

# THE REDTHREAD

## THE GIFT OF SALVATION

Acknowledge to yourself and to God that you have sinned (Romans 3:23).

In sorrow for your sins, turn from them to God and ask His forgiveness (Isaiah 55:7).

By faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, believing that He died in your place on the cross (John 3:16).

## BETWEEN TIMES

### REVIVAL BIBLE STUDY

**Day 1—The Preacher**  
Acts 2:14

**Day 2—The Prophecy**  
Acts 2:15-18

**Day 3—The End of Days**  
Acts 2:19-21

**Day 4—The Father's Approval**  
Acts 2:22

**Day 5—The Father's Plan**  
Acts 2:23

**Day 6—The Resurrection**  
Acts 2:24-32

**Day 7—The Proof**  
Acts 2:33-35

**Day 8—Both Lord and Christ**  
Acts 2:36

**Day 9—The Sermon's Effect**  
Acts 2:37

**Day 10—The Response**  
Acts 2:38-41

## WHY & HOW

THE RED THREAD exists to be an encouragement to the men and women currently separated from family and friends in correctional institutions. It is published on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays by **Crimson House Ministries** at 1616 North Robberson, Springfield, Missouri, 65803. Please send all correspondence to that address. Subscription information is available online at: <http://readingroom.crimsonhouseministries.org/>



## "I GOT A MAN..."

I went to the funeral of a family friend this week. His name is Garner and he died at the age of 75. He is a great Christian man who is loved and respected by all who know him.

As we were driving the short distance from the funeral home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma to the cemetery in Dewey, even the opposite side of the road was lined with people who had stopped for the funeral procession. You could chalk that up to small town courtesy, but I smiled as I entertained the thought that it may have been that most of those people had read the local paper and knew it was Garner Jarrett's funeral. It's possible that most of them had met him at some time during Garner's 20 years in that area. He certainly seemed to know everybody. What a tribute.

This guy was the ultimate Mr. Fix It. He knew a lot about so many things: cars, tools, plumbing, appliances, gadgets...you name it. His family and many friends, as well as, his very many acquaintances depended on him for a lot of help and advice.

Both of Garner's former pastors who conducted the wonderful memorial service mentioned that

one of the phrases Garner was most known for was, "I got a man..." If he could not fix something himself, which was rare, he always knew someone who could. It seems he knew every type of repair man, supplier or worker for any situation. "I got a man who can help you with that." You could rest assured that if Garner Jarrett recommended someone to you, they were among the best and most trustworthy in their field.

Garner knew a lot and could do a lot of things. But he always understood his limitations. Garner was a great man, but that didn't mean he could get himself to heaven based upon his greatness. He trusted Christ for salvation, lived his life for the glory of God, helped people along the way and is now in the presence of the Master Craftsman, Savior, Friend and Lord.

Garner is in heaven because he had a man who could do for him what he could not do for himself. His name is Jesus and he is our man, too, and so much more.

No matter how great you are, you can't do it all and you certainly can't get yourself to heaven. Fortunately, we all have a man; a God-man really, who is the solution for the greatest problems facing mankind: sin, death and the grave. Why not give Garner's man a try? Call on the Lord who will abundantly forgive, help and bless.

—John Newson, Pastor  
Olathe, KS

## THE POWER OF CHRIST

*"<sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup>having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup>that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all." —Ephesians 1:15-23*

Part of Paul's prayer for the saints at Ephesus was for them to receive a greater knowledge of Jesus through the spirit of wisdom and revelation. It was to be a knowledge that went beyond mere perception; it is one that was to be precise, fully discerned, and recognized. The Apostle's desire was for the saints to know the exceeding greatness of the Lord's power according to the workings of His mighty power (cf. Ephesians 1:19).

Barnes speaks to this revelation of power in Paul's prayer for the Ephesians "that they should be fully acquainted with the 'power' of God in the salvation of

people. He refers not merely to the power which he had evinced in their salvation, but also to what the gospel was 'able' to accomplish, and which they might yet experience. The 'power' referred to here as exercised toward believers does not refer to one thing merely. It is the whole series of the acts of power toward Christians which results from the work of the Redeemer. There was power exerted in their conversion. There would be power exerted in keeping them. There would be power in raising them up from the dead, and exalting them with Christ to heaven. The religion which they professed was a religion of 'power.' In all the forms and stages of it the power of God was manifested toward them, and would be until they reached their final inheritance." Of course this religion of power was brought about through Christ, which means that the power God has exerted in us is in accordance with the power that was displayed in the raising up of the Lord Jesus from the dead. Thus, it is a power exalted to the highest possible plateau, far above all principalities and powers, thrones and dominions, and every name that is named; that is, "Let any name be uttered, whatever it is, Christ is above it; it is more exalted than that which the name uttered affirms" (Meyer).

Solomon prayed for wisdom (cf. 1 Kings 3:3-9) and the Lord responded; James wrote, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him" (James 1:5 ESV). But in that request he enlisted a caution, "But let him ask in faith, with no doubting..." (James 1:6). Pray today that the church would receive the spirit of wisdom and revelation of the power in Christ Jesus. Thank the Lord who, in answer to prayer, can give to all men liberally.

—John Pace, Pastor  
Springfield, MO

# LET'S HEAR FROM YOU...



## GOD LOVES WALKING

He loves to walk, this God of mine,  
It was with Adam He stepped in time.  
And then with Enoch, such marathons of grace,  
Caught up to heaven, set the appropriate pace.  
In flame and smoke, God journeyed forty years  
With hard-hearted people in dust and tears.  
And when Daniel's friends were cast into fire,  
He walked there, too, lifting them higher and higher.  
Our Lord and Savior trekked everywhere in the Holy Land,  
Even over water, His feet in command.  
On the road to Emmaus, after all that was done,  
The resurrected Jesus walked, teaching loved ones.  
So if you wonder about those streets paved with gold,  
Remember who walks with you, enjoying the stroll.

--Arnoldo A. Nandin Silva, Inmate,  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

## A PRAYER

May the peace, love, joy and happiness of life be with us today. May all our suspicious doubts and fears be erased so that Your light God may shine forth in us all.

Give us the strength to stop blaming other people for our problems and the wisdom to check ourselves out first, for then we will discover that a majority of our problems, suspicions and wrong deeds are our own fault.

Lord, teach us to remember that we pay a price for the lessons that we learn in this life and that no matter how smart or tough we think we are, we can be had. The race of life is not won by the swift and greedy. Let me be able to be able to be the same whether I have abundance or poverty.

No one owes us anything, and no one in our life is going to be totally true and faithful to us. So let us stop looking for it and recognize that no one is perfect, that people are human and make mistakes. Add forgiveness to our ways and rid us of all bitterness.

Replace in our hearts a desire to know You and a longing to please You, for we know the rewards shall be great.

May we always be grateful for being alive and realize that no matter what the problems of circumstances may be that You will carry us through them.

Life is too short to waste time on the things we can't change. Let us think positively about today, for tomorrow is not guaranteed to anyone. Amen.

—Roy A. Borges, Inmate

*We love hearing from you and so do our readers. Please send your articles, poems, praise reports, testimonies, etc..., to **The Red Thread, Crimson House Ministries, 1616 N Robberson, Springfield, MO, 65803.***

## PASTOR'S DEVOTION

In the Old Testament we see where the phrase "For his mercy endures forever" shouted in two distinct areas: in the Temple's dedication (cf. 2 Chronicles 5:13) and in the battle at Tekoa (cf. 2 Chronicles 20:21). In the New Testament we see the application of mercy's endurance, first as Zacharias recognizes its continuance while in the temple: "Blessed by the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people...To perform the mercy promised to our fathers..." (Luke 1:68, 72); and in the many "battle" shouts of the afflicted: "...have mercy on me [us], thou Son of David..." (cf. Matthew 9:27, 15:22, and 20:30).

W.E. Vine writes in his Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words: "it [mercy] assumes need on the part of him who receives it, and resources adequate to meet the need on the part of him who shows it." Whether at peace in

the sanctuary or at war on the battlefield, we can only stand by the Lord's mercy, knowing that He alone has the adequate resources to supply our stand—"For God, who is rich (wealthy, abounding with) in mercy..." (Ephesians 2:4).

Rejoice today that the Lord has visited His people to perform the mercy He promised. Thank Him for the time His mercy gave your first victory from sin unto salvation, and the many times afterward as you grow in that salvation. Pray continued mercy on those who have rejected His mercy and grace thus far in their lives; intercede for them to know Jesus Christ as their Savior.



1616 NORTH ROBBERSON  
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65803