

FOUR WONDERFUL BIBLE VERSES

Here are four wonderful Bible verses:

“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.”

“FOR GOD SENT NOT HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD; BUT THAT THE WORLD THROUGH HIM MIGHT BE SAVED.”

“HE THAT BELIEVETH ON HIM IS NOT CONDEMNED! BUT HE THAT BELIEVETH NOT IS CONDEMNED ALREADY, BECAUSE HE HATH NOT BELIEVED IN THE NAME OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD.”

“AND THIS IS THE CONDEMNATION, THAT LIGHT IS COME INTO THE WORLD, AND MEN LOVED DARKNESS RATHER THAN LIGHT, BECAUSE THEIR DEEDS WERE EVIL.” JOHN 3:16 TO 19.

Now as you meditate upon these wonderful statements, remember two other statements in the Bible, “God cannot lie,” and “It is impossible for God to lie.” Then the attitude of the eternal God toward His human creatures is expressed in I Timothy 2:4:

“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”

Now if God cannot lie and God will have all men to be saved, then every human being should be interested in knowing how to accomplish this wonderful work of salvation.

Note God’s message to some human beings who had been sinners and a great change took place with them:

“For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”

They were reconciled by the death of God’s Son. Note the good news for sinners in II Corinthians 5:19:

“To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”

This is another way of saying: “For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:17.

There is a very interesting story recorded in the first verses of the eighth chapter of the Gospel of John. It is the account of a guilty sinful woman caught in the very act of a real sin. Some self-righteous religious men brought her into the presence of the sinless Christ and said she should be stoned to death. Christ said, “let her be stoned by one who is without sin.” Christ was the only one without sin, but He did not stone her: “For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:17.

Christ said to the woman, “where are these thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?” Note the woman’s answer and Christ’s words of salvation and peace: “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”

God loved that sinful woman. He so loved her that He gave His very best for her redemption: “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.” “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.”

If you will visualize that awful scene at Calvary where they crucified the Lord of glory, where they killed the Prince of Life, you will know something of the meaning of the little word “so” in John 3:16.

If such a sacrifice had to be made, sin must be a horrible thing in the presence of the holy God. And if human beings are so unappreciative, so ungrateful, so foolish as to refuse, or fail, to accept God’s love gift to save them from the penalty of sin, that penalty must be awful and it must be inescapable.

For the believer, “everlasting life.” For the unbeliever, “perish.” And the word “perish” does not mean “annihilation,” “cessation of consciousness.”

Now note John 3:18: “He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

To receive Jesus Christ as Saviour means to escape condemnation. To reject Jesus Christ means condemnation and the eternal wrath of the eternal God. John 3:36.

The omniscient God is just and righteous, but He is also merciful and compassionate. He gave His only Son that He might be just and the Justifier of believing sinners.

God well knows that all human beings inherit a terrible disease at physical birth, sin. He well knows with such a sinful nature no human being can keep His perfect law, His ten commandments. So Christ, as One in the God-Head, was willing to suffer the Just for the unjust that He might bring us to God.

So before we try to live right in God’s sight, we must go by faith to Calvary for a new start in life, for a new nature. Then we can say, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20.

Have you personally, individually received Christ as your Saviour? If not, will you right now receive Him and pass out of death into life by faith in the crucified and resurrected Christ? John 5:24.

FOUR OTHER WONDERFUL BIBLE VERSES

Let us consider four other wonderful Bible verses; in them we truly read of the greatest story ever heard:

“LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU, WHICH WAS ALSO IN CHRIST JESUS:”

“WHO, BEING IN THE FORM OF GOD, THOUGHT IT NOT ROBBERY TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD:”

“BUT MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION, AND TOOK UPON HIM THE FORM OF A SERVANT, AND WAS MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN:”

“AND BEING FOUND IN FASHION AS A MAN, HE HUMBLED HIMSELF, AND BECAME OBEDIENT UNTO DEATH, EVEN THE DEATH OF THE CROSS.” PHILIPPIANS 2:5 TO 8.

As we read this unique and wonderful story we think of the words of the Lord Jesus Christ in John 17:5, in the Son’s prayer to the Father:

“And now, Father, glorify thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.”

We also think of the same truth concerning the eternal Christ recorded in Colossians 1:17 and 18:

“And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. And He is the Head of the Body, the Church; Who is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence.”

Then in Colossians 2:9 are added these words: “For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.” Yes, the Son was in the beginning with the Father. All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made. This is the story of John 1 to 10. Then note John 1:14:

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.”

The Lord Jesus Christ meant exactly what He said in John 6:38 and 40:

“For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me.” “And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Is not this the greatest story of the ages? But we have not finished with the story yet. Note carefully Hebrews 2:9 and 14:

“But we see Jesus Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.” “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death, they might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil.”

Yes, the One Who was in the form of God was God. John 1:1. He became man, made in the likeness of human flesh, sinful flesh. He was called “Emmanuel” (God with us). He became a man, the God-man, to die for all other men. He became a partaker of flesh and blood, to destroy him who had the power of death, the devil.

“By man (Adam) came death; by Man (Christ Jesus), came also the resurrection of the dead.” I Corinthians 15:21. “And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last man Adam was made a quickening Spirit.” “The first man is of the earth, earthy: the Second Man is the Lord from heaven.” I Corinthians 15:45 and 47.

The Bible is the story of two men, the first man and the Second Man. The first man was disobedient unto death. This first man took the whole human race into sin and death: “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” Romans 5:12.

The Second Man was obedient unto death, the death of the cross. Note His own words when He was in the shadow of the cross: “Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. This, He said, signifying what death He should die.”

Why was all of this? Hear God’s answer in Romans 5:21:

“That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Note again Romans 5:19: “For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.”

Adam brought the curse. Christ Jesus bore the curse. Adam brought the thorns. Christ Jesus wore the thorns. Adam went from the garden of Eden. Christ Jesus went into the garden of Gethsemane.

How are the children of Adam redeemed from the curse and wages of sin into which they have come by reason of their father’s sin? “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.” I Peter 1:19 and 20. Note again Hebrews 2:9: “But we see Jesus Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

Note these words of Christ right before He went to the cross:

“Now is My soul troubled; and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.” John 12:27. “Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.” John 10:17 and 18.

No matter how strange the story may seem to you, it is all true. And there is a sense in which the story of the Bible is told in Romans 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Timothy 1:15. Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures. I Corinthians 15:3 to 5. Think prayerfully and seriously of this statement: “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.”

This eternal redemption has been obtained for us. Christ Jesus is alive in heaven. “Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.” Hebrews 7:25.

Therefore, we see that Christ’s death was neither premature nor accidental. He was not the helpless victim of circumstances when He died on the cross. His death was just as much a part of His prearranged program as were His miracles and His teachings. He was more than a religious martyr. He was God’s foreordained Sin-bearer:

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” Acts 4:12.

All of this unique and wonderful story is true. What do you think should be the penalty for the person who repudiates, rejects, or neglects this salvation? What is going to happen? Hear God’s answer:

“For we know Him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto Me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge His people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” Hebrews 10:30 and 31.

Let us go by faith to Calvary’s cross and behold the Lamb of God which beareth away the sin of the world. Hear these words in the fifth chapter of Revelation: “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory and blessing.”

“And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him and He in God.” I John 4:14 and 15.

Yes, Christ Jesus was sent to be the Saviour of the world. Is He your Saviour? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31.

FOUR OTHER WONDERFUL BIBLE VERSES

Quite frequently we hear some Christian quote Romans 8:28, especially when some sorrow or disappointment has been experienced. But it is interesting to note the “FOR” that

connects this verse with the three verses that follow. Note the twenty eighth verse and the three verses that follow:

“AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD, TO THEM WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.”

“FOR WHOM HE DID FOREKNOW, HE ALSO DID PREDESTINATE, TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, THAT HE MIGHT BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN.”

“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” ROMANS 8:28 TO 32.

Here we note that God had, and has, a purpose. Note the words of Acts 15:18: “Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world.” Surely if God is omniscient, He knows all things. God not only knew the end from the beginning, but God had a secret purpose from before the foundation of the world.

Note Ephesians 3:9 and 11 and Ephesians 1:12:

“And to make all men see what is the dispensation (fellowship) of the Mystery which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God.”

“According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

“In Whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him Who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will.”

Then note II Timothy 1:9 and Ephesians 1:4 and 5:

“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,”

“According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.”

So God’s Word tells us very definitely that God purposed in Christ Jesus before the world began that which He has revealed in the Epistle to the Ephesians. Note Ephesians 1:9:

“Having made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself.”

God has made known the secret of His will. Then all Christians should diligently search the Scriptures and learn that revealed Divine secret. The sons of men in other ages and generations did not have this wonderful privilege; for God did not choose to disclose His eternal purpose to them:

“Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints.” Colossians 1:25 and 26. Note again Ephesians 3:5 and 8:

“Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles, the unsearchable riches of Christ.” Ephesians 3:5 and 8.

God wants all Christians to see this glorious truth now and to know the hope of the Lord's calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. Ephesians 1:17 and 18. Note again in Ephesians 1:11:

“In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him Who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will.”

“An inheritance, being predestinated according to God's purpose.” We should know God's revealed secret, the mystery of His will, His eternal predestinated purpose. And if we honestly endeavor to walk worthy of our calling, as members of the Body of Christ and constantly endeavor to make others see the dispensation of the secret, we can know and say positively, that all things work together for good for such Christians who love God and are the called according to God's purpose. For—for what?

“For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Romans 8:29.

Then note the questions in Romans 8:31: “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”

What blessed truth to know. What appalling ignorance among Christians concerning God's purpose and grace given us in Christ before the world began. Most of the Christians in this age and generation are as ignorant of this glorious Divine Truth as were the sons of men in other ages and generations to whom it was never revealed.

Perhaps you have observed that Christians who are opposed to the doctrine of eternal security actually hate the doctrine of predestination, for the two truths are inseparably connected. No Christian should hate God's Word. And every Christian who really knows and believes the truth concerning God's predestinated purpose believes in the eternal security of the believer.

“All things work together for good.” Note it, “for good.” To whom? To those who are the called according to God's purpose.

And note the good things that God has on deposit for those who are called according to His purpose:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies in Christ: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.” Ephesians 1:3 and 4.

We can never appreciate either of these facts until we know both of them, namely, that those who are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies in Christ were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world:

“Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.” Ephesians 1:5.

When we learn these facts then we will begin to comprehend “with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.” Ephesians 3:18 and 19.

How many Christians are filled with all the fulness of God? How many Christians know what is meant by the fulness of Christ in Ephesians 1:23: “Which is His Body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all?”

Note the climax of the wonderful Mystery of God's will, that purpose and grace given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. Note Ephesians 4:12 and 13: “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ.” “Till we all come in

the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a Perfect Man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”

We shall come to the fulness of Christ in the unity of faith. There is one faith. Ephesians 4:5. God will permit no Christian to see this glorious profound truth until that Christian will receive the truth from the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures, that there is but one Body, even as there is but one Head of the Body, that there is one baptism for this age even as there is but one Spirit for this age.

Christians have been blinded by sectarianism and traditions of men and have made very little earnest effort to keep the unity of the Spirit on the basis of the seven-fold unity of Ephesians 4:3 to 7. Therefore, they could not obey Ephesians 3:9 even if they had the desire to do so.

The present Divine program concerning the Body of Christ, the hope and calling of its members was not prophesied by the men of old. Therefore Paul speaks of this distinctive ministry as “the unsearchable riches of Christ.” Ephesians 3:8. “Unsearchable” means “untraceable” and has the meaning of “unprophesied,” not made known to other ages and generations.

So the Body of Christ, and the heavenly position and possession of members of this Body, were not prophesied; but they were predestinated: “According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love. Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.” Ephesians 1:4 and 5.

“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.” Romans 8:30.

Thus we see that all the way from foreknowledge to glorification, salvation is of God, and is by His grace from beginning to end: “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.” II Timothy 1:9

But there is also the human responsibility: Note Romans 10:13 and 14:

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” “How then shall they call on Him in Whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in Him of Whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”

And I Corinthians 3:8:

“Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.”

WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US, THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US FROM ALL INIQUITY, AND PURIFY UNTO HIMSELF A PECULIAR PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.” Titus 2:11 to 14.

So frequently we hear the question “how are we to reconcile ‘predestination’ and the ‘whosoever’ message?” They are both God’s truths, Bible doctrines. Preach them and let the Holy Spirit do the reconciling.

FOUR OTHER WONDERFUL BIBLE VERSES

We have just sent to the printer our copy for a book which we are publishing in which book we are giving an exegesis of these four wonderful Bible verses. Note them prayerfully and spiritually:

“FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGETH SALVATION HATH APPEARED TO ALL MEN.”

“TEACHING US THAT, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY, IN THIS PRESENT WORLD;”

“LOOKING FOR THAT BLESSED HOPE, AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING OF THE GREAT GOD AND OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST;”

“WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US, THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US FROM ALL INIQUITY, AND PURIFY UNTO HIMSELF A PECULIAR PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.” TITUS 2:11 TO 14.

What hath appeared? The grace of God. What else hath appeared? Jesus Christ. Read it in Hebrews 9:26 and Hebrews 2:9:

“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.” “But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”

Yes, once in the end of the ages Christ appeared. For what? To put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. He was made lower than the angels. For what purpose? For the suffering of death. He was crowned with glory and honour that He might BY THE GRACE OF GOD taste death for every man.

So note the two wonderful statements: “the grace of God hath appeared to all men” and “Jesus Christ hath appeared and tasted death for every man.” By the grace of God: “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” John 1:17. “That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 5:21.

When did the grace of God appear? Let us find the answer to this important question in Ephesians 3:1 and 2: “For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward.”

“The dispensation of the grace of God” for Gentiles was given to the apostle Paul. Note his testimony in Romans 15:15 and 16: “Nevertheless brethren I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God.” “That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

Note again Paul’s testimony in I Corinthians 3:10: “According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.”

Then we learn such important truth in Romans 11:30 and 15: “For as ye (Gentiles) in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief (through Israel’s unbelief).”

“For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?”

Yes, important truth this is; for here we learn that Paul went to the Gentiles with God’s message of grace when and because Israel was set aside.

Perhaps you have pondered and wondered over Paul’s statement in Acts 13:23: “Of this man’s seed hath God according to His promise, raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus.” And Acts 13:46: “Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the Word of God

should first have been spoken to you (Jews); but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.”

Here we learn that Christ in His incarnation was Israel’s Saviour and that after Christ’s resurrection God turned Paul to the Gentiles because Israel would not have the resurrected Christ to be their Saviour.