

What Jesus Christ Has Done

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God's plan is so simple and so easy that all we have to do is accept it, just as it is presented in the Word. It is not necessary for us to do anything, but just accept what has been done for us and we will receive the great blessings of God's salvation. It is not a matter of what we do to receive our deliverance; it is what Jesus Christ has done and that is the most important thing to know.

The thoughts of many professing Christians in their early Christian life are "What am I to do, how am I to get my deliverance, Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" Such things are directly opposite to what should be the thought.

The thought to take is—"What has Jesus Christ done for me?" All through the Bible, those who received their deliverances were told what Jesus Christ has done; they were told what had already been done for them, and they received those facts as the truth.

There is no virtue even in that. We do not receive our deliverances because we believe, but only because Jesus Christ has given it to us. It is Satan's object to get us to be taken up with what we are to do in order to receive our deliverances. We dwell on this and begin to consider what we must do and finally decide that we have done everything we know; and don't know why the deliverance has not come.

The more we act like Job, the farther we get from the deliverance; but the moment we stop taking such an attitude and are engaged in what Jesus Christ has done for us, that moment God begins to work for us.

1 Corinthians 1:18, "*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*"

God's power will begin to work at once; and our doubts, fears, sins, and sorrows, will begin to melt away, we will begin to grasp what Jesus Christ really did for us. There are two facts to consider at this time and really get a grasp of them, which will end all our troubles.

They are two of the great things which Jesus Christ has done for us. They are found in Isaiah 53:4-6, "*Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*"

Anyone who ever thoroughly grasped these facts were delivered at once. Remember the eunuch, who was returning from Jerusalem, where he had been worshipping. He was a man of great authority in Ethiopia. Philip met him and joined him in the chariot and discovered that he was reading the 53rd chapter of Isaiah.

"*He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth; In his humiliation his judgment was taken away; and who shall declare his generation?*"

If he had read from the 4th to the 6th verses, it would have brought him deliverance; however, he was instructed by Philip and led down through the chapter.

Acts 8:30,31,34, "*Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him and the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?*"

Philip opened his mouth and began to tell him what Jesus Christ did for him on the Cross. The eunuch just listened to the story and got hold of the facts, and as he did, "*the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?*"

He desired to be united in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. "*And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.*"

He believed the simple facts concerning Jesus Christ, as related by Philip; was baptized and delivered from all his sins and guilt at once—just through BELIEVING. We often hear and often read—"Who hath believed our report?"—which means, who has heard the facts concerning Jesus Christ and His great work on the Cross and really believed them? Who has heard of what Jesus Christ really did there? —"and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?"

Just through hearing the wonderful story of the Cross and accepting its real facts. God's power always begins to work for us—the greatest and most effectual power in the universe for whatever we need and desire.

The 53rd chapter of Isaiah reveals to us that all the evil we inherited from the first Adam has been taken away, has been borne by Jesus Christ, whose Blood paid the ransom and we have been delivered from it through the second Adam, Jesus Christ. Being delivered from this evil is a wonderful thing. That is the first great fact of the Atonement.

Isaiah 53:4-6, "*Surely, he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*"

From this we are told that He has borne ALL—everything in the way of sickness, disease, pains, and aches, of the body. Matthew 8:17 says, "*Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.*"

Then He has also taken away everything which causes us trouble or anxiety; sin and sorrow, including everything which would disturb our peace; such as poverty, trouble in the home, in the workshop, and in the neighborhood—"and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

This includes all our sins, sorrows, diseases, and troubles of every kind. These things were laid on Him, and He carried them away. We are perfectly FREE from all those things. The work on the Cross is just like a great, large knife which has cut the cords which bound us to sin, sickness, disease, and trouble, and now we can walk out in perfect liberty, we are absolutely FREE from them, because they were all borne on Calvary's Cross.

Anyone who believes and accepts that fact, the power of God begins to work at once to deliver them from these things; exactly the same as it did the eunuch and Cornelius, or the man in the streets of Lystra, and the man at the Pool of Bethesda. Anyone, anywhere, can receive their FREE deliverance at once, the moment they accept God's Word.

The two men on their way to Emmaus from Jerusalem were weighed down by a world of trouble. A supposed stranger stopped and addressed them and said—"What are you talking about and why are you so sad?"

He wanted to get them to talk about that great subject they were discussing which brought such sadness to them. They said to Him—"Is it possible that there

is one person in Jerusalem who does not know about the terrible things which have happened!" They thought perhaps He was a stranger who just happened into Jerusalem—a stranger who had just arrived in town.

Luke 24:19-23, *"And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done. Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; And when they found not his body, they came saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive."*

Now even His body is gone. They felt sure we are justified in being worried and weighed down with sorrow and grief. That was almost an unanswerable

argument; but Jesus Christ turned it upside down and inside out, and said:

Verse 25-27, *"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."*

He revealed to them just what Isaiah and the other prophets were predicting concerning the great work on the Cross. When He reached the gate of their home, they invited Him to come in with them. Upon His refusal, they begged and coaxed Him to enter; and as He broke bread, they recognized Him, and He disappeared from their sight. They realized then that they had been talking to the risen Christ.

The result of that talk was that they heard the story of the Cross. They had talked about what THEY could do and dwelt upon THEIR sorrows and sadness; but, just by receiving the facts of the work on the Cross, believing what He mentioned was accomplished on Calvary's Cross, that every trouble as well as sin, sorrow, and disease were born away; it brought this wonderful remark, (Vs.32) "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

Did not those words of His bring joy to our hearts? It is the key to perfect happiness and peace. How our troubles flee away when we accept the fact that Jesus Christ carried them and nailed them to His Cross. That is the real result in every case, because *"the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."*

These men simply believed that report and the arm of the Lord was revealed to them and rebuked Satan's power; all their fears, doubts, and discouragements fled away and they were filled with peace, comfort, and joy, which Jesus died to give to all of us.

That is what happened to these men and it will also happen to us as we "believe the report."

This is one side of the vicarious offering of Jesus Christ; to bear away all that would oppress us. Then we have on the other side, which is also very important; that is, that Jesus Christ purchased on Calvary's Cross a

great inheritance. He not only paid the debt we owed, but purchased an inheritance for us.

This is the wonderful truth concerning the work of the Cross; it paid our debt and then placed at our disposal all that God has, is, or can do. It has made God our personal property.

God's spiritual wealth is mine. God's physical health and all the power I need to keep me well and strong is mine; He desires me to have a well body and have perfect protection for this body and in everything else. All these things have been purchased for us and are absolutely ours.

The Blood of Jesus Christ has opened the door two thousand years ago to our deliverance and freedom, and we can have the utmost confidence that we are perfectly safe when we are under such Blood.

The blood of that little lamb, down in Egypt was a token in God's sight, and the Blood of Jesus Christ is a token in God's sight for us today and not any amount of faith will protect us, not our good living.

We must fully realize what that Blood means. The Blood of Jesus Christ protects, and it is nothing in us, not the way we handle things, not WHAT WE DO. It is only what JESUS CHRIST HAS DONE. He has provided that protection and it is FREE, without money and without price, it is a FREE GIFT.

It is not necessary for us to win or earn it; neither is it necessary for us to do one thing to get it. It has been ours for two thousand years, so it is not something to be expected in the future, but right now in the PRESENT. The Blood of Jesus Christ has been on the door for two thousand years, so we do not need to wait for our deliverance and freedom. We have the privilege of entering in and receiving that enjoyment.



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