

THE BIBLE VIEW

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The Heartbeat from Another

Bill Brinkworth

A couple, married for 72 years, was involved in a tragic car accident. Both were rushed to the hospital, and in the ICU the couple was together in the same room. The two held hands as they were attended to.

It was not long until the husband died, while still holding hands with his wife. Around the two, stood the family watching, as their father passed on. Although he had breathed his last breath, the family observed that the father's still-connected monitor showed a heartbeat.

Quickly, a staff member was summoned to explain why he still had a heartbeat. The explanation was that, because the two were still holding hands, the monitor was showing the heartbeat of the wife.

What a picture of what Christ has done for us. After a child of God leaves this world, he can still have a life in Heaven, because of the still beating heart of his Saviour, Jesus Christ. Jesus is alive! He is risen.

The words from Bill and Gloria Gaithers say it well in their hymn "*Because He Lives*":

*God sent His son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.*

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know, He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.*

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.”

Ezekiel 36:26

For His Son’s Sake

Edited from an article by C. H. Spurgeon

After a war, a wounded soldier came home and went to the house of a father and mother who had a son still in the army. He knocked on the door and inquired, “Does so-and-so live here?”

“Yes.”

“I have a letter from your son, whom I left in the army. He is my dear comrade.”

“Are you sure you have such a letter?”

The man looked disreputable, his garments were torn and he was evidently very poor. He replied, “Yes, I have a

letter from your son right here.” He put his hands into his pockets, and he could not find it.

The master of the house got angry, and said, “It is of no use your coming here with this tale. You are deceiving me.”

The ex-soldier fumbled still in his pockets, and at last he brought out proof of his friendship with their son. He presented it to his friend’s father. The father recognized the handwriting of his dear boy. The letter said, “Father, this is a choice companion of mine, and I want you, when he reaches home, to treat him kindly for my sake. Tell mother that anything she does for him shall be the same as if she had done it for her boy.” After the letter was read, the relationship was changed. The young man was welcomed in, and he was accepted into his friend’s house.

One day a Christian will also be received into God’s house. When we arrive, it will be known if we are the friend of Christ by trusting on His finished work on the cross. The Lord will not look at the rags in which our poor nature is arrayed, but he will accept us for Jesus’ sake. When cleansed in His blood we will be comely with Jesus’ comeliness and dear to the heart of God for His Son’s sake.

“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

We Are Wanted

Bill Brinkworth

Parts of India have noticed a decline over the last 10 years in the number of girls, as opposed to boys. Statistics show that during that time the number of girls has dropped from 927 girls per 1,000 boys to 883 in some states. The decline of girls born is believed to be partly because of a higher death rates in girls, and because of a higher abortion rate among girl babies.

For many, having girls involves a large expense as many families go into debt in arranging weddings and paying for dowries. Because of this, many girls are unwanted. This has been reflected in their names. Some of the girls have been named “Nakusa” and other names, that in Hindu, mean “unwanted”.

Recently, as part of an effort to remove the stigma placed against females, one state tried to do something about it. They had a ceremony allowing over 280 girls to change their name from “Unwanted” to a name of their selection. The girls obviously picked a more positive name instead.

I cannot help but relate their new names and more positive futures to the “new name” we can have in Christ. Before our names, in God’s mind, were “cursed”, “enemy of God”, “hypocrite”, “sinner”, “liar”, “thief”, and a host of others. Now, however, once one is born-again, he is known to God by other names, including: “friend”, “beloved”,

“forgiven”, and hopefully one day, “good and faithful” (Mat. 25:21).

The first verse and chorus of C. Austin Miles’ hymn “A New Name in Glory” also reflects the new name we can have in Christ:

*I was once a sinner, but I came
Pardon to receive from my Lord
This was freely given and I found
That He always kept His word.*

Chorus:

*There's a new name written down in glory
And it's mine, oh yes, it's mine
And the white-robed angels sing the story
"A sinner has come home!"
There's a new name written down in glory
And it's mine, oh yes, it's mine
With my sins forgiven I am bound for Heaven
Never more to roam.*

Jesus, the Door

Author Unknown

*Door of hope for sinners poor,
Here the hopeless may draw nigh;
Jesus bids them stay no more,
And receives them graciously.*

Door of mercy open wide,

*He that will, may enter here;
Find in Jesus' pierced side
Shelter from each rising fear.*

*Door of pardon for the vile,
Here the vilest enter in,
Find the fruit of Jesus' toil
Full atonement for their sin.*

*Door of peace, yea, peace with God,
Sinners may adore and bless —
Peace, the fruit of Jesus' blood;
Peace, the fruit of righteousness.*

*Door of Heaven, there saints shall raise
Loud hosannas swelling high,
And in gratitude and praise
Spend a long eternity.*

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

John 10:9