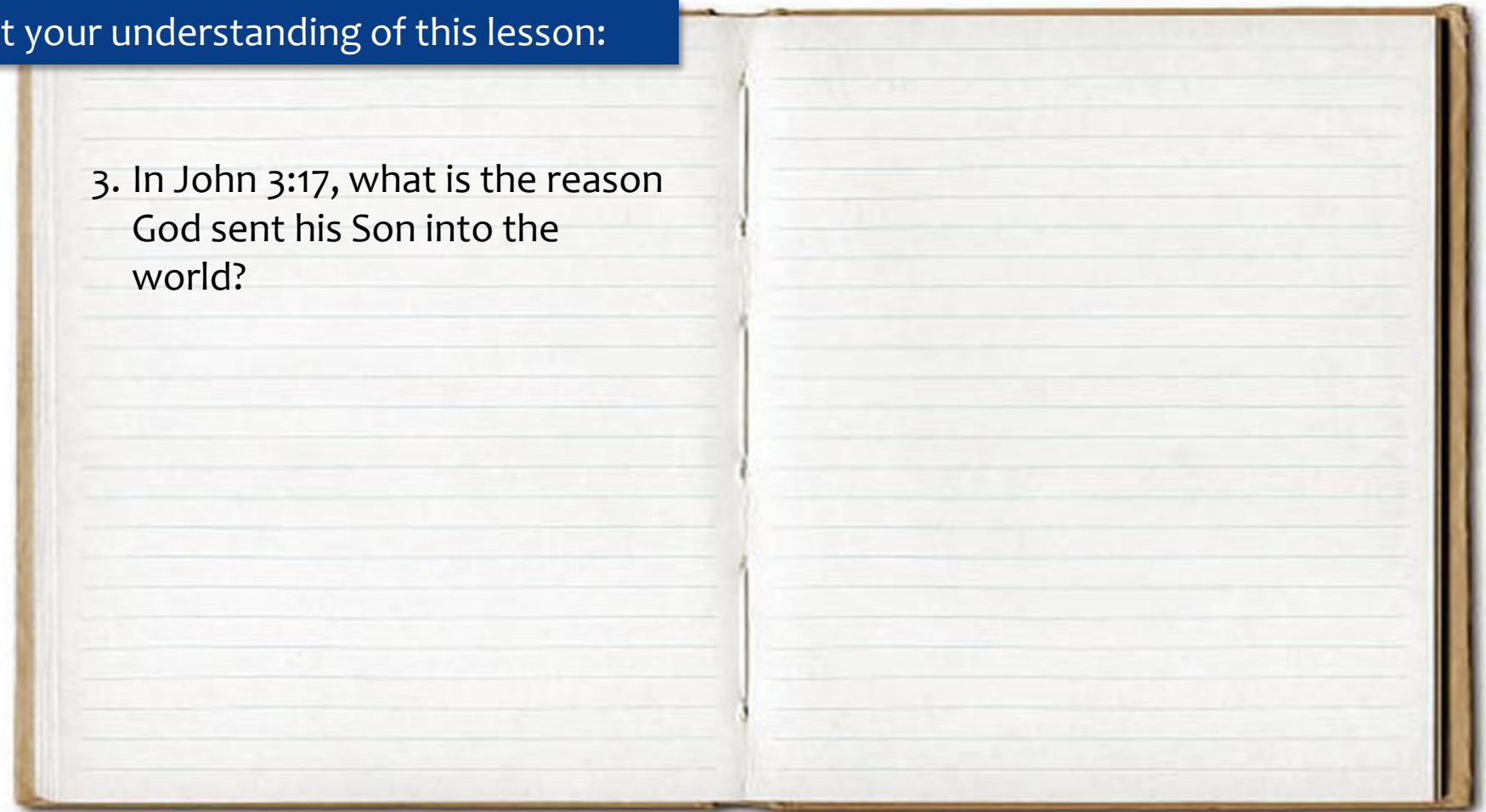
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2. In Mark 10:18, Jesus said,
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God.

Test your understanding of this lesson:

3. In John 3:17, what is the reason
God sent his Son into the
world?



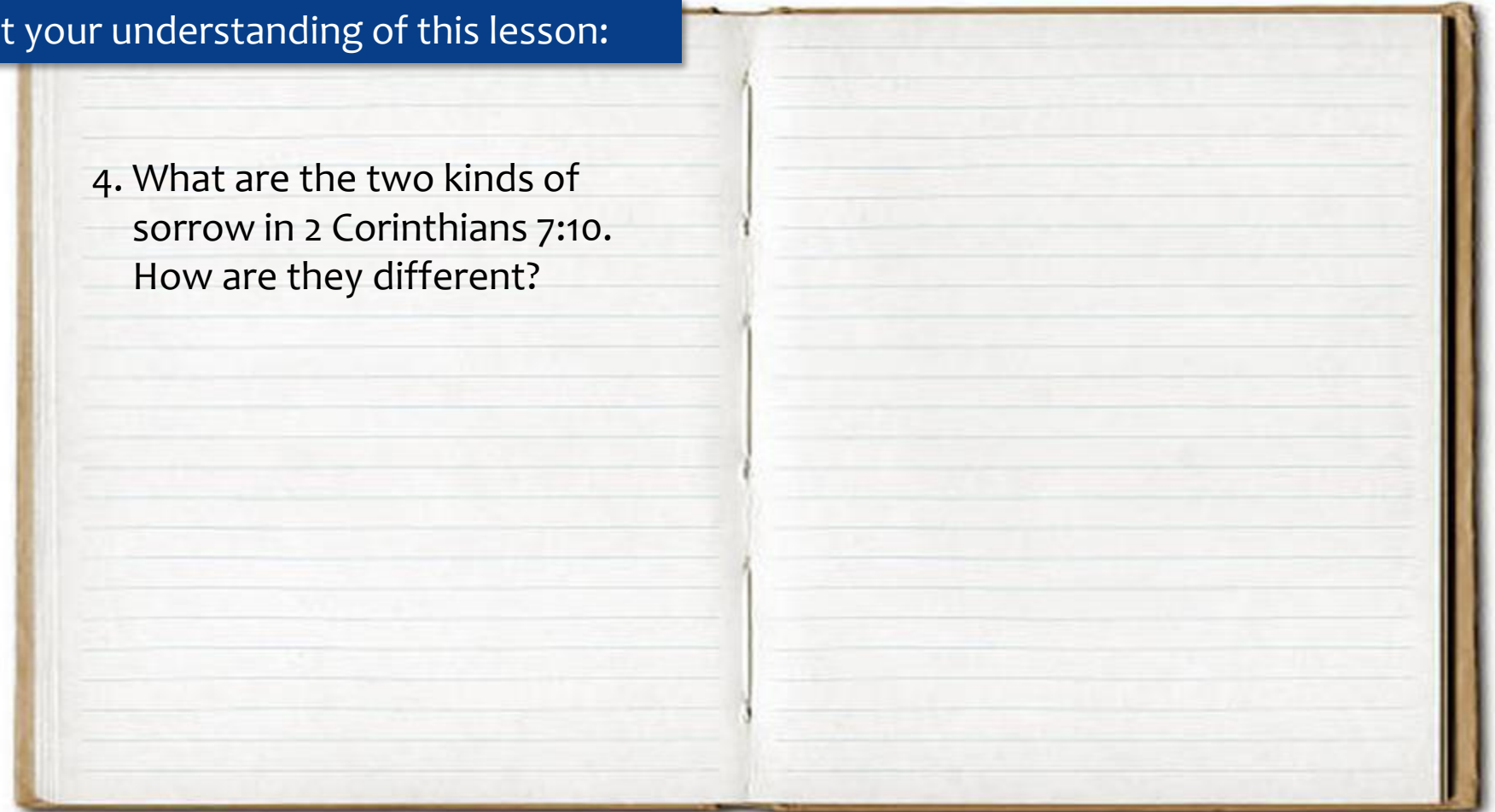
Test your understanding of this lesson:

3. In John 3:17, what is the reason God sent his Son into the world?

“that the world through him might be saved.”

Test your understanding of this lesson:

4. What are the two kinds of sorrow in 2 Corinthians 7:10. How are they different?



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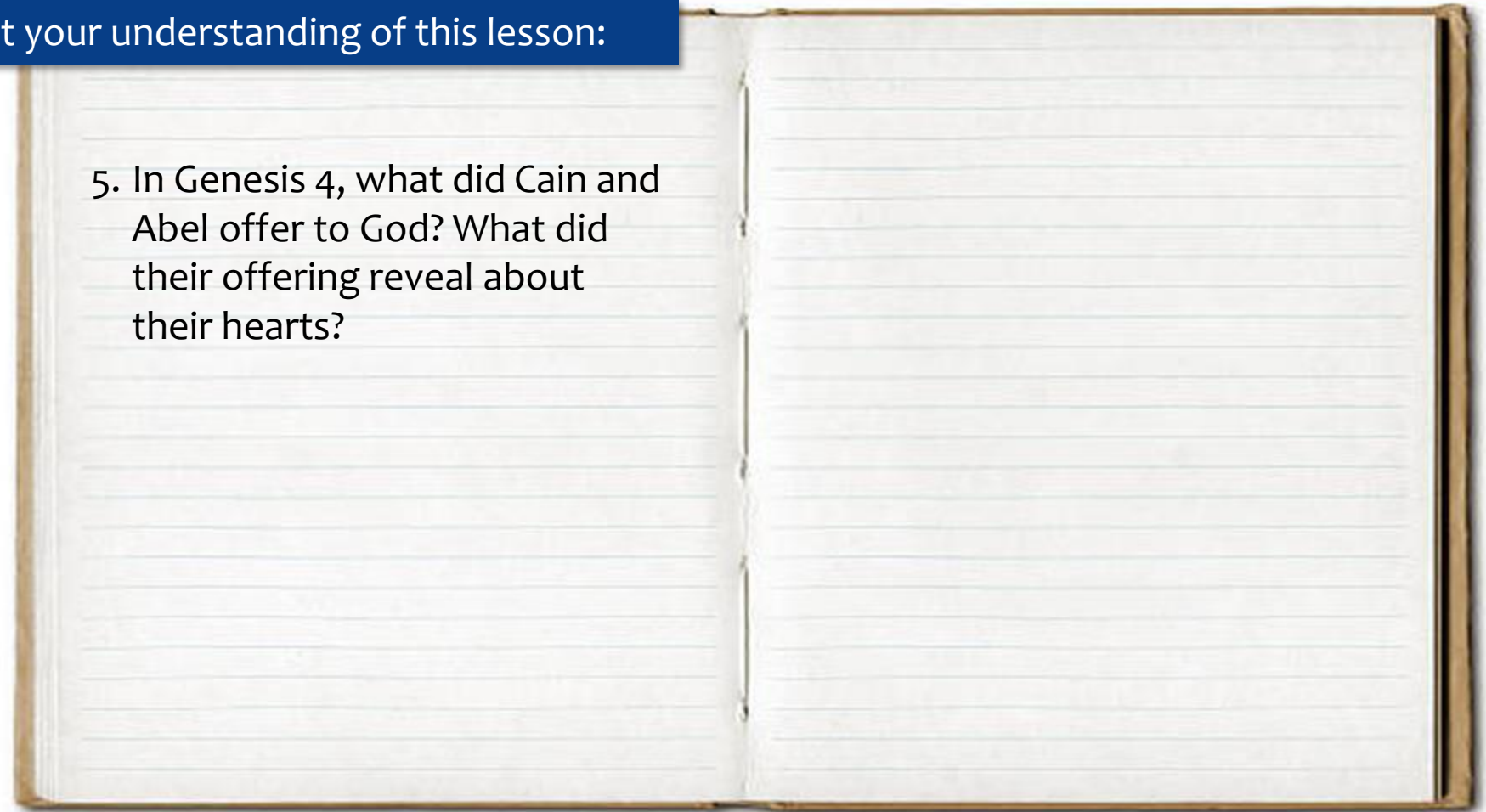
Godly sorrow and the sorrow of the world.

Godly sorrow leads to repentance and then to salvation.

The sorrow of the world leads to death.

Test your understanding of this lesson:

5. In Genesis 4, what did Cain and Abel offer to God? What did their offering reveal about their hearts?



Test your understanding of this lesson:

5. In Genesis 4, what did Cain and Abel offer to God? What did their offering reveal about their hearts?

Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground. His offering showed his faith was in his own work.

Abel offered a sacrificial lamb. This showed his faith in the Lamb of God that would die for his sins.



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