

My Spiritual Journey 1 (MSJ 1)

Class 2: Gospel FAQ - Your questions about Christian faith? (1)

1. How to prove the existence of God?

i. Prove the existence of God from all creations

The Bible says: "In the beginning God created the heaven and earth." (Genesis 1: 1). Said: "Since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, though it is not visible, but by creatures, you can know that men are without excuse." (Romans 1: 20)

Yes, God not only created the day, with hundreds of millions of stars and Milky Way in the universe; He also created the earth, including all things on earth. At the same time, He also told human being which were His creation through His word (Bible) in great details, to prove that He is real, believable, reliable, can be experienced and followed.

The feature of creation is expressed with wisdom, idea, order, rule, wonderful, spectacular, just like a magnificent building, from the external facade to the internal structure, you could obviously see that there's an architect behind it, designed meticulously by an engineer. So, when you see the existence of that building, it proves that someone designed and built it; though you don't see the construction right now, but you cannot deny that it was designed and constructed by someone.

Then again, a bunch of construction materials piled on the site, will not turn into a spectacular building naturally, it will only become junk;

So, how can this vast, boundless, magical universe born naturally? Wouldn't it be enough to prove the existence of the great God? As the scientists discovered that the universe is full of laws and orders, it makes us amaze by the wonders and greatness of God.

In fact, what scientists have contributed were not "invention", but "discovery", because as vast as the universe to as tiny as a human body cell, all have laws and orders, all these have been present since it was created. When people find out more about it, they should be more humble to admit that human are very small.

ii. Scientists prove the existence of God

Statistics show that throughout the history with 300 eminent scientists, 90% are Christians, including Newton and Einstein, even the founder of the theory of evolution, Darwin had turn to the true God, believe in Jesus Christ.

In addition, in 1969 the first three astronauts landed on the moon were all believed in Jesus, when they returned to the earth, once scientifically prove the existence of the Creator.

Three famous scientist that have cracked the human genome (DNA) code successfully in the recent history, one of whom was originally opposed to believe in Jesus, but after he made such a breakthrough understanding of the human body, he was so amaze by God whom has created human life form, that he not only owned believed in Jesus but became a devoted Christian.

Einstein once said: "The infinite supreme God display of His presence in many small trivial things, I am convinced, my faith thereof begin. I'm sure there is an incredibly smart being beyond this universe. This constitutes my faith in God. "

Darwin also said: "I admit that life begins originally from a Creator, if it's not of an ultimate cause, the universe could not exist."

iii. Prove the existence of God from man's spirit

God created three kinds of life forms, including plants, animals and humans, which humans are the highest level of life forms. Plants only have physical life, animals have physical life and some function of the soul, but not the spirit. Only man is made in God's image and likeness, with spirit, soul and body.

Body is the physical being; soul includes human feelings, will and thinking, these three areas control the living of one's life. Furthermore, God, the Creator, has given an organ for man that enable us to get to know Him, communicate with Him – "Spirit".

As the Bible says: "God, what may know, is manifest in the human heart, because God had revealed to them." (Romans 1:19)

Yes, man are created with spirit, therefore we are able to connect with the spiritual world. That is why wherever human exists, there will be religions around, but on the other hand, there's never religion in the animal kingdom. Just like the saying "Man is the soul of the universe". Confucius also said: "God exists three feet above us (direct translation)"

So, man can come into contact with the spiritual world because man have souls, like waves length exists in the surrounding, if I have a radio I can receive radio programs.

Unfortunately, since man sinned, their spirit has fallen into darkness, and for the needs of the spirit, man continue to create idols, be it tangible or intangible. They do not know how to worship God, the Creator; and some who are though enjoying God's creations, but deliberately harden their hearts, refusing to turn to the only true God, what a big fall short of the God's glory.

iv. The existence of ghosts prove the existence of God

Today, everywhere around the world, as long as there are human being, you can always hear encounter of ghosts attack, these events show that there are spiritual world beyond human world. Moreover, once ghosts heard the name of Jesus, they will fear and tremble, desperate to escape. There are countless of Christians experienced and testified their victory of casting out demons by the name of Jesus.

v. Christian's experience proves the existence of God

Since ancient times, there are countless of Christians around the world, regardless of race, colour, class, nationality differences, they all have experienced the love of Jesus and salvation, just like they experienced release from the bondage of sin; being delivered from a various difficult plight through the miracles of salvation; even in persecution, in chains, and experienced the joy, peace and victory of the Lord Jesus. No wonder throughout ages, from east to west, more and more people believe in Jesus, because they have experienced this God who is real and alive. As the saying goes: "speak louder than words." Imagine countless testimonies of Christians are the hard facts, isn't that strong enough to testify that the God they have believed in is real and alive?

2. I can't see God, how can I believe in him?

The naked eye can't see something does not mean it does not exist, like the wind and the air, its existence cannot be denied. Also, the naked eye can see very limited things, such as invisible magnetic field around, radio, microwave, atoms, electrons, neutrons, protons, not to mention unseen things of the spiritual world.

In fact, God made our bodies, each part have their own function. Eye is able to see, nose is for breathing, ear is for hearing, 5 senses are used to connect with the world, but the spirit inside of man are used to know God. So, people cannot swap the unique function of each organ, the eye cannot be used for listening, the nose cannot be used for seeing, nor the 5 senses be used to replace spirit for knowing God.

So, in order to get to know God, it's not to see by naked eyes, but with to accept it with spirit. Just like a radio, after receiving waves from the station, then information can be heard. Similarly, man have spirit will be able to know the spirit-giving God.

Man cannot recognise God because man sinned and away from God. Sin blinds our spirits until we can't understand God, do not believe in God, cannot get to know God.

So, if a man wants to know Him, he must believe in Jesus, receive the forgiveness of sins, and let the Holy Spirit live in his spirit, then the Holy Spirit can shed a light and guide him to know God, to understand God's Word. So, there are countless of people who believe in Jesus are able to experience the true and living God personally.

3. The myth about the origin of the universe: Do you believe in evolution? Big bang? Deism? Or biblical creationism?

- i. Theory of evolution is not reliable: Let us consider the following evidence objectively:
 - a. Darwinism cannot explain: how the universe came out of nothing into everything now? How the first single cell was born? Why there are hundreds of millions of stars but only earth suitable for human inhabitant? And why no other planets have yet evolve like the earth?
 - b. Corollary is not equivalent to truth: the theory of evolution is based on "inference" but not "order". Moreover, many of the "inferences" were found incorrect and overturned by scientist later. Just like in the early day, people thought that man evolved from apes, but now genealogy has discovered that the genome of apes are completely different from human being, as well as the blood type of apes are completely different too; humans have culture but animals don't; it is absolutely different.
 - c. Evolutionary theory violated the laws of biology: evolution through mutation always bring harm, just like mutations in human cells are always cancerous.
 - d. Darwin as the founder of the theory of evolution has overturned the theory himself, and believed in Jesus: Darwin had once concluded that some native tribes on a remote island have to go through 2000 years of evolution in order to become a civilized society, but later on, he saw those cannibal tribes changed completely after hearing gospel from missionaries and become even more innocent and loving than the so-called civilized society, he was so deeply moved. Then he repent and believe in Jesus. He also bought and gave away a lot of Bibles given to the natives everywhere. He wrote in his autobiography: "I admit that life begins from the Creator, if it's not because of an ultimate cause, the universe would not exist."
 - e. Evolutionary theory cannot change and save people: people who believe in evolution, cannot change from bad morals to good. There was an atheist debating with a preacher, the preacher was moved by the Holy Spirit and said to the atheist: "Could you can bring people who are addicted to gambling, promiscuous and other sins that have listen to your atheism and change their behaviour dramatically? I could bring hundreds of such people to do testimony about how they turn a new leave because of believing in the true God and Jesus changed their lifes." The atheist heard and said: "That I can't debate with you, because I couldn't find one."
- ii. The Bing Bang theory is not credible: Some people say that the universe is generated by a big bang? Imagine without matter how to generate explosion? Besides, explosion can only cause chaos but not orders, just as a city after the earthquake will never become a more spectacular city, otherwise they would not need to rebuild. If there is a very special explosion that turn something out of nothing with laws and orders, it was just a proof of God's creation process.
- iii. Deism is superstition: Some people say that the "source of the universe is from the nature, and I am convinced that everything is created by nature." Those who holds this concept are making fetish of "Nature", put the word of "Nature" as God, but meanwhile he did not answer how "Nature" comes from. If we say that the universe comes naturally, do you believe your existence comes naturally? The house you are living occurs naturally?
- iv. The fact of creationism (reference Question 1): It's not human reasoning, but by the Creator, the One True God revealed through His Word (the Bible) to the world, that how He created the universe and the earth, as well as various life forms and human being. Therefore, generations of scientists have continually discovered the orders, the rules, and the amazing corotation of the universe, would be more amaze with the greatness of the Creator. Day and night, hundreds of millions of stars never run error, there is no energy crisis, failure does not occur for maintenance, however, man made things not only have errors, accidents, but also energy crisis and restrictions, therefore, there was an explosion of spacecraft in the US during

launch, also destruction of Russian spacecraft due to lack of energy. No wonder majority of the famous scientists would turn to the only true God, believe in Jesus and accept Him as their personal Saviour.

The Bible says: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork." (Psalm 19: 1) also says: "Common commands boosting his power over all" (Hebrews 1: 3). Therefore, as long as people humble themselves, they will recognize the Creator and no longer be lost.

4. Is it superstitious to believe in Jesus? Believe in Jesus is to find spiritual substance?

Superstition means someone has believed in fictitious, fabrication, was deceived, believed for no apparent reason, baseless matters that spread by people. Believe in Jesus is not like that, it's proven not only by science and history, but also bible, the words of God as the basis. Imagine, other than Bible, there is no other book can explain the origin of the world and how it will end. Besides God, who could do so? In contrast, a lot of deities and idolatries nowadays are really superstition, they do not understand who they are worshipping, and those are just fake gods made out of humans' hands.

Spiritual sustenance is a person entrust his spirit to a theory or imagination raised by someone, but it can't really save him. Believe in Jesus is absolutely not to find a spiritual substance, other than getting to know the one true God of the universe, we can actually receive salvation, healing, protection, guidance, provision and great love, deliverance from sin, freedom from the bondage of the devil, help in all sorts of difficulties, light in the darkness, satisfaction and direction from the lost and void of life from the Saviour, Jesus.

Across ages, countless people pinned themselves on a certain philosophy, but in the end only found castle in the air, impractical to do, and also not able to generate power to save people, because the theory was came out by human. Even those who came out with the theory have to succumb to the power of death, left behind their empty bodies, then how could they give others a real salvation? Those were just spiritual substances, absolutely cannot withstand the test of time.

5. All religions are the same, and other gods also efficacious, why should believe in Jesus? Christianity seems to just talk about the truth?

Many people misunderstand that believeth in Jesus is just believe in one of a variety of religions. In fact it's totally wrong, a lot of genuine products around the world were first introduce, then only counterfeits appear; It's the genuine first, then come the pirated. Likewise, Jesus is the one true God, all religions that come out by human, must not be compared with the true God.

What differences are between believeth in Jesus and other religions around the world?

- i. All religious leaders have made it clear that they are man, only Jesus, came into the world with the identity of the Creator. The Bible says about Him as: "All things were made by Him, and those that were made, not one thing was not made through Him" (John 1: 3). Believe in Jesus is reunite those being made unto his Maker, like the prodigal son returning home from far, not a religion artificially created. Also, He is unlike other religious leaders who have to practice hard, constantly seeking, He is the way, the truth and the life (John 14: 6). Jesus said: "Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10), "I am come that they might have life" (John 10:10). Yes, He comes to save the world, not to condemn to hell because of sin, but have eternal life in the heaven.
- ii. All founders of religions are leaders but Jesus is the Saviour. The biggest difference between leader and Saviour is that: leader who is manmade could only speak of the truth, teach people what is good, but cannot give people the power to change, heal and be saved; The Saviour can not only teach the eternal truth, but also save those who believe in Him from the power of sin and death, changed uncountable people who believe in Jesus, let them experience mighty power of the Saviour.
- iii. All the religious leaders cannot overcome death, because they are human. Only the Saviour, Jesus, was willing to lay down his life for the sins of the world and nailed on the cross, then resurrected from the dead on the third day, won over death, appeared to His disciples, preached the words of God for 40 days and nights, and ascended to heaven to sit on the right of the throne of God the Father, Whom will also come again to judge the world in the future.

- iv. Christianity is not just talk about the truth, there are many more efficacious events happened. For example: Zion of Israel, the born of the European Community Alliance, and occurring of various catastrophes have confirmed the biblical prophecies. Also, countless Christians in different countries, regions, are also experienced how the Almighty God saved them from sins, difficulties, and the devil's attacks. In contrast to idolatrous worship, the so called efficacious is merely the evil deception behind the idol, because wherever incense were lighted, there will be works of the evil spirits there. And evil spirits cannot be efficacious on great things (e.g. predict the world situation), because they are not God, they can only make some confusion on those who worship them, give ominous predictions about tragedy and let those who believe in them to be oppress, enslave and tied its clutches. No wonder for many of those idolaters, the more they worship the lesser peace they feel.
- v. Other religions also have testimony of people changed from evil to good, but only repent and believe in Jesus can be saved.

Because "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12)

Changes brought about by other religions usually require long hard practice with may have some external changes, but prompt to failure anytime, such as those who have long practice in Buddhism would describe himself as: "This minute I'm Buddha, but the next minute might be devil." And, again regardless of how people practice on their own, they can't absolutely holy. "For all flesh, no one justified by observing the law." (Gal 2:16)

But changes brought about by believing in Jesus is quick and effective, it's completely changed from the inner self, but not only the external, because the ability to change come from God, not from man or himself. And the examples of changes happened by believe in Jesus are far more profess than other religions.

6. Chinese should believe in Chinese religion but not foreign religion?

First, let us think about what are the so called the Chinese religions? In general, Chinese mainly believe in Buddhism but it was not came out from local China actually, it was originated from a small country nearby India, Nepal.

Sakyamuni, founder of Buddhism is a Nepal Prince, grew up in the palace but ran away from home during his 29 years old, abandoned his wife and children, to go and look for the truth alone, then founded Theravada Buddhism.

Then his disciples plagiarised the Hindu deities' characteristic and founded Mahayana Buddhism, it spread into China during the Western Han dynasty, mix with the local Chinese idolatry worship, and brought the number of idols to nearly twenty thousand. Therefore, in reality Buddhism is not a Chinese religion.

Confucianism is also not considered as a religion, because it did not have a complete concept of God and the afterlife. It was merely used by generations of people as a doctrine of religion. Although mix up with Taoism and Buddhism, but it did not have a complete concept of God and the afterlife.

So, strictly speaking, Chinese do not have their own religion. Furthermore, if a religion belong to only one country, one nation, then the god of that religion will not last, because first you will have to have that nation, then only have that god.

In contrary, Christianity is not the so-called foreign religion. The Creator, the only true God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ to be born in Bethlehem, Israel, being crucified for sinners all over the world, become a scapegoat, and then resurrected from the death, in order to save the world. Therefore, Christianity has no region, border, race, colour boundaries, just like before the ascension of Jesus after resurrection, He commanded His disciples to preach the gospel to the whole world. By God's blessing, the Gospel could spread from the Middle East to Europe, America, and globally; the Bible has become the world's best-selling book, and has been translated into more than sixteen hundreds of languages, even the inner land of south Africa have the gospel preached to them, because God so love the world. Therefore, believe in Jesus is the real needs of Chinese people.

7. Believe in Jesus will be able to pay respects to the ancestors and have to give up ancestral worship, isn't it disrespectful, ungrateful, an ancestral apostasy?

First, we need to understand that God has commanded us to be filial to our parents, and it is the first commandment that come with a blessing. However, the true God require Christian to be filial while our parents are still alive, honour them, care for them, but they will not left them out when they are alive, but worship them after they have pass away to express filial piety.

Because when a man died, if he believed in Jesus, his soul will rest in the heaven; but if he is not, his soul was be condemned in the underworld and never able to return to life, that is the current world.

In addition, soul does not need to eat and drink, because it's not material, so worship the ancestors is not to feed them but to worship evil spirits, cited ghost burglary that makes the whole family unsafe.

Some people dream of their loved one complaint about their hunger situation after deceased, in fact, it is the disguise of ghost to deceive his family. Imagine: normal people needs three meals a day, but the survival of the deceased could only depends on his children's worship once a day or several times a year? Wouldn't he starved to death yet? Besides, people can only attend to parent of his generation, what about those generations way back where no longer have worshippers, wouldn't they starved to death yet? The devil is using filial piety to deceive people, put bondage over people.

Also, some people never treated their parents well while they were alive, then only worship them after they were gone which is not out of filial piety, but show doing to others, or fear of revenge from the deceased parents who might come back to haunt them, really ridiculous.

Therefore, according to the lesson in the Bible, Christian should be more filial to their parents now, but remember the deceased in mind and tell the next generation of their labours and hard work. We never should worship them and being deceived, cited ghost burglary and offend the true God.

8. Why Christianity rejects other religions?

First, we must understand the difference between Christianity and other religions around the world, Christianity is the Creator using His one true identity to come into the world but the rest of the religions are came out by human, and the founders themselves have to succumb to the power of death, they couldn't even save themselves, how to save others? Furthermore, the only Saviour for mankind is Jesus Christ, He is very real, sincerely appeal to the world to return to Him, like a loving father calling unto runaways prodigal to return home, how can we say that it is exclusive? Let's ask yourself: as children, how many can we call many people as our fathers? There is only one father, isn't it? Similarly, the Creator with tenderly appeal, urge the world to leave all other manmade religions and fully turn to Him, is this something exclusive? It is a call of love with responsibility.

My Spiritual Journey 1 (MSJ 1)

Class 2: Gospel FAQ - Your questions about Christian faith? (2)

1. The Bible is so ancient and old, but is it credible? Is it in line with the needs of the 21st century? The differences between Bible and various religious scriptures around the world:

- i. The Bible is inspired by God, it's written when the Spirit of God revealed and moved His servants throughout history.
The Holy Spirit is the chief editor, from the first roll of Genesis to the last volume of Revelation, took nearly 1600 years, written by more than 40 servants of God who lived in different eras and geographical environments, did not know each other, but the contents of the Bible are consistent from the beginning till the end, the revelation of God's will forever, salvation... and with only the one true God, the Creator, the Subject to enlighten and teach the world.

In contrast, religious scriptures all over the world has never used the one true God as Subject to enlighten the world, but only some religious leaders, somebody who has discovered a religious philosophy to teach others, the source of all these were man. It's also because those were came out by man, so the theories are often very limited, flawed, and couldn't withstand the test of history and science, because those are not from God.
- ii. Other than the Bible, there is no other scripture that can reveal the source of the universe, the origin and history of mankind, and the end of the world prophecies in details. If it's not because of the Creator, nobody would be able to tell the origin and the end of the universe; only Bible is the Word of God that can reveal the origin and end of the universe completely.
- iii. The truths in the Bible has been fulfilled and confirmed by the history.
As Noah's Ark mentioned in the Bible, modern scientists had found ancient ark, and found it fully consistent with the size written in the Bible. Archaeology also found that there have been great floods in the ancient history, totally consistent with the biblical revelation.

Also, as early as nearly 1000 BC, Bible has mentioned in Isaiah: "God sitteth upon the circle of the earth." (Isaiah 40:22) indicated that the earth is round. However, scientific knowledge of the ancient human is still shallow, didn't know that the Earth is round, but thought that it is square. No wonder generations of scientists can find answers to a lot of queries from the record of the Bible.

Bible prophesied Abraham his descendants would stay in a foreign land and served the people in that land for 400 years, until the fourth generation they should return here, these events had really happened and been fulfilled.

Later, the Israelites sinned badly and away from God, God prophesied through prophets that they would be subjugated but restored after 70 years, these events were also fulfilled one by one later.
Bible prophesied about Israel, the nation that has rejected the God's Son Jesus, crucified Him on the cross, would be restored, consequently the fact actually happened as prophesied in the Bible, Israelites actually has not been assimilated during thousand years of subjugation, and restored their nation in extreme difficulties, because God's was the master mind behind it.

- iv. The Bible is absolutely in line with the needs of the 21st century.
Although mankind has entered 21st century with rapid development of science, however, one's inner feeling of emptiness, loss, loneliness, err, pain, guilt, fatigue have never decrease, but increase. Growing sins of human, rapid rise in the number of broken families, problems faced by the world are endless. Imagine, leaving God, where in the world is safe? Where could find rest? How to solve humans' predicament? Only through the words of God in the Bible to get to know Jesus Christ, be saved, and receive grace, power, light, comfort, help and provision from the words of God daily. This is also the daily experiences of many Christians who desire Bible nowadays, Bible gives them infinite blessings.

Moreover, Bible is the words of God that beyond time and space, so no matter to what extent the development of human science, we still need to return to the bible to find the direction, hope, meaning and value for man. Scripture says: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119: 105) away from the words of God, people will get lost in the dark.

2. Believe in Jesus can earn me a living? Wouldn't it be more practical to depend on myself and money?

Perhaps, when my environment turns better, I will believe in the Lord? I can't even take care of my current life, where do I have the mood to attend to my afterlife?

This question seems to imply that believe in Jesus cannot solve your daily needs and problems, . I still have to rely on my own hard work to make ends meet, therefore no need to believe in Jesus, what I need is money. As the saying goes: "Money talks." Added: "Know the money, money talks," and so on. Nowadays, almost everyone to look towards money, many people think having money is more practical than believe in Jesus.

In fact, although the money is needed for living, it can never bring long-term well-being to the human body and soul, money cannot the guarantee accident free, money cannot buy a sweet sleep, cannot buy happiness of the family, cannot make you live longer, nor money can give you eternal life, because it cannot be God that saves lives. Jesus said: "If a man gains the whole world, and lose his own life, what good is it; what a man could give in exchange for his soul" (Matthew 16:26). It is to say that man should be masters of money, but now the world has made man a servant of money, you make money at first, but at the end it is money that made you. Many people have died for money, lose they life for it, it's really sad.

In fact, believe in Jesus bring us blessings far beyond material that man could ever pursue. They who believe in Him will not only have eternal life, eternal salvation of the soul in the future, but also have a Saviour in their current life, care and keep them every day, feed them and lead them through difficulties every day, these are also personal experience of countless Christian. As the Bible says: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" (Psalm 23: 1). So, do not wait until you have better environment then only believe in Jesus, on the contrary, while you are facing adversity, you should repent and trust in God, no matter rich or poor, Christian will always be filled with full strength, satisfaction and joy with Jesus. Wouldn't this is what your immediate needs?

3. My life is very busy, I don't have time to believe in Jesus?

This idea of people seem to have two views about believing in Jesus: First, assuming that believe in Jesus cannot bring any benefit to the busy life; Second, only people with free time can believe in Jesus, because it takes a lot of time to join the service. In fact, these are misunderstandings of believeth in Jesus, we need to understand that we need the presence of Jesus, the Saviour in our busy life more than ever, believe in Jesus and accept Him as the Saviour to live in our heart, become our joy, peace, strength and salvation. Just as countless of Christians throughout ages who were a very busy but experienced the presence and grace of Jesus, the Saviour. So, whether it is busy or idle, everyone needs Jesus.

Moreover, believe in Jesus do not need to spend a lot of time to receive, as long as you repent and return to Him, open your mouth to pray, accept Jesus sincerely as your personal Saviour and you shall receive. Just like someone praying in his sick bed to accept the Lord, Jesus, he shall receive the Saviour, Jesus, so please open your heart to receive the Lord immediately. As for joining service after believe in Jesus is an enjoyment to Christian and secret to gain strength for their souls. Apart from their busy lives, they are longing to set aside a time for service, because they enjoy the infinite blessings from it, and have the power to overcome more pressures in their life, isn't this good?

4. I'm afraid that I might lose many pleasures of sins after believing in Jesus, this cannot do, that cannot touch, boring! Besides, I can't reach the standard of Christian, so, I do not want to believe in Jesus.

Some people who refused to believe in Jesus because they worry that will have to give up gambling, drunkenness, debauchery, promiscuous life, and also need to adhere to the rules of Christ. Let's start thinking about it, when people live a life wallowing in sins, it is not a real treat, but it is iniquity, endured the pain of sin but couldn't let it go. Just like many people were controlled by drug, eventually leading to destruction of families, broken up wives and children; there are also some people having an affair behind their wives, not only hurt their wives and children, but ultimately hurt himself with the fruit of their own sins, retribution of crimes; also, some alcoholic who drink to live have to suffer physical and mental injury, as well as hurting others. How can we call these sufferings of those so-called stimulus as an enjoyment of life? This is really the sins of suffering!

In fact, Christians live far away from the pleasures of sins for example do not gambling, drink alcohol; but receive the real release and joy from the soul, this kind of life is not boring but filled with God's joy, because they have taken hold of God holy life and victory over sins. In contrast, today, people have freedom to live a dissolute life, on the surface it seems to be colourful, but actually it is iniquity and extremely painful, and they couldn't let it go, how pathetic. So, if you believe in Jesus, and you will realize that real life is colourful in Christ Jesus.

Many people have the misconception that when they see Christians believe in Jesus has changed their behaviours for the better, temper becomes gentle, selfish become loving, prideful become humble. They would retreat immediately and would not dare to turn to Jesus Christ, for the fear not able to reach God's requirements. In fact, no Christians is able to change and overcome over sins with his own strength, the reason they have such change are because they are saved by Jesus, the Saviour. So, no one can "make" a Christian, only believe in Jesus could become a Christian. Christians are only justified by faith in Jesus, and by Jesus then, can we change ourselves. Just because we can't, all the more we need to believe and accept Jesus as our Saviour, experience His salvation and help.

Besides, He's not asking new believers to achieve a high standard of living immediately, because a new born baby cannot suddenly walk, but gradually change, grow step by step.

5. My life has not encounter problem yet, currently I'm on track, prosperous, colourful, do not ned Jesus. Only those in affliction, illness and pain, adversity needed Jesus.

Those who ask this question seems to assume that only as people in affliction, unemployment, illness, adversity needed to believe in Jesus, but not for those who have good environment and prosper.

Wrong! Think about your current life, although it's colourful, smooth and prosper without any big problem, but you can never guarantee that it will be smooth all your life, and you can't stop your body aging day by day, closer to death, you also can't be sure that you will never sick, accident free, your environment remain unchanged; you can't control your life expectancy, nor could you escape from facing the judgment of your eternal soul.

Furthermore, If you are willing to humble and face yourself, you can easily realis that even if you are leading a colourful life now, there is a kind of emptiness in your mind. Your heart has never been able to receive real pleasure and satisfaction, so you still need Jesus Christ as your Saviour, make your life receive the real joy and contentment, no vanity to get by, and also to get away from the wrath of God's judgement, redeemed from the punishment of Hellfire Lake. So whether it's good time or adversity, believe in Jesus is indeed what the world needs, because human have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

6. I never murder, arson, and do everything according to my conscience, pursue morality, I am not guilty, I don't need to believe in Jesus.

Firstly, let's think about what is sin. People have different definitions of sins in different countries, different laws. Some behaviours may not be sins in some countries, like gambling, prostitution is illegal in many countries, but in some are legal.

However, the Creator, the only true God, His definition of sin is completely different from the world, because He is a holy God and His moral standards far beyond the world. People only look at appearance and behaviours for conviction, but God is looking at man's hearts. For example: a man hates a person who has offended him, his heart is filled malicious thoughts and means to attack his enemy, but he just too afraid of being arrested due to hurting people, therefore dare not move. In this way, he is a good citizen superficially, but actually his heart is already guilty of wounding others. As Jesus said: "Whoever looks at a woman to lust in his heart already committed adultery with him." (Matthew 5:28)

So, who can claim to be guilt free in the face of the Lord who look at humans' heart? Today, even the person with great goodness would not dare to broadcast his thoughts of a week as a movie to the world, or else, it would be such a shame, because humans' hearts are full with all sorts of pride, selfishness, greed, malice, deceit, envy, wrath, promiscuous, etc., not to mention the numbers of sins we have committed through our speech, thought and behaviour from young until now. It's more numerous than our hairs! No wonder the Bible says: "There is none righteous, not even one." (Romans 3:10) Also says: "Because the people have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) "The heart of all things are deceitful, wicked, who can know it I the LORD search the

heart, try the reins, to give every man according line, and do whatever the results of his reward him "(Jeremiah 17: 9- 10)

Again, according to God's definition of sin, people betrayed the law of God is sin. The law of God says, "Should not be greedy," as long as the person is guilty of one, he is equivalent guilty of all.

People do things with conscience supposed to be good, but since Adam sinned, mankind has fallen into sin, and the function of human conscience has gradually lost and numb. This is why everyone says they do things based on their conscience, but the world is still full with all kinds of man made evil. Besides, everyone has different standards of conscience, certain acts to us is righteous but to others are unjust, and man always defend ourselves, find excuses to comfort our own conscience.

Furthermore, the pursuit of morality is also supposed to be good, but the fundamental problem of human being is not that we don't understand goodness, but lack of power to do good. As the Bible mentions on such case: "I am determined to get what is good, but I cannot help out the line." (Romans 7:18) So, no matter how hard does the man practice, he can never reach God's standard. Because, like the surface of a very clean room, when sunlight shines in, you will see that plenty of dusts in the air.

This is why many renowned scholars, high officers, judges, celebrities are often heard to have scandals. Because everyone succumb to the power of sin, man's greatest enemy is himself, man cannot overcome his selfishness, envy, malice, pride, deceit, greed, evil concupiscence and filthy desire. Moreover, according to holiness and righteousness of God's standard, as long as man committed crime in his heart, he is a sinner, not to mention the sin a man has committed through speech or behaviour in his life. Therefore, only through believing in Jesus, then sin can be forgiven. He has died on the cross for our sin, God's salvation is completed, so that people who believe in Him not only get the forgiveness of sin, but salvation of their souls, meanwhile, also have a new life in Him, have the ability to actually do good, and live a new life to the glorify God.

7. I am still young, only later when I am old or about to die will I believe in Jesus, I should enjoy a happy life first?

Such ideas, seems to think that believe in Jesus is just for salvation of the soul in the future, but ignored that believe in Jesus is the vital needs of current life. No age respectively, regardless of children, adolescents, youth, adults, elderly people, we all need the Saviour, Jesus, who is the pastor of our lives, lead us, look after us, preserve us and support those who belong to Him.

Some people think that the day is still long, so they can wait until they were dying, but we do know the vagaries of life, even if you are still young, but no one knows what will happen tomorrow, nor could you be sure of your life expectancy on the earth, because life is not in the hands of human. Many people did not expect accident or terminal illness in the peak of their career and life with lead to premature death. So, God always appealed to the world through the Bible that take advantage of the current occasion while you are still breathing, seize the opportunity, when Jesus come to seek and save you, take the ride, believe and accept as Him as your Saviour sincerely, so you won't regret in the future.

8. The time for me to believe in Jesus has yet to come, because I'm not touched, I would like to listen more, then only consider but did not using emotion?

Listen more, understand deeper are the natural ideas of human being. However, according to the biblical revelation of God, you should who take the opportunity to believe and accept the Lord when you first heard of the gospel. The reason being: whenever you hear of the gospel, Holy Spirit is working in you, if you missed the opportunity, the devil will give you a lot of other ideas, questions to stop you from believing in Jesus. Moreover, when you believe in Jesus, there is no chain tied you down, on the contrary, you are free from bondage. Imagine if believe in Jesus is temporary emotion, or impulse, even if it's falsely believe, you can give up after that. As the saying goes: "True gold fears no fire." The facts throughout ages tell us that not only none regrets to believe in Jesus, on the contrary, countless regrets to believe in Jesus as it's too late.

Moreover, superficially, listen more before believe in Jesus might be good, but practically speaking, as we made by God, in order to fully understand Him, we need to live by faith and receive life from Him, otherwise, one would spend a lifetime to study just a single creation out of billions that were created by God, that is also partially understand the mystery of it, let alone the Almighty Creator Himself?

Do not wait until being touched either, regardless of whether you are moved, you need to make a choice, because it is about your life and death, eternal life or eternal death, please do not delay to believe in Jesus, repent immediately and turn to the Lord.

Moreover, the true moving mostly happen naturally after believe in the Lord. Just like: you heard of someone describe how delicious an apple is, but if you have not tasted it you will not be able to feel the real deal, once you have tasted it, you will have subjective feelings immediately.

- 9. I'm afraid that believe in Jesus will face opposition, isolation and persecution, so I dare not believe? Jesus had said: "Man insult you, persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you, and ye shall rejoice; because your reward is great in heaven." (Matthew 5: 11- 12)**

If you were opposed, persecuted because of your faith in Jesus, you will receive more rewards in heaven, no wonder Jesus commanded that we should rejoice. Think about it: the persecution caused by the devils through human being, has let you receive more rewards in the future, isn't that your blessing? Moreover, Jesus is the Saviour, if you rely on Him, He will give you strength that you may overcome all the persecution, suffering, and also will you from affliction, these are the personal experience of countless Christians, and they are still joyous in their adversity, because they were filled with the presence of the Lord. So, if you dare not or fear of being persecuted than to believe in the Lord, you are not only losing your rewards in the future, but also lost the opportunity of eternal salvation of your soul. At the same time, made your whole family lose the opportunity to listen to the gospel of salvation, because if you believe in the Lord first, you will surely influence your whole family to believe in the Lord. And you also losing the care of the Saviours for your life, aren't you going to face the future alone with more suffering, pain, loss and misery? Quickly believe in Jesus, and save the future regret.

- 10. If God is all-powerful, then ask Him to give me a houseful of gold and silver before I could believe in Him?**

Firstly, you have to understand that the Almighty God have created everything out of nothing, all gold and silver, precious stones and others on earth were created by Him, in Him, nothing is impossible, but he will never use gold or silver or any earthly pleasures to attract people to believe in Jesus, because it does not glorified Him

It is to say, God give those who believe in Jesus with more rewards beyond those earthly treasures. Just like He gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, King of Kings to those who turn to Him, to become their Saviour, God give them eternal life, and the Holy Spirit as well as every spiritual blessing of the heavenly realms. Would it not be far more blessed than the world could ever imagine?

No wonder countless of Christians throughout ages even though suffered persecution, suffering after believe in Jesus but yet joyful and more enthusiastic to love Jesus, preach His gospel, because they already have the best blessing.

My Spiritual Journey 1 (MSJ 1)

The Salvation of God (Gospel) & Sins Confession

A) The Purpose of God Creating Human Being

1. God creates us to:

- a. Love us
- b. Enjoy the relationship with God and experience all His wonders
- c. Give us a beautiful life

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

However, Adam and Eve, the ancestors of mankind have sinned and fallen, sin enters into the world and inherited too all mankind! Sin has separated human away from God, causing human are forbidden from entering heaven; in contrast to go to hell to face the punishment of death.

2. Knowing Sin

- a. All have sinned

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

- b. Definition of Sin

James 4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

- c. Types of Sin

- i) Sin of the mind: Jealousy, rebellion, lustfulness, etc.
- ii) Sin of the act: Stealing, robbery, violence, adultery, cursing, etc.
- iii) Sin of idolatry:

- o Understanding the existence of the devil Satan

All Christians are involved directly and personally in the battle with Satan.

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against. Satan is not restricted only in hell. In fact, it is not only in the earth, but it is also authorizing in above.

- iv) Sin is inherited (from the sins of ancestors in mind, act and idolatry)

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men^[e] because all sinned

- d. Wages of sins = Death

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

e. Consequences of sins

i) Death

- Spiritual death: Inward separation from God.
- Physical death: Outward sicknesses and eventual dying.
- External death: death in relationship, dream, potential, etc.
- Eternal death: banishment from the presence of God forever.

ii) Destruction

- Destroy the purpose of God's creation
- Destroy our relationship with God
- Sins cause everything become ugly

iii) Corruption

- . In mind: became corrupted in thoughts
- . In heart: became foolish & darkened

Ephesians 4:17-19 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the **futility of their minds**. ¹⁸They are **darkened in their understanding**, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹They have become **callous** and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity

Jesus said the human's heart issue thirteen kinds of evil:

Mark 7:21-22 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:

All kind of sins in human being

Romans 1:28-32 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹ they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. ³² Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

We can never remove our sins by our own effort (e.g. doing good, charity, helping the poor, etc.).

The only way is through God!

How do we deal with sin?

1. Only through Jesus Christ (The Way, Truth and Life)

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Jesus died on the cross for our sin

Philippians 2:8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

*** The main purpose of Jesus Christ came to the earth is to save sinners.**

1 Timothy 1:15 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.

Matthew 9:13 “But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”

How to be Saved? By Confessing that Jesus is Lord

Romans 10:9-10 That is you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

1. Confess (with mouth)
2. Believe (in heart)
3. Pray

Altar Call

Personal sins checklist (Sinful acts and thoughts)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jealousy | <input type="checkbox"/> Hot tempered | <input type="checkbox"/> Greed | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebellious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snatching | <input type="checkbox"/> Stealing | <input type="checkbox"/> Adultery | <input type="checkbox"/> Cursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deceits | <input type="checkbox"/> Lying | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheating | <input type="checkbox"/> Pride |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selfishness | <input type="checkbox"/> Pornography | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual assault | <input type="checkbox"/> Affairs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unforgiveness / Hatred / Bitterness | | <input type="checkbox"/> Slanders / Gossips | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence / Vengeful / Brawl | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addictions (Gambling, drugs, alcohol, games, internet etc.) | | | |

