

The Contract

Most people know what a **contract** is but, for those who may not know, here is a simple definition. **Contract**, as a noun means **1.)** an agreement between two or more parties for the doing or not doing of something specified. **2.)** an agreement enforceable by law. **3.)** the written form of such an agreement. There are all kinds of contracts that are used for different purposes and, depending on the intent of the **contract**, there may be an escape clause that allows for one or both parties to opt out of it, for whatever reason. The strength or validity of a **contract** may be found in the character of the originating source. In other words, is the individual who wrote the **contract** a trustworthy person whose character is impeccable? Sadly, there are many people who, though perhaps writing a **contract** that may be legal, are not trustworthy.

For the next couple of minutes please think with me about a **contract** that God offers you. This **contract** does not have anything in it that would cause it to become null and void; it cannot and will not be broken for any reason! In fact, this **contract** is so good that you can entrust your eternal soul to it. If you are interested in learning more about this **contract**, then read on. If you are not interested in learning more about this **contract**, then please stop reading this pamphlet but, please understand, it is your loss and you will regret it. Now then, let's talk about **THE CONTRACT!**

In the Bible, God's Word, we are told that we are sinners by birth and in what we do; we were born with a sin nature and from the nature we commit the various acts of sin. Where did this sin nature come from? We inherited it from Adam who disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden when he ate fruit from the forbidden tree. God warned Adam of the consequence if he ate from a certain tree, but Adam disobeyed God by doing so. {Genesis 2:1; 3:6} As a result, sin came into the realm of humanity causing us to inherit our sin nature from Adam. {Romans 5:12} Even though humanity from that time forward has been in bondage to sin, God promised a Redeemer, One who would pay our sin debt once and for all. There are many references in the Bible about this, such as Genesis 3:13; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 16:16; John 1:41; and 1 John 5:1. All of these references clearly indicate that Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, is the promised Redeemer, THE Messiah.

God loves His creation so much that He provided a means for us sinners to be forgiven and, not only forgiven, but to be saved for all eternity. God said so by saying, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." {John 3:16} "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8} For those who die without having trusted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, their eternal state will be in hell, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." {Matthew 10:28} and, "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." {Luke 16:23} Later, we read about an eternal lake of fire which is the final destination of all those who have rejected Jesus as Saviour. "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." {Revelation 21:8} "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." {Revelation 20:15} The "book of life" are those who have trust Jesus as personal Saviour and, it is they alone who go to Heaven. What does all of this have to do with **the contract** from God?

The payment for sin is death, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." {Romans 6:23} We were born spiritually dead, but God offers the gift of eternal life. It does not matter who you are or what you may have done because God is willing to forgive you and to save you. "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:12-13} You cannot get saved as the results of your good works; it's is a free gift by faith, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." {Ephesians 2:8-9} The redemption of your soul cannot be bought with things of this world; it is ONLY with the blood of the Lord

Jesus Christ for we read, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." {1 Peter 1:18-19}

God loves you so much and He wants to forgive and save you if you will repent of your sin and, by faith alone in Jesus Christ, receive Him as your personal Saviour. If you will do this, then God offers you this **contract**, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." {1 John 5:11-13}

Well friend, what will you do; will you reject Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour or will you repent of your sin and, by faith alone in His shed blood, receive Him as your personal Saviour?

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/2017

All Scripture references are KJV