

WONDERFUL NEWS – Part 1

AN ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY
DISTRIBUTED BY THE EMMANUEL TRACT FELLOWSHIP

The Bible verses in this study are taken from the Good News Bible.

OUR WONDERFUL LORD JESUS CHRIST

A tree will grow well if its roots go down deep into the earth and find water. Then it will bear fruit and be strong enough to stand against the fiercest storm. A Christian is like a tree. The Bible tells us that we must be rooted in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:17). As you study the Bible your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ will be made stronger. You will be like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in season and its leaf does not wither (Psalm 1:3).

Our prayer for you is found in 2 Peter 3:18. “Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, now and forever. Amen.”

LESSON ONE

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS WONDERFUL NAMES

In the Bible we see that the name of someone tells us something about that person. For example, ‘Solomon’ means ‘PEACE’. When Solomon ruled over Israel, God gave the land peace. We shall now look at some of the names of our Saviour because they tell us wonderful things about him.

NAME 1: LORD

Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords. “They will fight against the Lamb but the Lamb, together with His called, chosen, and faithful followers, will defeat them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings”, (Revelation 17:14).

Jesus rules because He is God. When Thomas saw Jesus after his resurrection He said, “My Lord and my God”, (John 20:28).

Jesus rules because He overcame sin, death and Satan by His death on the cross and His resurrection. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to his death on the cross. For this reason God raised Him to the highest place above and gave Him the name that is greater than any other name. And so in honour of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will all fall on their knees and openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:8-11).

If you want to be saved from your sin you need to BELIEVE that Jesus is LORD. If you confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from death, you will be saved (Romans 10:9).

If you believe Jesus is Lord, you must OBEY Him. Remember, the teachings of Jesus were the words of His heavenly Father. Jesus said, “Not everyone who calls me 'lord, lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven, only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do”, (Matthew 7:21).

QUESTION: DOES JESUS RULE IN YOUR LIFE? (write Yes or No)

NAME 2: JESUS

The name ‘Jesus’ means “GOD SAVES”. God made all mankind His friends through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:19).

This name was given to Jesus by God because He was the Son of God. God said to Mary's husband, "Joseph, don't be afraid to take Mary to be your wife, for it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. She will have a son, and you will name Him Jesus - because He will save His people from their sin", (Matthew 1:20-21).

We are saved when we believe on the wonderful name of Jesus. Some did receive Him and believed in Him, so He gave them the right to become God's children (John 1:12).

QUESTION: DO YOU BELIEVE ON THE NAME OF JESUS? (write Yes or No)

NAME 3: CHRIST

This name means 'MESSIAH' or 'ANOINTED ONE'.

God anointed His Servant Jesus with the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to this world to do the will of His heavenly Father. When He began His ministry He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save His people", (Luke 4:18-19).

Jesus' greatest service was to die on the cross. He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force He should try to become equal with God. Instead of this, of His own free will he gave up all He had and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death on the cross (Philippians 2:6-8).

Truly the names of our Saviour are wonderful and they tell us wonderful things about Him. As you finish this first study, read these words written by the prophet Isaiah as, by the Holy Spirit, he looked forward to the birth of Jesus.

"A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And He will be our ruler. He will be called, Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace", (Isaiah 9:6).

GOD HAS PROMISED TO LIFT US UP IF WE HUMBLE OUR SELVES.

HAVE YOU CONFESSED THAT YOU ARE A SINNER NEEDING GOD'S SALVATION? (write Yes or No)

LESSON ONE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Here are some scriptures that give us more wonderful names of Jesus. You will find these same verses written out in full below. Find the right verse and then **fill in the missing words**. Look carefully at the words you are writing because they are saying important things to you.

1. "I am the of", Jesus told them. Read John 6:35 to find the missing words.
2. Jesus spoke to the Pharisees again, "I am the of the" (read John 8:12).
3. "I am the, whoever comes in by me will be saved", John 10:9.
4. Jesus said to her, "I am the and the" (John 11:25).
5. Jesus answered him, "I am the, the and the" (John 14:6)
6. A virgin will have a son, and he will be called which means (Matthew 1:23).

John 6:35 "I am the bread of life," Jesus told them. "He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

- John 8:12** Jesus spoke to the Pharisees again, "I am the light of the world," He said, "whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."
- John 10:9** "I am the gate, whoever comes in by Me will be saved: he will come in and go out and find pasture."
- John 11:25** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in Me will live, even though he dies."
- John 14:6** Jesus answered him, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one goes to the Father except by me."
- Matthew 1:23** A virgin will have a son and He will be called 'Emmanuel' (which means 'God is with us').

Answer the following questions by writing either YES or NO.
(You will find the answers to these questions by reading the verses written out below.)

1. Are there many names with power to save us from sin? Read acts 4:12 below.
2. Can Jesus save us from our sins? (Matthew 1:21).
3. Can we receive everlasting life through his name? (John 20:31).
4. Is there power in His name over sickness and demons? (Mark 16:17-18 and Acts 3:6-7).

- Acts 4:12** Salvation is to be found through Him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.
- Matthew 1:21** She will have a son, and you will name Him Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins.
- John 20:31** But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in Him you may have life.
- Mark 16:17-18** Believers will be given the power to perform miracles: they will drive out demons in My Name; they will speak in strange tongues; if they pick up snakes or drink poison, they will not be harmed; they will place their hands on sick people and they will get well.
- Acts 3:6-7** But Peter said to him, "I have no money at all, but I give you what I have: "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I order you to get up and walk!" Then he took him by his right hand and helped him up. At once the man's feet and ankles became strong.

LESSON TWO

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS WONDERFUL NATURE

The Saviour whom we love and worship is not only the Son of Man but also the Son of God. Many witnesses confirm a truth so let us listen to the voices in the Bible confirming that Jesus is not only a man but God as well.

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

- Jesus said: "The Father and I are one" (John 10:30).
 "Father, give me glory in Your presence now, the same glory I had before the world was made" (John 17:5).
 "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).

When Jesus called Himself 'The Son of God', the Jews understood that He was making Himself equal with God. They replied, "We do not want to stone you because of any good deeds, but because of your blasphemy! You are only a man, but you are trying to make yourself God!".

Jesus replied, "Do not believe me if I am not doing the things my Father wants me to do. But if I do them even though you do not believe me, you should at least believe my deeds, in order that you may know once and for all that the Father is in me and that I am in the Father", (John 10:33,37,38).

THE TESTIMONY OF GOD THE FATHER

God spoke at the baptism of Jesus: "Then a voice said from heaven, 'This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased'", (Matthew 3:17).

And again when Jesus was transfigured on the mountain: "While he was talking, a shining cloud came over them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased. Listen to Him!'", (Matthew 17:5).

THE TESTIMONY OF THE DISCIPLES

Nathaniel, when he first saw the mighty power of Jesus said, "Teacher you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!" (John 1:49).

Later Jesus asked His disciples whom they thought He was Peter said by the Holy Spirit "you are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).

When Thomas saw that Jesus had really risen from the dead, he said, "My Lord and My God" (John 20:28).

THE TESTIMONY OF PAUL THE APOSTLE.

Paul, writing to Titus, said that Christians were to look for the return of Jesus from heaven, and he called Him "Our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

Think about these words of Paul: "For the full content of divine nature lives in Christ" (Colossians 2:9).

As we try to understand something of the wonderful nature of our Lord Jesus Christ, we remember the words of Paul: "No one can deny how great is the secret of our religion: He (God) appeared in human form" (1 Timothy 3:16).

We love Jesus because He is a MAN who suffered and died on the cross for us. We worship Jesus because He is God who overcame sin and death and Satan, and has all power in Heaven and in earth.

LESSON TWO: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Remember, you will find the missing words by looking at the verses written underneath.

1. About the Son, however, God said "your kingdomwill last for ever and ever". (See Hebrews 1:8 below).
2. Jesus Christ is the same, and (Hebrews 13:8).

Now answer these questions by writing either YES or NO

1. Are there any men, angels or demons with more power than Jesus? (see Matthew 28:18).
2. Will people be forgiven their sins if they do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God? (John 3:18, 8:24).
3. Do evil spirits know that Jesus is the Son of God? (Mathew 8:28-29)
4. Does a true witness agree that Jesus became a man like us? (1 John 4:2).

Hebrews 1:8 About the Son, however, God said, "Your kingdom, O God, will last for ever and ever! You rule over your people with justice."

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Matthew 28:18 Jesus drew near and said to them, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth."

John 3:18 Whoever believes in the Son is not judged; but whoever does not believe has already been judged, because he has not believed in God 's only Son.

John 8:24 That is why I told you that you will die in your sins. And you will die in your sins if you don't believe that, 'I AM WHO I AM'..

Matthew 8:28-29 When Jesus came to the Territory of Gadara on the other side of the lake He was met by two men who came

out of the burial caves there. These men had demons in them and were so fierce that no one dared travel on that road. At once they screamed; "What do you want with us, you Son of God? Have you come to punish us before the right time?"

1 John 4:2 This is how you will be able to know whether it is God's Spirit: anyone who acknowledges that Jesus Christ came as a human being has the Spirit who comes from God.

LESSON THREE

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS WONDERFUL WORK

There is no other work like the work of Jesus. He is the only Lamb of God. No one else had power to take away our sins. He alone is the resurrection and the life. The work of Jesus is the work of our salvation. If you want to understand this wonderful work, read carefully the following three questions and answers.

WHAT WAS THE WORK THAT JESUS CAME TO DO?

Answer: He came to do the will of His Heavenly Father. Jesus said, "I have come down from heaven to do not my will but the will of Him who sent me" (John 6:38).

The will of God the Father is to save us from sin and judgement, because He loves us. "For God loved the world so much that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not die but have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its Saviour" (John 3:16-17).

Jesus died on the cross of Calvary as a sacrifice for sin, in order that God could forgive us our sins. "For by the death of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which He gave to us in such a large measure!" (Ephesians 1:7-8).

He rose from the dead so that we who believe in him might live for ever. Jesus said, "In a little while the world will see me no more, but you will see me; and because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19).

IF YOU ARE TRUSTING IN THIS WONDERFUL WORK OF JESUS THEN YOU HAVE FORGIVENESS OF ALL YOUR SINS AND THE GIFT OF EVERLASTING LIFE.

WHY HAD JESUS TO DO THIS WORK?

Answer: Because all men failed to live in God's way. Everyone has sinned and was far away from God's saving presence. But by the free gift of God's grace all are put right with him through Jesus Christ, who sets them free (Romans 3:23-24).

And we are dead because of our sin for sin pays its wage -death; but God's free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23).

We can not save our selves but when we were still helpless Christ died for the wicked at the time that God chooses (Romans 5:6).

**WE CAN NOT SAVE OURSELVES BY ANYTHING THAT WE CAN DO,
WE MUST TRUST IN THE MIGHTY WORK OF JESUS.**

HOW DID JESUS DO THIS WORK?

Answer: Jesus gave Himself to be God’s Lamb of sacrifice for our sins. John the Baptist said, “There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

He died in our place and took our punishment on the cross. Christ Himself carried our sins in His body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by His wounds that you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24).

After three days in the grave Jesus rose from the dead, thus making a way from death to life for all who believe in him.

The truth is that Christ has been raised from death, as the guarantee that those who sleep in death will also be raised. For just as death came by means of a man, in the same way the rising from death comes by means of a man (1 Corinthians 15:20-21).

WHEN JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS HE CRIED OUT ‘IT IS FINISHED’. HE HAD COMPLETED THE WONDERFUL WORK OF SALVATION. GOD NOW COMMANDS US TO TURN FROM OUR OWN WAYS AND WALK IN HIS WAY. IF WE AGREE THAT WE ARE SINNERS AND BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED FOR OUR SINS, GOD GIVES US HIS FORGIVENESS AND EVERLASTING LIFE.

LESSON THREE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Learn more about the wonderful work of Jesus by completing these verses

- 1 Christ Jesus came into the world (1 Timothy 1:15).
- 2 Jesus said, “I have come in order that you might have” (John 10:10).
- 3 It is because of your that He doesn’t hear you. It is your sins that you from God when you try to worship Him. (Isaiah 59:2).
- 4 For Christ died once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to (1 Peter 3:18).
- 5 But because of our He was wounded, beaten because of the we did (Isaiah 53:5).

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a true saying, to be completely accepted and believed. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

John 10:10 The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness.

Isaiah 59:2 It is because of your sins that He doesn't hear you. It is your sins that separate you from God when you try to worship him.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ died for sins once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to God.

Isaiah 53:5 But because of our sins He was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by his punishment, He suffered, made whole by the blows He received.

Once again answer these questions with a YES or NO (see the scriptures below)

- | | | |
|---|---|-------|
| 1 | Are we all sinners? (Romans 5:12). | |
| 2 | Does God want to save everyone? (2 Peter 3:9). | |
| 3 | Can we save ourselves? (Ephesians 2:8-9). | |
| 4 | Must we tell others that Jesus is our Lord and Saviour? (Matthew 10:32-33). | |
| 5 | Can we be sure that we are saved? (1 John 5:13). | |

Romans 5:12 Sin came into the world through one man, and his sin brought death with it. As a result, death has spread to the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to do what He has promised, as some think. Instead, He is patient with you, because He doesn't want anyone to be destroyed, but wants all to turn away from their sins.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so no one can boast about it.

Matthew 10:32-33 If anyone declares publicly that he belongs to me, I will do the same for Him before my Father in heaven,
But if anyone rejects me publicly, I will reject him before my Father in heaven.

1John 5:13 I am writing this to you so that you may know that you have eternal life - you that believe in the Son of God.

WRITE YOUR NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS HERE

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