

# WONDERFUL NEWS – Part 2

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 SALVATION

'I want to remind you, my brothers, of the Good News which I preached to you, which you received, and on which your faith stands firm. That is the gospel, the message that I preached to you. You are saved by the gospel if you hold firmly to it - unless it was for nothing that you believed. I passed on to you what I received, which was of great importance: that Christ died for our sins, as written in the scriptures; that he was buried and that he was raised to life three days later, as written in the scriptures' (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

Many people have heard the Gospel (the Good News) of God's Salvation, yet they don't know whether they are really saved. Others have believed but still live as if they have received nothing from God.

If you were given a gift of a car, would you put it under a tree and forget it? Of course not! You would examine it, try it out and then use it. It is the same with God's gift of salvation. God's desire is that you should KNOW that you are saved and see and experience all the blessings that are to be found in this wonderful gift of SALVATION.

"I ask the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, to give you the Spirit who will make you wise and reveal God to you so that you will know him. I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people, and how very great is his power at work in us who believe" (Ephesians 1:17-19).

---

## LESSON ONE

### SALVATION IS PEACE

Because we had sinned and gone our own way we were enemies of God and his anger was upon us. But Jesus Christ saved us from the anger and judgement of God by taking away our sins in his own body on the Cross. In Colossians 1:21-22 we read: "At one time you were far away from God and were his enemies because of the evil things you did and thought. But now, by means of the physical death of his son, God has made you his friends, in order to bring you, holy, pure, and faultless, into his presence".

Salvation is a gift of peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Here are three ideas about this peace.

#### GOD HIMSELF MAKES PEACE

Read these words of Almighty God. "I am God who forgives your sins, and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you" (Isaiah 43:25). Salvation doesn't come from priests or from churches, it comes from God Himself.

Because God loves us, He took the first step to make peace with us. "God has shown us how much He loves us; it was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us!" (Romans 5:8).

God opened the way back to himself by taking away our sins through the sacrifice of his son. "Our message is that God was making all mankind his friends through Christ. God didn't keep an account of their sins" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

#### FORGIVENESS BRINGS PEACE

There is only one way to receive forgiveness of sins: "According to the law almost everything is purified by blood, and sins are forgiven only if blood is poured out" (Hebrews 9:22). For sins to be forgiven, there must be a sacrifice!

There is only one sacrifice acceptable to God. “It was by God’s own decision that the Son has in himself the full nature of God. Through the Son God decided to bring the whole universe back to himself. God made peace with men through his Son’s death on the cross and so brought back to himself all things, both on earth and in heaven” (Colossians 1:19-20). Only the blood of Christ speaks peace.

### **RIGHTEOUSNESS BRINGS PEACE**

Our own goodness will never buy peace with God. All of us have been sinful. Even our best actions are filthy through and through. Because of our sins we are like leaves that wither and are blown away by the wind. (Isaiah 64:6).

However, read this: “Christ was without sin, but for our sake God made Him share our sin in order that in union with Him we might share the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). God clothed Jesus with our sins so that He might cover us with his own righteousness.

“Now that we have been put right with God, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).

### **TWO HANDS OF PEACE**

Salvation is the gift of God. God is saying ‘PEACE’ to us. We must receive this gift of peace with two hands: the hand of REPENTANCE and the hand of FAITH.

**Repentance:** God’s gift of salvation is for the whole world, but it only becomes yours and mine when we are truly sorry for our sinful life and really desire to come to God. “Repent sincerely and return to Me with fasting and weeping and mourning. Let your broken heart show your sorrow, tearing your clothes is not enough” (Joel 2:12-13). Come back to the Lord your God. He is kind and full of mercy. He is patient and keeps his promises. He is always ready to forgive and not punish.. God says ‘PEACE’ to the broken and repentant heart.

**A promise:** “If we confess our sins to God, He will keep his promise and do what is right. He will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrong doing” (1 John 1:9).

**Faith:** Our good works don't change our hearts. A monkey dressed in clothes is still a monkey. A sinner who goes to church is still a sinner. Therefore we who by nature are sinners have nothing to present to God that will make peace between us. We must simply trust in the work of Jesus. “For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It's not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it” (Ephesians2:8-9).

**A promise:** “Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).

## **LESSON ONE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Look back through Lesson One to find the verses and then fill in the missing words in the questions below.**

1. But God has shown us how much he ..... It was while we were still ..... that Christ died for us! (Romans 5:8)
2. According to the law almost everything is purified by ..... and sins are .....only if ..... is poured out. (Hebrews 9:22)
3. All of us have been sinful. Even our ..... are ..... through and through. (Isaiah 64:6).
4. But if we ..... our sins to God, He will keep his promises and do what is right. He will ..... our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9).
5. Now that we have been put right with God through ..... we have ..... through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1).

**Answer these questions by writing neither YES or NO.**

**You will be able to answer by finding the verses in Lesson One**

1. Does God make peace with men because they are his friends? (Colossians 1:21-22). .....
2. Can we make peace with God by offering a sheep or goat as a sacrifice? (Colossians 1:19-20) .....
3. Will God forgive us our sins just because we go to church? (Joel 2:12-13; 1 John 1:9) .....

## **LESSON TWO**

### **SALVATION IS DELIVERANCE**

**THE DELIVERER HAS COME:** “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 CAME TO DELIVER:** Sin was the key that locked us in the prison of Satan, the enemy of our souls. When Jesus died for our sins on the cross of Calvary and rose from dead, He unlocked the prison door and threw away the keys! Now do not tie yourself up again with the chains of fear and unbelief.

### **FOUR SHOUTS OF DELIVERANCE**

#### **I am delivered from sin!**

When the law of sin rules in us it destroys our bodies and kills our spirits. Sin separates us from God. Sin brings us under the condemnation of God who is the judge of all men.

Only Jesus Christ lived without sin. He alone overcame sin and death. Jesus said to them “I am telling you the truth: Everyone who sins is a slave of sin. If the Son sets you free, then you will be really free” (John 8:34, 36). Jesus set the sinners free who were locked in the prison of sin waiting for the terrible day of judgement.

Although Jesus has set us free from our sin, we often remember our past sins and tie ourselves up again with the chains of fear and doubt. Trust in the power of the blood of Jesus Christ. “Since this is true, how much more is accomplished by the blood of Christ! Through the eternal spirit He offered himself as a perfect sacrifice to God. His blood will purify our consciences from useless rituals, so that we may serve the living God” (Hebrews 9:14). Christ has set us free from a guilty conscience.

#### **I am delivered from the power of death!**

Now death came into this world because of sin, but Jesus destroyed the power of death by taking away our sins. “Death gets it’s power to hurt from sin, and sin gets it’s power from the law. But thanks to God who gives the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!” (1 Corinthians 15:56-57).

Death is no longer a prison but a road to heaven. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies” (John 11:25). Believers in Christ are free from the power of death.

#### **I am delivered from judgment!**

God has prepared a terrible day when He will judge all nations by his Son. On that day, Jesus will send some to everlasting life and others to everlasting punishment.

Because Jesus bore our punishment on the cross He has delivered us from that day of judgement. He says to us, "I am telling you the truth: Whoever hears My words and believes in Him who sent Me has eternal life. He will not be judged, he has already passed from death to life" (John 5:24).

"And so we wait for the Son to come from heaven - Jesus, whom God raised from death and who rescues us from God's anger that is coming" (1 Thessalonians 1:10).

### **I am delivered from Satan (the Devil)!**

Satan is the spirit who rules this world. He is the prince of the power of the air. He rules a kingdom of evil and darkness. All sinners are slaves of Satan and evil spirits.

When Jesus died for our sins he broke the power of Satan over us. "Since the children, as He calls them, are people of flesh and blood, Jesus himself became like them and shared their human nature. He did this so that through His death He might destroy the Devil, who has power over death" (Hebrews 2:14).

"We were slaves of Satan, bound by sin, but Jesus redeemed us with his blood. How can Satan condemn us when God has forgiven us? God rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safely into the Kingdom of His dear Son, by whom we are set free by the forgiveness of our sins" (Colossians 1:13-14). A new King rules in our lives with power to defend us against all the attacks of the enemy. His name is Jesus Christ, King of kings.

### **A SHOUT OF VICTORY**

Because God loved us, He sent His Son to deliver us and bring us into fellowship with Himself forever. God, who never sleeps, promises to protect us day and night. We are God's sheep when we listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd. "My sheep listen to My voice. I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life and they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from the Father's care" (John 10:27-28).

How great is God's love! If, while we were sinners, Christ died for us, how much more will He look after us now that we are His sheep. Neither demons, witchcraft, men or angels can take us away from our Deliverer. "No, in all these things we have complete victory through Him who loved us! For I am certain that nothing can separate us from His love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below - there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:37-39).

## **LESSON TWO: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Look back through lesson two to find these verses, then fill in the missing words.**

1. I am telling you the truth; everyone who sins is ..... of sin. If the Son sets you free you will be free..... (John 8, 34, 36)
2. Jesus said to her, 'I am the ..... and the ..... Whoever believes in Me will ..... even though he dies' (John 11:25).
3. And so ..... for the Son to come from ..... - Jesus Whom God raised from death and who rescues us from ..... that is coming. (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
4. God ..... from the power of darkness and brought us safe into the ..... of His dear Son. (Colossians 1:13).

**Answer these questions by writing Yes or No**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 1. Has the blood of Jesus Christ power to cleanse our conscience? (Hebrews 9:14).             | ..... |
| 2. Can Jesus deliver us from God's anger? (I Thessalonians 1:10).                             | ..... |
| 3. When we are in trouble does this mean that we have lost God's salvation? (Romans 8:37-39). | ..... |

## **LESSON THREE**

### **SALVATION IS LIFE**

There is always joy when a baby is born; a new life comes into the world. When Jesus was born, an angel said to the shepherds, 'Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Saviour was born who is Christ the Lord!' (Luke 2:10-11). When we believe on Christ as our Saviour this shows that we have been born again, God has made us children of God by the Holy Spirit. A new life begins because we receive a new Spirit. Truly, Salvation is good news of a great joy - it is Life.

Here are three living words to make you sing for joy.

#### **LIFE FROM GOD**

God is the creator of all living things. He is the author of life. He is Life. We were dead in our sins because we had forsaken the fountain of life. But when we returned to God He freely gave us His own eternal life. "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 are not saved because we are good or clever or go to church. Jesus said, "People who are well do not need a doctor, only those who are sick I have not come to call respectable people, but outcasts" (Matthew 9:12-13). God forgives the SINNER and gives life to those who are DEAD.

God doesn't give us eternal life because we deserve it but because of His great love and mercy. "God's mercy is so abundant and his love for us is so great, that while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience He brought us to life with Christ. It is by God's grace that you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:4-5).

Our evil works earn us death but our good works cannot buy us life - Life is a GIFT OF LOVE that comes from God.

#### **NEW LIFE**

##### **A new creation**

God wants to make us into different people, changed people - NEW people. Salvation is a NEW CREATION. "When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being, the old is gone the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). In the beginning God created the world and all the things in it. First He made fish, birds and animals. Then he took the dust of the ground and made man. We did not come from a fish or a bird or an animal, we were a special creation. Now regarding our Salvation, God doesn't build upon our old lives, our old traditions and customs, our old ways of worship or even our wisdom or strength. God joins us to His Son Jesus Christ and makes new people who will live forever!

##### **A new beginning**

Read this carefully: "I have been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave His life for me" (Galatians 2:20).

1. He took our place
2. He carried our sins.
3. He suffered our punishment from God.

Our old life of sin was punished and killed in Jesus on the cross. And, if we have died with Jesus we have also been raised by the power of God to new life in Jesus. Like a grain of wheat, we must die before we can bear fruit. New life began when we gave up our old life at the cross of Jesus Christ.

### **A new birth**

Jesus said, "You must be born again" (John 3:3). We can only live in the kingdom of God if we have been born of God. In John 1:12-13 we read: "Some, however, did receive him and believed in him, so he gave them the right to become God's children. They didn't become God's children by natural means, that is, by being born as children of human father, God Himself was their Father". If we have believed in Christ we are sons and daughters of God and joint heirs with Christ of the kingdom of God. Our heavenly father doesn't want us to live as strangers or orphans. If we pray and ask Him, we can receive the blessings of His kingdom here on earth. We are sons of the king!

### **A new man - in our heart**

Many years before the Lord Jesus Christ was born, God gave us a promise: "I will give you a new heart and a new mind. I will take away your stubborn heart of stone and give you an obedient heart" (Ezekiel 36:26). The Spirit of Christ the Son of God has come to live in us. He brings love instead of hate, faith instead of fear, holiness instead of uncleanness, joy in place of sadness.

### **A new man - in our living**

"God has made us what we are and in our union with Christ Jesus He has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10). Remember, our good works do not save us. Only Jesus Christ can save us from sin and judgement. However, now that we are saved we must live like sons and daughters of God, not in our own strength, but by the power of our Saviour who lives in us.

## **LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST**

**Question:** Why did God send His Son to die on the cross and rise from the dead?

Jesus gives us the answer: "I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness" (John 10:10). Jesus came to give us life.

**Question:** Where do we find this life?

The testimony is this: God has given us eternal life, and this life has its source in His Son. "Whoever has the Son has this life, whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:11-12). We come to the risen Christ for life. When we call, He answers, when we draw near to him, He draws near to us. When we open the door of our hearts, He comes in to dwell.

**Question:** When do we receive this life?

Read 1John 5:11-12 again. If by faith we have taken the Son of God, then we have eternal life now. However, we shall only fully enjoy that life when we share Christ's glory in heaven. "Our real life is Christ and when he appears, you too will appear with him and share his glory!" (Colossians 3:4).

**SALVATION is God's gift of PEACE, DELIVERANCE and LIFE through our Lord Jesus Christ NOW and for ETERNITY. LET US THANK GOD FOR HIS PRICELESS GIFT! (2 Corinthians 9:15)**

**LESSON THREE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Look back through lesson 3 to find these verses then fill in the missing words.**

- 1. For sin pays its ....., death; but God's .....is  
..... in union with Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23).
- 2. When anyone is joined to Christ he is ....., the old is gone, the ..... has come!  
(2 Corinthians 5:17).
- 3. God has .....and in our union with Christ Jesus He has created us for a life of  
..... which he already prepared for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10).
- 4. I came in order that you might have ..... (John 10:10).

**Answer these questions by writing neither YES or NO.**

- 1. Can our good works buy us eternal life? (Romans 6:23) .....
- 2. Can we only find new life at the Cross of Calvary? (Galatians 2:20) .....
- 3. Do we become children of God by receiving Jesus? (John 1:12-13) .....
- 4. Does the Bible assure us that a believer in Christ has eternal life now? (1 John 5:11-12) .....
- 5. Has a Christian hope of life after he dies? (Colossians 3:4) .....

***WRITE YOUR NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS HERE***

My Name is: .....

My Postal Address is:

.....

.....

.....

***FOLD THE BIBLE STUDY AND POST YOUR ANSWERS TO:***