

GOODNEWS LETTER

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GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

**"When we've been here ten thousand years...bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise...then when we've first begun."**

John Newton's hymn is well known by America; as well as a majority of the world. There is much precious salvation truth carried in this wonderful Christian song. It's Amazing!

So, how do you receive the words? When I hear "**grace**," I think of man's natural position, as a sinner; without hope and lost in the world. A verse of Scripture that anchors my position and swells my appreciation is found in the Book of Hebrews - a quote of Psalms 8:4.

"What is man, that Thou remember him? Or the Son of man, that Thou are concerned about him?" (Heb. 2:6).

I'm still amazed that God loves me. I'm more amazed that He loves you! Aren't we egotists? However, our pride and egotism is cut away when the Holy Spirit moves upon our hearts and we find His salvation when we cry out to the God of grace. Our salvation is so precious that we want everyone saved; even you.

Thus, initially, it's God's Amazing Grace that saves us, hallelujah! But His grace doesn't stop there. Another Amazing Grace fact is that God keeps us by His grace and takes us "*through many dangers, toils and snares.*" How glorious that God's grace was at the cross, and His grace will be there to "*lead us home.*" And then, amazingly, we shall experience His grace throughout all eternity.

Bible grace has direction, of course; but my heart is still amazed - I'm still taken back to God's initial love and beginning grace, "*that saved a wretch like me.*" That's what I think about; that's what moves me to serve. I was "*found and now I see, the hour I first believed.*"

And what joy comes when I think about eternity, "**When we've been there ten thousand years.**" That's what Hebrews 11, the faith chapter, is all about; living for, and serving God, and serving Him, **forever**.

In the beginning, God's Amazing grace called Abel, Enoch and Noah to believe, granting them "**conviction for the things hoped for,**" although, unseen in their day (Heb. 11:1).

Further, Hebrews 11 instructs us that, during **those thousands of years**, we'll observe Abraham in the city. No longer looking, Abraham now joins in *"to sing God's praise"* as he did when he first begun.

"By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going" (Heb. 11:8).

"For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10).

God's Amazing Grace works in all situations of this life. Today, His grace is the only sure source of comfort. It covers my heart as I hear of loved ones passing. His grace soothes me when people fail to continue in His love; especially, children of church members, preachers and pastors.

Everyone saved person ought to trust His word. Therefore, I can only turn everyone over to God's amazing grace. They will face Him on judgment day, not their parents or other brethren.

And, understanding that we shall be before God, all alone, our hearts ought to have some spiritual reasoning inside it. Certainly, it will help if we listen to James; for if we shall *"sing of God's praise"* for **ten thousand years**; *"bright, shining as the sun,"* the Apostle James instructs us that we must consider what life's about. *"...ye do not know what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away"* (Ja. 4:14). Don't leave this life without God's Amazing Grace.

When we get where God is, according to Newton's hymn, there will be time to sing praise for ten thousand years. Yet, after those years expire, it will be just as it was when we first begun; that is, there's another ten thousand years; another ten thousand years; and, another....