

# The Condensation and Exaltation of Jesus Christ

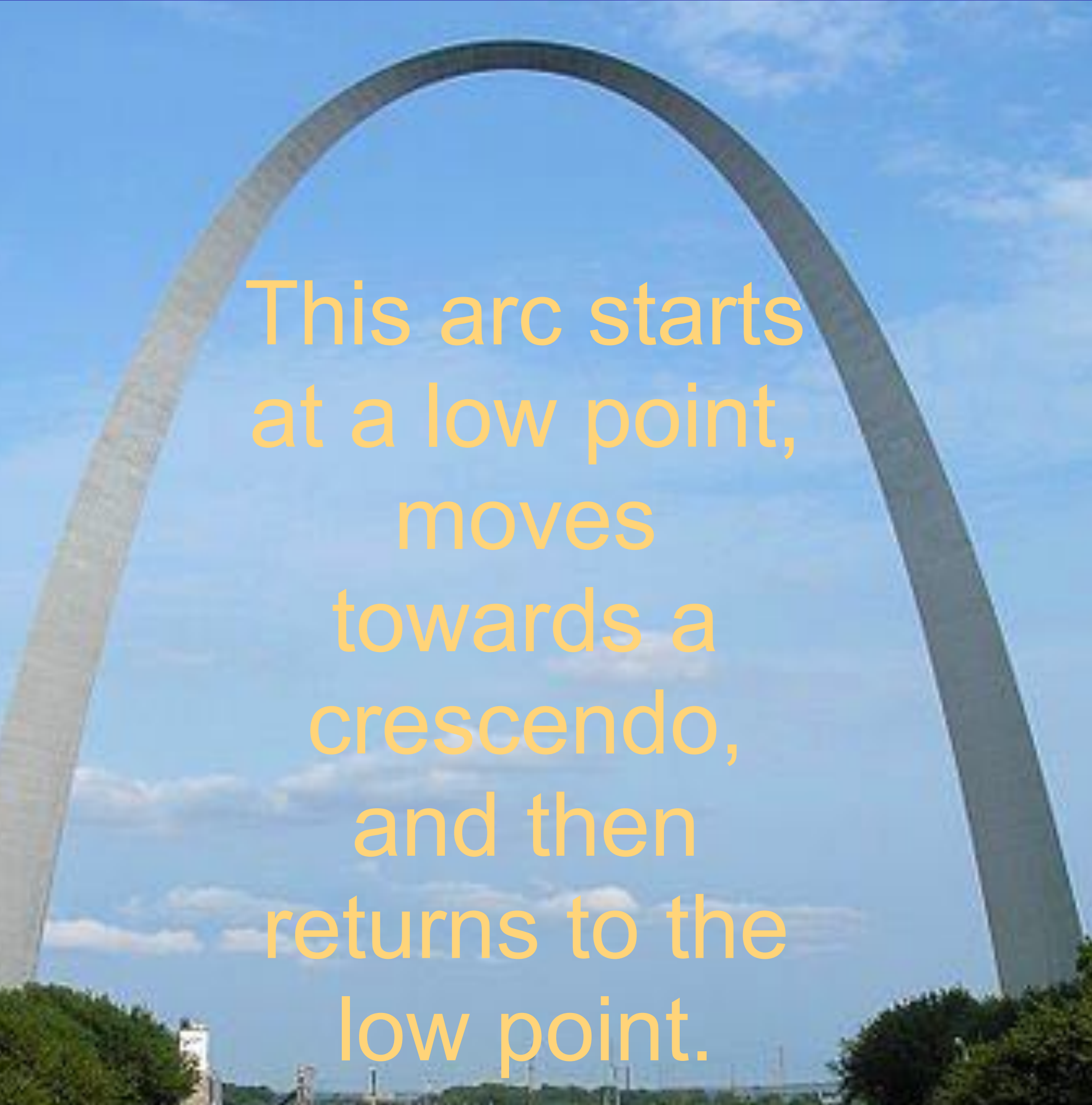
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# Two Contrasting Parabolas



This arc starts at a low point, moves towards a crescendo, and then returns to the low point.

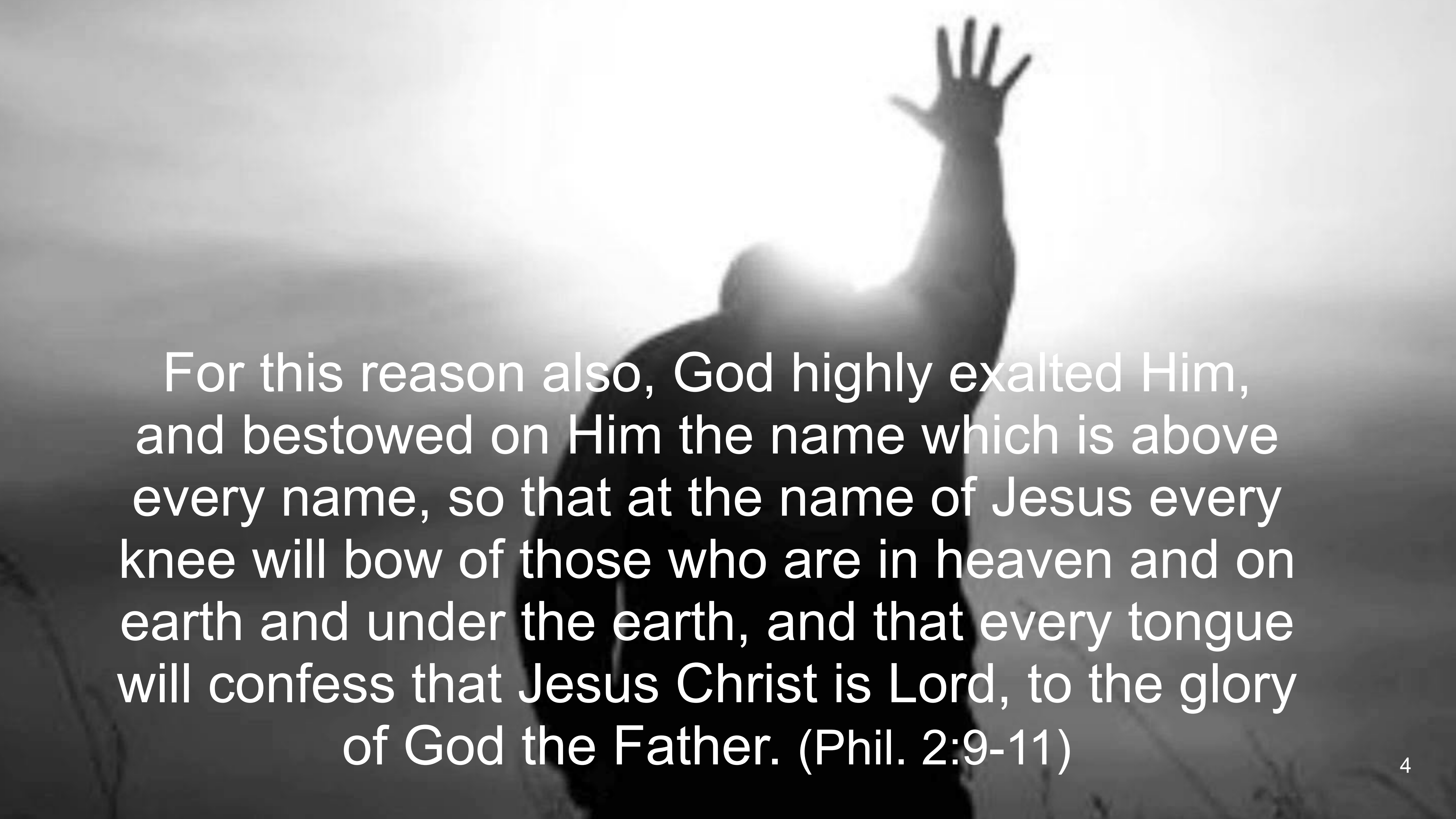


In the case of our Lord Jesus Christ the arc is reversed.




# The Great Parabola of Scripture

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:5-8).



For this reason also, God highly exalted Him,  
and bestowed on Him the name which is above  
every name, so that at the name of Jesus every  
knee will bow of those who are in heaven and on  
earth and under the earth, and that every tongue  
will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory  
of God the Father. (Phil. 2:9-11)





In those  
seven  
verses Paul  
teaches  
us...

## **From Glory to Glory**

- the divinity of Christ,
- His eternal preexistence,
- His equality with God the Father,
- His incarnation,
- His full humanity,
- His voluntary death on the cross, and
- His eternal reign as Lord over all.



# The Pre-existence of Christ

- He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being (John 1:2-3).
- No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man (John 3:13).
- Jesus said, “You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world (John 8:23)



# The Incarnation

- In His descent from His majestic position in eternity past, Jesus was made in the likeness of men through a miraculous conception and a virgin birth.
- Not only did the Holy Spirit supernaturally bring about the immaculate conception within the virgin Mary, even more remarkable, He united the divine nature with the human nature in Christ.
- Jesus emptied Himself by refusing to cling to His advantages, privileges, and prerogatives as God.



# Two Natures in Christ

- Jesus "had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:17).
- The uncreated, infinite and eternal nature of God was fully integrated with the created, finite nature of man.
- The eternal glory of the Son of God was concealed by the perishable flesh of man.



# The Steep Descent from King to Slave

- The Son of God gave up His glory in heaven and the worship of angels to be rejected by His own (John 1:11).
- “He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face. He was despised, and we did not esteem Him” (Isa. 53:3).



# The Lowest Point of His Descent

A silhouette of a person on a cross is positioned on the left side of the image. The background is a dramatic sky with heavy, dark clouds and a bright, glowing light source, likely the sun, creating a strong contrast and highlighting the edges of the clouds. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

- The perfect and sinless Son of Man became sin for His people (2 Cor. 5:21).
- As He was being immersed in the wrath of a sin-avenging God, He cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?" (Mat. 27:46).





The Only Hope for Sinners

# Jesus Christ

He did for us what we could never do for ourselves. He lived a sinless life of perfect obedience then offered Himself, the eternal God-man and cancelled the eternal sin debt. Finite man can never say, "It is finished."



# **“It Is Finished” Speaks Volumes**

**Righteousness was perfected,  
divine justice was satisfied,  
blood was shed,  
redemption was paid,  
sins were forgiven,  
reconciliation was achieved,  
death was conquered, and  
salvation was secured.**



# Righteousness Was Perfected

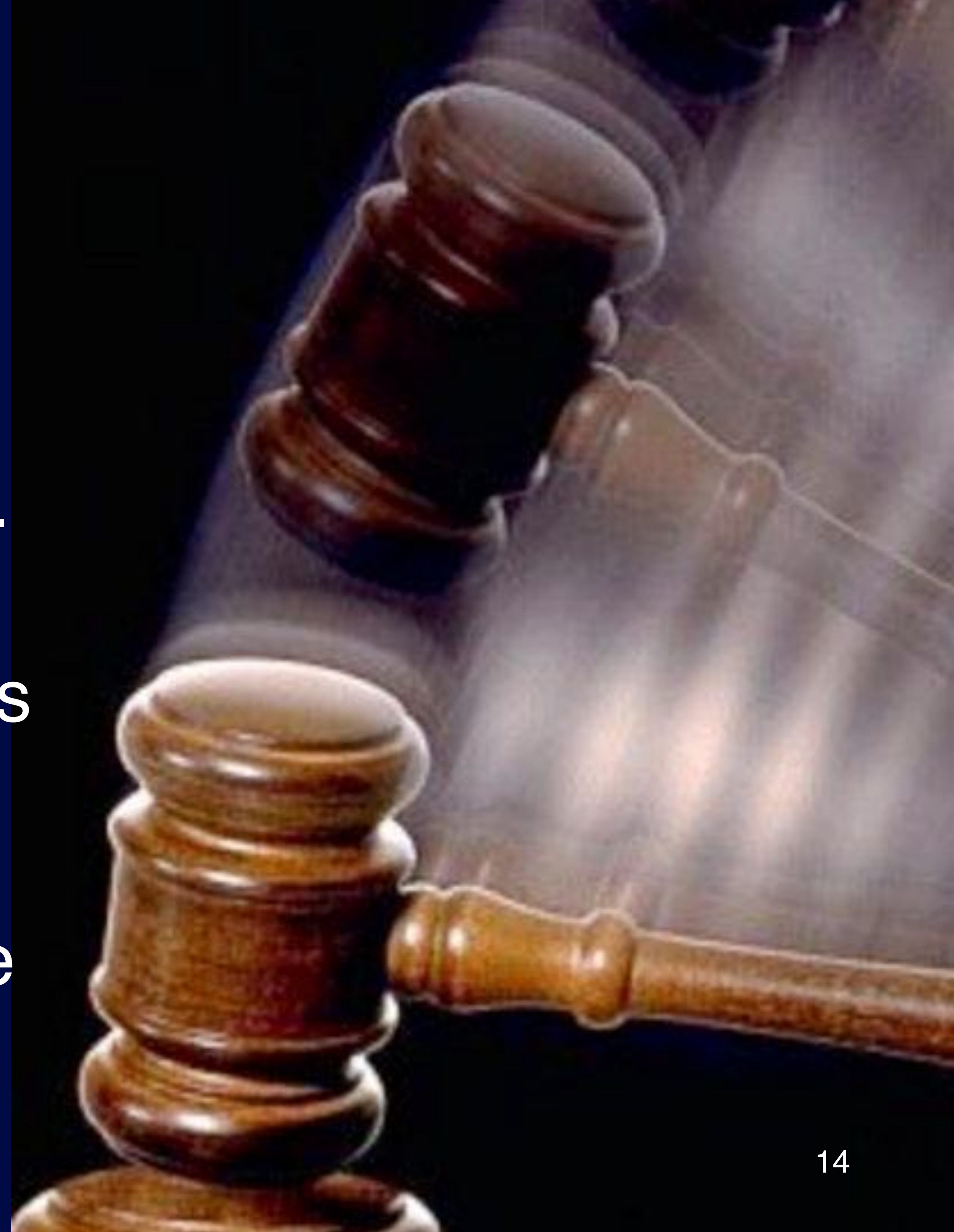
From the cradle to the cross Jesus lived His life in perfect obedience to the law. He now offers His righteousness as a gift to those who trust Him (Rom. 5:17).

By one offering He has made perfect forever those who are being sanctified (Heb. 10:14).



# Divine Justice was Satisfied

- God, the righteous judge, can not let the guilty to go free (Rom. 3:21-26).
- Justice was satisfied when God provided a sinless substitute. Jesus bore sins of His people and was crushed for their iniquities. All the righteous demands of the law were upheld so that believers could be acquitted (Isa. 53:5).





# Blood Was Shed

- According to the Law, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness (Heb. 9:22).
- The bloody animal sacrifices of the OT foreshadowed the Savior's blood being poured out for the forgiveness of sin (Matt. 26:28).



# Redemption was Paid

Since everyone is born enslaved to sin and under the curse of the law, Christ had to pay for our redemption (Gal. 3:13).

What was the price? "You were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold...but with precious blood...the blood of Christ" (1 Pet. 1:18-19).



# Sins Were Forgiven

Christ's death  
“canceled out  
the certificate of  
debt consisting  
of decrees  
against us.”  
They were  
nailed to the  
**cross** (Col. 2:13-14).

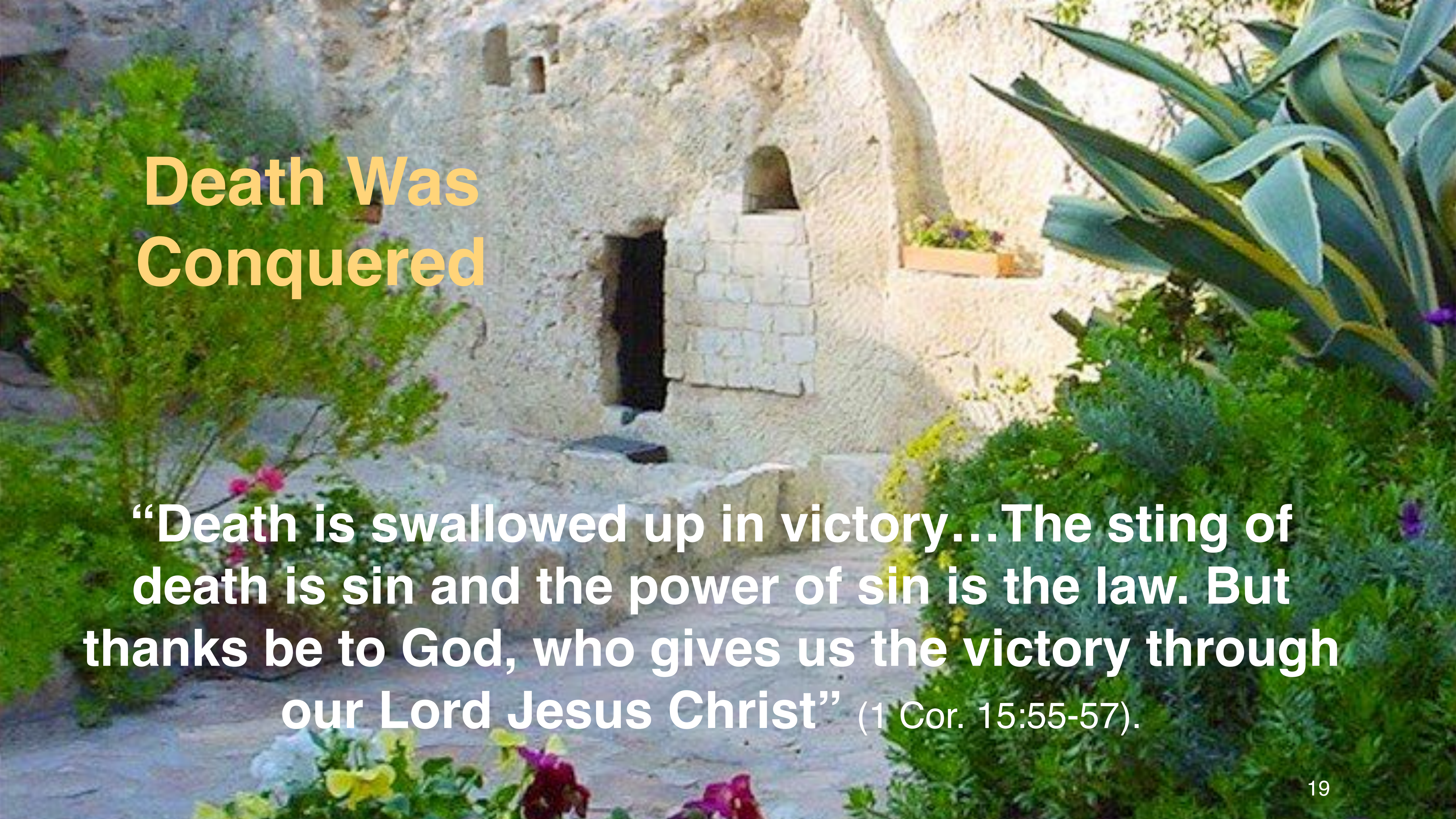


# Reconciliation Was Achieved

**God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself not counting their trespasses against them** (2 Cor. 5:19).

**Christ “died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God”** (1 Pet. 3:18).





# Death Was Conquered

**“Death is swallowed up in victory...The sting of death is sin and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:55-57).**



# Salvation Was Secured

A shepherd stands on a grassy hill, looking over a large flock of sheep. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The shepherd is silhouetted against the bright background, holding a staff. The sheep are clustered together in the foreground and middle ground, filling the lower half of the frame.

To every believer The Good Shepherd says, "I give them eternal life and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:28). The Lord Jesus protects His flock and loses not one (John 6:39). Salvation is secured by the power and promises of almighty God.



# From Death to Life

- Three days after Jesus finished His perfect work of redemption God gloriously raised Him from the dead.
- Christ was raised from the grave to prove who He is - the eternal Son of God and victorious Savior. He opened the way for others to follow.



# From The Earth to the Sky

- Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into heavenly glory. He parted from His disciples and was carried up into heaven. And after worshiping Him, they returned to Jerusalem with great joy (Luke 24:51-52).
- The suffering Servant was lifted up to be the sovereign Shepherd of His sheep and an advocate of the Father who pleads our case (1 John 2:1).



# The King of Kings

- After His perfect obedience to His Father's will, the Lord Jesus returned to the glory He had with the Father before the world was made (John 17:5).
- Having "endured the cross," He "sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Heb. 12:2).
- "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever" (1 Tim. 1:17).



# The Vision of Isaiah

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory.” (Isaiah 61:1-3).



- An almighty and awesome advocate, the Alpha and Omega, abased to atone for adulterers and alcoholics
- Blessed, beloved bread of life, bludgeoned, bruised and bloodied between burglars
- Creator, Christ, and Cornerstone, condemned and crucified on a cross for those chosen before creation
- Divine Deity and Door, who descended and died to deliver dirty, depraved degenerates from death
- Exalted, eternal Emmanuel who endured enmity to enrich His elect for eternity.



- Faithful and fair form of the Father who freely forfeited His life to forgive failures
- Great and Glorious God, goaded and gashed to give the Gospel of grace to the guilty
- Holy and Heavenly Human Head who humbled Himself to heal the helpless and hopeless
- Incomparable “I AM,” the incarnation of innocence, insulted for idolaters
- Jesus is the Judge and Justifier of the unjust



- King of Kings, before which every knee shall kneel
- Lion and Lamb, Lord and Life, Light and Love,  
lowered to lay down His life for the least of the lost
- Majestic Maker, Master, Messiah and Man  
murdered to mediate mercy to mankind
- Name above every name, nailed naked for the  
nasty and naughty
- Only omnipotent, omniscient One who overcame  
for all the offenses of outcasts



- Perfect and pure Prince of Peace and Prophet, pierced and persecuted to pardon prodigals, prisoners and prostitutes
- Quintessence of quality, quashed for quarreling quacks
- Resurrected righteous Ruler, Redeemer and Rock who resigned His royal residence to ransom, rescue and reconcile ruthless rebels
- Supreme and sufficient Savior, Shepherd of the sheep, savagely sacrificed to sovereignly secure salvation for spiritually-dead sinners



- Testifier to the truth, tortured for thieves, trespassers and transgressors
- Unchanging and uniquely unblemished, yet upended for the unworthy and unrighteous
- Venerated Vine that verily, verily voiced victory over our vices
- Wonderful Word and the only Way, worthy to be worshipped, yet wounded for the worst of the wicked
- Exalted Example, executed to excuse the excluded



- Yahweh, saying yes and yielding to yahoos
- Zenith, zealously zapped for zeroes.

*Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him and the grave could not hold Him. He is our awesome God and all-sufficient savior!*

Let us share the greatest news anyone will ever hear about the greatest gift they will ever receive!



THE GREATEST NEWS  
*Ever Told About*

THE GREATEST MAN  
*Who Ever Lived*  
*Who Offers*

THE GREATEST GIFT  
*Ever Given*



**Scripture is the seed that  
brings forth life**

**God's Perfection**

**Man's Problem**

**God's Provision**

**Man's Part**

**God's Promise**

**Man's Privilege**



# If You're Not Sure You Are a Christian

- **Talk to an elder** - they will help you examine your faith (2 Cor. 13:5)
- **Abide in the Word** - then you will know the truth and be set free from religious deception (John 8:31-32).
- **Repent** - with godly sorrow for your sins and cry out to God for mercy (Luke 18:13; 2 Cor. 7:10).
- **Believe the Gospel** - Trust the Lord Jesus alone for salvation (Rom. 10:9-10).
- **Love God** - with all you heart, soul and mind (Mat. 22:37; 1 Cor. 16:22).







# False Converts

- desire to be saved from the punishment of sin but not from sin itself
- desire blessings from Christ but not a relationship with Him
- desire Jesus as a priest to pardon sin, but not as a prophet to instruct them or a king to rule over them
- no desire to obey Jesus from the heart



# How Can We Be Sure Our Faith Is Genuine?

**Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you - unless, of course, you fail the test.  
(2 Cor. 13:5)**