

## It Is No Secret

The son of a Methodist minister, Stuart Hamblen, born in Texas, lived from October 20, 1908 - March 8, 1989. From a biography of Hamblen we read that, "Stuart's career as a Country Western Gospel singer, composer, radio-movie personality, and master storyteller all began in 1926, on radio station on WBAP, Ft Worth, TX and sister station WFAA, Dallas, TX, where he became radio broadcasting's first singing cowboy." Hamblen was not able to handle all of the fame that came his way and, as a result, he turned to drinking and brawling and other destructive behavior which, in turn caused him to be thrown in jail many times. Over the years Hamblen's fame grew as a song writer with motion picture credits of which there were many. He had also become involved with several singing groups.

Around 1949 Hamblen trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. As a result, he gave up drinking and he refused to do beer commercials on his radio station that got him fired. He also gave up gambling and horse racing. Change in the life of Hamblen was noticed and people took notice. A friend of his asked about the rumor going around that he had changed his ways and, to this, Hamblen responded by saying that it was no secret what God had done for him and he could do the same for his friend. That friend was John Wayne and it was he who suggested that Hamblen, should put this into a song, which he did. The chorus of the song, "It Is No Secret" reads:

It is no secret, what God can do  
what He's done for others, He'll do for you  
with arms wide open, He'll pardon you  
It is no secret, what God can do

Friend, what God did for Stuart Hamblen and millions of others, He can and will do for you, whoever you are and no matter what you have done. Why? Because of His great love for you! "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} We can never wear out this great Bible verse! While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8} Our redemption was not and is not because of anything we have done or can do; it was and is ALL of God by the blood of Jesus Christ. "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:" {1 Peter 1:18-19} Jesus is called a lamb, "And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!" {John 1:29} When Jesus shed His blood and died on the Cross of Calvary, He was in fact paying our sin debt in full. Though He was buried, He bodily rose three days later and at this very moment He is in Heaven on the right hand of the Father. "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. ... For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the things that are in heaven; 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 he once have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." {Hebrews 9:22, 24, 25-26} "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" {Hebrews 10:12}

My friend, if you will repent of your sin and by faith alone in Jesus Christ will trust Him as your personal Saviour, He will not only forgive but He will also save you for all eternity. How can we be so sure of this? Well, it's because He said so in His word, the Bible. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ... These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." {1 John 5:11,13} Just as Stuart Hamblen was made a new creature in Jesus Christ, you also can be. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." {2 Corinthians 5:17}

As Christians we are not perfect people, and we know that; we are just sinners saved by grace of God and we want to live for our Saviour in a way that will bring glory and honor to Him. That's why we read our Bible, pray, and attend church so that we can be spiritually fed from His Word. And, most importantly, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." {1 Corinthians 6:19-20}

Well friend, it surely is no secret what God can do for you if you will repent and by faith alone, trust Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. Will you do this TODAY while there is time, before it becomes eternally too late!? It is my prayer that you will!!!

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/July 2017

All Scripture references are KJV