

Standing Before the Master

#3182 241020A

wds1630

Matthew 5:48 *Be ye perfect as your Father in*
Matthew 24:44 *Therefore be ye also ready: for*
Mark 1:15 *Repent ye, and believe the gospel*
John 1:29 *The Lamb of God who takes away the*
John 3:3 *Except a man be born again, he cannot*
John 6:68 *Thou hast the words of eternal life*
2 Corinthians 5:21 *He made him to be sin for us*
Ephesians 1:7 *In whom we have redemption*
1 John 1:9 *He is faithful and just to forgive us*
Isaiah 55:7 *Let the wicked forsake his way*

As the spiritual condition of the world worsens, we ask: *How we can Be Sure of heading in the right direction to the right destination?*

First on the list is Repentance—when we are inwardly humbled by the Spirit and outwardly transformed by His power.

It is being willing to admit our mistakes; confessing them to God; and forsaking those sins with help of the Holy Spirit.

We do not compare ourselves to others but to a holy God—who says AV Matthew 5:48 *“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”*

If we do our part of repenting and forsaking—God will do His part of converting and saving our soul. AV 1 John 1:9 *“He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.”*

AV Isaiah 55:7 *“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.”

Only Jesus can bring change—when we decide to trust Him for that change; only Jesus can atone for sins when we confess and forsake them.

The apostle testified AV Acts 20:21 *“both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.”* If we will do that, we can be sure of Heaven!

We will all stand before the Master—and maybe sooner than we think. AV Matthew 24:44 *Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh;”* Luke 12:40.

The sin issue must be resolved. AV John 1:29 *“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”*

AV Leviticus 17:11 *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls.”*

Jesus is the only One who can erase every sin we have ever committed. Sin is repulsive to God and fatal to us.

AV Romans 6:23 *“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* God has a gift—we must accept it.

Millions of animal sacrifices were offered for the people’s sins because God requires a blood sacrifice to atone for them, but now the Blood of Christ atones for the sins of the world.

AV Ephesians 1:7 *“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”*

Jesus began His ministry with AV Mark 1:15 *“Repent ye, and believe the gospel.”* We

still have the choice to believe and be saved; or refuse and be lost! Sin has a price tag and there are consequences if atonement is not made.

Not only are there consequences for sins on earth, but the majority of people will be paying for them in eternity—unless they let God pay for them!

The Blood sacrifice of His Son is sufficient payment for all sins ever committed.

Without a righteous standing before God, no one could stand before the Master—but in God’s mercy, love, and grace—

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

NKJV Psalm 7:11 *“God is a just judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day.”*

We do not want to be in the category of the wicked, and we thank God every day for His patience and forgiveness when we repent and confess our sins.

AV Psalm 145:8 *“The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.”*

Millions recite AV John 3:16 *“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”*—but they must believe to not perish!

The Gospel means that all of our past sins can now be forgiven by the atoning Blood of Jesus—but we have to believe and trust in faith on that sacrifice for His Blood to effectively erase them.

AV John 3:18 *“He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already.”*

To believe in the *Name* of Jesus, is to trust on the *sacrifice* He made—For healing without medical assistance; For daily expenses without borrowed money; For a forgiving heart toward everyone; And for a right attitude toward all people.

The resurrection of Christ is paramount because if it did *not* happen, *none* of our sins would be forgiven—they would *still* be charged against us.

But it *did* happen and over 500 people *said* it took place—as they attended that event personally.

All these witnesses said Jesus *lived* on earth; that He *gave* the Gospel to all who listened; that He was *nailed* to a cross; and that He *rose* from the tomb three days later.

We must really *believe* this happened, because our destination is *riding* on it. Only Jesus can forgive our sins—and we *all stand before Him* at some point.

It is why Jesus said AV **John 3:3** “*Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*”

Being born again is what the jailer needed—he was told AV **Acts 16:31** “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.*”

This *new life* is received by *faith* in what Jesus accomplished. AV **Ephesians 2:8** “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*”

Only *two things* can be done with a gift—*accept it* or *reject it*—and if we *accept* the gift, then we have to *live* the *Truth!*

Everyone stands guilty *before* God because of mistakes, wrong attitudes, and other offenses *toward* God.

Someone must *pay* our sin debt, otherwise we will pay for it in Hell—or we can let *God* pay it with the *Blood* of His Son and our *faith* in that sacrifice.

It seems like an *easy* decision—just *accept* a gift—but accepting it *costs* us our *life*. AV **John 12:25** “*He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.*”

After giving our life to God, it is not always smooth sailing. AV **2 Timothy 3:12** “*All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*”

We begin this new life of faith in God with our sin-debt paid in full! We owe *nothing* to God *for* those sins—except we owe Him our *life because* of those sins.

An important reminder: We do *not* have as much time as we once had! The clock is ticking—and with the world in the dreadful condition that it *is* today, we *know* that the time to *repent* and be *ready* is running out!

Jesus told of the rich man in hell who asked AV **Luke 16:27** “*I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.*”

Those in hell are *pleading* with everyone: *Don't come to this horrible place of suffering!* They now realize that no dollar, no drug, no drink, no pride, no possession nor anything else on earth would *ever* be worth going to that terrible place—*nothing!*

Everyone will eventually leave *this* life and go to the *next*—will it be to *Heaven* or to *Hell*? AV **Joshua 24:15** “*Choose you this day whom ye will serve—but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*”

To serve the Lord is to trust Him and to obey His Word. If anyone ends in the Lake of Fire it is because of their stubborn refusal to *believe* Jesus and to *trust* God—who graciously accepts *all* repenting sinners.

AV **John 6:37** “*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*”

Heaven is way *too glorious* to miss it by being stubborn; Hell is *too dreadful* to go there by being rebellious; and eternity is way *too long* to not enter it by making wrong decisions, making excuses, and keeping wrong attitudes toward someone.

Heaven is where *God* lives; it is where *Jesus* is; and it is where we can be with all the redeemed forever and ever!

We *yearn* to go there—and say to the Master as Simon Peter AV **John 6:68** “*Thou hast the words of eternal life.*”

The next life is permanent—AV **John 17:3** “*This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*”

Knowing the One we stand before is *trusting* the One who paid our debt!

We *can* be sure of Heaven by obeying His *Word* and bearing spiritual *fruit!*

www.fcgchurch.org

fcgchurch1@gmail.com

Or write to: PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

#3182 241020A