



The Bible Speaks

SIN AND ITS CURE

A number of years ago, a young man, Carol Chessman, was convicted of kidnapping and sentenced to die in the death chamber. Naturally, he did not want to die. For years he waged stubborn fight for his life.

He secured a number of law books and studied as he had never studied before. His very life depended upon his ability to find some way to escape the death penalty, or at least delay execution of the death sentence.

One legal manoeuvre after another was tried by this man, postponing the fearful day when he would lose his life. For months and years he was able to stall for time. During this period of waiting he even had time to write a book telling his story and the reason why he thought he should be released. Finally the appeal was made and turned down. His last chance of pardon had been exhausted. There was no more hope! Down to the last minute he held onto a thread of hope that he would be saved. But that failed and he was executed. The courts had found him guilty and now the state carried out the sentence.

As we think of this man desperately fighting for every hour that could lengthen his life, it reminds us of the plight of the sinner without Christ. When we committed the first wrong act, we passed under the sentence of death. If we do not receive mercy and if we are not pardoned, we will not only die the first death, but will be consumed in the lake of fire at the end of this world's history. This is called the second death in the Bible.

Life is very precious and a man will do almost anything to try to prolong these few short years that he is granted. When we think of eternity, without pain, sorrow, sickness, or death, how much more anxious should we be to make certain we do not lose eternal life. If every person were as earnest in seeking eternal life as Mr Chessman was in prolonging his life on this earth, there would be far more people saved when Christ returns.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. What is sin? **1 John 3:4**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: All unrighteousness is sin. Every act of rebellion against God and His way of life is sin.

2. How many of the human race have sinned? **Romans 3:23**

The Bible Answer: _____

3. What has been the result of the entrance of sin into this world?
Romans 5:12

The Bible Answer: _____

4. What are the wages of sin? **Romans 6:23, Revelation 20:14,15**

The Bible Answer: _____

5. What does God promise to give us through Jesus Christ? **Romans 6:23**

The Bible Answer: _____

6. Through what means does God intend to take away our sins? **John 1:29**

The Bible Answer: _____

7. How does the Lamb of God cleanse us from all sin? **Romans 5:6-9**

The Bible Answer: "While we were yet sinners _____

8. What is the cleansing agent used by God to make us clean? **1 John 1:7**

The Bible Answer: _____

9. When we fully realize that it was for our sins that Christ died, what will we want to know? **Acts 2:36,37**

The Bible Answer: _____

10. What must we do before God can cleanse us from sin? **Acts 3:19, Acts 2:38**

The Bible Answer: _____

11. True repentance will lead us to do what two things? **Proverbs 28:13**

The Bible Answer: _____

12. If we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness what does God promise to do? **1 John 1:9**

The Bible Answer: _____

13. How complete will be the forgiveness that God promises to the penitent? **Hebrews 8:12**

The Bible Answer: _____

14. How unworthy did Paul feel in his sinful state? **1 Timothy 1:15**

The Bible Answer: _____

15. What assurance filled Paul's heart as he neared the end of his life? **2 Timothy 4:7,8**

The Bible Answer: _____

16. How did Paul tell the jailer that he could receive salvation? **Acts 16:22-31**

The Bible Answer: _____
_____ (Verse 31)

Paul became a great saint because he first recognized that he was a great sinner. He went to the One who could so change him to become like his Master. At the time of his conversion he was on the way to Damascus to kill the Christians there. He thought he had been doing the will of God, but soon realized that he had been doing the work of the enemy. When he was shown his error, he was willing to let God change him. He made a complete surrender of self. He was willing to let God show him the way that he should go. Like Paul, we must recognize our sinfulness and repent of our sins. When we realize that it was those sins that broke the heart of our Saviour and caused His death upon the Cross of Calvary, we will come to Him for cleansing and His blood will make us white as snow.

If you feel your need of forgiveness, why not come to Christ this very day? Confess your sins and let God lift the load of guilt and shame. He will freely forgive and forget your sins. He invites you to come. "Come now and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18 (OT 552).

A simple, sincere prayer, offered from a heart burdened with guilt, will bring freedom from the sense of that guilt. One of the most eloquent prayers ever offered was given by a 78 year old man. He simply prayed, "Dear Lord, be merciful and forgive all of my sins and I will be much obliged to you. Amen." He found forgiveness through Christ. We can be certain that God heard and answered that prayer, for it came from the depth of his heart. Won't you reach out and receive Christ as your Saviour today and be certain of complete forgiveness? As you see the door of mercy opening to you, make your decision today.

(If you wish to respond to these questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I desire to be forgiven for al past sins.

I want this day to make a complete surrender to my Lord.

Pray for me that I will be able to follow Christ all the way.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____