



2026 3Q First and Second Corinthians

Lesson 8: The Power of Christ's Resurrection

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

What do you understand the title of the lesson to mean—"The Power of Christ's Resurrection"?

What is the power of Christ's resurrection?

The lesson suggests in the third paragraph,

- If Jesus is not risen, He is not who He said He was, the Cross had no effect, and our sins have not been paid for. *Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2026, First and Second Corinthians*, p. 64.

What is being suggested by the lesson that is the power of Christ's resurrection?

Are they suggesting its power is legal power, the power to pay the legal penalty of the law, the death penalty for our sins?

If that were the power, the result, the impact, the purpose of Christ's death and resurrection, what would that suggest the sin problem to be?

Wouldn't that suggest the sin problem is a legal problem—a problem of rule-breaking, and that the solution is to get someone to pay the penalty to the rule-maker?

What ultimately does such a structure teach about God? That He is the source of inflicted pain and death and is the one from whom we need protection. This is the corruption of the imposed law lie and if we teach this it robs the sacrifice of Christ, His death and resurrection, from its power to save. How?

What is the power that actually saves?

- For I am not ashamed of the **gospel** of Christ, for it is the **power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For **in it the righteousness of God is revealed**... Romans 1:16-17 NKVJ, emphasis mine.

What is the power of salvation—gospel power, which Paul explicitly and directly states is what?

The righteousness of God—the truth about God is the eternal gospel, the eternal good news, God is not an imperial dictator who makes up rules and uses power to coerce and force. God is love and is Creator and His laws are design laws life is built upon. It is sin that causes death for sin deviates from the very laws of life built into the operations of our being.

When we present the resurrection, the gospel, or any aspect of the plan of salvation as legal, as paying penalties, we present God as the source of the problem, the one who inflicts death and that misrepresents the righteousness of God and obstructs the gospel.

The true gospel is that God is not like that, God is love, truth, the Creator and Sustainer of reality that when humankind deviated from Him, from life, encoded error and corruption into their being, God, through Jesus, acted to purge the sin—the corruption. As John the Baptist said, Jesus is the Lamb of God who **takes away the sin of the world!** Jesus takes away the sickness, the disease of lies, fear, distrust of God and restores us to rightness with God through the gospel power, the good news about God that wins us to trust so that we receive the life of Christ downloaded into our hearts and minds via the Holy Spirit.

This is reality—and thus the power of the resurrection has nothing penal legal in it, it is the power of reality, the power of truth and love restored within the heart and mind of humanity, first in the person of Jesus Christ when He purged the spirit of fear and selfishness passed down from Adam. Then into each of us who trust Him by the indwelling Holy Spirit. We see in Christ not only the truth about God that wins to trust, but the reality that God’s design laws restored into the living being result in life, resurrection, recreation, restoration, cohesion, harmony with God the source of life. This is reality, it is structural, it is built and encoded into the fabric of reality by God.

Jesus’ resurrection is the predictable, unavoidable, natural, result of restoring God’s law into humanity and purging the cause of death—as Jesus said:

- He said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.” Mark 9:31 NIV84.
- “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.” Mark 10:33-34 NIV84.

How was Jesus able to say this so confidently? Two options:

- He saw through time and saw the future before it happened—a prophetic vision of the future that directly impacted His life.
- He knew how reality works, the laws of life, the cause of death, and that by purging the cause of death and restoring the cause of life He would rise again.

Consider, can you predict what will happen if I drop a pen? Do you have the gift of prophecy or do you know how reality works?

Consider the impact on Jesus’ mission if He saw through time to the outcome.

- Did Jesus have to overcome sin as a human being?

- Tempted in all points like we are and overcome by faith, trust, in His Father exercising only those abilities available to us?
- What happens to the strength of a temptation if you know the outcome of the event will turn out in your favor in the end, versus you don't know?
- Would the temptation to distrust the Father have been as strong if He had been given a vision of the future and already knew by prophetic vision the outcome?
- Then He would not have been tempted like us in every way.

Therefore, my view is that He could not see through time, but did know exactly His Father, God's design laws, the cause of death, His mission, and knew that when He completed His mission, restoring God's law of life into humanity, He would rise again—and He knew all of this by faith, not by prophetic vision.

Interestingly, I found this quote in a Bible commentary on the life of Christ and this author seems to share my understanding, it is from the book *The Desire of Ages*:

- Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. The **Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb**. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. **He feared** that sin was so offensive to God that Their separation was to be eternal. Christ **felt the anguish** which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race. It was the sense of sin, **bringing the Father's wrath upon Him** as man's substitute, that made the cup He drank so bitter, and broke the heart of the Son of God. *The Desire of Ages* p. 753, emphasis mine.

This describes the reality of what Christ accomplished—design law. As a human He had to live and function as a human in order to redeem humans. Thus He could not see through time to the outcome—He knew by faith, but understanding reality, God's design laws. But He partook of humanity infected by Adam with the spirit of fear and could experience the fear, the emotional anguish, that that corrupt spirit causes. But despite those internal temptation, Jesus always chose not His human will seeking to save self by giving into temptation, but to trust His Father and act only in love.

And the Father acted by bringing His wrath upon Jesus—which is what? Withdrawing His presence, love, strength, assurance, and leaving Jesus to reap what Jesus freely chose, and in Jesus' case He chose to be our Savior, to fulfill His mission to purge the spirit of fear and replace it fully with His Spirit of love and trust—and thus He rose on the third day exactly as He knew He would through faith, through trust, through knowing God's design laws and how they work.

The penal legal lies interfere with the healing of hearts and minds because those lies keep fear of God alive in the heart.

So what is the true power of the resurrection—consider what Paul wrote to the Philippians:

- But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:7-11 NIV84.

What did you hear that Paul described as the power of Christ's resurrection?

Here is my paraphrase:

- But how did it benefit me? I was still just as sick of heart, just as diseased of mind, and my condition was just as terminal. I gladly give up all that work (all that ritualistic, legal role-playing) for the only true Remedy, the only true cure—Jesus Christ. I will say even more: The fanciest delicacies, the richest treasures, the highest honors this world has to offer — they are all nothing but garbage compared to the greatest gift of all that comes from knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I give up everything this world has to offer so that I might be with Christ and be recreated in Christlike character—not from my own efforts or attempts to cure myself, not by observing some code, but by true re-creation of mind, heart and character that God accomplishes when we trust him. And this trust is established by the evidence of God's supreme trustworthiness provided by Christ. My one and only goal is to be intimately connected with Christ in heart, mind, motive, character and sympathy, to genuinely know him and be known as his friend, to experience the eradication of selfishness and the growth of the life-giving power of his love within me, to die completely to self—and to one day experience resurrection from the dead, and life everlasting. Philippians 3:7-11 REM.

SUNDAY

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-4:

- Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 NIV84.

What do you make of this phrase: "Christ died for our sins"?

What law lens do you read it through? If imposed law, then people always hear our individual sinful acts, the bad deeds, the legal crimes.

But the Greek word translated “sins” is also translates as “sin” or “sinful” or “sinfulness.”

Do you hear it differently if it were translated as, “Christ died for our sin” or “Christ died for human sinfulness”?

And that is what the Bible actually teaches. Jesus did not die to pay a legal penalty for every individual act of sin committed by every person. He died to “take away the sin of the world” as John the Baptist preached.

The acts of sin that people commit are a result of the sin-condition with which we were all born. And that condition is a life, spirit, animation of fear, distrust, and selfishness. And that condition came upon the human race because of Adam’s break of trust in God.

Thus the Bible teaches:

- Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come. Romans 5:12-14 NIV84.

All human beings were in Adam when Adam sinned, meaning that we are all descended from Adam and we all inherit his life. Once he sinned, the only life he had to pass along is the diseased, sin-sick, fear-ridden life of spirit of fear. Thus as the Bible teaches we are all born in sin conceived in iniquity.

We are not born legally guilty, we are born terminal, with a condition that naturally results in symptoms and death unless cured by our Creator.

Thus, death passed to all humans because all are born sinful. The sin sickness was in the world before the written law was given. But people are unable to recognize it without the written law to expose it, but just because people couldn’t account for it, or recognize it, death still happened because all were sick and dying, even though no one was breaking specifically encoded commands.

Why? Because sin is not a legal problem, it is a lethal problem, a problem of our constitution, of the inner operations of our being, an infection of fear and selfishness which we inherit from our parents.

Jesus came to deal with this problem by purging the spirit of fear from humanity and replacing it with His sinless spirit, life, of love and trust. And this could only be done by partaking of that very same life breathed into Adam by God, and which was corrupted by Adam, so that Jesus becomes a real member, descendant of Adam, but also by introducing into this species a new sinless life, which Jesus accomplished by His incarnation when the Holy Spirit came upon Mary and conceived Jesus’ humanity within her.

And therefore, in Jesus, the cause of death was eliminated and the cause of life restored and Jesus rose again. Thus the power of His resurrection is the power of truth and love restored within the human being that destroyed the cause of death.

MONDAY

The first paragraph states, “Without the Resurrection, believers have no hope in the present, much less in the future.” Why?

Why is it true that without Jesus’ resurrection we have no hope?

The lesson points out that without the resurrection our faith is in vain, and then goes on to say in the last paragraph,

- “If Jesus is not alive, faith is fruitless, a delusion, because our sins have not been forgiven (1 Cor. 15:17). We would be false witnesses, deceiving and being deceived (1 Cor. 15:15).” *Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2026, First and Second Corinthians*, p. 66.

Thoughts about this? Is this a true statement or is this statement teaching falsehood?

The lesson does what the lesson repeatedly does, and that is it references the Bible to make it appear what it is teaching biblical truth when in reality they insert their errors, their false penal legal distortions. Specifically, they say without the resurrection our sins have not been forgiven.

Analyze that statement? What is it saying? What is the underlying teaching?

This is the distorted theology that always comes from believing the lie that God’s law functions like human law. In that distorted system it is falsely believed that the problem of sin is legal, and justice requires God to punish sin, someone has to be punished for sin, and if Christ didn’t rise, then the payment was not sufficient and God is not legally allowed to forgive us. Thus they believe salvation is getting legal pardon or forgiveness from God through the legal payment of Jesus to God or God’s law.

When we return to reality and leave the penal legal fantasy behind, we realize that when Adam sinned God did not get changed, God’s law did not change for it is the law life is built upon, but the actual condition of Adam and Eve changed, they were corrupted, and deteriorating and without remedy would die from their sin condition—as the Bible teaches, the wages of sin is death, sin when full grown brings forth death etc.

So without the resurrection there is no cure for our condition—we remain terminal and no works on our part, and no legal adjustment on God’s part, no forgiveness extended from the heart of God, which He freely does extend, fixes our terminal condition.

The lesson suggests that the problem is that we wouldn't have our sins forgiven, but that is not the problem to our salvation. God forgave our sins immediately, but humanity was still dead in trespass, terminal in sin. In order to save humanity God not only had to forgive, which He did because He is love, but God had to provide remedy, to actual fix what was broken in humanity and restore humanity back to perfection. That is what Jesus did for us—if He didn't do this, God is still sinless, holy, love, and perfection, God is still forgiving toward us, but we are still dying and without hope.

So let's read the passages from 1 Corinthians that the lesson referenced to support their position that we couldn't have our sins forgiven and I want you to consider if Paul is saying that, or is Paul saying what I have described that if Christ had not arisen then we couldn't be cured, freed, cleansed from sin:

- More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; **you are still in your sins**. 1 Corinthians 15:15-17 NIV84.

What does it mean to still be in your sins—and remember the Greek also translates as “sin” so it reads “you are still in your sin” or “sinfulness”?

Without Jesus we are still terminal in sin—there is nothing penal legal going on and when people teach the legal distortion they teach lies that when encoded into brains fuel the spirit of fear and distrust and keep people from experiencing the true freedom and healing that God freely offers.

The lesson asks the following question at the bottom of the page:

- How does one make sense of 1 Corinthians 15 if the dead soar off to heaven (or to hell) immediately? Why, then, is understanding that the dead sleep such an important teaching?
Adult SS Guide 3rd Q 2026, First and Second Corinthians, p. 66.

What is your understanding of what happens to people when they die?

What are the underlying assumptions that impact the differences people have on this question?

- Do people have natural immortality or is immortality a gift from God?
 - those who believe that souls go to heaven or hell to either experience reward or punishment at death believe that humans are naturally immortal, some part can never die.
- If people have natural immortality independent from God then what would that say about God?
- Does God have foreknowledge? If He does and He foresaw Adam's fall and the billions of humans borne into sin, suffering, many exploited as children, murdered, trafficked, enslaved, and never having given their life to Jesus and been saved, and then tormented in hell for all eternity? Even though these individuals never chose to become sinners from a sinless state, never had real opportunity for salvation, lived only a few short years in abuse, yet God created a situation where they burn and suffer in hell for all eternity. What kind of god would do that? Can you trust a god who would do this?

- Or perhaps you believe God doesn't have foreknowledge and therefore He gave Adam and Eve immortality but didn't consider the consequences, "oops didn't see that coming, so sorry." What would it say about God if that is your view? Can you trust a god who is so foolish?
- And what was Satan's lie? "you will not surely die." What did God say, "you will surely die." Who is telling the truth? If we teach the immortality of the soul, that sinners never die, they live eternally either in heaven or hell, whose version are we supporting?
- And what about the rest of the testimony of Scripture:
- For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NIV84—does this mean for the wages of sin is eternal life in hell?
- John 3:16 does perish mean eternal life in hell?
- "God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, **who alone is immortal** and who lives in unapproachable light" 1 Timothy 6:16 NIV84. Does "who alone is immortal" mean besides the billions of humans who are also immortal?
- "[Adam] must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever. So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden [and] he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life." Genesis 3:22-24 NIV84. Why would God do this if humans were already immortal?

So, when we think about the question do we examine the underlying assumptions and implications upon which our premises are based.

The Bible in both the Old and New Testaments consistently describe the death that people die today as a sleep—and because it is a sleep there will be a resurrection from it. But many people get confused because they do not differentiate the first death, sleep death, with the eternal death second death.

Only the second death, the eternal death from which there is no resurrection, is the wages of sin death. The first death, the sleep death, is not the wages of sin. In fact, it is a manifestation of God's grace to save from sin. The first death, sleep death is not natural to either God's creation, His sinless perfect heavenly government, nor is it the natural result of what sin causes. The natural result of what sin causes is eternal disintegration, decoherence, decay and death—the second death.

The first death is a state of suspended animation in which the body ceases to function, but in which the individuality, the soul, is not destroyed, but retained in a state of sleep awaiting resurrection.

With our modern computer science we have an exact and precise object lesson of this. To be operational a computer must have three parts, it must have hardware, software, and energy—electricity. Likewise, humans have three parts and to be operational must have all three parts functioning together—body (hardware), soul (software Greek psyche), and spirit (life energy breath of life pneuma).

If our computer runs out of power it goes into sleep mode, and when our bodies run out of power we go into sleep mode awaiting resurrection when we are powered up again.

And, if your computer is backed up on a cloud server, then you do not fear the machine being destroyed because all the information can be downloaded onto new hardware thereby resurrecting your computer. And that is what the Bible teaches, that our names, which represent our characters, individualities, our souls, our software, are written in the Lamb's book of life, which are the heavenly servers, there sleeping secure with Jesus in heaven awaiting His return and download into upgraded bodies at the second coming.

TUESDAY

The lesson points our attention to Christ as the second Adam:

- But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive... "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, 45-59 NIV84.

How do you understand this?

There is one human race—as we already described, all human beings were in Adam when Adam sinned, and we are born terminal in sin, with a life, a spirit of fear and selfishness.

Jesus came to save the species from sin—by taking up the life breathed into Adam and replacing it with His sinless life, thus Jesus becomes the new head of humanity.

Jesus came to redeem Adam's sin, Adam's failure, to recover humanity damaged in Adam, to restore this unique creation/species to sinless perfection and unity with God. Jesus did not come as a second one of us. He did not come to address legal punishments for every individual human sin. He came to fix what Adam did and restore the species to unity with God and be the connecting link whereby all individual humans who have been born into this world as Adam's descendants can, by trust in Him, change their heritage, change their family tree from that of terminal sinful corrupt earthly to healed, restored, righteous and heavenly life and become part of the family of God.

There are two human family trees—one descended from Adam—and are God's children by creation, but all who remain attached to that family tree remain terminal and are dying.

Then there is the second family tree—the one descended from Jesus, He is the vine and we are the branches and we are grafted in to this family tree by faith, by trust in Him and opening the heart and

the Holy Spirit enters and we are reborn with a new life, the life of Christ and that is when we become part of God's heavenly family.

The Bible describes it this way:

- Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. John 1:12-13 NIV84.
- For if you live according to the sinful nature (spirit of fear inherited from Adam), you will die; but if by the Spirit (received through Christ by faith) you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because **those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God**. For you did **not receive a spirit** that makes you a **slave again to fear**, but you received the **Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are God's children**. Romans 8:13-16 NIV84.

And Jesus said to the Jews in Christ's day that claimed they are part of God's family because of their descent from Abraham and because God is the Creator:

- You belong to your father, the devil John 8:44.

The question as to whose family we belong to—yes all are God's children by creation—but Adam chose to align with God's enemy and encoded lies, fear, selfishness, and thereby the attributes of Satan into his heart and mind. Thus human beings are born with spirits aligned with God's enemy and would have no hope of freedom and restoration, of salvation if not for God's love and grace, which was poured out immediately when Adam sinned. God began intervening in human hearts to interfere with the natural desires of the infection of fear and selfishness, to love us, call us home, convict us of our sin sickness and communicate His grace and the promised Messiah to save and heal us.

But we must choose to respond to all God has done and prefer truth to lies, love to selfishness, trust in God to distrust and be reborn with the Spirit of Christ so that we are remade in His image and are like Him—that is the only way we are restored to the heavenly family.

WEDNESDAY

The resurrection of the body—what important truths does understanding this help us with today?

- Hope: don't be discouraged as our body's decay slowly with age.
- Confidence: this is not as good as God can do.
- But also recognition that all disease and defects in the body today are not part of God's creation: He is not responsible. He did not create any person with any physical handicap or physical defect. All physical defects are a result of sin in the world and humanity deteriorating over time. Why is this important? Because it impact our ability to trust God. If it is taught that

God uses His divine power to create every single human being directly from heaven, then it leads to distrust of God when children are born with various congenital. Ultimately, if we say this it means God makes sinners as we are all born in sin. But God doesn't make defects or sinners, He creates perfectly and the Bible tells us God had direct hand in three human lives, Adam, Eve, Jesus and when God completed His part they were all sinless. But God created Adam and Eve with an ability to procreate in their image and once they sinned they corrupted themselves and using the ability God had already given human beings we have children with multiple defects because we are defective because of sin. So, we look forward to the second coming when God gets to use His power to give us perfect immortal bodies.

- Another important truth to recognize on this point is that if someone is suffering with any illness, including mental health problems, what God promises we can experience here and now what we cannot experience here and now. God promises that if we trust Him and open our hearts and minds to Him that we can experience here and now a new heart and right spirit, we can be reborn and be freed from guilt, shame, and the domination of fear and selfishness. But we are not promised new bodies until the second coming. This means if someone is suffering with a mental health problem that originates in the brain—schizophrenia, bipolar, autism, etc., they can still give their heart and mind to Jesus and develop mature character where they are loyal, honest, faithful, kind people who still struggle with mental health problems because they don't get a new brain until the second coming.

THURSDAY

The final victory over death—what do you understand this to mean?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:24-26, 54-57:

- Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **The last enemy to be destroyed is death...** When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" **The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.** But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 NIV84, emphasis mine.

What does this mean?

Let's start with the last enemy to be destroyed is death—what do you understand this to mean?

From where does death come?

- “For the **wages of sin is death**, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23 NIV84, emphasis mine).
- “Sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death” (James 1:15 NKJV).
- “The one who sows to please his sinful nature, **from that nature will reap destruction**” (Galatians 6:8 NIV84, emphasis mine).

Who holds the power of death?

- “Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy **him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.**” Hebrews 2:14 NIV84, emphasis mine.

The devil holds the power of death and Christ destroys all enemies the devil and death:

- “Christ Jesus, who has **destroyed death** and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.” 2 Timothy 1:10 NIV84, emphasis mine.

How does He do this?

Have you ever read or heard preached that God is the one who uses His power to torture and kill the unrepentant for their sins?

Who is the source and wielder of death that is the wages of sin? Who holds the power of death? Satan, yet much of Christianity teaches God is the wielder of death?

How does Jesus destroy death if God is the source of inflicted death for justice sake?

But if death is the natural result of breaking away from God’s design law then Jesus destroys death by restoring creation to perfect harmony with God and His design law.

That brings us to “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law” what does this mean?

When we sin we injure ourselves, taking ourselves out of harmony with the laws of life, experiencing the sting of death unless remedied by God, and what is it that gives sin the power to sting us with death? The laws of life, the design laws built into the operation of reality.

If you jumped into the ocean with weights tied to your legs, thereby transgressing the law of respiration—what is the power that will cause your death? The law of respiration, which cannot be changed to meet a drowning person under water, they must be put back in harmony with the law.

No legal payment, no appeasement, no legal adjustment in books, no substitute coming and being drowned in your place will do anything to free one from death as long as they remain in violation of

the law of respiration. In order to save the drowning person, they must be put back in harmony with the law.

And that is exactly what the Bible teaches Jesus came to do, and when we trust Him, He writes His law upon our hearts and minds restores in us a new and right spirit. This is realty, it is salvation.

And then how does Jesus destroy death—by destroying all deviations from His design laws and leaving every person free to make their choice, and experience the end result of what reality brings, error encoding naturally results in decoherence, disintegration and death—those who sow to the carnal nature from that nature will reap destruction.

Then how does Jesus destroy death—how does one kill death? With life!

And Revelation gives powerful imagery to this reality:

- Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. Revelation 20:14 NLT.

And what is the lake of fire? It is the unveiled life-giving glory of God that results from the rivers of fire that emanate from His throne that the billions of the righteous live in for all eternity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ERROR CORRECTION: Thank you to the online listener who checked what I said so I can correct an error I stated last week. I mentioned last week about in some places people are identifying a furries, animals of various kinds, and stated that some school districts are supportive of this, and then went on to give the example of them placing litter boxes for those who identify as cats to use. The last point is in fact an error. Here are what is verifiable—there are people who identify as various animals and there are school systems or schools that have supported or allowed the students to dress up in various forms as animals. And there have been news reports that did report about the litter boxes, but that last piece has not been verified as having happened in any district. So let's stick with what is verifiable and that litter boxes have not been provided by school districts. And let's not get lost on the bigger point that remains true even though this one detail is not, and the bigger point is godlessness leads to the destruction of the image of God in man and turns people into brute beasts—that is Satan's goal.

September Potluck will be the 3rd weekend—September 19.

NO SS Sabbath August 15—the building will be closed for The God of Reality Seminar.

Those who are not able to attend this event, I know you have already been praying for us. But, I ask that you make a special intention to pray for use each day during this event—for God's blessing, restraining hand on any forces that would disrupt, on all the technical elements that the program will proceed according to His will and hearts and minds of attendees will be receptive.

Those who are regular listeners to our class—I am asking for your feedback on the teaching and focus for 2027. I am considering for 2027 instead of following the weekly adult lesson guide, to use this time to create a new resource. So what I am thinking about doing is a book by book study of the Bible with the title: **God and Reality in All 66 books.**

Our focus will keep the truth about God at the center, but specifically connect history, reality, with what the Bible describes as occurring through history, putting the record into the context of design laws, how reality works, the grand central theme of Scripture and why God did what He did and what the various books reveal about how reality functions.

So, let us know what you prefer, email us at requests@comeandreason.com and cast your vote, stick with the lesson guides or do the **God and Reality in All 66 books?**