

## What Think Ye Of Christ?

Pharisees, with what have you to reproach Jesus? "This man receives sinners, and eats with them" (Luke 15:2).

Caiaphas, what have you to say of Him? "He hath spoken blasphemy" (Matt. 26:65). (Jesus had said in Matt. 26: 64, "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.")

Pilate, what is your opinion of Jesus? "I find no fault in this Man" (Luke 23:4).

Judas, who sold your Teacher for silver, have you some fearful charge to hurl against Him? "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood" (Matt. 27:54).

Centurion and soldiers, who led Him to the cross, what have you to say against Him? "Truly this was the Son of God" (Matt. 27:54).

And you, John the Apostle? He is "the bright and morning star" (Rev. 22:16).

Peter, what say you of your Master? "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16).

And you, doubting Thomas? "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

And Thou, Father in heaven, Who knows ALL things? "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17).

Dear friend, what think you of Christ? This is the vital question, for Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). (Adapted from a tract published by Osterhaus Publishing House, Minneapolis, MN written by Oswald J. Smith)

### Worry, Worry, Worry

Are you a chronic worrier? Do you worry about bills, the future, health, debt, marriage issues? Has worry so consumed you that you have become "a fret machine"? If this describes you, perhaps you have generalized anxiety disorder, or GAD—a condition marked by a perpetual state of worry about most aspects of life. According to David Barlow, professor of psychology at Boston University, "the key psychological feature of GAD is a state of chronic, uncontrollable worry." A little anxiety is normal, but constant worry is not.

Overwhelmed by suffering and persecution, the first-century Christians were driven out of Jerusalem and scattered throughout Asia (1Peter 1:1-7). Many of these Jesus-followers were experiencing feelings of distress because of possible danger or misfortune. Peter encouraged these believers not to be filled with anxiety but to cast all their worries upon God (5:7). He wanted them to realize that it made very little sense for them to carry their worries when they could cast them on God who cared deeply about what happened to them.

Are you a chronic worrier? Let God be responsible for your anxieties. Stop worrying and start trusting Him completely. Worry is a burden God never intended us to bear. (Marvin Williams)

### Action Is Needed

A little girl told her father that her brothers had set traps to catch birds. He asked her what she did about it. She replied, "I prayed that the traps might not catch the birds."

"Anything else?" her father asked.

"Yes," she said, "I prayed that God would keep the birds out of the traps."

"And what else?" said father.

"Then I went and kicked the traps all to pieces." That little girl was bright enough to understand that life needed action as well as prayers.

## **A Parents Broken Heart**

By Mike Gifford

Tonight a heart is shattered,  
A face is wet with tears,  
A mind is heavy laden  
With worries and with fears.

Tonight a soul is praying  
In sad and mournful strains.  
Few tragedies on earth  
Can bring such depth of pain.

“Dear God, I pray, be patient,  
Longsuffering and kind.  
He’s turned his heart toward sin.  
Please, Lord, give him time.

“Lord, it must be my fault.  
I must have erred some way.  
If I’d been a better Christian  
He would not have gone astray.

“Lord, I feel so helpless.  
How can I bring him home?  
I just can’t bear the thought  
Of losing this precious soul.”

Tonight is like the last one  
And all the ones to come  
For the parent of a prodigal  
‘Til he returns to God.

The doubts and fear and anguish  
Keep weighing on the soul.  
There is little rest for the parent  
Whose child has left the fold.

If only sons and daughters  
Who’ve chosen to depart  
Could see how their unfaithfulness  
Breaks a parent’s heart.

## **A Sharp Point**

Granville Sharp was a renowned Greek scholar (1735–1813) whose studies resulted in principles of biblical interpretation that continue to guide our understanding of the original language of the New Testament.

To study the Scriptures and learn the powerful truths they contain is a noble exercise but, no matter how deeply we study, it is not enough. James challenged us to understand this

when he wrote: “But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was” (James 1:22-24).

Granville Sharp understood this and put his faith into practice. In addition to being a biblical scholar, he also fought to eradicate slavery in England. Sharp said, “A toleration of slavery is, in effect, a toleration of inhumanity.” His biblical understanding of the worth of a human soul and the justice of a holy God compelled him to act on his beliefs.

We can benefit from Sharp’s passion for the Word—and for living out the truth that Word contains. We don’t really know the Bible unless we obey the Bible. (Bill Crowder)

### **A Moments Wisdom**

--Believing is seeing. It's much more effective than the old notion that seeing is believing.

--Have courage for the great sorrows of life, and patience for the small ones. And when you have laboriously accomplished your daily tasks, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.

--There are two kinds of people: those that say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'All right, then, have it your way.'

--I can see how a man can look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God.

--If everyone swept in front of his own house, the whole town would be clean.