

**You, whom God loves,
this little book has been
written especially
for you!**

Jesus said:

Let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will,
let him take the water of life freely!

The water that I shall give him shall be in him a
well of water springing up into everlasting life!

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Dear reader,

In this little book, you will find the path that every true believer has experienced, often partly.

If your own story ends with the very first lines of this book, this little book will show you what God has prepared for you, to bring you to Him, and then to move forward in life with Him! If your own story extends a little further, you will find here, with God's help, how to move forward and grow on the path of faith!

Whoever you are, ask God to open your heart, the most secret part of yourself. He can only answer you favourably!

The author hopes you enjoy reading this book

The author is a simple believer, with no title or qualification bestowed by human hands. He simply wishes to share with you what he has received from the Lord through reading His Word, the Bible.

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How to be ready to meet the Creator!

Since you have started reading this little book, you are not one of those of whom God says: “*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God*” (Psalm 53:1). You can be certain that God, through His Spirit, wishes to work in your soul and in your heart. So do not resist Him; He desires the eternal good for your soul and your eternal happiness!

Like many people, you may be searching for the best religion, one that would enable you to meet your Creator, the perfectly holy God!

Whatever their background or religion, God says in the Bible: “***all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God***” (Romans 3:23).

God has given you a conscience that shows you that whenever you do not tell the exact truth, you are doing wrong. That is sin! You should therefore conclude that this stands in the way of your meeting your Creator, the Holy God!

Is there, then, a religion that offers you a way to have these sins forgiven, so that you may meet your Creator?

The moral principles of Confucius's followers, the exemplary self-denial of Buddhism, or the great zeal of many Muslims are, in themselves, good things. But alas, these religions do not offer the possibility of enabling a depraved sinner (*) to meet a Holy God; this cannot be found!

- (*) This is what every human being is by nature, but religions conceal this reality.

On the other hand, **in the Gospel**, this is well known and possible, for God does not ask the sinner to improve (*). But **God Himself has done everything on the cross in the Person of Jesus, His Son.**

- (*) This is what religions, sometimes described as 'Christian', also do!

There will come a day when all human beings, still burdened by their sins, will have to stand before God, who warns them in His Word:

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found

written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20 v.12-15).

How can we benefit from what God has done?

This is what God commands every human being, without exception:

"God ... now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. (Acts 17:30–31).

Repentance consists of applying to one's actions **the same judgement as God!**

Because of ever-present sins, no religion provides the means for repentance: only the life that God gives can do so! Religions cannot write your name in the Book of Life, nor can they erase it from the book where all your sins are recorded. These books will be opened just before eternity begins, to condemn to the second death all those whose sins have not been erased.

Through the message of the Gospel [= the Good News], God reveals to every human being what He Himself accomplished in the person of Jesus, His Son! **This took place on the cross!**

Very early on in human history, when Adam, the first man, sinned, his reaction [and yours too] was to hide; he and Eve were afraid of God. Aware of their sin, they made themselves garments out of fig leaves. You can read about this in the Bible, in the Book of Genesis, chapter 3.

Because of sin, God's relationship with humankind became impossible. In His grace, God Himself provided a solution 4,000 years later: He spoke to Eve of a Seed [= the Lord Jesus] who would crush the head of the serpent [= Satan] (1*)! In the image of the cross, He shed the blood of an innocent victim, to clothe Adam and Eve in His skin (2*), removing their garments of fig leaves.

(1*) *"The Lord said to the serpent ... I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it [= Christ Jesus] shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel"* (Genesis 3:13–15). **This is what took place on the cross.**

(2*) *"The Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them"* (Genesis 3:21). It was also **on the cross that God sacrificed the innocent victim, his own Son.**

Like Adam and Eve, you can do nothing, you surely tell yourself, but what, then, is the solution?

Paul and Silas were imprisoned, and the jailer asked them this question: “*What must I do that I may be saved?*” The answer was quite simple: “***Believe on the Lord Jesus and thou shalt be saved ... And they spoke to him the word of the Lord ... rejoiced with all his house, having believed in God***” (Acts 16:30–34 JND).

“Believing on the Lord Jesus” means believing, in the secret of your heart, what God has done, and He tells you this clearly in His Word:

“As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, thus must the Son of man be lifted up [= Christ Jesus], that every one who **believes** on him may not perish, but have **life eternal**. For God so loved the world, that he gave **his only-begotten Son**, that whosoever **believes on him** may not perish, but have **life eternal**” (John 3:14–15 JND).

“The Son of man [= Christ Jesus] is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and **after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day**” (Mark 9:31 JND).

“He [= Christ Jesus], having offered **one sacrifice for sins**, sat down in perpetuity **at the right hand of God**” (Hebrews 10:12 JND).

Whilst you may feel lost because of your sins, God tells you that if you believe what **He has done** in His love for you, through His Son, He gives you **eternal life**. Eternal life is divine in its nature; it is a new life that God gives freely to those who believe in the

Lord Jesus. Having raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in heaven, God proves that He is entirely satisfied with the work accomplished by Christ. The sins of the believer are wiped off for ever, and he may draw near to God, knowing Him as Father [= ‘the progenitor’ of eternal life]!

Receiving this new life is called **the new birth**. This person will not have to appear before the great white throne to be judged, for the record of his sins has been erased, and his name is written in the Book of Life.

The Lord Jesus says:

“He that **hears** my word, and **believes** him that has sent me, **has life eternal**, and **does not come into judgment**, but is passed out of death into life” (John 5 v.24 JND).

If you have not yet done so, what are you waiting for? This is what God desires:

“God our Saviour ... **will have all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:3–4).

It is He who is leading you to read these pages! What a God of love! He wants you for Himself! Do not resist Him any longer, for it is those who resist Him who will find themselves before the great white throne.

So take His outstretched hand, simply believe what God is telling you [= faith], and receive eternal life, thereby being born again, this is absolutely essential, for the Lord Jesus says:

“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God ... Except any one be born of water and of Spirit ... **It is needful that ye should be born anew**” (John 3:3–6 JND).

If you do not yet have this life, read through these first two paragraphs again, pray to God that He may open your eyes, and do not resist Him any longer!

Choose a place where you can speak to God in the privacy of your heart, kneel before Him (a posture of respect and submission), and open your heart to Him: acknowledge that you are a sinner and lost, tell Him, with all sincerity of heart, that you believe in what He has accomplished for you in the Person of Jesus, His only Son, and He will then make you born again; you must then confess all your sins to Him and tell Him that you now pass the same judgement on your past life as He does! A judgement that required the death of the Lord Jesus! This is **repentance** that God demands, and He has given you the means to achieve it through the work of the cross!

If you have believed and possess this divine life, do not stop halfway; carry on reading to discover more about the Lord Jesus

and this new life you have received from His hand. Ask Him to help you understand better so that you may grow in faith. And if you have possessed this divine and eternal life for some time, you will have been glad to recall all that the Lord Jesus did to bring you to Himself.

What did Christ on the cross for those who believe?

WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE FOR YOU

He did two important things ‘for you’. He saved you from the judgement you deserved and broke Satan’s power over you!

By shedding His blood, He saved you from judgement

The very first thing you must be certain of is that His blood, the blood of this innocent Victim, has saved you from judgement once and for all! He bore your sins on the cross, and they are wiped away forever!

“**The blood of Jesus Christ** his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

“There is then now **no condemnation** to those in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1 JND).

“You, being dead in offences ... he has quickened [= gave you divine life] together with him, **having forgiven us all the offences**” (Colossians 2:13 JND).

Sins are forgiven because He shed His blood on the cross so that they might be wiped away.

This is something that **the Lord Jesus did for you!**

The accounts in the Old Testament are a valuable aid to understanding these sometimes difficult concepts; they serve as illustrations of them. You will find an illustration of this passage in the Bible in Exodus 12:1–16, where we read: “*Let them take themselves each **a lamb** ... without blemish ... the whole congregation of the assembly of Israel **shall kill it** ... they shall take of **the blood**, and put it on the two door-posts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it ... I will go through the land of Egypt in that night, and smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt ... **the blood** shall be for you as a sign on the houses in which ye are; and **when I see the blood**, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be among you for destruction*”

Satan no longer has any power over you!

It is important to understand that Satan used to have power over you; you had a nature that obeyed him. When you were born

again, you acquired a ‘new personality’ which God calls ‘the new man’, whose nature is divine; this is your new nature, and it is the same as that of the Lord Jesus.

The Word teaches us that there is a new man, but also an old man:

“Ye have put off the **old man** with his deeds; And have put on the **new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him” (Colossians 3:9–10).

“Knowing this, that our **old man** has been crucified with him, that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin” (Romans 6:6 JND).

Whilst Satan exercised his power over the old man, he has no power whatsoever over the new man! It is Christ who, on the cross, completely shattered Satan’s power: he has no power over the new nature that is within you!

The **old man** is powered by ‘**the flesh**’ (1*) and the **new man** is powered by ‘**the Spirit**’ (2*)

(1*) Here, the word ‘flesh’ does not refer to our muscles (‘meat’), but to that energy, under Satan’s power, which leads man to oppose God. ‘The flesh’ is also known by another name, ‘sin’ – not the acts committed (the sins), but that energy found within man which causes him to commit acts called sins.

(2*) This refers to the Holy Spirit, who is God. The believer is, in fact, the temple in which God dwells, through His Holy Spirit: “*Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*” (1 Corinthians 3:16).

We shall return to this subject later, as it is sometimes more difficult to understand.

This is what **the Lord Jesus has done for you!**

You will find an illustration of this passage in the Old Testament of the Bible, in Exodus 13:17–14:31. There we read, concerning all the power of Satan: “*The waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; **there remained not so much as one of them***” (Exodus 14:28).

But Christ has also accomplished something **within you!**

WHAT CHRIST HAS ACCOMPLISHED IN YOU: THE DEATH OF THE OLD MAN AND THE BIRTH OF THE NEW MAN

These things are more difficult to understand! As it was for me, we need the help of the Holy Spirit, for the human mind cannot comprehend these things. So **pray to the Lord** that through His Spirit (the Holy Spirit), **He may open the Scriptures to you!** (*)

(*) *“Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”* (Luke 24:32).

Firstly, this is what “**Christ did**”; it is not a question of experiencing it (that is not possible), but you **must believe it**, in the same way that you have **not experienced** the Lord bearing the judgment of God because of your sins, but **you believed it!**

We have already spoken above of this “**old man**”, this personality you received from your parents through your natural birth, whose nature is evil and is called “the flesh”, or also “sin”. This old man’s sole source of energy is this “**flesh**”, which causes him to obey his one master: **Satan!**

When you believed in the Lord Jesus, you were born again; the new birth brought you into a “new world”, which God calls “**the new creation**”. Through this new birth, a new being is born, whom God calls “**the new man**”.

The new man’s sole source of energy is “**the Holy Spirit**”, who, from the moment of your new birth, came to dwell within you. As the new man has no other source of power than the **Holy Spirit** (God), he has but one Master and Lord, the **Lord Jesus**, and one **Father**, who begot him: God.

Thus, on the cross, the Lord Jesus identified Himself with you (with your ‘old man’ personality) and put **your old man** to death once and for all:

“**Ye** [= true believers as the “old self”] **are dead**, and your life is hid with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3).

“**I** [= the true believer as the “old self”] **am crucified with Christ**, and **no longer live, I**, but Christ lives in me” (Galatians 2:20 JND).

“Our **old man** has been **crucified with him** [= Christ]” (Romans 6:6 JND).

But moreover, the true believer, at the time of his new birth, is also **raised with Christ**, as a “**new man**”! The new birth is the consequence of Christ’s resurrection!

Thus, **through Christ’s death**, the believer’s **old man** is put to **death**; through **His resurrection**, the **new man** is raised to **life**!

“God ... (we too being dead in offences,) has quickened us with the Christ ... and has **raised us up** together ...” (Ephesians 2:4–6 JND).

“Buried [= laid in the tomb] with him [= Christ] in baptism (*), wherein also ye are **risen** with him **through the faith of the operation of God**, who hath raised him from the dead” (Colossians 2 v.12).

(*) This is the baptism of which the Lord spoke, saying: “*I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be*

accomplished!" (Luke 12 v.50); *"Can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"* (Mark 10 v.38). Christian baptism is merely a symbol serving as a testimony to this.

Thus, through His death and resurrection, the Lord Jesus has brought about this twofold inner change **within you**:

- 1) **The death** of the **old man**, a slave to **Satan**.
- 2) Out of death, emerge **the new man**, whose sole Master is **the Lord Jesus!**

At Christian baptism, the person being baptised is immersed in water, a symbol of death (a picture of the death of the old man), and emerges alive (a picture of the new man).

Important note on Christian baptism

At baptism, the person being baptised gives public testimony to the death of **the old man**, led by Satan, and to his resurrection as **the new man!** From that moment on, they are accountable to God to live in accordance with this!

Baptism is an important outward act, which must happen, but as it is performed by a man (not by God), it contributes nothing to the divine life that only God gives to those who believe!

A person may well be baptised without necessarily having been born again! God gives an example of this in the person of Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:9–24).

We have seen here what **the Lord Jesus has done in you!**

You will find an illustration of this paragraph in the Old Testament of the Bible, in the book of Joshua, chapter 4.

CHRIST’S WORK HAS HAD AN EFFECT ON YOU: “YOU HAVE CRUCIFIED THE FLESH”

We have seen that the only force driving the old man is “the flesh”. It is itself under Satan’s dominion!

By virtue of the work accomplished by the Lord Jesus on the cross, God says:

“They that are of the Christ **HAVE crucified the flesh** with the passions and the lusts” (Galatians 5:24 JND).

God does **not** say “... **must** ... crucify the flesh”, but “**have** crucified the flesh”! It is **a done deal!** It was accomplished in the person of the Lord Jesus on the cross!

It is something you implicitly did the moment you believed in the Lord Jesus! The new man considers that he has crucified this flesh which animated his old man. The cross of Christ has been placed

between the new man and the flesh, which is therefore, for him, crucified!

You will also find an illustration of this passage in the Bible, in the Book of Joshua, chapter 5, verses 2–9.

Thus, the work of the cross has had, and continues to have, **an effect on you!**

* * *

In summary, the work of the Lord Jesus on your behalf on the cross has had, and continues to have, its effects:

A- What was done “**for you**” outside yourself:

1) He suffered judgement in your place (no more condemnation).

2) He shattered Satan’s power over you, the new man

B- The effect that took place “**within you**”: The death of your old man and the resurrection of the new man

C- The effect that took place “**on you**”: You have crucified this flesh, this evil energy that revives the old man within you.

You must clearly understand that this describes the **position** (or standing) that God gives you before Him for ever. But, having this

position, you must also **walk** now in this world to the glory of God, in accordance with this position.

The believer's walk in the world

God calls us to walk for His glory, in accordance with the received position, in a political, cultural, economical and religious world, whose master is Satan, and on an earth cursed because of sin!

“Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee” (Genesis 3:17–18).

“Cain ... called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch ...” and his great-grandson, Lamech “took unto him two wives ... Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle [= the agricultural world] ... His brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ [= the world of culture] ... Zillah, she also bare Tubal-cain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron [= the world of industry]” (Genesis 4:17–22).

God explains to us what true conversion is, followed by a walk to His glory, in accordance with our position. He gives us the example of the Thessalonians of that time:

“Ye **turned** to **God from idols** to **serve** the living and true God; And to **wait** for **his Son from heaven**, whom he raised from the

dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come”
(1 Thessalonians 1:9–10).

And what does involve this waiting for His Son to come from heaven? The Lord Jesus had revealed it, and the apostle gives further details:

“If I [= the Lord Jesus] go and shall prepare you a place, **I am coming again** and shall receive you to myself, that where I am ye also may be” (John 14:3 JND).

“I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord”
(1 Thessalonians 4:13–17 JND).

“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed, in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must needs put on incorruptibility, and this mortal put on immortal-

ity. But when this corruptible shall have put on incorruptibility, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the word written: Death has been swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:51–54).

Led by the Holy Spirit, you will forsake everything that Satan offered you for the satisfaction of the flesh [= idols], and you will also serve God, not according to your own will [= the will of the flesh, which can be very religious], but as He wills for you, whilst awaiting the coming of the Lord Jesus to take us home through the rapture.

On this path, we encounter pitfalls, but the Lord has provided for those situations! Yet the believer also makes a discovery: the flesh, which he has nevertheless crucified, manifests itself when he does his utmost to walk in accordance with his standing in Jesus!

THE TWO NATURES PRESENT IN THE BELIEVER

You may well be making this discovery within yourself right now. You are making every effort to walk to the glory of God and to be like the Lord Jesus, but you are not succeeding! A difficulty arises, and you end up doing the opposite of what God wants, just as His Son did when He walked on earth! And yet you have indeed re-

ceived a new nature from Him. In the Epistle to the Romans, the apostle tells us of someone who had this very same experience:

"We know that the law is spiritual: but **I** am fleshly, sold under sin. For that which **I** do, **I** do not own: for not what **I** will, this **I** do; but what **I** hate, this **I** practise. But if what **I** do not will, this **I** practise, **I** consent to the law that it is right. Now then it is no longer **I** that do it, but the sin that dwells in **me**. For **I** know that in **me**, that is, in **my** flesh, good does not dwell: for to will is there with **me**, but to do right **I** find not. For **I** do not practise the good that **I** will; but the evil **I** do not will, that **I** do. But if what **I** do not will, this **I** practise, it is no longer **I** that do it, but the sin that dwells in **me**. **I** find then the law upon **me** who will to practise what is right, that with **me** evil is there. For **I** delight in the law of God according to the inward man: but **I** see another law in **my** members, warring in opposition to the law of **my** mind, and bringing **me** into captivity to the law of sin which exists in **my** members." (Romans 7:14–23 JND). (*)

- (*) Note that he speaks only of 'me', 'I', 'my' ... Not once does he mention 'the Lord Jesus'. All his thoughts are directed towards himself and towards evil.

You are discovering two natures within yourself: the old [= sin] and the new! This is a reality linked to our condition here on earth! Through Christ, you have indeed crucified the flesh; it no longer exists as regards **your standing** (position before God), but in our daily walk, it makes its presence felt within us!

It is important that you understand this: every time you make all these efforts, **you are busy with yourself** and **with the evil** you wish to avoid! So the flesh [= “I”, the self] does not remain in its crucified state and becomes active! The old man acts! He does not remain where the cross has placed him: in death! And you fall, and fall again!

HOW NOT TO FALL [FALL= SIN]

The Lord Jesus has provided everything necessary to prevent us from falling! All we need to do is remain in communion with Him! And He has explained to us how to do so: “*Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life*” (John 6:54). To eat His flesh and drink His blood means to take into oneself, in the secret of one’s heart, the fact that He gave His life, His flesh [= His physical body] and His blood! But this nourishment is not given once and for all for the rest of one’s life. Whilst on earth, the new life needs this same nourishment in order to be in communion with Him; that is why He also tells us:

■ “He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him” (John 6:56).

The apostle Paul also shows us how to become like the Lord Jesus in our walk on earth:

“We all, **looking on the glory of the Lord**, with unveiled face, are **transformed according to the same image** from glory to glory, even as by the Lord the Spirit” (2 Corinthians 3:18 JND).

As we are busy in our hearts with the person of the Lord, discovering in the Word of God the glories of the Lord (*), we are transformed into His image [= we shall become like Him], each time we discover His glories, one after the other [= “*from glory to glory*”]. That’s quite a programme!

- (*) We discover His glories in the Word of God. In the Gospels: His glory throughout His earthly ministry, right up to the cross and His ascension into heaven. In the Epistles: His personal glories as the Son of God, a Man in heaven, in all that He does there for us, etc. In the Old Testament: images of some of His glories, for example in His office as High Priest, etc ...

AND IF, BY ACCIDENT, WE HAPPEN TO SIN?

By failing to fix our gaze on the Lord Jesus, we are ipso facto busy with ourselves and with evil, and are therefore powerless to do God’s will: that is sin!

Whenever this happens, whatever the circumstances, God has provided the solution:

"If we **confess** our sins, he is **faithful** and **righteous** to **forgive** us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My children, these things I write to you **in order that ye may not sin**; and **if any one sin**, we have a patron [= **advocate**] with the Father, **Jesus Christ** the righteous; and he is the **propitiation** for our **sins**" (1 John 1:9–2:2 JND).

The first thing to do is to **confess**, in a spirit of **repentance**, the sin committed! I am then assured that God is faithful and just (not towards me, but towards Christ) to forgive the sin I have just committed! God is faithful and just, for the work of the cross is accepted; He proved this by raising Him from the dead and giving Him that place of honour seated at His right hand!

Furthermore, in this context, the Lord Jesus acts as the **Advocate before the Father** (who is also the Father of the one who has sinned)! The Advocate pleads: "Father, look at your child; he has sinned, but in his place, I paid with my life on the cross for that sin!" So the Father, who can only be faithful and just towards Christ, my Advocate, forgives my sin! Fellowship will only be restored after confession!

A Christian only by name, without the life of God, who is not ashamed of sin, will say: "But it's simple: let's live happily in sin,

let's do whatever we please... let's sin, and God's grace will forgive us!" The Apostle Paul responds to these Christians only by name:

Should we continue in sin that grace may abound? Far be the thought. We who have died to sin, how shall we still live in it?" (Romans 6:1–2 JND).

The answer is clear!

WHAT IS OUR RESOURCE IN THE FACE OF DIFFICULTIES?

Like you, all true believers also face the difficulties associated with our presence on earth, which is cursed because of man's sin, and in this world (political, economic, industrial, cultural and even religious) full of corruption under Satan's rule!

In this context, we need **the office of High Priest** exercised **in heaven** on our behalf.

This role of High Priest was fulfilled in a unique way on earth and continues in a different way today in heaven, and the Lord Jesus will continue to fulfil it until He comes to take us from the earth, so that we may be with Him forever in heaven. The Holy Spirit explains this to us in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

It was on the cross that He was that High Priest **on earth**:

"It behoved him [= the Lord Jesus] in all things to be made like to his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful **high priest** in things relating to God, to make **propitiation for the sins** of the people [= the people of God, today's true Christians]" (Hebrews 2:17 JND).

Once and for all, His work on the cross fully satisfied God; it therefore does not need to be repeated. It was on the cross that He made propitiation (*) for our sins.

(*) "propitiation" means covering sins so that God may regard them as expiated. This is the effect of the blood shed on the cross!

His mission as High Priest **on earth**, at Golgotha, is complete. He has ascended to **Heaven**, where He ceaselessly carries out the role or **daily office of High Priest**.

We are still on earth, and we face the infirmities associated with the earth, with the world in which we live. It is in Heaven that He intercedes for us because of our infirmities:

"Having therefore a **great high priest** who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we have not a high priest not able to sympathise with our **infirmities**, but **tempted in all things** in like manner, **sin apart**. Let us approach therefore with boldness to the **throne of grace**,

that we may receive **mercy**, and find **grace** for **seasonable help**" (Hebrews 4:14–16 JND).

"In that himself has suffered, being tempted [= put to the test], he is able to help those that are being tempted [= put to the test]" (Hebrews 2:18 JND).

Infirmities are the circumstances in which we find ourselves. The situations we experience on earth very often place us in a state of frailty or weakness, and thus put us to the test, just as the Lord Jesus was also tested on earth.

For example, the Lord Jesus experienced **hunger** when, after fasting for 40 days, He was tempted [= put to the test] by Satan, who said to Him:

"The tempter [= Satan] came to him, he said, **If thou be the Son of God**, command that **these stones be made bread**. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4 v.3-4).

In all the circumstances involving infirmities, in which He was tempted, He stood firm. He experienced and felt first-hand the situations associated with physical needs (hunger, thirst, fatigue, etc.).

We therefore have access to the throne of grace to find the strength to endure these trials with His help whenever we need it.

SUMMARY

Having two natures (the old and the new) within us, God has given us the resources to walk on earth to His glory.

The old nature will not be active if we are **not busy with ourselves** and **with evil**, but with **the Person of the Lord Jesus** and **His glories**. It is only in this way that the new nature is active.

To avoid falling [= sinning], we must be in fellowship with Him; He has provided us with the resources to do so!

If, by accident, we do fall, we have the resource of the **role of Advocate** of the Lord Jesus! Fellowship is restored following confession.

To endure the trials associated with this earth, we have for resource: **the office of High Priest** of the Lord Jesus **in heaven**.

Closing word

This little booklet has sought to outline the life of the true believer, beginning with the new birth, followed by his walk in this

world, for which God has provided the resources to meet the needs of the journey.

We have considered various aspects of the position into which the work of the cross has placed us. This is a definitive and eternal position, and God has provided the resources for us to walk in accordance with it, manifesting it during our walk on earth.

The God's Word has reminded us: How is the walk that God expects from each of us, believers to whom He has graciously given divine and eternal life, namely that:

- We give up all forms of idols, as we turned to Him
- We serve Him, the living and true God, as He will to!
- We wait His Son from the heaven, whom He raised from the among the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

The coming wrath is described in the book of Revelation from chapter 4 onwards: the events that are to take place soon, following the rapture of all true believers, the Assembly (or Church), the Body of Christ, and also His bride.

We shall conclude with the final words of the Bible:

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the

bright and morning star. And **the Spirit** and **the bride** say, **Come**.
And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst
come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely ...
He which testifieth these things saith, **Surely I come quickly**.
Amen. Even so, **come, Lord Jesus**" (Revelation 22:16–20).

