

# Calvary Holiness

**“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”** *John 1:29*

Jesus Christ is the “lamb of God” which took away the “sin of the world.” He that “knew no sin” was “made sin for us” - that “we might be made the righteousness of God, in Him.” [II Cor. 5:21.]

Holiness is the fruit of righteousness. Those who are freed from sin through baptism into the death of Jesus Christ, are now *free to yield* themselves to God's righteousness and “bring forth fruit unto holiness” [Rom. 6:17-23]. Jesus was made sin for this purpose—that we might become the righteousness of God! Holiness is, therefore, the outworking of what Jesus Christ accomplished through Calvary in the hearts and lives of those who believe in Him. He is their *Saviour from sin*. “He shall save His people *from* their sins.” [Matt. 1 21]. This is Calvary Holiness!

“As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” John 3:14-18.

We often hear part of this truth - i.e. “God so loved the world... etc.”, but verse 14 is invariably missing from such quotes. *Salvation is from sin*, Jesus makes this very plain. Salvation is not salvation when it does not deal with sin. Sin IS the problem and is *the* reason God sent His only begotten Son. Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness at the command of God, and Jesus came into the world at the command of God's love—love for a sinning world. When the children of Israel *looked* at and *beheld* the serpent of brass that Moses had made and “lifted up,” they were delivered from the “fiery serpents.”

“The LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.” Numbers 21:6-9.

Please note what the people said - “We have sinned.” Sin was their problem, and it is THE problem for all mankind. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” [Romans 3:23], “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin;

and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” [Romans 5:12]. Jesus came to remove the “sting of death” which is sin [I Cor. 15:56]. The sting of death (i.e. SIN!) was removed on Calvary's tree. Calvary meant the destruction of the devil's works! Jesus Christ “crucified” the “old man” and “destroyed” the “body of sin.” [Rom. 6:6]. Not only so but He created the “new man”, “which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” [Eph.4:24].

Charles Wesley puts it well when he says;

“Tis finished! The Messiah dies,  
Cut off for sins, but not His own:  
Accomplished is the sacrifice,  
The great redeeming work is done.

The reign of sin and death is o'er,  
And all may live from sin set free;  
Satan hath lost his moral power;  
'Tis swallowed up in victory.

Saved from the legal curse I am,  
My Saviour hangs on yonder tree:  
See there the meek, expiring Lamb!  
'Tis finished! He expires for me.

Such is the language of the emancipated soul—of the liberated spirit—of the one who has entered into the finished work of Calvary!

Looking at and beholding Jesus THE SAVIOUR FROM SIN will result in freedom from “that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.” [Rev. 12:9], and from the “sting of death” brought into the world through disobedience. As we continue and abide in His word, we shall *know* the truth and the truth will make us “free indeed”—*free from sin!* Let us read the truth which Jesus Himself declared regarding this:

“Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”  
John 8:28-36.

Calvary Holiness is the *result* of the work of *Calvary*, the work of Him Who was “lifted up” to die. No wonder Philip Bliss could write;

“Lifted up was He to die,  
‘It is finished’ was His cry.  
Now in heaven exalted high;  
HALLELJAH! What a Saviour”

We whole-heartedly agree—WHAT A SAVIOUR! It is *knowing* that Jesus Christ was manifest to “destroy the works of the devil,” and has “crucified” the “old man,” that makes men free from sin in this world, not just the fact that it is written in Holy Scripture.

“*Knowing this*, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.” Romans 6:6-7.

We must *know* this truth in ourselves, not just believe about it. Not only so, but we must *abide* in this truth of Calvary holiness once we know the reality of it in our experience. Because,

“Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. 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. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” I John 3:6-9.

We must oppose those doctrines which teach that sin is more powerful than God or more powerful than the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanses from ALL sin and ALL unrighteousness. “Let God be true and every man a liar.”

We must proclaim the truth as it is in Jesus—that God saves “to the uttermost” all who come to Him through Jesus Christ the Saviour. [Heb. 7:25]. Let us settle for nothing less than the holiness of God which results from baptism into Christ’s death; holiness which results from identification with the Christ of Calvary and crucifixion with Christ.

**“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**

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