

## Is there any Good News?

In today's fast-paced digital era, we are bombarded with information and news everywhere: on TV and in the papers and also on social media. Bombings, wars, pandemics, robbery and murders. It seems that the media is filled with bad news.

### **Why is there so much Bad News?**

News is primarily about people, and online as well as offline, people want to find out more about other people. We are interested in other people. That is because men are social beings. The Bible tells us that all men are sinful.

*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23)*

What does this mean? It means that all of us have gone against God's holy standard. We have disobeyed God. God is no longer first in our lives. Instead, we have put ourselves first.

When man turns away from God and puts himself first, that in itself is sin. And this self-centredness leads to many other sins such as fighting, killing, stealing, cheating, the list goes on.

All this hits the media as pieces of bad news. It is news, when someone steals, kills or cheats. Everywhere, people lie, cheat and hurt other people. Yes, sin is everywhere.

If you think that is bad, I have bad news and good news for you.

### **The Bad News**

Because of sin, we are condemned to die. Why? Death is the penalty for sin.

*For the wages of sin is death; (Romans 6:23)*

As all of us have sin, we are all condemned to die.

But that is not the end. There is Good News.

### **The Good News**

Romans 6:23 does not end there. Here is the full verse:

*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

That is the Good News. God has provided a way out. God sent his Son to pay the penalty for our sins.

So what should we do to benefit from this good news?

It is simple. All we need to do is to accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, admit that we are sinful, and confess our sins. If we do that, God will forgive us.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)*

Once we come before God, repentant, He will forgive us and our sins are no longer held against us.

### **More Good News**

That is only the beginning. Once we have confessed our sins and accepted Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, we become God's children.

*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. (Romans 8:14,15)*

This means we are free from the bondage of sin. Sin no longer has power over us. As we look at the world today, we can see the effects of sin everywhere. But there is also a way out. Each of us must make that decision for ourselves. What will you choose, the Good News or the Bad News?

As a popular children's church song says:

**Good news! Good news!  
Christ died for me.  
Good news! Good news!  
If I believe; Good news! Good news!  
I'm saved eternally.  
That's wonderful EXTRA good news.**