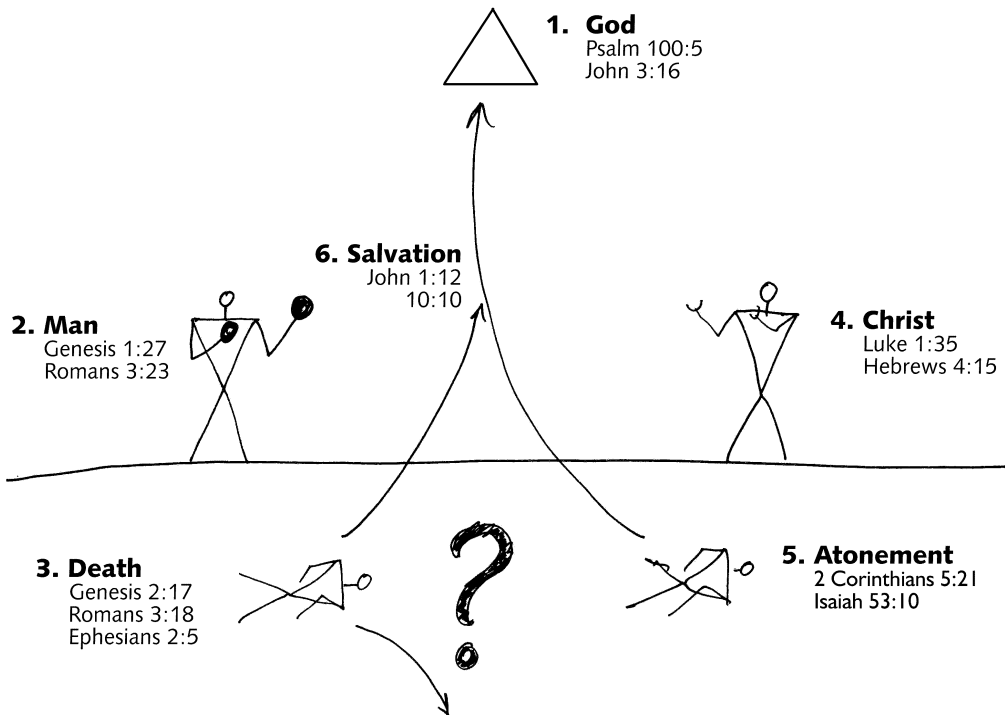


Gospel Illustration



1. God is creator and ruler.
 - a. Eternal, All-powerful, Good. (Psalm 90:2; 100:5)
 - b. Created the whole universe. (Genesis 1:1, 31)
 - Everything was good: beautiful, orderly, happy.
 - c. He governs the universe. (Psalm 9:8)
 - Not an absentee landlord.
 - d. Gave the Law for us to obey. (Deuteronomy 30:11-14)
 - e. He loves his creation. (John 3:16)
2. Man was created in the image of God.
 - a. Not God, but much like God. (Genesis 1:27)
 - b. In charge of carrying out God's rule over the earth. (Romans 14:12)
 - c. Obligated to obey the Law.
 - d. Enjoyed God's love and presence.
3. Man rebelled against God.
 - a. Adam did first – ate the fruit. (Genesis 3:6)
 - b. We all do, by breaking the Law. (Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23)
 - This is called Sin.
 - c. Man is building his own rebel kingdom instead of God's kingdom.
 - d. All mankind is plunged into misery as a result.
 - Selfish. (Philippians 2:21)
 - No one is righteous (Romans 3:10-12)
4. God punishes us with death.
 - a. This is the Law. (Genesis 2:17)
 - b. God is angry with us for rejecting Him as ruler. (Romans 3:18)
 - c. We are all “dead” in that we are separated from God. (Isaiah 59:2; Ephesians 2:5)
 - d. All our bodies shall die and go to eternal punishment in hell.
5. Christ lived for us.
 - a. Jesus is the Son of God. (Luke 1:35; John 20:31)
 - b. He lived a life of perfect obedience to God's Law. (Hebrews 4:15; 5:8-9; Romans 5:19)
 - c. He was the perfect prophet, priest, and king. (Hebrews 1:1-3)
6. Christ died in our place.
 - a. He died an innocent sacrifice for us. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - b. God expended His pent-up anger against us on Christ when he hung on the cross. (Isaiah 53:10)
 - c. He destroyed the work of the devil. (Colossians 2:15)
7. Christ rose again and rules from heaven.
 - a. Death could not hold God in its grip. Life overcame death.
 - b. Jesus now lives in heaven. (Hebrews 3:14, 8:1)
 - c. He rules – saves and protects those who trust and obey Him. (1 Peter 1:5)
 - He is building his Kingdom. (Matthew 16:18; 1 Cor. 15:24-25)
 - He is destroying the wicked.
 - d. Intercedes for his people. (Hebrews 7:25)
 - e. Teaches us through scripture and the Holy Spirit. (1 Timothy 3:16; John 16:13)
8. We may escape God's anger.
 - a. Believe that Christ is Son of God. (Romans 10:6-11)
 - b. Admit your sinfulness; that God's anger against you is justified.
 - c. Accept his death as a substitute for the punishment you deserve.
 - d. Repent – turn from your old ways. (Mark 1:15)
 - e. Be baptized.
 - f. Obey Christ's commands.
9. Christ will deliver all his people safe to his Father.
 - a. We are safe with Christ. He will never leave us. (John 1:12)
 - b. He will give us the Holy Spirit to guide us, encourage us, and give us the power to obey Him. (John 16:7, 13)
 - c. He gives us meaningful lives now. (John 10:10)
 - d. He will take us to Heaven to live with Him when we die.