

THE DEAF MESSENGER

An Inspirational Magazine for the Deaf



““Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.””

Matthew 8:20, NIV

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The Deaf Messenger magazine is published by:

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The purpose of this magazine is to inform the deaf reader about such topics as practical Christian living; basic Bible truths; and what the past, present, and future historical events mean to each of us. This magazine attempts to cover spiritual, mental, and physical aspects in its articles and columns.

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The Complete Sacrifice

By David M. Trexler



A wealthy man was born rich and grew up with everything most children would be jealous of. His parents owned several mansions across the country, and they loved their son very much. They gave him everything they owned when they died of old age. But, this wealthy man wasn't happy. He felt empty in his life. The more he gained in wealth and properties the less happy he became. Then one day he decided to explore happiness. Where would he go? He had gone to every part of the world and still he couldn't find something to satisfy his life. Where would he go then? While he was

walking on a city street far from his mansion he was thinking about where to find true happiness. Suddenly, he heard noises of ridicule by some of the schoolgirls who cruelly teased a ragged-looking girl. She was dirty and crying. She had no one to protect her. This wealthy man decided to walk to where the girls were, and the girls stopped teasing. They felt guilty in front of the gentleman. The man was not happy with them and told them to leave that girl alone. The girls left. Strangely, he had seen many poor people all over the world, but this girl touched his heart. He had compassion toward her. He carefully asked the girl where she lived and who her parents were.

He learned that her parents were poor immigrants who lost their job and were forced to give up their small, old house because of foreclosure. They had lived on the street since then. To survive they had to beg for food and money.

Winter was coming and the girl had no warm clothes to protect her.

What would this wealthy man do? Touched with compassion, he asked her to meet her parents. They went to an impoverished part of the city where the girl's parents lived. He met and asked them questions about their lives. The parents spoke poor English but he tried to understand them. He viewed them as a hard working couple who desired to see that their daughter would grow up to be a successful person. After the long conversation, the wealthy man decided to invite them to stay at his mansion. But, the family felt that they couldn't accept his offer if they couldn't pay for his kindness. And, they felt they were not worthy of his kindness. But the man encouraged them not to think of that way. He offered them to stay for free until they find a job to rebuild their lives. After much persuasion the parents finally agreed to go with him.

Upon arrival the family was shocked to see the

wealth of the mansion! More than that, they were in a complete shock when the wealthy man gave them the deed to this house. They owned the mansion! They couldn't believe it! They told him that they couldn't accept it. They didn't earn it. But he encouraged them to accept it as a gift. Later, they were shocked again when this wealthy man gave them his car, a SUV, a yacht, and a prosperous business. Finally, this poor family was protected and happy in this mansion and with a new life. A few days later the wealthy man disappeared with a note. In the note he wrote that he had found true happiness through giving to others in need. Where was that man? Someone reported that this man became a "beggar" by giving away all of his mansions and properties.

Would you be like him? Would you be willing to become a slave or a beggar to help the poor of the world? This story is not real, but it helps us to understand why Jesus Christ was willing to give up everything for the sinners. Jesus had

everything in this universe. He owned them. Jesus Christ was with God before His birth (incarnation) in this world. He was born as a human being so that He could live with us. The Bible says that He became poor so that we can become rich. He died so that we can live eternally. That is a complete sacrifice. That is love. “You know the grace shown by our Lord Jesus Christ. Even though he was rich, he became poor to help you. Because he became poor, you can become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).

No one in this whole universe can match Jesus’ sacrifice and love. Not even our greatest hero of this world who died for us! Imagine how our Creator God could have said, “Well, you are responsible for your stupidity. You made a mess!” No, He didn’t say and think that way. The Father and the Son were sad when our first parents sinned against Him. God had developed a plan of salvation long before the earth was created. Why? God is love and He doesn’t want anyone to be lost

forever. The same is true about how the parents feel about their babies who died. They are willing to spend a lot of money to save the babies. That is parental love. They are willing to sacrifice for the life of the babies.

God agreed that the Son of God would become “Life Insurance” for the world. The Son of God became Jesus Christ when he was incarnated in His mother, Mary, 2,000 years ago. The Bible says—“The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14). The name “Immanuel” means “God with us” (Matthew 1:23). And, another important verse to think about is—“But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

Remember the Christmas story in the Bible about the greatest act of God’s love in Jesus Christ who was born, raised, suffered, and died as human being like us to bring joy to this sad world.

The Incarnation of the Son: The Miracles and the Consequences (Results)

By George Belser



Odejea—Wikipedia

The Statute of King Alfred the Great

In the late 800's there was a famous king named Alfred in England. King Alfred was the only English king who had the title "the Great" after his name. He became a great and wise ruler because he was very humble. He dressed himself as a pauper [a poor man] and associated with the common people. King Alfred hid himself by dressing like a common person because he did not want anyone to recognize him as the king when he associated with common people. This way he could learn about the people's needs. He made wise laws and commands for his kingdom because of his fellowship with the common people.

One time Alfred the Great was fleeing from the Danes. He did not wear the king's clothes. As usual, he dressed as a common person. He hid in the house of a poor peasant woman. The woman commanded him to watch some cakes that were baking in the fireplace. The woman had to leave her house for an errand. Alfred was very tired from losing the battle

and fleeing from the Danes. He fell asleep and let the cakes burn. The woman returned from her errand and found that the cakes were burned. She was very upset and scolded Alfred for letting the cakes become black. The woman did not know that the man was the king of England. Alfred was so humble that he admitted he deserved the scolding because he had not done his job.

In the same way, Jesus Christ entered our world as a man to save all the people of the world. How did Jesus as the Son of God become a man? We will never understand the great mystery of Incarnation (God becoming a human being). Paul calls the Incarnation a mystery. He says in 1 Timothy 3:16: "No one can deny how great is the secret [mystery] of our religion: He [God] appeared in human form, was shown to be right by the [Holy] Spirit, and was seen by angels. He was preached among the nations, was believed in throughout the world, and was taken up to heaven" (TEV). There is

strong proof in the Bible that Jesus is the Son of God. Read John 1:1-4; Psalm 90:1, 2; and Micah 5:2. God the Father recognizes Jesus as God (Hebrews 1:1-3, 8). The name Jesus is the English form of the Latin Iesus. Iesus in Hebrew is Yesh' a' (Joshua), which means "Yahweh is salvation." Matthew says, "A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel (which means, 'God is with us'). . . . But he [Joseph] had no sexual relations with her [Mary] before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus" (Matthew 1:23, 25, TEV).

Paul writes, "But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem [save] those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons" (Galatians 4:4, NIV). Many verses in the Bible show that Christ is Creator. Here is a good verse: "And to make all people see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden

in God, who created all things through Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 3:9, NKJV).

Why did Jesus Christ come into the world and experience a very painful death on the cross? Jesus came to give good examples and to save us from sin. John explains: "He [Jesus] was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. . . . But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even those who believe in His name. . . . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among [lived with] us, and we beheld [saw] His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:10, 12, 14, NKJV). Paul adds that "God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his sons—this was his pleasure and purpose. . . . For by the sacrificial death of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such large measure!" (Ephesians 1:5, 7, TEV). Also read Ephesians

2:11-13.

Jesus died on the cross so that (1) we may receive forgiveness for our sins, (2) we may receive eternal life, and (3) we may become one with God again. The plan of salvation for us can be done only through Jesus Christ.

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12, NIV).

1 Timothy 2:5, 6 agrees: “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all” (NKJV). We must have Someone who is fully God to make God’s plan of salvation work. There is no other way!

Now, what about the future? The Bible explains that Jesus went to heaven to be our heavenly High Priest ministering to our needs and preparing us for heaven. When Jesus’ priestly work is finished, He will come with power and great glory to take His people home to heaven to live forever with Him. Read Acts 1:9-11, Hebrews 8:1-6, and Hebrews 2:14-

16. John the Beloved writes: “And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

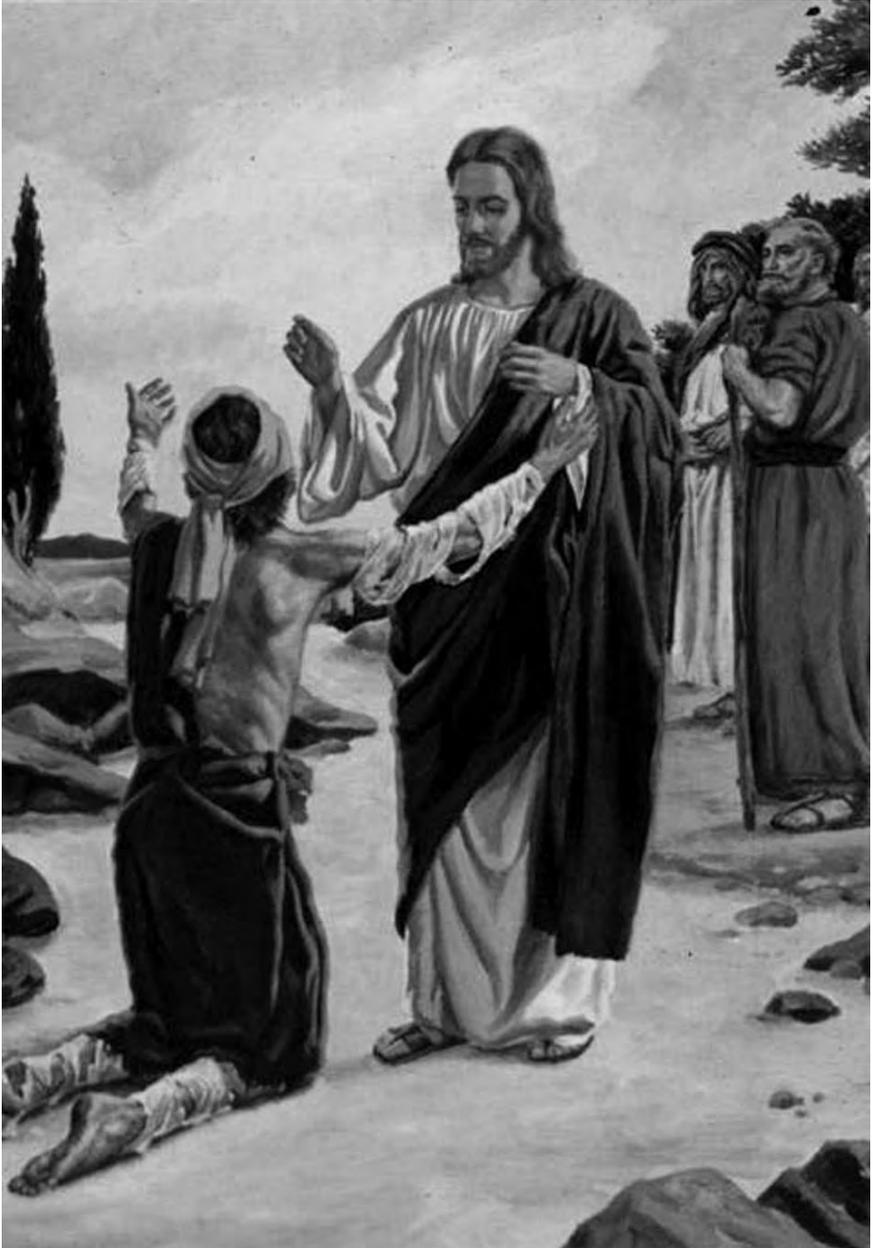
You have read about the beauty of God’s plan of salvation through the ministry and sacrifice of the Son of God, the one and only Jesus Christ. Wouldn’t you like to surrender your heart to the Saviour God?

George Belser is a retired deaf pastor who lives in Mesa, AZ.



Jesus Christ's Unity With Mankind

By Bruce Buzzell



Who is God? And what powers does He have that no angel or human has? The Bible says God is spirit and truth (John 4:24). We cannot see God in heaven because He is a spirit and we are flesh. I Timothy 1:17 says God is immortal. Being immortal means to live forever. No human or angel can live forever. Only God can live forever. He exists in eternal ages past and future. He is always there in heaven.

God has three powers that no angel or human possesses. The three powers are omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Notice the prefix word omni in each of the powers God has. The word omni means all or everything.

Let us look at what each of the three powers God has.

1) Omnipotent – God is all powerful. He has unlimited supply of power. He created the earth and heaven by His spoken word and they appeared out of nowhere. Revelation 19:6 says, “And I heard as it were the voice

of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth” (KJV).

2) Omniscient – God knows everything. He knows the number of hair on your head (Matthew 10:30). God knows what we need and He still provides for us. Ephesians 1:8 says, “He poured His grace on us by giving us great wisdom and understanding.”

3) Omnipresent – God is everywhere at the same time. All angels and humans are limited to being at one place at a time while God can be with you and other people at the same time. Psalms 139:7-8 says, “How can I get away from your Spirit? Where can I go to escape from you? If I go up to the heavens, you are there. If I lie down in the deepest parts of the earth, you are also there.” Also Jeremiah 23:24 says, “ ‘Can anyone hide in secret places so that I can’t see him?’ announces the Lord. ‘Don’t I fill heaven and earth?’ announces the Lord.”

God is a real, living divine being who exists as Three separate Persons who are equal and eternal: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Three Persons in this holy group is called the Trinity. They all are immortal, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent.

The Father and the Holy Spirit are immortal, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent during the Old Testament and New Testament times. However, in Jesus Christ's case it is different. Jesus had all four divine powers like the Father and Holy Spirit during the Old Testament time. The amazing thing is Jesus Christ gave up His omnipresent powers when He gave up His heavenly throne to become a human being on earth 2000 years ago. Philippians 2:5-8 says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And

being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (KJV). Once Jesus left heaven and came to earth to put on a human body, He was not able to go anywhere at the same time because He was limited to time and space in His body while on earth. He had to move from one place to another at a time just like the rest of us.

When Jesus Christ died and rose from the grave, did He get His omnipresent powers back? No! Why not? Because Jesus took His humanity with Him after His death. To become omnipresent, you have to be in the spirit to be able to go everywhere at the same time. That is not possible with a human body.

Christ's disciples saw Him showing His hands and feet and also eating food in Luke 24:36-43. Notice in verse 39, Jesus said that a spirit does not have flesh and bones. The disciples thought they saw a spirit when Jesus suddenly showed up in the room (after His death and resurrection). One of

Christ's disciples, Thomas the Doubter, did not believe Jesus rose from the grave until he met Jesus in his human form, and He showed Thomas the holes in His hands and feet from the nails on the cross (John 20:24-27). This was Jesus in His human form.

Jesus told His disciples He sent for the Holy Spirit to take His place on earth after He went to heaven. The Holy Spirit still has His omnipresent power where He can be with every person on earth to help them with the Gospel at the same time. The Holy Spirit has a big advantage over Satan, who is limited to moving from one place at a time to another place.

When Jesus went to heaven, He took His humanity with Him. God, the Father, gave His only-begotten Son to become one with the human family forever to keep His human nature. Jesus will carry his humanity in heaven for eternity. That shows His solidarity or unity with mankind. He was willing to identify Himself with us

and be like us in a human body. He could have stayed in heaven and kept His omnipresence when we could not see him, but He gave that up so He can be like us and show His love for us by being one of us. That is how much Jesus loves us.

In heaven, Jesus Christ is still immortal (lives forever), omnipotent (all powerful), and omniscient (knows everything). But not omnipresent (everywhere at the same time) because He chose to keep His humanity to show us He is like us in the same human form. This is Jesus' unity with mankind at the highest form of unselfish love toward us. Are you glad that Jesus supports us by putting on a human body to be like us and love us? Yes, I am very glad!

Bruce Buzzell is a writer living in the metropolitan area of St. Louis, MO.



Try Giving

By C. L. Paddock



An elderly couple lived in old London, England, and the church they attended for many years asked them to give to a very worthy ministry. The wife told her husband she felt they were asked to give too much. She complained, “Ever since we became Christians and joined the church it has been

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good amount will be poured into your lap. It will be pressed down, shaken together, and running over. The same amount you give will be measured out to you”
(Luke 6:38)

give, give, give. We have surely lost a lot of money by this giving, giving all the time.”

The husband did not feel that way. He agreed and said, “Yes, Mary, we

have lost a lot because of our giving. I lost some shabby clothes, and patched shoes. I lost the bad habit of getting drunk and of abusing you. I lost a bothersome conscience, a terribly wicked heart. I lost a lot of shame and guilt. These are all gone, lost, cast into the depths of the sea.”

He continued, “Mary, you have been a loser, too. Before we joined the church you had some washtubs and a washboard. On these you made enough to keep us from starving. But when we became Christians I got a job and you lost the old washtubs. You lost some old faded gowns, and an old hat. There were not fit to wear, but they were all you had to wear. You lost a good many heartaches, too, Mary. Thank God for the things we lost. Let us show our thanks by giving.”

In a church the clerk’s record book listed the names of a wealthy gentleman and a poor widow who supported herself and her six children by taking in washing. They both came to church every week. The rich man put in

\$5 in the offering plate each Sabbath, and the poor widow could never put in more than a few pennies.

The rich man knew how much she gave—how hard she worked. He worried about her sacrifices, and one day he told the pastor that he would be willing to give what the widow was giving, so she would not have to give. The pastor told the widow of the rich man’s kind offer. He was surprised to see tears in her eyes. She was not happy at the idea of not having to give to the church. She said, “You must not take from me the joy of giving. I owe my Lord so much. He has given me so many blessings. I feel I could not be happy if I could not give something to Him each week.”

If we want to enjoy a real joy and inward happiness, it is a good thing to try giving. There may be other ways, but one of the best is to do something for someone else. Try giving.

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How to Share Your Testimony With Someone

By Francisca Trexler



A lot of people wondered about what they should say or share the testimony of their lives with someone. It is the best way for all Christian people to share their testimonies what God had changed and what led them to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Make it a simple, sweet and meaningful testimony to share with. It may not be worth sharing the past of sin. There is nothing good about sharing the past life. Satan

likes us to talk about our past life of sin. We can say, "I am so thankful to be me today because Jesus forgave my past sins." And also you can say, "I do not want to talk about my past life, because Jesus forgot our sins."

There are many positive reasons why we should be thankful that God forgave our sins. Why should we talk about the past life of sin? Psalm 25:7, "Don't remember the sins I committed when I was

young. Don't remember how often I refused to obey you. Remember me because you love me. Lord, you are good." 1 Thessalonians 5:21-23, "Put everything to the test. Hold on to what is good. Stay away from every kind of evil. God is the God who gives peace. May he make you holy through and through. May your whole spirit soul and body be kept free from blame. May you be without blame from now until our Lord Jesus Christ comes." 1 John 3:4-6, "Everyone who sins breaks the law. In fact, breaking the law is sin. But you know that Christ came to take our sins away. And there is no sin in him. No one who remains joined to him keeps on sinning. No one who keeps on sinning has seen him or known him." God wants us to have nine fruits of the Holy Spirit in our characters like Jesus Christ's lovely character. Galatians 5:22,23, "But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind, and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.

There is no law against things of that kind."

It is natural that we cannot do by ourselves to become a better person, but there is good news in the Bible. Philippians 4:13, "I can do everything by the power of Christ. He gives me strength." You and I are able to overcome our weaknesses through the power of Jesus Christ. Let us share the good news with people who desire to know Jesus Christ and introduce them to know Jesus Christ. Let us be so thankful that God didn't remember every sin we made. See Micah 7:19, "Once again you will show loving concern for us. You will completely wipe out the evil things we've done. You will throw all of our sins into the bottom of the sea." Wow, God threw our sins into the bottom of the wide ocean! Is that wonderful God we have? May God be with you as you share the wonderful news of Salvation with anyone!

Francisca Trexler has a Master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, and is active in Deaf work in different capacities. She lives in Lanham, MD.

Walnut Oat Burgers



- 1 cup quick oats
- 1 cup seasoned bread crumbs
- 1 cup sautéed onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup walnut, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup soy flour
- 2 Tablespoon cashew nut butter (optional)
- 1 Tablespoons soy sauce (Braggs)
- Salt, accent, sage to taste
- Dash thyme

Mix well together. Add just enough hot water to hold together. Mix well. Brown in oiled skillet on both sides. Or make patties on the cookie sheet and bake them in the oven with 350 for 15 minutes or so. Serve in burger buns or with gravy as meatless main dish.

Country Style Milk Gravy

- 2 cups water
- 1/2 cup cashew nuts (be sure to wash them well)
- 2 Tablespoons arrowroot powder or 3 Tablespoons browned flour
- 1/2 teaspoons onion powder
- 2 Tablespoons oil (olive oil)
- 2 Tablespoons soy sauce (optional) or 1/4 teaspoon celery seed powder

Liquefy the above ingredients together. Pour into saucepan and stir until thickened. Serve with your favorite loaf or patties.

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