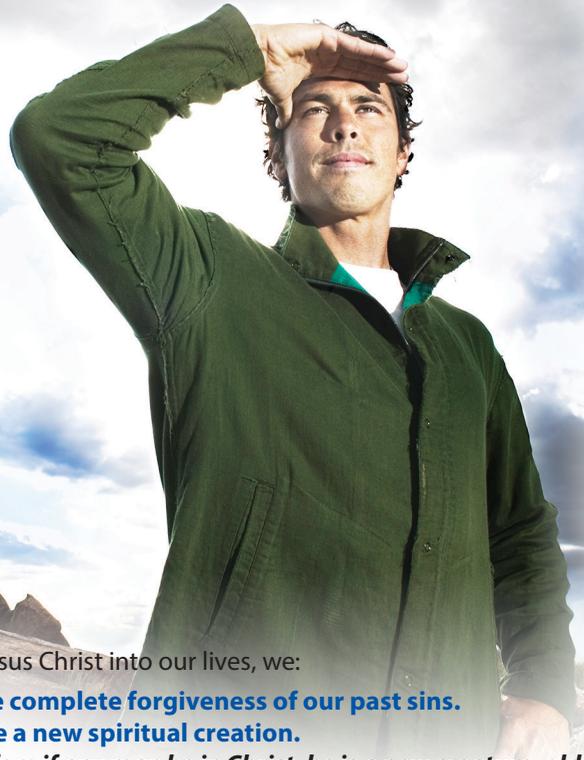


To accept Jesus is to submit ourselves to Him. It is to enter into an agreement with God, a covenant with Him through faith; to have **“Christ in you, the hope of glory.”** Colossians 1:27.



New Life

If we accept Jesus Christ into our lives, we:

1. **Receive complete forgiveness of our past sins.**
2. **Become a new spiritual creation.**
“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17.
3. **We are called sons and daughters of God.**
4. **Will live a victorious life.**
“That the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.” Romans 6:6.
5. **Have eternal life.** *“He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.”* John 6:47.

Dear Friend: Do you realize what Christ wants to do for you? He left heaven and died on the cross to give you the gift of eternal life. Do you want to receive this gift? Then put your trust in Christ now, so that you may have the assurance of eternal life. **“He that hath the Son hath life...”** 1 John 5:12.

Christ must be both our Lord and Savior. We should voluntarily submit to Him out of gratitude, for we cannot continue to carelessly hurt Him who loves us so much.

The happy moment has arrived in which you can be reconciled with God. In faith, pray a sincere prayer and accept Jesus into your life. Your prayer can be more or less as follows:

MODEL PRAYER:

“Beloved Lord Jesus Christ: I know I’ve failed in my life, and I feel ashamed for having offended you so many times. I want to surrender my sins and ask You to enter into my heart and my life. I have tried everything, but nothing has been able to fill the emptiness in my being. I know you’re the answer I’ve been looking for. I accept you as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for saving me. Amen.”

CONFIDENCE IN GOD’S PROMISES

Jesus said, **“Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”** John 6:37.
“And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Revelation 22:17.

Like Mary, you can now exclaim: **“And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior!”** Luke 1:47.

Have full confidence in God’s promises, for He will fulfill them. Accept His forgiveness and have the assurance of eternal life. To keep this decision alive and grow spiritually:

- **Study** the next topics.
- **Read** of the Gospels in your Bible every day. (The books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John).
- **Talk to God** in prayer as you would a friend.
- **Share your decision with someone** and tell them about Jesus.
- **Contact** the person who gave you this pamphlet or the address found at the end of this message to enjoy Christian fellowship and receive spiritual help. You will be able confront difficulties with a new life, because you are now a citizen of the kingdom of grace!



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THIRD MILLENNIUM BIBLE COURSE

2

International Missionary Society, Seventh-day Adventist Church, Reform Movement

IN SEARCH OF INNER PEACE IN A TURBULENT WORLD

Every human being longs for peace and happiness. We need a daily dose of love to live happily and gain strength to face our daily struggles and survive in this turbulent world.

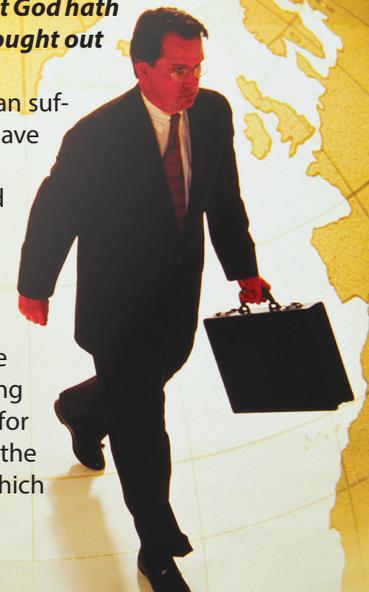
As we stand at the beginning of the third millennium, it seems like this joy is slipping out of our grasp. The family circle is threatened, violence scares us, and we feel a deep spiritual void in our society. We wonder why so many young people fall into drug addiction and why so many commit suicide. The reality is that they feel empty and lonely, even though many do not want to admit it, we have a great need of God.

The Supreme Creator desires our good, our happiness, and our progress. The Bible says, **“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”** 3 John 1:2. When man was formed by the hands of the Creator, he was perfect. King David wrote: **“For thou has made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.”** Psalm 8:5, 6. Wise Solomon adds: **“Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.”** Ecclesiastes 7:29.

God is not to be blamed for human suffering. He created man perfectly and gave him free will.

God gave man life: God promised man lasting peace and happiness if he would recognize God as his Lord and Master and submit to His laws, which He created for his good.

By accepting Satan’s offer to choose another path with the promise of being “as gods” (Genesis 3:5), man chose for himself and his offspring (meaning us) the path of suffering and pain, a path in which humanity still finds itself today.



Our first parents left the path of life and justice, a life of righteousness, of their own will. **“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned...”** Romans 5:12.

Sin was the destroyer of human happiness and that is why man feels empty and far from God. Now man’s problem is separation from God. **“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”** Romans 3:23. **“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one...”** Romans 3:10.

A DIVINE SOLUTION TO HUMAN PROBLEMS

God created a plan of redemption for humanity, so that man might obtain peace and life. **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”** John 3:16.

When a man was about to be executed in a Nazi concentration camp on suspicion that he had helped several other prisoners escape, a good man and sincere believer earnestly asked to take his place on the scaffold. This godly man’s loving wish was that the condemned man may have the opportunity to get to know God and return to his family. The plea was accepted and the surrogate died in his place. When the ex-convict returned to his home in Germany, he never forgot the Christian, and never grew tired of telling this story, filled with love and service.

And that’s what someone did for you! **“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”** Romans 6:23. Jesus Christ Himself is the Creator of all things in this world. Colossians 1:15-17. And He was the only one who could solve man’s problem. Out of love, He offered to take man’s place and fulfill the death sentence which had been placed upon man because of his disobedience. Yes, Jesus gave Himself as a substitute and died in man’s stead.

The prophet Isaiah described this sacrifice more than 600 years before Jesus’ birth on earth with these words:

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows... But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:4, 5.

In other words, sin created a tremendous chasm between man and God. God is holy and pure, but we are miserable sinners. Man has tried to fill this abyss of separation, but has not succeeded. He strives to reach God through religion, philosophy, good works, morality, and other means, but is still separated from God. **“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”** Romans 3:23. So, is there any way we can obtain salvation?

GOD’S REMEDY: THE CROSS

Jesus Christ extends a bridge through His own sacrifice on the cross; a bridge between death and life; promising eternal life and salvation to all who accept and believe in His infinite love.

When our case is examined in the heavenly court, Jesus presents Himself as our advocate and shows the Father and Judge the scars left by the nails that wounded Him on the cross (Zechariah 13:6) and says, **“Father, I have**



Man chose a wrong path that led to suffering. Christ is the bridge to eternal life.

died for this sinner; he has believed in me, forgive him.” The Bible says, **“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree...”** 1 Peter 2:24. Because of Jesus’ love we are declared forgiven, saved, and pure - as if we had never sinned. We then receive the assurance of eternal life, as God gave it to man when He first created him.

A GREAT GIFT: GRACE

Eternal life is a gift. It is not good works, nor our own merits that place salvation within our reach. Forgiveness is a work of God’s love and is called **“Grace.”** Let’s see how the Bible describes it:

“By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God...” Ephesians 2:8.

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us...” Titus 3:5.

“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:24.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23.

We do not deserve and cannot earn this gift of grace. If we paid something for it, then it would not be a gift.

HOW TO MAKE THIS GIFT OF GOD YOURS

Have you understood that Jesus Christ is the solution? He is the only one who can forgive your past, because He paid for your sin on Calvary. But to make this gift of God yours, you must accept Jesus into your life. The Bible says:

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God...” John 1:12.

• To accept Christ you must do four things:

- 1. ADMIT** your spiritual need and confess **“I am a sinner.”**
- 2. ASK FOR FORGIVENESS** of all your sins.
- 3. BELIEVE** that Jesus died on the cross for you.
- 4. RECEIVE** Jesus into your heart and into your life by means

of prayer. Jesus says in the Bible:

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” Revelation 3:20.

We must allow Jesus to enter our lives in all His roles as our: God, Savior, Teacher, Priest, and King. Once that happens, He directs our destinies, saves us from our sins, teaches us, intercedes for us; and in return, we obey His commandments.

THE CHANNEL TO GOD: FAITH

We need faith and trust in Christ alone. **“By grace are ye saved through faith...”** Ephesians 2:8.

However, we must distinguish genuine faith from the temporal, which can be confused with mere presumption.

WHAT IS GENUINE FAITH?

A man goes to the doctor who, after a series of exams, tells him that he will have to perform a delicate brain surgery. If the man accepts this diagnosis, but is not willing to undergo the doctor’s surgery, does he have genuine faith in him?

To be able to illustrate faith to his class, a teacher took off his watch and said, “I am giving away this watch.” At the back of the classroom, a very humble child stood up, went to the teacher, and extending his hand said, “Thank you, teacher!” The teacher responded: “It’s yours to keep forever.” The other students were shaking their heads. “Why did I not get up!” they said to each other. Everyone knew it was a watch, but only one had the genuine faith to reach out and take it.