

## A WORD OF TESTIMONY

***“But I have trusted in thy mercy, my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord because He hath dealt bountifully with me” Psalm chapter 13 vs five & 6.***

I am so thankful to God for His wonderful grace and mercy and so glad that there was a time in my life when I trusted the Lord Jesus Christ, and in Him alone for my salvation.

Through the teaching I received at Sunday School and Church I grew up believing in an Almighty, Eternal, Holy God who created and sustains all things. A God that I would one day have to stand before and give an account of my life to. Although I believed this I never thought much about it. I suppose, like a lot of people, I thought that if I lived my life as best I could and did not commit any major sins that somehow it would all balance itself out in the end.

That was how it was for me until my early 20's when my brother got saved. He would talk to us at home about our need of salvation and to be right with God. I started to become very uneasy about my standing before God but I kept putting it to the back of my mind. Then one summer the Rev. Ivor Lewis came to preach in our Church and because of a personal tragedy in his own life that weekend he changed his sermon to “Are you prepared to meet God”. I left Church that evening in no doubt that I was not prepared. I was conscious of my sinfulness in the sight of God and had a terrible fear and dread of what would happen to me if I were to die, yet because of my foolish pride I wouldn't talk to anyone about it.

Then began six months of real misery for me . The deepest desire of my heart was to be right with God but I didn't know what to do about it. I tried over those months to clean up my life and do thing that I thought would please God but I could not find any peace in my heart. Gradually through listening to my brother, reading tracts and the Bible I became aware of the fact that ***“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God” Romans chapter 3 v 23.***

It would be impossible for me to please God and earn His favour by my own works, ***“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 chapter 2 vs 8, 9.*** and that God Himself had made the way for salvation through His Son. ***“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 chapter 3 v 16.***

Praise God that , on the first Sunday of January 1972 I accepted God's free gift of Salvation, asked the Lord Jesus Christ to come into my heart to be my Saviour and Lord, and trusted in Him to save and keep me for all eternity. It was a decision I never regretted for although my faith was weak it was in a Great Saviour. He heard my prayer, saved me and has kept me over all these years.

Looking back I can see where I have let Him down so many times yet I can honestly say He has never been a disappointment to me. If someone is reading this word of testimony and find themselves in the same position that I was once in, I pray that you will cease from your own efforts and simply come and accept God's free Salvation.

***“Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” Romans chapter 10 v 13.***

*Ann Hutchinson*