

Want good news?

There is so much bad news in the world. It would be nice to hear some good news.

After all, wherever we look, it seems that we find another family having problems, countries at war, and someone else suffering from some sickness.

People feel afraid and isolated. They don't know whom to trust. Even their closest friends and family break their promises.

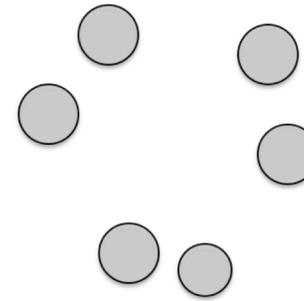
This is not God's design for the world. In the beginning, the Creator God made the world to be his one human family. There was harmony.

What went wrong?

Fear

Our ancestors **dishonored** our heavenly Father. This is called "sin." God's children preferred autonomy to dependence and relationships. In effect, humans betrayed the Creator King by taking over God's world.

Because people did not remain loyal to their Father & King, the human family became divided.

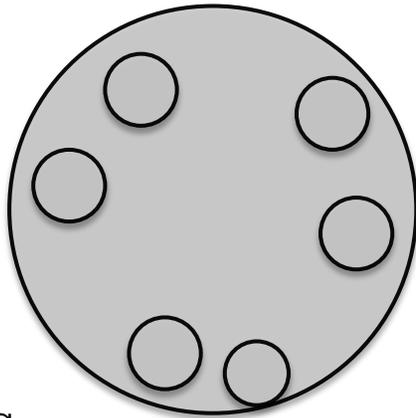


People try to find security, peace, and happiness in various ways. For example, we tend to set up factions, often based on ethnicity, gender, and education among other things. Yet, this kind of social unity is superficial.

True harmony only comes when we have relationship with our Heavenly Father and thus the entire human family.

Harmony

Many years ago, God made a **covenant** with a man named Abraham. He promised to bless all nations through Abraham's offspring.



At first, this would seem to be impossible. Abraham was already very old and had no children. However, this does not stop the Creator God, who gives life to all things.

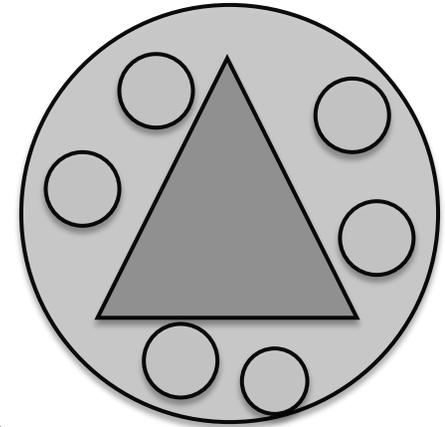
Not only did God give Abraham a son, he grew Abraham's family into a great nation, Israel. They were called to be God's people. Don't forget God's original promise—he planned to bless all nations through Abraham's offspring.

How would this be possible?

Promise

Throughout history, God again and again reaffirmed his covenant promises. Abraham's family became a large family, known as Israel.

By his power, God **rescued** his people from slavery, famine, and war. By his grace, he established a righteous law, cleansed their impurity, and dwelled among them. In this way, Abraham's offspring would glorify God before all nations.



Yet, his people had **shameful hearts**. Rather than giving allegiance to God as king, they followed the ways of the other nations. They worshipped created things rather than the Creator. Rather than blessing the world, they fell under a curse and suffered under the oppression of their enemies.

Shame

What would

God

do?

How would he remain faithful to his covenant?

God already had a **plan**. He promised to send a new king. This king would not only rule Israel; he would reign over the entire world. He would change everything. Through this promised king, God planned to set the world right.

In this way, God would fulfill his promise to bless all nations through Abraham's offspring.

Has God kept his promise?

Yes!



Years later, God sent a man named Jesus. This is promised king.



Throughout his life, Jesus overturned social expectations. He healed the sick, the blind, and even those with demons. He also welcomed the poor, "sinners" and social outcasts.

The social and political leaders did not welcome Jesus' message. He exposed the hypocrisy in their hearts; they loved "face"/honor. They wanted the praise of people more than the approval of God.

Therefore, they conspired together to execute Jesus, whose life perfectly honored God.

Yet, God keeps his promises.

Three days after leaders kills Jesus, God raised him from the grave! He showed himself many times to people; at one time, over 500 people saw him. Christ's resurrection demonstrated that he is able to defeat death!

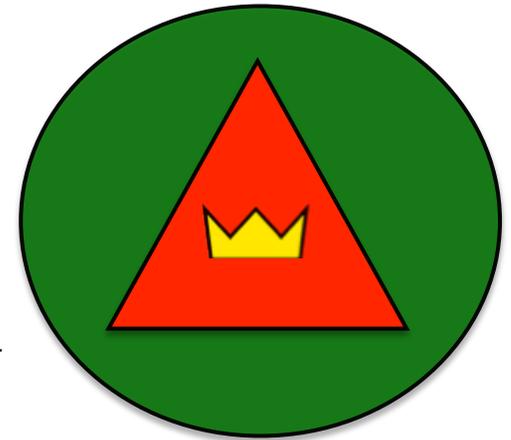
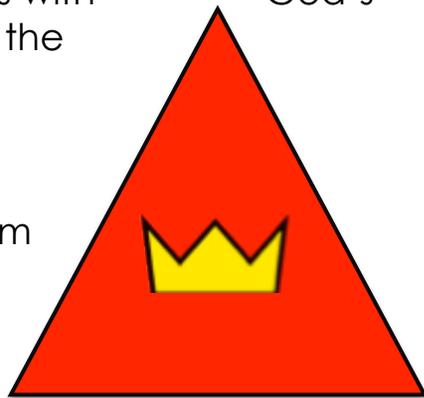
King Jesus

Jesus accomplished what no person has ever done. He perfectly honored God in both his life and death. Therefore, God accepted Jesus' death as a **sacrifice** that atones for sin.

Through Jesus, God **restores** the human family, purifying the nations of their shame. God sends his Holy Spirit to change people's hearts. Now, they seek to live pure and honorable lives. God creates a new "Temple," made up all who worship the God of Jesus Christ. God's Spirit dwells with people, who are called the "church."

He **accepts** people from all nations into his kingdom. God is not partial. Regardless of social class, gender, education or other distinctions, he commands all people to give allegiance to Jesus as king. In this way, God blesses all nations by overcoming division and death.

Jesus' resurrection demonstrates that Jesus is king of all kings. God confirms his promises.



Before Christ ascended to his throne in heaven, he gave his disciples a special calling—to represent him in the world.

God uses Christ's church to fulfill his promise to Abraham. His people will bless the world by proclaiming Christ's kingdom and making disciples from among all nations. God's family will testify to God's plan to reconcile the human family to himself and to one another.

In this way, the church gathers for the sake of worship and ministry. Their manner of life together will testify to the day when God will recreate a new heaven and new earth

His church looks forward to the day when Christ will return. On that day, he will purge the world

"The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Hab 2:14).

All nations will be blessed when God dwells among his people.

How will you respond to God's King?

God blesses all nations and creates a worldwide family through the King of all Kings—Jesus Christ. Jesus makes a promise to everyone who hears this good news:

Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life." (Mark 10:29–30)

Because of this good news, we need to ask a few important questions.

Will you give your allegiance to Jesus as King?

Do you believe God is faithful to keep his promises?

Are you willing to repent, changing your ways so that you honor God rather than dishonor him with all you life?

If, in your heart, you can truly answer "yes," then God welcomes you into his kingdom! If God the Father has changed your heart in this way, then you belong to his family! Together, Christ's followers are called his "church." They have become your true brothers and sisters.

You have a new identity and a new mission in life. He calls his people to reflect his glory in all the world. We must proclaim this good news to others. As his church, we are to live in ways that demonstrate what Christ's kingdom is like

What if you are not yet willing to follow Jesus?

Only the Creator King is able to keep his promises. All other hopes will fail us. Those around us cannot give us lasting honor, love, and peace.

**May this good news change
your heart forever**