



E-Mail Newsletter Bringing The Word of Life

"... that you may know that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:13

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FIVE TRUTHS YOU CANNOT IGNORE Text: Psalms 100:5

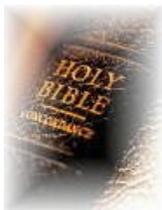
Suppose you were given one hour to speak in the United Nations General Assembly for all people of the world to hear, what meaningful subject would you speak about? In my case, because God doesn't want men to be confused about His great love and plan for them in eternity, I would speak the Christian Gospel in a simple and an easy to understand manner. Let me share with you that Christian message which I would deliver in the UN Assembly if I were given the chance – the Five Truths You Cannot Ignore.

1. LIFE IS SHORT (Jas. 4:14b; 1 Chron. 29:15b)

In other words, life is uncertain, fragile - here today, gone tomorrow! Psalm 139 tells us that our days on this planet are determined by God while we are still in our mother's womb. Only He knows how long we will live - two weeks, two years, 40 years, 80 years? We hear about people living into their late 90s and even 100 and we say, "That's a long time to live." But Methuselah lived to be 969. Yet even that is a very short time compared to eternity. Some of us that are in our 50s and above often say, "Where have all the years gone? Why, time flies so fast!" Life is indeed short!

2. ETERNITY IS LONG (Rev. 11:15, 14:11a; 20:10)

Suppose that a bird took a grain of sand in its beak from the Earth, then flew 93 million miles and dropped the grain into the Sun. Then suppose the bird kept repeating this process until it had emptied the Earth of all its sand into the Sun. Yet when the bird had finally completed this....eternity would have only just begun!



The Bible tells us that the souls of men will spend eternity in either the Heavenly City or Hell. The description of the Heavenly City found in the Bible is too wonderful for words to describe. On the other hand, the picture of Hell is absolutely horrible. But God in His mercy has provided the way for us to be sure that we spend eternity with Him. The only way is through faith in His Son Jesus.

3. SIN IS A CURSE (Rom. 5:12; Psa. 51:5)

Ever since Adam and Eve allowed sin into their lives, every one of us was contaminated with it. Isaiah tells us that all of us have sinned and that we are all like sheep gone astray (**Isa. 53:6a**).

What is sin? It is rebellion against God. It is breaking His law. Sin is unbelief. Unbelief is the worst kind of sin - it is that which damns souls to hell. If we could journey through the corners of Hell and talk to its inhabitants, we would find all kinds of people there: thieves, adulterers, liars, murderers, good people, moral people, and respectable people - people who always obeyed the law.

What are they doing there? Well, if we would ask them, they would say, "We are here because we did not repent and believe Jesus Christ." To ignore Jesus is to choose Satan! The penalty of sin is severe (**Ezek. 18:20a; Rom. 6:23**). Sin's remedy is found only in the blood of Jesus (**1 John 1:7b; Col. 1:14**). Yes, sin is a terrible curse but there is a remedy for it – the blood of Jesus.

4. HELL IS CERTAIN (Luke 16:19-24)

This is not a parable as most like to think. Granted if it was, it still teaches life after death and the reality of Hell. I am aware that too many educated people don't believe in Hell anymore. Even some of the religious don't believe in it. Folks joke about it. Yes, I know what men would like to believe and say just to deny Hell. But I also know that no excuse, denial or disregard can destroy Hell! Its fire and brimstone are hotter as ever! Jesus spoke more about Hell than any other preacher I know (**Mark 9:44, 46, 48**). Why is that? I believe it is because God loves us and warns us so that we could have an opportunity of avoiding it. Yes, Hell is 100% certain and there is no escape except by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. HEAVEN CAN BE YOURS (1Cor. 2:9; Rev. 22:1-5)

Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people. The bad news is that you can't get into it by your own way. God says your good deeds, personal opinion or religion are not enough. The only way is by accepting Christ as Lord and Saviour. The Heavenly City is open to all who will fully trust Christ for salvation (**John 14:6**).

What's so beautiful about heaven? I'll tell you...first, Jesus is there; Saved loved ones are there; Bible characters are there; Angelic beings are there; Beauty, peace and quiet are there; Satan isn't there; Sin and curse won't be there; Suffering, disease, pain, and death aren't there! Wouldn't you like to be there my friend?

Conclusion: Let me remind you five truths you cannot ignore: (1) Life is short; (2) Eternity is long; (3) Sin is a curse; (4) Hell is real; (5) Heaven can be yours. Dear friend, ignore these truths and you will perish; believe them and you will be saved. The decision is now yours. Heaven with Jesus or Hell with Satan, which will be it? (*Rodelio Mallari*)

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Do Not Ignore the Lighthouse



There it is - a lighthouse perched on a high point overlooking the ocean, casting its beam across the waters. If it could talk, we'd learn about the many lives it has saved, the shipwrecks it has seen, and the harrowing moments it has survived. Stories about the lonely devotion of its keeper would intrigue us.

But even without words, the lighthouse casts its beam across the waters, sending its warning message to passing sailors. Lighthouses with their fascinating stories illustrate some relevant spiritual lessons. All of us are like sailors, navigating through the uncharted waters of life. We want to make a safe passage to that seemingly distant shore, but an innate sense reminds us that potential dangers await us. The Bible, like a lighthouse, can guide us through the dangers of life into a safe haven. Written by men controlled by God, it expresses God's unerring message, and has brought guidance and safety to millions during its long history. No one can successfully navigate life's journey without it.

Whether it comes suddenly or with advanced warning, death is the final storm all must face. When our journey of life ends, we will arrive on an eternal shore. Heaven is the final destiny of those who personally believe God's message about His Son (1 John 5:13).

The Bible's message is equally clear for those who do not respond to its light: “. . .he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36). In view of the ultimate storm of death, to be guided safely by the lighthouse of God's Word is vital.

Often the beam of a lighthouse draws sailors to a nearby port. That is the function of the Bible: It directs each of us to a safe shelter in the heavenly harbor. God required a sinless sacrifice to put away our sin. For that reason the Lord Jesus Christ became a man. By His death on the cross He

became our shelter from the storm as He suffered the judgment of God that our sins deserved. By personal faith in Him, we are saved.

“Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under Heaven. . .whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

Has the light of God’s Word made you sure of Heaven, or are you ignoring its light? This is the path of safety to which the lighthouse – the Word of God – directs us. You will choose your eternal destiny while here on earth. Have you trusted Christ as your Saviour? Do not ignore the lighthouse!

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A man fell into a pit and couldn’t get himself out.

- A **SUBJECTIVE** person came along and said, ‘I feel for you down there.’
- An **OBJECTIVE** person came along and said, ‘It’s logical someone would fall down there.’
- A **PHARISEE** said, ‘Only bad people fall into pits.’
- A **NEWS REPORTER** wanted the exclusive story on his pit.
- **CONFUCIUS** said, ‘If you had listened to me, you would not me in that pit.’
- **BUDDHA** said, ‘Your pit is only a state of mind.’
- A **REALIST** said, ‘That’s a pit.’
- A **SCIENTIST** calculated the pressure (p.s.i) to get him out of the pit.
- A **GEOLOGIST** told him to appreciate the rock strata in the pit.
- A **TAX-MAN** asked if he was paying taxes on the pit.
- The **COUNCIL INSPECTOR** asked if he had a permit to dig the pit.
- An **EVASIVE** person came along and avoided the subject of the pit altogether.
- A **SELF-PITYING** person said, ‘You haven’t seen anything until you’ve seen MY pit.’
- An **OPTIMIST** said, ‘Things could be worse.’
- A **PESSIMIST** said, ‘Things will get worse.’

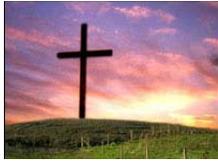
JESUS, seeing the man, took him by the hand and lifted him out of the pit.

David the Psalmist said, ‘He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock and established my goings; and hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Many shall see it and fear and shall trust in the Lord.’

((Psalm 40: 2–3)

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SEVEN SAYINGS OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS



Each of these sayings is an ocean of truth compressed into a drop of speech and deserves our prayerful and careful attention.

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

When the Lord Jesus first spoke from the cross, it was not about the pain of the cruel nails, nor of the injustice which He was suffering, but a prayer of forgiveness for those who were crucifying the sinless Son of God. Truly they knew not what they were doing.

**One day upon Golgotha
Three men died
A thief - The Christ - a thief
Were crucified
A cross of hope for one,
Hope not too late
His fellow died upon
A cross of hate.
Between these two - all space
Were not more wide -
Between them - and for both
Christ Jesus died.**

D.B. Thompson

"Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise" (Luke 23:43).

The Lord Jesus came to save sinners. Even now at the hour of His death He answers the thief who requested, "Lord, remember me!" He had no time or opportunity for paying, praying or penance. The Lord remembered him, not with deliverance from his cross, but with something far greater: Paradise! What salvation! For a thief? Yes, for everyone who puts their trust in Him.

"Woman, behold thy son . . . behold thy mother!" (John 19:26-27).

Human relationships are tender. When Jesus saw His mother Mary at the foot of the cross, He made provision for her by asking John to care for her. He is still concerned about our smallest needs.

"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46).

O hear that startling cry!
What can its meaning be:
'My God, my God, O, why hast Thou
In wrath forsaken me?
O 'twas because our sins
On Him by God were laid;
He who Himself had never sinned,
For sinners, sin was made.

Eternal death is eternal separation from God in the awfulness of Hell. The Lord Jesus Christ was forsaken by God so that we would never need to be forsaken. All physical and mental sufferings fade in comparison to separation from God. Those who refuse the Lord Jesus Christ will bear this same punishment for eternity.

"I thirst" (John 19:28).

The suffering Saviour became a man at His birth in order that the penalty for sin due the human race might be borne by a member of it. That God should become man is a mystery. That our sin and guilt could be laid on Him is a mystery. But if we believe, we are saved.

"It is finished" (John 19:30).



These three words are one single word in Greek – ‘tetelestai’. It was an artist’s word. When he had put the final finishing touches to his painting, he would stand back, admire his masterpiece and declare – ‘tetelestai’ - finished! The Lord Jesus Christ finished the work His father gave Him to do. John 17:4. The work of redemption is complete. Are you resting wholly and solely on the finished work of Christ?

But every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God. Hebrews 10: 11–12

"Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit" (Luke 23:46).

Death did not overtake the Lord Jesus: He said, "I lay down my life. . . I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again" (John 10:17, 18). He voluntarily laid down His life – ‘...the just one for the unjust ones that He might bring us to God...’ 1 Peter 3: 18. ‘But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.’ Romans 5:8. All who trust Him as their Saviour can know with assurance that He has borne the judgement for their sin. ‘There is therefore now no judgement to them which are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1.

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Point to Ponder

Calvary shows how far men will go to sin and how far God will go for man’s salvation. H.C.Trumbull

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