Love for Jesus key to eternal life

By DOREEN PALMER

One of the incredible features of the Bible is its ability to speak to people of all ages at any stage of spiritual development. For example, if we wish to explain the necessity to love Jesus in order to attain eternal life, we could use many approaches.

For the child, it could be the simple verse "God is love" (1) explained as he sings the last line of Jesus Loves Me: "If I love Him when I die He will take me home on high". Jesus loves me, and helps me love Him in return because He IS love! If we wish to use only one verse to **Hope**

Tomorrow

explain the necessity to love Jesus. we could quote the following, "Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love Him?" (2)

For one who wishes to probe more deeply into this question of the necessity to love Jesus to attain kingdom status, he will find the Bible a complete encyclopedia on the sub-

The Apostle Paul explained that Christians no longer live under slavish obedience to Jewish laws; we obey the laws to the extent that we love our Jesus. Jesus said He had "not come to abolish (the laws) but to fulfil them". (3) The 10 Commandments still stand, but we are no longer under the Old Testament curse of being stoned or hung on a tree when we fail to keep them. "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written "Cursed is every-

one who is hung on a tree". (4) The tree was Jesus' cross. He didn't die our robes "and made them white in to do away with the 10 Command- the blood of the Lamb". (9) We did ments; He died to break the curse which is rightfully ours when we fail He then made us acceptable before to keep them.

Jesus did, however, make one stipulation for us to be freed from the curse. It was said that "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself". (5) Since Jesus is God who dwells in us (6), we are commanded to love Him. This is no option, it is a commandment if we wish to be made righteous before Him with our sins forgiven, and thereby eligible to inherit eternal life!

The Apostle John writes that the only way to be an overcomer is by the word of our testimony and by Jesus' blood (7). When we love someone, we want to tell everyone about our wonderful friend. If we love Jesus, we will tell others how His blood has purchased our freedom and we are now "clothed in

white raiment". (8) We have washed our part to love and obey Him, and Him. "We love Him because He first loved us." (10)

We now return to the verse in James. When we humble ourselves enough to admit how spiritually poor we are in relation to the rules of the 10 Commandments, we accept His forgiveness for having failed, but want to strive to keep them because we love Him. Others will know how much we love Him by the extent to which we live as He taught.

The key to eternal life, and also to high moral living, is our love for

NIV - 1 Jn 4:8; Jas 2:5; Mt 5:17; Gal 3:13

KJV - Mt 22:37-39; Jn 17:23; Rev 12:11; 3:5; 7:14; Jn 4:19

(Doreen Palmer is a freelance writer and member of Halton Hills Outreach Faith Ministry 877-4853. She and her husband attend Faith Gospel Tabernacle, Hwy. 7 at Creditview Rd.)

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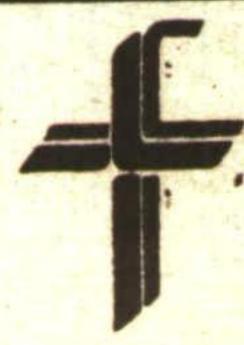
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Gospel Service 7 p.m. WEDNESDAYS - Junior Soldier Classes 6 p.m.

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Mountainview **Baptist Church**

102 Mountainview Rd. S. Pastor: David Caldwell Church: 877-5854 Home: 873-2184

Nursery and Sunday School meets during service. 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Home Fellowship meets You Are Welcome!

Volunteers needed

North Halton Distress & Infor-Centre needs mation volunteers to help maintain this 24 hour community service. Training will begin on Monday evening, March 13 at 7.30 p.m. If you can give four hours a week, you are a good listener and you would like to help, please call 877-1211 for more information.

Heavenly bodies

Join guest Brian Crenna and discover spring constellations and other galactic highlights at 7 p.m., March 11 in the sky above the

Guelph Lake Interpretive Centre. Then on March 12, at 2 p.m. tour the GRCA's Guelph Dam. The Centre is located outside of Guelph off Victoria Rd., on Township Rd. 6. For more info call the Centre at 519-836-7860.

Spring fashions

Elizabeth's Fashions presents Sounds of Spring, a fashion show with proceeds going to support the Georgetown High School's music tour of Germany. The show is on March 8, 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$5. Refreshments are served.

ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19

TAURUS Apr. 20-May 20

GEMINI May 21-June 20

CANCER June 21-July 22

LEO July 23-Aug. 22

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sept. 22

LIBRA

SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21 SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21 CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18

PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Your Week Ahead Horoscope Get around and mingle, see and be seen in the right places. Take note of how those you

contact fall under your spell. The good things in life will come without much effort. Stay in control. Expansion at the waist is likely.

Things look merry and bright as Jupiter enters the sign of Gemini. No serious setbacks are likely. Go where the action is.

One in confinement is most grateful for your help and care. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated. The gains you've made career-wise put you in

a solid position. Take care to protect your standing. Make the most of opportunity for career advancement coming your way. A lot of hard

work is involved. Legal matters are prominent, but you are in Sept. 23-Oct. 22 a favorable cycle where nothing but good

should come of it. Joint assets get a boost. There may be a little discord, but who's to complain in the face of prosperity.

Signs point to the start of a new and meaningful relationship. It may be a bit more than you're ready for.

Jupiter, planet of abundance, is in your health and service sector. Take care that you don't get too much of both.

Games of chance, investment possibilities, creative innovations, love and romance-are things to be tapped under the watchful eye of

Use caution in working around the house. Be on the lookout for hazardous conditions. Dealing in real estate should go well.



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