

Salvation From Hell



Is It Temporary or Permanent?

By Arthur Eggers

My Title Deed

Since I can read my title clear, my heart is free from slavish fear.
And words of grace I always hear, my life, my strength, my all.
Since now by faith I'm justified, like saints of old I'm often tried:
But Christ for me was crucified, From Him I cannot fall.

Tho' Satan often doth engage, to blot my name from heaven's page:
yet I can smile at all his rage, and wave aloft my spear;
For in God's word I daily read, the record of my title deed,
and t'ward my mansion now I speed, and shout my "my title's clear."

My hope grows brighter every day, my title holds me on the way:
Through Christ I conquer in the fray, tho' often faint and sore.
If Jesus calls for us this year, I have title deed all clear,
my mansion glorious will appear, my warfare will be o'er.

Chorus: For I stand on the word,
I've a title deed on high; up on high;
Yes I stand on the word,
It will land me by and by.

PREFACE

In 1945 I received Jesus as my Savior under the preaching of Dr. Ironside. At that time, someone gave me the book *“Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth”* by C. I. Scofield. As a babe in Christ I learned so much from this book. One thing that became special is in Chapter 7—*“The Believer’s Two Natures.”* I realized that in Adam I was rotten to the core, but in Christ I was holy before God. The question remains today, while living in the body of Adam I live accordingly, does God take from me the life Jesus died to give me?

It is commonly thought among God’s precious people that the work of Jesus on the cross is either temporary or man has to add something to it. The purpose of this tract is to show that according to the Scriptures God makes no mistakes in anything He does. When Jesus called out on the cross *“It is finished,”* Jesus made an end to sin as He bore all the sins of the human race in His own body; and, has applied that end of sin to all who will believe; but those who reject Him and His love must bare their own sin.

This book was revised January 19, 2008 as the Spirit revealed some other thoughts on my heart.

Arthur Eggers — 2008

REFERENCES USED IN THIS PUBLICATION

- **American Standard Version** (ASV or AV) is a version of the Bible that was released in 1901. It soon came to have other names, such as the American Revised Version, the American Standard Revision, the American Standard Revised Bible, and the American Standard Edition. By the time its copyright was renewed in 1929, it had come to be known by its present name, the American Standard Version.
- **Diaglott** is a two-language polyglot translation, of the New Testament by Benjamin Wilson, first published in 1864. It is an interlinear translation with the original Greek text and a word-for-word English translation in the left column, and a full English translation in the right column.
- **King James Version** (KJV) references are used throughout this publication unless otherwise noted.
- **Revised Version** (RV) (or English Revised Version) of the Bible is a late 19th-century British revision of the King James Version of 1611. It was the first and remains the only officially authorized and recognized revision of the King James Bible.
- **Wuest:** Kenneth Samuel Wuest (1893–1962) was a noted New Testament Greek (Κοινή) scholar of the mid-20th century...produced his own English translation of the New Testament (the Wuest Expanded Translation – abbreviated WET) based on Nestle’s critical text.

Note: Definitions of references pulled from Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, January 2013.

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ARE WE SAVED FOREVER OR JUST FOR A WHILE?

Several years ago, a young man came to me on the pretense that he wanted to clean the carpets. He really wanted to set me straight on the fact that I could lose my salvation. I suppose that this is one of the most misunderstood teachings of the scriptures, so I would like to tell you why I believe that God's gift is forever.

8 POINTS TO CONSIDER

- **1ST POINT:** **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH US ABOUT SIN?** Sin is in the nature of the entire human race. We were born in sin, which we received from our parents and they received from their parents; all the way back to Adam.

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." [Gen.6:5]

"Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned; and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightiest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold; I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." [Psa.51:2-5]

"For all have sinned; and come short of the glory of God." [Rom.3:23]

"Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not." [Rom.7:17-18]

Sin is in my flesh, and I will have it there as long as I am alive. Sin is impregnated in my fleshly members. Let us call sin what it is and not try to make it anything else. Sin is evil and corrupt and it lives inside of us; and, we cannot sugar coat it.

"Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me." [Rom.7:20]

Sin separates man from God and there is nothing man can do about it, he is subject to death with no hope; but God, who is rich in mercy and great love [Eph.2:4], is the only One who can come to our rescue and make a way for an unworthy creature; so He sent His Holy Son who died for our sins.

- **2ND POINT:** **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS?** This is where He was made sin in our place?"

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." [2Co.5:21]

"For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." [Heb.9:26-28]

Jesus was born to die for the sin of humanity. It took a Holy Man to die for the sinful man; no one could do this but the Son of God.

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour." [Joh.12:27]

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." [1Pe.2:24]

Do you understand what happened on the cross? At His birth, Jesus took a human body. When He did this, He assumed the headship of Adam's descendents (you and me). All humanity's sins were laid upon Jesus as He hung there between heaven and earth. He bore those sins in order that we being dead should live unto righteousness. When Jesus died, He did not stay dead, He was resurrected. At His resurrection, He brought forth a new race of people over which He became the head. This new race is called **The Church** (the mystical body of Christ) and it is made up of believers who, when they receive Jesus as their Savior, become a "*new creature*" in Christ [2Co.5:17].

"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saint And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named; not only in this world; but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all." [Eph.1:18-23]

When God opens the eyes of our understanding, we understand that after Christ's resurrection, He sat down at God's right hand and a new age began...the **Church Age**, often called the **AGE OF GRACE**. During this age, God made Jesus to be the head of The Church (His mystical body). That body was in God's purpose before the world was formed.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world; that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." [Eph.1:3-5]

The word "*us*" is in the first person plural and is the object of the transitive verb "*blessed*." This is God's work. Only a new creation is blessed in heavenly places. This new creation is chosen in Christ, and brought into sonship with Christ, this is the thought of adoption.

3RD POINT: **GOD'S WORK IS FOOLPROOF.** When a person of Adam's race puts their trust in the work of God (Jesus Christ as Savior) they become a New Creation and part of the resurrected body (The Church) that is seated in the heavens.

"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." [Eph.2:6]

As far as God is concerned, the believer is already there—in the heavens. We just need to sit down, by faith, and rest in Jesus' finished work.

"(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were." [Rom.4:17]

If God calls "*those things which be not as though they were,*" then why can't we also agree with God? God used Abraham as an example of the believer who trusts in God's work before The Law was given.

"What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God." [Rom.4:1]

Some think that the Apostle Paul and James disagree, but James tells us of our being justified before man, "*Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and have works; show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works*" [Jam.2:18] while Paul says we are just before God. The secret is "*a man may say.*" I cannot show a man my faith without works. However, at this time, we are interested in what God will say and what He thinks. In Romans 4, we read that God counted that Abraham was made "**JUST**" by his faith.

"For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God; and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." [Rom.4:3-5]

If Abraham was justified by faith, are not we made just by faith also?

Here, the words "*counted,*" "*reckoned,*" and "*imputed*" all have the same meaning of "*to put on a person's account.*" God put our sins on Jesus' account and He paid our account in full with His own blood. Then God put Christ's righteousness on the account of the New Creation, of which every believer is a part by a new birth. Oh, what a wonderful plan of deliverance!

"Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." [Rom.4:25]

This is a provisional truth. It is what God has done for us. This truth must be put into practice before it will help a sinner. To explain this, let's use the example of a refrigerator:

The refrigerator can be full of food, but if the food is not taken out and eaten, a person could sit in front of it and starve to death. Once the food is eaten, it cannot be put back into the refrigerator, it is digested and the body is strengthened. So also is God's work.

Once we are saved it cannot be taken away because it fulfills God's purpose in us. Praise God, His plan of redemption is foolproof...It cannot fail. Why? Because it is all God's work and not man's.

"Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." [Eph.2:9-10]

Now, for the practical side. Because we are sons, and are seated in heavenly places in Him, then we should act like sons...dwelling in this life and showing the world our sonship and our life (a joy to God).

"That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." [Eph.2:7]

Oh, how God wants to show His off New Creation people! He is satisfied with the product of His work, a holy people just like His Son. I am not accepted in my own righteousness but in the righteousness of God's Perfect Son. It is all Him; therefore He receives all the glory.

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved." [Eph.1:6]

Now, we spend our time praising God. This is how we know it is the Truth—it is all about Jesus and not man.

4TH POINT: **THIS NEW CREATION DOCTRINE IS CONTRARY TO HUMAN NATURE.** In Adam, we want to do something to appease God. Appeasing God is the basis of all heathen religions. God's people should not want to be like the heathen. Many object to this grace teaching because they feel that they need some kind of law to govern their life, so they attempt to keep the 10 Commandments, or some other church rules, and fail. Then they either give up or make excuses for their failure.

Are we without any rules? No. God has given The Church a law that works and it is found in Romans 8:2: *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."* What is this law? *"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another. as I have loved you, that ye also love one another"* [Joh.13:3]. Oh what a law! It is the law of the Spirit, which is the law of love. It is not a burden like the 10 Commandments, but a joy to both us and God. This love is only in Christ and He gives it to us to govern our lives here on earth.

"And WALK IN LOVE, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour." [Eph.5:2]

Others may say, **"THIS TEACHING WILL GIVE YOU A LICENSE TO SIN."** Not so! The message of grace not only teaches us not to sin, but also enables us to live as God would want us to live. It is very difficult to be looking up and watching our feet at the same time. So let us keep looking up and trusting God to lead us.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world (age)." [Tiu.2:11-12]

5TH POINT: **GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SEEN AS SHEEP THAT BELONG TO CHRIST.**

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, " and they follow me: And give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." [Joh.10:27-30]

We are His responsibility and no one can pluck us out of His hand or His Father's hand. I have heard people say, "Well, I can pluck myself out." What a foolish statement! Are you not human?

Another thing is...the Greek phrase "**THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH**" is a double negative that stresses the power of the Word and should read, "*by no means* (in no way) *can they perish*." "Can we just walk away from Christ back into the world?" Can I walk away from my body back into another body that is dead? This cannot be so.

The Greek word for **man** should be translated "**ANY PERSON**." As being a part of the New Creation, I cannot pluck myself out of God's hand. Study the following verses from Romans 8:

"For I am persuaded; that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God; which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." [Rom.8:38-39]

This Scripture says that I (the believer) cannot separate myself from God's love. Someone may say, "Well, how about the backslider in Hebrews 6:4-6?"

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened; and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God; and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance: seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." [Heb.6:4-6]

There are 2 reasons this is not talking about a **backslider**:

1. The phrase "*depart from the faith*" (as found in 2Th.2:4 and 1Ti.4:1) and the word **backslide** never refer to The Church, because The Church is the body of Christ and cannot slide in any direction.
2. If Hebrews 6:4-6 were referring to a child of God who sinned then they would be lost forever and could never be brought back even if they repented.

What does it mean then? First, we find that the subject goes back to Hebrews 5:6-10 where we see that Christ is our "*high priest*" after a new order which the Hebrews did not understand because they were "*dull of hearing*" and childish. Then, we see that there are 3 adjectives describing the "*they*" being spoken of in Hebrews 6:6. They are Hebrews who knew all about the Jewish rituals and are spoken of in Acts 21:20: "*How many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law.*" Every time they offered a Sin Offering, they should have been enlightened; they were being made partakers of what pointed forward to Jesus Christ. The sacrificial blood was only a shadow that spoke of the blood of Jesus that was shed on Calvary [Col.2:16-17]. If they come right up to the truth of the cross and reject the provision of God, falling back under The Law, then there is nothing else that can save their souls and all their repentance would do no good.

"For if we (Hebrews) sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." [Heb.10:26-27]

The phrase “*sin willfully*” refers to rejecting Jesus as their High Priest (Savior) and His offering on the cross. He is **the only sacrifice for sins**; there is none other. Without Him, all that is left is judgment.

“Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.” [Mat.12:31]

This verse in Matthew 12 is also very misunderstood. The work of the Holy Spirit is found in the book of John.

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth, It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin because they believe not on me.” [Joh.16:7-9]

“Howbeit when he the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.” [Joh.16:13-14]

The Holy Spirit is to tell of Jesus Christ our Lord and His sacrifice on the cross for salvation of the whole world. If this is spoken against then there is no forgiveness of sin because forgiveness was all made by the blood of Jesus Christ [Heb.9:22].

Another misunderstood Scripture is 1 Corinthians 15:1-2: *“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.”* “See there, if you believe in vain you lose your salvation.” The subject of this whole 15th chapter is not salvation but resurrection. The good news is that Christ came to earth, lived, died, arose, and ascended on high; if you leave any one part of this out there is no salvation and faith is in vain: *“But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain”* [1Co.15:13-14]. The Apostle Paul gives ample proof that Christ did rise from the dead which establishes our eternal salvation.

6TH POINT: **GOD GETS ALL THE GLORY** (credit). The credit goes to the one who does all the work. Let us boast only in Him, *“That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord”* [1Co.1:29-31]. Any teaching that does not give Jesus Christ all the praise is false...He deserves 100% of the credit.

If I can save myself, or keep myself saved, by not committing sin (which no one can do), then I could pat myself on the back and brag of my goodness. If I say that speaking in tongues, baptism, or any other thing could save me, or keep me saved, then I would be giving credit (glory) to myself. Let us remember that Jesus finished it all on the cross...to Him we give all the praise (credit).

God made Jesus to be our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. So why should I try to perfect God's work in any way? Do you want to give the dead flesh glory? Why not just glory in the Lord?

“But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.” [2Co.10:17]

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." [Gal.6:14]

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved." [Eph.1:6]

Oh, how we praise the glory of His grace. Why? Because we are accepted in His Beloved Son.

"Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." [Eph.3:21]

7TH POINT: **SALVATION WAS COMPLETED AT THE CROSS, NO OTHER PLACE.** Some say that Jesus went into hell and wrestled with the devil for our salvation. Oh, how false! Neither did man have anything to do with gaining our salvation...It was Jesus who laid down His own life.

Salvation is for the whole man...spirit, soul, and body. It is for our present, past, and future. Because of the finished work we can say,

- "I have been saved from Hell and the Lake of Fire," or
- "I am being saved from the power of sin in my everyday life which brings the healing of my body," or
- "When Jesus returns I will be saved from off this earth and given a new body."

The word **saved** could have been translated "*delivered*." So, any kind of deliverance is contained in the work of the cross.

8TH POINT: **WE ARE TO BUILD ON THE FOUNDATION LAID BY THE APOSTLE PAUL** some 2,000 years ago. Only people who are saved (believers) can build on this foundation because unsaved people are dead in their sin.

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth: thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid; which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire: and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned; he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." [1Co.3:10-15]

Here we read of 6 building materials: ☒ Gold, • silver, ☒ precious stones, • wood, • hay (cattle feed), and ' stubble (corn or wheat stubble). Wood, hay, and stubble are highly flammable and burn quickly; they refer to false teachings that are unprofitable to God and for growth. However, heat purifies gold and silver bringing the dross to the top where it can be skimmed off and thrown away. Precious stones are not affected by heat.

All teachers of the Bible should ask themselves if what they are teaching causes the hearers to grow up in Christ or to stumble and turn them away from the Truth.

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."
[2Co.5:10]*

"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire: and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is." [1Co.3:15]

In 1 Corinthians 3:13 it states that "Every man's (ones) **WORKS** will be made manifest." These "**works**" will be uncovered at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Only our **works** are in question at this point.

- "Are our works good or bad?"
- "Are they of the flesh or spirit?"
- "Are our works of truth or error?"

What is the answer? The fire will determine if the works remain (they are good) or if the works burn (they are bad). How simple.

If someone has built with error, their works will be burned and they will suffer loss of rewards and close fellowship with Christ. **THEY WILL NOT LOSE THEIR SALVATION** even though they go through the fire of Christ's judgment. Do you realize that even though a person follows the wrong doctrine only their labors are lost and not their soul? They are still saved.

*"If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself **SHALL BE SAVED**; yet so as by fire.." [1Co.3:15]*

"For our God is a consuming fire." [Heb.12:29]

Can you imagine working your whole life for something you believe to be true; yet, when you stand before Christ you find out it was all wrong because it did not give Christ the entire honor due Him? Study the Word with much prayer and do not listen to man's word for such an important thing as our eternal riches.

QUESTIONS

The following are some questions I ask of those who do not agree with this teaching.

- "If I am born into the family of God by faith in Jesus, how do I undo that which God has done?"

Are we more powerful than He? When do we cease being His children? In John 1:12-13 we read, "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood; nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*"

In addition, if we become sons of God by being born again (a new birth—being made a New Creation), then how do we become unborn out of His eternal family thereby reversing what God has done?

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed; but of incorruptible, by the word of God; which liveth and abideth forever." [1Pe.1:23]

- "How bad do I need to be before God takes away the gift of eternal life that He gave me? Surely, I would need to be worse than I was before He saved me?"

If this were true, then there must be people who are too bad for God to save. The sin that takes away the knowledge of God and Jesus is unbelief.

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come, glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." [Joh.17:1-3]

- "How would a person know when he had lost it all?" "Can a line be drawn so that I would know when I have crossed it into eternal death?"

You might say that these are foolish questions. I agree, but so is the doctrine that our all-loving God would send one of His children (believers) into Hell and later into the Lake of Fire. Even ungodly people (unbelievers) would never do that to their children. God loves us much more than unbelievers do their own children.

SUMMARY

There is a difference between our relationship and our fellowship:

- God establishes our **relationship** through the blood of Jesus when we believe and become born of God, this cannot be changed.
- Our **fellowship** is established as we become obedient to the Word of God and are led by the Holy Spirit.

In Adam (**my flesh**), I am rotten to the uttermost; there is no good thing in me (my old creation). In Christ (my New Creation), I am as holy as God is and there is no fault to be found in my new life. This is my security. It is my right, as a son of God, to be in heaven.

As I **become obedient** to His will and Word, letting it work in me, my flesh is brought into subjection to the Holy Spirit and I am changed...made ready for a heavenly position. Oh the joy of resting in Christ!

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