

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12, The Bible)

Many of the men around us are going to Hell because they will not believe and accept Jesus. The reason we are in prison is so we will fix our relationship with God. He is giving us a chance to turn from our sins and believe in Jesus Christ. Tomorrow is not promised to anyone and will not be coming to some. Today is the day of salvation. Right now I am setting two choices before you: life and death. Choose life so that you may live; choose Jesus. Any decision that is not for Jesus is a decision against Him.

“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” (Romans 10:9, The Bible)

If you would like to accept your freedom in Christ, then join me in this prayer: “Father, today I confess that I am a sinner and have made a mess of my life by depending on myself. I confess my sin to you and ask you to forgive me. I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior now. In Jesus’s name. Amen.” Now sign and date below as a sign and reminder of your decision.

Name: _____ Date: _____

If you have believed in your heart and have confessed with your mouth (this means to acknowledge, agree, and to declare that Jesus is Lord) then you are saved. I encourage you to join us in church as we worship our savior. We will get you started with a Bible and anything else you might need. Now that you have turned to God, continue to turn from your old life and ways, and live for Jesus. Spend time reading and learning about Him. Pray on all occasions and make your requests known to God our Father in the name of Jesus. You are starting on a relationship with God and an adventure that will last for eternity. Welcome to the family.

Love,
Your brother in Christ

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.” (Ephesians 2: 8-9, The Bible, NIV)

Convicted

For

Christ

Even though you are in prison, you can still be free...

Even though you are in prison, you can still be free.

About 2000 years ago in a tiny country halfway around the world, Jesus Christ told some men that if He set them free that they would be free indeed. His audience was astonished and did not understand Him. It is still the same today, all these years later.

What does He mean, though? One day all of us will be released and once that happens we will be free. Right? So what do I need Jesus to set me free from?

In reality, we are all held prisoner by something much stronger than concrete walls and razor wire. We are all held tightly by the chains of sin; in fact we are slaves to it. In the Bible it says that we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and, again, it says that the wages of sin is death.

Sin is rebellion against God; it is a crime against Him and is motivated by pride. When we sin we meet our needs apart from God and outside of His will. Sin is giving in to the desires of our flesh. Some examples of sin include: sex outside of marriage, drug use, alcoholism, stealing, murder, and the list goes on and on. In addition, we are all born into sin. It has been passed down to us from the first man, Adam.

The problem is that God is so pure He cannot be around sin. So, the sin in our lives separates us from God and eternal life with Him. There is nothing that we can do to overcome this separation. We can never be good enough or even do enough good deeds. None of us is able to work our way into heaven. We all have sinned and fall short.

We were created to be with God. It is how we were made. He put a longing for eternal life with Him in our DNA. On the most basic level, we feel the wrongness of not being with God--even if we do not recognize it. There is an emptiness, a hole right in the middle of our soul. We feel that there is something missing and that something is not right in our lives.

So, we go through life trying to fill this hole on our own. We put all kinds of things in it: cars, women, friends, drugs, alcohol, money, sex, religion, education and anything else that we think will complete us. We put all of these things in there, but the hole is never filled and we still feel empty.

Our problem is that this hole was not made to be filled by *something*, but by *someone*. This hole was designed by God to be filled with Jesus Christ. He is the only thing that is able to fill the emptiness inside of us.

Jesus once said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." He also said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies: and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." No one else in all of history has ever claimed or said such things. Buddha never said anything like this. Muhammad never said anything like this. Only Jesus spoke these powerful words. Not only this, but he was the only one to make a way for us to spend eternity with God. Jesus said these amazing things so that there would be no confusion at all, so we would understand that he was exactly what he claimed to be: the way and the truth and the life.

Jesus did not just simply speak these words but He supported His claim by performing well documented miracles. Then He proved His identity by His resurrection, He came back to life after He was killed, Jesus is alive right now and able to help us. Neither Buddha nor Muhammad performed any miracles. They were both mere men and, as such, died and were buried. In what is the most supported miracle in all history, Jesus was killed and then placed in a tomb. After three days, He came to life and appeared to His followers and even to a group of over 500 people. The tomb is still empty and can be seen today in Jerusalem.

Take a look around! We need a savior. Our best efforts got us to where we are today, in prison. These men around us--Jesus died for them all. He gave Himself as payment for everyone's sins. He died so we could live.

Imagine yourself back in the courtroom on the day of your sentencing. You have already been found guilty and have been convicted. The Judge now hands down your sentence, but this time a stranger steps up and convinces the Judge to sentence him in your place. He does not care what you have been sentenced to or of what you have been convicted. He is only concerned with serving your sentence so that you can be free. Would you accept such a man?

This Jesus that I have been writing about did this exact same thing for you almost 2000 years ago. The crime was your sins against God. The sentence was death by crucifixion. He died in your place so that you might live. Jesus made a way for you to reach God; His death gives you the chance to spend eternity with Him. Will you accept Him?

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, and whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16, The Bible)