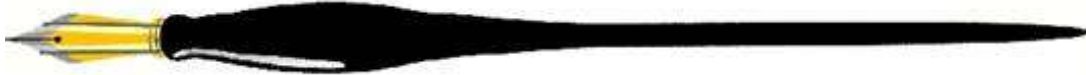


# *The Messenger 2011*

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## **What Jesus Did for You!**

### **Introduction:**

There is a lot of talk about Jesus at the height of the American holiday season. This focus on Jesus needs to be much more than the superficial acknowledgement that most are applying.

In reality, Jesus provided for us, all that we need most in this life. This fact is so often forgotten when people ignore His adult life and His true fulfillment of the Father's will. Without the actions of Jesus, the Christ, we would remain hopelessly separated from any future with our Creator.

Let's consider together with open Bibles, a character study of the real Jesus and what He really did for you and me—*the things that give us new life and real hope.*

### **Jesus Lived Determinately**

According to the inspired writer John, Jesus was very active. We know that only a few of His great works were recorded, but many more were accomplished (John 20:30-31; 21:25). All of His actions were the result of His determination to do the will of the Father, who sent Him. Jesus, Himself, said, "*My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me...*" (John 4:34). He also proclaimed, "*I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me*" (John 6:38). Then at the end of His life, He prayed to the Father with these words, "*I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do*" (John 17:4).

Jesus, in this life, set an example that we must follow (1 Corinthians 11:1; 1 Peter 2:20-23). He always put the Father's will first and taught us to do the same (Matthew 6:25-33). He was willing to suffer for the cause, just as we should (1 Peter 4:1-2). He was willing to accomplish His role in doing God's will—no matter the personal cost, just as we should (Matthew 26:39).

All that Jesus did in His earthly life was an example to us that we should appreciate and emulate (1 John 2:6)

### **Jesus Died Sacrificially**

The focal point of our salvation is in the fact that Jesus died for a reason. The modernists deny the Divine Nature of Jesus; they will say that He was a good teacher—a *persuasive man*, but they will also tell us that He was simply taken away and killed at the hands of those who hated Him. If they are right, we have no hope today; we would be lost in our sins, separated from our Creator (Romans 3:23; Revelation 21:27).

His death was with purpose—*Jesus died as a sacrifice for our sins*. The death of Jesus was specific and exact in the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning it (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). 1000 years before His death a prophet said it would happen because of the betrayal of a friend (Psalm 41:9)—*this was certainly the case* (Matthew 26:21-25). Some 520 years before His death a prophet said that He would be betrayed for a price, that price would be 30 pieces of silver—*this also was certainly the case* (Matthew 26:15). Even the means of His death was foretold and fulfilled (Psalm 22:16)—*this also was exactly fulfilled* (Luke 24:40; John 20:25-29)

The death of Jesus was the sacrifice for our sins, without His death we would not have a hope of salvation (Romans 5:6-10; Hebrews 9:22-28)

### **Jesus was Raised Triumphantly**

Jesus' death was not the end. In the greatest act of God's power, since the creation of our world, He raised Jesus from mortal death to eternal life (Ephesians 1:15-23). He was raised from the grave to never die again (Acts 13:29-37).

His victory was for our hope of victory. We have been promised everlasting life (John 4:13-14; 5:24) and we needed the triumphant resurrection of Christ to prove that God was capable of fulfilling this promise for us (1 Corinthians 6:14 "*And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.*") The fact of His resurrection is our assurance of faith (1 Peter 1:3-5)

### **Conclusion:**

With all the talk about Jesus, we should have many opportunities to speak to other about the things that Jesus did for them. Jesus lived with focus and purpose—*to leave us all an example to follow*. Jesus died to supply what we all lacked—*the perfect price for our sins*.

Jesus was raised in victory over sin and death—*so we can know it is possible for us*.

Jesus is the greatest gift ever given (John 3:16). Our hope was not complete in the giving; it was all that Jesus did that provides us with a way of hope (Romans 5:6-10). There is more to being saved by Jesus than just knowing who He is; we must obey all that He has taught us to do.

Are you ready to find the hope of eternal life, through Jesus Christ? You know what Jesus has done for you. What will you do for Him? Your opportunity is now.

~tss

## **The Gospel Plan**

**HEAR THE GOSPEL MESSAGE** Romans 10:11-16

**BELIEVE IT !!!** Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6

**REPENT – CHANGE** Luke 13:3; 2 Peter 3:9

**OPENLY CONFESS — JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD**

Romans 10:8-10; Acts 8:37

**BE BAPTIZED — FOR THE REMISSION OF YOUR SINS**

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38-39; 1 Peter 3:21

**LIVE ON FAITHFULLY** Hebrews 10:35-39; 1 Peter 1:6-9