

# Jesus Friend of Sinners - A Person with 256 Names!

In the Bible 256 names are given to Jesus Christ our Saviour. He was infinitely more than any one name could express. In His name WONDERFUL is wrapped up a world of meaning concerning the divine glory, the matchless character, and wonderful offices of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus is a Divine Person. He is the second Person in the blessed Trinity. Jesus Christ has all the attributes, glory, majesty, and power that belong to God. While Jesus is divine, He is at the same time a real man. He did not begin to live when He was born in Bethlehem. He had always lived.

The birth of Jesus was not looked forward to on earth with glad expectation. There was no room for Him at the inn. He was laid in a manger, yet the angels of heaven proclaimed His birth. Their message from heaven to earth was, "Unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

## **HE CAME TO BLESS, TO LIFT UP**

Think what Jesus came to do. He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." Jesus cared about the poor, the broken-hearted, the captives, the blind, and the bruised. Jesus came to bless, not to curse. He came to lift up the fallen. He came to set free those bound by sin; to dry the tears; to bind up the wounds; to give rest to the weary; yet there was no room for Him at the inn.

Jesus was wonderful in the choice of His Disciples. Most of them were fishermen. He did not call men who were mighty or noble, or men who were learned. Jesus had power to make ordinary men into extraordinary men. The Bible says, "The common people heard Him gladly." He loved all men. We read, "When He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them." One day He wept over Jerusalem.

## **INWARD MORAL PURITY**

Jesus was perfect in holiness. St. Peter spoke of Him as "the Holy One." Again the Bible tells us that "He was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners." The dazzling white light which glorified the person of Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration was simply the outshining of His inward moral purity.

Wonderful was the message of Jesus to the world. He spoke of "Heaven," of "Everlasting Life," of being "Saved" from the power of sin, of being "Born Again." He had power to forgive sins. One day John the Baptist said of Him, "Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." Jesus often spoke of His death; of His body which would be broken for sinners, and of His blood which would be shed for many.

## **HE TALKED OF HEAVEN**

Until Jesus came most men died without hope. Death was feared and dreaded. But Jesus told His followers of a future life of bliss and joy, where there would be no more pain. Can you imagine what this message meant to those who feared death and evil spirits. This is why the early Christians died crying, "Christ is Victor." They knew that to close their eyes on the scenes of life, was to open them in Heaven. They knew that to be absent from the body, was to be present with the Lord.

## **JESUS MOST APPROACHABLE**

Jesus is the most approachable person in the universe. One day He stood and said, "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out." As you read through the Gospels you can see how many different persons came to Jesus. From Nicodemus to the thief on the cross. But there is no record that He ever refused to hear the prayer of anyone; not even the lowest.

One day Jesus was passing a graveyard, and a man cried to Him, who was possessed with a Legion of devils. He was naked and savage, but Jesus did not pass him by. Instead He cast out the demons

and sent the man home to tell his friends of the great things Jesus had done for him. Can you imagine this man going home to his village, to his wife and children, and how amazed they would be to have him home again, transformed by the power of Jesus. Can you see them having family worship for the first time, thanking God for making their home a little bit like heaven.

### **BLOOD -STAINED SWEAT**

Think of Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. If anything less, or anything else, than His death could have atoned for sin, then God would have spared His only begotten Son. Think of Him rending the air with His cries, and wetting the sod with blood-stained sweat, as He cried three times over: "O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

If it had been possible that we poor sinners could have been saved without His death, His cries would have been answered. But it was not possible, There was no other way.

### **SALVATION FREE TO ALL**

Jesus died, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. His death made a perfect and full atonement for sin. "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself." "The Lord, laid on Him the iniquity of us all." "He who knew no sin, was made sin for us." "He bare our sins in His own body on the tree."

Jesus Said "COME UNTO ME, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The Person who gives you this invitation is the greatest and best Friend that men ever had. He is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God. He is the one and only mediator between God and men. He so loved the world that he undertook to pay our mighty debt to God, by dying for us on the cross of Calvary.

He is the One who is almighty. He is very God of very God. He has all power in heaven and earth - In Him all fulness dwells - He has the keys of death and hell - He is now the appointed Mediator between God and man: He will one day be the Judge and King of all the earth. When such an One as this speaks, you may safely trust Him.

Because of His love for you He invites you to COME TO HIM, and, He will give you rest. If you feel the heavy load of the guilt of your sins, Jesus says to you, "COME UNTO ME." Notice that He does not tell you to WORK for Salvation. He does not tell you that you have to PAY for Salvation. He does not tell you to go to ANY OTHER PERSON for Salvation. His invitation to you is, "COME UNTO ME." He further promises, "Him that COMETH TO ME I will in no wise cast out."

### **THE PLACE CALLED CALVARY**

"And when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father forgive them; for they know not what they do. And one of the malefactors said unto Jesus, Lord remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise."

Gathered around the cross of Calvary, at that moment, there stood Mary the mother of Jesus, John the beloved disciple, Mary Magdalene, and others. The dying thief did not pray to any of these persons. He prayed directly to Jesus, the one and only Mediator between God and men. HE CAME TO JESUS, and Jesus gave him rest, and all the blessings of Salvation.

A true Christian is a person who has come into living fellowship and communion with the Lord Jesus as a personal Saviour. He lives a life of faith and trust in Jesus, confidence in Jesus, leaning on Jesus, speaking to Jesus in prayer, working for Jesus, loving Jesus, and looking for the coming again of Jesus. St. Paul said, "The life that I live, I live by the faith of the Son of God." Where there is true faith and trust, Jesus will be known as an actual living personal Friend.

## **THE REST JESUS GIVES**

The rest that Christ gives is an inward and spiritual thing. It is a rest of heart, rest of conscience, rest of mind, rest of affection, rest of will. It is rest, from a comfortable sense of sins being all forgiven and guilt all put away. Rest such as this the Lord Jesus gives to those who come to Him, by showing them His own finished work on the cross, by clothing them in His own perfect righteousness, and washing them in His own precious blood. When a man begins to see that the Son of God actually died for his sins, his soul begins to taste something of inward quiet and peace.

There is only one royal road to rest of soul. Let that never be forgotten. There is only one way to the Father - Jesus Christ; one door into heaven - Jesus Christ; and one path to heart-peace - Jesus Christ.

Who, among all the readers of this paper, desires to be saved from their sin by Christ, and yet is not saved at present? Come, I beseech you: come to Christ without delay. Though you have been a great sinner, COME - Though you have long resisted warnings, counsels, sermons, COME - Though you have sinned against light and knowledge, COME - Though you have plunged into every excess of wickedness, and lived without a Sabbath and without prayer, yet COME - The door is not shut, the fountain is not yet closed. Jesus Christ invites you. It is enough that you feel labouring and heavily laden, and desire to be saved. COME: COME TO CHRIST WITHOUT DELAY!

## **COME, AND BE SAVED**

To be saved, is to be delivered in this present life from the power of sin, by receiving a new nature through the working of Christ's Spirit. It is to be freed from the hateful dominion of sin, the world, and the devil, by having a new nature put in us by the Holy Ghost. Whosoever is thus renewed in the spirit of his mind, is a saved soul. He shall not perish. He shall enter into the glorious kingdom of God. To be saved, is to be delivered in the day of Judgement, from all the awful consequences of sin. It is to be declared blameless, spotless, faultless, and complete in Christ, while others are found guilty, and condemned forever. It is to hear those comfortable words - "Come, ye blessed!" while others are hearing those fearful words - "Depart, ye cursed!"

"COME NOW, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. And the Spirit and the bride say, COME. And let him that heareth say, COME. And let him that is athirst COME. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

## **INVITATION**

If you desire to know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, send your Name and Address in BLOCK CAPITALS and we will send you a free copy of the booklet, "PARDON FOR SIN, AND ASSURANCE OF PEACE WITH GOD," by Rev. W.J. Patton

### **Send to;**

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