**JESUS PAID IT ALL**

Sunday School Lesson 4

*Lessons from the Hymnbook*

Hebrews 10:12

10/30/2022

**Introduction:** Our third lesson in this series covered the lyrics of the hymn “The Solid Rock.” In this song, we observed the following lessons that are being taught: 1. We stand upon the Rock by faith in Jesus’ blood, righteousness, and name. 2. We can stand upon the Rock even when we can’t see the Rock we are standing on. 3. We can stand upon the Rock even when the storms of life come. 4. We can stand upon the Rock confident and comforted by His promises. 5. We should stand upon the Rock with anticipation of His glorious return. For this week’s lesson, we are going to be reviewing the hymn “Jesus Paid It All.” This hymn is often one that is sung and/or played during the invitational portion of a church service. It was written by a widow named Elvina Hall in 1865. While sitting in a church service, Mrs. Hall’s thoughts began to drift as the pastor gave a rather lengthy message. The words of this song came to her mind, and she jotted them down on the blank flyleaf of her hymnal. At first, it was intended as a poem instead of a song. She gave the poem to the pastor after the service. That same week, the church organist had shared some new music with the pastor. He thought that the poem and the arrangement given to him by the organist belonged together. From there, the song was formally arranged, and it was sent to a publisher. The theme of the song is the total substitutionary atonement that Jesus Christ made for us on the cross of Calvary.

1. **JESUS’ PAYMENT IS NECESSARY BECAUSE WE ARE WEAK IN THE FLESH.**

* Our strength in the flesh is small. We can hear Jesus telling us this from Matthew 26:41. “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” The disciples were told to watch and pray (Mark 13:33; 14:38), but they were unable to do it. They could not even stay awake during the most critical time in the ministry of Jesus Christ. His arrest and death were at hand. He had told them this. While He was praying in the garden in great agony (Luke 22:44), none of His disciples had the strength to endure this moment with Him. “If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.” That’s what Proverbs 24:10 tells us. The disciples’ behavior depicts the overall weakness of mankind, and it reminds us of our total reliance on the Lord. We are able to find in Him our all in all, and we must find in Him our all in all. We have no strength of ourselves to bring about salvation. If the disciples had been able to help Jesus endure the cross, we might have been inclined to think that there is such strength within man as to be able to bring about salvation for ourselves. Consider the words of 2 Corinthians 12:9: “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

1. **JESUS’ PAYMENT PROVIDES US WITH THE ONLY WAY TO HAVE REAL CHANGE.**

* In Jeremiah 13, the Lord speaks of the great wickedness of Judah. In verse 23, the Lord questions whether Judah will ever change. He compares that possibility of their change to that of an Ethiopian changing his skin or a leopard changing his spots. We know that a leopard cannot change his spots. He does not possess the power to do so. Likewise, sinful man does not possess the power to change our spots either. Yet, with the power of the Lord, we may find a real change taking place. This is not a new thing only for the church age. The same power was available to Judah to find real change. After several chapters dealing with the heavy judgment of the Lord upon Judah, chapter eighteen of the book of Jeremiah pivots to offering hope for the nation. They are told that if they turn to the Lord, they will find change there. Aren’t you glad that the payment that Jesus offered on the cross allows for us to have a real change take place both within us now and on the outside of us later. Philippians 3:2: “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.” Only the power of God can change us. So many people are looking to make changes in their lives, but we know the source of real change – Jesus Christ.

1. **JESUS’ PAYMENT IS NECESSARY BECAUSE WE HAVE NOTHING GOOD TO OFFER.**

* Continuing our thought about the real change happening because of Christ’s payment, we also understand that the reason we need change is that we have nothing good to offer of ourselves. God’s grace is not claimed by our good. It is claimed by our faith. Ephesians 2:8-9: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.” The lack of goodness of man is highlighted in the book of Psalms. We find references to it in Psalm 14:1-3 and 53:1-3. We are told that there is none that doeth good, no not one. This is reiterated by Jesus Christ when He tells us that there is none good but God (Matthew 19:17; Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19). We find this referenced once more in Romans 3:12. As we think about the inability to change our spots on our own, we need to understand that we are worse than just being spotted with sin. We are completely covered with it. Our garments of righteousness are filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). Thankfully, we can go to the Lord and have our garments washed white in the blood of the Lamb of God. Revelation 7:14: “And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

1. **JESUS’ PAYMENT PROVIDES US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE HIM FOREVER.**

* When we stand before the throne of God, we will stand before Him complete. At that time, we will still be singing the same thing. We will be singing about how Jesus Christ died to save our souls. Revelation 5:9 tells us of a song that will be sung in Heaven. Consider what the Bible says about this song: “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;” Jesus’ payment on the cross of Calvary gives us the opportunity to praise Him forever. If His payment had been incomplete or inadequate, we would not be able to give Him the proper praise that He deserves. Thus, the Lord is glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. We will be able to give Him praise for ever and ever, Amen (1 Peter 4:11)! Psalm 145:21: “My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.” Be thankful that the payment of Jesus makes us complete in Him (Colossians 2:10). He died to save your soul! Let’s not wait to repeat that again and again in Heaven. Let’s make a habit of repeating that now here on this earth. Let’s tell the whole world of Jesus’ payment that He made for us.

1. **JESUS’ PAYMENT IS TOTALLY SUFFICIENT TO COVER OUR SINS.**

* We cannot close out this lesson on this hymn without spending a little bit of time considering the main message conveyed in the chorus. The payment of Christ is total. He paid it all. There is nothing left for us to pay for. He has offered one sacrifice for sins for ever (Hebrews 10:12). The Devil likes to whisper in our ears that Christ’s payment is not enough to cover all of our sins. He would like for us to think that there is no payment great enough to cleanse us. He wants for us to return to the bondage of sin. As mentioned, Christ has washed us white as snow. Isaiah 1:18: “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” Mark 3:27-28 shows us that Christ’s payment is sufficient to forgive us of all of our sins. I believe that the Scripture shows that the only sin that will keep us from salvation is the sin of unbelief. This is the rejection of the Holy Spirit of God and His convicting power in the heart of every unbeliever. Perhaps, there is someone this morning who has convinced themselves that the Lord cannot or will not forgive something that you have done. Please allow me to ensure you that Christ died to pay for all of your sins (1 John 1:9; Colossians 2:13). He literally paid it all on the cross of Calvary!