

THE BIBLE VIEW

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The Ransom Was Paid!

Bill Brinkworth

“For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

Sometimes, after being saved for a period of time, we take our salvation for granted. The joy of escaping Hell may have “worn off”, and as we go through another day we say, “Ho hum, I’m saved, but what’s the big deal.”

After reading Mark 10:45, I saw six words that reminded me how special and blessed I am to be saved. Those words are “... his life a ransom for many.”

To renew your excitement about your salvation (if you are saved), think for a minute what a ransom is. When a crime is committed and a person is kidnapped, sometimes the kidnappers try to make money. They offer a person the opportunity to rescue the snatched person for a high price. Often, they warn that if their requests are not met, that that person will never be seen again and will be probably murdered.

They do not go to a person that hates the one they took. They send a message to one that loves the kidnapped person so much that they would give anything to get that person back.

Jesus was reminding us here, that we are all kidnapped by sin, and unless someone had paid the price, all would have perished; they would have spent an eternity in hell! It is a sad, sad truth; that we are all Hell-bound, because of our sin.

In this case the ransom required to save a person from his terrible end was not money or possessions. The only payment that would be acceptable was the blood of a sinless person.

Now the good news! There is one that loves you so much, that He would pay the price to save you. It just so happens that He is the only one in the whole world that qualified as being sin-free. He was willing to pay the ransom with His life for yours. It is Jesus, God's only Son, that stepped forward willing to pay the price. Not only was Jesus willing to be a ransom for you, but He wants to pay the ransom for all that will ask Him.

Now, how can anyone not be excited about salvation after that realization? There is someone that loves you so much that He will rescue you from an eternity in Hell, if you trust His payment is enough, and if you ask Him to.

“Jesus, thank you so much for what You have done for us!”

Not An Ordinary Man

Bill Brinkworth

One of the many things that proves that Jesus was not an ordinary man, is that His life did not end with His crucifixion. His life continued and Luke 24 tells some of what happened after His death. The chapter reveals:

- Jesus rose from the dead and was victorious over death!
- Angels had announced Jesus' birth and also announced that He had risen (vs. 5-6)
- He came back after His crucifixion and was seen by many.
- Jesus taught others when He came back.
- Jesus had a different body, but He still remembered many things, talked, walked, and was able to discern others' feelings.
- He still knew scripture (vs. 27).
- He still prayed and thanked God (vs. 30).
- He must have appeared differently. He had talked and spent time with several disciples, but they did not recognize who He was until their eyes were opened, and they were given understanding that it was Christ they had been talking with (vs. 31).
- He just appeared amongst people. In several other places in the Bible, Jesus appeared in the midst of people without going through doors (vs. 36).
- Jesus still had the marks of His crucifixion (vs. 39).
- He was seen ascending back to Heaven (vs. 51).

Unfortunately, there are many false religions, and their originators have claimed many things. None, however, can claim to have done what God's only Son has done. Jesus arose from the grave! He is risen!

“Jesus used a borrowed tomb, because He did not need it for long.”

Jesus' Miracles Found in Luke

Bill Brinkworth

Part of Jesus' earthly ministry was to prove to those around Him who He was; that He was God's only son. He did this by performing many miracles.

Joel Meredith, from Meredith's Book of Bible Lists, lists at least 43 miracles that were associated with Jesus. Some of those found in Luke include:

- He walked right through a crowd unharmed which was trying to throw Him off a cliff (Luke 4:29-30)
- Exorcised an unclean demon (Luke 4:33-36)
- Caused many fish to go into Peter's net (Luke 5:4-11)
- Brought a widow's dead son back to life (Luke 7:11-15)
- Healed a woman that was bent over and could not straighten up (Luke 13:11-13)
- Healed a man that had dropsy (Luke 14:1-4)
- Healed ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- Healed Malchus' ear after Peter cut it off (Luke 22:50-51)

“All our Lord’s miracles were intended to be also parables. They were intended to instruct as well as to impress. They are sermons to the eye, just as his spoken discourses were sermons to the ear.” — *Spurgeon*

Looking for His Mother

D. L. Moody

A little child, whose mother was dying, was taken away to live with some friends because it was thought he did not understand what death was. All the while the child wanted to go home and see his mother. At last, when the funeral was over, and he was taken home, he ran all over the house, searching the sitting room, the parlor, the library, and the bedrooms. He went from one end of the house to the other, and when he could not find his mother, he wished to be taken back to where they brought him from. Home had lost its attractions for the child when his mother was not there.

My friends, the great attraction in Heaven will not be its pearly gates, its golden streets, nor its many angels, but it will be Christ. Heaven would be no Heaven if Christ were not there, but we know that He is; at the right hand of the Father, and these eyes shall gaze on Him by-and-by.

Still Watching

Author Unknown

The Highland chief, McGregor, fell wounded by two bullets. Seeing their leader fall, the clan wavered and gave their enemy an advantage. The chieftain, beholding the effects of the disaster, raised himself upon his elbow. While the blood gushed in streams from his wounds, he cried, "I am not dead, my children. I am looking to see you do your duty." These words raised the sinking courage of his clansmen to stem the dreadful tide of battle, for his presence was worth a thousand men.

The captain of our salvation, Jesus, though slain yet lives and looks upon his followers with unutterable interest and tenderness of affection. He looks to see if we continue to do our duty. Are you?

“When life is not a bed of roses, remember who wore the crown of thorns.”