

THE Prescription

Quite often we become ill and require a visit to the doctor. He asks us some questions, examines us, and may order a blood test. He looks at the results and then writes a prescription, perhaps more than one, for medicine to treat our problem. The doctor has done his part and now we must do ours. We can have the prescription filled and take it as prescribed, or we can neglect it and suffer the consequence; the decision is ours and ours alone. If we fail to do what the doctor has said, we cannot blame him because he did his part. NO, the only person we have to blame is ourselves.

The world we live in has an illness that is highly contagious; every inhabitant has it and spreads it wherever he goes. Many people are not aware that they have this illness that has killed an untold number of people, and it continues to kill. The sad reality is that in spite of all of the wonderful science and technology we have, there is no cure for this on earth. But, there is a cure and **one cure only!** Are you interested in learning about this? Then read on!

This "illness" is called **SIN** and it originates in the heart of every person; it is the sin nature. **ALL** of us were/are born with it. This sin nature began with Adam in the Garden of Eden when he disobeyed God and ate from the forbidden tree. {Genesis 2:16-17; 3:6} Sin entered into the realm of humanity and from that time on, all of us were/are born with this sin nature we inherited from Adam. {Romans 5:12} The moment Adam sinned, he died spiritually and eventually he died physically. Today, people are born spiritually dead {totally alienated from God} and they will eventually die physically; it cannot be avoided. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die," {Hebrews 9:27a} Because of this sin nature that is in the heart of people, the world is in the condition it is {Matthew 15:19; Mark 7:21; Romans 1:18-32, 3:10-18}. Now then, did you know that there is a cure for this? Are you interested in learning what the cure is? Then read on!

God's Word, the Bible, tells us that God's Son, Jesus Christ, left Heaven and took to Himself the body of a man so that He could die on the Cross of Calvary; by doing so, He paid our sin debt. Because of our sin nature, "... all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" {Romans 3:23} and that "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." {2 Peter 3:9} "... the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." {Luke 19:10} Why God did this is simple for we read, "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} and "... God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:18} When Jesus died on Calvary, He paid our sin debt; He redeemed us as it were, from the bondage of sin, "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} This same Jesus was bodily raised from the dead and at this very moment He is back in Heaven with God the Father. {Romans 8:34; Matthew 28:5-6; John 21:14; 1 Corinthians 15:20; Hebrews 10:10-12} **THE** cure for sin has been provided in the person of Jesus Christ!

THE prescription is that "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:" {Acts 17:30} {Mark 6:12; Luke 13:3} "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out,..." {Acts 3:19a} A very simple definition of "repent" and "repentance" is a change of mind that leads to a change of action. Repentance is an absolute must when a person calls out to God and says, "... God be merciful to me a sinner." {Luke 18:13} Any person regardless of who he is, what he has done or status in life will be forgiven and saved when he repents and by faith alone in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, trusts Him as personal Saviour. **THIS IS THE PRESCRIPTION!** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} Once he has done that the Bible tells us "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} Can we trust **THE** prescription? Read for yourself what God said: "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of

God hath not life. 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}

Well, you go to a doctor, he diagnoses the problem and orders a prescription; what will you do with it? Will you ignore it or will you use it? You **MUST** decide!

For those who have trusted Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, it is so important to read God's Word daily, to come to Him in prayer, and to attend a good independent, fundamental Gospel preaching Baptist church where they can be spiritually fed and to have fellowship with those of like faith.

~Richard A. Ciarrocca