

Just as there are physical laws that govern the physical universe, so are there spiritual laws that govern your relationship with God.



God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.

### **God's Love**

"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" (John 3:16, NIV).

#### **God's Plan**

[Christ speaking] "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" [that it might be full and meaningful] (John 10:10).

Why is it that most people are not experiencing that abundant life?

Because...



Man is sinful and separated from God.

Therefore, he cannot know and experience
God's love and plan for his life.

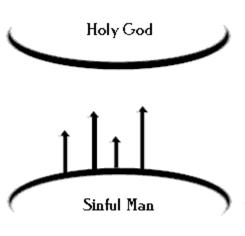
#### Man is Sinful

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Man was created to have fellowship with God; but, because of his own stubborn self-will, he chose to go his own independent way and fellowship with God was broken. This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion or passive indifference, is an evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

## Man Is Separated

"The wages of sin is death" [spiritual separation from God] (Romans 6:23).



This diagram illustrates that God isholy and man is sinful. A great gulf separates the two. The arrows illustrate that man is continually trying to reach God and the abundant life through his own efforts, such as a good life, philosophy, or religion -but he inevitably fails.

The third law explains the only way to bridge this gulf...



Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin.
Through Him you can know and experience
God's love and plan for your life.

# **He Died In Our Place**

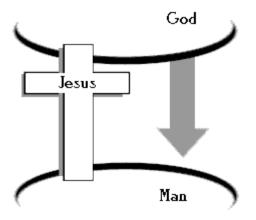
"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

## **He Rose from the Dead**

"Christ died for our sins... He was buried... He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures... He appeared to Peter, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred..." (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

#### He Is the Only Way to God

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through Me'" (John 14:6).



This diagram illustrates that God has bridged the gulf that separates us from Him by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross in our place to pay the penalty for our sins.

It is not enough just to know these three laws...



We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

#### **We Must Receive Christ**

"As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12).

## **We Receive Christ Through Faith**

"By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as result of works that no one should boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

# When We Receive Christ, We Experience a New Birth

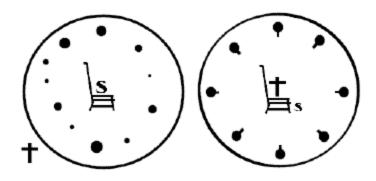
(Read John 3:1-8.)

#### We Receive Christ Through Personal Invitation

[Christ speaking] "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him" (Revelation 3:20).

Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive our sins and to make us what He wants us to be. Just to agree intellectually that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for our sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an **emotional** experience. We receive Jesus Christ by faith, as an act of the will.

These two circles represent two kinds of lives:



# **Self-Directed Life**

- **S**-Self is on the throne
- T-Christ is outside the life
  -Interests are directed by self,

resulting in discord and frustration

# **Christ-Directed Life**

- **T**-Christ is in the life and on the throne
- **S-**Self is yielding to Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan
- Interests are directed by Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan

Which circle best represents your life? Which circle would you like to have represent your life?