

# ONLY PERFECT PEOPLE GO TO HEAVEN

**Text:** Luke 10:25-28

**The nature of God is holiness** – God is love, light, life, merciful, gracious, just, jealous, righteous, and a God of wrath and judgment but all these attributes are controlled by His holiness. Habakkuk 1:13 says that He cannot look upon iniquity so God cannot nor will not tolerate sin.

**Perfection is His standard** – That’s what He requires. Adam and Eve only had to sin once for death to pass upon them and to get displaced from the garden of God. Lucifer only had to want his will instead of submitting to God’s one time and he fell like lightning from heaven. That is the kind of God we will all face someday.

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; *This means because of our inherent sinful nature and actions, we fail to meet God’s perfect standard of righteousness and holiness. It also means we fail to attribute to God the glory that is due him.* It is between 2,400 and 2,500 hundred miles from the coast of California to the shore of Hawaii. If we lined every human being up on the shore of California and told them that if they could swim unassisted to Hawaii, they could enter Heaven...some would swim farther than others but they we all would come short. The world record for the longest distance in an “assisted” swim (non-stop with support) is a little over 317 miles set by Ross Edgley in 2024. That was over 54 hours of continuous swimming in Canada’s Yukon River. This amazing accomplishment is only 1/8 of the distance from California to Hawaii so even the world record holder would come short...by a lot.

## **3 major problems with sin:**

- **It separates us from God.** That’s what it means to be lost
- **It ends in death both spiritual and physical**
- **It causes injury to others**

**Religion is your attempt to make yourself acceptable to God by what you do.** Religion is dangerous because it appeals to your pride: “I can get out of this dilemma by myself”. Adam, Eve and Cain all tried it right from the start and failed. Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves with leaf aprons and Cain tried to approach God with his fruits and vegetables instead of a bloody sacrifice of an innocent and spotless lamb. Religion is an endless treadmill that never gets you an inch closer to God.

**How could God restore sinful people to a right standing with Himself and allow them to come into His presence without violating His own holiness?** Jesus Christ had to do everything that was impossible for us to do.

- **He was born of a virgin without a human father to inherit sin from**
- **He lived perfect under the law and completely submitted to the will of his Father**
- **He offered himself as a perfect sacrifice for sins. He shed his perfect blood as an atonement for us**

**How do we know that the Father was pleased with everything that Jesus did?** He raised him from the dead 3 days after the cross.

**Since we're not perfect, when God saves us...He makes us perfect.** The will of God is for us to hear the truth about our sin and the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit convicts us of being sinners and condemns us to face the wrath and the judgment of God. When we're convicted, he draws us to Jesus Christ and requires us to repent and believe. Repentance is taking the blame and pleading guilty, and faith is believing on the Lord Jesus Christ as your only hope of salvation.

**When we do that, God does some things:**

- **He forgives all your sins - Colossians 2:13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;
- **He justifies you** – meaning He declares you righteous in his sight. He does this by giving you His own righteousness. So, on your account in heaven, it's as though we lived the life of Jesus Christ. **Romans 3:21-22** But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:
- **He regenerates your spirit** – meaning He made you alive on the inside **Ephesians 2:4-6** But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

**But saved people are still not perfect while they are living here in the body. Doesn't this mean that they can't go to heaven?** No because of what God does about our bodies

**Romans 6:6-8** Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

**The saved our crucified with Christ, buried with him in baptism, and raised to walk in newness of life.**

**Colossians 2:10-12** And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. *Circumcision cuts your body loose from your soul and spirit*

**Ephesians 4:30** And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. *Not only have we been saved, but we've been sealed meaning that what God has done can never be undone!*

**Closing: Hebrews 10:1-4** For the law having a shadow of good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those *sacrifices there is* a remembrance again *made* of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. **Hebrews 10:11-14** And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

The law rituals had to be done continually because it never made the people perfect. But Christ was perfect and he offered himself to God for sins once because he did it perfectly. Faith in his blood makes us perfect for ever!