

# “THINK ON THESE THINGS”

Philippians 4:8

## WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A CHRISTIAN — NOW!

By Joe R. Price

The gospel plan of salvation is clear. Sinners must believe in Jesus to be saved (Jn. 8:24). Sinners must confess Jesus the Lord (Rom. 10:9-10). Sinners must repent of their sins (Acts 17:30). Sinners must be baptized for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38). Since all of us have sinned, the gospel plan of salvation is for everyone (Rom. 3:23; Mk. 16:15-16). If someone asks you, “Why should I become a Christian?”, how will you reply? Here are a few of the reasons to become a Christian. (If you are not a Christian, then we ask you to carefully examine your spiritual condition, and become a Christian without delay.)

Why you should become a Christian:

**1) To be forgiven of your sins against God.** Sin is the violation of God’s law, either by committing acts that are against His will, or by omitting conduct that He commands (1 Jn. 3:4; 5:17; Jas. 4:17). It is also a sin to violate one’s conscience (Rom. 14:23; Acts 23:1). While the conscience is not a guide in deciding what is and is not sinful, it is to be respected and not rendered useless by repeatedly ignoring it (1 Tim. 4:2). Every morally accountable adult, at one time or another, has sinned against God (Rom. 3:23). Until one becomes a Christian, the sinner remains dead in sin. Sin is a weight that enslaves us and brings us under the just penalty of spiritual death (Rom. 6:23). But, Jesus said, *“I will give you rest...you will find rest for your souls”* (Matt. 11:28-30). Rest from the pain and penalty of sin is obtained through the blood of Jesus (Eph. 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:18-19). He died so we can have eternal life (1 Pet. 2:24; Rom. 5:8-11). When the sinner obeys the gospel by being baptized into His death, he or she is saved, redeemed by the blood of Jesus (Rom. 6:3-4).

**2) To have the proper direction in your life.** In a world where people constantly seek what is new, different and exciting (things that never completely satisfy the soul), Jesus Christ gives direction to our lives that is enriching, enduring and joyful (Jn. 16:22; Phil. 4:4-7). Jesus said, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me”* (Jn. 14:6). The guidance Jesus gives us leads to the very throne of God. He also said, *“I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life”* (Jn. 8:12). When you become a Christian, you choose to follow the true light that gives you spiritual life (read Jn. 1:4-5, 9). When you decide to be a Christian you decide to walk in the light instead of sin’s darkness (Eph. 4:17-24; 5:8-10; 1 Jn. 1:7).

**3) To receive present blessings and finally, eternal life.** We speak of the spiritual blessings of brotherhood in the family of God (Eph. 1:3). Jesus said, *“Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life”* (Mk. 10:29-30). Untold blessings are ours in the house of God. Such blessings as encouragement, exhortation, teaching, prayer, support, rebuke, love – all these and more are ours in Christ as we live among fellow Christians. Christians live sharing, caring lives. They do not seclude themselves from their brethren in Christ. Some have said Christianity promotes communal living, but they misunderstand. Christians have the attitude that “what is mine is yours,” gladly sharing without thought of return (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32, 34-35). Rest assured, whatever you give up to become a Christian will be received back in blessings many times over in this life. And finally, you will receive the greatest blessing of all – eternal life (Matt. 25:21, 34, 46).

**4) To escape the penalty of sin - eternal death.** Judgment is coming (2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12-15). If we die in sin, our judgment will be unto condemnation (Rom. 2:6-10). God commands everyone to repent, because a

day of judgment is coming, and then there will be no escape from His wrath against your sins (Acts 17:30-31; Rom. 2:4-5; Heb. 9:27). Will you obey God and be saved today? Or, will you continue to ignore your sin and the coming judgment? — *The Spirit's Sword*, October 30, 2016. ■

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## GOD'S ACCURACY

Author Unknown

When GOD solves our problems, we have faith in HIS abilities. When GOD doesn't solve our problems, HE has faith in our abilities.

One may observe God's accuracy in the hatching of eggs – those of the canary hatch in 14 days; those of the barnyard hen hatch in 21 days; eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days; those of the mallard hatch in 35 days; eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days. (Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

### **See God's wisdom in the creation of the elephant!**

The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body; too large to live on two legs. For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily. The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first.

### **How wise the Lord is in all His works of Creation!**

Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind. Each orange has an even number of segments. Each ear of corn has an even number of rows. Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains. Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.

### **Amazing! There's more...**

The waves of the sea roll in on shore, twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather. All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks. God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture, and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed.

The Lives of each of us may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if we will only entrust Him with our lives. If we try to regulate our own lives, we will have only mess and failure.

### **Only God, who made our brains and hearts, can successfully guide them to a profitable end.**

When you carry the Bible, Satan has a headache; when you open it, he collapses. When he sees you reading it, he loses his strength, and when you stand on the Word of God, Satan can't hurt you!

And did you also know, that when you are about to share this to others, the Devil will probably try to discourage you, but do it anyway.

Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil – it has no point.

I pray God bless you in ways you never even dreamed. I didn't think twice about sharing this one. ■

**Service Times - Sunday: 9:00 & 10:00 AM; 6:00 PM - Wednesday: 7:00 PM**

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