



# A Message Without Words



## **A Message Without Words**

A Professor of Religion named Dr. Christianson, an educated man, taught at a small college in the western United States. Dr. Christianson taught the required survey course in Christianity at this particular institution. Every student was required to take this course in their first year, regardless of their major. Although Dr. Christianson tried hard to communicate the essence of the Gospel in his class, he found that most of his students viewed the course as nothing but required drudgery. Despite his best efforts, most students refused to take Christianity seriously.

This year, Dr. Christianson had a unique student named Steve. Steve was only a freshman but was studying with the intent of going on to seminary for the ministry. Steve was very popular, well-liked, and an imposing physical specimen. He was now the starting center on the school football team and was the best student in the professor's class.

One day, Dr. Christianson asked Steve to stay after class so he could talk with him. "How many push-ups can you do?" Steve said, "I do about 200 every night." "200? That's pretty good, Steve," Dr. Christianson said. "Do you think you could do 300?" Steve replied, "I don't know... I've never done 300 at one time." "Do you think you could?" again asked Dr. Christianson. "Well, I can try," said Steve. "Can you do 300 in sets of 10? I have a class project in mind, and I need you to do about 300 push-ups in sets of

ten for this to work. Can you do it? I need you to tell me you can do it," said the professor. Steve said, "Well... I think I can...yeah, I can do it." Dr. Christianson said, "Good, I need you to do this on Friday! Let me explain what I have in mind."

Friday came, and Steve arrived early and sat in the front of the room. When class started, the professor pulled out a big box of donuts. These weren't typical donuts; they were the extra fancy BIG kind, with cream centers and frosting swirls. As the students began to arrive, everyone was excited that it was Friday, the last class of the day, and they would get an early start on the weekend with a party in Dr. Christianson's classroom.

Dr. Christianson went to the first row and asked, "Cynthia, do you want to have one of these donuts?" Cynthia said, "Yes." Dr. Christianson then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten push-ups so that Cynthia can have a donut?" "Sure will," said Steve. Steve jumped down from his desk, did a quick ten, then got back up and sat at his desk. Dr. Christianson put a donut on Cynthia's desk. Dr. Christianson then went to Joe, the next person, and asked, "Joe, do you want a donut?" Joe said, "Yes." Dr. Christianson asked, "Steve would you do ten push-ups so Joe can have a donut?" Steve did ten push-ups; Joe got a donut. And so it went down the first aisle; Steve did ten push-ups for every person before they got their donut.

Walking down the second aisle, Dr. Christianson came to Scott. Scott was on the basketball team and in as good condition as Steve. He was very popular and never lacked female companionship. When the professor asked, "Scott do you want a donut?" Scott replied, "Well, can I do my own push-ups?" Dr. Christianson said, "No, Steve has to do them." Then Scott said, "Well, I don't want one then." Dr. Christianson shrugged and then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten push-ups so Scott can have a donut he doesn't want?" With perfect obedience, Steve started to do ten push-ups. Scott said, "HEY! I said I didn't want one!" Dr. Christianson said, "Look, this is my classroom, my class, my desks, and these are my donuts. Just leave it on the desk if you don't want it." And he put a donut on Scott's desk.

By this time, Steve had begun to slow down a little, and sweat started forming on his brow. So, because it took too much effort to get up and down, he stayed on the floor between sets. Dr. Christianson started down the third row. Now the students were beginning to get a little angry. Dr. Christianson asked Jenny, "Jenny, do you want a donut?" Sternly, Jenny said, "No!" Then Dr. Christianson asked Steve, "Steve, would you do ten more push-ups so Jenny can have a donut she doesn't want?" Steve did ten, and Jenny got a donut. A growing sense of uneasiness filled the room, and most students began to say, "No." Steve faithfully continued to do his job, and many uneaten donuts were sitting on the desks.

As this continued from row to row, Steve had to put forth a lot of extra effort to get the push-ups done. His push-ups were the only way to provide a donut for all who wanted one. Because of the physical effort involved, a small pool of sweat began to form on the floor beneath his face, and his arms and brow were starting to get red. Finally, because Dr. Christianson could no longer bear to watch Steve's strenuous labor for all of the uneaten donuts, he asked Robert, the most vocal unbeliever in the class, to watch Steve do each push-up. Robert positioned himself to watch Steve closely, ensuring he did the complete set of ten push-ups correctly.

As Dr. Christianson started down the fourth row, some students from other classes wandered in and sat on the steps. When the professor realized this, he did a quick count and saw that now there were 34 students in the room; even though he started to worry if Steve could make it, Dr. Christianson went on to the next person and the next. As Dr. Christianson came to the end of that row, it was obvious that Steve was struggling and taking a lot more time to complete each set. So, Steve asked Dr. Christianson, "Do I have to make my nose touch on each one?" Dr. Christianson thought for a moment, "Well, they're your push-ups; you are in charge now and you can do them any way that you want." And Dr. Christianson went on, and Steve continued touching the floor with his nose for each push-up.

A few moments later, Jason, a recent transfer student, was about to come in when all the students yelled in one voice, "NO! Don't come in! Stay out!" Jason had no idea what was happening, but Steve shook his head and said, "No, let him come in." Professor Christianson said, "You realize that if Jason comes in, you will have to do ten push-ups for him?" Steve said, "Yes, let him come in and give him a donut!" Dr. Christianson said, "Okay, Steve, I'll let you get Jason's out of the way right now. Jason, do you want a donut?" New to the room, Jason hardly knew what was going on, so he said, "Sure, I'll take one." "Steve, will you do ten push-ups so that Jason can have a donut?" Steve did ten push-ups very slowly and with great effort; Jason, bewildered, was handed a donut and sat down.

Dr. Christianson finished the fourth row and then started on the visitors seated on the steps. Steve's arms were now shaking with each push-up in a struggle to lift himself against the force of gravity. By this time, sweat was profusely dropping off his face; there was not a dry eye in the room and no sound except his heavy breathing.

The last two students in the room were two young ladies, both cheerleaders and very popular. Dr. Christianson went to Linda, the second to last, and asked, "Linda, do you want a doughnut?" Linda said, very sadly, "No, thank you." Then, professor Christianson quietly asked, "Steve, would you do ten push-ups so that Linda can have a donut she doesn't want?" Grunting from the effort, Steve did ten very slow push-ups for Linda. Finally, Dr.



Christianson turned to the last girl, "Susan, do you want a donut?"

With tears flowing down her face, Susan began to cry, "Dr. Christianson, why can't I help him?" Dr. Christianson, with tears of his own, said, "No, Steve has to do it alone. I have given him this task and he is in charge of seeing that everyone has an opportunity for a donut whether they want it or not. When I decided to have a party this last day of class, I looked at my grade book. Steve is the only student with a perfect grade. Everyone else has failed a test, skipped class, or offered me inferior work. Steve told me that when a player messes up in football practice, he must do push-ups. I told Steve that none of you could come to my party unless he paid the price by doing your push-ups. He and I made a deal for your sakes. Steve, would you do ten push-ups so Susan can have a donut?" When Steve very slowly finished his last push-up, understanding that he had more than accomplished all that was required of him, having done 350 push-ups, his arms buckled beneath him, and he fell to the floor.

Dr. Christianson turned to the room and said, "And so it was on the cross, that our Saviour, Jesus Christ, said to the Father, 'Into thy hands I commend my spirit.' With the understanding that He had done everything that was required of Him for the salvation of your soul, He yielded up His life. And like some of those in this room, many will leave the gift on the desk, uneaten."

Two students helped Steve off the floor and to his seat. Steve was physically exhausted but wearing a thin smile. "Well done, good and faithful servant," said the professor, adding, "Not all sermons are preached in words." Turning to his class, the professor said, "My wish is that you might understand and fully comprehend all the riches of grace and mercy that have been given to you through the sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. God spared not His only begotten Son, but gave Him up for us all, for the whole Church, now and forever. Whether or not we choose to accept His gift, the price has been paid. Wouldn't you be foolish and ungrateful to leave it lying on the desk?"  
—Author Unknown

## **The Ultimate Truth**

**TRUTH:** "Exact accordance with that which is, or has been, or shall be."

**ULTIMATE:** "Final; being that to which all the rest is directed, as to the main object. The ultimate end of our actions should be the glory of God, or the display of His exalted excellence. The ultimate end and aim of men is to be happy, and to attain to this end, we must yield that obedience which will honor the law and character of God" (Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary).

### **TRUTH ALWAYS EXPOSES ERROR!**

We live in a society that has asked God, the Lord Jesus Christ, to stay out of its business. Society has even tried to take Christ out of Christmas by saying, Happy Holidays



instead of Merry Christmas. By doing this, they think God will go away, or perhaps, He will not execute His judgment upon them. NOT SO! Hell is a real place designed for the devil and his angels. **TRUTH: "...Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels"** (Matthew 25:41). The Bible teaches us that many false teachers will be in the last days. **TRUTH: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction"** (2 Peter 2:1). The false teacher's message leads multitudes of people to believe that there are many ways to Heaven. Sad to say, they are deceived! Will believing their lies give you an excuse with God on Judgment Day? **TRUTH: "That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"** (2 Thessalonians 2:12).

**TRUTH:** Jesus Christ teaches us that the only way to be assured of spending eternity in Heaven is by **"...repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ"** (Acts 20:21). Repentance is the willingness to leave sin behind, which is anything that goes against God's Holy Bible, and turn to THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD, JESUS CHRIST for guidance. Faith toward Jesus believes that Jesus, God the Son, became flesh through the virgin birth, was tempted like we are, endured all temptation without sin, paid our sin debt on the cross of Calvary, was buried, rose up from the grave on the third day, and is now at the right hand of

the Father waiting to come back and receive His children into Heaven with Him.

When you put your faith in Christ, the Holy Ghost of God reveals this **TRUTH: "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:"** (Romans 8:16). The Bible teaches that **"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"** (John 4:24). So, when you put your faith in what Christ did for you and call upon Him for salvation, God's Spirit will confirm in your heart that you have become a child of the King.

Many believe God is a God of love and He would never damn anyone to Hell. This idea is wishful thinking! **TRUTH: "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"** (John 1:12). When you put your faith in Christ alone, coupled with the willingness to turn from your sinful ways, you will become a son of God. If we are not all children of God, who is the unbeliever's father? **TRUTH: "Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it"** (John 8:44).

My friend, the devil knows his eternal destination. He will not be the ruler of Hell but an occupant. **TRUTH: "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet**

**are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever"** (Revelation 20:10). He knows his days are numbered and is doing his utmost to deceive you into believing a lie: **TRUTH: "...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time"** (Revelation 12:12). He plans to take as many as possible with him to Hell!

**TRUTH:** Jesus said, **"...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me"** (John 14:6). Please put your faith in Christ before it is eternally too late. Faith simply believes that God will do everything He has said He would. The Bible teaches this **TRUTH: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"** (Romans 10:9, 10). **TRUTH: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"** (Romans 10:13). When you invite Jesus into your heart by faith, He forgives your sin, makes you His child, and will write your name in the Lamb's Book of Life. **TRUTH: "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire"** (Revelation 20:15).

**TRUTH:** You can be saved from the wrath of God and your name recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life today by simply praying and asking the Lord Jesus Christ into your heart to

rescue you from Hell and help you fight the war against sin in your life. You will have eternity to live with your decision! **TRUTH: "...behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"** (II Corinthians 6:2). Please do not put this decision off! The devil will tell you that you have plenty of time: this is his favorite lie! **TRUTH:** On Judgement Day, the Bible will be used for you or against you; **"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day"** (John 12:48).

### **DO IT NOW—ETERNITY IS A LONG TIME TO BE WRONG!**

**Pray:** Dear LORD God, I know I am a sinner condemned to Hell. I am sorry I have sinned against you. Please forgive me of my sin, come into my heart, and help me live a life pleasing unto You. I accept You as my personal Lord and Saviour. Thank You for writing my name in the Lamb's Book of Life. In the name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.

If you sincerely asked Christ into your heart, He has promised you eternal life. The Spirit of God living inside you does not want you to wonder whether you are born-again and heaven-bound. He wants you to know that you have been eternally forgiven and have a home reserved in Heaven. He gives us this confidence in His Word:

**"If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of**

God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:9-13).

If your good works could save you, you could be lost again by your evil deeds. But if you are born again by the grace of God, your salvation will be eternally secure by God's mercy. **"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost"** (Titus 3:5).

If you have asked the LORD to be your Saviour today, don't hesitate to contact us with the information provided on the back of the cover. We rejoice in your decision and would be happy to help guide you in your new walk with God. Welcome to the family of God! God bless you!

**ETERNITY MAY BE A LONG TIME TO BE WRONG,  
BUT IT'S ALSO A LONG TIME TO BE RIGHT!**

## Eternity is a Long Time to be Wrong

We are all eternal beings—believe it or not. Your eternity began at the moment of your conception. Unfortunately, with so much confusion and frustration among religious societies, many will fall for the lie that it's all over when they die. Eternal suffering is the danger of being wrong in this matter!

The True, Living God of Heaven is not willing that anyone find their fate in eternal torment. His love for you is why Jesus, God in the flesh, came to die on the Cross, preserved the truth about eternity in the Bible, and is why this book is in your hands! All this was and is for you! Jesus tasted death and rose from the grave, covering your penalty for sin instead of spending eternity in Heaven without you.

Inside this booklet, you will find what the Bible says concerning life after death. We never know when death will knock at our door; this may be your last chance to secure your eternal destination in Heaven; **“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:”** (Isaiah 55:6). In light of eternity, learning what God declares about your eternal destination and accepting His offer to give you eternal life would be highly beneficial for you and those you love.

**“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”** (John 3:16, 17)

**“...no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”—JESUS**



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