

A WORD OF TESTIMONY

I was born into a Roman Catholic family and from an early age was taught to recite prayers morning and evening. I attended Chapel regularly on Sundays and kept the commandments of the Church as far as possible, and I believed that I was doing my best to live a decent life. I had respect for the things of God even though I had no personal knowledge of God.

After I married and had one child my father took ill and died suddenly, and I thought if that were me I'm not prepared to meet God.

About that time various things happened, a work colleague who was a believer began to witness to me and told me that through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ I could have my sins forgiven and be sure of heaven when I died. On another occasion a neighbour gave me her late husband's Bible which he had used for many years for street preaching. It was heavily underlined and obviously was well used so my wife and I began to read it, we did not have a Bible previously so it was a new experience for us. I was invited to a Gospel Meeting in Portstewart Town Hall so I went along armed with the large Bible under my arm. The preacher read from Acts 17 where Paul stood on Mars Hill and said to the people of Athens that they were too superstitious, he saw many alters to false gods and even an alter with this inscription 'To The Unknown God'. This was the God that he wanted to declare to them. This was the true God who made the world and everything in it and needed not the worship of men's hands, the God who was prepared to overlook their past ignorance but commanded all men everywhere to repent. This message seemed very clear to me I needed to repent, as the preacher explained that repentance means to turn away from sin and give my life over to God. Obviously the Holy Spirit was at work in my heart and I thought some day I will seek the Lord.

As if he had heard my thoughts the preacher came to the little word Now not at a later date, not to-morrow but Now. Behold now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation. I trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour that night and went home with joy in my heart.

After a few months I was baptized and later added to the Church where I enjoy the teaching and the fellowship of God's people. The Lord has kept me and blessed me this past 32 years and I want to give Him the glory for all He has done for me to this day and I'll trust Him for what has yet to come.

'God Now Commands All Men Everywhere To Repent'. Acts 17 v 30.

Tommy Gallagher