

NOT OF THIS WORLD

Words to Find:
 Angels
 Cherubim
 God
 Heaven
 Hell
 Jesus
 NewJerusalem
 Paradise
 Satan
 Seraphim
 Throne



The Light Is Lit

C. Buck

When Alexander encamped before a city, prior to its capture, he used to set up a light to give notice to those within that if they came to him while that light burned, they would have his mercy. If they tried to go to him at another time, no mercy was extended.

Such is the mercy and patience of God to sinners. He sets up light after light, and waits year after year for us to repent and come to him. When they have done their worst against Him, He still may come with His heart full of love, and is willing to make a proclamation of grace. God wants all to come to him, and He gives them that one more chance!

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Second Chances

Bill Brinkworth

“Oh, I’ve heard that before,” replied Gail.

“You did? When was that?” I had just spent 45 minutes telling her how to be saved; how she must know that she is a sinner, how she needed to believe that Jesus died on the Cross for her sins, and that she needed to ask Him to save her from a deserved hell.



“Well, let’s see. I’m 38 years old now, so I was about 30 when someone else told me I must ask Jesus to save me. But there just wasn’t time then, with raising the family and all. When I was 25, I heard on the radio how I needed to trust the Lord for my salvation. I felt that I really needed to ask Jesus to save me, but I guess I just put it off.”

“Oh, yes,” she continued, “When I was about 12, someone took me to Sunday School. I remember the teacher showed me

how I could be saved. All the other kids got saved, but, well, I guess I felt I could do it some other time.”

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The Last Opportunity

Dr. Haven

Many years ago, our river was swollen from a flood. A man had valuable timber in danger of being swept away by the river’s water. In an effort to save the wood, he ventured into the mad current, by the use of a light boat. Shortly, he was drawn into the rushing tide, and soon he was at the mercy of the wild waters. He



had lost control. A friend, seeing his peril, mounted his fast horse and raced to a bridge, many miles downriver of the endangered man. Reaching the bridge before the skiff, which came speeding downriver like an arrow, he lowered a rope over the bridge’s arches and down into the river. He shouted to the man in the skiff to grab the

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Second Chances

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“Well, Gail, you’ve heard the message before. God loves you so much that He hasn’t given up on you. He keeps trying. How about right now asking the Lord to save you?” I pleaded.

“I, I ... just can’t. Maybe some other time. I’m just not ready yet!” She again evaded the invitation.

That night, I learned quite a bit about how God works in people’s lives. It was clear He keeps trying, again and again. Most people have heard the Gospel message many times, and each time they tell God no, by not obeying, their heart gets harder and colder to the things of God.

Probably, when Gail first heard the Good News, she was tempted to make the most important decision for her eternity. For whatever the reason, she said, “No.”

Her heart stiffened against the calling of the Holy Spirit in her life. It got hardened even more the second time. By the time she heard the message the third time, it was rock hard, and by all appearances, it looked like it would never be softened again. She said “no” to God, just one time too many.

Since that night, I have observed that most of the people I have talked to about the Lord,

have also “heard it before.” Maybe they heard it from their grandmother, parent, friend, Sunday school teacher or even read it from a Bible tract left in a public bathroom. Many that have put their salvation off before will still make excuses to put it off again.

I marvel at the way God keeps on trying. He never quits on us – if there is an interest on our part. What matchless love and compassion God has for us. How sad it is to hear one, who has heard the story before, say “no”, one more time.

One time, it will be their last opportunity. They will not have that “next chance.” Many hope that they can get saved on their deathbed. It has happened. However, there is no guarantee that they will have that opportunity. Even if they have that last chance, there is no telling that their hardened heart may say “some other time” to God’s invitation.

The Last Opportunity

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rescue rope. A trembling hand was extended from the boat, and the man was able to grab it, and be quickly pulled to safety. The rope was his last opportunity, and the man in danger grabbed it.

I have often thought of this incident as a powerful illustration for one’s spiritual salvation. To every sinner there can come a “last offer” from the sacred hand of Him “who is mighty to save.” How sad it is that so many have drifted under the arch of mercy and neglected to grab the saving hand of Jesus. Onward downriver they plunge, never ever to escape a terrible eternity.

The Dog That Got Another Chance

C. H. Spurgeon

Some years ago, I was walking in the garden one evening, and I saw a stray dog. I had received information that he was in the habit of visiting my grounds, and that he did not in the least assist the gardener, and therefore his attentions were not desired. As I walked along one Saturday evening meditating upon my sermon, I saw this dog busily doing mischief to my garden. I threw my stick at him, and told him to go home.

What do you think he did? Instead of bearing or grinding his teeth at me, or hurrying off with a howl, he looked at me very pleasantly, took up my stick in his mouth, and brought it to me and then, wagging his tail, he laid the stick at my feet.

Tears were in my eyes. The

“Failure is the opportunity to begin better!”

dog had beaten me. I said, “Good dog! Good dog; you may come here whenever you like after that.”

Why had the dog conquered me? Because he had confidence in me, and would not believe that I could mean him any hurt. To turn to grander things, the Lord himself cannot resist humble confidence in Him. Do you not see how a sinner brings, as it were, the rod of justice to the Lord, and cries, “If thou smite me, I deserve it, but I submit to thee”?

The great God cannot spurn a trustful heart. It is impossible. He were not God if He could cast the soul away that implicitly relies in Him. This is the power of faith, then, and I marvel not that the Lord should have chosen it, for believing is a thing most pleasing to God. O, that you would all trust Him! When God lifts His sword against you, run into His arms. When He threatens you, grasp His promise. When He chastens you, fly to His dear Son. Trust the foot of the cross for His full atonement, and you will be saved.



“EXPOSURE TO THE SON PREVENTS BURNING!”

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16