

If someone had to describe in a word the day and age in which we are living, the word would have to be "**NOW.**" Whatever it is, people want it **NOW** – from our food, instant coffee, soups, and T.V. dinners, to instant credit, loans, medical help, and any other kind of service rendered. It is **NOW** and only **NOW**, for only **NOW** will do. In fact, what people mean when they say **NOW** is immediately, if not sooner! People are concerned that physical things must be **NOW**. But when it comes to spiritual things and being right with God, it is **tomorrow** or **sometime later**, but not **NOW**! Why is it that such a division exists? Well, it is because when mankind is brought into this world by birth, they are all natural born sinners. "*Behold, I was shaped in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me*" (Psalm 51:5). Sin causes a person to be focused on himself and seek his own ways over God's ways. It brings division between oneself and God.

How about you?

Do you find yourself preoccupied with the physical things of this life and very little or no attention given to spiritual matters? This is the

opposite of what our Creator God wants from us. God does not want us to worry about physical things. "*Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?*" Instead He wants us to "*seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you*" (Matthew 6:25, 33). Do not be preoccupied with the things of this life, but seek God's kingdom first. Did you know that God wants you to do something **NOW**? We find that in II Corinthians 6:2b, "*Behold NOW is the accepted time, behold NOW is the day of SALVATION.*" Are you preoccupied with this temporal life to the neglect of your eternal soul? This is what you should do.

First

You must admit that when you were born into this world, you were born a natural sinner like your parents. "*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23). Because we are all born sinners, we are in spiritual darkness. "*Men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil*" (John 3:19b). This explains why people are

so preoccupied with sinful pleasures. They are spiritually in the dark and do not see the need to prepare for the life to come. To put off God's **NOW** for your **NOW** will bring about tragic results in this life and the next. "*The way of transgressors [sinners] is hard*" (Proverbs 13:15b). "*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*" (Romans 6:23).

Second

You must realize that the Lord Jesus wants to give you a free gift and raise you out of your sinful spiritual darkness. Jesus said, "*I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.*" (John 11:25, 26). The Gospel is God's good news concerning man's sinful condition. This Gospel is summarized in I Corinthians 15:3-4, "*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.*" The Lord Jesus died for our sins to provide forgiveness for us, and His resurrection proved that sin's penalty was paid. He can