

### **You are a sinner**

To say that you are a sinner seems harsh and yet, that is what God says about us. Everyone of us, without exception, is born with a nature that causes us to sin. Sins may differ from one person to another, but they are sins, nonetheless. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" {Romans 3:23} "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, ..." {Galatians 3:22} We may argue all we want about being sinners but, at best, the argument is in vain. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." {1 John 1:8}

### **God loves you the way you are**

Yes, God does love you just the way you are but, do not misunderstand, He does **NOT** approve of the way you live your life. The love of God for a sinner is so great He made a way for every sinner to be forgiven; the way He did this was very expensive. You see my friend, God the Father gave His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be the ransom for our sin debt. "For God so **loved the world** [that is you friend], that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." {John 3:16} In eternity past God saw us as sinners and still, "...God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8}

### **Christ died for you**

- 1. What a sinner deserves:** What sinners deserve is death, the just wage of being a sinner. "For the wages of sin is death;" Romans 6:23 a} The sinner is already spiritually dead and, when the physical body dies, the eternal soul immediately goes to hell. "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." {Revelation 21:8} "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments," {Luke 16:23 a} There is not and will not be any place in between called purgatory or any other name for, as God has said, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" {Hebrews 9:27}
- 2. What God did for you: God's love is matchless!** "But God, who is rich in mercy, for **his great love** wherewith **he loved us**, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ," {Ephesians 2:4-5} Jesus Christ died just for **YOU** my friend! "...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." {Romans 6:23 b} **This gift is made possible 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} "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:" {Colossians 1:14} "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." {Hebrews 9:14} Jesus shed His innocent blood as payment for our sin debt and then, three days later, He bodily rose from the grave for our justification. "...the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." {Matthew 28:5-6} "...this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" {Hebrews 10:12}
- 3. What God offers you:** God offers forgiveness for sin and salvation when a sinner trusts Jesus Christ as Saviour. This offer is for anyone and everyone! "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life:" {John 3:36 a} "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} "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," {Acts 16:31 a}

**You need to be saved** because it is the **ONLY WAY** to be forgiven of sin and go to Heaven. "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ... Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." {John 3:3, 7}

**You MUST repent** as this is absolutely, essential to forgiveness of sin and salvation. "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} "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out," {Acts 3:19 a}

**You can and will be forgiven and eternally saved.** "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}

This is what you need to know and, now you know!

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/2019