

# HOUSE TO HOUSE

*Heart to Heart*



“... from house to house ... with gladness and singleness of heart...” (Acts 2:46).

Volume II, Number 5

## A publication of the... churches of CHRIST

Founder: Christ – Mt. 16:18

Place: Jerusalem – Isa. 2:1-3, Acts 2:5

Time: A.D. 33 – Dan. 2:44, Acts 2

Head: Christ – Eph. 1:22

Organization:

Christ as head – Eph. 5:23

Elders oversee local church –

Heb. 13:17, Titus 1:5

Deacons as servants –

Acts 6:1-6, 1 Tim. 3:8-13

Members compose body –

Col. 1:2

Name (group):

Church of God – Eph. 3:15

Body of Christ – Eph. 1:22-23

Churches of Christ – Rm. 16:16

Bride of Christ – Rm. 7:4

Name (individuals):

Disciples – John 15:8

Saints – Rm. 1:7

Brethren – Lk. 8:21

Children of God – Gal. 4:26

Christian – Acts 11:25-26

Creed: Jesus/Bible – Acts 8:37

Rule of Faith & Practice:

Word of God – 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Worship: Jn. 4:24

Sing – Eph. 5:19

Pray – Acts 2:42; 1 Thes. 5:17

Teach – Acts 5:42

Communion – 1 Cor. 1:23-26

Contribute – 1 Cor. 16:1-2

Mission: Save Souls – 1 Tim. 4:16

Warning: Be Faithful – 2 John 9

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## When the Omnipresent God was Absent



Allen Webster

God is everywhere. He is in heaven and on earth. He is on His throne (Matthew 5:34) and upon His footstool (Acts 7:49). He is at the North Pole and the South Pole, and all the way around the equator. He is at the top of Everest and the bottom of the Marianas Trench. He roams the Serengeti plains, meanders up the Shenandoah Valley, and traverses the icy crevices of the Himalayas. He walks in Red Square, Tianaman Square, and Times Square. He is on the outback and the Sahara and the crowded streets of London and Bangladesh.

Since God is everywhere, “all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do” (Hebrews 4:13). Thus, He is at the hip-hop concert, in the licentious teenager’s backseat, and at the rave party. He’s in Vegas, Reno, and Atlantic City. He is in the alley where the drug deal goes down, at the bar where the alcoholic gets drunk, and on the street corner where the prostitute meets her john. He is in the greedy corporate boardroom, the sleazy strip club, and the hygienic abortion clinic. He attends every session of Congress and every hearing of the Supreme Court. He resides at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. He is aboard Air Force One when it takes off and lands. He was in the Twin Towers on 9/11. *But there was one place where God was not.*

### THE OMNIPRESENT GOD WAS ABSENT FROM CALVARY (MATTHEW 27:46).

A thousand years before the crucifixion, the psalmist recorded the prayer that Jesus would pitifully cry from Golgotha’s darkened hillside that Passover afternoon: “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” Or in English, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” Jesus was abandoned even by God, which was a new experience for Him. David continues his prehistory of the Savior’s thoughts: “Why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? . . . Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help . . . But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me” (Psalm 22:1, 11, 19). For the first time in all eternity, the Father and Son were separated. God wasn’t there.





## When the Omnipresent God . . .

Continued from page 1

It was prophesied that the sun and the moon would be darkened (Joel 3:15–16) and from noon until three o'clock that afternoon, it happened. It was dark over all the land, a supernatural darkness that could not be explained. It was not an eclipse because Passover was always held at full moon, when there could be no eclipse of the sun. It is reported that Dionysius, at Heliopolis in Egypt, took note of the darkness, and said that “either the God of nature is suffering, or the machine of the world is tumbling into ruin.”<sup>2</sup> God sent three days of darkness to the land of Egypt before the first Passover (Exodus 10:21–22), when the lambs were slain to protect the firstborn; God sent three hours of darkness at the last Passover before the Lamb of God died for the sins of the world (cf. John 1:29).

Why was the omnipresent God absent? Doubtless it is impossible to fathom the mind of God during these hours (cf. Romans 11:34; 1 Corinthians 2:16), but perhaps these reasons were involved.

*The holiness of God was repulsed by the world's sin.* Matthew Henry calls this darkness “the frowns of heaven.” Why would God abandon His Son at His hour of greatest need, especially when Jesus was doing His Father's will? God still loved Him, but since He bore the world's sin, God's holiness was repelled. “Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity” (Habakkuk 1:13).<sup>3</sup> God's holiness may be His chief attribute. It is referred to more times in Scripture than any other trait.<sup>4</sup> “Holiness is the central nature of the being of God from which such attributes as love, justice, and mercy emanate.”<sup>4</sup>

In both the Old and New Testaments, we read of the inhabitants of heaven praising Him with the words, “Holy, holy, holy” (Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8). God's book reflects God's holiness. Truly, “Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?” (Exodus 15:11). The word *holy* is found 611 times in the Bible and *holiness*, 43 times. *Saint* (100 times, including plural), *sanctify* (132, including past tense), and *sanctification* (5 times) all come from the same root as *holiness*. The darkness manifested God's holiness as hatred of the sin that Jesus experienced in that dreaded hour.

The justice of God inflicted upon Jesus the penalty that the worst of all sinners would face. Just what was taking place there that afternoon? The soldiers saw a routine execution, the Jewish leaders saw an enemy disposed of, the Romans saw a problem resolved, the disciples saw their dreams come to an abrupt halt, the women saw their friend killed, and Satan thought he saw God's plan foiled; but God and the angels saw something else. God's great dilemma—how He could be both just and Justifier—was solved.

Paul reasoned that God sent Christ, “to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus” (Romans 3:25–26).

- ▶ He who knew no sin was made sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- ▶ He whom God loved was made a curse for us (Galatians 3:13).
- ▶ He who deserved no penalty was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities (Isaiah 53:5).
- ▶ He who was worthy of worship “was delivered up because of our transgressions” (Romans 4:25).
- ▶ He who was Life “died for our sins according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 3:18), and became “the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:10).

*The love of God was offended by the treachery, inhuman cruelty, and indescribable suffering of the object of His affection.* It is hard for us to imagine the pain God must have felt as a Father watching His Son endure such abuses as scourging and crucifixion. Many parents have had to leave the room when their child underwent a spinal tap or some other painful medical procedure. They could bear to watch; they could not endure the screams; they could not abide the tears. But they knew it was necessary for the child to regain his health; it was for the child's good. When God endured the events from Gethsemane to Gabbatha to Golgotha, it was doing His Child no good. It benefited only other people's children—even those who were at the time His enemies (Romans 5:8–10).

*The truth of God needed the scapegoat to go into the wilderness, bearing the sins of the people.* God is meticulous in fulfilling prophecy, even types and antitypes. He had prefigured ridding mankind of sin in a

## God's great dilemma —how He could be both just and Justifier —was solved.

curious ritual engaged in by His people for more than a thousand years. In the Old Testament ceremony, two goats were selected. One was

chosen by lot to be offered as a sacrifice. The other became the scapegoat. This animal had the priest's hands laid upon it while the people's sins were confessed. The meaning of the ritual was that these sins were passing from the people to the priest to the goat. Then the goat was led by a “fit man” into the wilderness and abandoned—thus the people's sins were removed from them and left in a place they would never be found again (Leviticus 16:10, 21–27). Jesus is the only man who ever lived who knew what it felt like to be that scapegoat. In fact, He uttered the bitter cry of an abandoned scapegoat that afternoon when He “bore our sins in His body on the cross” (1 Peter 2:24). The separation of darkness was the equivalent of the goat being abandoned in the wilderness.

The goodness of God required separation from the sinner. Jesus took the place of sinners, so He experienced the separation that sinners face (Isaiah 59:1–2). He was separated from God for three hours so that we might be with God for eternity. He endured “the silent treatment” that we might not have to face the sentence “depart from me”

(Matthew 25:41) and be separated from God forever (the second death, Revelation 20:14; 21:8).

### Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> Henry Law, *The Gospel in Exodus*

<sup>2</sup> Matthew Henry

<sup>3</sup> James Montgomery Boice, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” *Moody*, January, 1985, 14.

<sup>4</sup> George Allen Turner, *Nelson's Complete Book of Stories, Illustrations, and Quotes*, 374.





# Death, at Nine



A group of nine-year-olds was asked their opinions on the subject of death. Jim said, "When you die, they bury you in the ground and your soul goes to heaven; but your body can't go to heaven because it's too crowded up there already."

Judy answered, "Only the good people go to heaven. The other people go where it's hot all the time like in Florida."

John replied, "Maybe I'll die someday, but I hope I don't die on my birthday because it's no fun to celebrate your birthday if you're dead."

Marsha added, "When you die, you don't have to do homework in heaven, unless your teacher is there too."

**"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" —Hebrews 9:27**

## It keeps, going . . . and going . . . and going . . .



**I**N 1977, THE UNITED STATES launched a rocket into space. On board was a small craft called *Voyager 1*, a probe that was jettisoned into space to explore the planets. After *Voyager* finished

sending back photos and data from the planet Jupiter and its neighbors, it didn't stop working. It just kept going.

Today, 30 years later, that tiny vehicle is still going—traveling at a speed of over 38,000 miles per hour. And it is nearly 9 billion miles from the sun! Brilliant scientists sent a ship to the edge of our solar system. It's astounding. It's amazing. Mind-boggling!

But it's absolutely puny when compared to what God has done. It would be like hearing someone brag to the architect of the Empire State Building that he had traveled to the second floor. We have barely begun to explore the vastness of God's creation. Every small step by mankind should continue to put us in absolute awe of God's power and creativity. While we have left the realm of one star with a spaceship, the Creator of the stars "calletth them all by name" (Isaiah 40:26). After all, He made them. Exploring the universe is amazing. But exploring the God who made it all—that's beyond amazing.

—Dave Branon



## A New Attitude

- ONE.** Give people more than they expect—cheerfully (Philemon 1:21).
- TWO.** Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have, or sleep all you want.
- THREE.** Smile when answering the phone. Callers can hear it in your voice.
- FOUR.** Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
- FIVE.** When you say, "I'm sorry," look the person in the eye.
- SIX.** Be engaged at least six months before you get married.
- SEVEN.** Believe in love at first sight.
- EIGHT.** Spend some time alone (Matthew 14:23).
- NINE.** When you say, "I love you," mean it (1 Peter 1:22).
- TEN.** Never laugh at a dream. People without dreams don't have much.
- ELEVEN.** Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship (Proverbs 27:10).
- TWELVE.** Talk slowly but think quickly (James 1:19).
- THIRTEEN.** Don't judge people by their relatives (Matthew 7:1).
- FOURTEEN.** Marry a man/woman you love to talk to (1 Peter 3:7).
- FIFTEEN.** Do an anonymous kindness each day (Ephesians 4:32).
- SIXTEEN.** When you lose, don't lose the lesson (James 1:1–3).
- SEVENTEEN.** When you make a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
- EIGHTEEN.** In disagreements, fight fairly. No name calling, threats, or bringing up ancient history.
- NINETEEN.** Remember the three Rs: Respect for self; Respect for others; and Responsibility for all your actions.
- TWENTY.** When someone asks you a question you don't want to answer, smile and ask, "Why do you want to know?"
- TWENTY-ONE.** Love deeply and passionately. You might get hurt but it's the only way to live life completely.

## Think on Good Things

—Philippians 4:8

- ▶ Few things help an individual more than to place responsibility upon him, and to let him know that you trust him. —Booker T. Washington
- ▶ If a window of opportunity appears, don't pull down the shade. —Tom Peters
- ▶ If they can make penicillin out of moldy bread, they can sure make something out of you. —Muhammed Ali
- ▶ If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it. —Unknown
- ▶ Truth indeed rather alleviates than hurts, and will always bear up against falsehood, as oil does above water. —Miguel de Cervantes

## Moments with God

- Happy moments, praise God.
- Difficult moments, seek God.
- Quiet moments, worship God.
- Painful moments, trust God.
- Every moment, thank God.

**"And Enoch walked with God." —Genesis 5:24**



The



# HOME PAGE



## Marriage Is Good Medicine For Men

Married men—regardless of age, race, income, or education—consistently have been found to be healthier than men who are single, divorced, or widowed. This so-called “marriage benefit” begins to kick in right after the wedding, then builds. Husbands ages 18 to 44 are strikingly healthier than bachelors of the same age. At every age, in fact, marriage not only protects men’s health but also prolongs their lives. —Gail Sheehy, *Parade Magazine*

**“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing.”**  
—Proverbs 18:22

## Building Boundaries

Simply hoping that infidelity will never touch marriage is a luxury no couple can afford. Here are five guidelines for establishing workplace boundaries that will demonstrate your commitment to your spouse and safeguard your marriage:

- ▶ Don’t verbalize your feelings to the one to whom you feel attracted. Instead, tell a friend who will hold you accountable.
- ▶ Avoid the coworker’s office, favorite lunch spots, or gathering places.
- ▶ Turn down projects that call for the two of you to work together alone.
- ▶ If you must have a lunch meeting or business agenda with the person, make sure you do so in a public place.
- ▶ Don’t dwell on compliments or flirtatious conversations with a coworker. Escape routes: take a walk, read your Bible, pray, immerse yourself in a project, force yourself to think about every negative consequence of allowing a relationship.

—Cindy Sigler Dagnana

**“Whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul”** —Proverbs 6:32



For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to [www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com).



## Sixteen Ways to Help Your Family by Reducing Your Stress

1. Simplify and unclutter your life. Less is more.
2. Go to bed on time and get up on time so you can start the day fresh and unrushed.
3. Tell your spouse you love him or her every day, at different times.
4. Say “no” to projects that won’t fit into your time schedule. Seriously.
5. Slow down. Read a book, color a page, or play a game with a child.
6. Delegate tasks to capable others.
7. Laugh.
8. Laugh some more! A whole lot.
9. Take one day at a time. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow and it does not happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice.
10. Allow extra time to get to places.
11. Develop a forgiving attitude—most people are doing the best they can.
12. Be kind to unkind people—they probably need it the most.
13. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
14. Live within your budget; don’t use credit cards for unbudgeted purchases.
15. Take your work seriously, but not yourself.
16. Every night before bed, think of one thing you are grateful for that you have never been grateful for before.

**“Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while”** —Mark 6:31



## Holding Hands Helps

In the first study of how human touch affects the body’s response to stress and threatening situations, Dr. James Coan, a psychologist in the departments of psychology and neuroscience at the University of Virginia, recruited married volunteers, slid them into MRI machines and warned them to expect an electric shock on their ankles. When spouses reached into the machines to hold their respective partner’s hand—a simple yet loving gesture of support—the part of the brain that registers the anticipation of pain “turned off.” The volunteers also said that they felt less distress.

The hand-holding also reduced agitation in the hypothalamus, the area of the brain that controls the release of stress hormones, which turn off our immune function. Eventually, a weakened immune system can make us sick.

“We can’t see what our spouses are doing to our brains and emotions until a stressful event arises, but it’s going on all the time,” says Dr. Coan. “When a wife holds or caresses her husband, she is really reaching into the deepest parts of his brain, calming down the neural-threat response.”

Can it be that easy access to a wifely hug after a fall-out with a neighbor or pounding on the golf course is as potent as a tranquilizer or a beta-blocker? It starts with the simple act of holding hands and hugging—long and loving embraces, several times a day—according to the latest science.

- ▶ Marriage is a book of which the first chapter is written in poetry and the remaining chapters in prose. —Beverly Nichols





## What is the "Great Tribulation"?



The word *tribulation* was used by Jesus and the apostles more than twenty times in the New Testament to refer to the distress and trials that Christ's followers must suffer in this life. For example, Acts 14:22 tells us that Paul and Barnabas taught that we should

"continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

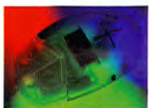
The words *great tribulation* found in Matthew 24:21 describe a period of unparalleled suffering. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Premillennialism in-correctly teaches that the "great tribulation" is a seven-year period in the future that follows the "rapture" of the church and precedes the Lord's second coming. (There are variations among premillennialists, but these ideas are generally accepted.)

The disciples asked Jesus privately, "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:3). Notice they asked about two things: "the sign of thy coming," and "the end of the world." The two separate things are the destruction of Jerusalem and the Lord's second coming at the end of the world. Matthew 24 and 25 give Christ's description of these two events. Matthew 24:1-35 describes the destruction of Jerusalem that occurred in A.D. 70, and the remainder of the passage describes the Lord's second coming.

The great tribulation, which premillennialists want to project to the end of time, is a description of the destruction of Jerusalem. Jesus said, "This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled" (Matthew 24:34). Thus within a generation—thirty to forty years—the events He described would come to pass. The destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 fulfilled this prophecy. Daniel had prophesied a coming "abomination that maketh desolate" (Daniel 11:31; 12:11). "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)" (Matthew 24:15). The abomination of desolation was the desecration and destruction of the temple by the Romans as they destroyed Jerusalem.

The fact that this great tribulation was the destruction of Jerusalem, and not a coming period of misery, is demonstrated by Jesus' instructions to His followers to watch for the signs, and "flee into the mountains" to escape, saying that they should pray that it "be not in the winter," when the weather would be bad, nor that their flight be "on the sabbath day" when the city gates would be closed (Matthew 24:16, 20). History shows that Christians heeded this warning and were able to escape the destruction of Jerusalem by fleeing to the mountains. All who follow Christ will suffer tribulation, but the period of great tribulation has already passed.

—Bob Prichard, P O Box 3071, Oxford, AL 36203



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Send us your answers (address on front). We'll grade and return all entries and randomly select one to receive a Bible, New Testament cassettes, or Bible Dictionary.

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Questions Taken from the King James Version

## Starts with the Letter "P"

Find answers in Genesis 6:14; 19:26; 25:29-33; 28:11; 39:1-20; Exodus 1:11; 11:1; Numbers 13:23; 1 Samuel 17:4; Psalm 9:2; 25:11; Proverbs 16:18; Amos 4:12; Matthew 5:3; 16:6; 23:5; 27:24; Mark 8:36; Acts 16:14; 18:1-3; Romans 1:30; 16:1-2; Galatians 5:22; Colossians 4:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; 2 Timothy 3:12; 4:2; Hebrews 13:11; 2 Peter 1:6 (not in order).

1. For thy name's sake, O Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ mine iniquity
2. A sin of the Gentiles that Paul listed was disobedience to \_\_\_\_\_
3. Add to knowledge temperance; and to temperance \_\_\_\_\_
4. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, \_\_\_\_\_, temperance ...
5. All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Beware of the leaven of the \_\_\_\_\_ and of the Sadducees.
7. Goliath was a champion of the \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Female servant of the church at Cenchrea
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus condemned those who made these "broad" to be seen of men
10. Luke was called "the beloved \_\_\_\_\_."
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Governor who washed his hands at Jesus' trial
12. Lot's wife was turned to a \_\_\_\_\_ of salt when she looked back
13. Jacob used stones for his \_\_\_\_\_; dreamed of ladder
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Ark covered with this substance
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Egyptian city built by Hebrew slaves
16. God sent ten \_\_\_\_\_ upon Egypt (darkness, lice)
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Small tree with apple-like fruit grown in Canaan
18. Jesus is our High \_\_\_\_\_ today
19. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Egyptian master whose wife tempted Joseph
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Esau sold his birthright for
22. I will sing \_\_\_\_\_ to thy name, O thou most High.
23. "\_\_\_\_\_ without ceasing."
24. "\_\_\_\_\_ the word; be instant in season, out of season."
25. "\_\_\_\_\_ to meet thy God, O Israel."
26. "\_\_\_\_\_ goeth before a fall."
27. \_\_\_\_\_ Home of Aquila
28. \_\_\_\_\_ Wife of Aquila
29. "For what shall it \_\_\_\_\_ a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"
30. \_\_\_\_\_ Lydia was a seller of

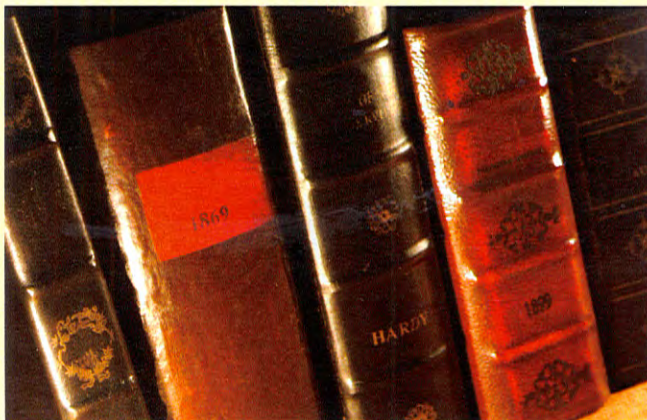
**Answers to Last Issue: Starts with the Letter "R":** 1. Rabbi (Matthew 23:7); 2. Raca (Matthew 5:22); 3. Rachel (Genesis 29:9-30); 4. Rahab (Joshua 2:1); 5. Ram (Genesis 22:13); 6. Raamses (Exodus 1:11); 7. Raven (Genesis 8:7); 8. Razor (Numbers 6:2-5); 9. Rebekah (Genesis 25:20); 10. Rebellion (1 Samuel 15:23); 11. Red Sea (Exodus 15:4); 12. Reed (Mark 15:19); 13. Rehoboam (1 Kings 11:43); 14. Repent (Acts 17:30); 15. Rise (Luke 24:46); 16. Reuben (Genesis 29:32); 17. Revelation (1:1); 18. Reverence (Hebrews 12:28); 19. Riches (Proverbs 22:1); 20. Riddle (Judges 14:12); 21. Righteous (James 5:16); 22. Ring (Luke 15:22); 23. Ruth (Ruth 1:4); 24. Rubies (Proverbs 31:10); 25. Rock (Matthew 16:18); 26. Reward (Luke 6:23); 27. Rejected (Luke 20:17); 28. Redemption (Ephesians 1:7); 29. Reconciled (Romans 5:10).





# Learn More! For More Info!

## Ever Read These in a History Book?



▶ **Benjamin Franklin:** “Young man, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with and firm belief in the Holy Scriptures, for this is your certain interest. I think Christ’s system of morals and religion, as He left them with us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see.”

▶ **Thomas Jefferson:** “I have said and always will say that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands.”

▶ **Ralph Waldo Emerson:** “Jesus is the most perfect of all men that have yet appeared.”

▶ **Charles Dickens in his will:** “I commit my soul to the mercy of God, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and exhort my dear children humbly to try to guide themselves by the teachings of the New Testament.”

▶ **Shakespeare in his will:** “I commend my soul into the hands of God, my Creator, hoping and assuredly believing, through the only merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour, to be made partaker of life everlasting.”

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- ▶ God is with Me in My Disappointments, Reverses, Suffering, Insecurities, and Doubt —Wendell Winkler
- ▶ Deliverance from Guilt and Sin, Guy N. Woods
- ▶ Is Being a Good Person Enough? —Allen Webster

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- The Irony of Calvary.** Some astounding contrasts.
- Looking for Love.**  **God Hates False Witness.**
- Don’t Bet on It!**  **Salvation is Free, But not C**
- What Teens Want**  **Watered-Down Baptism**
- Death Hurts, But Jesus Helps**
- Back issues of *House to House/Heart to Heart*

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# That's the man that died for me

Let me tell you a true story about a young fireman. In the midst of a blaze he stepped forward and volunteered to go rescue a little baby, even though the chief had said that the flames were too strong and the building too unstable. As soon as that young fireman was able to get that little girl out the window and into the rescue net, the building collapsed, and he perished in the flames. Twenty years later, at a graveside with a statue of a fireman, stood a young woman sobbing. A man stopped and asked politely, "Was that your father or brother?" "No," she replied, "That's the man who died for me."

Christ did something for humanity that no one else could do. While we struggle with the finality of death, we should be more concerned about the finality of everlasting life. Everyone is going somewhere . . . Christ has provided the way to live eternally with Him.

In Jesus we have the yearning God in pursuit of people. In Christ we find that God is not content to let people live and die beyond His circle of love. Saul of Tarsus was overwhelmed in the Syrian Desert by the Savior whose religion he had set out to destroy. The story may be apocryphal, but when Karl Barth was asked what was the most profound theological truth he knew, he replied, "Jesus loves me, this I know." —*The Book of Jesus*, Calvin Miller

## Saved!

- ▶ A physician can save your life . . .
- ▶ A lawyer can save your business. . .
- ▶ A financial advisor can save your money . . .
- ▶ A coach can save your athletic career . . .
- ▶ An image consultant can save your reputation. . .
- ▶ But only Jesus can save your SOUL!

"... by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead . . . neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" —Acts 4:10-12



## Why Stress the Importance of Baptism?

The jailor's question, "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30) is still on the minds of thinking individuals. According to the Bible, the answer is: **Hear** the Gospel of Christ (John 6:44) and **believe** in Jesus as God's Son (Acts 16:30-34; John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6). Next, one must **repent** of sins (Acts 17:30-31; Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38) and **confess** faith that Jesus is the Christ (Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:37). Then, the consummating act of one's obedience is to be **baptized** to be saved (Mark 16:16). When these matters are discussed, sometimes a question arises: "Why stress the importance of baptism so much?" The answer to this question is well answered in the following list of Bible references.

Water stands between the sinner  
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and cleansing (Ephesians 5:26).  
and sanctification (Ephesians 5:26).  
and putting away sins (Colossians 2:11-13).  
and new life in Christ (Ephesians 2:6).  
and quickening with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).  
and forgiveness (Colossians 1:13-14).  
and the kingdom (John 3:5).  
and the blood of Christ (John 19:34).  
and a good conscience (1 Peter 3:21).  
and the promise through Christ (Acts 2:39).  
and the body (1 Corinthians 12:12).  
and salvation (1 Peter 3:21).  
and sonship (Galatians 3:26-27).





## At Day's End

Is anybody happier because you passed this way?  
Does anybody remember that you spoke to them today?  
The day is almost over and its toiling time is through;  
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Can you say tonight in parting with the day that's dipping fast,  
That you helped a single person of the many that you passed?  
Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said?  
Does the person whose hopes were fading now with courage look  
ahead?

Did you waste the day or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?  
Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?  
As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that GOD will say,  
"You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today"?

—Author Unknown

"... we spend our years as a tale that is told. . . . So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom"

—Psalm 90:10-12

