

Unmanageable

An Unmanageable Gap

I. Introduction

- A. If an area of life is important, we usually want to know, "How am I doing in that area?"
1. "Where do I stand spiritually when my life is over?"
 2. My goal is that when you leave here in a few minutes, you will be crystal clear on what the Bible says about how a human being can KNOW that he or she is right with God.
 3. God created all of us! And, He created us in His Image.
- B. Isaiah 1:18 (NAS) *"Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool."*
- C. Romans 3:23 (NAS) *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
- D. Romans 7:15-19 (NLT) *¹⁵I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. ¹⁶But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. ¹⁸And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. ¹⁹I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway.*
1. God is unstained.
 2. How does that gap get bridged?
- E. Jeremiah 2:22 (NLT) *No amount of soap or lye can make you clean. I still see the stain of your guilt. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!*
- F. Romans 6:23a (NAS) *For the wages of sin is death.*
1. Jesus died on the cross so we wouldn't have to!
 2. The greatest news in the world is, I can be clean, and unstained, in God's eyes!
- G. John 15:13-14 (NLT) *¹³"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command."*
1. Christianity is about grace! God's grace to us, a free gift!
- H. *"Heavenly Father, I know You created me. I know I'm not here by accident. I understand that You love me. And in this moment, I acknowledge my sin. I confess I have stains. I realize these stains are deep and I can't get them out.*

I understand now, God, what happened on the cross. I understand that Jesus took my place, and He suffered on my behalf. He paid my debt. He did it for me.

So now, God, at this moment, I accept Your love. I accept Your forgiveness. I accept the grace that You offer me.

I'm through trying to earn my way to You. I'm through struggling against You. I want to go through my life with You.

I ask You, from this moment on, to come into my life, and to be my forgiver, and my leader, and my friend. This is the sincere desire of my heart. And I pray this, God, in Jesus' Name. Amen."

1. My next step on my spiritual journey is _____.

I. If you prayed that prayer, please do these 2 things:

1. Write your name and the date today, below:

a. _____

2. You also need to go public about this decision.

J. Matthew 10:32-33 (NAS) ³²"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. ³³But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven."

II. Conclusion