

The Story of the Wordless Book

by Paul H.

(Turn to gold page) I know a place where the streets are made of gold. Do you know where that is? It's up in heaven. The Bible says the streets are made of gold like transparent glass and the gates are made of solid pearl and the walls of the city are adorned with 12 precious stones. God lives in heaven and He created you and loves you. He says in His Word "For God so loved the world (John 3:16a), and He wants you to be up in heaven with Him. But since God is perfect and Holy, there is one thing that can never be in heaven; do you know what that is? The answer is sin.

(Turn to dark page) The dark page is for the darkness of sin. Sin is anything we say think or do that displeases God. For example, if we've told a lie, disobeyed our parents, been mean or unkind, or stolen something. We've have all done some of these things, right? The Bible says "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God"(Rom. 3:23). None of us can get to heaven on our own by doing good deeds or by trying to make ourselves behave. The Bible says, "all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6), which means that all of the good deeds that we might do to try to get to heaven are worthless in God's sight. And there is a punishment for sin, the Bible says "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23a) which is to be separated from God forever and ever in a terrible place of punishment. But God came up with a wonderful plan so our sins can be forgiven and so that we can go to heaven.

God sent His only Son Jesus, who came down from heaven and was born as a baby boy in Bethlehem. When Jesus grew up He did many miracles. He walked on the water and gave sight to the blind and raised dead people from the grave and brought them back to life. Jesus could do all of that because Jesus is God, He's our creator, so He has the power to do anything. But one day Jesus allowed some wicked men to take Him. And Jesus could have could have got away, He could have sent a whole legion of angels at His side to protect Him, but Jesus willingly let these men take Him. They whipped Him with a whip, and put a crown of thorns on His head, and then they spit on Him and called Him names. Then they made Him carry a cross up a hill and when He got to the top of the hill they nailed Him to the cross. They took a hammer and pounded nails in His hands and feet. So Jesus had to shed His blood, and that's what the red page represents (turn to red page now). Then they hung him on the cross for 3 hours until He died. Then to make sure

He was dead one of the guards threw a spear into His side. But He was already dead, “Christ died for our sins...” (1 Cor. 15:3b)—He was willing to die to take your punishment, then they put His body in a tomb and they sealed it shut with a huge rolling stone so no one could go in or out. Jesus was dead for 3 days but on the third day Jesus rose from the dead “He rose again the third day...” (1 Cor. 15:4). He appeared to the disciples and He showed them the nail prints in His hands and feet, so they knew that Jesus was back from the dead. So Jesus conquered death and the grave and came back to life. After 40 days, Jesus was taken up into the clouds and He ascended up into heaven. That is where Jesus is right now; he’s up in heaven sitting at the right hand of God the Father. So Jesus knows everything we’ve done and all of your thoughts right now because He’s our creator. Jesus did not die for anything that He Himself did, because Jesus is the only one who ever lived that never sinned, because He’s God. But Jesus took all of that punishment by dying on the cross to pay the price for all of my sins and your sins and everyone’s sins. So the Bible says “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16). So if you believe that Jesus is God’s perfect Son, that He died on the cross to pay for all of your sins, that He rose again from the dead on the third day, and if you trust in Jesus to be your Savior, He will forgive you and take away all of your dark sins (turn to dark page now) and wash them away (turn to clean page now) so that you can have everlasting life and be sure of going to heaven where the streets are made of gold (turn to gold page now). Does that make sense?

Now we can do a review. Do you remember what the Gold page represented? What is the one thing that can’t be in heaven? How many people have sinned? Why did Jesus die on the cross? Can we get to heaven just by being good?

Now I’ll show you this verse again. (Let them read this verse from your Bible, say the verse as they read it.)

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

Would you like to receive the gift of eternal life and be certain of going to heaven? In God’s word it says, “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” So I would like to lead you in a short prayer where you admit you’re a sinner and ask Jesus to be your Savior. If you say this prayer and really mean the prayer and really do trust in

Jesus to be your Savior, then you can be certain of going to heaven someday. It's not the prayer that saves you; it's trusting in Jesus that saves you. Prayer is simply how you tell God what you are doing. You must depend on Jesus alone to forgive you and give you eternal life. Go ahead and bow your head and close your eyes, and I would like you to repeat this really short prayer after me.

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I'm a sinner. By dying on the cross, You took the full punishment for all of my sins and on the third day You rose again from the dead. I accept You as my Savior, and I am now trusting in You alone to forgive me and give me the gift of everlasting life. Amen.

Now where is your home going to be someday? Up in heaven with Jesus that's right, if you really meant that prayer and have really trusted in Jesus to be your savior.

(After they say the prayer then ask them this question:) Now what are you depending on for your salvation? (If they don't know say) Who are you depending on? (Hopefully they will answer that they are depending on Jesus as their savior.)

Now that you trusted in Jesus, He wants you to grow, and the green page is for growth (turn to green page now). To grow it's good to go to church and Sunday school, to read your Bible and obey your Bible, and to tell others about Jesus. If we do something wrong Jesus wants us to pray to Him and confess our sins and He will forgive us. Because Jesus said "I will never leave you or forsake you" and that means never. And if you need any help in school or at home, just pray to Jesus and ask Him for help and He will help you.

Are you going to church anywhere? (If they say they are not going to church) We can recommend a church for you to attend if that is OK with you. (If they say yes) What is your name, address, phone number? We will have a church contact you after the Fair is over.