

Saved Today Ministries E-Newsletter II Cor. 6:2

MONTH OF: May 2009

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URGENT NEWS:

I just found out today (4/27/09) that Yahoo is planning to close Geocities for good later this spring or early summer! Geocities is Yahoo's FREE website provider. Sadly, this means that my website Saved Today Ministries most likely will be shut down! This is devastating news to me but nothing that God does not know about (Rom. 8:28). I have had the site up for seven years. I am currently seeking the Lord and praying for ways that I can save the site even if there is a cost to keep it up on some other source. Please pray for wisdom and help regarding this difficult situation. For now the S.T.M. e-news will continue to be sent monthly even if the site is shut down and I will do all I can Lord willing to make the materials available.

This issue is packed with much information and it is my prayer that you will be richly blessed and encouraged by it.

MEDITATE ON THE WORD (*Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:148*)

The following is a long but very beneficial outline I did for a sermon a few years back. It is my prayer that you will be richly blessed by this message I've entitled:

**** NO REASON FOR LIVING WITHOUT CHRIST****

WITHOUT CHRIST AS OUR SAVIOR:

1. WE ARE LOST IN SIN

- A. We are enslaved to sin (Isa. 64:6)
- B. We are dying in our sin (Rom. 6:23a)
- C. We can do nothing to save ourselves, only Jesus can (Eph. 2:8-9, Titus 3:5)

2. WE HAVE NO HOPE – life is hopeless (HOPELESSLY LOST)----We can do nothing to save ourselves. Salvation is only by grace through faith in Christ alone and nothing else

- A. We have no hope, because we're enslaved to sin
- B. We are surely failing (without Christ, we can only be failing for there is no hope. The lost try everything to have peace, joy, and happiness, except putting their faith and trust in Christ alone and casting all their cares and burdens upon him)
- C. We're drifting like a ship without a sail (Rom. 3:10-18 – Sadly, This is how the lost live today. We read in vs.12 that there is "...none that doeth good." Without Christ all we do or could ever do no matter how good it seems to be...will get us nowhere. We have to know Christ as our personal Savior and do all for Him and his honor and glory.)

3. WE ARE CONDEMNED TO THE LAKE OF FIRE (HELL & ETERNAL DEATH) (Matt. 25:41,46; Matt. 13:40-43; Rev. 20:10-15)
 - A. Because we are dying in our sin and God is holy and just and will have no part of sin.

WITH CHRIST AS OUR SAVIOR, WE HAVE A REASON FOR LIVING. JESUS IS THE JOY OF LIVING FOR:

1. WE HAVE SALVATION FROM SIN THROUGH THE DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST (If you never have, I encourage you to read John 17 to John 20...the blessed account of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ)
2. HE'S A WONDROUS SAVIOR (Psalm 86:10; John 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:5, 3:16 – God does wondrous things. The Great Creator (God Himself) became our Savior and died for the sins of the whole world. Jesus is God! You can not be saved if you do not believe that.)
3. HE IS THE SOUL'S DELIGHT (Psalm 1:1-3 – A saved person's soul delights in the Lord, desires to serve him and obey his word. It also is protected and blessed by God)
4. WE ARE HIS FOREVER MORE (John 10:28-29)
 - A. WE BELONG TO HIM (1 Cor. 6:20; 7:23)
5. HE IS THE DEAREST FRIEND WE'LL EVER HAVE AND KNOW (What a friend we have in Jesus! We can pray to him, cast all our cares upon him, we can walk and talk with him daily and he will never leave nor forsake us. – Heb. 13:5)
6. LIFE GROWS RICH WITH BEAUTY. TOIL ON EARTH LOSES ITS WEARY STRAIN (Psalm 46:1; Psalm 73:26; Rom. 8:35-37)
7. HE PROVIDES HEAVENLY WISDOM THROUGH HIS WORD (II Cor. 1:12; II Tim. 3:15-16)
8. HE GIVES GRACE TO KEEP MY SPIRIT FREE (Psalm 84:11; Prov. 3:34; Rom. 5:2)
9. HE GUIDES US IN HIS OWN SWEET WAY WHEN THE PATH WE CAN NOT SEE (THE HOLY SPIRIT) (PROV. 3:5-6; Rom. 8:26-27)
10. HE PROMISES THE BLESSED HOPE (RAPTURE, EVERLASTING LIFE and a HOME IN HEAVEN – John 14: 2-4; Titus 2:13)
 - A. He fills our heart with hope so bright. (The rapture – 1 Thes. 4:13-18)
 - B. We can know we have eternal life – John 3:15; John 10:28; 1 John 5:11-13
11. A HALO CROWNS EACH DUTY (Our reward in heaven – Matt. 5:12; 1 Cor. 3:10-15)
12. HE PROMISES FREEDOM FROM THE CURSE (PAIN, SICKNESS, SUFFERING, SADNESS, SORROW AND MORE) (Rev. 22:3; 21:4)

13. WE WILL SING A GLAD REFRAIN - Rev. 19:6-7 (The Alleluia Chorus and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb) (Throughout Psalms and the Bible we read of singing and praising God. We will do this then and throughout eternity for all that God has done for us and has given us.)

JESUS IS INDEED THE JOY OF LIVING. SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH JESUS AND DO WILLINGLY BY FAITH:

1. WE SHOULD MAKE HIM KING OF OUR LIFE
2. WE SHOULD GIVE HIM OUR ALL (*Rom. 12:1-2*)
3. WE SHOULD DO WHAT HE COMMANDS
4. WE SHOULD GO WHEREVER HE LEADS

SONG OF THE MONTH

SONG – *The Haven of Rest* (This song means a lot to me. It is a very special song I love to sing and hear. This song is a very comforting and encouraging song about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and how He shelters and comforts us in His everlasting arms. As believers, we are anchored in the Rock of Ages. We can take all our trials and cares to Him. We know we can trust in Him. In Jesus, we are indeed...safe ever more! I encourage you all to sing this song sometime during your family devotions.)

“Let us praise our precious Savior in song all the day long.”

NEWS

It is a privilege to be able to bring this newsletter to all of you and I praise God for it. Saved Today Ministries as well as this newsletter was created all for Him and His honor and glory alone that souls might be saved and believers encouraged. No matter what happens with the website situation, I know that God will provide and bless and use S.T.M. for His honor and glory.

On a side note, I am in need of a laptop running Windows XP with wi-fi capability. This will be a great help and a blessing for my ministry. I appreciate your prayers and any help you can give me regarding this need.

UPDATES

As you may have noticed the “VERSE OF THE MONTH” column is now “MEDITATE ON THE WORD”. This column will be a monthly column containing a review of a passage of scripture, an article or an outline.

Also, please look for a new devotional for children on the web site entitled “Seek Ye First” which is based on Matt. 6:33.

PRAISES

-Several people have contacted me complimenting the web-site and told me they are praying for me.

-A dear sister in the Lord told me how she has shared the devotionals with her children and has referred them to others.

PRAYER REQUESTS

-Salvation of my sister Wendy & her husband Mark

-Salvation of my nephew Jacob

-Wisdom regarding Saved Today Ministries and the e-newsletter, especially regarding the shutdown of Geocities

-Wisdom regarding FT Christian service for the Lord someday as the Lord leads

- Traveling mercies for an upcoming trip in early May to Boston, MA.

IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:

- I will have a great article in the **MEDIATE ON THE WORD** column entitled "Others May--- You Cannot" by G.D. Watson

I apologize for the length of this newsletter and I thank you taking the time to read it. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

His Servant,
Craig G.
Prov. 3:5-6

P.S. If you have any ideas on any improvements to the newsletter, I'd like to hear from you. Please e-mail me and let me know. If you know somebody who would like to be added to the newsletter, please have them e-mail me and I will get it out to them as soon as possible. Also, just in case you do NOT wish to continue receiving this monthly newsletter, please e-mail me with "please remove" in the subject line.