

"Of which Salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the Grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the Glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the Gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from Heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." 1 Peter 1:10-12 KJV



Salvation! What a marvelous gift! The Sovereign of Eternity, the Self-Existent One, set His Love on man, the cause of which can only be found in Himself, for there is nothing in Adam's offspring that merits a moment's glimmer of affection! Our LORD determined in eternity past, to create mankind "in His own image;" the image of singular uniqueness; possessed by each soul that has ever been clothed in flesh. Murderers extinguish forever the eternal singularity of their victims. It is a crime against God, but there are, oh, so many others! God chose within Himself, for His own reason and purpose, to divinely intervene on behalf of desperately wicked men. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. There is none righteous; no, not one." You may not think of yourself as desperately wicked, but you are born into condemnation, separated from a Holy God and are thus wicked by virtue of this separation. All men desperately try to escape death for as long as possible, and rightly so, "for it is appointed unto men once to die and after this The Judgment." Those "saved by grace through faith" are wreathed in the arms of "Everlasting Love" that will not let us go. The ancient prophets "inquired and searched diligently" for the Grace they foretold of through divine revelation; Of the "Word made flesh, the Son of God," which would come and suffer the agony of God's righteous punishment for the scrabbling rebels of Adam's race! Man could not possibly endure the agony of his own punishment, so God endured it for him. He manifested Himself in humanity and bore His own Judgment. "He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. The LORD hath laid on Him THE INIQUITY OF US ALL." Hell isn't punishment for men. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Although created for Satan, it will eternally punish unbelieving men! Salvation is such an infinite conundrum that even "the angels desire to look into" it's meaning. One of my favorite hymns says,

"Holy, Holy," is what the angels sing,
And I expect to help them make the Courts of Heaven ring;
But when I sing Redemption's story, they will fold their wings,
For angels never felt the joys that our Salvation brings! ~Rev. Johnson Jr. - Jno. R. Sweeny 1897

The Redeemed have in their possession by virtue of faith, the "gift of the ages." All other gifts are candles in sunlight by comparison. They will enjoy the pleasures of eternity and not even the angels of Heaven will know the level of ecstasy saints will share with the Lover of their soul! The sinless Christ suffered the agonies of ALL sin's guilt and the torture of horrific crucifixion for you! Will you reject His Love, forever?

"Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my Righteous Servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities." Isaiah 53:10-11 KJV