



DEFENDING
THE + FAITH

How does salvation from the wrath of God and reconciliation to the family of God, happen?

How does the process of being born-again, not by the will of man but by the will of God, begin?

It starts with the General Revelation of God.

The Bible begins with the general revelation of God.

Genesis 1:1 (ESV)

1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

General Revelation through Creation

Romans 1:20 (ESV)

20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

General Revelation through Seasonal Characteristics.

Acts 14:16–17 (ESV)

16 In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.

17 Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”

General Revelation through the Universe.

Psalm 19:1–2 (ESV)

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

Psalm 19:3–4 (ESV)

3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

4 Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

Psalm 19:5–6 (ESV)

5 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

General Revelation through the Conscience of Man.

Romans 2:12–14 (ESV)

12 For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

13 For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.

14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

Romans 2:14–16 (ESV)

14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Just in these verses alone we see God : Glorious,
Powerful, Immortal, Loving, Living, Kind, and
Moral.

Why don't people believe?

Only because they choose to exchange the Truth
for the lie.

General Revelation is given to lead people to God.

Acts 17:24–25 (ESV)

24The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,

25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

Acts 17:26–27 (ESV)

26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,

27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

Acts 17:28 (ESV)

28for “ ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,
“ ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’

Acts 17:29–30 (ESV)

29 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.

30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

Acts 17:31 (ESV)

31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**Failing to respond to General Revelation has
Consequences.**

Luke 8:16–18 (ESV)

16“No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light.

17For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.

18Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”

Matthew 25:14–16 (ESV)

14“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

15To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

16He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.

Matthew 25:17–19 (ESV)

17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more.

18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

Matthew 25:20–21 (ESV)

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.'

21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

Matthew 25:22–24 (ESV)

22And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.'

23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

24He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed,

Matthew 25:25–27 (ESV)

25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.'

26But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed?

27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.

Matthew 25:28–30 (ESV)

28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.

29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Matthew 13:10–13 (ESV)

10 Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?”

11 And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

12 For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

Matthew 13:14–15 (ESV)

14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: “ ‘ “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

15 For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’

Matthew 13:16–17 (ESV)

16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

Cornelius Acts 10

Ethiopian Acts 8 Acts 10

**General Revelation of God transitions to Specific
Revelation through the Testimony/Witness of Born
Again believers.**

Each one of us were born again and saved from the wrath of God through General Revelation and the witness/teaching of at least one other person.

Matthew 28:18–20 (ESV)

18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Romans 10:14–15 (ESV)

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Romans 10:17–18 (ESV)

17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

18 But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for “Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.”

Romans 10:19–20 (ESV)

19But I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, “I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry.”

20Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, “I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.”

Romans 10:21 (ESV)

21 But of Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people."



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