Previous Study | Index | Next Study



~ Lesson #10 ~

Sin And Its Cure

Caryl Chessman gained nationwide recognition when, as a convicted kidnapper on death row, he waged a stubborn legal fight for his life.

By one legal maneuver after another Chessman succeeded in postponing the fearful day when he would lose his life. For months and years he was able to stall for time. During this period of waiting he even had time to write a book telling his story and the reason why he thought he should be released. At last the final appeal was made and turned down. His last chance of pardon had been exhausted. There was no more hope! Down to the last minute he held on to a thread of hope that he would be saved. But that failed and he was executed. The courts had found him guilty, and the state carried out the sentence.

This man desperately fighting for every hour of life reminds us of the plight of the sinner without Christ. When we committed the first wrong act, we passed under the sentence of death. If we do not receive mercy, and if we are not pardoned, we will not only die the first death, but we will be consumed in the lake of ?re at the end of this world's history. In the Bible this is called the "second death." <u>Revelation 20:14</u>.

Life is very precious, and most men will do almost anything to try to prolong the few short years they are granted. When we think of eternity, without pain, sorrow, sickness, or death, how much more anxious should we be to make certain we do not lose eternal life. If every person were as earnest in seeking eternal life as Mr. Chessman was in prolonging his life on this earth, there would be many more people saved when Christ returns.

THE BIBLE SAYS

<i>1</i> .	What	is	sin?	<u>I John 3:4</u>
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The Bible Says:

2. How many of the human race have sinned? <u>Romans 3:10, 23</u>

The Bible Says: _____

3. What are the wages of sin and how many deserve it? <u>Romans 6:23;</u> <u>Romans 5:12</u>

The Bible Says:

4. What does God promise to give us through Jesus Christ? <u>Romans 6:23</u>

The Bible Says:

5. Through whom does God intend to take away our sins? <u>John 1:29</u>

The Bible Says:

6. How does the Lamb of God remove our sins? <u>Romans 5:6-9</u>

The Bible Says: "While we were yet sinners

7. What does God use to make us clean? <u>I John 1:7</u>

The Bible Says: _____

8. When we fully realize that it was for our sins that Christ died, what will we want to know? <u>Acts 2:36, 37</u>

The Bible Says: _____

9. What must we do before God can cleanse us from sin? <u>Acts 3:19</u>; <u>Acts 2:38</u>

The Bible Says:

10. What two things will true repentance lead us to do? <u>Proverbs 28:13</u>

The Bible Says:

11. If we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness, what does God promise to do? <u>I John 1:9</u>

The Bible Says:

12. How complete will be God's forgiveness? <u>Hebrews 8:12</u>

The Bible Says:

13. Although converted how unworthy did Paul feel? <u>I Timothy 1:15</u>

The Bible Says:

14. What assurance filled Paul's heart as he neared the end of his life? <u>II Timothy 4:7, 8</u>

The Bible Says:

15. What was Paul's prescription for salvation? <u>Acts 16:22-31</u>

The Bible Says: _____

(Verse 31)

Paul became a great saint only after he recognized that he was a great sinner. Paul gave his life to the only One who could change him. At the time of his conversion he was on the way to Damascus to persecute the Christians there. He thought he had been doing the will of God, but soon realized that he had been doing the work of the enemy. When he was shown his error, he was willing to let God change him. He made a complete surrender of self. He was willing to let God show him the way that he should go. Like Paul, we must recognize our sinfulness and repent of our sins. When we realize that our sins broke the heart of our Saviour and caused His death upon the cross of Calvary, we will come to Him for cleansing, and His blood will make us white as snow.

If you feel your need of forgiveness, why not come to Christ this very day? Confess your sins and let God lift the load of guilt and shame. He will freely forgive and forget your sins. His invitation is "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18.

One of the most eloquent prayers ever offered was that of a man seventy-

eight years old. He simply prayed, "Dear Lord, be merciful and forgive all of my sins, and I will be much obliged to you. Amen." In this way he found forgiveness through Christ. We can be certain that God heard and answered that prayer, for it came from the depth of the man's heart. You may receive Christ as your Saviour today and make certain of complete forgiveness. Will you join the penitent publican in his petition, "God, be merciful to me a sinner?" Luke 18:13

If this is your prayer also, please place a check in the square.

Next Lesson: <u>How You Can Become A New Person</u>

Back To Top

Previous Study | Index | Next Study