

Appendix: God came near

In Romans 5:6-8 we read “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

The reason why many people can't believe that in Jesus “all the fullness of the Godhead dwelt in a bodily form” is that they can't imagine that God can love them that

much. They don't believe that God could have become a man in the person of Jesus Christ because they can't believe that the Almighty can care about our fallen human race that much. That is in a way what Paul was saying here in Romans 5. He wrote that according to our human logic "scarcely for a righteous man will one die." We can try hard to persuade some evil man to give his life for a good man yet most likely we won't be able to persuade him. In other words "perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die." But God when he loved us he did what man's logic can't comprehend nor imagine. This is how he showed us love "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"

The bible says that "we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Rom.3:23. The Bible also says that "the wages of sin is death" Rom.6:23. That is why the scriptures say "For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God." Eph.5:5 and "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God." 1 Cor.6:9-10. the fact of the matter is that we are have broken God's laws of righteousness and we all came under his wrath because of our sins.

Some people try to reach out to God through different religions like Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, even Christianity. They try good works, prayers, alms, and fasting. But the problem is "we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away." Isaiah 64:6. In Isaiah's words the problem is that our very best works, our

righteousnesses is so unclean before God because it is mixed with our sin. We can't reach out to God. We can't because of our sins.

But what about repentance? Isn't God merciful and forgiving? So if we repent of our sins he will forgive us.

It is true that "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Ex. 34:6-7b. Yet God also "by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." Ex.34:7c. God is merciful and gracious but he is also just and righteous. *Only when* the penalty of our sins is paid, and the judgement of breaking God's law is fulfilled, *then God* in his grace will be able to forgive those to come to him in true repentance.

So what is the solution? Here it is "when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." Rom.5:6. When we couldn't reach out to God, God reached down to us. When we had "no strength" to afford the eternal punishment for our sins, when we had "no strength" to break the bondage of sin in our lives, we we had "no strength" to reach out to God who is Holy, God reached down to us in the person of his Son Jesus Christ. And on the cross God provided the solution for the problem of man's kind that is sin. On the cross Jesus died and paid in full the penalty of our sin. On the cross he was the substitute for man kind. The just for the unjust, the righteous for the unrighteous, the innocent for the guilty, the sinless Lamb of God for the sinful man race, the creator for his creation. Yet this very Jesus who died on the cross to pay the penalty of your sins in the third day rose again from the dead "having loosed the pains of death,

because it was not possible that He should be held by it.” Acts 2:24 and because he is alive, he is well able though his life in us to set us free from the bondage of sin in our lives.

One can't help it but to shout with Paul “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!” Rom.11:33 In the cross and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ God provided the salvation and the freedom for mankind from the wages, the bondage, and the guilt of sin.

If you are reading this book and you are not sure that your sins are forgiven; if you are so burdended with the guilt and the shame of your sins, If you are not sure that you will spend eternity with God; If the thought of death scares you; If you are so tired of trying to live a life that is truly pleasing to God and you came to the conclusion that you can't; If you are looking for a meaning and a purpose in your life; If you have tried sex, drugs, alcohol, money, and fame may be even religion and church and you are not fulfilled yet. **Jesus Christ is the answer**. He is whom you are looking for. He died for you so you don't have to die. He bore your sin, guilt, and shame. He endured God's wrath onyour behalf so you can have eternal live. And he rose victorious and he is well able to break every chain of sin, every bondage of shame, and every yoke of the devil in your life.

All what you need to do ask him to forgive you of your sins, change your heart, and to rescue you from the wrath to come. Here is a simple prayer that you can pray:

Lord Jesus, thank you that you loved me. That you came from heaven to die for me. Lord I know that I am a sinner, and that I have broken your laws. But I come to you right now. I ask you to forgive me of my sins, to wash me clean with your blood from every sin in my life. I repent of all my sins and I ask you to change me because I can't do it on my own. From this day on lord, by our grace and power I will read your word, pray, and live a Christian life. Answer me Lord for in your name I pray. Amen.

If you have prayed this prayer and you mean it, the Lord Jesus Christ will change your heart. He promised “and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.” John 6:37.

Here is what you need to start doing:

- 1- Set apart time every day to pray to God. Go to your room and seek God daily.
- 2- Read the bible every day. You can start with the Gospel of John.
- 3- You have to become an active member of a bible based church.
- 4- Tell all your friends, and family about your decision and that the Lord Jesus can save their lives too.

If you have made this commitment; please let us know:

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