

DELIVERED FROM DEMONS

I pray that as I have shared my experience with you tonight of how the blessed Jesus delivered me from a life of crime and violence, addictions and rebellion, that it will enable you to see that no matter what you have done in the past, or are involved in at the present; the great God of heaven loves you and wants to set you free from the power of sin and Satan. Just as surely as He delivered me from demonic control and set me free from the law of sin and death, he will do the same for you if you will but accept Him as your Lord and Savior.

As we open God's word we discover that Jesus came into this world in order to "save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21.

Sin is a subject that is seldom discussed or dealt with in today's society. Some even go so far as to say that when society changes the definition of sin also changes.

Does something that was once sin cease to be sin because society changes?

What is it about sin that makes it so awful that we need a Savior from it? Isaiah 59:2.

The hideousness of sin is that it separates us from God, and without God we cannot live.

Man's Dilemma

A bumper sticker read "Even with inflation the wages of sin is still the same."

The wages of sin always has been and always will be death. Romans 6:23.

"Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4) and "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) all have come under the condemnation of death (Romans 5:12), since none are righteous. Romans 3:10.

In this deplorable condition we find that we are as unable to change ourselves as a leopard his spots, or a man the color of his skin. Jeremiah 13:23.

A pig can be cleaned, bathed and decorated to win a prize, but as soon as it is turned loose it goes right back to the mud hole for on the inside it is still a pig.

No matter how one looks on the outside it is on the inside that the change is important.

Outward appearances are not what the Lord looks on. He looks on the heart and says I will give you a new heart.

God's feelings for us in this destitute state are very clear and He does not want anyone to perish, but rather that we repent (experience Godly sorrow over our sinful, lost, condition). 2 Peter 3:9.

He did not want us to die so He had to do something.

We had transgressed His law. Sin is the transgression of the law. The wages of sin is death.

God's Solution

He could only do one of three things: 1. Do away with the law. 2. Destroy man. 3. Send a substitute to die for us.

This was really the only route God could have taken "for God so loved the world, that He gave His

only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

If you had been the only person who needed a Saviour, He would have died for you alone.

He came to seek and save the lost. Luke 19:10.

By His death He freely justified all mankind and brought them out from under condemnation and death. Romans 5:18.

He was the "Lamb of God" which took away the sin of the entire world. John 1:29; 1 John 2:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19.

As such He tasted "death for every man." Hebrews 2:9.

He did all this "while we were yet sinners", while we were still in rebellion and flinging our frail human fists in His face, "Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6-9.

Our Need

When we see this unmerited love of God exhibited on the cross of Calvary, and realize that it was for us He died, we will want to die to self and live for Christ.

We will crucify self that we might not continue to live in sin and rebellion; bringing continual pain to the heart of our Saviour. Galatians 2:20.

Having died to self and sin and allowing Christ to live in us we live a life that is altogether new; the very life which Jesus lived, for being "dead to sin" we are now made free from sin. Romans 6:8-12.

Having now received Him we become the children of the Most High God. John 1:12.

This glorious Bible truth known as justification is made possible only through faith (Romans 5:1) and it is this same faith that enables us to live the Christian life for "the just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17.

The Holy Spirit's Function

It is the Holy Spirit who sanctifies the believer. 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14.

To sanctify is to made holy, to set aside for a holy purpose.

We receive this sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit in the same we received justification, through faith. Acts 26:18.

This entire process of salvation is accomplished "through the faith of the operation of God." Colossians 2:12.

We can with full assurance that "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6.

He "has delivered us" (justification, or deliverance from the penalty of sin), He "does deliver us" (sanctification, or deliverance from the power of sin), and He "will yet deliver us" (glorification, or deliverance from the presence of sin). 2 Corinthians 1:9-10

A Living Saviour, Our Advocate

Yes, Jesus died for us nearly 2,000 years ago, but He did not stay dead. A dead Saviour can save no one.

Our great hope is that the tomb where Jesus lay is now empty and He is set down at the right hand of the Father's throne. Hebrews 8:1-2.

"Wherefore He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25.

Knowing this we need to come boldly, with full assurance, to the throne of grace to find all the help we will ever need. Hebrews 4:14-16.

God wants more than anything else to see you saved in His kingdom, by coming to a knowledge of the truth and the acceptance of His Son Jesus as your mediator in the heavenly courts. 1 Timothy 2:3-6. He is our Advocate with the Father. 1 John 2:1.

What does He have to present in our defense? He has it in His hands at all times. The scars from the nails which fastened Him to the cross.

God calls for us to come to Him and let Him cleanse us of our sins. Isaiah 1:18.

His promise is that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

Our Response

God has already freely given to you the free gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23), but what will you do with it? Will you despise and reject it, or will you by faith receive and cherish it?

Centuries ago the question was asked "What must I do to be saved?" The response was simple "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:30-31.

A true heart appreciation of the life, sufferings, and death of our dear Saviour will cause us to experience a heartfelt response that will lead us to repent of our sins (Luke 5:32), to confess them (1 John 1:9), to forsake them (Proverbs 28:13), and to become obedient to His will (Matthew 7:21).

Your assurance of eternal life. 1 John 5:12-13.

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3.

"Behold, now is the accepted time: behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Corinthians 6:2.

Study Helps

Matthew 1:21 -----	Why did Jesus come?
Isaiah 59:2 -----	What does sin do?
Romans 6:23 -----	What is the result of sin?
Ezekiel 18:4 -----	What happens to sinners?
Romans 3:23 -----	How many have sinned?
Romans 5:12 -----	How many are to die?

Jeremiah 13:23 ----- Can we change ourselves?
 2 Peter 3:9 ----- What are God's feelings?
 John 3:16 ----- What provision did He make?
 Romans 5:8 ----- When did He first love us?
 Ephesians 2:8, 9 ----- How are we saved?
 What does this saving faith produce in our lives?
 Luke 5:32 ----- Repentance.
 1 John 1:9 ----- Confession.
 Proverbs 28:13 ----- Forsaking.
 Matthew 7:21 ----- Obedience.
 2 Corinthians 6:2 ----- When should we accept this gift?
 John 1:12 ----- What do we become?

This Experience is Called The New Birth

Romans 7:18-19 ----- Have you ever experienced this?
 Romans 7:20 ----- What is the cause?
 Romans 8:7-8 ----- What does this make us?
 Romans 8:6 ----- What is the result?
 Romans 7:24-25 ----- Who can rescue us?
 Philippians 4:13 ----- What can we then say?
 Galatians 2:20 ----- What makes this possible?
 Romans 6:1-6 ----- What type of a life do we now live?
 2 Corinthians 5:15, 17 ----- How new is it?
 John 3:1-8 ----- What is this life likened to?
 Romans 8:1, 9, 14 ----- How important is this new birth?
 Ephesians 4:22-24 ----- What is the new person like?
 Philippians 2:13 ----- How is this possible?