

THE PIONEER BAPTIST

INDEPENDENT • MISSIONARY • ESTABLISHED 1786

VOLUME 24, NO. 1

OCTOBER, 1992

NONE OTHER NAME

BY: C. D. COLE

Introduction: Humanity's needs are manifold. Every child of Adam is a needy creature. As a creature, man is needy but considered as a sinner, man's needs are multiplied. We come into the world as a helpless infant, and leave it in as helpless condition. And we are needy while we stay here. Christ said, "Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of these things--food and clothing."

But our deepest need is salvation from sin. This is our deepest need because sin is our greatest danger. Sin has created an eternal need and to remain lost is to face eternal poverty. Oh, that men could realize their need of salvation. It is awful to see men approaching the precipice of hell without realizing their danger. To realize the need of salvation will cause one to say with Peter, "we must be saved." He speaks of salvation as an imperative. Oh, that this must of salvation could grip the hearts of men and women.

It is common for men to have the feeling of must about temporal and material things. Man out of work feels that he must find a job. The business man feels that he must make sales. The ambitious youth of our day feel that they must get an education. The professional man feels that he must have clients. The masses of society feel that they must have a good time, and they pursue pleasure with an earnestness worthy of a better cause. And many a young man and woman feel that they must get married, and this feeling of must sends many a life on the rocks. All about us men are giving evidence of a feeling of must in everything save the most important thing salvation from sin.

We Are Shut But To One Person

For the need of salvation we are shut but to one person there is no use going anywhere else. During the famine in Egypt all men had to go to Joseph for food he held the key to all the granaries. To despise Joseph and refuse his grain meant starvation. So Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, has all the bread and water of everlasting life. To despise Him to stay away from to ignore Him is to invite eternal hunger. Salvation is in a person.

I. The Uniqueness of Christ's Salvation. Salvation means deliverance the salvation we have in Christ is deliverance from sin. The world has had many deliverers or Saviours--men who have wrought great deliverances. Men have been saviours of great cities like Rome,, such as Horatious who held the bridge against the enemy; saviours of great countries like Italy, such as Garibaldi, the simple soldier and liberator; countries like our own, such as Washington, affectionately known as the father and saviour of his country; such saviours as Simpson, the celebrated surgeon, who made the most dangerous operations possible by discovery of chloroform. But great as these men were as saviours in their distinct spheres, they are not to be mentioned in the same breath with Christ. Their work was limited as to time and object. Their salvation reached only the bodies of men and only for a time; but the salvation of Christ is eternal and includes every part of man.

II. Christ Is Indispensable--we cannot do without Him. There are human helpers who seem to be necessary but Christ is the only one who is really indispensable. A wife may feel that her husband is absolutely necessary to her

well-being. However, a year after the death of her husband, she remarked, "I never dreamed that I could possibly get along as I have without Him."

But there is one whom we cannot do without. Without Him we can be nothing or do nothing. Without Him we have no resources. Without Him our future is filled with terrible despair. We are miserable paupers we could not buy an inch of space in heavenly Canaan. Eternal burning is our portion. I realize there are many who seem to be getting along well without Him--proud and prosperous now, but the time will come when they will realize that to be without Him is to be without the necessities and comforts of life. John wrote, "*He that hath the Son hath life. He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life.*" Saul of Taurus was one who thought he could get along without Him; but the time came when he said, "*For to me to live is Christ.*" Oh, that this change might come upon some of you! Oh, the blindness of men who cannot see that Christ is the only way out of the prison house of sin and death! Oh, the ignorance of men who cannot understand the gospel of Christ. Oh, the folly of men who will not trust the one and only Saviour! What humbling what disappointment--what misery awaits those who live and die without Him! What a shock is coming to those who think they can get to heaven without faith in the Lord Jesus Christ--the only name under heaven whereby we must be saved.

(Continued on Page 3)

THE MAN OF PERFECT VICTORY

BY: C. D. COLE

Hebrews 12:2, *"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."* See also Philippians 2:6-11 and Psalm 16:8-11.

The man of perfect victory was the last man we would expect to be the man of perfect victory, if we were to judge by appearances. Judging from appearances he was of lowly birth, and was brought up under the most adverse circumstances, amid surroundings that would be calculated to make for failure rather than success. His father was a carpenter in a little town that was despised everywhere, from which no person of note could possibly come. This man was handicapped both by birth and training. It is true that he created quite a sensation for about three years, and enjoyed a brief season of popularity with the common people. But he was never taken into the councils of the great and wise of this world. He was a financial failure, never owning a home, and in death was buried in a borrowed tomb. He was likewise a social failure, keeping company with publicans and sinners. His own brethren were disappointed in him, and had no faith in his claims. Psalm 69:8, *"I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children."* John 7:5, *"For neither did his brethren believe in him."* His own townspeople were so angered at him that they sought to take his life. His career on earth was short. He died the most shameful death that any man every died. And judging from appearances that was the end of him. It is true his disciples, soon after his death, began to preach that he was alive; but no man of the world ever saw him.

Now, this is the man of perfect victory. Judging righteous judgment, he was the only man of success that this

world ever saw. Looking at people as God looks at them, this man was the only man with a perfect record--the only man without a blot or blemish. Let us think together of this perfect life. Let us meditate upon his glorious and victorious career. This man of perfect victory sustained the relationship of servant to Jehovah. The place of servant was voluntarily accepted. Essentially He was equal with God the Father.

I. He won a victory over the opportunity for originating evil. To let you see what I mean, we must distinguish between the sin of angels and the sin of man. Angels originated evil by their own volition. Sin did not have its origin in the human race, but in the angelic race. Man sinned because of temptation from without. The story of the fall of angels is that they did keep their habitation (Jude 6, *"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."*), that they did not remain where God placed them. They forsook their place of service or government. They resigned their place as servants. Lucifer, the son of the morning, who seemed to be the leader of the host of fallen angels, said, "I will ascend into heaven. I will belike the Most High." This was the way sin originated. It was the assertion of creature will against the will of the Creator.

Now when Jesus came into this world He came into a new sphere of existence. He voluntarily took the place of a servant and was sent by God the Father into the world as the place of service. A place of habitation for servants is ordained by God, and a task is committed to their hands. The law of maintaining the habitation is that of keeping God always before the face as King. With Lucifer and those angels that followed, there came a moment when they chose to exercise their own

will without respect to the command of God. That is when sin began.

As the Servant of God, on the angelic plane of relationship, Christ Jesus set the Lord always before his face. He never broke from his allegiance to God. He never exercised His own will. He never indulged in independent or self-caused action. He never rebelled the service, or chose His own method of life.

II. He won the victory over the opportunity of evil from outside temptation. As a man on the human plane of relationship, He was never moved by the forces that were against Him. He was assailed from every conceivable angle. Satan who had conquered the first Adam, brought all the weapons of his infernal armory against Him, but Jesus stood, because He recognized God on His right hand.

III. He won a victory over the opportunity of evil in failure under responsibility. He had won the victory over purity and holiness, but in His death and resurrection He won a victory in the place of responsibility. To Jesus was committed such a task as was never committed into the hands of any other person. It was the task of bringing many sons to glory. It was the task of raising up everyone the Father gave Him. The path of service surveyed by God led through Gethsemane to Calvary. It involved obedience unto death, even the death of the cross. Believers, our destiny is in the hands of Jesus. He assumed responsibility of bringing us to God. He died the just for the unjust that He might bring us to God. This task he is still engaged in. While on earth He made the perfect sacrifice to save us from the curse of the law, and now from His place on high He is interceding at the right hand of God, and through the Holy Spirit is drawing men to faith in Himself.

IV. The reward of the victory: He

has been exalted and has been given a name that is above every name. The reward of happiness: Wo, for the joy that was set before Him...In thy presence is fullness of joy. He is no longer the man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. The reward of sovereignty: at His name every knee shall bow--God has made Him both Lord and Christ!

Continued from Page 1)

*"Jesus! and shall it ever be,
A mortal man ashamed of Thee,
Ashamed of Thee, whom angels praise,
Whose glories shine thru endless days?"*

*"Ashamed of Jesus! Yes, I may,
When I've no guilt to wash away,
No tear to wipe, no good to crave,
No fear to quell, no soul to save.*

*"Ashamed of Jesus! Yes, I may,
When I've no guilt to wash away,
No tear to wipe, no good to crave,
No fear to quell, no soul to save.*

*"Till then--nor is my boasting vain--
Till then I boast a Saviour slain:
And, Oh, may this my glory be,
That Christ is not ashamed of me."*

III. The Inescapable Christ.

Every man must face Jesus Christ. He is the One with whom all have to do. The time is coming when everybody in heaven and in the earth and under the earth will have to acknowledge Him as Lord. Every man will hear Jesus speak in the day of judgment. To some He will say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father..." To others He will say, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

He will not allow men to be neutral toward Him. The Bible says that he that is not with me is against me. Many do not want to be put down as being against Christ; they are not willing to admit they are His enemies. They simply ignore Him. They have no interest in His Word. Seldom, if ever, do they attend church where His name is preached. They never pray in His name, and they do not depend upon Him for salvation. They have no interest in His cause and give nothing to support it. They simply mean to let Him alone. But this is the very thing men cannot do. Christ will not allow men to let him alone. If you do not trust Him for salvation, He puts you down as

a doubter. If you do not rest your soul in His precious blood, He counts you as a despiser of it. If you do not love Him, he counts you as an enemy. If you do not give of your means, as the Lord prospers, to further His Gospel, He looks upon you as a hinderer of it. If you do not bear fruit to His glory, He regards you as a cumberer of the ground. If you do not own Him as Lord, He regards you as a rebel. *"For we must all appear before the judgment of Christ..."*

IV. The All-Sufficient Christ. It is Christ and nothing more, Christ and nothing less, and Christ and nothing else. He was given the name of **Jesus** because it means "Jehovah saves." God would not have thus named Him if He had not been all-sufficient. He is called Christ, which means the anointed one. God would not have anointed and designated Him as Saviour if He had not been able to save. He is also called the Son of God, and surely God's own Son can save us.

He needs no help in saving us. Hebrews 1:3, *"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."* He alone redeemed us from the curse of the law. He alone satisfied the offended justice for sinners. He alone put away the guilt of sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Calvary was the place of the curse. Justice was cursing the sinless Son of God that we might be blessed. The fires of divine wrath burned fiercely upon Him that we might escape the eternal burnings.