

**CBC BIBLE STUDY
DEC 6, 2023**

THEME "BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS"

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

Romans 3:23-24(NKJV)

"Since we've compiled this long and sorry record as sinners(both us and them) and proved utterly incapable of living the glorious lives God wills for us, God did it for us. Out of sheer generosity he put us in right standing with himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where he always wanted us to be and he did it by means of Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:23-24(The Message Bible)

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS

Helpguide. org. says "Gratitude involves showing appreciation for the things in life that are meaningful or valuable to you. Taking a moment to notice and acknowledge the things you're grateful for each day, can brighten your outlook, boost your mood, and help you feel more positive in the face of challenges.

It's easy to feel a rush of joy after finding a twenty dollar bill laying on a street corner. Or a big upgrade in a wedding ring. Or winning the Ky. Lottery. Perhaps getting a new job with a pay increase after being there only three months. To even get sick, you thought it was cancer and it was only a skin rash. Oh how we are joyful and grateful!

In life we often take for granted and overlook the smallest moments to be grateful. Such as a hot meal, when your stomach is growling. A cold drink of water on a hot day. A kind smile from a stranger. A cool breeze on a hot summer day. A sweet chat from dear close friend. Or a quiet walk in a park and hear the birds chirping. These are things that we should also be grateful for.

Since we are grateful for all these things, how much more should we (you and I) be grateful for Jesus?

- 1. Jesus' Virgin Birth**
- 2. Jesus' Ministry**
- 3. Jesus' Death and Burial**
- 4. Jesus' Resurrection**
- 5. Jesus' Return To Earth**

Let us go back and read Romans 3:23-24 again.

Rev Billy Graham says "Sin is anything that goes against God's will and His laws. To sin is to break God's law, disobey His commands, rebel against His authority, or miss His mark of perfection. God is holy and righteous, and He cannot tolerate sin. Sin separates us (you and I) from God and His blessings."

Sinning is any feeling or thought or speech or action, that comes from a heart that does not treasure God over all other things.

Sins of thought, sins of attitude, sins of speech, sins of relationships, sins of commission, sins of omission, sins of self-rule and self reliance just to name a few, that God's people are largely unaware of that God sees' and hears on a daily bases.

Maybe I have not cruised down your street yet,

Bearing False Witness

Gossiping

Stealing

Coveting

Gluttony

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS

This Bible Study lesson was not written from despair or to name all our sins toward God. But to penetrate our hearts to a spiritual awakening of God's love toward us. And how much we need Jesus Christ, His grace and mercies. Sin separates us from God. (Romans 3:24)"being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus".

Ever since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, mankind, all people(men women boys and girls) are born in sin and shaped in iniquity. (Psalm 51:5). We inherited a tainted nature, a sinful nature, a sinful conduct in need of regeneration.

No one is righteous. The Law, the Ten Commandments was given by God. The Law required perfect obedience to God's will. All people sin and fall short of God's standard. No one is justified by God's law. (Romans 3:20) "For by works of the Law no human being will be justified in His sight through the Law comes knowledge of sin."

Our greatest need is to have our sins forgiven and cleansed. For only a Holy and Righteous God can forgive us.

In the Old Testament times, people brought food and animals to the Tabernacle or Temple as offerings and sacrifices, to God. The offerings were often burned on the altar. Animal offering were killed. Their blood symbolized sins being forgiven by death. The old Covenant, involved killing an animal to pay for sin.

In the Old Testament and old Covenant, Priest and High Priest among the Jews offered prayers and sacrifices to God for the people. The High Priest in the Old Testament offered the most important sacrifices to God. No sinner can approach God. God appointed a High Priest, that could come into God's presence only once a year to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people had been made. The blood of calves and goats for the people sins and his own sins. For he too was a sinner.

We, repeat this again, because of the fall in the Garden of Eden ,all us were slaves to sin and a sinful nature. We were held captive to the powers of sin and death.

We miss the mark, usually on a daily bases, common sins that we overlook, but not by a Holy and Righteous God. God promised us a Messiah, a Redeemer in the Old Testament, shadows and types of Jesus Christ.

God loves us so much He gave us a gift that keeps on forgiving. The New Testament and the New Covenant , His Son to justify those through grace by faith believe in Jesus Christ.

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS

1. Jesus' Virgin Birth

Read (Luke 1: 26-38) NRSV

It matters that Mary was a virgin, when Jesus was conceived. And that Jesus' birth was miraculous. A virgin overcome by Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit. Without a earthly father. Jesus did not receive our sinful nature from Adam. Jesus' birth gives proof of His divine nature and sinlessness. We see God manifest in the flesh. The God of glory coming down to our conditions and our circumstances.

In Genesis 3:15 , God curses the serpent, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between "your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel". The woman's seed is-- He(Christ) that will defeat Satan, sin and death.

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS

God's makes it clear (Isaiah 7:14) "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel." This prophecy reached forward to the virgin birth of the Messiah. (Matthew 1:22-23). Immanuel, God with us.

A Sign was given by God, a virgin birth, identified Jesus Christ as the Messiah, the promised deliverer and the Savior of humankind.

Jesus' virgin birth, His Divine nature(The Son of God) was by the power of God.

Jesus' virgin birth passed the sinful nature to become the Perfect Lamb of God.

The need for a virgin birth of Jesus, was God's Divinity into humanity. Pastor Adrian Rogers explains -- " Jesus Christ did not have his beginning in Bethlehem John 1:1 says, In the beginning was The Word(Jesus). And The Word was with God, and The Word was God". Jesus was the one who spoke the world into existence. And then God translated deity into humanity. That little baby in a manger is the Great God who created the universe. The little baby of Luke chapter two is the Great God of Genesis one. God became flesh".

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is the bridge that brings God and man together. Christ the Creator of this universe, entered the world like any other person. Our human nature is unclean, but the Son of God, when He became incarnate, was Holy and is Holy.

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS

Now, today we have a New Testament and a New Covenant. God gave us His Son, born of virgin, Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty for all sins of all whom God brings to faith.

(1 John 2: 1-2) NKJV " My little children these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."

(Hebrews 10: 8-10)NKJV " Previously saying , "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), then He said, "Behold I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

(Hebrews 10: 12-14)NKJV "But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from the time waiting till his enemies are made his footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."

In the righteous of Jesus Christ, we are in perfect standing before God. Our sins are forgiven through grace by faith in the Son of God.

BE GRATEFUL FOR JESUS