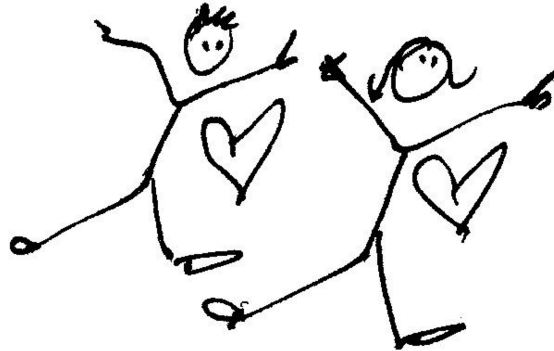




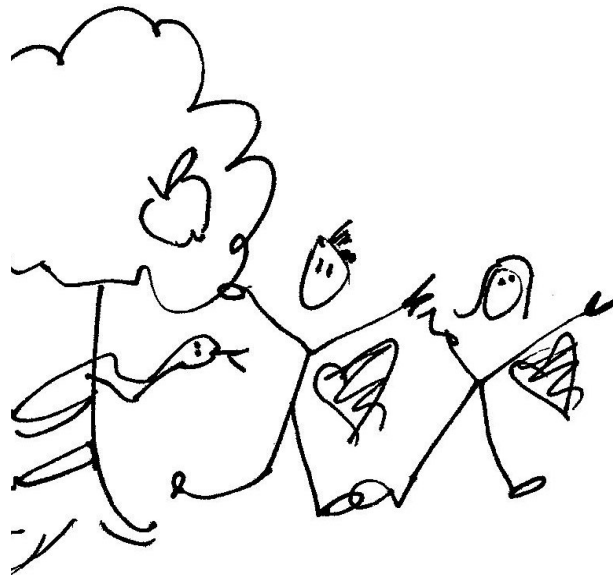
THE GOSPEL

CREATOR GOD MADE IN HIS IMAGE: *Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:27*



God created the world. He made man in His image and appointed them to rule over creation on His behalf. The world was good; mankind was perfect, their hearts were pure and upright, and, therefore, they were able to enjoy perfect fellowship with each other and with their Creator God.

SIN AND DEATH: *Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:6; Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3; Colossians 1:21*

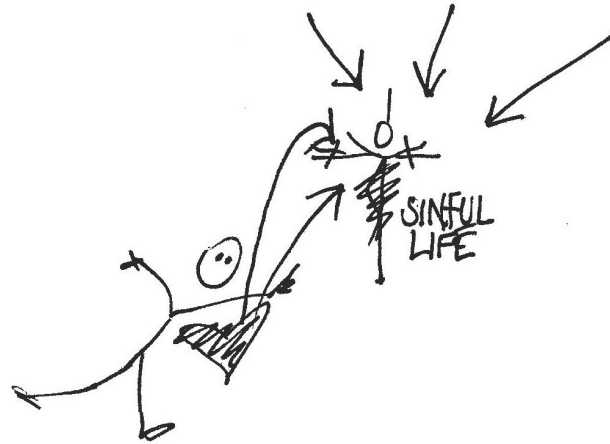


God provided above and beyond. He gave Adam and Eve all they needed and more.

He issued only one command—they were not to eat fruit from the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Like trusting children, they were to leave it to God to define good and evil for them. Sadly, however, they were tempted by Satan in the form of a serpent, believed his lies, doubted God, disobeyed His command, and ate the fruit from the forbidden tree. Sin entered the world and death through sin. Man died spiritually that day, and his heart, originally good, became corrupt.

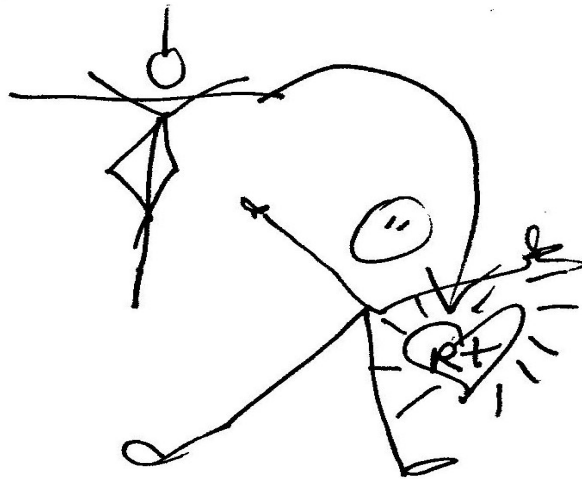
∞ THE GREAT EXCHANGE ∞

GOD OFFERS HIS SON: *Romans 3:10-11, 5:6-8, 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:21a; Colossians 1:21*



The corruption and disease of sin continue from Adam and Eve to all their children. No one is born righteous. No one seeks God. The entire human race is at enmity with God, entrenched in sin, rebellious, defiant, idolatrous, and therefore, separated from Him. The penalty for sin is death and eternal separation from God. But God, in His great love and mercy, provided His only Son to stand in our place. Jesus willingly died on the cross and took upon Himself the punishment that all deserve for their sin.

JESUS GIVES HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS: *2 Corinthians 5:21b; Ephesians 2:8-9; Colossians 1:22, Ezekiel 36:26*



By faith, those who trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins receive eternal life instead of the eternal death that they deserve. Jesus gives them a new heart and restores them to a right relationship with God. They are indwelt and sealed by the Holy Spirit and become children of God. Those who once were spiritually dead and separated from God become new creations in Christ!

WE ARE RIGHTEOUS IN CHRIST *Ezekiel 36:26; Colossians 1:22-23; Ephesians 2:10*



The new heart that God gives us through salvation results in new behavior in our lives. God saves us even when we are sinners, but He doesn't just leave us there; He also gives us the Holy Spirit! Although we do attain perfection in this life, God calls us to walk with Him and strive for ever-increasing righteousness. He guides us, assists us, and transforms us through His Word and the power of the Holy Spirit. As we carry out the work He has called and created us to do, we slowly but steadily grow in holiness.

ETERNAL LIFE WITH HIM: *John 3:16; 1 Peter 1:3-4*



God has shown His great love to the world by giving eternal life through His one and only Son, Jesus Christ. Those who are saved through Jesus have eternal hope, an eternal inheritance, and an eternal purpose. They will enjoy sweet fellowship with God and glorify Him throughout eternity.