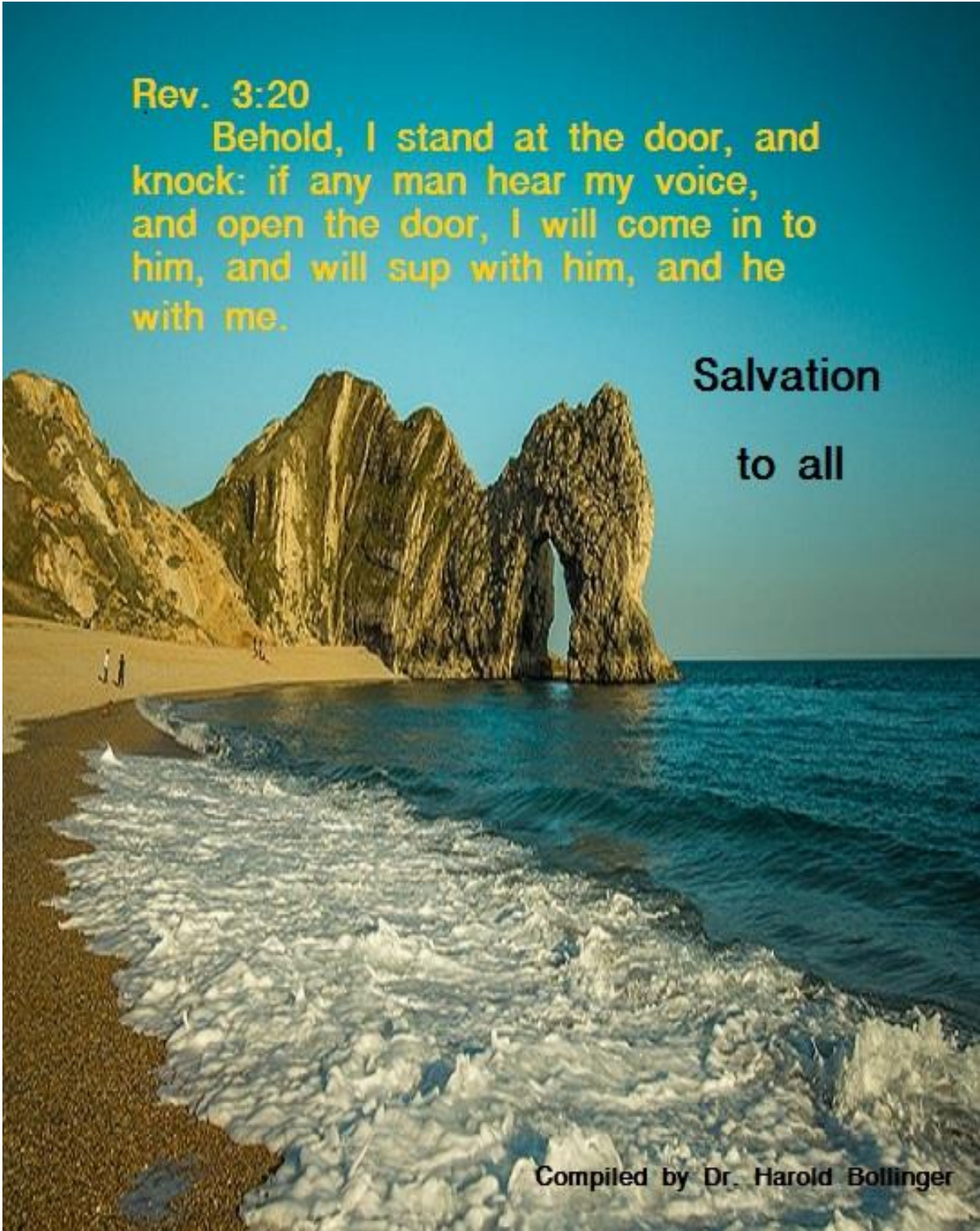


Rev. 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

**Salvation
to all**

Compiled by Dr. Harold Bollinger



Forward

Open the Door

**A bird sings softly in the tree.
The sun shines brightly on new plants.
The sound of peace is gently heard.
Creation soon will be complete.**

**When you open the door of your heart.
The angels will rejoice.**

To ask Jesus to come into your heart please pray this Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

**I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. I ask you to
forgive me of my sins and coming into my heart. I accept you as
savior and will follow you as Lord. Amen**

The voice of Jesus calls to you



Why should I ask Jesus into my life?

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

The entire gospel comes to a focus in this verse. God's love is not static or self-centered; it reaches out and draws others in. Here God sets the pattern of true love, the basis for all love relationships—when you love someone dearly, you are willing to give freely to the point of self-sacrifice.

God paid dearly with the life of his Son, the highest price he could pay. Jesus accepted our punishment, paid the price for our sins, and then offered us the new life that he had bought for us.

When we share the gospel with others, our love must be like Jesus' — willingly giving up our own comfort and security so that others might join us in receiving God's love.



Jesus has taken the guilt and sins of us all

Isaiah 53:6

All of us have strayed away like sheep. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the guilt and sins of us all.

Isaiah speaks of Israel straying from God and compares them to wandering sheep. Yet God would send the Messiah to bring them back into the fold.

We have the hindsight to see and know the identity of the promised Messiah who has come and died for our sins.

But if we can see all that Jesus did and still reject him, our sin is much greater than that of the ancient Israelites who could not see what we have seen. Have you given your life to Jesus Christ, the “good shepherd” (John 10:11-16), or are you still like a wandering sheep?



The gift of God is eternal life

Romans 6:23

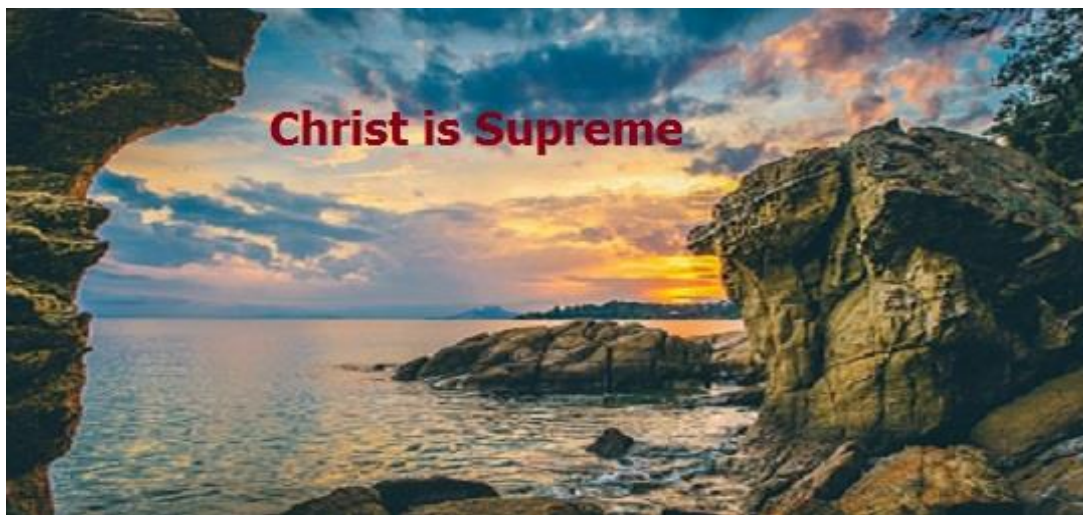
For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eternal life is a free gift from God. If it is a gift, then it is not something that we earn, nor something that must be paid back.

Consider the foolishness of someone who receives a gift given out of love and then offers to pay for it.

The recipient cannot purchase a gift.

A more appropriate response to a loved one who offers a gift is graceful acceptance with gratitude. Our salvation is a gift of God, not something of our own doing (Ephes. 2:8-9). He saved us because of his mercy, not because of any righteous things that we have done (Titus 3:5).



Christ is supreme over all creation

Colossians 1:15, 16

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before God made anything at all and is supreme over all creation.

Christ is the one through whom God created everything in heaven and earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—kings, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities. Everything has been created through him and for him.

Therefore, Christ is supreme over all creation, including the spirit world. We, like the Colossian believers, must believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (that Jesus is God) or our Christian faith is hollow, misdirected, and meaningless. This is a central truth of Christianity.

We must oppose those who say that Jesus was merely a prophet or a good teacher.



Always be eager to do good.

1Peter 3:18

Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good?

This passage shows that Christ's Good News of salvation and victory is not limited. It has been preached in the past as well as in the present. It has gone to the dead as well as to the living.

God has given everyone the opportunity to come to him, but this does not imply a second chance for those who reject Christ in this life.



New life through the Holy Spirit

Titus 3:5

He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.

We move from a life full of sin to one where God's Holy Spirit leads us. *All* our sins, not merely some, are washed away. Washing refers to the water of baptism, which is a sign of salvation. In becoming a Christian, the believer acknowledges Christ as Lord and recognizes Christ's saving work.

We gain eternal life with *all* its treasures. We have *renewal* by the Holy Spirit, and he continually renews our hearts. None of this occurs because we earned or deserved it; it is all God's gift.



Christ died for our sins

1 Corinthians 15:3-6

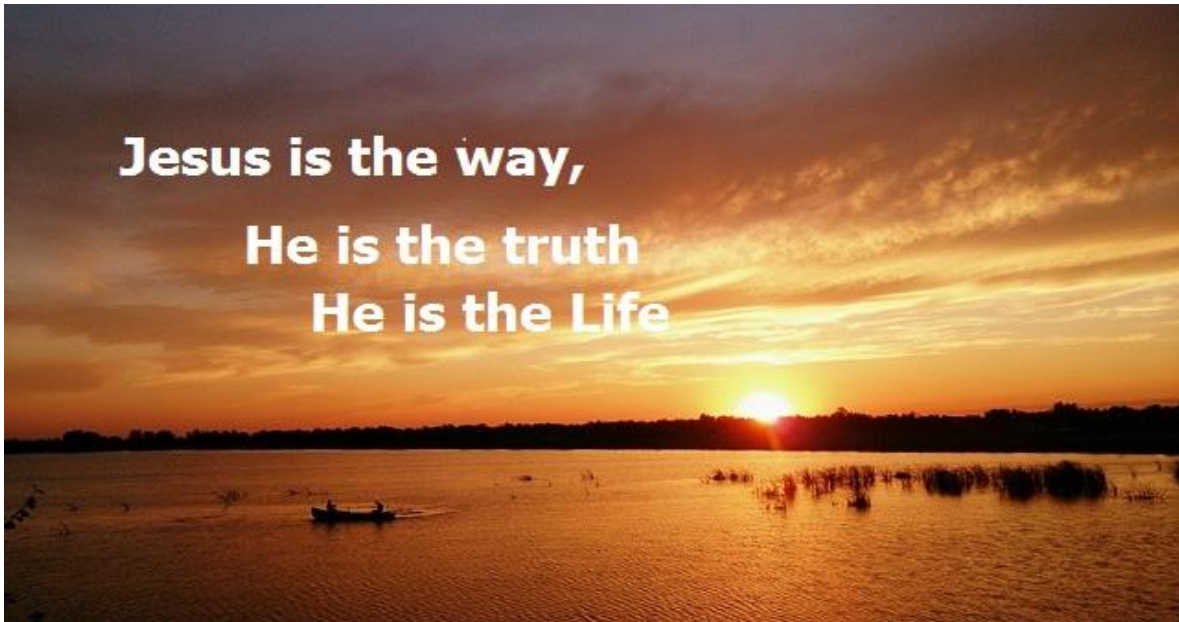
I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me—that Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said.

He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said.

He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles.

After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of who are still alive, though some have died by now.

The Good News about Jesus Christ will save us *if* we firmly believe it and faithfully follow it.



Jesus is the way, the truth and life

John 14:6

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Jesus says he is the *only* way to God the Father. Some people may argue that this way is too narrow. In reality, it is wide enough for the whole world, if the world chooses to accept it. Instead of worrying about how limited it sounds to have only one way, we should be saying, "Thank you, God, for providing a sure way to get to you!"

As the *way*, Jesus is our path to the Father. As the *truth*, he is the reality of all God's promises. As the *life*, he joins his divine life to ours, both now and eternally.



If you are thirsty, come to Jesus

John 7:37, 38

On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "If you are thirsty, come to me!

If you believe in me, come and drink! For the Scriptures declare that rivers of living water will flow out from within."

Jesus used the term *living water* in John 4:10 to indicate eternal life. Here he uses the term to refer to the Holy Spirit. The two go together: wherever the Holy Spirit is accepted, he brings eternal life.

Jesus teaches more about the Holy Spirit in John 14-16. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus' followers at Pentecost (Acts 2) and has since been available to all who believe in Jesus as Savior.



Believers have the right to become children of God

John 1:12

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

All who welcome Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives are reborn spiritually, receiving new life from God. Through faith in Christ, this new birth changes us from the inside out—rearranging our attitudes, desires, and motives. Being born makes you physically alive and places you in your parents' family (John 1:13).

Being born of God makes you spiritually alive and puts you in God's family (John 1:12). Have you asked Christ to make you a new person? This fresh start in life is available to all who believe in Christ.



God saves you when you believe

Ephesians 2:8, 9

God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

When someone gives you a gift, do you say, “That’s very nice—now how much do I owe you?” No, the appropriate response to a gift is “Thank you.”

Yet how often Christians, even after they have been given the gift of salvation, feel obligated to try to work their way to God. Because our salvation and even our faith are gifts, we should respond with gratitude, praise, and joy.



You must be born again

John 3:1-8

After dark one evening, a Jewish religious leader named Nicodemus, a Pharisee, came to speak with Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are proof enough that God is with you."

Jesus replied, "I assure you, unless you are born again, you can never see the Kingdom of God."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"



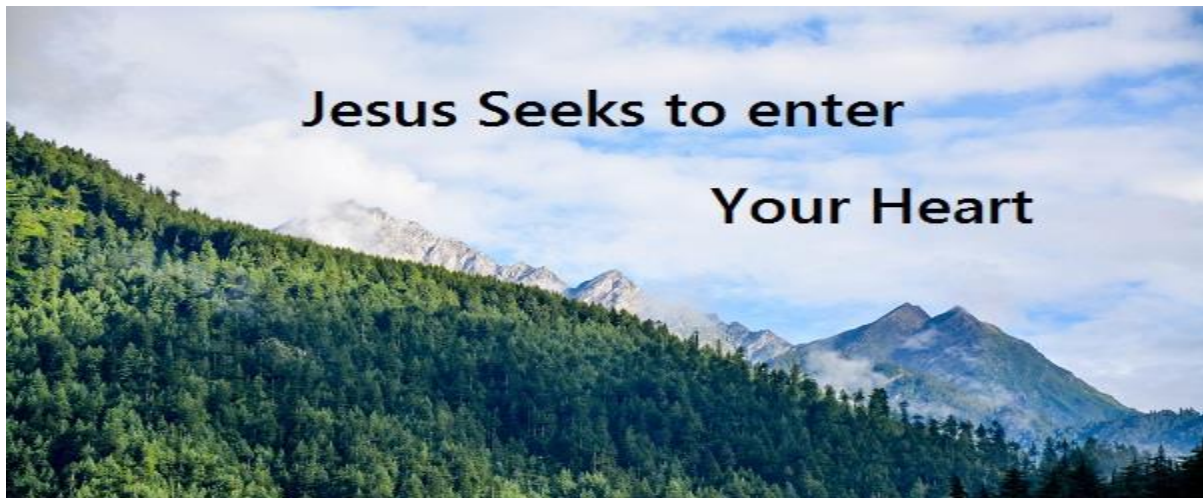
Jesus gives life in all its fullness

John 10:10

The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.

In contrast to the thief who takes life, Jesus gives life. The life he gives right now is abundantly richer and fuller. It is eternal, yet it begins immediately.

Life in Christ is lived on a higher plane because of his overflowing forgiveness, love, and guidance. Have you taken Christ's offer of life?



Jesus is seeking to enter your heart

Revelation 3:20

"Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends.

Jesus is knocking on the door of our hearts every time we sense we should turn to him. Jesus wants to have fellowship with us, and he wants us to open up to him.

He is patient and persistent in trying to get through to us—not breaking and entering, but knocking. He allows us to decide whether or not to open our lives to him.

Do not keep his life-changing presence and power on the other side of the door?

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