



CHRIST ACROSS NATIONS

CROSSOVER

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INTRODUCTION

At some point or another we all come to a crucial moment in time where we are facing the most important decision of our life. At that very intersection lies two roads ahead. One choice to be made, yet with two very different destinations. Indeed many times it's either a choice between heading in the same direction or taking a different path altogether, yet leading to a different outcome.

Today is that day. Today you will come to an important moment in time where you can choose to follow the same journey as you have been up to this point, or you can choose to crossover to a new path that offers a better life and better future.

If you were to have a closer look at your own life right now. Are you truly happy? Do you feel fulfilment in your personal and professional life? Are you living a life of purpose and meaning? Do you even question whether this is all there is to life? Surely there should be so much more, you ask?

If you were to look even deeper into the circumstances surrounding your life. Are you perhaps struggling with addiction? Are you still carrying the hurts of your past, a broken relationship or marriage, or even a childhood that left you with really deep scars? Do you feel paralyzed by fear, anxiety or depression?

Do you question whether life is even worth living, and have thought about ending your own life?

Today you can choose to continue down this same path. Or you can choose to crossover to a life of purpose, a life of great joy and freedom, a life with a certain future.

If you would like to have that life for yourself, then you have come to the right place.

I invite you to go on a journey with this book and as you read this you will indeed find that there is but one way in which you can really step into this new life. Are you ready to discover how you can crossover to a better future? Let's continue.

“Today you can choose to continue down this same path. Or you can choose to crossover to a life of purpose, a life of great joy and freedom, a life with a bright future.”

WE ALL MISS THE MARK

If we are truthful then we can all recognise the fact that we all make mistakes. We all miss the mark quite often really and things can really spiral out of control quite quickly unless we know how to find the “straight and narrow” again. Even people who have caused harm in our lives have too done so by missing the mark from what is right and wrong. Yet in truth even though we are often on the receiving end of someone’s mistake, we too have been the guilty party and have caused harm to someone else. Isn’t it so?

And that is exactly what sin is. The word “sin” comes from the Greek word *“hamartanó”* which means “to miss the mark” / “do wrong”. And we quickly look at the word “sin” and connect it to many bad deeds, and in that sense we consider those small white lies and mistakes as just poor judgement on our behalf. In truth though, big or small mistakes, sin is sin. Do you find it difficult not to miss the mark sometimes? Try as you might, we sin often, despite our best efforts.

“Therefore, whether you are male or female, black or white, young or old, all have sinned. But that is where Jesus comes in.”

Think of Adam and Eve in the Bible. When Adam first sinned, given that through disobeying the command of God, his nature moved from being in close relationship with God, to a sinful nature separated from God. The human race had thus fallen into a sinful nature. But God had warned Adam of this when He commanded him in Genesis 2 verses 16 and 17 stating that *“the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die’”*.

And indeed this sinful nature, from Adam is carried onwards from generation to generation. We were all born into this sinful nature and cannot escape it. Try as we might, we all sin. The Bible tells us in Romans 5 verse 12 that *“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned”*.

As a result, we will keep on making mistakes, we will keep on missing the mark. People around us will keep on making errors in judgements, committing deeds that may end up hurting us deeply. The Bible tells us in Romans 3 verse 23 that *“all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”*. Therefore, whether you are male or female, black or white, young or old, all have sinned. But that is where Jesus comes in. Yet since we now understand that it all dates back to the very beginning of mankind, it starts to make a little bit more sense as to why we sin, even if we do not wish to.

How then can we ever escape this sinful nature? How can we have any control and dominion over this?

Fast forward thousands of years later and God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ to correct exactly that which had a strangle hold on humans for thousands of years. And through what Jesus did, having lived the perfect life, yet paying the ultimate price with His own life when He was nailed to a cross, He conquered sin on our behalf. And when He rose again on the third day, He did all of this so we can have a new life in Him. Isn’t that just such good news. The best news ever I would say.

HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?

Before we continue, I wish to pause and pose the following two questions to you. Think about this for a moment and what your reply to these questions will be.

1. Should your life come to an end today, where would you spend eternity, where would you go?
2. In that moment that you appear before God and He would ask you for what reason(s) should He allow you to enter heaven, what would you say?

If you are not entirely sure, then I want to assure you there is an answer to both these questions. There is a way to be sure where you would go and what you should say. Let us look at this a bit further.

The difference between Christianity and other religions can quickly be separated by one distinct difference, and that is: Christianity has a Saviour. Other religions do not. As a Christian, our salvation depends on putting our faith in the salvation offered only by Jesus Christ and the complete work He did through His life, death and resurrection. Other religions, such as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism all consider salvation through anyone other than Jesus Christ himself. Psalm 3:8 clearly states that *"Salvation belongs to the LORD"*. Jesus himself stated in John 14:6 that *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me"*. Essentially this tells us that to be saved from the life that we live, there is only one true way and that is through the One, the

Way, Jesus Christ Himself. And His intention is not only for you to live the best life now, but He also wants to provide you with the security of where you will spend eternity. That He is the only way to enter heaven and escape hell, He is the only One that can offer that. No other religion or other means. If you want to have absolute certainty that you will spend eternity with God in heaven, then the answer is through faith in Jesus Christ. In fact, Jesus Himself spoke of this when He said that eternal life is only received through faith in Him (read John 6:47).

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You may have heard or read about the Law, those ten commandments starting with "You shall not...". Yet if we really look at that law and even consider it for ourselves today, we soon find that we all miss the mark and simply cannot uphold this Law given by God. How can we then satisfy the standards set by God? Here's the truth. God never gave us this Law thinking we would be able to do it. In fact, He knew we couldn't. God says that if anyone should place the responsibility of salvation upon his own human shoulders, then he/she is destined to fail. The law itself was given by God as our tutor (guide) to lead us to Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith (read Galatians 3:24). And hence God's plan for our salvation was never about giving us a law to uphold with the view of obtaining our own salvation through that. The law was given by God to indicate to us how badly we need a Saviour. And Jesus is that Saviour, no one else. God is reaching out to you in this moment telling you that you cannot make it through life without Him. And you don't have to. He is waiting for you to respond to His invitation.

HEAVEN IS WAITING

Jesus is the one that invites all to *“come to Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest”* (read Matthew 11: 28). Can you see that you fall short and really need help in your life? The answer is Jesus. Think of how badly we have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (read Romans 3:23). And that the only way we can receive our salvation is through the One who paid the ultimate price, who even though He *“knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”* (read 2 Corinthians 5:21).

“How God sees us is no longer through our own deeds, but He looks at us through the perspective of the cross of Jesus Christ. Isn’t that wonderful?!”

The Bible says in Acts 4 verse 12 *“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved”*. If God then asks you why you should enter heaven, then you too cannot reply that it’s because you tried to live a good life, you gave to the poor, you helped others. Then your salvation rests upon yourself. Yet if we have been saved through faith in Jesus, then our answer can be simple. *“God, it’s not through my own works that I can enter heaven but ‘by grace through faith’ in Jesus Christ”* (read Ephesians 2:8-9).

To illustrate this. If entering heaven or hell had to rest on our own deeds, good and bad, it’s as if we hand God the glasses of our own lives. And God will then clearly see every right and every wrong deed committed. Simply based on that view, we can never enter a perfect and sinless heaven.

But when our salvation rests upon what Jesus did, God throws away our own glasses and puts on the glasses of Jesus and suddenly His view completely changes. He now looks at us through His own perfect, righteous and blameless Son, Jesus Christ. How God sees us is no longer through our own deeds, but He looks at us through the perspective of the cross of Jesus Christ. Isn’t that wonderful?!

One of the most misunderstood concepts is that God created heaven and hell to send the bad ones to hell and the good ones to heaven. This is completely and utterly false. God never created hell for humans. He created hell *“for the devil and his angels”*, words spoken by Jesus himself in Matthew 25 verse 41. God created heaven for us so we can be with Him for all eternity. Yet the truth is, God gave us all a choice of where we wish to go. If we should die without having received Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, then our destination will be hell. As hard as that may sound. And I can tell you that this is not a pleasant vacation. But for those that have received Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, and proclaim their salvation was indeed by grace through faith in Him, their destination is heaven.

You may be asking now how do I then receive Jesus as my Lord and Saviour? How do I move away from my circumstances and broken life? It is really very simple. But before that, let’s just dive a bit deeper into what this all means before you take that important step.

WHO JESUS IS



THE SAVIOUR [LUKE 2:11]

THE REDEEMER [1 PETER 1:18-20]

THE DELIVERER [1 THESS. 1:10]

THE HEALER [1 PETER 2:24]

THE PROVIDER [PHILIPPIANS 4:19]

THE HELPER [HEBREWS 13:6]

HE IS LOVE [1 JOHN 4:8]

HE IS HOPE [1 TIMOTHY 1:1]

HE IS JOY [JOHN 15:9-11]

HE IS PEACE [EPHESIANS 2:14]

HE IS OUR LIBERTY [JOHN 8:36]

THE WAY, TRUTH, LIFE [JOHN 14:6]

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

Until today, many people have heard of Jesus. Some though have never heard of Him before and it is my great honour to share that with you. Maybe you haven't heard the full story or perhaps have some idea what it is. In this chapter I really wish to spend time and go through this in more detail so you can really grasp what exactly Jesus did when He died on the cross and what His resurrection really meant.

When Jesus came to earth, He lived a life that was the perfect example to us today. There are just so many examples in the Bible where Jesus was incredibly compassionate towards people and healed many of their sicknesses and diseases. We read about this in Matthew 14 verse 14. He had so many opportunities where He was completely justified to have condemn people because He was God and didn't commit any sin (read Hebrews 4 verse 15; 2 Corinthians 5 verse 21). Yet He chose to show kindness and mercy towards people. In John chapter 8 we learn about a woman who was caught in the act of adultery. But instead of condemning her, Jesus extended mercy towards Her. Indeed what she had done was not right, we can all agree to that. But He showed a kind of love which forgives and is merciful. And because she received compassion instead of condemnation, this in itself had a far greater impact on her life thereafter than if He had condemned her like the scribes and Pharisees. The entire life of Jesus and everything He did, He did with a purpose in mind. He accomplished mighty things. He raised Lazarus from the dead. He restored sight to the blind. He even restored the ear of Malchus, a servant of the high priest of those days, which had been cut off by Peter, one of Jesus' disciples.

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Everything Jesus had done was to show to us and the world what true love looks like. And that God loves us. He is merciful towards us. He is compassionate towards us. He wants the very best for us. He never intended for us to go through some of the things currently going on in the world. He has never caused people to ever become sick. He never wants anyone to be murdered or abused or suffer from depression, fear and anxiety. That is not to say we will never face difficult times or even go through some of these things. The Bible even tells us that we can expect difficulties, trials and even persecutions. Yet He enables us to overcome anything through His power, love and grace. Indeed, the very nature of God is to uplift and bless us in every way possible.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Good News about a loving God, who sacrificed Himself, died on a cross, and rose from the dead victoriously so that He can be the one and only Saviour to a world that desperately need saving.

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

Jesus revealed to us who God really is. Not this blurred picture of who we think God is, or what we have been told, or even what the world portrays Him to be. Even today, the world paints this picture about God being full of hatred and wrath, and that He is angry at us. This is completely false. Listen to what John 3 verses 16 and 17 says about God. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him"*. This scripture speaks about a God that loves, that gives, that saves. Can you see that He didn't condemn anyone, but He came to save us? He came to save you from your sickness, your diseases, from your poverty, from your depression, from fear and rejection, from addiction and everything that is destroying your life. Can you see that about God? Do you believe that about God?

The Gospel is Good News to us. But to Jesus it meant paying a price which no one has or ever will pay. The Gospel message speaks of the life, the death and resurrection of the One, Jesus Christ. He paid with His own life when He took our sin, transgressions, sickness, depression, brokenness, loneliness, hopelessness upon Himself. He was beaten to a point where no one could even recognise Him anymore. Isaiah 52 verse 14 states of Jesus' appearance being *"so disfigured beyond that of any human being and His form marred beyond human likeness"*. Can you imagine the pain He must have gone through? He wore a crown of thorns on His head, He was handed a cross to carry and carry it He did. When He arrived with that cross at a hill called Calvary, exhausted and covered with His own blood, they laid Him down on that cross. And nail after nail they fastened His hands and feet to that cross. He was raised up high, hanging there completely naked and with blood flowing from all His wounds.

"He paid with His own life when He took our sin, transgressions, sickness, depression, brokenness, loneliness, hopelessness upon Himself."

On that very cross He again showed that He came to save the world. He cried out *"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing"* for the very people who had beaten Him and put Him through all that suffering in the first place. Can you imagine how great His love and grace were toward people that He would say such a thing. That is Jesus. He revealed to us a kind of love, grace, and mercy we can never encounter from another person. He is one of a kind, isn't He?

On that cross Jesus cried out and said, *"It is finished!"* (read John 19:30). He had accomplished everything He set out to achieve. He said everything He wanted to say. He did everything He wanted to do. There was nothing left to accomplish other than to declare that His

purpose on earth was finished, it was complete. Perhaps in this moment I want to ask you. Do you feel you have really lived the best life? Have you really come to a place where you have lived a life of purpose? If today were to be your last day on earth, would you be able to say these words "It is finished". If not, I encourage you to give Jesus an opportunity to change your life completely. He is willing and more than able.

FAITH AND ETERNAL LIFE

The Bible tells us that even though Jesus died, He rose again on the third day (read Luke 24:5-6; Matthew 28:5-6; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4). He was no longer dead but is alive. How fantastic. The instance when Adam and Eve disobeyed a command by God (to protect them) they died. Not physically but spiritually. That meant they were separated from God. Sin was born into the world and we all were born into the same sinful nature. So now that all of mankind was in essence dead spiritually, that required a resurrection to take place. The very last objective Jesus still had to accomplish was overcome death, so that He can give life to everyone that receives Him.

What does that mean, you ask? It simply means that if one day we should die on earth, that we would be dead physically but that our spirit will be made alive, just as what happened with Jesus. Jesus stated in Revelation 1 verse 18 *"I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades"*. Though Jesus even say that He has the keys of death and Hades, His main focus is on providing life. He is all about giving life to people, eternal life, a better life even for you today. Jesus purpose for you today is to exchange death for life. We can also look at what Jesus accomplished when He rose again and overcame death, that spiritually when we receive Jesus the Bible tells us in John chapter 3 that we are born again. What does this mean to be born again?

It means that the old you and I who had been spiritually dead, died with Jesus. But as He rose again, so we rise again into a new life. And that God takes our old heart of stone, our old dead spirit, and replaces it with a new heart of flesh, a living spirit. (read Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 11:19-20; Hebrews 8:10-12). A total transformation takes place in that moment.

How can we receive this transformation and have this exchange of our old dead life for the one which is on offer? How do I come to a place of having faith in Jesus, how do I know if believe, you may ask? The key principle is explained by Romans 10 verse 17 states that *"faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"*. Furthermore, Romans 10 verse 9 says that *"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved"*.

The Bible tells us that the Word of God, the Gospel of Jesus is like a seed which lands on our hearts when we hear the Gospel. How then do we move to a place of faith in Jesus? What happens is when the Good News is heard, the seed of the Gospel message is activated by the Holy Spirit, causing it to germinate and produce faith in our heart. This means you heard the Gospel of Jesus and God himself worked on your behalf to produce faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

"when the Good News is heard, the seed of the Gospel message is activated by the Holy Spirit, causing it to germinate and produce faith in our heart."

GOD HAS BEEN WORKING

The fantastic news is that as you have read through this book, the seed of God's Word, of the Good News of Jesus Christ has landed on your heart. You would perhaps agree that something has been stirring in your heart, you felt something change, something happening. That is the work of the Holy Spirit. He has been ministering to you in His gentle and wonderful way, not forcing you or making you feel or do anything you don't want to. All He has done is make the Gospel of Jesus Christ come alive. Over the course of your life satan has used the troubles and disasters you have faced to harden your heart toward God. He has been very active, taking cement and covering your heart with hatred, hurt, suffering, anxiety, fear, loneliness, guilt, shame, depression. His mission was and is to separate you from the wonderful things God wanted to do in your life. Even as you were reading through this book, God through the Holy Spirit has been showering you with His love, mercy, joy, hope, freedom, restoration over you. All you have to do is receive it by receiving Him.

“Even as you were reading this book, God through the Holy Spirit has been pouring out His love, mercy, joy, hope, freedom, restoration over you. All you have to do is receive it by receiving Him.”

He has been showering you with feelings of peace, that your life matters, that you have a hopeful future. He has been showing you that you no longer need to live the life you have been living. That satan has been cementing your heart. But God has been chipping away the work of satan. And He has brought you to a place where you feel encouraged, determined and ready to live a new life with Him. He has nullified all the efforts of satan and brought you gently to a place where you are seeing Him for the loving, merciful and caring God that He is. Yet, even if you don't understand everything yet, even if don't know exactly what is happening, God is simply saying to you to trust Him. He has something wonderful in store for you. God is not only interested that you should have the best current life, but He is already excited about what awaits you in eternity hereafter.

His purpose is for you to know Him, to have a relationship with Him, and to spend eternity with Him. His desire is to be with you from this moment and for all eternity in heaven.

If you have read through this book and have come to a place now where you have had a look into your own life. If you have seen now how great God's love is for you. How much He cares and would like to save you. If you have considered how often you have tried to live right and simply kept on making mistakes. If you have considered what others have done to you, how badly you are perhaps still hurting today. If you have now realized that you really want to have a better life for yourself and realize that there really is only one way to have that, and that is through Jesus, then you come to a really profound moment in your life. You are ready to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. And are truly ready to crossover and begin this new life and journey with Him.

YOUR CROSSOVER MOMENT

To receive your salvation, to have this new life and begin this journey with Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, is so simple. All you have to do is proclaim Jesus as Lord and Saviour, and believe that He is alive today. Just that. No added requirements, nothing else you need to first go and do or rectify. He wants nothing more than to see you walk into this new journey with Him. All you have to do is repeat the following words and Jesus Himself will do the rest. When you say these words, by simply repeating the next few sentences, Jesus will come into your heart and make you a brand new person.

Are you ready for the greatest moment of your life? Repeat the following out loud:

“Lord Jesus. I confess today that I need your help. I need Your way out. I confess that I have sinned, I have made mistakes. But I want to have the life You have to offer. I confess today that you are my Lord and Saviour. I believed You died for all my sin but that You are alive today. Come into my heart. Make me new. I give You my heart, I give You my life and all there is of me. In Jesus Name I pray this. Amen.”

If you have just prayed this, congratulations. Your new life and journey with Jesus have just started.

Of course, you will still look the same, you perhaps may still feel the same, that hurt may perhaps still be there. You may look at your bank balance and still find it's on zero. You may look at your sickness and health issues and find it's not yet better. Don't despair, remember that you are now spiritually a new person. Your actual body and what you look like hasn't changed. The key transformation has taken place on the inside, which is the most important part. But you have started a new journey and can leave your past behind you and start moving forward knowing that God is with you every step of the way. Going from zero to hero is a process. And that's completely fine. The major difference is that you now have the incredible support of the very same Jesus that accomplished all those incredible things during His life, death and resurrection. He is with you, empowering you, showing you how to progress further. He is guiding you every step of the way. Through His Holy Spirit, He will teach you and directing you forward.

FINAL WORDS

We wish again to congratulate you on the greatest decision you have ever made in your life. You have taken the step to crossover to a new life with Jesus. There is so much God has planned for your life. His greatest desire is to see you living the best life, to live a life of purpose and enjoy that which He has in store for you.

Do not get discouraged if you still struggle in certain areas of your life. Allow God to help you in those areas since He knows best how to take you forward to overcome any struggles you may face. Satan too will have his bit to say and try and accuse you throughout, especially when you struggle with something in your life or discourage you when you are going through hardships and he will do his best for you to question your faith in Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. But keep moving forward, God will never leave nor forsake you, and He promises to take you through everything in your life.

We wish to encourage you to request a copy of our booklet "Your journey starts now" which is an excellent tool to get you on your way and help you with the next steps in your journey with Jesus.

Please consider our contact details below. We are truly excited about your journey and look forward to hearing from you.

BE BLESSED IN JESUS NAME



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