

BRINGING THE WORD OF LIFE

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

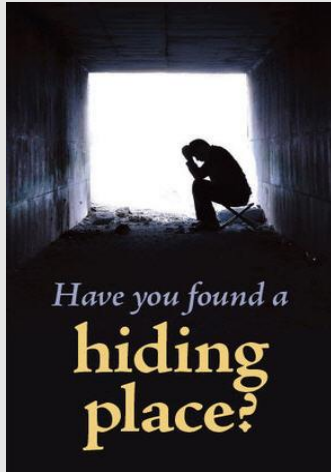
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'...that you may know that you have eternal life.' 1 John 5:13

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**ANXIETY!
STRESS!
WORRY!
TROUBLE!
UNCERTAINTY!
PRESSURE!
CONFUSION!**

These words express what life has become for many people in the world today. In order to escape this hectic life, many people try to find a hiding place from the pressures of everyday living. This hiding place may be a vacation, a sport, a hobby, or even exercise. Whatever it is, it offers an escape, a chance to “get away from it all.”

As often as they can, they retreat to this hiding place in order to find rest and relaxation for their bodies and minds.

Some of these people also feel they have a much deeper need spiritually before God. Realizing that they are not what they should be, they attempt to find a hiding place to shelter them from the wrath of God. But who, or what, can be a hiding place from a holy and righteous God?

Can works be a hiding place?

After all, if one has done her best, won't God accept her?

The Bible says: “There is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Romans 3:12).

“All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags” (Isaiah 64:6).

Clearly, good works cannot be a hiding place from God.

“And a Man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.” (Isaiah 32:2)

What about the law?

If one keeps the Ten Commandments which God gave to man, will this be a hiding place from God's wrath? Hear again what God declares: “By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His [God's] sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20). “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all” (James 2:10). The law cannot be a hiding place. Rather, it condemns us all, showing what great sinners we really are.

Does religion provide refuge?

Hear what the Lord Jesus told a religious leader of the Jews: “Ye must be born again” (John 3:7). Outward religious pursuits cannot be a hiding place; our need is on a deeper level.

But thanks be to God, HE has provided a Hiding Place for us that shields us from His holy wrath against sin. As Isaiah 32:2 tells us, this Hiding Place is a Person—God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Holy One “who gave Himself for our sins,” bearing the wrath of a Holy God (Galatians 1:4). Now He is risen from the dead, and offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will put their trust in Him.

Yes, He is the true Hiding Place from the storms of judgment about to fall upon this wicked world.

He will be your Hiding Place if you turn to God in repentance and by faith accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, 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).

Then, and only then, will you be safe and secure.

Will you trust the Lord Jesus as your Savior today? If you do, you will have a Hiding Place from the judgment and wrath of God.

You will also have a Friend who will never leave you or forsake you, One who will help you with the pressures of everyday living. Through walking with God, and serving Jesus Christ, you will experience peace and joy you never thought possible.

You will then be able to say, “Thou art my Hiding Place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance” (Psalm 32:7).

—John D. McNeil (*Moments with the Book*)



Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's commands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

Augustus M. Toplady

WHAT THE ATHEIST BELIEVES



- Matter without mind created reason and logic
- Matter without intelligence created understanding and comprehension
- Matter without morals created ethical codes and legal systems
- Matter without conscience created a sense of right and wrong
- Matter without emotion created skills in art, music, drama architecture, language, comedy, literature and dance
- Matter without design created in humankind an insatiable hunger for meaning and purpose

Robert Frost Thinking clearly about God and science. (p41)



BIBLICAL REPENTANCE



THERE CAN BE NO TRUE CONVERSION WITHOUT CONVICTION OF SIN. IT IS ONE THING TO AGREE THAT I AM A SINNER: IT IS QUITE ANOTHER THING TO EXPERIENCE THE CONVICTING MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN MY LIFE. MANY HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT THE MESSAGE IS REPENTANCE TOWARD GOD AS WELL AS FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

William MacDonald



TRUE REPENTANCE IS MORE THAN JUST A MENTAL GAME. REPENTANCE IS A DECISIVE CHANGE IN DIRECTION. IT'S A CHANGE OF MIND THAT LEADS TO A CHANGE OF THINKING THAT LEADS TO A CHANGE OF FEELING THAT LEADS TO A CHANGE OF VALUES THAT LEADS TO A CHANGE IN THE WAY YOU LIVE.

RAY PRITCHARD

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REPENTANCE IS A CHANGE OF MIND OF A VERY DEEP AND PRACTICAL CHARACTER, WHICH MAKES THE MAN LOVE WHAT ONCE HE HATED, AND HATE WHAT ONCE HE LOVED.

CHARLES SPURGEON

▼

THERE IS ONE CASE OF DEATH-BED REPENTANCE RECORDED—THE PENITENT THIEF—THAT NO ONE SHOULD DESPAIR; AND ONLY ONE, THAT NO ONE SHOULD PRESUME.

AUGUSTINE

▼

TO REPENT IS TO ADOPT GOD'S VIEWPOINT IN PLACE OF YOUR OWN.

WILLIAM TEMPLE

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REPENTANCE IS THE ESTIMATE A MAN FORMS OF SIN AND OF HIS OWN WAYS AS A SINNER THROUGH THE LIGHT OF GOD PENETRATING INTO HIS SOUL.

J.N. DARBY

▼

FALLEN MAN IS NOT SIMPLY AN IMPERFECT CREATURE WHO NEEDS IMPROVEMENT; HE IS A REBEL WHO MUST LAY DOWN HIS ARMS. LAYING DOWN YOUR ARMS, SURRENDERING, SAYING YOU ARE SORRY, REALIZING THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ON THE WRONG TRACK AND GETTING READY TO START LIFE OVER AGAIN ... IS WHAT CHRISTIANS CALL REPENTANCE.

C.S. LEWIS

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REGRET IS NOT REPENTANCE. OUT OF 10 MEN IN THE BIBLE WHO SAID, "I HAVE SINNED," ONLY FIVE ACTUALLY REPENTED.

H.G.B.

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REPENTANCE IS NOT OPPOSED TO GRACE; IT IS THE RECOGNITION OF THE NEED OF GRACE.

H.A. IRONSIDE

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REPENTANCE IS A LOST NOTE IN OUR PREACHING AND EXPERIENCE AND THE LACK OF IT IS FILLING OUR CHURCHES WITH BAPTIZED SINNERS WHO HAVE NEVER FELT THE GUILT OF SIN OR THE NEED OF A SAVIOR.

VANCE HAVNER

▼

DOES "REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL" IMPLY THAT THE SINNER MUST DO TWO THINGS TO BE SAVED, AND NOT ONE ONLY? THE EXHORTATION IS REALLY ONLY ONE REQUIREMENT. THE INSTRUCTION, "LEAVE LONDON AND GO TO LOS ANGELES," SOUNDS LIKE A TWO-FOLD REQUEST, BUT IT REALLY IS ONLY ONE; IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GO TO LOS ANGELES WITHOUT LEAVING LONDON.

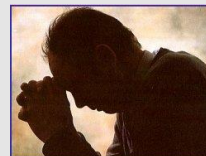
J. EDWIN ORR

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LAW AND THE FEAR OF HELL MAY STARTLE INTO SORROW, AND EVEN LEAD TO SOME KIND OF REPENTANCE. BUT IT IS THE GREAT POWER OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND SACRIFICE WHICH WILL REALLY MELT THE HEART INTO TRUE REPENTANCE.... I BESEECH YOU TO PUT YOURSELVES UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THAT GREAT LOVE, AND LOOK ON THAT CROSS TILL YOUR HEARTS MELT.

ALEXANDER MACLAREN

POINT TO PONDER



'...and a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.' Isaiah 32:2

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