



eceiving a piece of good news is rather thrilling and exciting, isn't it? While nobody loves to receive a bad one. Well, that is man's natural order, and God understands this. Since the man was dead to God, He had to find a way to bring him back to life.

Ok, stop right there. That seems like too hard a truth to take in. Yes, man used to be dead to God, not physical death I mean, but spiritual death. Man was alienated from the life of God. There was a separation between God and man, and all for one reason, man sinned, and fell short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23).

Does that sound like something you've heard before? Ok, let me break it down for you. It was the decision of God to create man, and in the context in which I use man, I mean humanity, which refers to the male and female. In Gen 1:26; Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..."

There was a sweet relationship between God and man. This intimacy was reflected in God's interaction with man. It was even God that saw the need of the man (male) to have a woman (female man). But let's not get into that. God and man were that close that God knew what the need of man was.

God left man with a vital instruction that would cost him his life (spiritual life he shared with God) if he disobeyed. He told them not to eat of the tree in the midst of the garden. Now God gave man all the freedom he needed, because remember, God knows our needs. So that was God's instruction to man, and man believed it, so they were cool. Until the day the unfortunate happened.

A cunning serpent approached the woman and just by asking her a question, gother to rethink that position. Let's look at it;

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God **indeed** said, 'You shall not eat of **every tree** of the garden'?"

And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; **but** of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, **'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"** (Gen 3:1-4)

But was it that God told man? And 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."

(Gen 2:16-17)

Did you see the difference between the question the serpent asked the woman, and the initial instruction God gave? That's what the devil does, he is skilled at twisting God's word, trying to get you confused. That is his nature, deception. And that was what he did, he deceived the woman, referring to a physical death, trying to paint God as a liar, but what was being referred to here is spiritual death, and not physical death.

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." (Gen. 3:4-5)

See the level of the devil's deception, man didn't need to be like God, for he was already like God, for he was created in God's image and likeness. Rather unfortunately, man did not see himself as God's image or likeness.

The actual sin man committed wasn't even disobedience or pride, it was unbelief, for man chose to believe a lie rather than believe God. And when that happened, man ate the fruit, and the consequences followed-man fell short and died. That was when and how it happened.

But the Scriptures tell us before the foundations of the world, God already had a solution ready in the person of Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:20). You see, God is a planner and nothing catches Him by surprise, just because He is God.

So fast-forward to the time the solution came and was made manifest in the person of the Lord Jesus. He came to the world, died, was buried and resurrected on the third day.

Now then, what is the Gospel? The Gospel is that Jesus died, was buried and rose again (1 Cor. 15: 1-4). That is the pure gospel, nothing more. And this was to what end? To reconcile us back to God, to give us a relationship with God which is accompanied with better promises.

Isn't all these good news? That God wants you, He wants a relationship with you. Sure it is, God is not mad at you, He is all out for you. He loved you enough to let His only Son die for your sins. God has dealt with the sin problem through the death of His Son- Jesus Christ. But what should be man's response?

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever **believes** in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (John 3;16-17)

It is simple, just believe. He doesn't require anything more than that. Men of the Old Covenant kept on relating with God based on their works, so they could say, I didn't steal, so I'm right with God, or I didn't kill, so I'm right with God. But God doesn't impute righteousness to us based on our works, it is only by faith.

Even the saints of the old testament, got it right this way. And Abraham **believed** God and it was credited to his account as righteousness.

This is the grace of God and it is by faith we receive this grace God has lavished upon us. This is what you need to do:

that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Rom 10: 9-10)

So it is that simple, and that is good news. Let no man tell you otherwise. God is not far away.

If you believe the Gospel and want to make the decision so you can have enjoy that sweet relationship with God, make this confession;

Lord Jesus, I have heard the Gospel and I believe it. I believe that You came to the earth in the flesh, You died as a man, You were buried, and on the third day God rose You from the dead according to Scriptures. I also believe that You have ascended and are seated at the right hand of the Father. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Therefore, I openly declare that You are Lord of my life from this day forth. I receive remission of sins for my soul, and I receive eternal life into my spirit. Come therefore Lord Jesus and make Your home in my heart. Thank You for accepting me in the beloved. I am now a child of God.

So dear one, it's that simple. Welcome to God's family.

## IF YOU MADE A DECISION

Please share your testimony with us at: mail@woel.org Connect with us on WhatsApp: +234 901 932 1230 Visit our website to get to know us at: www.woel.org