

BIBLE-BASED READING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

# Via

*New Every  
Morning*





## CONTENTS

Don't Stay Away! .....	<b>4</b>
Cheating Death.....	<b>5</b>
Is Anything Sure? .....	<b>6</b>
Wealthy Man Wants to Die Poor..	<b>8</b>
Powerful Passport .....	<b>10</b>
What is Your Condition? .....	<b>12</b>
<b>Children's Feature –</b> Butterflies are Beautiful But Did You Know? .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Teen Talk –</b> Where to Find Hope .....	<b>15</b>
One Sheep Matters.....	<b>17</b>
Insurance and Assurance - What is the Difference? .....	<b>19</b>
Immigrant Teen Comes to Know the Saviour.....	<b>20</b>
Free Material .....	<b>22</b>

*All the Bible quotations in these articles are from the New King James version.*

As you read through the articles, you will see that you don't have to rely on yourself to figure out what all the inconsistent information you receive means for your life. This world is full of conflicting arguments from many sources. To know the truth, we need to turn to God's Word, the Bible. There we see that we have a problem -sin- and the remedy is to come to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Salvation is not through a religion. It is through a person. You can rest on the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, "*Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matthew 11:28).

Before we come to know the Lord Jesus Christ, we are like wandering sheep in need of a Shepherd. Thankfully, all sheep matter to Him. The Bible tells us that, "*His compassions fail not. They are new every morning*" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

The front cover shows an early morning cup of hot latte coffee. As you face your mornings, know that you matter to God. He is waiting for you to accept His most wonderful gift of eternal life. God loves you!



## Don't Stay Away!

“Stay away!” A quick internet search of those two words brings up a sad collection of news stories. When the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, many tourist destinations changed their normal message entirely, and have asked tourists to stay at home instead. Many places affected by disasters like floods and fires say it too. Places with political unrest are repeating the same words. “Stay away!” It is a discouraging message. It can leave you feeling uneasy, or even unsafe. And it is definitely unwelcoming! When you need help, the last thing you want to hear is, “stay away.” When you are looking for someone to lean on, you need someone who will take you in, not turn you away.

Through all the changes in this world, all the fear, and all the separation, there is one voice that has a very different message. Listen to these words: *“Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest”* (Matthew 11:28). Even though it

was given nearly 2000 years ago, this invitation is still available! These are the words of God’s Son, Jesus Christ. His loving, welcoming invitation is exactly the opposite of what the world says. When everyone else says, “stay away,” He says, “come to Me.”

This invitation tells us a lot about how God sees us. God doesn’t just tell us we have a problem, then leave us on our own to fix it. He has identified the problem we have - our sin that separates us from Him - and He knows it is a heavy load we can’t carry on our own. No amount of work we do can fix it. But not only does He know our problem, He has made Himself available as the answer! He doesn’t send us off to another person or another place. Instead, He sent His Son to us.

Another amazing thing about this invitation is how much it cost Him to give it. When some people say, “stay away,” it’s a way of trying to keep themselves safe. But staying safe certainly was not Jesus’ goal. For Him to be our Saviour, and free us from the heavy load of our sin, He had to give up His own life, and take the punishment our sins deserved. *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us”* (Romans 5:8). You won’t find a love like that anywhere else on earth. Jesus Christ died to be your Saviour, and He invites you to come to Him for salvation! Will you come?

# Cheating Death

**H**ave you ever had a close call with disaster? I mean so close that you could have died?

I'm sure every single one of you reading this article would be able to remember a horrifying moment such as this. Or maybe the moment wasn't so horrifying, maybe the situation happened so fast that you didn't even have time to blink. But you knew that as you walked away, you really should not still be breathing! Maybe some of you have had such close encounters so many times you can't even remember them all. Maybe you're so used to living on the edge, that death doesn't scare you?

Scripture states that we are living in "the valley of the shadow of death" at this very moment (Psalm 23:4). If you are living and breathing, this verse applies to you. David spoke about death this way: "There is but a step between me and death" (1 Samuel 20:3). Death is no respecter of persons. Time ends for each of us and then eternity.

Many people speak about 'cheating death', but I would like to suggest to you that there is no such thing. We all deserve death. God's Word says the payment for sin is death. It is not our craftiness, luck, agility, intellect, or any



other thing that allows us to escape the swift blow that can send us into eternity. It is God who determines our days on earth. If we have experienced such a blessing as being spared to live

*It is God who determines  
our days on earth.*

a little bit longer, it is because of His mercy. "His compassions fail not. They are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:23-24). Every day even though we are unaware, God withholds judgment, harm, consequences and disaster from us. Have you thanked Him or do you give yourself the credit for staying alive?

God's word teaches us that "it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31). Death will come and we must be prepared. We cannot rely on our own skills,  
*continued...*

popularity or goodness to carry us through. If death should come knocking on your door today, how would you enter eternity? Would you face God as guilty or forgiven?

We may think that we can cheat death, but we can't. We may also think that we can cheat God; which is absolutely impossible. God demands justice for our sins. We can never atone for our sin, but Jesus Christ who had no sin of His own, satisfied God's demand for justice. *"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him"* (2 Corinthians 5:21). He could have caused those who were crucifying Him to fall down dead, but He didn't. He suffered and died for you. He made your payment for disobedience to God that you never could, and that He did not owe. This means death does not need to be feared and you do not need to fear God! If you humble yourself and take Jesus Christ as your Saviour; you can be ready for death no matter how fast it comes or how slow.

For those who put their faith in Christ's work at the cross alone, God promises to take away the sting of death. For the Christian, death isn't feared, it is the gateway to Heaven forever! Are you ready for your death? Are you trusting in Christ's work alone to save you from God's judgment?



I don't know about you, but I am finding that we are living in a day and an age that is full of inconsistent information! Everybody is sure of something, but nobody's stories seem to agree. Contradictions fly at us from our TVs, cell phones and our laptops. How do we know what to believe? How do we know who is telling the truth?

Yesterday, I was visiting a man on a Manitoban reservation. He was certain of a very important truth. He told me that he could rest on the verse from the Bible where Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth and the life"* (John 14:6). We talked about the uncertainty of our times and how the whole world seems to be under a blanket of confusion. I was overjoyed that he was resting



*shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12).*

People who choose to walk in the light, will walk in the truth! They have hope because their paths and futures are certain. They are led by the One who cannot tell a lie.

Would you like to be certain of forgiveness, security, and true direction in your life, despite your circumstances? Turn to God; seek His way and not your own. He will show you truth, because He is full of truth. He will also show you grace. *“The Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear” (Isaiah 59:1).*

God is willing to forgive your sins, because of what Jesus Christ did at the cross on your behalf. *“Who walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon his God” (Isaiah 50:10).* He took your judgment so that you can go free and walk in the light with your God!

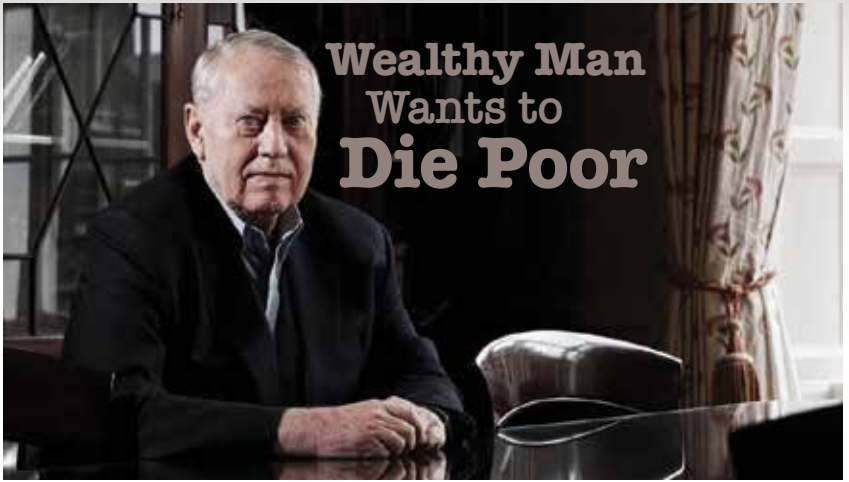
The Lord Jesus Christ offers eternal life for those who will trust in Him alone. When your eternity is settled, when you know that the God of the universe has forgiven your offenses, you will have assurance in this life. Nothing can separate you from His love! Don’t take my word for it, turn to His! *“I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand” (John 10:28).*

God and His word are always consistent!

on the words of the Lord Jesus. The man’s certainty is not based on my words or anyone else’s words, but it is based on God’s Word. People lie, but God cannot lie. If God could lie, He wouldn’t be God!

The world is in spiritual darkness because people have turned their backs on God and on His Word. People are depending on their own reasoning. As a result, confusion, fear and strife exist. As James 3:16 says, *“For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.”*

Where is light? Where is truth? Where is hope? We can’t create these gifts on our own. They need to come from the source! Jesus said: *“I am the light of the world, He who follows Me*



## Wealthy Man Wants to Die Poor

**C**harles (Chuck) Feeney has given away billions. I suspect Mr. Feeney was wealthier than the very rich man who came to Jesus searching for eternal life. Feeney did what the rich man refused to do when challenged by Jesus.

As I write, Charles Feeney is closing in on 90 and reportedly in declining health. He has shunned fame and cherished obscurity over the decades. Over the last forty years, he has quietly given away \$8 billion. Secretly is perhaps a more accurate word.

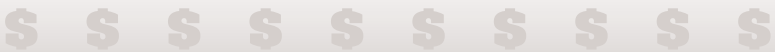
For decades, his goal was to give all his money away before he died. In September 2020, he achieved that goal, and his foundation was officially closed and shuttered.

He made his philanthropic donations anonymously whenever possible. He never wanted his name to be blazed about. No hand-shaking photographs with him holding an oversized cheque to aid a hospital or university. No plaques on walls or

buildings named in his honour. In fact, benefactors like hospitals and universities were not allowed to reveal the source of their massive gifts. We only know about his substantial financial gifts because Forbes magazine and The New York Times uncovered his incredible generosity.

With a desire to help the Vietnamese after the war, he invested \$382 million in helping to improve Vietnam's public health and education systems. When Northern Ireland was torn apart by sectarian violence, Feeney contributed over half a billion dollars to improve relations, encourage peace and promote education. He donated over \$400 million to help heal the wounds of Apartheid in South Africa. His foundation generously supported racial and social equity causes as well as health research.

The very rich young ruler who kicked up the dust running down the road to meet Jesus in his search for eternal life was unwilling to part with







# Powerful Passport



What metrics would you use to determine the most-coveted passport in the world? For some, it might be the passport that would allow them to get to that one country of their dreams without requiring a special travel visa. For those who travel extensively around the world, it would be a passport that is hassle-free for the maximum number of countries without requiring special approval. An added complexity to travel now and perhaps into the foreseeable future is the metric of COVID vaccination and the status of travellers. Some countries are now requiring a Vaccine Passport.

Henley and Partners is a consulting firm based in the United Kingdom. Since 2006 they have been publishing the Henley Passport Index. They regularly monitor the world's most travel-friendly passports and publish their rankings. As of 2021, Japan held top place for the passport that was accepted by the most countries of the world, 193 destinations. The Afghanistan passport ranked last. It is accepted by 26 countries.

Arton Capital also manages a passport ranking site. It features a real-

time ranking based on any changes made to visa requirements or other metrics.

After carefully reviewing both the Henley Passport Index and Arton Capital's Index, neither listed the destination that is most desired by the most people. Even those who possess the highest-ranking Japanese passport are unable to use their passport's respected status to enter the destination preferred by most - Heaven.

Many believe Heaven is a real destination beyond death. Others who deny its existence will admit: "If there is life beyond death and should there happen to be a place called Heaven, of course I would like to be there!"

The Bible is unmistakably clear about two destinations after death: Heaven and Hell. Heaven is the dwelling place of God. Jesus said: "*For I have come down from Heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me*" (John 6:38).

The Lord Jesus returned to Heaven after His death on the Cross for

our sins. He died, He was buried, and He was raised from the dead. Eyewitness accounts of those who saw Him post-resurrection exceeded five hundred. But then from a place called the Mount of Olives, the disciples of Jesus watched Him ascend – until a cloud received Him out of their sight. As they continued to stare at the sky, Luke recorded that Heavenly messengers spoke to the disciples: *“Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into Heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into Heaven”* (Acts 1:11).

Yes, Heaven is a real destination after death.

The question for you is – do you have a passport to enter Heaven?

There’s an insightful narrative recorded in the Bible. One night, a very sincere religious man who practised his faith diligently was shocked to learn that despite his credentials, he did not have the passport required for Heaven. Jesus answered and said to him, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.... Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God... Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again’”* (John 3:3,5,7).

For Heaven, you require the New Birth passport. Jesus was very specific and emphatic when he was speaking to the devoutly religious man. There

are no substitutes for the New Birth Passport.

Jesus said: *“You must be born again”* (John 3:7). The Lord Jesus told His disciples that He, Himself, was the only way to Heaven – the Father’s House. Jesus also said: *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me”* (John 14:6).

Those with Heaven’s passport do not have something to carry but have a personal, precious and precise moment when they consciously accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The uplifting news is that those who may never qualify for the coveted passports of Earth, qualify for Heaven’s passport. There is no bureaucratic red tape to delay the process. There are no legal hoops to complicate matters. You could have, today, the world’s most powerful passport – the passport that allows you to be in Heaven – no questions asked.

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”* (John 3:16). Heaven’s passport is free to you but very costly to the One who made it possible. The Apostle Peter emphasized the cost was far beyond the currency of silver and gold. He said the cost was *“the precious blood of Christ”* (1 Peter 1:9).

# What is Your Con

Compare the human spiritual condition to a medical condition.  
Which symptoms relate to you?

## COMMON SYMPTOMS

---

- Do or think more wrong things more often than one wants to
- inner disgust over doing something yet again that one tries to stop
- an inner void
- unrest
- uneasiness
- guilt
- worry
- fear
- emptiness
- lack of fulfillment
- inner burden, etc.

Based on the above symptoms, your condition is spiritual and serious. In fact, you have what every other human was born with – the spiritual disease of sin. Your sins are separating you from God. You know God exists and you must meet Him but what about your sins?

God says sin is THE problem for everyone. All fall below God's standard. *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23).

Can you agree with God that your sins are the very root of your inner condition?

Sin is deadly – in more ways than one. Sin will take you further than you ever intended to go, cost you more than you ever intended to pay and keep you longer than you ever intended to stay. Its effects are seen and felt every day all around us in the world and within ourselves.

The Bible says the end result of sin is eternal death, separation from God and suffering.

God says: *"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 6:23).

At death, no one can go to God's perfect Heaven with their sins. And no one can have their sins forgiven after they die. *"There shall by*

# dition?

*no means enter it (Heaven) anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life"* (Revelation 21:27).

You cannot personally treat the disease of sin to make yourself better. Religion, church, reforms, programs, good living, sincere efforts and prayers will not cure anyone's disease of sin. Not only will it not cure sin, none of these activities remove even one of our sins from God's record.

Have you ever realized that Jesus died for you personally so your sins could be removed forever? God, who hates sin, loves sinners. The only way He could take a sinner to Heaven, is to deal with their sins. And that's exactly what happened on the Cross. Your load of sins was placed on Jesus, the Innocent One. God punished Him instead of you. Jesus became the Substitute. Isn't God's love for you amazing! Have you ever thanked God for His love and Jesus for His death for your sins?

A cure for a sickness might exist, but unless the person takes the medication, they won't be cured. Christ died for your sins. Your entire sin-debt, He paid in full. That's what Jesus meant when He cried, "It is finished!" (John 19:30) from the Cross just before He died.

He didn't make a partial or incomplete payment for your sins. Everything that God had against you, Christ paid it all completely. Your works can not save you, but Christ's finished work can! God proved His satisfaction by the resurrection of Christ.

The remedy is Christ plus nothing else. Will you take the remedy right now?

---

Heaven4sure.com

## Butterflies are Beautiful but Did You KNOW...?



...that butterflies taste with their feet?

---

...that butterflies smell with their antennae?

---

...that butterfly wings are covered with tiny scales? Different colored scales make up the pretty patterns we see.

---

...that a butterfly's mouth is like a straw? Since they eat liquids like nectar, their mouth stays rolled up until it's time to eat.

---

...that a butterfly wasn't always a butterfly?

---

Butterflies weren't always pretty. They start life as caterpillars which are not very pretty, are they? Then they wrap themselves in a cocoon. While inside, they grow new parts. After a while, they start struggling inside the cocoon until the shell breaks. Finally, they emerge as beautiful butterflies with amazing colors and designs. If they don't struggle to get out, they are unable to fly.

Did you know that you can be a new creature? You won't grow wings and fly, but God can make you a new

creation with a new life. Everyone does bad things sometimes, like telling a lie or taking something that isn't yours. God calls these bad things sins and sin has to be punished. But God wants us to be like Him. So, God sent His son, Jesus, to be punished for our sins when He had done nothing wrong. He died for us, but guess what? He came back to life after 3 days.

So, the way for us to be a new creature is to believe that Jesus died for our sins and tell Him we did bad things and ask Him to forgive us for doing them. Ask Him to change you on the inside so you can be clean and beautiful in His eyes and be like Him. God says in the Bible, *"If anyone is in Christ (Jesus), he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

*"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me"* (John 14:6).

---

copyright Ann Mason

# WHERE TO FIND HOPE

Depression, fear, anxiety and the Bible don't really seem to go together, do they? I mean, the Bible is supposed to be a book of hope, and depression and anxiety are very dark places, which we often don't like to admit we suffer.

God's Word is full of stories of people who underwent much anxiety, fear and depression. Since these struggles are part of the human experience, shouldn't they be documented in God's Word, the ultimate history book of human experience?

What makes the Bible so special is that it demonstrates God's goodness and love over and over as He reached out to those who were struggling. Elijah was fearful and discouraged. Jonah was angry and wanted to run away. Job suffered great loss and physical illness. Jeremiah wrestled with loneliness and insecurity. Yet, each of these people, and so many others, learned great lessons during their dark times and grew in their faith. They were ultimately strengthened. They experienced God's grace as he lovingly dealt with them.

David, one of the greatest Kings who ever lived, talks about his anxiety and depression in the book of the Psalms. His honesty with his own weaknesses gives hope to us who struggle today. He is quoted as saying these words:

*"My iniquities (guilty deeds) have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me" (Psalms 38:4). He also said in Psalm 42:11, "Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, the help of my countenance and my God."*

The first verse is reality. Our guilt, shame, fear, and difficult circumstances in life can overwhelm us. The second verse I shared with you, helps: Put your hope in God!

Changing how you think changes your perspective and your feelings, which in turn changes how you act. This is where the hope that God offers becomes important. He knows how you feel, and why you feel, the way you do. He loves you and wants you to come to Him with your baggage. Let Him carry it for you. *"Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28).

If you are looking for hope, look to the author of hope, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He is hope personified! He was hated and died and came to life again! He was rejected by His own creation; yet He became victorious in this life so that we can know victory in our darkest moments!

You are not alone; in fact the Lord Jesus Christ faced anxiety that was so great that He sweat drops of blood as he agonized over what would happen to Him at the cross. He hung on the cross alone, as He bore God's  
*continued...*

judgment for our sins. He cried out, *“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”* (Mark 15:4). He was *“a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief”* (Isaiah 53:3).

Forgiveness is another amazing solution for anxiety and depression! When we acknowledge our own guilt and shame before God and accept His forgiveness, He gives us the ability to forgive others who have wronged us. Our depression is very short and small compared to an eternity of joy and peace that God has prepared for those who have been forgiven through His Son’s work at the cross. Just the opposite awaits those who reject God’s offer of forgiveness; an eternity of judgment will be laid upon the soul who chose to carry his own guilt and shame.

Please come to God just as you are, acknowledging your weakness and need of a Saviour. Let Him pick you up, clean you up, and hold you through this storm-tossed life! He promises to never let you go! Jesus said, *“in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”* (John 16:33).

You can be an overcomer when anxiety, fear and depression come your way. You can be an overcomer through the Saviour. *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”* (Romans 15:13).



## ONE SHEEP

**T**he Bible portrays many pictures of the Lord Jesus being the caring, compassionate shepherd of His sheep. He is the Good Shepherd who will look for a wandering sheep and bring it back to His fold to be kept, valued and safe forever. *“The Lord will...preserve me for His Heavenly kingdom”* (2 Timothy 4:18).

Where is our source of value found? Let’s imagine the mindset of a sheep, like the one in the parable of Luke 15. He must have thought that he could find a better life elsewhere. He wandered away, curious and maybe doubting the care of the Good Shepherd. A sheep on its own would have been susceptible to all kinds of danger: wolves, crevices to fall into, and loneliness could have snared him as he ventured out in life alone.





# MATTERS

With regards to the unrest in society and to the continuing struggle for various people groups to be valued and accepted, God does have good news!

If we look to people and the things of the world to find value, we will always be disappointed and feel alone. People will fail us. Their opinions and judgments always change according to their circumstances. But the Good Shepherd never changes. *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever”* (Hebrews 13:8). His love for us is not based on what we do or don't do, but on who He is. He is always seeking to bring lost sheep home. He will give us the value and acknowledgment that we crave, because He made us. He is the only one who can give us true purpose.

We can't find value, purpose and acceptance in ourselves because we were never created to walk alone or to depend on people to give us the acceptance we are looking for.

Each sheep in the Good Shepherd's sheepfold was lost at one time. Each one was found individually. Jesus came *“to seek and to save that which was lost”* (Luke 19:10). The lost includes each one of us because each of us has failed to keep His commands, and we have wandered away from His perfect will. *“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way”* (Isaiah 53:6).

Thankfully, all sheep matter in God's sight. We were made for a relationship with Him. However, until we seek Him with our whole heart and find the satisfaction that only He

*When we recognize the Lord Jesus Christ as our Good Shepherd, our perspective changes.*

can give, we will continue to experience the great disappointments that the world offers.

When we recognize the Lord Jesus Christ as our Good Shepherd, our perspective changes. We live with brand new hope and standards that are not of this world. *“While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.*

*continued...*

*For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Corinthians 4:18).*

The world will never have peace, nor the people in the world, until each person acknowledges the Good Shepherd and submits to His care and authority.

Are you a wandering sheep, seeking to find value and contentment apart from a relationship with the Good Shepherd? He gave His life for you so that you could be forgiven and have true peace.

The Devil is working diligently in this world to rob wandering sheep of their lives and to turn them against each other. If you trust the Lord Jesus Christ and take Him as your Saviour and Shepherd, He promises to give you rest in green pastures and to lead you beside the still waters (Psalm 23:2). You will have peace, because the Prince of Peace will live in you. *“Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way” (2 Thessalonians 3:16).*

Jesus said, *“I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12).* Do you believe Him? Trust Him for yourself and ask Him to show you who He is. He will not fail you. He is the only one who is trustworthy. *“You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13).*

## Immigrant Teen Comes to Know the Saviour

### *Personal Story of Derek Lam*



My Swiss mother met my Chinese father in London, England, got married in Zurich, Switzerland, and decided to move to Malaysia where I was born. Growing up in the heat of the tropics, I appreciated my rich cultural heritage and loved the variety of ethnic foods, as well as the holidays associated with the different religions of the country.

I attended public school. Malaysia was a British colony, and for many years, it enjoyed a high standard of education. However, during my generation, the medium of instruction moved from English to Malay, and the average class size became fifty students. It wasn't long before I fell behind significantly with my studies.

My parents decided to move me to a private British school. There the average class size was 15. I loved learning in English, the language I spoke at home. I was exposed to even more cultures and nationalities, because it was attended by students from all over the world. As we studied the main religions of the world, I noticed that they

were basically different ways of people trying to avoid going to Hell and to reach Heaven through good works.

While I was at the private school, I had two close friends, one from Bangladesh and the other from Italy. We would often walk around the school grounds discussing the different religions of the world. We wondered why there were so many different religions, and which one was the right one to follow.

I believed I was a Christian – we celebrated Christmas and Easter. I even prayed to God every night and would ask Him to forgive all my sins. My nightly routine was to list off my sins and end the prayer with, “Please God forgive me for any sin I might have forgotten about” to make sure I covered

*I would fall asleep  
hoping God had heard  
my prayer.*

my bases. I would fall asleep hoping God had heard my prayer. However, I always had the nagging concern, “What if I sinned in the morning, died in the afternoon, and never got to pray at night; would I go to Heaven or Hell?” I had no real peace.

The private school went up to Grade 8. After that, my parents felt it was time to leave Malaysia and move to British Columbia, Canada. While still in Grade 8, my teacher invited us to her church, where we watched

the series, “Thief in the Night”. It was all about the second coming of Christ. Now I had a new worry! Little did I know that God was preparing my heart to hear the good news of salvation.

*Little did I know that  
God was preparing my  
heart to hear the good  
news of salvation.*

We bought a house opposite a kind, Christian couple. It wasn't long before we were invited to a series of children's meetings where I heard the gospel for the very first time. Growing up in Malaysia, I already knew I was a sinner, but I never knew that the reason the Lord Jesus came into this world was to die on the cross for my sins. I remember asking our neighbour, “When the Lord Jesus died on the cross, did He die for ALL my sins?” Her affirmative answer was the best thing I had ever heard!

There wasn't a specific verse that spoke to my heart, and I don't remember the exact date I got saved. However, I do remember thanking God that evening for sending His Son to die on the cross for all my sins: past, present, and future! I finally had peace.

I later got the assurance of my salvation through Bible verses such as –  
*“The wages of sin is death, but the gift*

*continued...*

*of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). As I grew up in Malaysia, I knew the truth of the first part of this verse, but it wasn’t until I came to Canada that I discovered the truth in the second part of the verse. The promise of eternal life was a GIFT through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. In my simple faith, I reached out and accepted that most wonderful gift, the gift of eternal life.*

***I learned that salvation was not through a religion but rather through a person.***

I learned that salvation was not through a religion but rather through a person. The Lord Jesus said: *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”* (John 14:6).

I am so thankful that He rose again from the dead and could say, *“... because I live, you will live also”* (John 14:19). I am so thankful that God loved me so much that He was willing to send His Son into the world.

I am also thankful for the day a kind lady from across the street knocked on my door and shared the most wonderful news I had ever heard in my life. *“Jesus died for all my sins! Hallelujah, what a Saviour!”*

---

Heaven4sure.com



**W**e are all very much aware that care and precaution need to be taken against certain possible expensive disasters.

We take out car insurance because we MIGHT have an accident.

Farmers buy crop insurance because they MIGHT have a crop failure.

***Millions of dollars are spent every year to insure against what MIGHT happen, and we consider that to be wise and prudent.***

Health insurance when we travel takes care of expenses in case of any

---

# Insurance and Assurance

## What is the Difference?



illness or accident we MIGHT have in a foreign country.

Millions of dollars are spent every year to insure against what MIGHT happen, and we consider that to be wise and prudent. But how many of us give much thought to preparing for the certainties God has told us about in His Word, the Bible, and for which no insurance policy can be bought with money?

We have sinned: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Sin must be judged: "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27)

God's holiness demands the punishment of our sin, but His love has provided an 'Assurance Plan' in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. He

not only suffered a cruel death at the hands of men, but God allowed Him to bear all the punishment for sin on the cross. After all this, the Saviour cried with a loud voice: "*It is finished!*" (John 19:30). He had paid in full for our redemption! What a certainty! "*The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*" (Romans 6:23).

Like any other gift, however, God's salvation must be personally received to be of benefit. We must accept the Lord Jesus and trust Him as our Lord and Saviour.

If we could work hard enough, or pay enough, or sacrifice enough to merit Heaven, there would have been no need for Christ to die. The Bible says, "*not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us*" (Titus 3:5).

Trust Him today and enjoy the wonderful assurance that God offers you.

# FREE READING MATERIAL

To learn more about the Bible and its message for you please request from the following list up to **two** items (**North America only**). Your request will be sent to you without cost or obligation.

If you have any spiritual questions that you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact us. We promise to provide clear answers from the Bible.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
POSTAL/ZIP CODE

- NEW TESTAMENT**
- THE GOOD TEST.** A 17 minute DVD involving real life interviews that dramatically show how good we must be to get into Heaven.
- ULTIMATE QUESTIONS.** This 32-page colourful booklet answers 12 questions people might well ask about God and spiritual realities.
- LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE.** A booklet packed with good advice for new believers.

**CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.** In addition you may also request any of the following free Bible courses to study in your own home.

- THE BIBLE – WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?** An introductory study course for young people or adults who are not familiar with the Bible.
- WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES.** A study course for adults containing 12 lessons about God, Jesus Christ, salvation, Heaven, and a number of other topics.
- NEWLIFE BIBLE STUDIES.** A three-year course of monthly studies aimed at young people aged 17 and older. Informative and interesting!
- Bible-Time** Four grades of studies for children aged 5 to 16 years. A monthly, attractive, modern and exciting way to learn about the Bible with stories, questions and puzzles. (Pictures to color for younger grades only.)

View BibleTime & NewLife courses online at [www.bible-n-more.com](http://www.bible-n-more.com) and learn about the PBS Centre.

Parents can apply online or they must complete the details below before their children receive Bible-Time lessons. Attach a list of additional names if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth    D    M    Y

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

Mail to **Via Magazine** Box 551 Portage la Prairie, MB, Canada R1N 3B9  
Email: [info@viamagazineonline.com](mailto:info@viamagazineonline.com)

Visit us at:

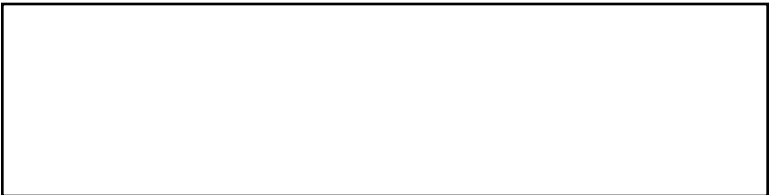
[www.viamagazineonline.com](http://www.viamagazineonline.com)

Related links:

[www.heaven4sure.com](http://www.heaven4sure.com)

[www.btwol.com](http://www.btwol.com)

YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR





*For God so loved the  
world that He gave  
His only begotten Son, that  
whoever believes in Him  
should not perish but  
have everlasting life.*

John 3:16