

## 1 In search of my inner soul



In search of my inner soul of my life's existence now that I have turned 68 on my May birthday, I have some sobering thoughts that I would like to share! I had a dear brother help me yesterday with my car and truck repairs.

I was not aware that he had paid for some of the parts that we needed for the repairs. When I confronted him the next day about what he did for us, he simply said, "I just wanted to bless you and Lady Karin", and that is exactly what Carlos did. He is a true blessing in so many ways and reminds me of what a loving brother in Christ that he really is.

When I think about the love my wife Lady Karin showers me with every day and her acts of kindness and compassion, it humbles me to my inner soul. What an act of kindness and sacrifice on his part. That made me stop and think about my life in more detail.

Do others see my life as acts of kindness and love too?  
Do they see Christ in me?

I have learned so much about true love, kindness and sacrifice by marrying my precious wife, Lady Karin. I thank God for her daily. Oh, how I want to be a blessing and not a burden to anyone.

As I look at the lives of Carlos and Lady Karin and others who have chosen to love me, it makes me stop and reflect.

Have I been a blessing to them in return?  
Have I been Christ like to them?

"We are already in prison... we just don't see the bars", Keanu Reeves said. We are not as in control of our lives as we think we

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are. The red pill was for waking up from comfort and our blind routines that make us feel real when they are not.

Waking up from the comfort of blind routines that only masks the reality of who we really are in the sight of an Almighty God and from systems that reward obedience and punish curiosity. There is a haunting that you cannot fake, and it is in all of us which echoes the question:

Does my life matter and if so, how? Why am I here?

The Bible tells us in, **John 3:30-35 KJV 30 He must increase, but I must decrease. 31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. 32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. 33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. 34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.**

The question then is, "Is Christ increasing in my life and am I decreasing?" If not, why not? What do I need to do to make this happen at a deeper level that will really matter. Life really is about daily loving and honoring God in every way and in everything we do.

The question arises: Am I really honoring God every day in every way? If not, then why not? The truth to life is that I am only passing through. It is not my goal to stay here.

We are trapped by our desires and illusions, and liberation comes through awakening and mindfulness and realizing that we are the

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creation of GOD himself, and our purpose in this life is to love Him with all our heart, mind, strength, soul and body.

**Loving God with all one's heart, soul, mind, and strength is central (Mark 12:30).**

The question arises on a very personal level, am I truly loving God with all my heart, soul, mind and strength? If not, then why not? How can I change it to be more real?

Today we are monitored, controlled, medicated and told to ignore our instincts to get to the truth about everything. We often fight the illusion that deep down everything is fine, but you know in your soul that it isn't. I have performed so many funerals as a minister and always thought what was left undone, unsaid unexperienced by that person.

What would have been different if they identified with the truth when they had the chance and the reality that we really are only passing through? Time here on Earth is so very short and we waste so much on the illusions that we create which we call living, or we call our life.

Instead of experiencing life in all its details we daily see our yesterday faded away into the background of the life we lived yesterday. The question is:

What really matters even after we are gone?

When looking at the love that God has for me, it crushes my soul to look back and see how selfish and unaware of what life could have been if I had loved God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength with every breath I had.

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**Hebrews 9:27-28 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: 28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.**

Christ's life has made a difference in and for my life. Does my life make a difference for others as His life did, does and will do, for all eternity?

Billy Graham once said: **"One of the Bible's greatest truths is that when we turn to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith, God forgives our sins and gives us the gift of eternal life. We no longer need to fear death or Hell or judgment, because Christ endured them for us. As the Bible says, "He forgave us all our sins" (Colossians 2:13).**

At the same time, the Bible tells us that someday each of us will stand before God. If we have denied Him and refused to follow Him, we will be judged for our unbelief.

God will say, **"Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).**

These are sobering words, and they should make every one of us stop and be sure of our commitment to Christ. If we know Christ, however, our salvation is already assured. We'll still stand before God – but not to be judged for our salvation. Instead, we will stand before God to be rewarded for our good deeds that we did in His name.

The Bible tells us that, **"We must all appear before the**

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**judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).**

These too are sobering words, reminding us that we are accountable to God for the way we live as believers. Thank God for His love for you – a love so great that He sent His Son to die for you. "Now, respond to His love by living for Him every day. Billy Graham said."

I wonder what others may say when I have taken my last breath here. Did I really make a difference, even for a moment in time or just made a mess?

I am determined from this day forth to make a difference now with this life that I have and to do everything I can to honor God and give Him the glory and to be a blessing to everyone that I can.

These reflections often bring clarity—what truly mattered wasn't wealth, status, or achievements, but love, kindness, and authenticity and doing good to everyone.

Last thought: It is time to wake up from our fake social media lives and realize we only have a short time left to enjoy the people, the world, our pets and so much more that we take for granted.

**Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.**

All I can say is: that I am so sorry for so many decisions that I had made in the past that were not the best decisions in my life, but now I am so grateful to my creator for opening my eyes, my mind, my heart, my understanding of what is really important for

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the years that God has given me up till now and the days that I will be given until the end of this life.

I like what Keanu Reeves of the matrix finally admitted:

**“if the Matrix was never fiction what part of your reality have you mistaken for freedom”.**

My words now are like the publican in **Luke 18:13 “And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.”**

It’s a sobering thought for many, but the reality is that after you die you will most likely be totally forgotten after three generations, so live life now and live it to the fullest.

Take time to enjoy the sunsets with your mate as we do. Dance often with your mate. Laugh as much as you can.

Love serving God and others with all your heart. The moments you have now will one day be only memories for others. Do not take your breaths that God is giving to you for granted. Breathe daily for the glory of God. Make your life count for God and for everyone that you can.

Love you all! My mission from now on is to show that I love you all, every day, in every way no matter what and in some way somehow that you may have seen a loving Christ in me.

**Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

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## **God's Simple Plan of Salvation**

See also <https://lyitl.org/Repentance>

My Friend: I am asking you the most important question of life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer.

**The question is:** Are you really saved? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but are you saved? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die?

God says to go to Heaven, you must be born again.

**In John 3:7, Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again."**

In the Bible God gives us the plan of how to be born again which means to be saved. His plan is simple!

**You can be saved today. How?**

**First, my friend, you must realize you are a sinner.**

**"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).**

Because you are a sinner, you are condemned to death.

**"For the wages [payment] of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).**

**This includes eternal separation from God in Hell.**

**" . . . it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).**

But God loved you so much He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to bear your sin and die in your place.

**" . . . He hath made Him [Jesus, Who knew no sin] to be sin for us . . . that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).**

Jesus had to shed His blood and die.

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**“For the life of the flesh is in the blood” (Lev. 17:11). “ . . . without shedding of blood is no remission [pardon]” (Hebrews 9:22).**

**“ . . . God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8).**

Although we cannot understand how, God said my sins and your sins were laid upon Jesus and He died in our place. He became our substitute. It is true. God cannot lie.

My friend, **“God . . . commandeth all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30).** This repentance is a change of mind that agrees with God that one is a sinner, and also agrees with what Jesus did for us on the Cross.

**In Acts 16:30-31, the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas: “ . . . ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ And they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved . . .”**

Simply believe on Him as the one who bore your sin, died in your place, was buried, and whom God resurrected. His resurrection powerfully assures that the believer can claim everlasting life when Jesus is received as Savior.

**“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name” (John 1:12).**

**“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13).**

Whosoever includes you. Shall be saved means not maybe, nor can, but shall be saved. Surely you realize that you are a sinner.



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Right now, wherever you are, repenting, lift your heart to God in prayer.

**In Luke 18:13, the sinner prayed: "God be merciful to me a sinner."**

**Just pray: "Oh God, I know I am a sinner and because of my sin I cannot be in the presence of a Holy God that you are. I believe Jesus was my substitute when He died on the Cross. I believe His shed blood, death, burial, and resurrection were for me and that He is the Son of God. I now receive Him as my Savior. I thank You for the forgiveness of my sins, the gift of salvation and everlasting life, because of Your merciful grace. Amen."**

Just take God at His word and claim His salvation by faith. Believe, and you will be saved. No church, no lodge, no good work can save you. Remember, God does the saving. All of it!

God's simple plan of salvation is: You are a sinner. Therefore, unless you believe on Jesus Who died in your place, you will spend eternity in Hell. If you believe in Him as your crucified, buried, and risen Savior, you receive forgiveness for all your sins and His gift of eternal salvation by faith.

You say, "Surely, it cannot be that simple." Yes, it is that simple! It is scriptural. It is God's plan. My friend, believe on Jesus and receive Him as Savior today.

If His plan is not perfectly clear, read this tract over and over, without laying it down, until you understand it. Your soul is worth more than all the world.

**"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).**

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Be sure you are saved. If you lose your soul, you miss Heaven and lose all. Please! Let God save you this very moment.

God's power will save you, keep you saved, and enable you to live a victorious Christian life.

**"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).**

Do not trust your feelings. They change. Stand on God's promises. They never change. After you are saved, there are three things to practice daily for spiritual growth:

**Pray** — you talk to God.

**Read** your Bible — God talks to you.

**Witness** — you talk for God.

You should be baptized in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ as a public testimony of your salvation and then unite with a Bible-believing church without delay.

**"Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord . . . ." (2 Timothy 1:8)**

**"Whosoever therefore shall confess [testify of] Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).**

**Romans 10:9-13**

**<sup>9</sup> That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**

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**10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

**11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.**

**12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.**

**13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

**Here is how you can accept Christ into your life:**

- **Acknowledge** that your you are a sinner before a Holy God.  
(*I am a sinner*)
- **Be willing to change** your heart and attitude toward God.  
(*Repentance toward God*)
- **Believe that Jesus Christ died for your sin debt** on the cross and rose from the grave and that Jesus is alive and will save you if you ask Him to.  
(*Be saved by faith – simply ask Jesus the Christ to save you.*)
- **Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to save you.**  
(*Receive him as **Lord and Savior***)

**We suggest a prayer like this one:**

Heavenly and Almighty God, I come before you humbled and sorrowful, aware of my sin against you, and I am ready to **\*repent toward You.**

\*Metanoia – change your mind and heart about God and sin.

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I confess with my mouth the Lord Jesus Christ, and I believe with my heart that Jesus died for my sins, paid my sin debt, and arose on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day and that Jesus the Christ is alive in Heaven with You. **I now call up the Lord Jesus Christ to save me.**

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me and giving me everlasting life with you.

**Holy Spirit**, help me to walk in your way, leaving behind my old sinful life and starting a new life in you. I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior.

**Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**

**2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.**

**The Holy Spirit is referred to as the "deposit," "seal," and "earnest" (earnest – down payment) in the hearts of Christians.**

**(2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).**

**The Holy Spirit is God's seal on His people**, His claim on us as His very own. The Greek word translated "**earnest**" in these passages is **arrhabōn** which means "**a pledge**," that is, part of the purchase money or property given in advance as security for the rest.

The gift of the Spirit to believers is a down payment on our heavenly inheritance, which Christ has promised us and secured for us at the cross. It is because the Spirit has sealed us that we are assured of our salvation. No one can break the seal of God.

The Holy Spirit is given to believers as a “first installment” to assure us that our full inheritance as children of God will be delivered. The Holy Spirit is given to us to confirm to us that we belong to God who grants to us His Spirit as a gift, just as grace and faith are gifts (**Ephesians 2:8-9**).

Through the gift of the Spirit, God renews and sanctifies us. He produces in our hearts those feelings, hopes, and desires which are evidence that we are accepted by God, that we are regarded as His adopted children, that our hope is genuine, and that our redemption and salvation are sure in the same way that a seal guarantees a will or an agreement.

God grants to us His Holy Spirit as the certain pledge that we are His forever and shall be saved in the last day. The proof of the Spirit’s presence is His operations on the heart which produce repentance, the fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**), conformity to God’s commands and will, a passion for prayer and praise, and love for His people.

These things are the evidence that the Holy Spirit has renewed the heart and that the Christian is sealed for the day of redemption.

So it is through the Holy Spirit and His teachings and guiding power that we are sealed and confirmed until the day of redemption, complete and free from the corruption of sin and the grave.

Because we have the seal of the Spirit in our hearts, we can live joyfully, confident of our sure place in a future that holds unimaginable glories.

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### **1 John 5:9-13**

**<sup>9</sup> If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.**

**<sup>10</sup> He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.**

**<sup>11</sup> And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.**

**<sup>12</sup> He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.**

**<sup>13</sup> These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have **eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**

**John 10:28-30 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.**

**<sup>29</sup> My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.**

**<sup>30</sup> I and my Father are one.**

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