Queen Elizabeth II

1926 - 2022



"For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing."

The Queen's Christmas Message, 2014.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6 One of the Scripture verses read out at the Queen's funeral.

THE QUEEN REMEMBERED

In recent days, billions of people around the world have paused to pay tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II for her remarkable, 70-year reign and life of dutiful service. Her Majesty very much embodied the values of the World War 2 generation with her commitment to God, family and country. Her life demonstrated the truth that the pathway to true greatness is found in a life of service to others. This is a timely reminder in the "selfie" generation where commitment and service are often a low priority.

Throughout her 70-year reign, the Queen faithfully served her country, church, the commonwealth and the cause of charity. According to the Royal family's official website, "the Queen was patron of over **500 organisations** in her lifetime, from charities and military associations to professional bodies and public service organisations." www.royal.uk/the-queens-charities-and-patronages (Viewed 29/9/22).

Her Majesty also stated repeatedly throughout her life that her service was inspired by the example of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. To Her Majesty's great credit, for her entire reign she acknowledged God as the Supreme King and Sovereign Ruler and Christ's coming to earth to be the Saviour of mankind. For example, in her Christmas message 2011 the Queen said, "Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves - from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person - neither philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive. Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith...It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love." Colossians 1:14 says, "In whom (Jesus Christ) we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins."

Do you realize you are a sinner in need of forgiveness? Have you experienced the forgiveness of sins Her Majesty spoke about? Have you come to know Christ as your personal Saviour?

DO YOU KNOW THE KING OF KINGS?

While you may have recently paused with the rest of the world to remember the Queen, an earthly monarch, have you stopped to think about your relationship with God, the Eternal King above all? To know God personally we need to understand the bad news that we have all broken the King's laws and then the good news of God's redeeming love and way of forgiveness for guilty sinners.

The King's Law Disobeyed - "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression (breaking) of the law." (1 John 3:4). God's Word plainly states, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23). Even a brief look at the King's law (the 10 commandments) proves that we are all sinners. We have all broken God's law by lying, lusting, stealing, blaspheming, coveting, putting other things before God, dishonouring our parents etc... and are therefore guilty in God's sight. Because we have all sinned, we deserve the penalty for sin which is eternity in hell. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Revelation 20:14 calls this the second death, "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." This is the bad news. Now for the good news!

The King's Love Demonstrated - "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." (John 3:16) The good news is that despite the fact we are sinful law breakers, God in great love provided forgiveness by sending His only Son Jesus Christ, "God manifest in the flesh" (1 Tim. 3:16) to die on the cross for our sins. Christ then rose victorious over death on the third day. The Gospel (good news) is that "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures...he was buried...and he rose again the third day..." (1 Cor. 15:3-4). Romans 5:8 expresses it this way, "But God commendeth (showed) his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Will you receive God's free gift of forgiveness and eternal life? Keep reading!

WHERE WILL YOU SPEND ETERNITY?

The passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II is a timely reminder that death is something we all must face - rich or poor, queen or servant. Hebrews 9:27 warns, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" To receive God's free gift of forgiveness from sin and eternal life in heaven, you must:

- 1. **REALIZE that you are a sinner** "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). We have all broken God's laws and are great sinners in His sight.
- 2. REPENT of your sin "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..." (Acts 3:19). Repentance is a change of mind and attitude toward God and sin. It means being genuinely sorry for your sins committed against a Holy God and requires a willingness to turn to God from sin that He might forgive and change you.
- 3. **BELIEVE** on the Lord Jesus Christ believe the Gospel "that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures." (1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- 4. RECEIVE Jesus Christ into your life as your personal Saviour from sin and to be the Lord of your life - "For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13).

To learn more about how you can prepare to meet God, watch "The Sinners Day in Court". Scan the QR code or visit www.sermonaudio.com/sermon/91120441587661

