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HEART to HEART

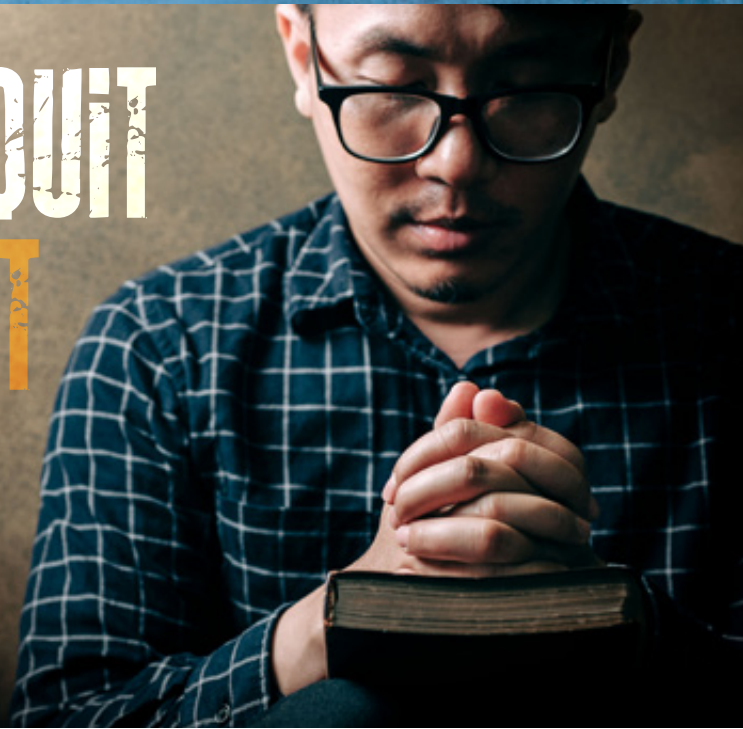
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House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 11

DON'T QUIT IN A PIT PSALM 40

Allen Webster



Are you feeling blue?

The phrase “feeling blue” goes back as far as 1385. It may refer to an old naval custom of flying blue flags or painting a blue band on the ship’s hull if a captain perished during the voyage.

Perhaps you are down in the dumps. In early, 16th-century English, *dump* meant “a fit of depression”—what Winston Churchill later called “the black dog.” “Down in the dumps” is from 1785: “low-spirited; derived from Dumpos, Egyptian king, who died of melancholy.”¹

Have you been in the pits? This is a biblical concept. In Psalm 40, David writes about being in a pit. He leads the reader through six stages of his experience—the pit, cry, patience, rescue, song, and influence.

DAVID WAS IN A HORRIBLE PIT (PSALM 40:2)

There is a dungeon at Rome in which, according to tradition, Paul was confined. It originally had no entrance except a round hole in the rock above; when that

was blocked, neither light nor fresh air entered. It was a horrible place.

Some Bible characters were in pits. Joseph’s brothers threw him in one (Genesis 37:5–36; cf. 39:20–23). Jeremiah sank in a miry pit (Jeremiah 38:6). Daniel was in a lions’ den (Daniel 6:16).

Others faced emotional pits. Paul’s pit was on a ship in a storm when all hope was gone (Acts 27). Isaiah said his soul was “delivered from the pit of corruption” (Isaiah 38:17). Jesus was in a sorrowful, dark, and isolated emotional pit in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36).

In Psalm 40, a pit was a state of:

- **Confinement.** David felt trapped. This may refer to an ancient hunter’s trap, still used in Africa and in the Polynesian Islands. They dug a deep hole, placed a goat in it for bait, and covered the opening with foliage. Attracted by the goat’s cries, the predator fell into the trap. David may have been tempted into a pit of sin.

- **Darkness.** The sun's brightness does not enter a pit. Pit also refers to a dungeon, grave, or deep well.² The Bible uses this figure for sin or sorrow (Isaiah 9:2; Micah 7:8; Matthew 4:16; Acts 26:18; Romans 13:12).

- **Distress.** It is a horrible pit—desolate, miserable, cold. The word rendered “horrible” in Psalm 40:2 means “noise, uproar, tumult, as of waters, a crowd, or war.” The margin has “the pit of noise.” It is as if David had fallen into a fearful cavern where waters roared and horrors lurked.

When one is in the pit of depression he may be given confusing advice:

- It is just your imagination. Do not let it get you down.
- You are a little out of sorts—just snap out of it.
- The doctor will give you a pill and have you right in a week.
- You need to pray more and read Scripture so this will go away.

Each may be good in some cases, but none is a blanket to fit every situation. One can always trust that God cares about our sorrow, loneliness, poverty, disappointment, tragedy, and sin (2 Samuel 12:20; 18:33; John 14:1; Acts 8:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:13).

- **Despair.** Ancient pits were often filled with miry (slimy, sticky) mud. Jeremiah's enemies cast him into a cistern where he sank in the mire (Jeremiah 38:6). Josephus wrote that cisterns used to punish people were twenty feet deep with mud to an adult's chin.

Being unable to do anything leads to despair. Asaph, author of Psalm 79, had been “brought very low” (Psalm 79:8; 142:6; 2 Corinthians 4:8–9). He felt helpless; he could not find a foothold; he was slipping and sinking (cf. Psalm 69:1–2).

Feeling that nothing is solid and no one is dependable is frustrating. Hopelessness can come from grief, failure, and overload—an overworked businessman, a young mother, an overloaded student, a lingering illness, a jobless provider, one with a powerful enemy, an unfaithful mate, rebellious children, or a betraying

friend. Pits may result from sin or bad decisions, or they may be tied to others' sins and decisions.

DAVID CRIED TO GOD FOR HELP (PSALM 40:1)

David knew that if God's strong arm did not rescue him, he was done. David was transparent. His prayers and songs are real. He said, “All night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears” (Psalm 6:6; cf. 56:8). Jesus said: “Blessed are those who mourn” (Matthew 5:4). He promised, “Whatever you ask in My name, that I will do” (John 14:13; cf. 15:7; Matthew 7:7). God wants us to cast our care upon Him (1 Peter 5:7).

DAVID WAITED FOR GOD TO ANSWER (PSALM 40:1)

Where David said, “I waited patiently,” we might have to say more truthfully, “I waited impatiently.” We do not like to wait at a drive-thru, market, stoplight, or appointment. While these situations are unimportant, impatience is more dangerous in trying to win a spouse to Christ, save a marriage, get a job to pay the bills, wait for relief from chronic pain or a cancer scan, or hold on till grief subsides.

Two elements required for waiting on God are humility and hope. Humble people can wait. They understand their place in the universe and do not demand of God. During Jesus' trials and crucifixion He showed humility, great calm, and patience. Jesus on the cross was not like Job among the ashes (Job 2:8; 7:11).

Christians learn to live with mysteries. We see only part of what God does. He may be doing a hundred things in our lives, but we see only two—and those two may not make sense. Jesus said to His disciples, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this” (John 13:7). Our job is not to make sense of providence but to trust God to work things out.

Waiting and hope go hand in hand. “Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You” (Psalm 39:7; 130:5). God works in His time—not ours. Augustine said, “Because God lives forever, He can afford to wait.” William Cowper wrote: “Behind a frowning providence, He hides a smiling face.”

GOD BROUGHT HIM OUT OF THE PIT (PSALM 40:2)

God:

- elevated and invigorated him—“brought me up.”
- stabilized him—set his feet upon a rock, from the clinging mire of slippery clay to a sure foothold. He established his heart by love, intellect by truth, and purpose by assignments.
- advanced him—“established my steps.”
- made him happy—gave him a new song.

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all” (Psalm 34:19; cf. Genesis 41:14–44).

GOD GAVE DAVID A NEW SONG (PSALM 40:3)

One preacher outlined Psalm 40:2–3:

- God brought the psalmist up.
- God stood the psalmist up.
- God tuned the psalmist up.

When God starts one on the road to holiness and heaven, He sends him away singing.

A new song describes a new experience. Every song was once new (cf. Revelation 5:9). Psalm 40 is a song of deliverance. Deliverance and escape differ. A prisoner might escape while on work detail, but he will live in fear; a prisoner pardoned will walk out the front door and not look back.³

A new song is a new way to magnify God. A telescope magnifies what looks like a tiny object so one can see how astounding it is. With no telescope, people think, “Twinkle, twinkle little star.” Little star? Some stars dwarf the sun. A new song draws attention to God; it celebrates an aspect of His nature or deed He has accomplished.

Consider the song, “How Great Thou Art:”

“And when I think that 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.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God,
to Thee:
How great thou art; how great thou
art!”⁴

OTHERS SAW AND BENEFITTED (PSALM 40:3)

Pits are inevitable; therefore, all must learn to endure them properly. Others knew of David's trouble; they rejoiced with his rescue. They gave God the credit and took courage that He would be with them in their trials.

Louis Brandeis (1856–1941), once Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, said to his frustrated daughter, "My dear, if you would only recognize that life is hard, things would be so much easier for you."⁵ Jesus told the disciples to expect trials (John 15:18; 16:1–2, 33; cf. Acts 14:22; 1 Thessalonians 3:3–4; 2 Timothy 3:12). He also promised to be with us in every one (Matthew 28:20).

"Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:9). Don't quit in a pit!

Endnotes:

¹ Francis Grose's *The Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue*, Source: theidioms.com.

² Psalm 40 was designed as a public worship song as shown by verses 3, 9, 10. Since Psalm 40:13–17 are practically identical with Psalm 70, both are ascribed to David and dedicated to the chief musician. The most unusual thing about Psalm 40 is its structure. Psalms usually begin with complaint, and then move to thanks. This psalm reverses the order: Thanks (40:1–10) followed by lament (40:11–17).

³ Eustace R. Conder quoted in Jim Jordan, *Psalms*.

⁴ http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/o/w/g/how_great_Thou_art.htm.

⁵ <https://bible.org/seriespage/psalm-40-when-you%E2%80%99re-pit>.



The Bridge Builder

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with
building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come,"
he said,
"There followed after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge
for him!"

—Will Allen Dromgoole

God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16

God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9

Holy Spirit's Word: Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16

Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37

Christian's Work: James 2:24

Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10

Keep the Big Picture in Mind

A farmer sent his son to the field to lay by a promising field of corn. About the middle of the afternoon, the father walked down to the field to see how the plowing was going. To his amazement, he saw that his boy was running and thrashing, trying to kill something. He had beaten down and destroyed about half an acre of corn.

He called out, "Charlie, what in the world is the matter?" Charlie explained that he had been lying down sleeping and a lizard ran over his face, and that he was trying to kill it.

His father said, "Now, see what you have done; you have lost half the evening, and destroyed half an acre of corn, and what is the use of killing the lizard anyway?"

In disgust his father went on, "If you kill him, he is worth nothing; and if you do not kill him, he will do no harm."

Charlie replied, "I do not care; I am going to kill him if it takes the whole crop." —Anonymous

"Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established."

PROVERBS 4:25–26

When Do I Die?

In his book *Written in Blood*, Robert Coleman tells of a little boy whose sister needed a blood transfusion. Since the two children shared the same rare blood type, the boy was the perfect donor.

The doctor asked him, “Will you give your blood to your sister?” Johnny hesitated—his lower lip began to tremble. Then he said, “Sure, for my sister.”

Both children were wheeled into the hospital room and the nurses prepared them for the transfusion. When the procedure was almost over, little Johnny asked the physician, “Doctor, when do I die?” It was then that the doctor realized why Johnny had hesitated before agreeing to give his blood. He thought that giving up his blood meant giving up his life. His love was strong enough to die for her.

Thankfully, Johnny did not have to die, but Jesus did give up His blood and His life for us.

“Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.”

1 PETER 3:18



For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to www.housetohouse.com.

Why OBEY Your Parents?

It is right (Ephesians 6:1). Since God said it is right, and He is the One who determines morality, then it is right. The only time it is wrong to obey parents is if they ask something that is contrary to God’s word (Acts 5:29).

God looks at disobedience to parents as a terrible sin (Romans 1:30–32; 2 Timothy 3:2). The teen who tells his parents that he will not do something that they have told him to do is showing dishonor to God (Colossians 3:20). In the Old Testament, the death penalty was used for

- prolonged disobedience (Deuteronomy 21:18–21).
- smiting a parent (Exodus 21:15; Proverbs 19:26; 1 Timothy 1:9),
- cursing parents (Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9; Proverbs 20:20; 30:11), and
- mocking parents (Proverbs 30:17; cf. Ezekiel 22:7).

Solomon marked a disobedient child as a scoffer (Proverbs 13:1), a despiser, and a fool (Proverbs 15:20).

It extends one’s life (Ephesians 6:2–3). The first application was related to Israel remaining in Canaan’s land, but thousands of graves over the centuries testify that children’s lives have been cut short because they did not obey their parents.

When one obeys his parents, he usually has good morals, healthy habits, self-control, and industriousness. Such things tend to a longer and more prosperous life. No good parent ever told his boy or girl to smoke, drink, or run wild.

This is a general rule, and has exceptions. Just because Stephen did not live a long life does not indicate he was disobedient to parents (Acts 7). The parable of the Prodigal Son illustrates this principle. The young man who left his father and home thought that he did not need his father’s protection and care. Later he “came to himself” (Luke 15:17). Too many have to feel the hunger of the far country before they appreciate the wisdom of their parents. Sadly, the far country leaves its marks.

It helps repay a huge debt (cf. Romans 1:14). We should show honor to the man

and woman responsible for bringing us into the world, feeding us, getting our cavities filled, nursing us when we were sick, and doing the million other things that go with being parents.

Even a dog shows appreciation to the hand that feeds it; should not children be thankful? (Colossians 3:15; Psalm 100:4). None of us knows the many sacrifices our parents made to feed us, send us to school, help us get started with our own families, or become established in business or a profession.

Even if they were unable to help with money in those situations, they helped by being the one pair of people in the world that we knew would always believe in us, love us even if we failed, and never kick us when we were down.

It benefits the child. We can learn so much from our parents, even if we are eventually more educated. We are blessed to have parents who help us avoid mistakes. Some things cannot be learned in a book—they come only by experience.

Mark Twain mused, “When I was fourteen I thought my father was the dumbest man in the world, but by the time I reached twenty-one, it was surprising how much he had learned in seven short years.”

Solomon said that parental commandments and reproofs are light and the way of life (Proverbs 6:23). As a military man is distinguished by his decorations, a child is decorated by his obedience to his parents (Proverbs 1:8–9). This type of ornamentation is of more worth than a Distinguished Service Cross or a Congressional Medal of Honor. —Anonymous



RACISM

AND ITS CAUSES

Racism is neither a local nor a recent problem. It has been around for a long time. The Bible has principles that guide how people of different races should treat each other.

Racism uses crude descriptions of people. Racial slurs are offensive and demeaning. The Bible says, "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29; cf. Luke 4:22; Colossians 3:8-9; 4:6; James 3:2-8; 2 Peter 2:18).

Racism attempts to elevate self by putting down others. Some attempt to rise by stepping on others. In the church, all are equal as brothers and sisters in Christ (Philippians 2:3-4).

Racism is arrogant and foolhardy because every man is made in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27). Anthropologists believe that no race is essentially superior or inferior. Of course, there

are advanced races and backward races, but this is accounted for by a difference in opportunity rather than an inherent ability. The claim that any group is a master race would be laughable if it were not so tragic.

Yet such racism has brought terrible suffering into a world. For instance, three German soldiers were executed by Russian soldiers. One, who was twenty-four years old, confessed to murdering women and children. For his brutal conduct he gave this explanation: "When Hitler came to power, I was thirteen. I was taught we were the master race, that all others were inferior. I was taught that these, being inferior, had no rights. Therefore I killed and destroyed without compunction."

What causes racism?

Racism may come from parental influence. Some say, "That is the way I was raised, and I cannot help it." This is not acceptable excuse because Christianity reprograms our thinking; it "renews the mind" (Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 2:16; Colossians 3:16). People can change.

Racism may come from fear (Proverbs 29:25). Why do we build walls? For protection and defense against hostile forces.

The Great Wall of China was built to keep out the invading hordes of Genghis Khan and other enemies. Today some say, "They are taking all of our jobs," or "They are trying to hold us down and take away our rights." All people need to look beyond the skin color to see the man.

Racism is caused by pride. Some consider themselves better than others because of nothing more than a genetic combination of chromosomes. Paul wrote, "If anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself" (Galatians 6:3).

The true cause of racism is sin. Racism is not a matter of skin, but of sin.

"He died for all."

2 CORINTHIANS 5:15

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.



Bible Quiz

VOLUME 26:11

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark. We will grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark "The Seven Sayings of Jesus on the Cross" as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: _____
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Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

Answers to Previous Quizzes

V. 26:9, Famous Quotations from Psalms: 1. Shepherd (23:1); 2. The shadow of death (23:4); 3. My cup runs over (23:5); 4. Goodness and mercy (23:6); 5. Heavens, glory (19:1); 6. Perfect, sure (19:7); 7. Secret (19:12); 8. Sins, dominion (19:13); 9. Words, acceptable (19:14); 10. Your word (119:105); 11. Counsel, sinners, scornful (1:1); 12. Greatly moved (62:2); 13. Joy, pleasures (16:11); 14. Lord has made (118:24); 15. Sun, shield, good thing (84:11).

V. 25:10 Starts with the Letter "A": 1. Aaron (Exodus 6:18-20; 7:1, 7); 2. Abaddon or Apollyon (Revelation 9:11); 3. Abana (2 Kings 5:12); 4. Abba (Mark 14:36); 5. Abel (Genesis 4:8); 6. Abigail (1 Samuel 25:14-42); 7. Abishag (1 Kings 1:1-4); 8. Abishai (2 Samuel 21:16-17); 9. Abner (2 Samuel 3:8-27); 10. Abraham (Genesis 22:1-19); 11. Absalom (2 Samuel 14:25-15:12); 12. Apollos (Acts 18:24-25); 13. Annas (John 18:12-24); 14. Acts of Apostles; 15. Adam (Genesis 1:26/2:19); 16. Adultery (Galatians 5:19/Matthew 19:9); 17. Ant (Proverbs 6:6-8); 18. Ahab (1 Kings 16:29-31); 19. Ahasuerus (Esther 2:16); 20. Ahithophel (2 Samuel 15:12); 21. Ai (Joshua 7:2-5); 22. Alabaster (Matthew 26:7); 23. Antioch (Acts 11:26); 24. Amnon (2 Samuel 13:1-18); 25. Amram (Exodus 6:18-20)

Places Jesus Visited

Directions: Find answers in Matthew 2:1, 14-15, 23; 16:13-18; Mark 1:9; 8:22-26; 10:46; Luke 4:1-2; 2:42-49; 7:11-17; 9:10-17; Luke 24:50-51; John 2:11; 4:5-7; 5:1-9; 9:6-7; 11:1-43; 19:17. Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

- Where was Jesus born? _____
- To what land was Jesus taken to be saved from King Herod? _____
- Jesus lived in _____ as a boy.
- In what place was Jesus found when only twelve years old? _____
- Jesus was baptized in the _____ River.
- Where was Jesus tempted by Satan? _____
- The place Jesus performed His first miracle: _____
- Jesus talked with a woman by a well in _____.
- Where did Peter confess Jesus as the Son of God? _____
- The place Jesus healed a blind man and told him to go home and not tell anyone: _____
- At what pool in Jerusalem did He heal a man who could not walk? _____
- To what pool at Jerusalem did He send a blind man to wash? _____
- At what place in Galilee did He raise to life a widow's son? _____
- Where did He feed five thousand people? _____
- Where did Jesus heal Bartimaeus? _____
- At what place did Jesus raise Lazarus to life? _____
- At what place did Jesus die on the cross? _____
- From what place did Jesus go up to heaven? _____



I Want to Know **Real Bad**

A young man came to Socrates and said, “Mr. Socrates, I want knowledge. Show me how I can have knowledge.”

“Son, how badly do you want knowledge?” asked the philosopher.

“Oh, Mr. Socrates, I want knowledge more than anything else in the world,” he said.

“I repeat,” Socrates said, “How much do you want it? Come with me, son.”

They went down to the shore and waded in until the water came up to their necks. Then the philosopher put his hand on the head of the young man and pushed

him under the water. He squirmed; he struggled desperately, but Socrates kept him under.

Finally, just as the boy thought he would drown, Socrates released his hold and let him up. They went back to the bank and sat down. Socrates said, “Son, when you were under the water, what did you want more than any other one thing in the world?”

He replied, “Air! What I wanted was air!”

Socrates made his point: “When you want knowledge as much as you wanted air under the water, then you will get knowledge.”

Job made a similar statement when he said, “I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food” (Job 23:12). —Jerrie Barber

*“Show me Your ways, O LORD;
teach me Your paths.”*

PSALM 25:4

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

Recommended **Resource**



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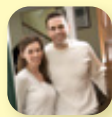
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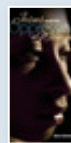
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- How to Turn the Other Cheek
- Are There Mistakes in Genesis 3?



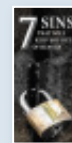
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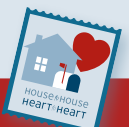


Overcoming the Spiritual Blahs

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VOLUME 26:11



MESSIANIC PROPHECIES



Gold Star God

Henry Lauder was a comedian. During World War II, his two sons were drafted into the army. Both died in combat.

After the war, Lauder nearly suffered a breakdown. His doctor recommended complete rest and relaxation, so he moved to the seashore. He spent his time reading, meditating, relaxing, and walking along the beach.

After a while, he made a few new friends. One was a small boy who lived next door. Late one day, Lauder and this young man were walking along the beach as the sun was going down. They listened to the waves and enjoyed the beautiful scene.

The boy noticed that little flags hung in the windows of some houses along the beach. He asked Lauder why they all had flags. Henry replied, "In every home where there is a flag, that family sent a son to war."

"But," said the boy, "Some flags also have silver stars and some have gold stars. What does that mean?"

Lauder was quiet for a long moment as he reigned in his emotions. "Where there is a silver star it means that the boy came home safely. Where there is a gold star it means that the boy died in combat."

No one said anything for a long time after that, but as they walked farther and night came upon them, the boy broke the silence. He said, "There is a star in God's sky, and it is a gold star! Does it mean that God sent His son to war?"

Lauder stood for a moment and with a catch in his voice said, "Yes, son. It means that God sent His son into war—the greatest war that has ever been fought. And yes, the star is gold because God's son died in that combat."

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures"

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3



One proof that the Bible is from God, that Jesus is the Son of God, and that the Incarnation was a visit from God, are Old Testament messianic prophecies. Alfred Edersheim identified 456 messianic prophecies in the Old Testament.¹ The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls (1947) proved that these were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born, and Jesus fulfilled them all. Here is a sample of the many Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus the Christ.

DANIEL 9:26

He would appear before the Roman destruction of Jerusalem.

ROME DESTROYED
JERUSALEM IN AD 70.

MICAH 5:2

He would be born in Bethlehem.

MATTHEW 2:1-5

ISAIAH 7:13-14

He would be born of a virgin.

LUKE 1:35

ISAIAH 40:3-4,
MALACHI 3:1

He would be preceded by one who would prepare the way.

MATTHEW 3:1-4

PSALM 78:1-2

He would teach in parables.

MATTHEW 13:3

ZECHARIAH 9:9

He would enter Jerusalem while riding on a donkey.

MATTHEW 21:6-9

ISAIAH 53:1-4

He would be rejected.

MATTHEW 27:21-23

ISAIAH 53:12

He would be numbered with the transgressors.

LUKE 23:32

PSALM 22:18

Lots would be cast for His clothing.

MATTHEW 27:35,
JOHN 19:23

DEUTERONOMY
21:22-23

He became a curse by dying on a tree.

GALATIANS 3:13-14

ISAIAH 42:6

He would be a light to all people.

LUKE 2:32

¹ Edersheim, Alfred. *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*. Appendix IX. New York: Herrick, 1900.



What Is in It for You?

Among the wonderful blessings that result from salvation are these:

God remembers forgiven sins no more (**ACTS 2:38; HEBREWS 10:17**).

Rest and peace of mind (**MATTHEW 11:28–30; JOHN 16:33**).

Reconciliation with God (**2 CORINTHIANS 5:18–19**).

The privilege of worshipping God (**JOHN 4:24; ACTS 2:42; 20:7; EPHESIANS 5:19**).

All spiritual blessings (**EPHESIANS 1:3**).

Help in trials and afflictions (**ACTS 18:9–10; 2 TIMOTHY 4:16–18**).

Hope of eternal life (**1 JOHN 2:25; MARK 10:30; TITUS 3:7**).

—Eris Benson

"Come and see."

JOHN 1:39



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