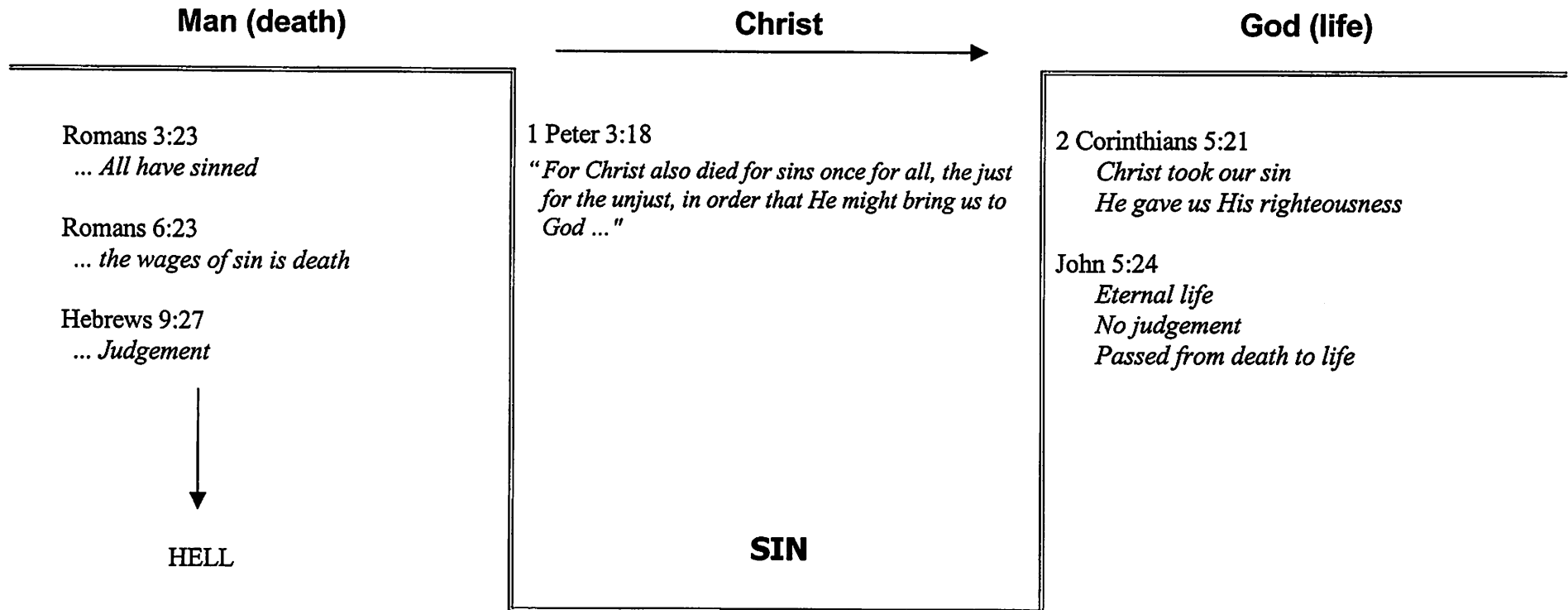


The Bridge Illustration



- ☐ Ephesians 2:8-9
"Salvation is a gift of God"
"You cannot earn it with your good works"

- ☐ Romans 10:9-10
"You must confess Christ as your Lord"
"This involves turning from your sin to Christ"

The Bridge Illustration

1. Draw **Man** on one side of paper and **God** on the other, with a line under each.
2. State: God had a relationship with man when he was first created, but something broke it.
Ask: Do you know what broke it? Some will guess it. You can state it. **SIN**.
3. Draw the gulf of **SIN** so that you now have the lines as shown on the previous page with **Man**, **SIN**, and **God** as shown.
4. Have them look up Romans 3:23 (or quote it to them).
What does this verse say about you and me? ... answer: we are both sinners (you are on the same level as them.)
5. Under the **Man** side, write out "*Romans 3:23 - all have sinned.*"
6. Have them look up Romans 6:23 (or quote it to them).
Ask them what wages are. They will answer ... something you earn or that you get paid.
Point out that what you get paid for sin is death.
7. Under the **Man** side, write out "*Romans 6:23 - the wages of sin is death.*"
Emphasize spiritual death ... man is dead to God.
8. Have them look up Hebrews 9:27.
Point out that after a man dies he will face judgement.
9. Under the **Man** side, write out "*Hebrews 9:27 - Judgement.*"
You can even draw an arrow pointing down and write "**HELL**."
10. Ask them how things look for man? ... not too good.
11. Tell them that God knew man's situation and still desired to have a relationship with him, so He sent His Son, Jesus Christ.
12. Draw a bridge from the **Man** side to the **God** side.
An arrow pointing from **Man's** side to **God's** side.
Put the name **Jesus Christ** over the arrow or bridge.
13. Write out one or two gospel verses under the arrow or bridge ... 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24; John 14:6.
Make the point that Jesus Christ died for our sins to bring us to God.
Also make the point that Jesus Christ is alive today.
14. Now share with them 2 Corinthians 5:21. Make the point that Christ took our sin and gave us His righteousness.
He took care of the sin issue (stated on the **Man** side).
15. Under the **God** side, write out "*2 Corinthians 5:21 - Christ took our sin, He gave us His righteousness.*"
16. Have them read John 5:24 (or quote it). Write "*John 5:24*" under the **God** side.
Ask: What three things are promised in this verse? Write them out under the **God** side, under *John 5:24*:
 - 1). Write "*Eternal life*"
 - 2). Write "*No judgement*"
 - 3). Write "*Passed from death to life*"
17. Point out how Christ took care of sin, death, and judgement stated on the **Man** side.
18. Ask: Which side are you on ... **Man's** side or **God's** side?
If they say **God's** side ask: How did you get there?
19. If you get a works answer use Ephesians 2:8-9.
Write out at the bottom of the page - "*Ephesians 2:8-9 - Salvation is a gift of God, you cannot earn it with your good works.*"
20. When they admit they are on **Man's** side, put an X on the **Man** side.
21. Read or share Romans 10:9-10.
Explain what Lord means ... sovereign God, whom they fall before as master of their life.
Explain that this involves turning from their sin to Christ - repentance.
22. Write at the bottom of the page - "*Romans 10:9-10 - You must receive Christ as your Lord.*"
"*This involves turning from your sin to Christ.*"
23. Ask: Would you like to receive Christ as your Savior and Lord?

The Bridge Illustration

Man (death)

Christ

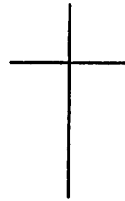
God (life)

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23)

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

"And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment" (Hebrews 9:27)

"dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power," (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)



"For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;" (1 Peter 3:18)

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

"and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." (1 Peter 2:24)

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.'" (John 14:6)

SIN

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life." (John 5:24)

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Corinthians 5:21)

- ☐ *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)*
- ☐ *"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation." (Romans 10:9-10)*
- ☐ *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life." (1 John 5:13)*