## Atonement - Calvary, the Completed Work!

"For if, when we were enemies, we were Reconciled to God by the death of His Son, <u>much more now</u>, being therefore Reconciled, we shall be saved (delivered, set free & healed) by His Life!"

Romans 5:10

The Lord would have His people sound in the faith -- not ignorant of **the great Salvation** so abundantly <u>provided</u> for them. They are not to look forward, thinking that at some future time a great work is to be done for them; **for the work is now complete!** 

The believer is not called upon to make his peace with God; he never has nor ever can do this. He is to accept Christ (by faith) as his Peace, for with Christ is God and Peace (*Shalom*). **Christ made an end of sin**, bearing its heavy curse in His own body on the tree, **and He hath taken away** the curse from all those who believe in Him as a personal (your very own) Saviour. ref: Romans 6:10 & II Corinthians 5:21 & Isaiah 53:4-12

He makes an end of the controlling power of sin in the heart, and the life and character of the believer testify to the genuine character of the grace\* (G5485 - Divine Influence and power) of Christ.

**To those that ask Him** . . . *Ask, and* <u>it shall be given</u> you, *Seek and* **you shall** find! . . . Jesus imparts the Holy Spirit; for it is necessary that every believer should be delivered from pollution, as well as from the curse and condemnation of the law . . . "for the wages of sin is death, but the Gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Sovereign King)!" ref: Galatians 3:13-14 & Titus 3:4-6

Through the work of the Holy Spirit, the sanctification of the Truth . . . *Thy Word is Truth* . . . *and the Words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit and they are Life!* (John 17:17 & 6:63) . . . the believer becomes fitted for the courts of heaven; for Christ works within us, and **His righteousness** is upon us. Without this no soul will be entitled to heaven. We would not enjoy heaven unless qualified for its holy atmosphere by the influence of the Spirit and the righteousness of Christ.

"Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for (the failures and weakness of) the flesh, to fulfill the lusts (carnal desires) thereof!"...." Finally, my brethren, **Be strong in the Lord**, and in the power of <u>His Might</u>.... take unto you **the whole armour** of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to Stand...!" Ephesians 6:10-17

"Awake, awake; put on thy Strength, O Zion . . . put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh (an insurance policy just in case of failure) . . . put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city (Thy people which are called by Thy name) . . . for there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean (spirits)!

ref: Romans 13:14 & Daniel 9:19

Shake thyself from the dust; Arise, and sit down . . . with Christ in the heavens (Mark 16:15-20, Acts 2:33-36, Ephesians 1:19-21, Ephesians 2:5-7, Colossians 3:1-3, Hebrews 1:3 & 10:12), O Jerusalem . . . . Loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; but ye shall be redeemed without money . . . or price!" Isaiah 52:1-7, Isaiah 55:1, Isaiah 12:1-6 and ref: I Peter 1:18-21

In order to be candidates for heaven we must meet the requirement of the Law (the character of Jehovah);

"Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself!" Luke 10:27. We can do this only as we grasp by faith the righteousness of Christ.

ref: Jeremiah 23:5-6 & 33:14-16

By beholding Jesus we receive a Living, expanding Principle in the heart, and the Holy Spirit carries on the work, and the believer advances from grace to Grace, from strength to Strength, from character to Character. He conforms to the image of Christ, until in spiritual growth he attains unto the measure of the full stature in Christ Jesus. Thus Christ makes an end of the curse of sin, and sets the believing soul free from (sin's) it's action and effect!

**Christ alone is able to do this**, for "in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make Reconciliation (Atonement) for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, **He is able** to succour them that are tempted" Hebrews 2:17-18

Reconciliation means that <u>every barrier</u> between the soul and God is removed, and that the sinner realizes what the pardoning love (self-sacrifice) of God means.

By reason of the Sacrifice made by Christ for fallen men, God can justly pardon the transgressor who accepts the merits (value and worthiness) of Christ. **Christ was the channel** through which the mercy, love, and righteusess <u>might flow from the heart of God</u> to the heart of the sinner. "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and **to cleanse** us from all unrighteousness!" I John 1:9 & Romans 3:23-26

In the prophecy of Daniel it was recorded of Christ that He shall "make Reconciliation for iniquity, and . . . bring in <u>everlasting</u> Righteousness . . . !" Daniel 9:24. **Every soul may say**: "By <u>His perfect obedience</u> He has satisfied the claims of the law, and my only hope is found in looking to Him as **my Substitute** and **Surety**, Who obeyed the law perfectly for me (and now also in me)! ref: Romans 8:2-11

By faith in His merits (value and worthiness) **I am free** from the condemnation of the law. He clothes me with His righteousness, which answers all the demands of the law (God's character). <u>I am complete in Him</u> Who brings in everlasting righteousness. **He presents me to God** in the spotless garment of which no thread was woven by any human agent. <u>All is of Christ</u>, and all the glory, honor, and majesty are to be given to the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world!" John 1:29

Many think that they must wait for a special impulse in order that they may come to Christ; **but it is necessary** only to come in sincerity of purpose, deciding to accept the offers of mercy and Grace\* that have been extended to us. **We are to say**: "Christ died to save (deliver, rescue, set free and heal) me. ref: Romans 6:1-6

The Lord's desire is that I should be saved, and I will come to Jesus just as I am without delay. I will venture upon the Promise. As Christ draws me, I will respond. The apostle says, "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession (profession, to speak aloud) is made unto Salvation!"

Romans 10:9-13

No one can believe with the heart unto righteousness, and obtain justification by faith, while continuing the practice of those things which the Word of God forbids . . . which cost the Life of His Only Begotten Son . . . or while neglecting any known duty."

"And faith worketh by love," "For it is God Who works in us, both to will and to do of His good pleasure!"

## Galatians 5:6 & Philippians 2:13

"Knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him. For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God . . . . So likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed (in action) unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord (Sovereign King)!

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts (carnal desires) thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin . . . But yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead (ref: Galatians 2:20), and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God . . . For sin shall not have dominion over you!" Romans 6:9-23

- 1 Selected Messages p.394-396