

THE LOVE OF JESUS
GALATIANS 2:20

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible tells me that Jesus loved me. (Gal. 2.20; Rev. 1.5)
2. We can better understand the love of Jesus by giving some consideration to the Abraham and Isaac.

I. COMPARISON

- A. Who are the main characters in the account of Genesis 22?
 1. Abraham: Father of multitudes. (Gen. 22.1; Rom. 4.11)
 2. Isaac. Laughter. (Gen. 22.2; Gal. 4.28)
 3. The Angel of the LORD. (Gen. 22.11; Ex. 14.19)
- B. There are six comparisons between Isaac and Jesus.
 1. The only begotten son. (v. 2; Heb. 11.17; John 3.16)
 2. Offered outside Jerusalem. (v. 2; 2 Chr. 3.1; Luke 23.28)
 3. Both were solemn offerings. (v. 2)
 4. The significance of the third day. (vs. 3,4; Matt. 17.22,23)
 5. Both carried wood. (v. 6; John 19.17)
 6. The sacrifice that was offered. (vs. 7,8)

II. SUPPLICATION

- A. **HEBREWS 5.7:** “...when He had offered up prayers and supplications...” (cf. Matt. 26.39; Mark 11.35; Luke 22.41)
- B. What did Jesus pray? (Matt. 26.39)
 1. Addressed Him as His Father. “O My Father”
 2. He knew God had the power to save Him. “If it is possible” (cf. Heb. 5.7)
 3. Unlike with Isaac, there would be no substitute. God’s answer was no. Why? “Not as I will, but as You will”

III. ADORATION

- A. **REVELATION 4.11:** The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders give praise to God.
- B. **REVELATION 5.8-12:** The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders give praise to Christ.

CONCLUSION: Jesus endured the cross for you.

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

February 19, 2023

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

WHEN I AM WEAK

Christians tend to make assumptions about God and the way in which He involves Himself in their lives. We pray for strength and expect God to remove whatever weakness is hindering us. However, God does not always do what we expect Him to do.

When Paul wrote about the thorn in his flesh, he prayed three times for it to be removed (2 Cor. 12.7,8). Instead of removing it, God replied, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12.9). Praying for strength does not mean that God is going to remove the weakness. Sometimes God gives us the strength to endure the difficulties of life.

When the master gave talents to his servants he gave “each according to his own ability” (Matt. 25.15). He did not expect the one with a single talent to produce the same results as the servant with the ten talents. When the servant returned having produced nothing, the master only criticized him for not doing what he could do. Not what the others did (Matt. 25.27).

That we are weak in a particular area of service, be it evangelism, leading in prayer or singing, or being a source of encouragement to others, does not require us to do more than we can. Nor can we use weakness as an excuse to do nothing. God expects us to do the best of what we can do. (Mark 14.8). In our weakness we are reminded of just how much we are dependent on God. CLP

ARE YOU GOING TO HEAVEN

REVELATION 21:4

INTRODUCTION:

1. Heaven is a beautiful place that comes with immeasurable blessings, but who is going to be allowed entrance? Will you?
2. This is a question that is quickly answered, yet many do not answer the question correctly.
3. Revelation 21 helps us to answer the question.

I. THOSE WHO THIRST

- A. **REVELATION 21.5,6:** *“I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.”*
- B. The thirsty are those who have an insatiable desire to be right with God. (Matt. 5.6; John 4.13,14)
- C. Jesus is the only One who can satisfy our hunger and thirst to be right with God. (John 6.35; 14.6; Eph. 2.18)

II. THOSE WHO OVERCOME

- A. **REVELATION 21.7,8:** *“He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.”*
 1. Overcomes (nikeo): Literally, to conquer.
 2. What are we to overcome? (James 4.7; 1 Pet. 5.8,9)
- B. What does the devil offer that we must resist?
 1. There are three avenues of temptation. (1 John 2.15,16)
 2. If we do not overcome the world, we make ourselves an enemy of God. (James 4.4)

III. THOSE WHO ARE SAVED

- A. **REVELATION 21.24:** *“And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light.”*
- B. Who are among the saved?
 1. Those who do what God says to do in order to be saved. (Mark 16.16; 2 Cor. 7.10; Rom. 10.9,10; 1 Pet. 3.21)
 2. Those who remain saved.

IV THOSE WHO ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE

- A. **REVELATION 21.27:** *“only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.”*
- B. Whose names are written in the book of life? (Ps. 69.38; Heb. 12.23)

CONCLUSION: The Bible tells us how to get to heaven!

HEAVENLY CITIZENSHIP

There is great city pride to the citizens of Las Vegas, just as there is great pride of citizens of any city. This pride is seen in the desire for the home team to win. There is a sense of belonging that comes from being a part of the community. There is interest in the welfare of the city, the city’s economy, and the elected officials who govern our city. If anyone asks, one is proud to retort that they are a Las Vegan. One of the benefits of living in Las Vegas and Nevada in general is the exemption from paying state taxes.

This same city pride was also felt by those who lived in the city of Philippi. As a city in ruins, Philip II of Macedonia (father of Alexander the Great), restored the city and named it after himself in the third century B.C. Later, under Augustus Caesar, the city of Philippi became a Roman military village from which the Romans could control the surrounding region. Therefore, being a military installation, the citizens had the unique privilege of being exempt from taxes which further fueled their pride.

It was to these Philippian citizens that Paul wrote, *“For our citizenship is in heaven”* (Phil. 2.20). These Christians who understood the value of citizenship were now being reminded that they were residents of a city which enjoyed even greater benefits. One day they would live in the great spiritual city which is heaven.

As nice as it is to live in a place that has such benefits, it is not eternal. The Hebrew writer expressed this thought when he said, *“For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come”* (Heb. 13.14). Additionally, every city contains worldly elements that draw us to temptation, but in Las Vegas the problem is so blatant that our home is even (and proudly) dubbed “Sin City”. Yet in heaven we are promised that *“there shall by no means enter into it anything that defiles”* (Rev. 21.27). Furthermore, in this earthly city, people come and go. Some move away to a different city, others pass away. But in the heavenly city there is no death and no dying (Rev. 21.4). There will be no more departing loved ones, for we shall be joined with the faithful in heaven and *“thus we shall always be with the Lord”* (1 Thes. 4.17).

Indeed, our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly wait for it knowing that no earthly city shall offer the same benefits and blessing that we will enjoy in heaven. CLP