

BRINGING THE WORD OF LIFE

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

www.btwol.com

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

newlife@btwol.com

Issue: 1156

July 2015



HAVE YOU DONE ENOUGH?

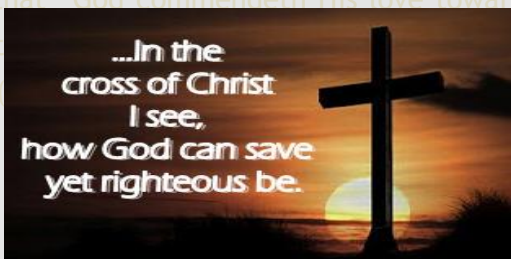
How many things on the list have you done? Some may say, "I can check off all of them—I'm definitely going to Heaven." Others might say, "I have only done five—but that should be enough to tip the scales in my favor." What if you can only lay claim to one item? Will you still make it into Heaven? The truth is, it really doesn't matter how many good things you've done, because none of those things will save you from God's judgment. Are you surprised? It's tempting to think we can repay God for the bad things we do (our sins), and earn a place in Heaven by doing good works. But the Bible says,

"By grace are ye saved through faith ... not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

DO OR DONE?

Someone has said there are really only two religions in the world: one of them teaches "I must do," and the other proclaims "It is done."

read that "God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"



One of them is our attempt to reach up to God, but the other reveals God reaching down to rescue us. The Bible tells of God's love in sending His only Son, Jesus, to put away our sin and take upon Himself the punishment we rightly deserve. We read that –

"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"

(Romans 5:8).

As Jesus laid down His life, He cried out, **"It is finished"**
(John 19:30).

Jesus Christ has done it all. What can we possibly add to the perfect work of God's perfect Son?

GOD'S WAY

When the Apostle Paul summarized the way to Heaven, he described it as "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21).

What is repentance? It is waking up to the fact that our ways are wrong, and agreeing with God that His way is right. God says "There is none righteous, no, not one" and in His sight we are "dead in trespasses and sins" (Romans 3:10; Ephesians 2:1).

We need to align our thoughts with God's; we must recognize that we are sinners, and abandon any idea that we can save ourselves. What does it mean to have faith in Jesus Christ? It is taking Him at His word—fully trusting in what He has done to wash away our sins, and simply resting in what He has promised.

Jesus said,

"He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25).

YOUR CALL

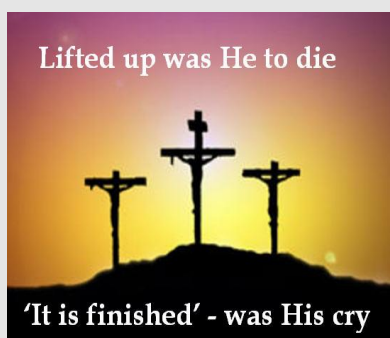
Are you going your way or God's way? None of us are good enough to earn forgiveness and eternal life; likewise, none are too bad for Him to save. Jesus has promised:

"Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

Now is the time for you to repent and believe. Call out to God today.

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

(Moments with the Book)



The Lamb of God

What does the term, "the Lamb of God," mean?

NOTHING BUT THE BEST

The Hebrews sometimes refer to something as being "of God" when they mean that it is the greatest, the noblest, the chief of its kind. For instance, they call the cedars, "trees of God," and thunder is the "voice of God." Therefore, we may understand that Jesus, as *"the Lamb of God," is the chief of all sacrifices.*

All other sacrifices of God's ordaining were but pictures, representations, symbols, and shadows of Himself. There is only one Sacrifice for sin—there never was another, and there never can be.

The blood of Jesus, offered once, has forever put away sin and no further sin-offering can be brought. Whoever rests in Jesus as the true and only Sacrifice is accepted in his faith.

GOD'S APPOINTED ONE

Moreover, our Saviour is called "the Lamb of God" because He is the *Lamb of God's appointing*. Peter tells us that the Lord Jesus is

"...a lamb without blemish and without spot: who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world" (1 Peter 1:19, 20).

Jesus is the choice of the Father. Our hearts rejoice that it is so, for when we rely upon Jesus to save us, we trust in One whom God has appointed to save His people.

If, as a guilty sinner, I leave my sin upon Christ, the Lamb of God, I leave it exactly where God has asked me to put it. I rest in a sacrifice which God, Himself, ordained of old.

GOD'S GREAT PROVISION

Thirdly, Christ is called "the Lamb of God" because ***He is of God's providing***. The Father not only appointed His Son to be the Sacrifice for sin, but He also freely gave Him to be such. Out of the bosom of God came Jesus Christ as love's richest blessing. He is the Father's only begotten, God's dear Son, and to us,

"His unspeakable gift"

(2 Corinthians 9:15).

God "spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all"
(Romans 8:32).

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins"
(1 John 4:10).

Under the Old Testament law, men were required to provide the sacrifices, but the one Sacrifice of the Gospel is the gift of God.

GOD'S SUPREME OFFERING

Lastly, let us not forget that God Himself had a hand in the sufferings of His Son.

It is written:

"We did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.... The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.... It pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief" (Isaiah 53:4, 6, 10).

What does that cry mean,

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

but that God, Himself, had turned away from Him and so had brought His soul into the depths of woe?

When I think of this, that God chose His Son to be the Atonement, that He gave His Son, and then, Himself, offered Him up—I know that the Sacrifice *must* be acceptable and all-sufficient, so that he who rests in it need not have a shadow of a doubt that his soul is saved!

Now then, sinner, do you want to be rid of your sin? God's way of pardoning you is that your sin be laid on Jesus. As of old the Jew laid his hands upon the lamb and the lamb was his substitute, so lay your trembling hands by faith upon Christ, and He will be your Substitute! Oh that you were led to receive Him now to be yours forever! (C.H. Spurgeon)



HOW GREAT THOU ART!

1

**O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed**

Chorus

***Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!***

2

**AND WHEN I THINK OF GOD, HIS SON NOT SPARING;
SENT HIM TO DIE, I SCARCE CAN TAKE IT IN;
THAT ON THE CROSS, MY BURDEN GLADLY BEARING,
HE BLED AND DIED TO TAKE AWAY MY SIN.**

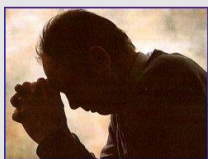
Chorus

3

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow with humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"**

Chorus

POINT TO PONDER



*'God could not pass the sinner by,
His sins demand that he must die;
But in the cross of Christ we see
How God can save yet righteous be.*

**Bringing the Word of Life,
PO Box 12,
Carrickfergus,
Northern Ireland.
BT38 7YD.**

www.btwol.com

newlife@btwol.com