

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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I MUST TELL YOU...

I may never
meet you,
so there is
something
I must tell you
right now. It is so
important that I
would be remiss
not to share it
with you.

Yet it is so simple that you can read it in just a few minutes. It is a message you may not like, but it is a message of love. You may try to ignore it today, but it will affect you forever.

First of all, let me emphasize that this message is absolutely true, because it is a message from God, and He cannot lie. When God makes a promise, you can rest upon it, because His promises never fail. God will not force you to believe this message—that is your choice—but He will hold you responsible for having heard it.

Lastly, let me tell you that it is a personal message to you. It brings you to the place of decision. You must either accept it or reject it. You must either say 'I will' or 'I will not.' You cannot be neutral.

Here, then, is the message. It is a quotation from God's word, the Holy Bible. Read it several times:

'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).

Have you ever heard such wonderful words as these? Just think for a moment what they say! They reveal three astounding facts:

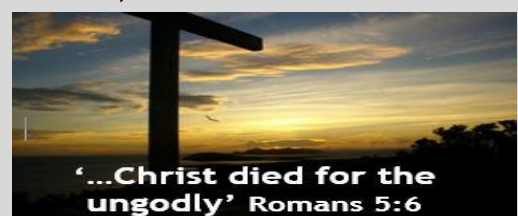
FIRST, "GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD."

Since you are in the world, it means that He loves you. It also means that God loves sinners, because that's what we all are: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23). God says that you are a sinner, and if you are honest, you will agree. While God certainly loves you, He hates your sin. Sin will keep you out of Heaven, because God is holy, and He must punish sin. Thus, a loving God must find a holy way of saving sinners; otherwise the sinner must pay for his own sins by spending eternity in Hell.

THE SECOND GREAT FACT IS THIS: "HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON."

The first statement tells you that God loved you; this statement tells you how much He loved you. He loved you so much that He gave His only begotten Son! Do you know what that means? It means that the Lord Jesus Christ suffered on the cross of Calvary so that you might be saved. He shed His blood so that your sins might be put away. He died for you so that you might live in Heaven forever. Someone must pay the penalty of sin—either you, or a sinless substitute. God gave His Son to stand in your place: 'Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God'

(1 Peter 3:18).



NOW FOR THE THIRD TREMENDOUS FACT:
 "WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT
 PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE."

Were better words than these ever spoken? Think of it! God gives eternal life to those who trust in Christ. The Savior has finished the work: He has died, has risen from the grave and gone back into heaven, and God has accepted Him. This simply means that you should:

- ▶ Confess that you are a sinner in need of a Savior
- ▶ Realize that Christ is willing and able to meet your need
- ▶ Trust Him as your Savior and Lord

This is the message which I had to tell you. Now you must make a decision. Will you accept Him or reject Him? Will you believe on Him or will you refuse Him? I may never meet you again on earth, but I hope I meet you in Heaven. If you will accept the sinner's Saviour, then you will surely be saved. Jesus said, 'Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out' (**John 6:37**). Come to Christ today! *Moments with the Book*

THE NEW YEAR

January, the first month of the year, gets its name from the Roman god, Janus or Januarius, who was represented as having two heads, and two pairs of eyes, each pair looking in the opposite direction from the other, and each head facing a different direction from the other.

New Year is often stock-taking time with business men, and it is good for the Christian, too, to take stock, to look back into the past and trace the good hand and kindness of the Lord amid much failure on his part, and to look forward to a new year of opportunity, of privilege and responsibility. Instead of good resolutions, he will make a full and fresh consecration of himself and all his powers to the Lord. (**Exodus 12. 2**)

JESUS THE SAVIOUR

For whom was all that suffering undergone, which Jesus endured at Calvary? For whom were those hands and feet nailed to the cross? For whom was that side pierced with the spear? For whom did that precious blood flow so freely down? Wherefore was all this done? It was done for you! It was done for the sinful - for the ungodly! It was done freely, voluntarily - not by compulsion - out of love to sinners, and to make atonement for sin. Surely, then, as Christ died for the ungodly, I have a right to proclaim that any one may be saved.



Furthermore, anyone may be saved because Christ still lives. That same Jesus who once died for sinners, still lives at the right hand of God, to carry on the work of salvation which He came down from heaven to perform. He lives to receive all who come unto God by Him, and to give them power to become the sons of God. He lives to hear the confession of every heavy-laden conscience, and to grant, as an almighty High Priest, perfect absolution.

He lives to be the one Mediator between God and man, the unwearied Intercessor, the kind Shepherd, the prevailing Advocate, the never-failing Priest and Friend of all who come to God by Him. He lives to be wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption to all His people - to keep them in life, to support them in death, and bring them finally to eternal glory.

For whom is Jesus sitting at God's right hand? It is for the sons of men. High in heaven, and surrounded by unspeakable glory, He still cares for that mighty work which He undertook when He was born in the manger of Bethlehem. He is not one whit altered. He is always in one mind. He is the same as He was when He walked the shores of the sea of Galilee.

He is the same as He was when He pardoned Saul the Pharisee, and sent him forth to preach the faith he had once destroyed. He is the same as He was when He received Mary Magdalene - called Matthew the publican - brought Zacchaeus down from the tree, and made them examples of what His grace could do. And He is not changed. He is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Surely I have a right to say that anyone may be saved, since Jesus lives.

'Come unto Me,' says the Saviour, 'all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest'

'He that believeth on the Son shall not perish, but have eternal life'

'He that believeth on Him is not condemned.'

'He that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out.'

'Everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him may have everlasting life.'

To be saved, is to be delivered in this present life from the guilt of sin, by faith in Jesus Christ, the Saviour. It is to be pardoned, justified, and freed from every charge of sin, by faith in Christ's blood and mediation. Whosoever with his heart believes on the Lord Jesus Christ, is a saved soul. He shall not perish. He shall have eternal life. This is the first part of salvation, and the root of all the rest. But this is not all.

To be saved, is to be delivered in the day of judgement, from all the awful consequences of sin. It is to be declared blameless, spotless, faultless, and complete in Christ, while others are found guilty, and condemned forever. It is to bear those comfortable words - "Come, ye blessed!" while others are bearing those fearful words - 'Depart, ye cursed!'

It is to be owned and confessed by Christ, as one of His dear children and servants, while others are disowned and cast off for ever.

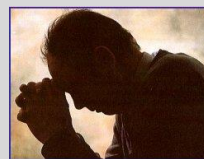
It is to be pronounced free from the portion of the wicked - the worm that never dies - the fire that is not quenched - the weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth, that never ends.

It is to receive the reward prepared for the righteous, in the day of Christ's second coming - the glorious body - the kingdom that is incorruptible - the crown that fadeth not away - and the joy that is for evermore. This is complete salvation. This is the "redemption" for which true Christians are bid to look and long.

Faith, or simple trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, is the only thing required in order that you and I may have our sins forgiven.

That we come by faith to Jesus as sinners with our sins, - trust in Him, - rest on Him, - lean on Him, - confide in Him, - commit our souls to Him, - and forsaking all other hope, cleave only to Him, - this is all and everything that God asks for. Let a man only do this, and he shall be saved. His iniquities shall be found completely pardoned, and his transgressions entirely taken away. J.C. Ryle

POINT TO PONDER



'Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever.'

Hebrews 13:8

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