

Glad Words in the Bible

Proverbs 12:25

I. Introduction: 2

1. 3 This morning we learned many important lessons by considering the “Sad Words in the Bible.”
2. This evening let’s look at the other side of the coin by considering “Glad Words in the Bible.”
Prov. 12:25: *Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.*
3. The words we will look at tonight should bring gladness to the heart of any spiritually-minded person.

II. Discussion:

1. 4 “He Shall Save His People From Their Sins”:

Matt. 1:21: *“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS (i.e., Jehovah is salvation), for He will save His people from their sins.”*

A. ** Concerning sin, we’re all in the same boat (1 Jn. 3:4; Rom. 3:23; 6:23).

B. But Jesus came to remedy our lost condition (**Lk. 19:10:** *“for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”*; **1 Tim. 1:15:** *“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.”*).

C. We deserve death (Rom. 6:23); Jesus makes life possible (**Heb. 2:9:** *“...He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.”*; **7:25:** *“Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”*; **1 Tim. 2:5:** *“...there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”*; **Col. 1:21-22:** *“And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight”*).

D. The enormity of sin and of God’s love can both be clearly seen by the price required to remedy sin (**1 Jn. 4:10:** *“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”*).

E. How sad that most put little to no value on His blood (**Heb. 10:29-31**).

2. 5 “For God So Loved The World”:

Jn. 3:16: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*

A. The “golden text of the Bible” eloquently and profoundly expresses the greatest and most wonderful truth ever revealed! **Rom. 5:8:** *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

B. We should be supremely thankful for God’s attitude toward all of us (**Ezek. 33:11:** *“I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live.”*; 1 Tim. 2:4).

C. We must never mistake God’s longsuffering to mean that He’ll not fulfill His promise! **2 Pet. 3:7-9**

3. 6 “God Is No Respector of Persons”: **Acts 10:34-35**

A. Discuss context.

B. We should be thankful God doesn’t care about such things as: educational level, social status, wealth, physical characteristics, race, nationality, abilities, etc., etc. (**Job 34:19:** *“...He is not partial to princes, Nor does He regard the rich more than the poor; For they are all the work of His hands.”*)

C. God’s requirements are understandable, equitable, and attainable (**Rom. 2:5-11**).

4. 7 “Of Necessity There Is Also a Change of the Law”:

Heb. 7:12: *“For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.”*

- A. ** It’s a wonderful blessing that the law was changed and we are no longer under the Law of Moses!
 - (1) That law made nothing perfect (**Heb. 7:19:** *“for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.”*).
 - (2) It could not take away our sins (**Heb. 10:1-4**).
 - (3) It was a “yoke of bondage” (Gal. 5:1).
- B. A change in the law made possible the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2; 1 Cor. 9:21).
 - (1) We are married to Christ (**Rom. 7:4:** *“...you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another — to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.”*).
 - (2) We can have our sins forgiven and forgotten (**Heb. 10:17:** *“Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”*).

5. 8 “When You Read, You May Understand”:

Eph. 3:4: *by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ*

- A. How wonderful that we can understand God’s word (**Psa. 119:105:** *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*)(otherwise like a flashlight w/out batteries!)
- B. ** Doesn’t mean we don’t have to work at it! **2 Pet. 3:15-16; 1 Cor. 1:26-27:** *“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. 27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;”*; **Mk. 12:37:** *“And the common people heard Him gladly.”*
- C. Consider the blessings of being able to understand God’s word:
 - (1) Our faith does not depend on the wisdom of men (**1 Cor. 2:4-5:** *“And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*).
 - (2) We can and must test everyone’s teaching (Acts 17:11-12a; 1 Jn. 4:1, 6).
 - (3) We can work out our own salvation (Phil. 2:12; Catholicism).
 - (4) We can study and understand the book that will judge us (Jn. 12:48; 6:68; **Rom. 2:16:** *“...God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.”*).

6. 9 “By Grace Ye Have Been Saved Through Faith”:

Eph. 2:8: *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,”*

- A. When grace meets faith salvation results (**Rom. 3:23-26;** 10:17; book of Acts; esp. **18:8:** *“And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized.”*).
- B. Contrary to what some teach, even though salvation is provided through God’s grace and is “the gift of God” (Eph. 2:8), our faith is critical! **Heb. 11:6:** *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”*
 - (1) Works of faith, “which God prepared beforehand” are required! **Eph. 2:8-10;** Jas. 2:14-26
 - (2) What kind of “work” is baptism? **Col. 2:12:** *“buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”*; **1 Peter 3:21:**

“There is also an antitype which now saves us — baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”

7. **10** “If God Is For Us, Who Can Be Against Us”:

- A. Note Paul’s statement in **Rom. 8:31**.
- B. What evidence do we have that this is true...ever think of that? Gen. 1 & 2 (“Goldilocks Zone”); **Rom. 8:32**: *“He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”*
- C. We can face any difficulty with confidence, we can overcome any obstacle, we can defeat any enemy! **Rom. 8:33-39**; **Phil. 4:6-7**: *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

8. **11** “We Are God’s Fellow Workers”:

1 Cor. 3:9: *“For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.”*

- A. Paul said this in connection with his work at spreading the gospel (1 Cor. 3:5-9); what a grand thought that God considers us His “fellow workers.”
- B. Every generation is a new generation; hence, the Great Commission is a commission every generation is responsible to fulfill! Mk. 16:15-16; **1 Thess. 1:8**: *“For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.”*
- C. Each one of us can do our part (family, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, total strangers); so much is at stake (2 Thess. 1:7-9; 2 Cor. 5:10; **Heb. 10:31**: *“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*).

9. **12** “Heirs of God And Joint Heirs With Christ”:

Rom. 8:16-17: *“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”*

- A. Can you imagine that! We are “joint heirs with Christ”?

1 Jn. 3:2: *“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”*

- B. However, being a “joint heir with Christ” is conditional...“children of God” and “if indeed we suffer with Him” (Rom. 8:17: adopted children).
- C. ****** Discuss becoming and remaining a child of God:
 - (1) Seed must reach a good heart (**Lk. 8:15**: only the one “with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”; **James 1:21**: *“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”*).
 - (2) Must be “born again” (Jn. 3:3-5; Rom. 6; Gal. 3:27).
 - (3) Then become a member of God’s family (**Eph. 2:19**: *“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,”*; 1 Tim. 3:15).
 - (4) Must then remain faithful (**Col. 1:21-23**; 1 Cor. 15:58).
- D. The future blessings of God’s people is in the form of an “inheritance” (**Matt. 25:34**: *“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you*

from the foundation of the world:”; **Heb. 6:12**: “that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”; **I Pet. 1:3-5**).

10. **13** “*For To Me To Live Is Christ, And To Die Is Gain*”: Phil. 1:21

- A. Paul was torn between his desire to be with Christ and to continue his labors (**Phil. 1:21-24**).
- B. Whether we realize it or not; all of us are living this passage every single day!
- C. ** How? Allow me to slightly modify Paul’s statement and let each of us make the application to ourselves: **
“For to me to live is _____, and to die is _____.” (Pearl’s slip of paper.)
- D. If for me, or for you, “to live is” anything but “Christ,” then mine, or your, death will not be “gain”!

III. **14 Conclusion:**

1. Have you taken advantage of these glad words? Altogether? Or, Almost?

Almost Persuaded (Philip P. Bliss, 1871):

“Almost persuaded” now to believe;
“Almost persuaded” Christ to receive;
Seems now some soul to say,
“Go, Spirit, go Thy way,
Some more convenient day
On Thee I’ll call.”

“Almost persuaded,” come, come today;
“Almost persuaded,” turn not away;
Jesus invites you here,
Angels are ling’ring near,
Prayers rise from hearts so dear;
O wand’rer, come!

“Almost persuaded,” harvest is past!
“Almost persuaded,” doom comes at last!
“Almost” cannot avail;
“Almost” is but to fail!
Sad, sad, that bitter wail—
“Almost,” but lost!

2. ** Remember, you are filling in the blanks. What will you put in the blanks today?

“For to me to live is _____, and to die is _____.”

Adapted from “Glad Words in the Bible,” in *Gospel Meeting Sermons*
by Johnie Edwards, 1979, *Faith and Facts*, Indianapolis, IN