

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

“A RANSOM FOR ALL”

SCRIPTURE READING:

“⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; ⁶ Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” (1 Tim 2:4-6).

INTRODUCTION:

A. Only One Mediator

When Alexander the Great visited Diogenes the cynic, he asked what he could do for Diogenes. The cynic answered that there was only one thing which Alexander could do for Diogenes, and that was to abstain from standing between him and the sun. There are many great and mighty people who like to stand between God and man, but they only obscure man’s vision of God. Only Jesus Christ, God incarnate, can bring God as the regenerating and transforming Spirit into our experience (Bible Illustrations: Illustrations of Bible Truth).

B. Jesus’ sacrifice is the means by which God delivers or saves mankind from sin, death and hell. The Bible refers to the shed blood as the ransom price.

- “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Eph 1:7).
- “In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins” (Col 1:14).
- “¹⁸ Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Pet 1:18-19).

C. Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; Sin has left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow – (Elvina Hall).

I. THE NEED IMPLIED (v. 4)

“Who will have all men to be saved ...”

Reasons why we need to be Saved:

A. We are sinners and lost in Sin

Sin is rebellion against God and God cannot allow sin to go unpunished.

- “¹⁰ As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: ¹¹ There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. ¹² They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one (Rom 3:10-12).
- 1. “**There is none that doeth good**” (Ps 14:1)
 - “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good” (Ps 14:1).
 - **Everyone born of human parents has been affected by Sin.**

2. **There is no one who seeks after God** (Ps 14:2)
 - “The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God” (Ps 14:2).
 - **If left up to mankind, no one would seek after God. It is through the work of the Holy Spirit that anyone seeks after God.**
3. **All have gone astray from God** (Ps 14:3)
 - “They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Ps 14:3).
 - **All mankind is corrupt. There is no one who lives a good life, not one.**

B. We are under God’s wrath – “Children of Wrath”

- “Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others” (Eph 2:3).
- 1. **“Children of Wrath”** – Unbelievers, deserving of God’s punishment for Sin for not believing in Jesus Christ.
- 2. Unbelievers are condemned already because they do not believe in the name of God’s one and Only Son.
 - “He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” (John 3:18).
 - We need Jesus who is “the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:9).

C. We are in danger of hellfire – the place of eternal punishment for the unbelievers (Matt 25:33, 41, 46).

Judgment Day is Coming

- “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Heb 9:27)
- 1. The person who dies without God’s salvation, will meet the same destiny as the rich man – “And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torment ... (Luke 16:23).
- 2. **Eternal separation from God in Hell. Christ the Savior can rescue us from Hell** (Rom 5:18-19).

D. We are Spiritually Dead

- “And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses” (Col 2:13).
- 1. Before salvation, we are dead in our sins – spiritually dead toward God – did not know God – unconcerned about God.
- 2. The life giving power of Jesus can forgive us of all our trespasses.

E. We are Enslaved to Sin and Satan

- “What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin” (Rom 3:9).
- 1. We are either slaves to sin (Unbelievers) which is our natural state, or we are slaves to Christ (Believers).
- 2. Before Salvation, we were slaves to our sinful nature, but now we can choose to live for Christ.
 - “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Gal 2:20).

II. THE DESIRE OF GOD (v. 4)

“Who will have all men...”

A. It is the will of Christ that all men (everyone) be saved.

1. God will forgive a wicked person who confesses and forsakes his sins. God desires that everyone turn to Him. God looks at what we are and will become, not what we have been. God gives us the opportunity to turn to Him, if we will take it.
 - “Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?” (Ezek 33:11).
2. God is patient, not wanting anyone to perish (eternal conscious torment in a fiery hell).
 - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).
 - “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Pet 3:9).

B. “All men” refers to “both rulers and citizens, high and low, educated and uneducated, moral and immoral, just and unjust, civilized and savage, saved and lost. God wants all men to be saved regardless of who they are and no matter how evil they may be” (POSB)

- **Come to Jesus dying sinner! Other Savior there is none;
He will share with you His glory, When your pilgrimage is done.**
- **Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus just now
Just now come to Jesus, Come to Jesus just now
He will save you, He will save you, He will save you just now
Just now, He will save you, He will save you, just now**
- Billy Sunday, a professional baseball player, experienced a dramatic conversion to Christianity in Chicago in 1886 while listening to street preaching from Pacific Garden Mission: drawn by familiar hymns, he was deeply impacted by the message and subsequently changed his lifestyle, giving up drinking and gambling, and soon began speaking at churches and YMCA's, eventually becoming a renowned evangelist for his energetic preaching style.

III. THE PROVISION MADE (v. 6)

“Who gave himself a ransom for all...”

- **Ransom** means to exchange something for something else. To redeem from the bondage of sin, and from the punishment to which sinners are subjected by the divine law.

A. Christ paid our ransom to God to free us from sin, death, and hell.

Christ died to rescue us from God’s wrath because we could never pay the massive debt we owed to God the Father.

B. Christ gave Himself as a Ransom for All.

The work of Christ on Calvary’s cross is sufficient to save all sinners. This does not mean that all will be saved, as our will is involved – to **accept** or **reject** Christ.

C. Christ’s Death was Substitutionary

1. Christ died in our place and on our behalf.
2. Christ died as a sacrifice for the sins of mankind.
3. The substitutionary death of Christ provided a way for people to be reconciled with God and have eternal life.
4. **Christ paid the ransom for us – we are now free from sin, death and condemnation – we can now live with God forever.**
 - “Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matt 20:28).
 - “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45).
 - “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21).
 - “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Eph 1:7).
 - “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14).

What can wash away my sins, Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

What can make me whole again, Nothing but the Blood of Jesus.

IV. THE WAY APPOINTED (v. 5)

“... one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.”

- A **mediator** is a go-between, a middleman who stands between two parties and communicates with both to reconcile their differences. The mediator represents the interests of both parties.

A. Jesus Christ is the One and Only Mediator between God and Man

Jesus bridged the gap between God and us. Jesus paid our ransom. He took our sin in exchange for God’s righteousness – this is The Great Exchange to reconcile us back to God.

- B. Christ is the Only means by which we can be Saved and Heaven is our Home**
- “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).
 - **Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life**
As the Way, Christ is the path to the Father. As the Truth, Christ is the reality of all God’s promises. As the Life, Christ Jesus joins His divine life to our life, both now and forever.
- C. Christ is the only name “whereby we must be saved.”**
- “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).
- D. “Whosoever believeth in Him (Jesus) shall receive remission (forgiveness) of sin” (Acts 10:43).**
- E. “But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they” (Acts 15:11).**

CONCLUSION:

A. Rejoice in knowing that Christ is your Savior, Lord, and Mediator. Praise the Lord!

B. Christ paid our sin debt in full – all our sins; past, present, and future.

C. How To Be Saved!

- John the Baptist referred to Jesus as “The Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).
- The Apostle John referred to Jesus as “The Savior of the World” (1 John 4:14).
- **ABC’s of Salvation**
A – Admit that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
B – Believe that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
C – Confess/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)

From the Teaching Ministry of:
 Pastor Carl Bennett
 Corinth Christian Fellowship
 February 27, 2025

“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).