



## On the Path Discernment Ministry

Discernment is always mentioned in scripture in a favorable light. Discernment was promoted as a way to avoid error and cause the believer to continually be seeking and watching with vigilance. Accordingly, these materials are provided for you in order to assist you in growing in your knowledge and understanding of God's Word. We have taken great care to give a thorough and expansive explanation of the positions of the church.

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These booklets are provided to explain Old Path's teachings on topics of theology and doctrine. Should you have questions on doctrinal matters or would like further clarity on these positions, you can email us and we will assist you by researching the needed matters. However, we do not provide these booklets with the intention of debating.

# Doctrine



*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path...  
The entrance of Your words gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:105,130*

# Redemption

*Thus says the Lord: "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls." Jeremiah 6:16*

# THEOLOGY

Calvary Old Path believes mankind is separated from God by sin and needs redemption.

## DOCTRINE

We believe this separation was caused by Adam and Eve's disobedience in the garden of Eden. We believe that God sent His only begotten Son to earth to die as a substitutionary atonement for our sins.

Redemption: In Christian theology this refers to the deliverance from sin or being set free.

Redeem means "to buy out". Christ purchased our freedom and we are no longer in bondage to sin.

The doctrine of redemption is a vital part of God's eternal plan for mankind. Redemption is dealt with in over 150 scriptures in both the Old and New Testament.

It is made clear in the Bible that Christ, by the act of substitution, in His death on the cross paid the ransom price and redeemed mankind from his sinful position before God.

These are the areas we will be covering to help you better understand our beliefs regarding redemption.

1. Origin of sin and death
2. Jesus as our substitutionary atonement
3. How to be saved (redemption)

# HOW TO BE SAVED (REDEMPTION)

**Repentance:** A change of mind or attitude. Biblically, repentance means to turn from sin with a heartfelt desire to change.

*Luke 24:46-47 "...it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all the nations..."*

*Acts 3:19 "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."*

*2 Corinthians 7:10 tells us that "...Godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation..."*

## **What must you do to be saved?**

Believe that Christ died for you and that God raised Him from the dead, along with asking God for forgiveness with genuine repentance.

## HOW TO BE SAVED

### (REDEMPTION)

Some believe that their good works will save them. But in *Ephesians 2:8-9* it says, *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*

It is important to keep in mind that salvation entails what God has done for us, not what we can do for Him.

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

*Romans 10:9 “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.”*

## ORIGIN OF SIN AND DEATH

### The Garden of Eden (paradise on earth)

Genesis 1 tells of the creation of the heavens and earth and of all living things, including the first man and woman (Adam and Eve). They lived in a beautiful garden in Eden *Genesis 2:8-15*.

*Genesis 1:31* reads *“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good...”*

### What happened? (The fall of mankind)

God put a restriction upon mankind. He said that they could eat from every tree in the garden except for one. *“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.” Genesis 2:17*

So, God gave mankind the ability to make choices. They could actually choose their own fate. This is where Satan enters in. He told Eve she could be like God and know good and evil *Genesis 3:1-5*. She made the choice to eat the fruit and then gave it to Adam and he also chose to eat it *Genesis 3:6*. This was mankind's original sin.

# **GOD'S JUDGEMENT (PARADISE LOST)**

In *Genesis 3:14-24* we can read God's reaction to their disobedience. Not only were they banished from paradise, but also physical death became a reality. *"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."* *Genesis 3:19*

Through Adam sin and death have been passed down to all of humanity.  
*"Therefore, just as through one-man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned:"*  
*Romans 5:12*

## **JESUS AS OUR SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT**

### **Why the crucifixion? (Jesus' death on the cross)**

In *Romans 6:23* it says, *"the wages of sin is death."* Because of sin we all are deserving of death.

*1 Corinthians 15:21-22* *"For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."*

*We read in 1 Corinthians 15:45 that "The first man Adam became a living being" and "The last Adam became a life-giving spirit."*

From the first Adam (created from the dust of the earth) we inherited our separation from God, our sin nature and death. Jesus (Son of God from heaven) came to restore our original standing with God by paying the price for our sins.

### **Why the crucifixion? (Jesus' death on the cross)**

God sent prophets to mankind warning them of sin's punishment and foretelling them of the coming Messiah (Jesus) who would be their Savior. *Isaiah 53:1-6* is one example.

Before the death of Jesus, God's people sacrificed innocent unblemished lambs. This provided a temporary covering of sins and it foreshadowed the perfect and complete sacrifice of Jesus. *Leviticus 4:35, 5:10 and Hebrews 9:22*

The apostle John described Jesus as *"The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."*  
*John 1:29*

God provided the only sacrifice (Jesus) that could atone for the sins of His people. God's perfect son fulfilled God's perfect requirement of God's perfect law.

*2 Corinthians 5:21* *"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."*