

“His compassions fail not they are new every morning:
Great is Thy Faith Faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22, 23

The Keys of Heaven Ministries

What Would **You** Say?

If Tonight God Asked **You**:
Why Should I, Let **You**,
Into Heaven?
Why Should I, Give **You**,
Eternal Life?



Gary & Victoria
Westgerdes

“ _____ ”

Not Sure? Make Sure. “Be Ye Reconciled to God.” 2 Co 5:20

God has made provision for our forgiveness of sin and our welcome into His family.

“For His anger endureth but a moment, in His favor is life: Weeping may endure for a night, but **joy cometh in the morning.**” Psalm 30:5

“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

Seem simple – like more explanation? Please read on.

God’s Word Shares Several Truths to Help Us Understand the Salvation He has provided for us and the New Life which is now available through His Son Jesus.

This Salvation and New Life means to have:

Your sins forgiven through Jesus. **Your** guilt removed and placed on Jesus. **Your** life restored with God the Father. **Your** eternal life secured by God’s power. **Your** life transformed by the Holy Spirit.

ONE TRUE GOD: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT.

“Then God said, ‘**Let Us** make man in Our image, after Our likeness.’” Genesis 1:26

“... He that created ... He that giveth breath ... And spirit to them that walk therein ... ‘I am the LORD ... **My glory will I not give to another.**’” Isaiah 42: 5, 8

“... The LORD He is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: **there is none else.**” Deuteronomy 4:39

“But **Christ** being come a High Priest of good things to come ... by His own **blood** He entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us ... Who through the eternal **Spirit** offered Himself without spot to **God.**” Hebrews 9: 11-12, 14

“**Jesus** ... ‘He that hath seen Me hath seen the **Father** ... He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever, Even the **Spirit** of truth.’” John 14:9, 16-17

“God sent forth His **Son**, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the **Spirit** of His Son into your hearts, crying, ‘Abba, **Father.**’” Galatians 4:4-6

“For there is **one God** and one mediator between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus**; who gave Himself a ransom for all.” [1 Timothy 2:5-6](#)

GOD’S COMMANDMENTS EXPRESS HIS HOLINESS.

“I saw ... the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up ... Above it stood seraphims ... one cried unto another: **‘Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: The whole earth is full of His glory.’**” [Isaiah 6:1-3](#)

“In the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts ... and they rest not day and night, saying, **‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, which was, and is and is to come.’**”
[Revelation 4:6, 8](#)

“Whosoever ... shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least ... But whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” [Matthew 5:19](#)

“Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of breaking all of it.”
[James 2:10](#)

“I John saw **the Holy City**, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven ... **there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth**, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.” [Revelation 21:2, 27](#)

GOD REWARDS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM: DEVOUT & WICKED

“Without **faith** it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must **believe that He is**, and that He is a rewarder of them that **diligently seek Him.**” [Hebrews 11:6](#)

“Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat ... drink ... put on ... **your Heavenly Father knoweth** that ye have need of all these things. But **seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**; and all these things shall be added unto you.” [Matthew 6:25, 32, 33](#)

“Blessed are the undefiled ... who walk in the law of the LORD ... they that keep His testimonies, and that **seek Him with the whole heart.**” [Psalm 119:1, 2](#)

“Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts: And let him **return unto the LORD**, and **He will have mercy** upon him; And to our God, for **He will abundantly pardon.**” [Isaiah 55:6, 7](#)

“Cornelius ... a **devout** man, and one that **feared God** with all his house, which **gave much** alms to the people, and **prayed to God alway**. He saw in a vision evidently ... an angel of God ... saying ... ‘Thy prayers and thine alms **are come up for a memorial before God** ... now send men ... for ... Peter’ ... Peter said, ‘of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him. The word which God sent ... preaching peace by Jesus Christ ... you know ...** published throughout all Judea ... how God anointed Jesus ... with the Holy Ghost and with power; **who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil**; for God was with Him ... in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; **whom they slew** and hanged on a tree. **Him God raised up** the third day, and shewed Him openly ... to us ... after He **rose** from the dead ... He which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. **To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.**” [Acts 10:3-5, 34-36, 39, 40, 42, 43](#)

GOD WANTS US TO ADMIT THAT WE ARE A SINNER.

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: But **whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.**”
[Proverbs 28:13](#)

“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”

Psalm 34:18

“But to this man will I look ... poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at My word.” **Isaiah 66:2**

“Jews and Gentiles ... are **all under sin; as it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one ... They are **all gone out of the way** ... every mouth may be stopped, and **all the world may become guilty** ... for **all have sinned and come short** of the glory of God.”** **Romans 3:9, 10, 12, 19, 23**

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” **1 John 1:8**

“I acknowledged my sin ... mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.” **Psalm 32:5**

Jesus: “And He spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised other: ‘Two men went up into the temple to pray ... **The Pharisee ... prayed ... God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I ... I ... I ... And **the publican** ... would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven ... saying, **God be merciful to me a sinner.**”** **Luke 18:9-13**

OUR SIN CARRIES A DEBT AND THAT DEBT IS DEATH – PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL AND ETERNAL.

“It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” **Hebrews 9:27**

“‘As I live,’ saith the LORD GOD ... ‘Behold all souls are mine ... **the soul that sinneth, it shall die ... Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away ... all your transgressions ... and make you a new heart and a new spirit ... For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth ... turn ... and live ...’”** **Ezekiel 18:3-4, 30-32**

“And death and hell were cast into **the lake of fire. **This is the second death**. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”** **Revelation 20:14-15**

“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose, **the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”** **1 John 3:8**

“For **the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”**
Romans 6:23

GOD SENT HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, JESUS, TO PAY OUR SIN DEBT: BY HIS DEATH AND SHED BLOOD ON THE CROSS.

“And you, that were sometimes alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet **now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprieveable in His sight: if ye continue in the **faith** grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel.”** **Colossians 1:21-23**

“Then came the soldiers ... to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, they break not His legs: but **one of the soldiers with a spear **pierced His side, and forthwith came there out blood** and water.”** **John 19:32-34**

“And you, being dead in your sins ... He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; **blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us ... and took it out of the way, **nailing it to His CROSS**.”** **Colossians 2:13, 14**

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the CROSS, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” [Hebrews 12:2](#)

“For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” [Hebrews 4:15](#)

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor; that He, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man.” [Hebrews 2:9](#)

“For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” [2 Corinthians 5:21](#)

“The saying that is written, ‘Death Is Swallowed Up in victory ...’ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
[1 Corinthians 15:54, 56-57](#)

JESUS, AFTER HIS BURIAL, WAS RESURRECTED FROM THE DEAD – VICTORIOUS OVER SIN AND DEATH.

“Now in the place where He was crucified there was ... a new sepulcher ... There laid they Jesus.”
[John 19:41-42](#)

“At evening ... the first day ... where the disciples were assembled ... came Jesus and stood in the midst ... He shewed unto them His hands and His side ... But Thomas ... was not with them when Jesus came ... But he said to them, ‘Except I shall see ... I will not believe’ ... after eight days ... came Jesus ... saith He to Thomas ... ‘be not faithless, but believing’ ... Thomas answered ... ‘My Lord and my God.’ Jesus saith ... ‘Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.’” [John 20:19-20, 24-29](#)

“... we declare unto you, glad tidings ... the promise ... God hath fulfilled ... He hath raised up Jesus ... He raised Him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption ... through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: and by Him all that believe are justified.” [Acts 13:32-34, 38-39](#)

“God ... now commandeth all men ... to repent ... He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained. He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He ... hath raised Him from the dead.” [Acts 17:30-31](#)

“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him, shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.” [Hebrews 9:28](#)

JESUS FINISHED THE WORK, HE IS NOW THE ONLY WAY, THE ONLY TRUTH AND THE ONLY SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL LIFE

“Jesus ... said, ‘It is finished’: And He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.” [John 19:30](#)

“We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all ... For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.” [Hebrews 10: 10, 14](#)

Jesus: “Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”
[Matthew 11:28-29](#)

“‘Lord ... how can we know the way?’ Jesus saith ... ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.’” [John 14:5-6](#)

“But as many as received Him, to them gave He, power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” [John 1:12](#)

JESUS FINISHED THE WORK, GOD NOW PURIFIES THE REPENTANT HEART BY FAITH

“The scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.” [Galatians 3:22](#)

“For if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.” [Galatians 2:21](#)

“Peter ... ‘Brothers ... God, who knows the heart, showed that He accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them ... He made no distinction ... He purified their hearts by faith.” [Acts 15:7-9](#)

“‘What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?’ Jesus ... ‘This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom, He hath sent.’” [John 6:28, 29](#)

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.” [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

Paul said: “If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: circumcised ... of Israel ... a Hebrew of Hebrews ... a Pharisee ... touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. **But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss** for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus My Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, **that I may win Christ, and be found in Him.** Not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but which is through the faith of Christ, **the righteousness which is of God by faith.**” [Philippians 3:4-9](#)

“For he that is entered into His rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His.” [Hebrews 4:10](#)

“Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, this faith is counted for righteousness.” [Romans 4:4-5](#)

GOD’S GIFT OF SALVATION / ETERNAL LIFE, IS AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME – ON THIS DAY, THROUGH JESUS BY FAITH.

“We then as workers together with Him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For He saith, “I have heard thee” ... **now is The Acceptable Time ... now is The Day of Salvation.**” [2 Corinthians 6:1-2](#)

King David prayed for God’s forgiveness: “Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy loving kindness: According unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. **Wash** me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and **cleanse** me from my sin ... Wash me and I shall be **whiter than snow** ... **Hide** thy face from my sins, and **blot out** all mine iniquities. **Create** in me a clean heart, O God; and **renew** a right spirit within me.” [Psalm 51:1-2, 7, 9-10](#)

GOD is waiting to hear your statement of faith in Jesus: “The word is nigh thee ... in thy mouth, and ... heart: that is, the word of faith which, we preach; that if thou shalt confess with your mouth the **Lord Jesus**, and believe in thine heart that **God has raised Him from the dead**, thou shalt be saved. For with the **heart** man believeth unto righteousness; and with the **mouth confession** is made unto **salvation**. For the scripture saith, Whosoever Believeth On Him Shall Not Be Ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. For Whosoever Shall Call Upon the Name of The LORD Shall Be Saved.” [Romans 10:8-13](#)

Samaritans: “We believe ... we have heard ... and **know** that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world” **John 4:42.** **Peter:** “Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And **we believe and are sure** that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God” **John 6:68-69.** **Blind Man:** “‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshiped Him” **John 9:38.** **Martha:** “I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God ...” **John 11:27.** **Jesus:** “... be not faithless but believing.” **Thomas:** “My Lord and My God” **John 20:26-28.**

What is Your response? Is It: Faith, Doubt or Denial?

Apostle Peter denied Jesus three times.

But Jesus approached him with forgiveness by asking:
“... Lovest thou Me? ...” Peter Answered, “Yea” **John 21:15-17**

What’s Your Answer? Do You Love Him? Does He know it?
WILL YOU LIVE IT?

“Jesus ... ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word: and My Father will love him, and **We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him.**” **John 14:23**

“Beloved ... **this is His commandment**, that we should believe on the name of His Son **Jesus Christ**, and **love one another ... he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him.**”
1 John 3:21, 23-24

“... the mystery which had been hid ... now is made manifest to His saints: To whom God would make known what *is* the riches this mystery ... which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**: Whom we preach, warning ... teaching every man ... that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”
Colossians 1:26-28

“There is therefore now **no condemnation to them ... in Christ Jesus.**” **Romans 8:1**

DO YOU WANT CHRIST JESUS TO LIVE IN YOU?

JESUS: “BEHOLD, I stand at the door, and knock: **if any man**, hear My voice, and **open** the door, **I will come in** to him and will sup with him and he with Me.” **Revelation 3:20**

HOLY SPIRIT: “‘COME’ ... let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him **take the water of life freely.**” **Revelation 22:17**

GOD THE FATHER: “I **DWELL** in the high and holy place, **with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit**, to revive the spirit of the humble ... the heart of the contrite ones. For **I will not contend forever**, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before Me, and the souls which I have made. For the iniquity of his covetousness **was I wroth, and smote him: I hid Me**, and was, wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart. **I will lead** him also, and **restore comforts unto him and to his mourners**. I create the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace to him that is far off, and ... near,” saith the LORD; “And I will heal him, **But the wicked** are like the troubled sea, when it **cannot rest**, Whose, waters cast up mire and dirt. **There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.**” **Isaiah 57:15-21**

“Let us therefore fear, lest, a **promise** being left us **of entering into His rest**, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was **the gospel preached**, as well as unto them: but **the word preached** did not profit them, not being **mixed with faith** in them that heard it. For we which have **believed do enter into rest.**” **Hebrews 4:1-3**

“For He hath made Him **to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we** might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” **2 Corinthians 5:21**

“God hath given to us eternal life ... in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” 1 John 5:11-12

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:16

Apostle Paul said: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but **Christ Liveth in Me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I **Live by the Faith of the Son of God, Who Loved Me, and Gave Himself for Me.**” Galatians 2:20**

Apostle Paul’s Focus: “But God forbid that I should glory, save in the **CROSS of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Galatians 6:14**

Apostle John: “... and this is the **victory that overcometh the world, even our **faith.**” 1 John 5:4**

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

© 2003, '09, '12, '19. All rights reserved: Permission granted to copy, for free distribution.

Scriptures: Holy Bible, King James Version – KJV

Testimony from Wycliffe Associates Newsletter

“... How long since you last met a killer?... I’ll introduce you.

His name is Sivini ... hatred was his business. Hatred is a commodity among the tribes of Papua New Guinea ... One tribe attacks another; people die. Then the other tribe seeks revenge. **Sivini** was in charge of revenge. Among the Usarufa people, in the eastern highlands of PNG, he was the legendary fight commander from the village of Moife ... he led his team into neighboring areas to carry out revenge killings. You’ve probably never met a man with so much blood on his hands. Somehow, in his many years of fighting, he escaped the slightest injury. His people, young and old, revered him for his almost magical longevity. – **But today we know God wasn’t sparing Sivini for the sake of more dying ...** He was sparing **Sivini** for a whole new life ... an extraordinary new assignment ... that would bring the life-giving Word of God to the Usarufa people ... It happened like this. The people of Moife grow wheat; for decades they have threshed their wheat by hand. A threshing machine would speed things up. So **Sivini** traveled from Moife to the city of Ukarumpa to arrange transport ... But Ukarumpa is also a major Bible translation hub ... By God’s perfect timing, a Translators’ Training Course (TTC) was under way that same day. With such urgent demand among the people of PNG for the Scriptures ... every course is filled to capacity. But at the last minute, one man learned he would be unable to attend ... A friend of **Sivini’s** knew he was in town – grabbed him – told him he could get in – it would be really interesting, he promised – and a blood-thirsty tribal leader found himself learning how to translate the Bible into Usarufa! – **Then, as the group made their way through the tragedy of Cain** murdering Abel ... **Genesis 4. Sivini** was stunned. **“Abel’s blood calling out to God from the ground.”** He remembers -- “the words pierced my heart.” He could almost hear the blood of his many victims calling out to God from the earth ... In that defining moment, **Sivini** began to feel something he had never felt before: the possibility of cleansing. – **The very next Sunday, he walked to the front of the local Christian** church to publicly repent ... He asked for prayer – he surrendered his life to Jesus Christ – and in that moment, the God of forgiveness and peace lifted **Sivini’s** burden of guilt. – Everything about **Sivini** is different now. Hatred has turned to love, by the ... power of God’s Word! “Even my looks have changed since **I accepted Jesus,**” **Sivini** says joyfully, “because now I no longer carry the weight of the guilt of my past. Who but Jesus could do such a wonderful thing?” – **Today Sivini is committed to the Usarufa Bible translation,** “turning God’s talk into the Usarufa language so that my people can know the Lord. I want them to **find peace, freedom and forgiveness of sin,** just like I have.”

“... we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the

end: That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience, inherit the promises. For when God made promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself, Saying, Surely, blessing I will Bless thee ... And so, after he had patiently endured, he |Abraham| obtained the promise.” HEBREWS 6:11-15

The Keys of Heaven Ministries



Gary Westgerdes

313 E Wayne St.

Celina OH 45822

iPhone: 419-953-4633

Home: 567-890-9409

gary.westgerdes@gmail.com

www.thekeysofheaven.com