



HOW CAN A MAN FIND GOD?

Time Magazine tells the story of how Seaman Jack Cooper, radioman on a Navy torpedo plane, was shot down in the Pacific by the Japs and drifted for weeks alone on a rubber raft. Paper leaves in his wallet bore a record of what a young man thinks about as he dies slowly and painfully. These were the final entries: "July 14—Caught one small fish last P.M. . . . very slight breeze S. E. If this is my last day tell my big eyes (Cooper's sweetheart) to be happy with someone else. I'm back to salt water . . . God bless you all." "Surprise July 15 *tell Helen I found God*—be happy love. No rain for two weeks . . . tell Helen I loved her until the end—Jack."

In the pathetic story of Jack Cooper the sentence stands out like a beacon of hope "*Tell Helen I found God.*" It might very well have been like this with Jack. Every life raft includes in its equipment a copy

of the New Testament of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Jack could have read there of how the Son of God came into the world that He might "*save His people from their sins*" (Matthew 1:21). He could have read of Calvary and its cross on which Jesus had said He would give His life "*a ransom for many*" (Mark 10:45). He could have read the great statement of Jesus "*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*" (John 14:6). Thus—and of course thus alone—Jack could have found God, coming to Him through faith in God's Son as Saviour. As it is so graciously written, "*For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life*" (John 3:16). This is the faith that relates us to God. This is saving faith. God grant it to us all.

SHOULD WE KILL A LAMB?

The religion of the Ancient Jews of the Old Testament Scriptures and the religion of the idolatrous heathen were radically different in many obvious ways; but they both required the sacrifice of animals on an altar.

Why do we not sacrifice today? The Jews do not sacrifice because their sacrifices must be made in Jerusalem only; but why do not the rest of us sacrifice? Is it because we are civilized? No, this cannot be the reason, for the Greeks and the Romans were highly civilized and well educated; yet they sacrificed.

The true reason is that our society has been formed under Christian influence, and in Christianity there is no sacrifice because Christ offered Himself to God as a sacrifice once for all. He was the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world. The priests of the various religions offer sacrifice often, but now once in the end of the world

Christ appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself; and to them that look for Him He shall appear the second time without sin unto salvation. (Hebrews 9:26-28).

Yes, sacrifice for sin is a necessary thing. "Without the shedding of blood is *no* remission" (Hebrews 9:22). Christ's one sacrifice of Himself in His death on the cross met this requirement so sacrifice does not need to be offered by those who trust in Him.

You who read this, offer no sacrifice to God. Have you a right not to? By what authority do you fail to atone for your sins? Only if you trust in the shed blood of Christ, only if you depend upon His sacrifice for sin, can you legitimately refuse to sacrifice on an altar. Also, you must remember that the only altars of sacrifice that ever pleased God at all were the old Testament altars of God's people; they pleased God because they looked forward to Christ. Now His blood alone can save men from their sin. Has He saved you?

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