

## Christians Are Sitting Pretty

No. 56

### Introduction.

I. **On one occasion a preacher delivered a dynamic sermon on the joys of the Christian life.** He told how the sins of the Christian are washed away and discussed the other wonderful blessings which come to the child of God. A boy who heard the sermon came to the preacher at the close of the service and said, "That was a good sermon. Christians are sitting pretty, aren't they?"

II. That was a strange way to put it, but the boy was right! Christians are indeed sitting pretty!

A. **Doctors** tell us that in the first few minutes of a baby's life at least forty changes take place.

B. And as soon as a person is born again, some wonderful changes, some wonderful blessings come to him.

I. **They Come To Know God** - Christians are sitting pretty because they have come to know God.

A. A Christian man said his **little boy was playing in the yard** with some other boys. He overheard their conversation. One little boy said, "My dad knows the mayor of the city." Another little boy said, "My dad knows the governor." Then his son said, "That's nothing, my dad knows God."

B. This is true of every Christian.

1. He has come to know the living God of heaven. He has been adopted into the family of God.

2. He is a son of God, a citizen of heaven, an heir of all God's rich and wonderful blessings.

II. **What God Has Done With Their Sins** - Christians are sitting pretty because of what God has done with their sins.

A. God has **forgiven our sins**.

1. **All of our lives we have been sinning.** There is a big heavenly record against us and we cannot erase it. But what does God do when we become Christians? He takes the heavenly pen, dips it in the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and writes one big word across the page, the word "forgiven."

2. **When God forgives our sins, He completely forgets them.** He erases them from His book of remembrance. We do not need to worry and fret about these sins. We will not give account of them in the judgment. They are forever forgiven.

B. Not only does God forgive us of our past sins, He forgives us of our daily sins. And, oh, how we need forgiveness of our daily sins.

1. **Most of us remember the day our baptism.** I know I do. We remember the good feeling we had knowing that all our sins had been forgiven by the blood of Jesus. The good feeling was soon lost. We found we could not live above sin and every day we sinned. The feelings of guilt returned and

a concern if we stood condemned again. But thanks be to God this was not so.

2. He forgives of our daily sins if we do two things. (1 Jn. 1:7, 9).

III. **They Have Christ As Their Daily Companion** - Christians are sitting pretty because they have Christ as their daily companion.

A. Jesus said. (Matt. 28:18-19).

1. Jesus closed the great commission by saying, "And lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world." (Matt. 28:20).
2. Jesus not only saves us from our past and daily sins, but He continues with us as a Divine Companion.

B. I once read about **a man who was drowning**. Another man leaped into the water and rescued him. But when the people looked around later for the man's rescuer, he was gone.

1. It is not that way with Christ. He saves us, but He never leaves us. He walks by our side every day, guiding, blessing and comforting us.
2. He says. (Heb. 13:5).

IV. **They Have Come To Know The Abundant Life** - Christians are sitting pretty because they have come to know the abundant life. (Jn. 10:10).

A. A **certain brewery used this slogan** in advertising their beer: "Know The Real Joy Of Good Living." They claimed if you learn how to drink their beer you will really be living. So they said, "Beer belongs." Their ads show a picture of a man **coming home** in the evening and his wife had the beer ready for him. They pictures **some guests** sitting at the dinner table and the beer is on the table. They pictured a **barbecue in the backyard** with everyone drinking beer. They pictured a group **gathered after a football game** where the beer is passed around. This was their idea of abundant living.

B. There is a joke about **a rich Texan** who was asked when he laid dying if he had any last requests to make. He said, "Yes, when I die, bury me in my gold Cadillac. So when he died they put him in his gold Cadillac and lowered the car into a big hole. A certain man who came to the funeral said, "Man, that's real living!" Yes, wealth and affluence are to some people their idea of good living.

C. The abundant life does not, however, come through beer nor does it come through wealth.

1. The abundant life comes by separating ourselves from the world and by living in close fellowship with God. The dedicated, devoted Christian knows joy that the world can neither give nor understand.
2. **A man who was 84 years old was asked on his birthday** by one of his grandchildren how old he was. He said that he was only four years of age. He said, "I spend 80 years in the service of Satan. I have known Christ only 4 years. Therefore I say that I am only 4 years of age. I never really and truly began to live until I met Jesus."
3. We often hear life begins at 40, or 50 or 60, but really it begins when a person meets Christ and

fully devotes his life to the Savior.

V. **God Helps Them Overcome Temptation** - Christians are sitting pretty because God helps them overcome temptation.

A. All of us are bombarded with temptations.

1. We are tempted every day to yield to sin and to follow the life that leads to misery here and hereafter.
2. It is hard to resist, but James says. (Jas. 4:7, 8).

B. God promises that if we will resist Satan and draw close to Him that He will help us overcome temptation.

1. The trouble with some of us is that **we do not look up**. We look North and South and East and West and even down. We look everywhere but up.
2. God has help for those who are sorely tried, but it is only in looking up to Him that we receive this help and strength.

VI. **God Comforts Them In The Hour Of Trouble And Sorrow** -Christians are sitting pretty because God comforts them in the hour of trouble and sorrow.

A. **A man tells of going hunting in the woods with his little boy**. The sun seemed to drop out of sight, clouds arose, the wind began to blow and the night-birds began to cry out. They little boy was frightened and said, "Dad, have you ever been here before?" The father answered, "Yes." The boy asked, "And do you know the way out so that we can get home?" The father replied, "Yes, son, I know the way out." The boy then gave a big sigh of relief.

B. Oh, we are often in the dark forest of trouble and sorrow, but God says, "I know the way out. Just put your hand in Mine and I will bring you safely through." Yes, the Christian can look up to God when trouble and sorrow come, and get help.

1. The **psalmist** said. (Psa. 23:4; 46:1; 121:1, 2).
2. **Peter** said. (1 Pet. 5:7).

VII. **What God Will Do About Their Future** - Christians are sitting pretty because of what God will do about their future. (Jn. 14:1-3).

A. Jesus has promised us a wonderful home in heaven. This will be a place of perfect peace and a place of perfect happiness that is more beautiful than we comprehend or imagine in this life.

B. **One time four little girls, who were living in the Orient**, were playing in their living room. A bomb fell on their house and in a few seconds the frightened little girls came out of the wrecked house with not a scratch on them. The youngest one said, "God saved us and no body was killed, but if the next bomb hits us and kills us it be all right, for we will go to haven and be with Jesus and there will be no more wars and guns up there."

1. Those who trust in God and His Son have this blessed assurance. They know that their citizenship is in heaven. They have a perfect home prepared for them.

2. Listen to what John wrote. (Rev. 7:9-17).

**REV 7:9** After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

**REV 7:10** and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, ¶ "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

**REV 7:11** And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

**REV 7:12** saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

**REV 7:13** And one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and from where have they come?"

**REV 7:14** And I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**REV 7:15** "For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne shall spread His tabernacle over them.

**REV 7:16** "They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

**REV 7:17** for the Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes. "

## **Conclusion.**

I. **During the Civil War a wounded boy laid in his tent.** His mother traveled a great distance to see him, but the hospital authorities would not permit her or anyone else to go into his tent. She could hear the groans of her son and it broke her heart. She reached her and under the side of the tent and placed it on the boy's head. The groaning ceased. The boy said, "That feels like my mother's hand." And peace and quietness flooded his soul.

II. **Is your life tossed about in sin and strife?** Are you groaning under the burden of sin. If so, Jesus is just waiting to lay His hand on you and give you peace. He waits now to forgive your sins and plant your feet on the road that leads to heaven.

A. Will you go on without Christ and die lost? Or will you let Him be your Savior?

B. The choice is yours. Your happiness and destiny depend on the choice you make. Come now and confess your faith in Christ and be baptized for the remission of your sins! Come as we sing.

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