

BRYAN STATION BAPTIST CHURCH

# THE PIONEER BAPTIST

INDEPENDENT • MISSIONARY • ESTABLISHED 1786

*"Preaching the same truth since before Kentucky was a state"*

VOLUME 33, NO. 7

APRIL, 2002

## TELL SOMEONE HOW PRECIOUS HE IS!

By: Al Gormley

**I Peter 2:7:** *"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious."*

Judas Iscariot, after being with the Lord for three and a half years, sold him out for thirty pieces of silver.

This whole world today doesn't understand that the only way of salvation is in Jesus Christ. They don't understand that they can have eternal life through Jesus Christ.

**But to those of us that believe he is precious.**

Our subject is "Tell Someone How Precious He is." I want to get that in your mind. Tell someone how precious he is. People don't know how precious he is. Once they know the true God and Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; and, what he did for them on the cross, giving them eternal life, and putting away their sins by the sacrifice of himself, he becomes precious. Then, and only then can you tell someone how precious he is; "to you that believe, he is precious." You ought to be able to tell someone about that.

I Peter 2:2: *"As newborn babes..."* No one knows how precious he is unless they have **been born from above**. *"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby"* -- that ye might know and understand more about Jesus Christ and just how precious he is.

I Peter 2:3: *"If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious."* Have you tasted that? Have you come to the place where you have understood about the grace of God toward you in Jesus Christ? Verse 7: *"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious."*

Sometimes we sing this song in the congregation, but do we really think about the words--**He Is So Precious to Me**. I want to quote two of the stanzas. *"So precious is Jesus, my Savior, my King, His praise all the day long with rapture I sing: to Him in my weakness for strength I can cling, for He is so precious to me. I praise Him because He*

*appointed a place where some day, thru faith in His wonderful grace, I know I shall see Him - shall look on His face, for He is so precious to me."* The chorus goes like this: *"For He is so precious to me. For He is so precious to me. 'Tis Heaven below my Redeemer to know. For He is so precious to me."* Does that have meaning to you. To you **that believe He** is precious. Once again, our subject is "Tell Someone How Precious He Is."

In Mark, chapter 5, we see a man that Jesus healed. The unclean spirits possessed him. Verse 13: *"And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea."* After the Lord healed this man: *"Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel."*

What did the Lord tell him to do? Go, tell your friends what great things the Lord hath done for thee. Do you really know what great things the Lord hath done for you? Aren't those things the things that make Him precious to you? The Bible says He is precious, so we should tell someone how precious he is.

Here are some things that should make him precious to those of us that believe. Isaiah 43:7: *"Every one that is called by my name:"* Are you a Christian? Are you called by His name? Notice what he says, *"for I have created him."* If you are saved by the grace of God, you are a new creation, old things have passed away, all things become new. But he said *"I have created him for my glory."* He didn't create you and save you just to keep you out of hell. He saved you for His

own glory that you can praise and glorify him. Notice what he says, *"I have formed him; yea, I have made him."* You were just a pot of clay, and the Lord made you a child of God.

Isaiah 43:8: *"Bring forth the blind people that have eyes."* Before you were saved, you were blind just like the rest of the world. II Corinthians 4:3-4, *"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."* Do you have eyes to see? Ephesians 1:18 *"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened..."* "...and the deaf that have ears." How many years did you sit under the preaching of God's word and did not hear, then God opened your spiritual ears to hear the things of God? Friend, that is all of the Lord. Go and tell what great things God hath done for you! Tell someone how precious he is! Isaiah 43:10: *"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen."*

These are some of the things that God hath done for you: He has delivered you from sin that you might become a servant to God. He has opened your blind eyes; He has opened your deaf ears; He created you for God's glory; He has formed you; He has made you and now you become His witnesses *"that ye may know and believe me,..."* Those of us who believe--we know the true God and Jesus Christ. We believe Him when he says that we trust in Jesus Christ as our Savior, *"...that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am He: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me."* There is only one God, the true and the living God. All of the gods that the people today are honoring are no gods at all. There is only one true and living God and that's Jehovah God, Elohem. *"I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour."* The word LORD is

in capital letters, that means he is Jehovah. I am Jehovah and beside me there is no savior. The Lord Jesus Christ is my Savior. Jesus Christ is Jehovah. He was God in the flesh.

Isaiah 43:12: *"I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God. Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let [hinder] it?"* When God begins a work, nobody can hinder it. Nobody can make it short. He gives us eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Are those some of the great things that God hath done for you? Are those some of the things that causes Him to be precious to you? Then we ought tell someone how precious He is!

Isaiah 43:15: *"I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King."* You are in the Kingdom, you are in the family, but you are also in His body, which is the church. Tell someone how precious He is! These things are all of the Lord. Tell them what great things God hath done for you!

Let me ask you a question. Do you know that God hath done these things for you? To you that believe, He is precious.

The Bible teaches the church that we should go preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. What is this gospel? I Corinthians 15:3-4: *"...how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."* The world doesn't know that, but to those of us who do--and the gospel of Jesus Christ hath shined in our hearts that we might have that knowledge--shouldn't that make Him precious to us. We are the Lord's witnesses.

This scripture is speaking to His church. In the day of Pentecost, when it was endued with power from on high: Acts 1:8, *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they behold, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight."* The members of that first church not only had the privilege of listening to Jesus Christ but they had the privilege of seeing him go up into the clouds.

Acts 1:10-11: *"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."*

He is precious. He came the first time to redeem us. He is coming back the second time to receive us. But He prayed, I am not taking them out of the world, I am keeping them in the world to be witnesses and to keep

them from the evil. But know--He is coming back.

In Luke 24:49 is the same account, but a few more thoughts are given concerning this. Notice what they were doing. *"And, behold, I send the promise of the Father upon you: [that's the Holy Spirit] but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."*

Did you know that in our natural self, without the power of the Holy Spirit, we will never tell anyone how precious He is. That old flesh of ours is just as dead as it ever was. We need to crucify it and put it to death when it rises up, so we can be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Luke 24:50: *"And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God."*

It seems to me that this one that came and died for them and went back into heaven, they worshiped Him. He was precious to those people and they praised Him and they blessed God for sending Him down to this earth to save their souls from hell. Are we so callused that we can't rejoice in the Lord?

Tell someone how precious He is! Don't just keep it to yourself, tell someone if He has been precious to you. He has saved your soul from eternal hell, He is going to come back and you are going to live forever! Tell someone about Him being precious!

The Holy Spirit that came at the day of Pentecost is working with His church to make known His wonderful works. That church received power so they would have the ability to make known His wonderful works among men.

Is it hard to tell others how precious He is? If somebody gave you a million dollars free of charge, you would be calling on the phone to tell everybody. Is it hard to tell somebody that God has given you the greatest gift He could ever give. Is it hard for us to do that? You know why it is so hard? It is because the devil is influencing us. There are so many excuses to keep our mouth shut so that we won't glorify the Lord in telling people just what He means to us and how precious He is.

No wonder the Lord had to endure that first church with the power of God to overcome the power of Satan. Time and time again when they were filled with the Holy Spirit they began to witness boldly about Jesus Christ. In our natural flesh, we are not going to open our mouth and talk about Jesus Christ--it is only by the power of God.

Ye are my witnesses. Jesus Christ is said to be that faithful witness. When He came into this world, He bore witness to his heavenly Father. John 1:14: *"...we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the*

*Father..."* He was a faithful witness.

John 17:8: *"For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me..."* I gave them the words. Do you know who gave you the truth? Do you know why you understand the truth? God gave you that truth. Isn't it a fact that we are supposed to go out and give the world that truth? Aren't we supposed to be a witness for Jesus Christ and give others that truth.

In Revelation 3:14 He is called *"...the faithful and true witness..."* He gave us an example that we should follow in His steps. We should be witnessing for the Lord. Sometimes we don't even listen when He speaks. Tell someone how precious He is! Jesus Christ is precious unto God!

If you want to know what God esteems more precious than anybody, it would be His Son. I Peter 2:6: *"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious..."* Jesus Christ is the chief corner stone of the Lord's kind of church. We are living stones built upon that foundation. Just remember this: He is God's elect and He is precious. Everyone of God's children are elect and they also are precious. But He is so precious to me.

Isaiah 42:1: *"Behold my servant, [that's Jesus Christ] whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth..."* God loved His Son above everything and everybody. And yet we read in John 3:16: *"For God so loved...that he gave his only begotten Son..."* in whom his soul delighteth--one who was the perfect servant, who always did those things that pleased the Father. And yet God so loved that He gave His only begotten Son. The only Son He had. All of us have been born of an earthly father, but Jesus Christ was born of His heavenly Father. His **only** begotten Son. He loved us so much, he gave the most precious person he loved.

Isaac was a type of that, when Abraham took Isaac upon the mount and was called upon to sacrifice his only son. Abraham was going to sacrifice his son, kill his own son knowing that God was able to raise him up.

God did sacrifice His only begotten Son and God was able to raise Him up. He is alive today and He is precious! He loved us so much that He gave the most precious person that He had. They laid Him on the cross, and He died for us. He could have delivered Him. *"If thou be willing take this cup from me."* No...He let him die on the cross of Calvary, even turned away from Him; there were three hours of darkness. It is the darkness of lost people, it is the darkness of hell, it is outer darkness with no God--there is no hope of deliverance. And He let his Son die in our place. He loved us so much that He put our sins, those of us that believe; He placed our sins on Jesus Christ and He bear them in His own body on the tree.

Aren't those some of His wonderful works? Shouldn't that make Him to be

precious to us? Have we been thinking about Him? Or have we come to the place that we fail to do what God tells us to do, we have forgotten that we were purged from our sins. To those of us who believe, He is precious!

This is what makes His salvation so great--because God came down in the manner of flesh and He took upon Himself the form of a man, made in the likeness of sinful flesh and was willing to live and to die and to suffer for our sins that we might have this life in Him. Hebrews 2:3: "*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...*"

The salvation that God has given to us is the greatest thing that God could have ever done for us. He could feed you and He could give you this and He could give you that. He could make you live like a king; however, you would die and go to hell. But God so loved that He gave His Son that if you trust in Him you would never perish but have eternal life. The greatest gift that God could ever give to His people is everlasting life-- and that life is in His Son! Do you know that today? Do you know that Jesus Christ died for you? To those of us who believe, He is precious!

How many times have you thought about Him this week? How many times have you thought about Him as you go through life? We are so entangled with the world, our minds have been upon all these worldly things. It is easy to get our minds off the Lord. The Bible tells us that "one soul is worth more than the whole world."

To you who believe that He is precious, you know where He is today. He is not dead, like the gods of this world. The Bible tells us that He ascended back to glory, He went back into heaven.

Hebrews 9:24: "*For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now...*" Right now. Jesus Christ went back to glory and is acting as our great high priest. He has been there continually, making intercession for His people. He is there right now. And if He wasn't there right now, you would be lost. Do you understand that? If he wasn't there acting as mediator between God and man; acting as our intercessor, pleading our cause; being our great high priest who ever liveth; being our go-between God and man; we would be lost. Doesn't that make Him precious? He has entered "... into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." Interceding as a man, touched with the feelings of our infirmities, as our great high priest telling us to come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and grace in time of need. That ought to be precious to us.

Hebrews 9:28: "*So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him...*" You are not going to be looking for Him unless He is precious. "*and unto them that look for him...*" What is faith, if it isn't the assurance of things hoped for. Are you looking for Him? The majority

of the world is not looking for Him, or for the things that are taking place just before the His coming. People are not looking for Him. I Thessalonians 4:16-17: "*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*"

We need to be watching for Him; we need to be looking for Him. To those that believe He is precious. "...shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Did you know that this man Jesus in six hours on the cross of Calvary did more than four thousand years of sacrificing of animals (that could not take away sin). In the six hours on the cross, He became our substitute, which was typified by all those bloody sacrifices in the Old Testament. They could never take away sin; but in six hours this man, Jesus Christ did.

Hebrews 10:12: "*But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.*" Therefore we don't have to sacrifice any more for sin. We need to sacrifice our body and give Him praise and glory for what He has already done and make His wondrous works known.

Our Savior is a compassionate Savior. He is compassionate toward His people. He knows our weaknesses; He is a loving Savior, He loved you when He came to earth, He loved you while He was living on this earth. He loved you when He died on the cross of Calvary and He still loves you. John 14:3: "*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*" He loved us in the beginning and He loves us until the end. He just keeps on loving us. Shouldn't we tell someone how precious He is? My, what a Savior!

II Corinthians 5:18: "*And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation*" to preach the gospel. "*To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*" What is that? The gospel of Jesus Christ. "*Now then we are ambassadors for Christ,*" representing Him on this earth "*as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead,*" in Christ's place. As the Father sent me into this world even so send I you. "*We pray you in Christ's stead be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*"

Tell someone what Christ has done; tell someone who He is; tell someone His wonderful works; tell where He is today! Tell them that He is able to save them to the uttermost! Tell someone how precious He is!

II Corinthians 6:1: "*We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.*" Don't receive the grace of God in vain.

I want you to listen to this song. This encouraged me to preach this message. The title of the song is "Tell Someone How Precious He Is." [Tape played.] The words are:

*In the garden all alone,  
He was praying for His own.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
Roman soldiers mocked His name as He  
stood and bore my shame.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
Tell them, on a cruel tree, Jesus died to  
set men free.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
Tell them this was not the end, in three  
days He rose again.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
And tell them He is a wonderful friend.  
Tell them that He understands and on  
Him they can depend.  
Tell someone how precious He is.  
When I stand in Him complete, and I  
bow at His dear feet,  
I'll tell Him how precious He is.  
Alleluia then will ring  
as the millions there proclaim  
how precious my dear Savior is.*

Seems to me that when we hear these things, we ought to tell someone how precious He is.

If you have ever understood the preciousness of Jesus Christ, that He came down to save sinners from the awful wrath of God, that He saved us and gave us the ability to live for Him and we are going to live with Him forever, then we ought to tell someone how precious He is!

**(To hear this message, request tape #2917)**