

Ps 118:8

8 It is better to trust in the Lord
Than to put confidence in man.

God has not abandoned us

King David said in Psalm 138 that God magnified His word above His name.

His word, the bible remains faithful and true.

God keeps His promises.

Heb 2:9

9 BUT WE SEE JESUS who was made a little lower than the angels (can also be translated as, made lower than the angels for a little while), for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

Jesus became a human being for a specific purpose,

- “for the suffering of death” in order that “He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”

Who is this that He would do that for us?

That’s been a question since the beginning of time.

There are monotheistic religions,

- Christians, Muslims and Jews
- each believe in one God,
- yet we see that one God differently

Each religion has one common person in their religion and that’s Jesus!

The bible is the only book where Jesus Himself

- tells us who He is.

Would you want someone without any inspiration from God

- to write a book about your life,
- or would you rather tell others who you are?

Isa 48:12

12 "Listen to Me, O Jacob,
And Israel, **MY CALLED:**
I am He, I am the First,
I am also the Last.

Isa 44:6

6 "Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
And his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
'I am the First and I am the Last;
Besides Me there is no God.

Isa 41:4

4 Who has performed and done it,
Calling the generations from the beginning?
'I, the Lord, am the first;
And with the last I am He.'"

Isa 43:10

10 "You are My witnesses," says the Lord,
"And My servant whom I have chosen,
That you may know and believe Me,
And understand that I am He.
Before Me there was no God formed,
Nor shall there be after Me.

Jesus said in Matthew, Mark and Luke

- that many would come in His name saying,
- 'I am He' and will lead many astray.

Rev 1:8

8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Rev 1:17-18

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. 18 I am He who lives, and was dead (this could be none other than Jesus), and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Rev 4:8

8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!"

Why are these words repeated?

I believe they were repeated for emphasis. (Holy - set apart)

The first time the word is used is to show it's importance.

- A second time means it's very important
- and a third means it's complete.

So the words express the absolute holiness of God.

This verse echoes Isa 4:8 where the angels cry out "Holy, holy, holy."

The bible is set apart, there is no other book which compares.

Heb 2:10

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Pastor Robert Hall used to quote the chorus from Bob Dylan's song,

"You've got to serve somebody"

But you're going to have to serve somebody, yes indeed
You're going to have to serve somebody
Well, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord
But you're going to have to serve somebody

The Greek word for "leader or captain" literally means

- "the first one to lead the way."

Acts 5:31 says God exalted Jesus to His right hand

- to be Prince and Savior,
- to give repentance to Israel
- and forgiveness of sins

and Hebrews 12:2 says Jesus is

- the author and finisher of our faith.

Verse 10 is saying that He led the way of salvation for us.

- He came down and experienced what we experience,
- He paved the way for our salvation.



11 For both He (Jesus) who sanctifies (conforming to the image of Christ) and those who are being sanctified (believers) are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Jesus calls us His brothers, a term of endearment.

- we are part of His family.

12 saying:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."

The writer of Hebrews is quoting directly from Psa 22:22.

When David wrote Psalm 22, he was describing the intense suffering that ultimately led to triumph and praise.

- he was a victim of the cruelty of men.

Many of us have been victims of the cruelty of others,

Instead of retaliating, David turned to God

- and remained silent
- in the face of hostility.

"I will declare Your name to My brethren."

The night before Jesus was crucified,

- He prayed for all believers.

John 17:26

26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

Jesus understood that His obedient work on the cross

- would bring great glory to God
- by declaring the greatness of His name.

It's thru the completed work on the cross that each of us

- can now be part of the spiritual family of God.

Gal 3:28

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Heb 2:13

13 And again:

"I will put My trust in Him."

And again:

"Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."

Trust means to have complete confidence in.

When we say that we trust God, we're saying we are putting our complete confidence in Him.

And one day Jesus is going to stand before the Father and He's going to say,

- these are the children You've given Me.

Zeph 3:17

17 The Lord your God in your midst,
The Mighty One, will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness,
He will quiet you with His love,
He will rejoice over you with singing."

Let's take a closer look at this verse because it speaks so wonderfully of God's love for us.

The Lord your God is in your midst.

Why would a God so far away

- want anything to do with me, a sinner.

That's not so. This verse says that God is in our midst.

- He's not distant, in fact He's very near to us.

The Mighty One, will save;

- God is fully capable of saving us
- not only from physical harm,
- but also from our sins or our fears
- or anything that keeps you awake at night.

He will rejoice over you with gladness,

- God doesn't simply put up with you or tolerate you,
- He rejoices over you with gladness.

He will quiet you with His love,

- This means that He will bring a calmness to you.

Finally we're told:

He will rejoice over you with singing

Heb 2:14-18

14 Inasmuch (since) then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

When the writer says “through death He might destroy him”

This isn’t a term of uncertainty,

- it’s in the aorist tense meaning something is definitive.
- Saying “He died,” “He was crucified,” or “He rose”
- are all in the aorist tense and they definitely happened.

By His death and resurrection, He rendered death powerless.

Rom 6:23

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus disarmed Satan:

Col 2:15

15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

- Jesus broke the powers of hell and Satan
- and He mocked Satan by His death on the cross.

We no longer need to be subject to the lies of Satan.

Satan’s primary weapon is deception.

- He’ll mix a little truth with a little lie.

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness by Satan, He was told,

- if you’ll just fall down and worship me,
- I’ll give you all the kingdoms in the world.

Satan was telling Jesus,

- you don’t need to go in the direction you’re going in.
- You don’t need to go to the cross,
- just worship me and I’ll give the kingdoms to you.

That’s why we read in Revelation that Jesus took the title deed to the earth.

2 Cor 4:3-4

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe,

Satan has influence over this current world system,

- especially over those who reject Christ.
- But his influence is limited,
- it's not absolute and it's only for a time.

The story of Job is a perfect example of this.

- Satan needed God's permission to touch Job.

At the cross, Jesus stripped Satan of any legal power

- he may have had over those who believe.

Now, because of the resurrection,

- Satan has been defeated,
- but he hasn't been completely removed, YET!

But his time is soon coming to an end.

Rev 20:10

10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

We're told in Colossians:

Col 1:13

13 He (God) has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

Col 1:13

13 For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, (NLT)

We as believers don't need to fear death

- because Satan no longer holds us in bondage
- through the fear of death.



In fact, it's quite the opposite: Jesus said:

John 5:24-29

24 "Most assuredly, I say to you he who hears My word (that is, he who accepts and understands Jesus' teachings) and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

The judgement spoken of in verse 24

- is not to determine whether or not you're saved.

The moment you surrender to Christ,

- the moment you say I believe
- and you mean what you say,
- then you can face that last judgement with confidence.

Why! Because Jesus used the present possession

- meaning that eternal life begins immediately.

1 John 5:11-13

11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Jn 5:25-29

25 Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming (future), and now is (began at the time of Jesus), when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, 27 and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

This is not referring to those that have done good in their life

- and of those that have done bad in their life.

Jesus is the only one good or righteous,

- But He declares us righteous.

Heb 9:27-28

27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, 28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many (Jesus died for the sins of the world but only those who believe will profit from Christ's death and resurrection). To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Heb 2:15

15 and release those (or to free those, or to deliver those) who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Jesus came to free or to deliver a specific group of people,

- those that were in bondage.
- It's every person that has ever lived.

Rom 3:23 all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Jn 8:34, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.

Two verses later in John 8,

John 8:36

36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Jesus frees us from the guilt of sin.

- He frees us from sin itself.
- He also frees us from the fear of death.

To the believer we're told in Romans that there is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

Warren Wiersbe said in his Bible Exposition commentary in John 11 regarding "fear."

Death is an enemy, and Satan uses the fear of death as a terrible weapon.

When the Lord said to Satan that there was none like Job on the earth, Satan answered and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life."

Don't allow fear to keep you from doing the Lord's work.

Heb 2:16

16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

- Jesus didn't become an angel
- So that He might save angels.
- Angels are not the focus of redemption.

Jesus became a man in order to save mankind.

Heb 2:17

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren (like us), that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

The high priest represented the people before God,

- and he offered blood sacrifices for their sins
- and for his own sins in the holy of holies once a year
- on the day of atonement or what is also known as Yom Kippur.
- This mentioned in Heb 9:7 as well.

The high priest was a foreshadowing of Jesus

- who unlike the sacrifices that were required yearly,
- became the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Heb 2:18

18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

The only way to know or to have an idea of what someone is going thru is to have gone thru it yourself.

And when we look at the life of Christ,

- we see that He went thru much
- of what we go thru and more.

He was rejected and forsaken by His friends,

- at times having no place to lay His head
- His life was threatened as a baby
- Tried before the high courts on charges of treason,
- Opposed by His own family,
- And above all, executed by crucifixion.