

"He ...ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things."
Ephesians 4:10



Wendy B. Howard
Editor of 'Despatch'

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Presenting the TRUTH, a clear Trumpet call.

Affirming that the "Word of God", none other than the KJV Bible is the truth in its

A periodical spiritual handbook, which is presented in order to glorify Christ Jesus:

To praise Him, and to offer thanksgiving; To show Him to be ALL that any true believer could need, or ever yearn for.

"Beauty for Ashes" has also the aim to express the reality of the Exchanged Life:

There is "Beauty", the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Whose Life is given for the "Ashes" of our own sin-destroyed lives:

Jesus Christ, Who is Himself, the whole of renewal, sanctification, revival, the joy unspeakable of Christian holiness. The Life that satisfies the Christian, and pleases the Almighty God is found only in Him.

The wonder-filled words of Isaiah 61:3 might have a primary interpretation pertaining to the restoration of Israel. However, they also have a delightful, awe-inspiring application to the Church Age Christian believer. Do you want to exchange "Beauty" for the "Ashes" of your own fruitlessness, independence, failure and striving to do better? Then come to the One Who is All you need.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus,
Where can mortal be more blest?
There I lay my sins and sorrows,
And, when weary, find sweet rest.
Sitting at the feet of Jesus,
There I love to weep and pray,
While I from His fullness gather,
Grace and comfort every day.
(Source unknown).

THE EFFICACY OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

by Wendy B. Howard
What does "efficacy" mean any way?

It means the usefulness, the value or worth, the efficiency of something. The BLOOD OF CHRIST is efficacious, its value and efficiency is unparalleled, and it is supreme. This astonishing sacrifice given for a world of lost sinners is precious beyond measure.

The Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



The typology of the priest in the Old Testament who brought the blood of the animal sacrifice into the Holy Place is significant (Hebrews 9:12, 23-24). The priest brought the sacrifice to God, just as Christ Jesus, after He had arisen from the dead, after His own great sacrifice for sin had been accomplished, said to Mary Magdalene:

"I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." John 20:17.

Christ entered into heaven by His blood, through His blood, and made the way open for all who would believe in His shed blood.

The blood of our Lord Jesus is considered by many to have been taken into heaven itself when Christ ascended. John 20:17

"I ascend" brings a vivid future right into the present of the Garden of Gethsemane; however it does not mean that the actual blood of Christ was taken right away into heaven itself, although some interpret this as the meaning of Hebrews 9:12, 23-24. Really the physical application of the blood was completed on the Cross of Calvary. Christ did not have to apply the blood in some way in heaven as well. Wonderfully the benefits of the finished work on Calvary continue on and on to all believers, even to our own day!

As 1 John 1:7 shows:

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Let us reflect upon the glory of the work of Christ on the Cross: "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Hebrews 9:12.

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." Hebrews 9:22-24.

Jesus Christ did ascend into heaven just as literally as He came to earth and entered the womb of Mary at His first coming.

"Lord Jesus, if I have never actually trusted in Your shed Blood for me before, then I will do it right now. Amen" Then gain your assurance of salvation by simply reading the Words of Life and security forever in the Bible.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38, 39.

MAIN REFERENCE BOOKS:

GRACE, Lewis Sperry-Chafer, Kregel Publications.

MAJOR BIBLE THEMES, Lewis Sperry-Chafer, Zondervan Pub. House.

Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.”

1 John 5:13.

We, whether we are weak and watery Christians or zealous and Spirit filled Christians, may KNOW that we have eternal life. Our complete assurance of these matters must rest alone on the things that are written in the unchangeable Word of God. The written promises of God are like a title deed, like a legal document in Heaven, no one can challenge God's Word about the believer's security under the Blood. God has made an unconditional covenant with us; His promises about salvation under Grace are under girded by the veracity of the Lord Almighty, our Creator. What is "veracity"? Honour, truthfulness and reliability. Do you believe that the very nature of God is honourable, truthful and He is reliable? Then the mighty realities of salvation by the Blood are fulfilled on the predetermined ground of the veracity of God.

Spend time examining these truths about redemption in the Blood, and trust God only, not some false teacher or book.

The unchangeable Word of God:

Psalms 119: 89, 160; Matthew 5:18; 24:35; 1 Peter 1: 23, 25.

The written promises of God are like a title deed.

John 3:16, 36; 5:24; 6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 1:16; 3:22, 26; 10:13.

Is this your own security?

"...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

2 Timothy 1:12.

Perhaps you are not really sure whether you have trusted Jesus Christ fully for salvation, although you have been a church-goer for years. Maybe you are disturbed by this booklet and wonder if you have really made a definite step of faith in regard to accepting Christ as Saviour. Perhaps your heart is beating faster and you fear that your life is based on good works plus Grace, and that you have misunderstood the efficacy of the Blood. One way to be absolutely sure about these eternal matters is to come now, pray the following simple prayer:

Acts chapter one shows that Christ Jesus "was taken up", "a cloud received him out of their sight", "is taken from you into heaven", In verse 11 we see that His second coming will be just like this. His ascension was bodily, visible, gradual, with clouds - and so shall His second advent be.

Acts 1:9-11. The event refers to His second coming to set up His Millennial Kingdom, not the Rapture of the Church.

Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour is constantly said in Scripture to have entered heaven, and this statement constantly affirms that He rose again and ascended. How foolish for unbelievers to declare that Christ's body is buried somewhere on the earth.

"Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?"

But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain." 1 Corinthians 15:12-14.

Here are just a few passages that bring testimony that Christ Jesus is in heaven:

Acts 2:33-36; 3:21; 7:55-56; 9:3-6; 22:6-8; 26:13-15;

Rom. 8:34;

Eph. 1:20-22; 4:8-10;

Phil. 2:6-11; 3:20;

1 Thess. 1:10; 4:16;

1 Tim. 3:16;

Heb. 1:3, 13; 2:7; 4:14; 6:20; 7:26; 8:1; 9:24; 10:12-13; 12:2;

1 John 2:1;

Rev. 1:7, 13-18; 5:5-12; 6:9-17; 7:9-17; 14:1-5; 19:11-16.

The blood of Christ and its efficacy, that Christ is ascended and triumphant in heaven, that the Divine sacrifice has been completed forever and avails forever, (no need for any other sacrifice for sin or any offering for sin, for all time), are truths all bound together. Here alone is the believer's safety, here alone is your own surety, your guarantee, that whosoever has put their trust in the shed blood for their own personal sin shall never perish, will never go to hell fires, will never be separated from God for all eternity. It is the greatest provision that has ever been offered to any soul - the effectiveness and value of the blood of Christ. This great Truth must be preached to all creatures as the Gospel of the Grace of God. If it is

corrupted in any way, down-graded, interfered with, then it is "another gospel" and "another Jesus."

11 Corinthians. 11:3-4.

Let us all examine ourselves, are we truly trusting in Christ's blood alone for salvation, and preaching the true Biblical Gospel of Grace based only on the shed blood of the Lamb of God?

WHAT IS CHRIST'S WORK IN HEAVEN NOW?

The position Christ has in heaven is a mighty one indeed!

He has already taken His universal Kingship, His consummating triumph is yet to be made manifest at His Second Advent. In many verses Christ is shown at the position of power at God the Father's right hand. Jesus Christ is in heaven in honour and authority. Study carefully these following verses that make the picture very clear indeed:

Psalms 110:1; Matt. 22:44;

Rom. 8:34; Eph. 1:20-21;

Mark 12:36; 16:19;

Col. 3:1; Heb. 1:3-13; 8:1-2; 10:12; 12:2;

Luke 20:42-43; 22:69;

1 Pet. 3:22.

Christ is fulfilling SEVEN FIGURES that show His relationship to the Church of the Redeemed. All this is being fulfilled at the right hand of the Majesty on High, for us His Church:

1. Christ is in heaven as the last Adam and Head of the Creation. You and I as believers and saved ones are in this New Creation.

2. Christ is there as the Head of the Body of Christ. This is a mystery, we are all, as the redeemed, the very Body of Christ.

3. He is there as the Bridegroom awaiting His marriage with His Church, the Bride.

4. Christ is in heaven as the spiritual Vine Who gives sustenance to the branches. We are related to Him in heaven, as we are in Him and He is in us.

5. Christ is there with God the Father always in mighty union with us as He is the Chief Cornerstone; we are the stones of the building.

6. Christ is our High Priest, the Church to which we belong as His Body are all in the Royal Priesthood under the High Priest.

7. Although Jesus Christ is in heaven He is the Great Shepherd of the sheep, spiritually caring for us, guiding us and saving us from disasters - from His glorious place of authority at the right hand of the Almighty.

trained them to declare that people who fall in sin after they are saved are in danger of being lost in hell. There is no real grasp of what Grace is all about in these false teachers. If your denomination teaches that eternal life can be lost, the choice is yours. Is God and His Truth to be believed, or are men? This is no light issue, it has to do with directing the lost into Life in Christ. How dare any preach anything but the authentic Biblical doctrine of salvation by Grace alone?

The Blood can never lose its efficacy, for it is the Precious Blood of the Lamb of God.

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you," 1 Peter 1:18-20.

The Blood of Christ Jesus our Lord must never be down-graded or attacked! When some preacher declares that a Blood-bought believer can be lost again after being put by the Lord under the Precious Blood - that preacher is declaring in essence that the Blood of Christ can fail. He is saying that its efficacy is not supreme and invincible. NO, the Blood that was shed on the Cross will never lose its power to save and keep saved sinners who have come in repentance and humility to God, to the foot of that glorious Cross.

If you have never come in by the Door that has the Blood on the doorposts, if you have never bowed the knee and acknowledged your own utter corrupt sinfulness and helplessness to save yourself in any way - then do it now. Time is short.

CONSIDER THE VERACITY OF GOD'S WORD.

We are not to rest on experience or feeling in regard to salvation. Today you might be glum and depressed, tomorrow you are more confident. That has nothing to do with assurance of being saved eternally. Our ups and downs show that the walk is sometimes carnal sometimes spiritual, there is nothing dependable in our experience. It is God's Promises that are dependable.

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the

shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:"

Hebrews 9:22-24.

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

Christians should realise that we are "dead" to all law and self effort. We are to be free in every way from trying to earn merit with God. We must not live by the fleshly attempts to change ourselves into better Christians. GRACE applies over all who are saved, in all. God is the One Who gives, we are can do nothing but receive. If we are to do the will of God in our lives we must live by the new provisions of Grace, not by the old nature. We can and should be living in victory over all sin by the provision of the indwelling Christ and His righteousness:

"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 1: 30, 31.

We should accept the Grace of God, the fruit of the Spirit, so that we can live in unbroken victory "even on the plane of the high ideals and standards of heaven." Grace is supreme.

There has been massive failure on the part of many leaders in the denominations during this 21st century. They have not believed and taught that Christianity is a supernatural, superhuman life in Christ. It is not just an ethical system, nor is it a works plus faith religion! We need to understand that Biblical Christianity is all about full knowledge of the all-encompassing realities of Grace.

Eternity will one day reveal the horror of the careless, unbiblical "gospels" that have turned multitudes away from salvation. No shame could be greater than knowing that one has preached or taught a "gospel" that has confused or darkened the understanding of a hell-bound sinner. God will be the judge of what we taught on earth, how seriously we took our responsibility. Many have a theological prejudice that keeps them from teaching the pure and life-saving Gospel of Truth. Their denomination has

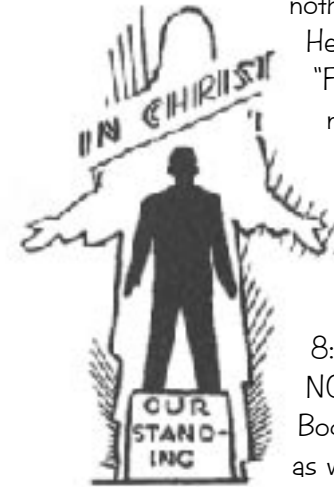
WHAT ABOUT CHRIST'S WORK ON EARTH, RIGHT NOW?

Because of His completed triumph in heavenly places, all due to His blood sacrifice alone, Christ is at work in the Church as the redeemed complete their ministries on earth. He might be bodily at the right hand of God, but He is also spiritually with His Church.

We as members of His Body are so united with Him that nothing can separate us from His great love; He is in us and we in Him:

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39.

NOTE: we are in Christ Jesus, we are His very Body, the love of God is in Christ Jesus our Lord, as we are. How could we be any safer? Secure forever, all because of the blood sacrifice.

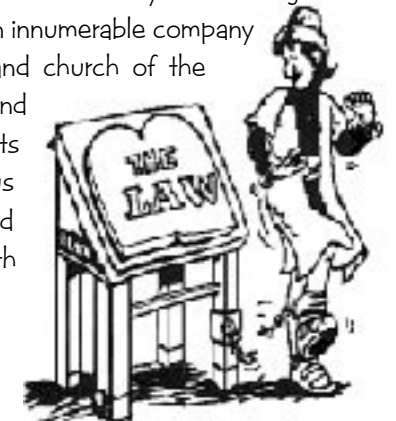


THE NEW COVENANT.

"But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

Hebrews 12:22-24.

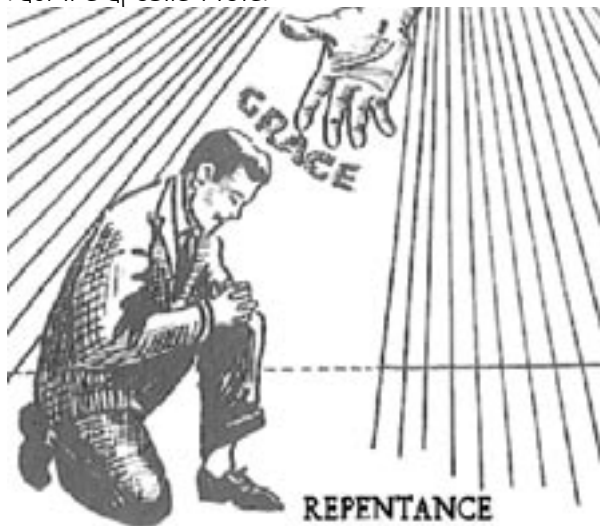
When a sinner comes in REPENT-ANCE to God through Christ



6 Jesus as Saviour, God places that person under the glorious Blood of the New Covenant, which was primarily made with Israel. Here the saved one is secure for all eternity; he/she has everlasting life,

the very Life of God. He has passed from death to life.

Paul the apostle wrote:



"Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:"

II Timothy 1: 8-10.

Many today do not understand the Grace of God, how it will not allow the mere corrupt "righteousness" of man to intrude its rude and crude way into His finished work of redemption. To be a true Christian is to abandon all works for salvation, to humbly bow and accept what you, yourself, can never provide, the righteousness alone of Christ Jesus. Here is how the writer of other days expressed it.

Lewis Sperry-Chafer wrote:

- "Salvation is the work of God for Man; it is not the work of man for God.
- Salvation is the bestowal and actual impartation of eternal life; it is not the beauties and artificial imitations of ethical living.

put in the tomb and the stone is rolled over the entrance.

THE END OF THE MEAL.

The Mutsa is retrieved after the meal by a young man who is still too young to be accountable for sin. He removes the pillow, takes the bread out of the white linen, he leaves the napkin there and brings the bread to the table.

And the head of the house lifts the bread up to the Father. Just as Jesus Christ was lifted to the Father in the resurrection.

THE BLOOD ON THE DOOR POSTS. Exodus 12:12-28.

The blood was on the lintels or the door posts, not in the sign of the Cross as some say, but to show an opening, a Way, the Way of safety through Jesus Christ.

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Jesus is the Door of Life.

"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,..."

John 10:9.

(As explained by Reuben Goosens).

The Passover, a type of OUR Redeemer.

John 1:29; 1 Cor 5: 6, 7; 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

The Lamb had to be without blemish, a male. Exodus 12:5.

Just as Christ Jesus was without sin, perfect in every way.

The Blood applied on the door posts, without anything in addition, constituted a perfect protection from judgement. No need for anything else!

NOTE: no need to endure to the end or anything else.

Exodus 12:13; 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 10:10, 14.

The Blood must be applied, thus it shows that we must all exercise personal faith. There is no "universalism."

Exodus 12:7; John 3:16.

Let us reflect upon the glory of the work of Christ completed.

He has obtained redemption for us:

"Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Hebrews 9:12.

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST'S SACRIFICE HAS BEEN GOD'S PLAN FROM BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN!

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." Hebrews 9:24-26.

The Old Testament is filled with Jesus Christ and His sacrifice of Himself for sin - to eyes that have been enlightened. Consider now the simple Passover Meal that the Jews partake of:

JESUS CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER MEAL.

At the Passover meal, as it is even to this day, these things are observed by traditional Jews:

The bread, Mutza, is cooked on a griddle and gets stripes, as Jesus was beaten and His body had stripes.

The bread is pierced by a skewer; this is part of the ceremony, just as Jesus was pierced by the spear.

A platter with 3 cakes of unleaven bread are then covered with a napkin. Called "Unity."

As the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are in unity.

Then the Jews remove the middle cake and break it by the hand of man.

It is as though Jesus Christ, the centre One of the Trinity, is removed from God the Father and the Holy Spirit, then is "broken" by the hand of man.

The Jewish Head of the household wraps the middle cake of bread in white linen.

Just like the burial clothes of Jesus.

The bread is then hidden under a pillow in the room. The pillow is placed over the bread.

Just as the events at the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, Jesus is

- Salvation is the imputed righteousness of God; it is not the imperfect righteousness of man.
- Salvation is according to the faithful calling of God; it is not according to the fitful carefulness of man.
- Salvation is a divine reconciliation; it is not a human regulation.
- Salvation is the cancelling of all sin; it is not the cessation from some sin.
- Salvation is being delivered from, and dead to, the law; it is not delighting in, or doing, the law.
- Salvation is divine regeneration; it is not human reformation.
- Salvation is being acceptable to God; it is not becoming exceptionally good.
- Salvation is completeness in Christ; it is not competency in character.
- Salvation is possessing every spiritual blessing; it is not professing any special betterment.
- Salvation is always and only of God. It is never of man. It is the unsearchable riches of Christ. It is to good works in God has before ordained that we should walk in them."
(Grace, page 52.)

THERE ARE THREE VALUES THAT CANNOT EXIST ALONG SIDE OF GRACE.

Here we are considering very serious matters indeed, for these truths are pertaining to your own eternal destiny, heaven or hell.

Many will not bow down and simply accept the finished work of Christ Jesus on the Cross for them, they insist on adding works or "righteousness" produced by the old nature, the Adam nature. God does not accept any of your supposed goodness to save your own soul. No need to "endure to the end" or keep from every sin, fearful that you will lost again! Repent and accept Christ alone, Grace alone, by Faith alone. Salvation is FREE, this is not "easy believe-ism" it is reality, for in you dwelleth no good thing for God to accept and add to Christ's work of redemption.

1. The first principle you cannot add to the finished work of Christ Who shed His Blood sacrificially is - giving any "credit" to human guilt.

In other words, to imagine that your own sin is too great to allow God to give you His forgiveness and Grace. You must let God be free to extend His grace without even the smallest limitation because of your guilt and demerit. God will not withhold His Grace in the least degree because of sin. God can only extend His Grace where every realisation of unworthiness has been abandoned forever. Of course you are unworthy, we all are, we are utterly sinful, even our best deeds are filthy in God's sight. (Isaiah 64:6). God has already accomplished something superb on the Cross, it is of infinite perfection. The Lamb of God has already taken away the sin of the world, and God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:4-6.

It is Grace alone that reigns now, the awesomely horrible throne of God where justice, wrath, and dreadful judgements await has become a throne of grace. This is true no matter how men individually respond:

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Hebrews 4:16.

If, however, sinners refuse to accept the wonders of Grace extended through the divine provision of the propitiation in the Blood of the Lamb, there is no more remission, no offering for sin.

There is no other way to be saved, reject the offer of Grace through the Blood and you will be lost forever. Not because of your sin per se but because you rejected the only Way that God could justly take away your punishment and judgement. God does not want men to suffer forever in hell, although we all deserve to. We are all as guilty as hell, God knows this far deeper than we do.

"And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;" Hebrews 10: 17-20.

All this does not imply that a sinner does not have to repent to be saved! If we will not repent and turn from sin, God cannot take away our sin and guilt. God is Holy, He demands repentance. But, repentance is not a "work" to save us; there is no intrinsic value in repentance, it is not a righteous act that partly pays for our salvation. And, we cannot lose salvation by acts of refusing to abandon some sin or other, later on in our Christian walk. However, the Lord will seriously rebuke and convict the believer who

as well as on His death? Christ Jesus is OUR Life, OUR eternal life, we have been born into Him and He is in us. It is entirely a work of God, NOT of man in any way. NOT dependent on any human worthiness, even faith is not a work, it is really just like believing what God says and throwing open the door to let Him into your own life. If we wander from trust God will put us back on the right path, He is our Heavenly Father. The new birth itself makes impossible a reversal of the work of the Lord. We have been regenerated, born anew, taken into the Body of Christ.

Can your natural birth be undone?

Can you decide that you wish you had never been born and make it so?

Even much more so we cannot be "unborn" after we are truly born again by God.

Can you make your natural father not your father by being naughty and disobeying him?

Even much more so you can be certain that our beloved Lord God will always be our Heavenly Father. We are of Him and share His nature and life.

The very nature of eternal life cannot be reversed. We belong to a new order altogether, vastly superior to the old Adam life we inherited from the Fall. It has been accomplished in us that a new creation has been brought in by a sovereign act of God Almighty. We have received, as redeemed people, life which cannot end, it is eternal. Also resurrection from the dead cannot be reversed, for we must be raised, and our bodies will not stay in the grave. Mortal shall put on immortality, for we have eternal life.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 15:53-57.

20 "Nothing, Christ has done it all." I sat down on the ground in wonder, and I knew I passed from death to life immediately. I had received regeneration and the evidence was my experience.

WHAT IS THE OUTCOME OF REGENERATION?

Here we will see some thrilling matters opened to us by the Bible, God's Word. Regeneration is actually the very basis of Eternal Security for all genuine believers.

"And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Ephesians 4:24.

The new creation gives a new nature which is patterned after the very nature of God Himself. This is why what we receive under the New Covenant is greater by far than what Adam and Eve lost in the Garden of Eden at the Fall. Adam and Eve were entirely human although they were originally sinless. The new creation, however, has divine attributes, the saved one has a new heart which wants and desires the glories and holiness of God. This leads us to Romans chapter seven where we see the two natures within a Christian at war. The old Adam nature has not been eradicated, but the new creation within, which is the Life of Christ indwelling us, longs after the things of God. Then we move on into Romans 8, and we find the victory is there as we walk in the Holy Spirit, victory over the power of sin in the old Adam nature. So that we can walk always pleasing to the Lord:

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Romans 8: 2-4.

As we realise that righteousness is not of ourselves but is the gift of God. As we avail ourselves of God's wonderful provision for living a holy life, we learn what it is to yield ourselves to God alone to receive from him the very Life of Christ filling us and creating the righteousness in us that alone pleases God.

How is the ground for eternal security based on the Life of Christ

falls into sin. He will seek to get that erring one back on the path of righteousness as soon as possible. 9

REPENTANCE is to turn from sin and turn to God, to come back to Him, to turn around and go the other way, away from godlessness to bow the knee to the Lord God Almighty. To be saved we must repent, be sorry for our sinful lives, to know there is no good thing in us at all, to realise we are totally sinful through and through. To be saved we must believe Christ Jesus took our punishment for Sin, (indeed He did it for the whole world), and accept His sacrifice for us personally. We must ask Christ Jesus to come into our lives, accept God's forgiveness freely given. To be saved you must accept Eternal Life as a free gift given to yourself, a lost and utterly hopeless and helpless sinner. After being saved, God will lead you into good works, as the Holy Spirit brings the righteousness of Christ to dwell in you, and He as the New Creation will freely make you righteous by Grace:

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?"

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6: 1-4.

2. The second principle you cannot add to the finished work of Christ is recognition of human obligation.

We do not have to pay in any way for salvation in the Blood. God does not impose on us a duty to live right, or be lost again. We must accept God's riches of Grace as they are offered - as an uncomplicated gift. He gives to us and we have nothing in our hands to offer back, to pay for this unspeakable wonder.

"I give unto them eternal life," and "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (John 10:28; Romans 6:23).

I had a friend once who was unsaved, as her husband was. They were church-goers, had been for years. When she had listened to me tell her that sinners could be saved by simply accepting what God had done by giving His only Son to die for them, she was infuriated.

"What, are you saying that a sinful person can be saved by just accepting what Jesus did by dying for them, and good church-going people like ourselves

10 are lost? Why that is silly. I am a good person who lives a good life every day, and goes to church every Sunday." She would not believe she was a sinner, and she refused any offer from God to forgive her sin and save her by the Blood. She said, "Even if I did accept Christ as Saviour as you say, I would still be good every day to be on the safe side!"

The field of our lives must be totally clear so that God's simple Grace can be manifested.

"God has perfectly eliminated every work of humanity - past, present and future - from the terms by grace: 'not of works, lest any man should boast'; 'if by grace, it is no more works'; 'Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worked not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted [reckoned] for righteousness', 'Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us.'"

(Lewis Sperry-Chafer, *Grace*, page 44).

We need only to believe to be saved forever. That is the glory of the Gospel of Grace. God has completely set aside human obligation that we should pay in any way for His Divine deliverance. This is the only ground upon which God can act because we are totally sinful through and through. Pure Grace is offered to all men, but every human obligation and human work is set aside. If we will not humble ourselves to accept this, there is no salvation for us. Drop all human obligation and human work, take the pure Grace offered out of the great Love of God that gave the Lamb, His Son - Who taketh away the sin of the world.

3. The third principle you cannot add to the mighty sacrifice of the Son of God is - Human Merit.

We have been wholly stripped of every imaginable merit before God. Many do not realise this. They insist that they must live righteous lives according to rules and regulations often imposed upon them by pastors, or they will lose their salvation because they sinned wilfully after they were saved. Bible verses are quoted to add to this confusion, all misapplied and out of perspective.

Hebrews 6: 1-10 and Hebrews 10: 26-27 are misunderstood passages, which will be dealt with later on in this booklet.

God levels us all down to a basis of being absolutely without merit or standing in the eyes of God. He does not save us because we are of

us at Calvary. Regeneration is the imparting through the Holy Spirit of the life of Christ. And we do indeed become "saved" in that we are renewed by regeneration.

("IMPUTING" means to write to our account, a banking term.)

The word "REGENERATION" is only found twice in the Bible! A strange thing, for Christians have so often used this word in sermons and Christians books.

The first use is in Matthew 19:28 where it is used to describe what God will do when He renews the earth. This has nothing to do with the individual's salvation.

The second use is in Titus 3:5-7, these are verses of great consequence:

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Titus 3: 5-7.

On the basis of this one verse, Titus 3:5, theologians throughout the ages have expressed the perception of NEW life in Christ, SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION, the NEW CREATION, being BORN ANEW, to succinctly communicate the new supernatural LIFE that believers receive when they truly become sons of God. Regeneration means the origin, the beginning of, eternal life as it comes into a sinner at the very second of faith in Christ as Saviour, and regeneration works a momentous work. In an instant the sinner who repents and trusts in the Blood is transformed from a state of being dead spiritually to having eternal spiritual life.

Regeneration is NOT the experience we have. Regeneration is instantaneous, the Holy Spirit imparts life. Anyone who is saved will surely have an experience because of regeneration, but it is the substantiation of regeneration having happened. A genuine rebirth must bring a realization in the saved one that they have passed from death to life. I remember my own experience of this when I was seventeen (it still is vivid in my mind as though it happened yesterday, the most glorious day of my life). I had been reading Gospel tracts for two weeks day and night and could not understand how to be saved. I addressed the Lord God directly in my own backyard and said, "Alright, I know You are there. I don't know what I have to do to be saved. Tell me now, or I will go away and never come back! What must I do to be saved?" God answered me in a Voice so loving and gentle:

salvation, never perish:

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

...I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

... Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;"

John 17:9-12, 15, 20.

Beloved of the Lord, do not let anyone deceive you. Do not let the false teachers lead you into fear of hell by their damnable error that a Blood-bought saved person can lose their salvation. It is a denial of the prayer of the Lord Himself. It is a denial of the EFFICACY OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. It is a false Gospel which is an anathema to the Lord God.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:8, 9.

WHAT IS REGENERATION?

Some church-goers believe that regeneration saves them.

No, eternal life is imparted to the believer by regeneration, but we are not saved by anything that happens within us. Our redemption was totally accomplished on the Cross over two thousand years ago. It is not by "asking Jesus to come into my heart" that anyone can be redeemed, it is by trust in the finished work on the Cross, the completed sacrifice, that we are saved. We are to have faith that this and this alone has made mankind able to be forgiven and be reconciled to God. Justification is having our slate wiped clean, and God "imputing" to us the righteousness of Christ Himself, of all guilt and sin being gone forever - just because of the sin borne for

great value due to our merits. He provided the Lamb to die for us because of His love and great mercy. No use us saying that the rapists and murderers are wicked, we are not like them, we are "good and decent" citizens. GOD says:

"For we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin" Romans 3:9.

"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe" Galatians 3:22.

"That every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God" Roman 3:19.

The whole world is under judicial sentence, all are equally "guilty" before the Lord God.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23.

To be saved one must drop all thought of human merit. Merit meaning, of course, value, worth or advantage because of some goodness or beauty within, or some marvellous importance because we are human beings fashioned by the Creator .

Here let us consult the words of Lewis Sperry-Chafer:

"The divine objective in reducing humanity to the lowest level of all conceivable grades of human standing before God is not merely to give adequate expression to His hatred of evil: it is the expression of His infinite goodness and love; for only thus could the riches of His grace be extended to them. He has reckoned them to be in unbelief 'that he might have mercy [grace] upon all': and 'The scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.' Only when human merit has thus been removed forever, can divine grace undertake its saving work." (Grace, p.p. 36, 37).

WHAT MISUNDERSTANDING THERE IS TODAY.

Many today think that Hebrews 6 and Hebrews 10 are about regenerate Christians losing their salvation! This is a TOTAL MISUNDERSTANDING of the passages.

(i) Hebrews 6:1-10.

The passage speaks to those Hebrews who have heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and have not moved on to fully accept Christ Jesus as Saviour. The whole of the book of Hebrews is written to confirm Jewish Christians by showing them that Judaism has ended, and the Old Testament or Covenant has been superseded in the glory of Christ's death and resurrection. The exhorting passages show how the author is concerned that some Jewish professed believers had actually fallen short of real, true faith in Christ Jesus, that they had never really been born again. Hebrews 6:1-10 is one of those passages. The key word is "better", Christ is better than the Old Covenant, the New Covenant is better than the Mosaic Covenant. Christ is "better" than angels, than Joshua, than Aaron.

Verse four speaks of it being impossible for those who were once enlightened, and had tasted of the heavenly gift of Christ as sacrifice for sin, and had been "PARTAKERS" of the Holy Ghost;

Who had tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come; If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance. Move on to true faith in Christ whilst you can.

Here are Jews who had heard the Gospel, they have been enlightened, they had not drunk fully of the Gospel, they had only tasted.

The word "partakers" is in Greek metochous, which is going along with the Holy Spirit, but they had never received a new heart,

Ezekiel 11:18-20.

Verse six tells the reader that if these Jewish people will not move onto full acceptance of Christ as Saviour, if they fall away and deny that Christ is Saviour, it is impossible to bring them back again because they will not believe in the New Covenant in the precious Blood. If they insist on sinning in this manner, they in spirit join those who crucified the Son of God, who would not believe in Him, and denied His worth and His Divinity. This is truly a warning to all of us that we should be more than merely people

born again by faith in the Lamb of God, until the mighty consummation, and His divine intentions are fulfilled infinitely.

God has no limitations that will prevent His plans for us being consummated; His purposes and power are awesomely overwhelming. Nothing and no one can resist Him.

The word salvation is not limited either, it is not just for the time when a sinner accepts God's saving Grace in a moment of time. God has His thrilling promises to the redeemed that are premium gold starred cover, and our guarantee of every second of our walk here on earth unto the very last second when we have consummation in Christ. Salvation is the gold starred document that includes past, present and future for all have believed in the Saviour:

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"

Philippians 1:6.

"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.

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37.

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Jude 24, 25.

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

The One Who shed His own Blood for us, the One Who loves us superbly, He has already prayed for us, indeed He prayed this following prayer even before He died on the Cross. Christ Jesus prayed for us all just before He was betrayed and arrested.

It is impossible for the Heavenly Father to not answer this prayer! Christ said of the saved ones that "none of them is lost." Only the son of perdition, Judas the betrayer, is lost. He said all mine are thine; He asks that we all be one in the Father, and the Son. This prayer should fill us with joy in our unshakable assurance that we shall never be lost, never lose our

will not declare guilty that which He has released as innocent.

But, we might say, I am actually guilty of sin. Can't I slip away and let God down and be found guilty again? No, because it is GOD that justifies us, who can condemn us if GOD has declared us innocent, justified, perfect. The word "justify" is in the Greek dikaeoo, to be as righteous as we should be, that is Perfection.

"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Romans 8:33.

There is no one who can condemn the person justified by Grace through faith, ever, for God will not and Christ will not. The stunning wonder of all this will surely impel us to be filled with the Holy Spirit and then the full righteous fruits of the Holy Spirit will be seen in us to God's glory.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." Galatians 5:22-26.

KEPT SAFE BY THE POWER OF GOD.

We do not have to keep ourselves in the faith, or to keep ourselves enduring to the end, hopeful that we will be saved eventually. God through His Grace is righteously, justly, able to preserve you, His child and Christ's heir, forever. How could it be any other way? If He has given us His Son, saved our souls, forgiven our sin, written our names in Heavenly place, if we were to be lost again He would be robbed of His Supreme reason in saving us in the first place. He would be robbed of seeing us in glory, transformed into the very image of Christ, lifted up in triumph, a trophy indeed of Grace. Yes, God will continue His great work of Grace towards whoever has been

who have professed to be Christians. We must have, beyond doubt, been born again, to have received New Life.

In verse nine the author addresses the Hebrews who had been really saved. The author is persuaded that those who are saved will show "better things", things that accompany salvation. Salvation itself brings the fruit of the New Creation, by their fruit ye shall know them as genuine or not. This passage has nothing to do with a genuine redeemed Christian being lost again because of sin.

(ii) Hebrews 10: 26, 27.

Here again the author of Hebrews is addressing the Hebrews who will not move on to true redemption in the Blood of the Lamb. He is telling them that the Jewish sacrifices are no longer efficacious in the plan of God. They have lost their worth; it is acceptance of Christ as Saviour or judgement!

Verse 26 talks of "sinning wilfully" after the knowledge of the truth. What sin is shown here? Don't we all sin wilfully at times after we are saved? (Yes we do, and if the passage meant ourselves as believers we would all have lost our salvation!) Well, the truly saved do not just have "knowledge" of the truth; they have received Jesus Christ into their hearts and are filled with Him as Truth. Those addressed in Hebrews 10 are wavering Hebrews (Jews), they want to keep on with the Jewish sacrifices to be saved (read carefully the whole book to understand this). God is telling them that there is no sacrifice for sin outside of Christ's Cross - since Calvary happened! What is the SIN that will keep these Jews in their lost state?

Verse 29 shows us that wilful SIN referred to in verse 26, they have sinned wilfully because they have trodden under foot the Son of God, they have counted His wonderful Blood of the New Covenant as nothing, an unholy thing, not really of God, they have done despite unto the Spirit of GRACE. In other words these Hebrews addressed will not abandon the Jewish way of being saved by animal sacrifice. They will not move past a mere knowledge of what Christ has done on the Cross to a full acceptance of that sacrifice for themselves.

There can only be God's vengeance for such people, He will judge these Jews who reject the New Covenant. He will judge His old covenant people who refuse Jesus Christ. (Verse 30).

If the Lord judged those who despised Moses' law without mercy, how much more will He judge those who will not move on and be redeemed by the Precious Blood of Christ alone?

His GRACE is the only way since Christ died and rose again.

The passage has NOTHING to do with
a genuine Christian being lost again by sinning
in some way after they are saved.

When the Lord saves us it is forever, it can be no less. For Jesus Christ has borne the whole penalty for sin forever, and we have nothing we can do but bow the knee and acknowledge GRACE and mercy that should overwhelm us with its love.

Bow right now and thank the Lord for paying the penalty for sin, past, present and future. ALL has been paid for by the Precious Blood. The Blood is efficacious eternally.

WHERE IS ALL THIS HEADING?

False "gospels" will always insist on works of some sort to be saved, or insist that sin can separate the believer from God again after he/she is born again. On the other hand, easy believe-ism does not require sinners to repent of sin at all. How can we understand and get a proper biblical balance?

Jesus Christ did not come to earth to show us a way to live, to leave us an example. If that was the purpose of His coming then the Veil in Heaven could never have been rent, the whole of our wretched fallen world would have no hope of Heaven and redemption at all. For the Veil to be rent and the Way for sinful men to be reconciled to God, the Way opened; Christ Jesus had to DIE for our sin and guilt. We cannot just live what we consider a good life after the example of Christ without the acceptance of the shed Blood, either. We must enter into the Veil by the Blood in order to be redeemed.

"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." Matthew 27:5-53.

"That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." Hebrews 6:18-20.

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;"

Hebrews 10:19, 20.

God abhors sin in every form. He cannot save a person who will not repent, who will not turn their back on sin. If a person is biblically saved and it is real, that person must have repented in their hearts. Then God brings the New Creation by the Holy Spirit, the Life of Christ, Eternal Life. That person will be changed and will bear fruit for they are made new in Christ. A preacher recently gave an interesting illustration. He said in essence:

If a man walks out onto the road and is hit by a truck, he will not speak of it afterwards in light words. He has had a tremendous impact occur in his life. If he survives he is a changed man, he has been hit by a truck. So it is with Christ and salvation. If a sinner encounters Christ as Saviour and accepts eternal life as a gift, he will not speak of it afterwards in a light manner. He has been hit by a "truck" and he is a changed man and it will show! If there is no difference in someone who has "gone to the front" to be saved, then the reality of the new birth cannot have happened to them.

DOUBLE JEOPARDY.

When a man has been tried for a crime and found innocent he cannot be tried for the same crime again. This is called DOUBLE JEOPARDY. Double Jeopardy can be applied to salvation in Christ Jesus. God has already found the sinner not guilty because of the Cross of Calvary. Christ borne our sin on the tree, He took our punishment. Now God has declared the sinner not guilty, the debt has been paid - if we freely accept that payment for punishment as being our own personally.

You and I who are JUSTIFIED by faith, by the sacrifice of Christ on our behalf, are innocent, perfect, in God's sight. It would be Double Jeopardy for Him to judge us guilty again should we slip up in our Christian walk. God