

# Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

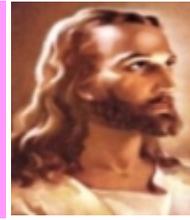
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(Not For Sale)



**“Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!” (Psalm 27:14)**

# BLESSINGS OF GOD BE YOURS...



**Jesus The Lord  
Our Saviour**

**“Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart  
take courage; wait for the LORD!” (Psalm 27:14)**

**O God Yaweh! You are Holy and You are whole! Yaweh God You are all powerful and good ! God Yaweh ! You who are filled with mercy, pay heed to my petitions! I praise You Lord ! I fall prostrate and adore You! I wait on You O LORD as I am choked with my worries! I suffocate unable to share all that is within my heart.**

**Lord You know all that is within my heart! Lord You know all the insults I face and the tears I shed night and day! My own family seems a burden to me !**

**Passing of a single day seems like a thousand years ! Lord , come to meet me . Please pay heed to my petitions. Grant me comfort and grace O LORD.**



**How many more days O Lord ! That I have to shed tears like this. Lord God, I fall at Your Holy Feet tirelessly, without giving up hope. Cause me to stand firm quickly O Lord. Lord I wait for You. I stand in need of Your Power and Your strength.**

**Lord God fulfill all my needs! Fulfill them O Lord. Thank You my God! Thank You !  
AMEN!**

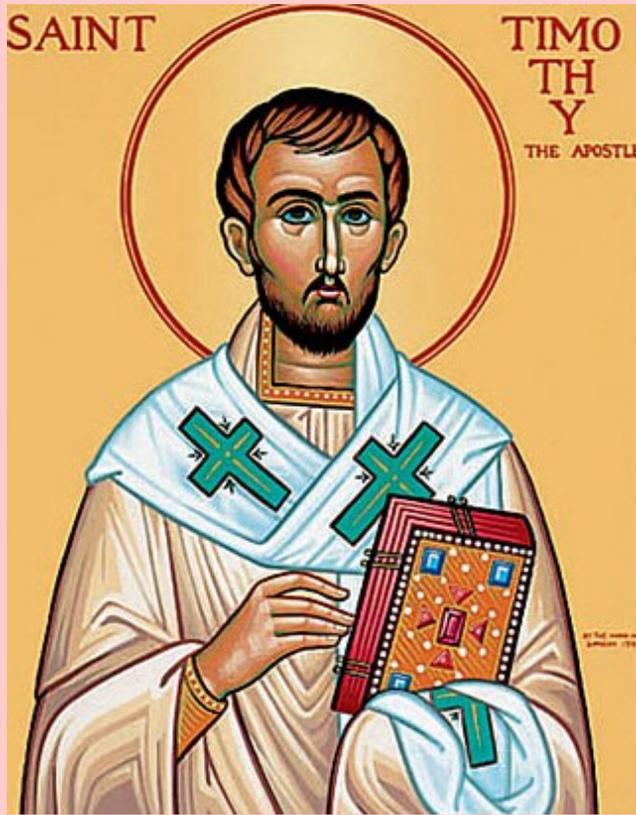
**Fr. V. Ignatius. S. J.**

# BELOVED IN CHRIST...



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“Join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, “ (II timothy 1:8)



Beloved in Christ! Timothy who served along with St.Paul, was appointed as Bishop and served the people. St.Paul suffered much for the sake of the Gospel. He was imprisoned. While still in prison, he wrote letters to Timothy. The words written in that letter is not meant only for Timothy, it gives us all immense solace and comfort. Bearing up our tribulations for the sake of the Good News is the sign of good Christian living.

Before the News of Jesus Christ spread to the world, ‘the Cross’ was held as a symbol of utter derision by the people. Among the Romans, Greeks, Egyptians, Pharisees and Asians all of them considered **“Suffering as a curse and as a sign of sin.”** This was how even the Jews thought. Even His apostles who saw a man born blind asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” (John 9:2) Only Jesus taught the world, that the Cross or suffering was the gateway to glory. “ Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and ides, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” (John 12:24)

St. Paul lived by knowing and understanding Jesus Christ, His Cross and the meaning of it. He derived joy from suffering. He realized that Christ who was crucified, was “the power of God and the wisdom of God.” (I Corinthians 1:24)

St.Paul wished that Timothy who was the bishop should participate in this divine power and wisdom. This divine power and wisdom is a necessity for us.

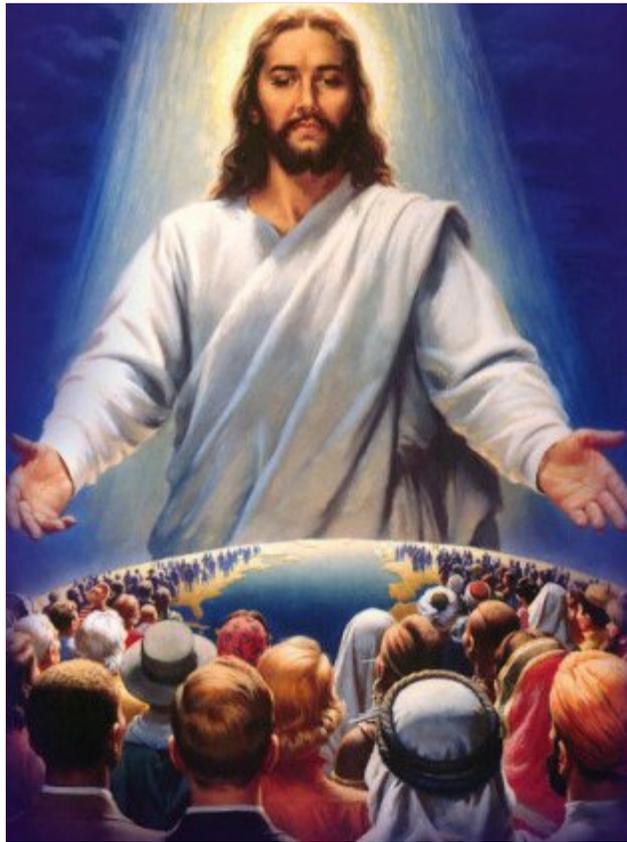
All the sufferings and shame that occur to us, when mingled with the sufferings and shame of Jesus Christ, we too get a share in the glory of Christ. The Cross of Jesus is the gateway to His glory.

**“The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him;” (II Timothy 2:11-12) I wish you all joy !**

# “YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)



## Jesus The Lord Our Saviour



A friend of mine pointed out to a verse written by Isaiah: **“The earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”** (Isaiah 11:9) The question put forth by my friend: **“What does ‘The knowledge of the LORD’ mean?”**

I took the question to heart and was stunned at being asked thus. But the thought that came immediately to my mind, **“The one who is in the light, sees in the light.”** It looked as if saying that they did not know the meaning of light.

It is indeed great to experience light than merely teach someone about light! What does it mean when one walks completely in the light and complains that there is no light?

I asked, **“Brother do you have eyes? Have you seen those eyes?”** He replied, **“I have seen it in the mirror.”**

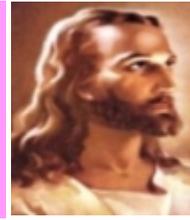
I conversed with him all along the way. It is only because one has eyes and since they have light for those eyes, that they are at least able to see a reflection of those eyes in the mirror. So it is also when we mention about God, instead of giving an explanation about God, it is much better to experience Him! This is the most important!

**Will a person born blind understand that the crane is white in colour when we say so? If we get hold of a crane place it on his lap and when he feels the bird, he would feel the shape of its body, the softness of its wings, the height of its legs and the sharpness of its beak. But he will not be able to feel the colour of white. This is how human beings are. To what extent can the unreachable God reach human beings? The God who is beyond human vision, would be made visible to whom?**

**1. Who has seen God? Who has touched Him? Who has listened to His voice? Who has walked with Him? Who has dined, seated alongside Him? “No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.” (John 1:18)**

**Jesus the Son of God roamed around for 33 years in the country of Palestine in Judah, Galilee, and Samaria. He spoke with them. He performed several mighty deeds in their midst. He handpicked a few, seated them in close proximity to Him, gathered them as His trust worthy followers and performed several miraculous deeds.**

## “YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)



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He healed several sick people. He related with several wise men. (Jesus and Nicodemus John 4) He spoke and related with the sinners and revealed to them that He was the Messiah. He taught them to worship God with a pure heart and to worship Him in Truth through the Holy Spirit(John 4). He multiplied the bread and fed several thousands of them. (John 6)

He spoke words which none dared to speak. “My flesh is true food and blood is true drink.” ( John 6:55)He also forgave those caught in sin(John 8). He gave sight to those blind from birth. (John 9).

He also gave life to the corpses dead and buried several days, and emitting foul smell in the tomb.

Jesus said openly, “ **I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.**” (John 11:25).



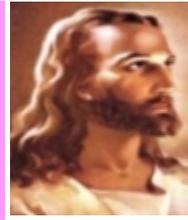
An apostle called Philip who listened to and saw all that Jesus said and did, revealed a wish to Jesus, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” (John 14:8)

The reply that Jesus gave him: “ Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Who ever has seen me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9) Hence to understand and to know the heavenly Father is to know Jesus Himself.

**Knowing and understanding Jesus alone is the knowledge and wisdom of God.** This is what St. John reveals to us in his letters.

“We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life- this life was revealed , and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.” (I John 1:1-2)

# “YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)



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## 2. What did Jesus Our LORD reveal to Philip His apostle?

Just by merely seeing the signs and wonders worked by Jesus or by listening to His speeches, all is not over. What we see and hear should instill faith in our hearts. All this sans faith and a heart filled with a deep love for Jesus, will turn out to merely be a slice of information. This was how several people listened with acute curiosity to all that Jesus spoke. They witnessed His miracles. But they got separated without faith and love for Him.

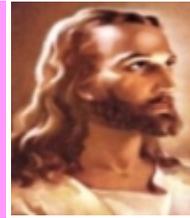
“ Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him.” (John 12:37) ‘And he said, “ Go and say to this people: ‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.’



Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.” (Isaiah 6:9-10) (John 12:40) We cannot understand Jesus without the grace of God. Without a heart beating with love, Divine wisdom will for sure elude us!

The Knowledge of God is solely based on the love borne in the heart. This is neither based on a technical skill, nor is it like a successful passing of an examination ,after reading piles of books. Neither technical skill nor scientific knowledge and it is not even akin to mere information garnered from skillful scanning of the newspaper. Unless we establish a relationship with Jesus based on True Love, we cannot understand Him who manifested to our frail human nature , The Infinite God who cannot be contained within human vision. When we read the Gospel of St. John ,we understand that Jesus preached publicly. The learned like the Pharisees and the Sadducees saw Our LORD. But they did not believe in Him.

## “YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)



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We understand that the simple people being blind from birth and who were healed, trusted in Jesus with immense faith. Those humble and simple found and understood Him. A benumbed heart, egoistic selfishness, and worldly ways that even discard God are all stumbling blocks that prevent one from knowing and understanding God.

**3.** ‘If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world- therefore the world hates you.’ (John 15:19) Only when we stand apart from worldly ways, and set our lives far away from worldly thinking, can we remain in closer union with Jesus. Those who belong to Him will comprehend and know Him.

That which we should infer from the Words of Jesus the LORD: **Those who know who Jesus Is**, are those who act wholly and only for His sake. This relates to foregoing one’s own likes and dislikes and living entirely only for Jesus. One’s free and clear choice, a heart beating with genuine love are the requisites to this. God’s grace is very important for this. Understand the depth of meaning contained in the Words, “I have chosen you out of the world.”

**4.** How did Lucifer the head of the angels created in the light, fall into the dark abyss of hell as devils? When we ponder over this, we will comprehend the essence of what the knowledge of God actually means. **A saint called Rev.Sr. Maria of Agreda lived in Spain in the seventeenth century.** She had written down in her diary regarding some of the divine revelations given to her. They have compiled it and published it as a book. They have published the secret about Lucifer and his associates shunning God and falling into the darkness of hell. Considering the incomparable beauty and brightness in which Lucifer was created, it was filled with an inexpressible ego. God revealed that He was going to create man and woman in His own Image. ‘Man in God’s Image! It is I who am in God’s Image! Will there be a man who can outdo me in beauty and in brightness? There should not be one who is greater than I. Even if he chances to come, I shall not allow him to be, to continue. I shall destroy him.’ Thus Lucifer filled with all jealousy and hatred, thought and sought to thrash and thwart the plan of God.



**“YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)**



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But the divine plan of God was such that not only did God create man in His own Image and likeness , but also deigned to forgive the erring man, by sending His own Son in the likeness of man in order to redeem the world. This Divine Son of God to be born in human likeness is to be born in the womb of a Virgin.

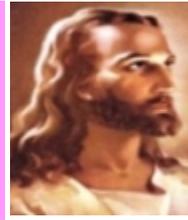
God also revealed that all the angels should pay obeisance to the Holy Lady and adore the Son of God to be born as Man. Lucifer completely detested this plan of God. He hated it. Hatred and enmity took root in Lucifer's heart. Lucifer's heart weighed down and pounded with the thought, "I shall not bow down. I will not pay my respects to that woman. I will never adore the Son of God to be born as man." That very instant Lucifer who was all light became totally dark! It drew a great big battalion of angels who could oppose God.

Even today, these devilish legions having lost the grace of God , act as betrayers of the human race.

**We cannot say that these devilish legions lack in the 'knowledge of God'. But even though they possessed the knowledge , they got lost and were damned. Though they were all light, yet they fell into utter darkness. They thus could not enter into the Divine Presence of God. In other words, a hardened selfishness, an inflated ego, jealousy , an arrogance that shuns God are the foundations of sin. This foundation will completely neglect and efface the faith and affection towards God. It will push one into a deep pit of darkness wherewith one can never come close to God.**

**What should we understand from this? The Knowledge about God is divine wisdom. This encompasses the Trust and Faith one has in God, the deep love, the sincere humility and the intimate affection that one has towards God. This deletes selfishness, pride, the stubbornness that comes with the ego that is 'I' , and brings about the Holy fear that says, " I am the Handmaid of the LORD"! This is the perfection of Divine Wisdom. (Luke 1:38)**

# “YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW ME?” (John 14:9)



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The perfect and matchless witness to the Knowledge of God is the Virgin Mother Mary who bore the LORD in Her womb!  
The affectionate Faith of the Virgin Mother, Her sacrifice totally devoid of all selfishness, strengthened Her Holy Knowledge of God. Thus She believed in God's Word. This Divine Word fructified in Her Womb as a Seed. This Seed bloomed in Her Womb as a Baby who flourished as Jesus, grew as a mighty Tree, and hung on the Cross as a Fruit.

The Knowledge of God can be compared to a seed that fell on the ground, died, sprouted and that grew as mighty tree.  
“ Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.” ( John 12:24-25)  
A seed that falls to the ground, clings to the ground and absorbs all the water. So too should a man cling on to God and absorb the depth of His Divine Word.

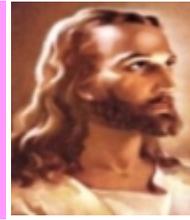
The seed that has absorbed the water, breaks itself selflessly. It lets go of itself. When it lets go of self, it then sprouts up as a tender shoot.



So too when a man who has grasped and absorbed the freshness of the Life giving Divine Word, humbles and breaks himself without selfishness, then The Divine Seed sown in his heart, bursts open and sprouts up, thus producing fruit a manifold.

Just as the seed that sprouted grew into a plant, spread out into a tree of luxuriant growth, flowering abundantly, grew raw and bore abundant fruit, so too The Knowledge of God sown in man's heart as a seed, grows in the fertile soil of sacrifice sans selfishness. It always bears abundant fruit. This is what is known as the knowledge of God. The relationship of love is that Fruit. There is no end to this relationship of love.

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**For example the couple who enter into the union of marriage do not break free from the relationship or destroy it after living a few years in that union. There can be no destruction to a relationship. There can be several hurdles to it. It is simple human nature to face, swim against the current and strengthen the relationship! This is LOVE! Our relationship with God is also similar to this! This is a boundless relationship!**



**When we meditate deep on this we can comprehend its depth! There is a limit to all actions of men. But to the knowledge of God, to the Love that is born of the initiation of this divine knowledge, and to the relationship born of this, there is absolutely no limit. Unless a man wishes to and cuts away from this relationship this established union will grow eternally.**

**The seas know its shores! But Our love knows no shores or limits! It is infinite!**

**The Knowledge of God! It will grow for all eternity!**

*Fr. Ignatius.S.J.*