Christian Fellowship Prison Newsletter

August 2022

Midway, TX

In 2015 I was charged with aggravated sexual assault to a child. In 2018 I was convicted of that charge and sentenced to fifty-five years with no possibility of parole or early release. Now, for clarification, I am in fact guilty of this crime and much else and much worse besides. I dealt very harshly and cruelly with everyone, especially my aged parents, through my many lies and half-truths. I have known of God and Jesus my entire life and I have even had a grasp of what was afforded me by Him. I always kind of thought I would repent of a lifetime of wickedness on my death bed. Well, even coming to a place like this had no effect on my debauchery and wayward living and such things culminated in two nearly fatal drug overdoses. As you may have been able to imagine, such things can and rightfully should cause a person to examine their life honestly. I picked up my Bible and started to read it, honestly seeking to know what does God have to say about one such as me. I cannot pinpoint the exact moment my heart said "I believe" but I can tell you this, when I read the parable on the hidden treasure and its commentary: "The kingdom of God is of such great value one must be willing to give up everything in order to obtain it," I felt and understood the full weight of God's wrath against me and it was a crushing burden. I felt certain I would die if I did not address my sin immediately. And then I heard a voice say to me "You know what you have to do." And I did. I wrote letters to my parents and everyone else. Before God and man, I made my confession and have obtained through God's grace that forgiveness and peace. I was in my past-life a man of great evil and wickedness, but praise be to God, He is not willing that any should perish and because of His unfathomable mercy I am now able to say boldly along with the apostle Paul that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtain mercy, that in me Jesus Christ might show all long-suffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on him for everlasting life." Truly we serve a God awesome in power and rich in mercy and I strive to serve him each and every day. **A.M.**

Taft, OK

My life started when I was 13 years old. I lived in a broken home - my mom and dad got divorced. I went to mom's house and then to Dad's house off and on. I got a girlfriend that I should not have dated. I turned 18 years old and got in trouble for being with her and went to jail for firstdegree rape and got a 15-year sentence. I could not live with myself so I started trying to kill myself a lot of times. Then I ended up in Lawton where my mom lives. I still kept trying to kill myself. I ended up overdosing on pills, and was put on life-support for two weeks. I got out of the hospital and lived in a trailer house. Then I had a friend tell me that she had a friend that has a boyfriend that was threatening to kill her so I went down to her place to kill him and have the cops kill me. This is how I met my wife. He was in jail when I got there so I hung out with her for a few days, and we got to liking each other. We dated for a year and got married. We had a lot of fun and a lot of trouble as we went along the way of our married life. I got off of probation in 2015. Two years later my favorite aunt died, I got drunk and high on pills and I got

Vol. 32. No. 7

in trouble again in 2017 charged with assault with a dangerous weapon on my wife. I did 15 months in jail and all but the last two months she had nothing to do with me. She's forgiven me for what I did to her. I was trying to bond with our son, he was into shooting guns with my cousin and his brother-in-law. So I bought some black powder guns to shoot with him so we could bond. We went out camping for the weekend so my sonin-law left a 3030 rifle with my wife, so they would be safe while we were gone. I got in trouble for the 3030 rifle; went to jail and got seven years in prison. I was in two years when my wife called here and told me that our son is on life-support. The next day she told me he died. At that time, I was already doing my walk with God. I was saved, got baptized and I'm still staying with my walk. I am learning how to walk with Jesus and I have learned from my mistakes. God used all this to mold me into His image so I can have a place in his kingdom. C.B.

I was born in Mexico in 1980, and in 2018 I was sentenced to 20 years in prison. After the judge had finished his verdict and sentenced me, I remember very well his last words: "Mr. Alexander, I sentence you to 20 years of prison for the crime you have committed. I wish you good luck!" I thought of suicide all night. I had had three months waiting for this moment and I was tired of suffering. After entering prison, I had settled into a deep depression. I had lost my work and my reputation. My wife divorced me because of the crime I had

committed. Time after time my conscience told me, "You are the fault that your children are suffering." I felt that God was not going to forgive me. My self-esteem fell flat onto the floor and a great fear overcame me. had always had a fear of prison and I expected to be imprisoned for a long time. I didn't have peace, and I couldn't sleep at night. I didn't bathe or shave. When I went down the halls to the dining room, I was only a mountain of skin and bones. I was without God, without love, and without hope. I said, "I am a nobody, my life is ruined and nobody can help me." For two years I thought of suicide and the suffering of my family because of me. I told myself that suicide would be better than living in such pain and remorse. But in the Bible God tells us that a certain form of suicide is the solution of following Jesus in a real way! It is not physical suicide, but the death of self. The Apostle Paul says in Romans 6:7... " For he that is dead is freed from sin." Dead people don't get offended, they don't lose control of self, they are not selfish and they don't hold bitterness against anyone. Romans 6:11 says: "Likewise reckon ye yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." A. W. Tozer says: "A man with a cross doesn't control his destination. He lost control when he took the cross. It doesn't matter what the man wants to do. All he can do is head towards the place of crucifixion." God invites us to die in order to resurrect with Him. After two years of being in this depression, one day, after being so tired of trying to lift myself up to my own strength and not being able to, I decided to commit "suicide". I didn't know how this would go. I said to God: "God, I am guilty, I accept the fact that I have sinned against you and your creation, I except being in prison. I know that you won't open the door today or tomorrow, but if you give me the strength for the time I am here in prison, and give me peace, and take away my fear, I will serve you and preach for you the rest of my life. I surrender to You, body, soul and mind. I will preach your word until my last breath. Amen." That night something happened that I will never forget. I slept like a baby and a peace surged through my soul, I was praising God with joy, praising him with happiness and the fear disappeared.

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy in second Timothy 1:7... "For God has not given us a spirit of fear: but of power and of love and a sound mind." Now I believe everything that is written in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. "Now unto the king eternal, immortal, invisible only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever, Amen." That is when I committed suicide, not physical, but the death of me! Brothers, we need to die to sin in order to live in the spirit, it's the only way to have a relationship with Jesus Christ! Now I am a happy man with joy and peace. I don't feel sad, because I am in love with my Savior. He is my love, my shield, and the light to my feet. He's my breath, He is real. Let him into your life and He will transform you. I hope this is a big blessing to you. It's my heartfelt desire to tell others about Jesus Christ and my Savior. God is good all the time. A.S.

In Genesis He is the Seed of the woman. In Exodus He is the Passover Lamb. In Leviticus He is our High Priest. In Numbers He is The Pillar of the cloud by day; The Pillar of Fire by night. In Deuteronomy He is The Prophet like unto Moses. In Joshua He is the Captain of our salvation. In Judges He is The Judge and Lawgiver. In Ruth He is the Kinsman Redeemer. In I & II Samuel He is our Trusted Prophet. In Kings and Chronicles He is our Reigning King, In Ezra He is the Rebuilder of Broken down walls of human life. In Nehemiah He is the Restorer of The Nation. In Esther He is our Mordecai. In Job He is our Ever-Living Redeemer. In Psalms He is our Shepherd. In Proverbs and Ecclesiastes He is our Wisdom. In The Song of Solomon He is our Lover and Bridegroom. In Isaiah He is our Prince of Peace. In Jeremiah He is our Righteous Branch. In Lamentations He is our Weeping Prophet. In Daniel He is the fourth Man in Life's Fiery Furnace. In Hosea He is the faithful husband. In Joel He is the Baptizer with the Holy Ghost and Fire. In Amos He is our Burden Bearer. In Obadiah He is the Mighty to Save. In Jonah He is our Great Foreign Missionary. In Micah He is the Messenger of Beautiful Feet. In Habakkuk He is God's Evangelist, crying, "Revive thy work in the midst of the years. In Zephaniah He is our Savior. In Haggai He is The Restorer of God's Lost Heritage. In Zechariah He is the Fountain opened up in the House of David for the sin of uncleanness. In Malachi He is the Son of Righteousness rising with healing in His Wings. In Matthew He is the Messiah. In Mark He is The Wonder-Worker. In Luke He is the Son of Man. In John He is the Son of God. In Acts He is the Holy Ghost Baptizer. In Romans He is our Justifier. In I and II Corinthians He is our Sanctifier. In Galatians He is our Redeemer from the curse of the Law. In Ephesians He is the Christ of Unsearchable Riches. In Philippians He is the God Who supplies all our needs. In Colossians He is the fullness of the Godhead Bodily. In I and II Thessalonians He is the soon-coming King. In I and II Timothy He is our Mediator between God and man. In Titus He is our Faithful Pastor. In Philemon He is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. In Hebrews He is the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant. In James He is our Great Physician. In I and II Peter He is our Chief Shepherd. In I, II, and III John He is Love. In Jude He is the Lord coming with ten thousands of His saints. . .And In Revelation He is The King of all kings and the Lord of all lords!

Send your testimony letters to: Christian Fellowship Prison Ministries PO Box 135 Fredericksburg, OH 44627-0135