



People who found Jesus

Here are some true stories about how people found Jesus for themselves,
some of them just in time!

1. Finding Forgiveness
2. Saved! Just in Time
3. Two Died for Him
4. Just As I Am
5. Abide With Me
6. Making the Test
7. Piloted by Christ
8. The Preacher's Boy & the Humpback
9. The Criminal & the Coat
10. A Leap for Life
11. Professor Bushnell's Conversion
12. Christ's Everlasting Love
13. Kept by the Power of God
14. Conversion of a Minister
15. Just in Time
16. The Father's Love
17. The Final Pardon
18. Healed from Double Blindness!
19. Signaling God

People Who Found Jesus



Finding Forgiveness

The Bible tells us that Jesus is soon coming back to take those who love Him to Heaven. It is so important for each of us to be ready for His Coming! The most important thing for each of us is to be sure that our sins have been forgiven.

"How can I be sure my sins are forgiven?" Jesus told us: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall, find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened." Luke 11:9, 10.

You see, Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life and then died on the cruel cross, to make a way that our sins can be forgiven and we can come home to God as one of His little children.

We didn't get to choose about coming into this world, we were just born here. But we have to choose if we want to become part of God's family. The rule is, if we want something from God, we have to ask Him in the Name of Jesus for it.

If we want to be forgiven and become a Child of God and have Jesus for our own Saviour, we must ask -- but He has promised that all who ask WILL get forgiveness for their sins and POWER to stop sinning in the Name of Jesus! Here is one such promise: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

To 'confess' means we have to admit to God that we have done wrong, and say we are sorry and want to stop doing wrong.

A young man who later became a celebrated Bible commentator, Dr. Adam Clarke learned about this when still a young man. A preacher once asked young Adam, "Do you think that God, for Christ's sake, has forgiven your sins?"

He replied, "No, sir. I have no evidence of this." The preacher then urged him to pray for it, and he did. But it seemed the more he prayed, the more mental stress and strain he had.

But he kept on praying. One morning he went out to his usual job in the fields. He began work, but could not continue. So he fell on his knees and tried to pray, but he seemed to lose his strength and could not pray. He tried again, but only thick darkness seemed to settle down upon him. He fell flat on his face, still trying to pray.

He felt he was separated from God, and it would be forever! What he could say or what he could do to find forgiveness, he knew not. It was all a great mystery to him.

People Who Found Jesus

In this fearful time, it seemed words were whispered into his mind, "Pray to Christ!" So he looked up trustingly toward Him, letting his heart go out for the peace and forgiveness that he longed for so deeply. He received what he desired, and his agony of mind passed away!

He found that a wonderful change had taken place in him. He was filled with great happiness. A great light and wonderful peace had sprung up in his soul. It seemed to him that he had entered into a new and glorious world.

Do you think that God, for Christ's sake, has forgiven your sins? If your answer is No, you can be certain that you can have this blessing and assurance just as did Adam Clarke. Will you not then seek for it as perseveringly as he did?

How much he was willing to go through for the peace and joy of forgiveness! He knocked till the door of heaven was opened to his longing desire. You can do the very same. Jesus eagerly waits to give you His heavenly peace that passes all understanding. The promise reads, "And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7.

So if you are not yet sure of having your sins forgiven, if you pray to Christ as did this young man, lifting up your heart longingly to Him for the pardon and peace that He died on the cross to bring within your reach, you can receive just as he did.

If many difficulties seem to stand in your way, keep praying until victory is gained. How glad you will be that you took the important step, linking your soul with that of Jesus by offering up to Him words of prayer like these:

"O dear Savior, I do lift up my heart in prayer to Thee for the forgiveness and peace it cost Thee so much on the cross to bring to me. I come as Thou hast told me to come. And I claim the answer and believe in Thy forgiveness and peace, in harmony with Thy divine promise."

You too will have a true experience in the full and free forgiveness for all past sins. Jesus will give you peace and joy, and hand in hand with Him, you can live a true Christian life!

People Who Found Jesus



Saved Just in Time!

A MINISTER was earnestly giving his message one night. He was impressing upon his congregation the fact that the best time to accept Jesus is when the Spirit of God moves upon the soul. He pressed this fact home to the hearts of his hearers as he said, "When you hear God's call and you know you ought to respond, the time to do so is right then."

Was the preacher right? Indeed he was. How appealing is the God-inspired invitation: "Today, after so long a time; ... today if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." Hebrews 4:7. Then to those who hear God's call, the appealing question of the Apostle Paul comes as an urgent warning, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3.

The convincing words of the minister deeply touched a young man in the congregation. God had spoken to him, and he realized that his golden moment to accept Christ had come. He arose from his seat, stepped out into the aisle, walked down to the front, and said, "It shall be right now that I take Christ as my Savior!" That was all, but he meant every word of it. He had accepted Christ as his Savior, and the great problem of his life was settled.

The next morning the young man went to work as usual in the sawmill where he was employed. Christ was dwelling richly in his heart, and he began singing as an expression of his happiness. Song after song sprang from his lips, and he sang at his work all morning. But just before noon he became caught in the machinery and was fearfully injured. When the men got him out, he said faintly, "Send for the preacher that preached in the church house at the foot of the mountains last night."

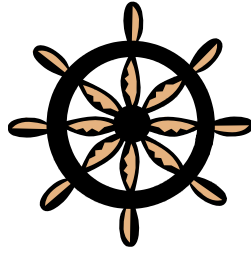
He was soon found, and he hastened up to the mill. Bending sympathetically over his dying young convert, he took him by the hand and said, "Charley, I have come. What would you like to say?" There was a smile on Charley's face that only Heaven could bestow, and he faintly pressed the minister's hand and said, "Wasn't it a glorious thing that I settled it in time?"

How often the tender invitation of Jesus is whispered into the heart in time to save, and how glorious it is when it is accepted in time! Just as soon as the heavenly invitation is accepted and the soul surrenders to Jesus, a son is born into Christ's heavenly kingdom. This always brings joy to the soul. No wonder Charley sang so freely and so fully!

Have you settled this most important matter of accepting Christ as your own individual Savior? If not, as you have seen the glorious results of so doing, would you like to do so? Jesus Himself longs inexpressibly for you to give yourself to Him. With Him by your side by His Spirit to help

People Who Found Jesus

you, you would be victorious in living for Him. So will you not do so? if you will, then say as did Charley, "Right now I take Christ as my Savior!" =^..^=



Two Died for Him

THE SEA sparkled and the birds sang sweetly one beautiful morning after a fearful storm. On shore a lady and a sailor stood beholding a ship, the wreckage of which showed the strength of the storm. After lamenting any loss of life that may have occurred, the sailor asked, "Do you know the Savior?" The lady then asked him how long he had known the Savior, for all was well with her soul.

He replied, "It's nigh on to five years. ... Never will I forget it, for two died for me."

"Two?" she questioned.

"Yes, ma'am, two. My Savior died for me eighteen hundred years ago on Calvary's cross, and my mate died for me just five years ago, and that brought me to my Savior."

Then he told of the shipwreck when his mate died in his stead. In a terrible storm the vessel was driven on a rock. Signals of distress brought out a lifeboat from the shore. It hardly seemed possible for it to reach them, but it did. The women and children were first taken ashore.

Then the sailors knew that some of them must die, for the ship would surely sink before the lifeboat could reach them the fourth time. So they drew lots to know who should go and who should stay.

"My lot was to stay in the sinking ship. What a horror of darkness came over me! 'Doomed to die and be damned,' I muttered to myself, and all the sins of my life came before me. Still I made no outward sign, but, oh, ma'am, between my soul and God it was awful! I had a mate who loved the Lord. Often he had spoken to me of my soul's welfare, and I had laughed and told him I meant to enjoy life. Though he stood by my side, I could not even ask him to pray for me.

I wondered why he did not speak to me of the Savior. I understood it afterward. His face, when I once caught a glimpse of it, was calm and peaceful and lighted up with a strange light. I thought bitterly, 'It is well for him to smile; his lot is to go into the lifeboat, to be saved.' Dear old Jim, how could I ever have so mistaken you?

"Well, ma'am, the lifeboat neared us again. One by one the men whose lot it was to go, got in. It was Jim's turn, but instead of going into the lifeboat, he pushed me forward, 'Go you in the lifeboat in my place, Tom,' he said, 'and meet me in heaven, man! You mustn't die and be damned! It is all right for me.'

People Who Found Jesus

I would not have let him do it, but I was carried forward. The next one, eager to come, pressed me on. Jim knew it would be like that, so he had never told me what he was going to do. A few seconds, and I was in the lifeboat. We had barely cleared the ship when she went down, and Jim, dear old Jim, with her. But, madam, he died for me!"

As the ship went down, Tom said in his heart, "If I get safely to land, Jim shall not have died in vain. Please, God, I will meet him in heaven! Jim's God must be worth knowing, when Jim died for me that I might get another chance of knowing Him."

It did not take long for him to find the Savior, but at first he did not know how to begin. He was continually seeing Jim go down with the sinking ship with the quiet smile of peace on his face, day and night awake and asleep. At the beginning he seemed to think more of Jim than of the Lord.

Then he bought a Bible, for Jim had loved it so. But before he began to read it, he offered up a little prayer, telling the Lord how ignorant he was about the way to heaven, and asking Him to show him how to get there. Then he began reading the New Testament, but after reading several chapters he became discouraged, for every line seemed to condemn him.

So he said to himself, "It's no use, Tom. There is no chance for you. You have been too bad." But as he closed his Bible, suddenly Jim's last words came to him with power: "Meet me in heaven, man!" So he opened the Bible again and kept on reading it in all his spare moments. Then he told how he found the Savior:

"At last I came to that part about the two thieves, and the Lord saving the one; and I thought, 'Here is a man almost as bad as I am.' So I dropped my Bible and fell down on my knees and said, 'Lord, I am as bad as that thief. Will You save me just like You did him?' My Bible had dropped down open, and as I opened my eyes after praying this, they fell on these words: 'Verily I say unto thee shall thou be with Me in Paradise.' I took them as my answer. So I went down on my knees again and thanked Him. Of course I was very ignorant, but bit by bit I saw the way of salvation-how Jesus had died instead of me and taken away all my sins by His precious blood."

There are many who feel much like the sailor: that they are too wicked to be forgiven. They behold their sins, but not the Savior. Let them behold Jesus as He breathes out His spirit into the hands of His Father. "Father," He cries, "into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Luke 23:46. The mighty God, who rules the universe, was still His Father, even at the very moment of death. Does not that fact ensure Christ's power to save and reward to the uttermost the worst of sinners who turns to Him for salvation like the thief on the cross?

There are those who long to meet their faithful loved ones in heaven at last, but know not the way. But as they persevere in their search to know the way, the dear Savior, with infinite tenderness of compassion, opens up the way before them and encourages them to put their trembling hand in His and let Him lead them all the way to the Paradise above. They may have been deeply sunk in sin, but as they turn to Him like the dying thief and grasp His wonderful promise that they will be with Him in His matchless kingdom, the peace of Heaven enters their hearts, a new and holy life is begun in them, and they go forward with rejoicing in the faithful

People Who Found Jesus

service of their Lord and Savior. =^..^=



Just As I Am

JESUS calls to us to come to Him just as we are, no matter what our sins are or how great they may be, or how heavy may be the burden we carry because of them. His great appeal is, "Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:28, 29.

Many take their own way in trying to be saved: Some simply try to be good; others try to live like Christians; and still others try to reach heaven by their good works or great efforts. All these imitations fail. They will not lead us to Jesus, nor will they lead us to heaven.

When we at last respond to Christ's tender invitation to come to Him, He lifts from us our heavy burdens and lets us go free. Our sins are taken from us, and our souls' needs are richly supplied, so that we

may live happy and victorious Christian lives. For all this we have the promise, "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19.

When we come to Jesus just as we are, we come to Him just as He is. We are finite. He is infinite. He makes all the changes necessary to transform us into true followers of Him.

Charlotte Elliott longed to come to Christ, but knew not how. So she went to a saintly man well along in years and asked him the way. He said, "It is very simple. You have but simply to come to Jesus."

Then she said, "But I am a very great sinner. Will He take me just as I am?"

"Yes," he answered, "He will take you just as you are, and no other way." So she made up her mind to go to Jesus just as she was, and said to him, "If He will take me just as I am, then I will come."

So she went home and tried to come to Jesus in the simplest way she could. Then taking pen and paper and putting her thoughts into poetry, she wrote down her simple yet complete and touching way of coming to Jesus. Here is part of what she wrote:

People Who Found Jesus

“Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bids me come to Thee.
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
“Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.”

Later these words were set to most appropriate music by a leading composer, William B. Bradbury, and they have helped many people to come to Jesus.

Then there is the story of a drunkard. He had fallen so low that his family had disowned him, and even his wife had cast him off. One night, footsore and penniless, he stumbled into the Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago. Someone was singing “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy.”

“It just broke me all up”, he said, but he didn’t surrender. After the meeting he found his way to the home where his wife lived with her father. He threw himself down in the yard, hoping that in the morning he might catch a glimpse of his little boy, whom he was no longer allowed to visit.

As the morning began to dawn, the song was still ringing in his ears. He afterward said, “Instead of creeping up to the window, I just crept up to the feet of Jesus! He just put His arms around my neck and loved me! And when the sun rose, I was a new man!”

Many others are deep down in sin like this dear man, who will be saved only by the pitying love of Jesus, so well described in Charlotte Elliott’s song:

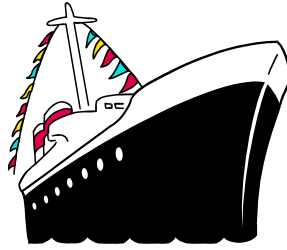
“Just as I am, Thy love I own
Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be Yours, and Yours alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.”

So if you have not yet found Jesus, and are sinking in sin for the want of His compassionate love, you, too, may come just now, just as you are. Won’t you do it? And then your own soul’s needs will be fully supplied by Him, and you, too, will be forgiven and cleansed and made happy in Him. And all the way to heaven He will walk close by your side, helping you over the hard places, strengthening you, caring for you, comforting you, till at last you reach the Father’s house in heaven on high.

“Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today
For a soul, returning from the wild;
See! The Father meets him out upon the way,
Welcoming His weary, wandering child.
“Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today,
For the wanderer now is reconciled;
Yes, a soul is rescued from his sinful way
And is born anew, a ransomed child.”

People Who Found Jesus

WILLIAM O. CUSHING



Abide With Me

MANY have been saved by being courageous for God. Many also have been lost by not trusting themselves to the care of God. They have been so afraid that they would be unable to hold on to God in the midst of the trials that might come to them that they have never surrendered to Him. They never accepted Christ as their Savior.

Yet there have been unnumbered examples of those who have been faithful to God even unto death or when faced with death.

It was about eventide on the Irish Sea. All was peaceful as the "Lusitania" ploughed its way through the waves. A quartette of the Royal Welsh Male Chorus were enjoying the quiet scene, when they suddenly saw a crosswise ripple on the waves and heard a muffled explosion. In a few minutes the boat began to tip. They understood what that meant: the great vessel had been torpedoed.

So they decided to act together and at once. They put on their life belts. They had been brought up on the Welsh coast and were excellent swimmers. So they determined to dive from the deck rail before the ship sank, swim under water as far as they could, and meet beyond the range of the suction that would follow the sinking of the ship.

One of them said afterward: "We were just in time. As we came up within a few yards of one another and looked back, we saw the 'Lusitania' stand upright for a second and then drop terribly and shriekingly into the sea. We swam furiously on and on together. A damaged life raft floated out to us. It was useless, except as something to cling to when we were tired of floating or treading water. All the rescue boats missed us. The sun set over the spot where the Lusitania had sunk. It was suddenly dark and very cold.

"Our fingers, and eventually our bodies, grew numb. We clung to the lift raft with increasing difficulty. Being unable to produce a light or a sound on the sea, we gave up hope of rescue and grudgingly admitted as much to one another. Being Christians, we wanted to worship at a time like that, but none of us felt good enough to pray. But we had always sung-sometimes sacred songs. We agreed to sing one stanza of a hymn and then slip quietly together into the sea. We sang:

'Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!

People Who Found Jesus

When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

“As we finished, a ship's bell sounded.... We took heart and sang the remaining verses. Guided by the music of the hymn, the crew of a destroyer steered directly to us, picked us up, and carried us safely to shore.”

When Jesus was on the way to Gethsemane, He appealed to His disciples to abide in Him, that He might abide in them: “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in Me.” John 15:4. What a wonderful promise He has made to those who will trust in Him: “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you shall ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.” Verse 7.

The one who told of the great deliverance on the sea said, “None of us felt good enough to pray.” Yet they did pray as they sang their heartfelt appeal to God. So also may the weakest of the weak take courage, and even those who have never prayed before, because feeling or no feeling, they can cry out to God for deliverance and help and strength and get it.

They may say with all earnestness, “I will abide in Thee, dear Lord, I will trust in Thee as never before, and I will pray also as never before!” These are the ones who go through their Christian experience more victorious than ever before, happier than ever before, and with a more glorious hope of their wondrous home in glory awaiting them at the end of their heavenward journey.



Making the Test

STANDING on the outskirts of a large meeting, a discharged soldier, crippled and miserable, was leaning on his crutches. This young man became afterward a great preacher, Dr. B. H. Carroll. He had been baptized and had joined the church when a boy, but since he had not experienced real conversion, he later drifted into skepticism and unbelief.

He had read widely of books both for and against Christ, but had found no peace of heart. He was bitter and discouraged. He had sworn that he would never enter another church; but his mother pleaded, as only a mother could plead, that he would attend one more camp meeting, and so he went.

As he stood there on his crutches, rather scornfully enduring the proceedings, the preacher startled him by asking questions that seemed meant for him:

People Who Found Jesus

“You that stand aloof from Christianity, and scorn us simple folks, what have you got?” His heart answered in a moment, “Nothing under the whole heaven, absolutely nothing.”

As if he had heard this unspoken answer, the preacher continued: “Is there anything else out there worth trying, that has any promise in it?” Again the young soldier said to himself, “Nothing, absolutely nothing. I have been to the jumping-off place on all these roads. They all lead to a bottomless pit.”

“Well, then,” continued the preacher, as though he had heard the answer, Let us admit there’s nothing there. But if there is a God, mustn’t there be a something somewhere? If so, how do you know it is not here? Are you willing to test it? Have you the courage and fairness to try it? Are you willing to try it now, to make a practical, experimental test, you to be the judge of the result?”

These calm and pointed questions hit him with tremendous force, but he did not understand what test the preacher had in mind. The preacher continued: “I base my test on these two scriptures: ‘If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God.’ John 7: 17 ‘Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord.’ Hosea 6: 3.

The young man saw that a saving knowledge of Christ rested upon his willingness to obey the truth he found, and upon his perseverance in the test till he had gained this knowledge. So when the invitation was given by the preacher to all who were thus willing to come forward and take his hand as a token of that decision, he at once went forward. His experience from then on in the meeting is related by Dr. Carroll himself:

“The meeting closed without any change upon my part. The last sermon had been preached, the benediction pronounced, and the congregation was dispersing. Only a few ladies remained, seated near the pulpit and engaged in singing. Feeling that the experiment was ended and the solution not found, I remained to hear them sing. As their last song they sang:

‘O land of rest, for thee I sigh;
When will the moment come
When I shall lay my armor by,
And dwell with Christ at home?’

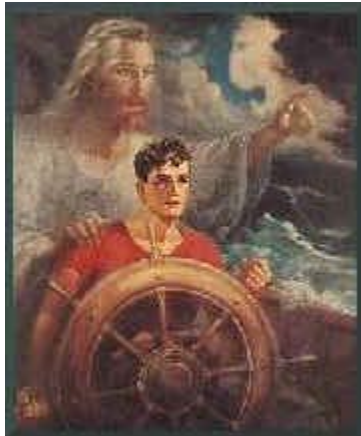
MRS E. MILLS.

“This singing made a wonderful impression upon me. Its tones were as soft as the rustling of angels’ wings. Suddenly there flashed upon my mind, like a light from heaven, this scripture: ‘Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.’ I did not see Jesus with my eyes, but I seemed to see Him standing before me, looking reproachfully and tenderly and pleadingly, seeming to rebuke me for having gone to all other sources for rest but the right one, and now inviting me to come to Him. In a moment I went, once and for ever, casting myself unreservedly and for all time at Christ’s feet, and in a moment the rest came, indescribable and unspeakable, and it has remained from that day until now!”

If you have been living apart from Christ and have found no real rest for your soul, will you not make the same test that the young soldier did? Will you not make up your mind to follow the light that comes to you, and to keep looking for the light till the test is fulfilled? When you have

People Who Found Jesus

done this, the Savior will make His divine presence so real to you day by day, His companionship is satisfying, His salvation so lasting, that you too will be longingly will be looking toward your home with Him in glory.



Piloted by Christ

ALTHOUGH Christ is in heaven at the right hand of God, by the Holy Spirit He is listening to and answering the cry of every soul in need who appeals to Him for help. The words `Jesus, Savior, pilot me” are answered promptly, because He is trying to awaken just such an appeal in every needy heart.

The great transport “Matsonia,” in the midst of a terrific storm, in midnight darkness, with the rain pounding and the wind howling, was cutting her way through a submarine zone on the way back from France. Dr. Stidger, on watch at the time, writes:

“For an hour I heard no sound from the boys below me. I watched their silent forms with a great feeling of respect and affection. The ship lurched through the storm on its zigzag course. Then suddenly I heard of a familiar sound coming from one of the boys below me. It was from big, rawboned ‘Montana,’ as they called him. The sound was low at first, and because of the storm and the vibration of the ship I could not make it out, although the melody was strangely familiar. Then the boy on the port gun took the melody up, followed by the gunners on the starboard, and I caught the old, familiar words:

Jesus, Savior, pilot me
Over life’s tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal;
Chart and compass come from Thee;
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

“Above the creaking and the vibrations of the great ship, above the thunder of the storm, those American boy gunners all unconsciously, in that storm-tossed, tumultuous, turbulent sea, were singing the old hymn that came back to them from their boyhood memories in little churches across this continent. I think I never heard that wonderful hymn when it sounded sweeter or

People Who Found Jesus

more appropriately sung than it did that night as the second verse wafted up to me where I stood my watch on the aft gun deck of the old transport 'Matsonia'.

'As a mother stills her child
Thou can still the ocean wild;
Boisterous waves obey Thy will
When Thou says to them, "Be still."
Wondrous Sovereign of the sea,
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.'

Jesus Himself has promised: "I am the bread of life: he that comes to Me shall never hunger; and he that believes on Me shall never thirst." "And him that comes to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:35,37.

Are you bound for the heavenly harbor? Is Christ your Pilot? If not, then in these days of stress and strain, of fears unnumbered, will you take Christ on board as your Pilot?



The Preacher's Boy & the Humpback

IN A TIMBER CAMP in the midst of the pines, two men were strangely drawn toward each other. One of them was Tim, short and humpbacked, with strong, sinewy arms, who had been in the camp many years and was a general favorite. The other was a newcomer, a tall, broad-shouldered young man, who carried himself proudly erect and had a clean-cut face and steel-blue eyes.

To the surprise of all, Tim was attracted to this man, Raymond Lee. In various ways Tim showed his preference for him, and thus won the kindly tolerance of the young fellow. Tim said to him, "Ray, you've got a lot to be thankful for. You know books, and you've had a chance." Ray pondered over Tim's words. A chance? Yes, he had, and had thrown it away.

One day Raymond and Tim were working with a large party of tree fallers. Suddenly a monarch tree of the forest crashed to the ground. Above the noise a cry of pain and terror was heard. It

People Who Found Jesus

was from poor, crippled Tim. A branch of the fallen tree had swept him off his feet and pinned him to the ground.

Raymond was the first to reach him. Carefully Tim was freed, but found to be fearfully mangled. "I guess it's all over with me, boys," Tim said, trying hard to keep his voice steady. "Ray, stay by me. Oh, be careful."

They carried him to the camp and a doctor was sent for, but it seemed that he might die before the doctor would come. When he was laid on a rude bunk, he said, "It's death, boys. Tell me about God. No one ever told me."

The men were silent, so Tim spoke again, "Ray, tell me. It must be you know, because you're different from the rest of us."

All eyes turned toward Raymond. So he bent over Tim and asked, "What is it you want to hear?"

"All 'bout Him. You see, I don't know much. Can't you tell me about Him? Pray for me!"

Raymond was stunned. His face grew white and stern. His father was a minister. He himself had been a theological student and had been influenced by a skeptical classmate who had lent him books that implanted doubt in his mind.

Thinking himself superior mentally, he had gone on until he had cast aside the faith of his dead mother and had denied God. So he had forsaken his studies, written defiantly to his father, and at last in desperation hired himself out to work in the timber camp. All this flashed through his mind, and now this dying man was asking him to pray for him. A groan escaped him, and he said, "Tim, I cannot! I-" He paused, unable to say that he did not believe in God, to whom dying Tim had now turned.

Raymond could bear no more. Turning away, he rushed out into the forest and strode here and there, caring not where. Face to face he grappled with his great problem, his right relation to God. His skeptical theories fell away from him. He had nothing now to stand upon. Then came a struggle as for life, till at last he reached a decision that meant everything to him, as with all his strength he won his way back to God with the determination: "I will believe in God, and I will obey Him! I will believe in Jesus, and I will trust in Him as my Savior! And I will tell others the story of His saving love and do all I can to win them for, Him!"

The shadows of evening were gathering in the room where dying Tim was lying. Raymond entered, went to his side, and said, "Tim, I have been with God. He has forgiven me, sinner that I am. Now I have come to tell you of His love." Then simply and tenderly he told the story of God's love in sending His beloved Son into the world to die for the lost-to become the Sin Bearer of all who would accept His salvation: "God commends His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." Romans 5: 8; 1 John 1: 7.

As others gathered around, they saw the light that came into Tim's face as he gasped, "I see!"

Raymond knelt down, and one after another of the men knelt with him. Never had he prayed such a prayer before, for a soul was on the verge of eternity. And God wondrously answered.

People Who Found Jesus

"It's all right!" Tim murmured, "Ray, you tell everybody!"

"Yes, Tim, I will spend my life telling it," he promised.

Tim said feebly, "I thank Him!" and in a few moments all was over. Raymond then faced the men and said: "Boys, I have gone back to the service I pledged to God many years ago. You heard my promise to Tim. Will you forgive the spirit I have shown toward you, and may I tell you something?"

"Yes, go ahead," said the leader of the men. Raymond began at once and told them the story of Jesus and His love. That night he wrote to his father, telling him of his conversion. The next night he told the men still more, and the third night his father arrived to help him. The glorious work went on until seventy souls had accepted Christ as their own personal Savior and were rejoicing in His great salvation.

If you have been ignorant of the saving power of God through Jesus, will you with an open mind behold it as earnestly as did Tim, so that you also can say as fervently as he did, "I see." And will you also open your heart to Jesus as Tim did, so that you can be able to say as decisively as he did, "It's all right"? If you do, rest and peace will come into your life =^..^=



The Criminal & the Coat

HOW FULLY can a man be changed by the saving grace of Jesus? In the slums of New York, according to Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, lived a violent criminal who had already served three terms in prison. He was also ignorant and profane. But one cold night as he sat dejected in an alley, a city missionary came along and offered him a tract.

True to his violent and profane nature he snarled and swore, then said, "If you want to help me, give me your coat! You must see that I am freezing!" The missionary did so, although he was thinly clad. Off came his coat, which he handed over to him. The poor man in his great need had put Christianity to the test and found it true. The love of Christ for him, through one of His humble servants, touched his heart and at last brought to pass in him a great transformation of soul and reformation of life.

That man was Jerry McAuley. He had been deep in iniquity and far from God, but he became a wonderful winner of souls as the leader of one of the greatest of city missions. Then after his

People Who Found Jesus

life's work was done, as he was lying in his casket, one of New York's great preachers said, as he stood in a great pulpit and looked down upon his cold face, O all men who have worked in our city, I think this man was almost the greatest. I pay tribute to his memory. He has influenced the city profoundly in his mission."

Then the poor came to have a last look at their faithful friend, bending over his upturned face and wetting it with tears. They were followed by a great company of men, each having a white rose to place on his casket, a last token that he had won them from a life of sin to a life of holiness. There were so many that the casket became a monument of roses to the memory of the man who had been fully transformed and used in the winning of the lost for Christ.

Have you been transformed through Christ, made new in heart and soul? Has He made you unselfish, meek, and lowly? If not, would you like to have Him do so and enable you also to live a changed life? If you have not been transformed through Christ, call upon Him to save you like Peter, who, sinking beneath the waves, said, "Lord, save me." And "immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him." Matthew 14:30,31. How quickly Jesus saved Peter, and how quickly He will respond to your call also if you call upon Him! =^..^=



A Leap for Life

ON A SAILING VESSEL many years ago a young lad was fond of running up and down the rigging. One day he managed to climb on to the main-truck, which is the platform built around the mast. But he was not tall enough to reach down to the mast below and get down again to the deck.

As the vessel was swaying from side to side, it was even difficult for the boy to hold on, and he was in danger of falling to the deck and being crushed to death. His father saw his danger and called to him to leap off into the sea. As the boy hesitated, his father called for a gun, and pointing it at him, shouted out that he would shoot him he did not leap the sea. The boy took him at his word; and as the vessel swayed to one side he leaped into the sea and was rescued by the sailors.

A still more striking leap for life was that by a man who had been let down by a rope from the top of a precipice to obtain something desirable below. He managed to reach a ledge of rock and then somehow lost hold of the rope, and it swung away from him. He then had to think fast. He well knew that the rope would not quite reach him in its backward swing toward him, and he knew that perhaps his very life depended on his catching it. If he missed the rope, the

People Who Found Jesus

prospect was death on the rocks below him. But

he instantly decided to run the risk, and waiting only long enough for the rope to reach its nearest point to him, he leaped for it and caught it and was pulled to safety.

So also is it with a great number of people. In their trying circumstances it is difficult for them to exercise saving faith in God. To them it seems like taking a leap in the dark, a leap for life. But God's promise to them is, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Deuteronomy 33: 27.

If they trust and leap, they will find refuge from their sins, will be saved from eternal death.

God has declared, "The soul that sins, it shall die." Ezekiel 18: 4, 20. So the prospect for the wicked is death, eternal death. When the wicked put their trust in God and believe that He will surely save them, He does so. He makes it a fact. It is not merely a leap for life, but a leap for everlasting life; for Jesus has declared, "He that believes on the Son hath everlasting life." John 3: 36. And He says also in the same verse, "He that believes not the Son shall not see life."

Many a trembling soul, discouraged over his past life of sin that never truly satisfied him, realizes the call of his heavenly Father to come home to Him. Like the prodigal son, coming to himself at long last, he gathers all his remaining strength and leaps, as it were, into the everlasting arms waiting to save him.

He trusts; he casts himself upon God's mercy and is safe. He obeys the divine appeal, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee." Psalm 55:22. Then sweet rest comes to the soul as the burden of sin is rolled away. What a delightful freedom is experienced from all its worrying cares! What lightness of spirit, what refreshing peace, and what uplifting joy come into the life! And the "everlasting arms" of the heavenly Father carry His children on earth till the very last breath of life: "Even to your old age will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you." Isaiah 46:4.



Professor Bushnell's Conversion

People Who Found Jesus

MILLIONS today, know not how to give their hearts to Jesus. Millions more know not whether it is even possible to be saved, or even whether there is a God or Savior. Yet there is a simple way by which they can know and be saved. How? They can start right where they are, with the knowledge they have, and begin seeking salvation, walking in all the light that comes to them. They will then have the assurance that they will find it; for Jesus has said, "For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." Luke 11:10.

Professor Horace Bushnell, a famous teacher at Yale University, was a skeptic, but he was very popular. When a minister went there to hold a series of meetings at the school, the young men, instead of giving their hearts to God, were inclined to hide behind Bushnell, because he was not a believer in Christ.

The minister at last went to Professor Bushnell and said, "Professor, if these things that I am preaching are true, wouldn't you like to know it? If Christ be real, wouldn't you like to know it? If Christ does change men who trust Him, and forgives them, and puts a superhuman power in their lives, wouldn't you like to know it?"

After thoughtful consideration Bushnell replied, "Certainly I would like to know it, if these things be reliable and praiseworthy."

The minister then said, "You can know it if you will just be honest."

"How?" Bushnell asked.

"Take Christ's own challenge, said the minister. 'If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God.'" John 7:17.

"But," said Bushnell, "I do not know how to start. I do not know that there is any God at all. How could I start?"

The minister replied: "Start like this: 'O God, if there be such a Being, give me light on this matter of religion. If Thou has any interest in my getting light, and if Thou wilt give me light, no matter how it comes, I will follow such light wherever it leads.' Take that clue and you will find God."

Then with firmness and decision Professor Bushnell said, "I will take it!"

Three days later he came back, and from the rostrum of the chapel he said to his students: "My men, I have a wonderful thing to tell you. I laughed to scorn all that this man preached, and all the rest of them, and the churches. I have found out that I was in the darkness and they were in the light. Oh, I have put God to the test!" Then concerning Christ he said, "I am henceforth His disciple and friend for ever!"

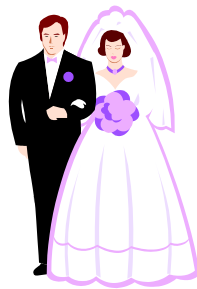
Although many do not care whether they will be saved or lost, God cares and appeals to all everywhere on earth: "Look unto Me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." Isaiah 45:22. What a wonderful experience He gives to all who will look to Him for it, for He says: "Come now, and let us reason together, said the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be

People Who Found Jesus

as wool." Isaiah 1:18. And Jesus Himself said, "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou has sent." - John 17: 3.

Do you have a true knowledge of God and of Christ? If not, will you pray as Bushnell prayed, "O God, if there be such a Being, give me light on this matter of religion. If Thou wilt give me light, no matter how it comes, I will follow such light wherever it leads"? Will you keep this prayer before God till you get the light?

It was only a few days till Bushnell was wonderfully converted. It may not take you nearly that long. It is the earnestness that quickens the answer. To be forgiven, to be cleansed in heart, and to be made holy in life by faith in Christ, who died on the cross for all— how wonderful an experience! =^..^=



Christ's Everlasting Love

It was evening. On an excursion boat off the Atlantic coast, a couple, married only a few hours before, were watching the endless waves of the moonlit ocean.

Suddenly there was an explosion, and the boat was soon in flames. Then there followed a second explosion. Both husband and wife were injured, but were taken to different hospitals. When the husband recovered, he went to the other hospital to see about his wife, but she had gone without leaving any address.

He then began a search that continued for twenty years, until an expert in finding lost people took over. Thinking that perhaps she had gone back to her former employment in the garment industry, he began a search in that direction. At last the investigator paused behind one of the machine operators, and in a slow and quiet voice uttered a name. Instantly her hands dropped from their work.

In a few moments they were back again, but were working nervously, unsteadily. So the same low voice spoke again, "Your husband wants you."

In a voice tense with emotion the woman said, "I am not married! The name you have spoken is not mine!"

"But your husband has searched twenty years for you. He wants you!" the low voice continued. The hands again stopped their work, and the woman quickly turned her face to the speaker and exclaimed, "Do you think a man would marry me with a face like this?"

People Who Found Jesus

Her face revealed a mass of terrible scars, seared into her features by a frightful burn. The investigator was startled, but felt certain he had found the lost wife. But it took days of kind persuasion to get her to admit it and tell her story. The second explosion had injured her, and when she saw the mass of terrible scars, she felt sure her husband would no longer love her, so she left the hospital without a word.

But she agreed to have her photograph taken and shown to her husband, and if he still cared for her, she would come to him. When the husband saw the photograph, with great happiness he recognized her at once and urged a prompt meeting. When they met, it was a happy moment. Others present saw the sorrow and loneliness lift from the burned countenance, and saw it shine with a glow of happiness because her husband loved her still!

Likewise the love of God manifested through Christ draws the backslider back to the Father, for we read the divine promise, "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee." Jeremiah 31:3.

Jesus yearns with compassionate love for the wanderers to come back to Him, walk once more with Him, and at last dwell with Him in His everlasting home, the Holy City, so wondrously fair and surpassingly adorned as to be called "the bride, the Lamb's wife."

Were you taught to believe in and follow Jesus but have wandered away from Him? Or have you never before learned about Jesus and how much He loves you and wants you to choose to be His child?

How much God will do for you if you will only ask for it! He even tells you just how to ask, and what to say: "Behold, we come unto Thee; for Thou art the Lord our God."

So each of us may use God's given way of returning to Him and say, "Behold, I come unto Thee; for Thou art the Lord my God." His everlasting love will make it easy for you to say and mean these words from your heart, and then from His great heart of love will flow the forgiveness, and cleansing, and peace, and power that will make you glad and rejoice in Him.

By His tender Spirit Jesus draws near to you. What assuring words He has given you: "Him that comes to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6: 37. Jesus has loved you with His everlasting love, His boundless, compassionate love; and He entreats you, "Come unto Me and ... rest." Say to Him words like these:

"Dear Savior, I will come, I do come to Thee as Thy dear follower, accepting Thee with all my heart as my own dear Savior. And I will trust Thee to keep me happy and steadfast in Thy love and service, till at last I am with Thee in Thy glorious kingdom for ever!"

Then every day, the very first thing, say a little prayer like this:

"Take me, O Lord, as wholly Yours. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Stay with me, and help me to serve Thee all day."

Then all day rest in Jesus by an abiding, peaceful trust. Let your mind think about His everlasting love for you, and His wonderful promises for you.

"Never a trial that He is not there, Never a burden that He does not bear, Never a sorrow that He does not share, Moment by moment I'm under His care."



You can be Kept by the Power of God

IN THESE DAYS of so many bad habits. We need the saving and keeping power of God. And how great is His power to help and uphold the very weakest!

Let us see how much God promises to do for those who trust Him: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness." Isaiah 41: 10.

God promises to hold us with His own right hand. And He also adds, "For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." Verse 13.

God helps us, saves us, and keeps us through Jesus, His beloved Son, our Redeemer. We read further, 'Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and you men of Israel; I will help thee, said the Lord, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.'" Verse 14.

When we give up to God our bad ways or habits, our Creator makes us into a new creature, victorious over them all! Just as He promises: "Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth. Thou shall thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shall make the hills as chaff." Verse 15. Can you imagine a worm with teeth— teeth that can chew down mountains of difficulties?

Not only does God make us victorious over all bad habits when we give ourselves wholly to Him, but He also gives us glory and joy in our hearts. He says: "Thou shall fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them. And thou shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall glory in the Holy One of Israel." Verse 16.

The following story is told by Mrs. J. K. Burney in one of her booklets about the truth of these great promises of God.

She was asking a man to sign the Temperance pledge and give up drinking, but he answered: "Oh, lady, it's no use. I'd break it right off, and I shouldn't like to break your pledge."

'Listen', I replied. 'Here are some words just for you: "I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not, I will help thee."

"Where did you get that, lady? Would you mind reading it again?"

I opened my Bible to Isaiah 41:13. He read and reread the verse, then said: 'You see how my hand trembles? Do you suppose I could write my name if God held my hand?'

'Oh, yes, I am sure you could.'

People Who Found Jesus

'Do you suppose I'd ever take another glass of liquor if God held my hand?'

'Never, unless you took your hand out of the Lord's. He never lets go of anyone.'

'I've tried a good many times alone. Now, here goes for God and me.'

He kept his pledge, frequently saying, 'It's a good grip He gives me; never saw anything like it in my life.'

"Lady do you suppose I'd ever take another glass of liquor if God held my hand?"

Yes, the Lord is able to keep us at all times from falling into any sin whatsoever; for He says also, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear."

"Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together." Isaiah 59:1; 48:13.

Jesus can keep us faithful in His service all day long, all our life long!

After a meeting held in a seaport town, two sailors were spoken to about salvation. One of them said, "It ain't no use. If we gave up drinking and swearing tonight, we would be as bad as ever tomorrow."

Taking his watch from his pocket, the leader of the meeting said, "Do you think the maker of this watch could wind it up again?"

"Of course he could," they admitted.

"Well, God is your Maker, and don't you think He could wind you up and keep you going?"

"We never thought of that, sir."

"Come to Him, then, and prove His power. He can put you in working order and keep you going on board ship just as well as on land."

They did so, and many months later they returned after a voyage. When asked how well God had kept them, they replied: "All right, thank God! We made up our minds that every morning we would kneel down and ask Him to wind us up for the day, and every night we would thank Him for having done it; and He did."

Is the Lord your keeper? Does He keep you when you are tempted and tried? Are you enjoying His wonderful keeping power? If not, do you wish you were kept by His mighty power all day long and had peace of mind and gladness of heart? You can choose to have it.

God saves and keeps us through Jesus, who is the good Shepherd of the Father's sheep, and who says, "I am the good shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine." John 10: 14.

Do you wish He were your Shepherd, too? He will be, just say from your heart, that you accept Him as your heavenly Shepherd, that you want Him to hold your hand and He will! In this simple way all the blessings of God's keeping power through Jesus may be yours, both in this life and in the life to come.

People Who Found Jesus

Read in your Bible the wonderful Shepherd's Psalm, # 23. It is for you—if you want it! Search your Bible for other precious promises and realize they are all for you. God never breaks his promise! =^..^=



Conversion of a Minister

AT TIMES "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform" in the saving of the lost. A young minister, in the prime of life, went down to a beach for a swim. Being a good swimmer and in fine form, he enjoyed his swim and made good headway directly away from the beach.

At length he stopped for a little rest, and to his surprise he found that he had already gone beyond the distance he had intended to go. So he turned back and struck out for the shore, but discovered that he was in a current that would take him out to the open sea. He struggled on till utterly exhausted and then gave himself up for lost.

He had ministered to a large congregation. But now, with death staring him in the face, he awoke to the fact that he was not prepared to die, for he found himself without hope of salvation. Terror seized him. What was he to do? The very waves seemed to be roaring into his ears the fearful condemnation of the scripture, "When I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." 1 Corinthians 9:27.

He felt that he had been preaching a Christ he had never truly known. So he turned away with horror from all his mere profession and turned his heart longingly toward God. Then with all his remaining strength he made a heartfelt appeal to be saved as he cried out, "Lord, save me or I perish, a vile sinner!"

Quickly there came into his mind the all-sufficient promises: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. Whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." 1 John 1:7; John 3:16. So he humbly and gratefully drank in the words of eternal life and murmured with his last breath, "Lord, I believe that precious blood was shed for me." Then peace came to him, and he lost consciousness.

Later the son of the skipper of a fishing smack cried out over the water, "Father! Father! Look ahead! What is that on the water? Surely it's a man!" The father looked and cried out, "Row for very life!"

People Who Found Jesus

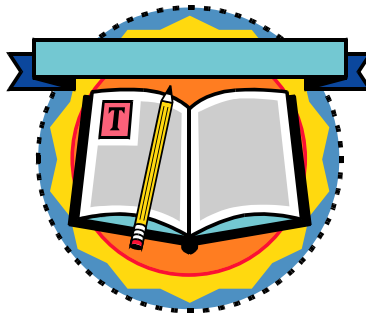
The men put forth all their might. The body was seen to sink and rise again, and to do so the second time, but nearer the boat. "Bend to your oars for one last pull!" cried the skipper. The men did so, and the boat reached the body. Quickly it was lifted into the boat, and all efforts were made to restore life. At last, willing hands carried the restored man ashore, happily in the possession of both physical and spiritual life.

Was the conversion of the minister, who was near death, a true and thorough one? Most certainly, for a week later he was back in the same fishing boat, telling what great things the Lord had done for him.

He said earnestly to them, "When you saw me in the water that morning, could I help myself? I did not help you to save me. You did all the work, and I got all the good. Now, my friends, do you not see how it is with the Lord? He, the Sinless One, suffered in our stead. He took our place and offers us His place. Do you think, however long I live, I shall ever cease to carry about with me the feelings of love and gratitude for the men who did so much for me? And this is how it is with the Lord. When I know He has saved me at such a cost, I cannot go on just as I did, as though it were all nothing. I want my life to show out my gratitude and love and praise."

The hearts of some of those listening fishermen were touched at the wondrous story of how the minister had been truly converted, and they also sought for and found the same salvation in Jesus. Many others are likewise in danger of disaster, yet are without the salvation Jesus can so quickly give them. So in the providence of God some of them are led to see their lost condition and to cry out for deliverance, as did the drowning minister, "Lord, save me or I perish!" Then the same assurance comes home to their hearts also: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." They are led to accept Jesus as their personal Savior and to say as did the minister, 'I believe that precious blood was shed for me.'

"Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!" =^..^=



Just in Time

Like the thief on the cross, there are many who have been saved just in time, some of them only at the last breath of life. Here is the story of one such case. A Christian worker had been handing out tracts and was nearing home when he met two young miners. Selecting two of his remaining booklets, he handed one to each young man.

They thanked him, and one of them stopped to read the title of his: "Just in Time." He was a fine, strong, handsome young man of about twenty-five. Looking into his frank, open

People Who Found Jesus

countenance, the worker said with deep earnestness, "Yes, my friend, and God grant that you may be just in time for heaven!" And going home, he prayed, "Lord, save him!"

Two days later he had retired for the night when a loud knocking made him rush to open up the window and ask, "Who is there?"

"Sir, are you the gentleman who gave a young man a booklet on a recent afternoon called 'Just in Time?'"

"Yes, I am," he said.

"Please come at once," the messenger called out.

Hastily dressing, he went out and was guided by the messenger, who told him that his mate had gone down the shaft that afternoon as usual, but had jumped out of the bucket before it reached the bottom and was caught and crushed, and that he was in terrible agony, unable to speak, just gasping for breath, and that life seemed to be fast ebbing away.

By the time the young man's story was finished, they were at his home. There lay the victim, completely helpless. He tried to speak, but it was useless.

"Shall I read with you and pray for you?" the Christian worker asked him. He made a low hissing sound, the nearest approach to Yes he could make. The worker then said: 'I read to him, 'God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' I spoke to him of the love of God in desiring his salvation, of the efficacy of the blood of Christ to save him. I told him he was lost and ruined by nature, but that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost; that Jesus had been seeking him, wanting him, and having done the work by which sin could be put away out of God's sight, He could now give the knowledge of the forgiveness of all his sins through His precious blood. 'I read to him the story of the father and the prodigal (Luke 15), and also the brief prayers of the Pharisee and the publican in chapter eighteen, and repeated to him the verse 'He that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.' John 6:37.

"A change took place in the dying man. The expression on his face was different. He no longer looked despairing. A glorious hope lighted it up. He made a sign for a drink, and his wife held a glass of water to his lips. He drank just a little; and then, to the amazement of all present, he who had not been able to utter a sound beyond the low hissing, said in a clear voice, with his eyes uplifted, as though he beheld the One to whom he was speaking, 'Just in time! God be merciful to me a sinner, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.'

"Scarcely had he uttered the last word when his head fell back on the pillow, a shivering little sigh escaped him, and he passed to his rest in Christ."

So even in life's last moments one can truly and fully give himself to Christ. What wonderful redemption! Have you taken the stand that young man took? Have you found refuge in Christ from all your sins? If not, let the same glorious hope lighten up your face and make glad your heart as you also declare that you now accept the mercy of God and His salvation, as you also say with all your soul, as did that young man, "God be merciful to me a sinner, for Jesus Christ's sake." =^..^=



The Father's Love

A long while back I read a story called 'I remember Daddy's Feet', about how the emperor penguin fathers stand for weeks in the frozen Antarctic to hatch out the eggs their wives laid on their feet.

In the pages of nature, we find many cases where it is the father that either incubates the eggs, protects them, or even carries them with him. Some frogs carry their eggs in pockets on the father's back; some fish even hold the eggs in their mouths, going without eating the whole time until the eggs hatch out.

I think God wanted us to see something about His love and sacrifice for us, as our Heavenly Father. We have the story also of human fathers, who have made great sacrifices for their children.

Once, on one of the back streets of Paris, a house was in flames. The top stories overhung the lower, so the topmost story was near to that of the next house, which was built in the same way.

On the top floor of the burning house a father was sleeping with his four boys. Awakened by smoke and flames, he sprang out of bed, rushed to the window, and leaped across to the opposite window of the next house. Then he turned, planted his feet firmly on the windowsill, and let the upper part of his body fall to ward his own window until he was able to grasp the windowsill tightly.

Then he cried out to his oldest boy, who was intently watching him, "Now, my son, make haste! Crawl over my body!" He did, and the second and third boys followed him. But it took considerable persuasion to get the youngest boy, only a little fellow, to do the same. As he was making his way across, the father cried out, "Quick! Quick! Quick! I cannot hold on much longer!"

Then when he realized that his little boy also was safe, he was unable to hold on any longer, and he fell to the ground and was killed. Love for his children led that dear father to bridge the gap between life and death with his own body.

People Who Found Jesus

Likewise, Jesus has bridged the gap between sin and salvation with His own body at the cost of His life. In the story, the boys also had to risk their lives in crossing over to safety on the body of their father. It was scary for them, but the only way to safety.

So also at times it is not easy for some to depend wholly on Christ for salvation, but those who choose to do this, succeed. They become true children of God and are safe.

Likewise, the heavenly Father gave His all in Jesus, through whom God had created all things; for we read, "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19.

Christ willingly sacrificed Himself. We read of Him that He has the love of a father: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

How the heavenly Father makes His anxious appeal to His wandering children on earth: "Hasten, My son! Hasten, My daughter! Be quick to accept Jesus while you may! Oh, be quick! Be quick!"

Many a straying child of God, and many a deep-dyed sinner, has heard God's loving call and has hastened to respond. The most important step is deciding to serve God, and this is made in a moment. There may be a long time spent thinking about it, but the decision to surrender to God takes but a moment. How wonderful it is that we may choose to serve God in a moment of time, and that God accepts us just as quickly when we do! =^..^=



The Final Pardon

SOME who are wandering in the depths of sin tremble on the brink of accepting pardon through the blood of Christ. Yet the Bible declares: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:7.

Alexander H. Stephens, governor of Georgia, lay dying. When it became known that he was near death, leading men of the state gathered about him, urging him to sign important documents. But he waved them all aside and asked his secretary to bring to him an old faded paper out of his desk.

When this was done, it was found to be an appeal from a humble woman back in the hills for the pardon of her son, who was then in the state penitentiary. The great men around him urged him to delay signing the plea for pardon until he had attended to their important matters, but he replied, "No, I am going to sign this! The great matters will take care of themselves." So when he had been propped up on his pillow, he took the fervent, faded appeal and, dipping his

People Who Found Jesus

pen in the ink, wrote across it "PARDONED." Underneath it he scrawled his name, "Alexander H. Stephens, Governor" and dropped back on his pillow dead!

Likewise, the last words of Jesus on the cross made sure or signed, as it were, with His own blood, the pardon of all who would trust in Him for pardon and peace when He cried out, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Luke 23: 46. And at this very moment Jesus is the same pardoning Savior who has promised, "If you shall ask anything in My name, I will do it." John 14: 14.

Have you been pardoned through Christ? Have you been set free from all your sins? Have you been given a new life from above? If not, remember that when He comes, very soon now, it will be too late to be pardoned; for He will come, as we read, "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thessalonians 1:8. And how near Jesus' coming is today!

Just think: Jesus died for your sins in order to be able to offer you pardon, whether you accept it or not. Shall He have died in vain for you? How great is the peace that comes with His pardon, and how quickly the burden of sin rolls away! =^..^=



Healed from Double Blindness!

AT TIMES a double miracle of saving grace is performed by the healing of both body and soul. The healing of the physical malady is first received, and this leads to the healing of the soul. This is how many were won for Christ in the early days of the gospel. The following incident illustrates an instance of double healing. It occurred in the lifetime of S. M. Rugg, a former wealthy mine owner, who had lost his fortune and gone to Alaska to seek another.

On the way to the goldfields his eyesight began to fail him. Coming to a deserted cabin, he stopped to rest for a few days and to give his eyes a chance to recover. But to his surprise they gradually got worse, and he soon found himself blind. He vividly tells of his utterly hopeless condition:

"A panorama of my past life went before me. I was compelled to think, and I also discovered that I was cornered. There seemed to me to be no way out. I did not believe I would ever see again. I felt that if I could only die and never be found, it would be a relief. Twice in my life before I had been given up to die, but this was worse. I wanted to die and could not."

People Who Found Jesus

In his loneliness and lost condition he began to feel his need of God and of a Savior. He remembered his mother's prayers, how she used to pray back in the barn where no one could see her. How he wished that he could believe as she did! He then began to think about praying for himself. That seemed to be all that was left for him to do, except to starve and die. So he begged him to pray, asking God to send someone to deliver him. He prayed all that day and all night until he went to sleep. He felt better, too, while he was praying. He continued to pray for three days and nights constantly, except when he would sleep a little. But there was no answer.

Then his eyes were turned upon himself. He knew he was a sinner, and he tried to think of something else but could not. Involuntarily he would begin again to pray. His past life passed before him, his years of unbelief and doubt and sin. He wondered whether that was why God did not answer him. And at last he felt that all hope was gone.

"Finally," he said, "I began to repent of my past life. I saw that I had made an awful mistake. My feelings overcame me for a time.... I said to myself, 'I will not give up! I will pray again!' I determined to ask God to answer, so that I might know that He heard me. If He would do so, I would believe on Him the rest of my life."

Then came the wonderful turning point in his experience, as told by himself, a miraculous answer to his prayer:

"My sight came to me in the twinkling of an eye! I could see as well as ever. It was sudden-so sudden that it surprised me. I was entirely overcome, and for a time I forgot everything! 'Oh,' I exclaimed, 'God has heard and answered my prayer! This is the most wonderful thing I have ever heard of! God must be here!'

"It seemed that I could feel His very presence. Yes, yes, God was surely there, for He had given me my sight! There is no mistake about it. I was sure that I was blind, but now I can see. Oh, this is wonderful! If I had only known about this wonderful God, I would have served Him all the days of my life!"

Then, as usual when God in 'a most outspoken way answers prayer, he could hardly contain himself for joy. So he says:

"I began to get happy. I shouted as loud as I could, 'Glory to God!' I danced around that old cabin and praised God. I got the door open, got out, and on top of the hard snow. The sun was shining. The whole woods seemed to be alive, and everything seemed to be praising God. My spiritual eyes had been opened. I was looking upon a new world. While nature seemed to dance, glisten, and sparkle, the blessings in my own soul were more wonderful. I was filled with the glory of God. Such peace, such ecstasy. And such a manifestation of God's presence are simply beyond language to describe. The impression made upon my mind is indelible. My whole life was changed in a moment! Old things had passed away; all things had become new."

Mr. Rugg was greatly used by God as he gave the story of his experience to thousands, his burning desire being to lead others to enter into the same blessed experience of being born again into the kingdom of Christ. He continues: "I want the whole world to know that God will meet a needy man, that God will convince him of sin, that God will fill his soul and change him in the twinkling of an eye, that God's Word is true, that there is a supernatural birth. To get into

People Who Found Jesus

this world, we must be born into it. To get into the other and better world, we must be 'born again.'

How determined God makes the hearts of those who are seeking God's blessing and salvation, leading them to say when they are tempted to give up, "I will not give up! I will pray again!" It was this that turned the tide in Mr. Rugg's experience and brought to him his wonderful blessing of healing and made him a new man in Christ. So to every soul longing for such blessings, Rugg appeals:

"Oh, that the world might taste and see the riches of His grace! The riches of earth, such as gold, silver, and precious stones, are but for a time—a little while—then they fade away. But the riches of heaven that God pours into the soul will last forever. The more of these heavenly riches you compass here, the richer you will be over yonder. Friend, do not wait until you are old. Accept this free gift today. 'Today if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.' Hebrews 3:7, 8. I was sixty-four years old when God met me in that lonely cabin. I had but one chance in ten thousand. How narrow was my escape! How fearful to contemplate! Hear the plea of one who knows. Do not delay!"



Signaling God

MANY will be saved because they cry out to God for the help they need and for His salvation. They may be coarse in manner, unlearned in mind, and simple in speech; but if they cry out to God with all the earnestness they have, with whatever words they can use, they can be fully assured that God will abundantly answer.

The prophet says, "Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto Him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously." If they do so, the Lord promises: "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for Mine anger is turned away." Hosea 14:2,4.

The commander of a war vessel in the British Navy loved to order a sail drill in rough weather. It was a day of rough weather off the coast of Cyprus. "Clear the decks for action!" rang out his command. "Stand by! Bear out on the yardarm!"

People Who Found Jesus

But as his order was being executed, something happened to the captain of the fore-tops out on the yardarm. He lost his grip and fell with a sickening thud to the deck-dead.

Nevertheless the same drill was ordered on the following day. But the new captain of the fore-tops also bungled and likewise fell to the deck dead. Both men were buried at sea that afternoon. On the next day the drill was again ordered.

The new captain of the fore-tops was Billy Hicks, one of the best seamen in the British Navy. He was a cheery fellow, who in the past had been given to drink. But as he had been sober for a long time, he received the promotion. Yet the superstitious sailors thought, "Two men out-the third had to go." But he didn't. The new captain did his work with skill and came down with laughter.

But there was a great secret concerning his escape and victory, for some days later an officer from another vessel came on board and asked if there was a man named Hicks in the crew. When told that there was, he said to the commander, "We were thirty miles out at sea the other night, when I saw a light flashed on the dark clouds. I told our signalman to take down the code. This is what he gave me:

"God, this is Billy Hicks. I am not afraid of no man nor devil. I ain't afraid of no Davy Jones's locker, neither. I don't ask for no favors, but just one. This is it: When I strike the fore-tops tomorrow, let me do it with what is clean; and, God, dear God, from this 'ere day give me the feeling I used to have long ago when I knelt at my mother's knee and said, "Our Father." Good night, dear God!"

Billy Hicks' way of praying to God may seem coarse, but it was the most direct and certain that he knew. And what a wonderful success it was, for he was not only saved from death in his difficult task, but also saved from wicked living from that day forward.

Over and over again men have prayed to God for light and help in an honest effort to be enlightened and saved. God always answers an honest doubter who pleads for light and salvation. Some do not know how to pray, but they need not be troubled over that. There is no set form of prayer. All that is necessary is to ask for the help you need, just as you would ask it from a friend, or as a child would ask it from a father or mother. It is really a simple matter, and the more simple the prayer, the better.

Billy Hicks' way of praying was quite a strange one, but it exactly suited his experience and need. That is all that is necessary.

Have you prayed to God for the help you need in order to serve Him? Do not delay! How fast time is now passing in these closing days of the world! God's salvation is the greatest blessing you can ever have. It is worth every effort to gain it. Jesus is eager to give you forgiveness and power to live a holy life.

So if you have not made prayer a daily habit, will you not start? If you do, you can be sure that your experience will be a really happy one. Heaven is full of joy, and God delights in making even His children on earth happy in heart even in the trials of life. And then you can look forward to a whole eternity of happiness at last in the heavenly mansions prepared for you to enjoy as long as the ages of eternity roll. =^..^=