



WEEKLY SERMON

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Message: The Family of God - #11

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Text: Matthew 20:20-28

“The Old Rugged Cross”

Although written many years ago, "The Old Rugged Cross" is still without a doubt, one of the most used and requested songs in Christian church music. Here is a first-hand account of the writing of this hymn from the author George Bennard.

“John 3:16 had always been a favorite verse of mine. The more I quoted it, instead of becoming worn and thread bare, it became more alive and seemed to take on a deeper meaning. But always there was with it a vision of a cross - not a beautiful gold-colored one but a rough and rugged one - a cross of shame stained with the blood of God's only begotten Son shed for me.

One day as I was again reviewing this scene in my mind's eye, I began to compose a song. A complete melody really came in a matter of minutes, but all I could get of the words was, "I'll Cherish the Old Rugged Cross" - nothing more.

For the next several months I would take it out and work on it polishing the melody and words, but with it all I was not satisfied. I did by then have the completed chorus but the words of the stanzas did not seem to gel right.

During this time I had meetings in several churches located in the southwest part of Michigan. At both of these places I sang what I had completed of the song and the people seemed to respond favorably but I still was not satisfied.

It was after my meetings that I took some evangelistic services in New York State. In these meetings I felt led to major on the theme of the cross. At each service many were coming to Christ claiming the finished work at Calvary as their right to Eternal life. More and more the Lord was showing me the true meaning of His love as shown at Calvary.

The thrilling experiences of these meetings, so overwhelmed me with the importance of the cross, that when I returned to Albion, Michigan, I took the manuscript I had been trying to finish for those several months. I sat down at the kitchen table in the parsonage and immediately was able to rewrite the stanzas of the song without so much as one word failing to fall into place. I called in my wife, took out my guitar, and sang the completed song to her. She was thrilled!

I then sent the manuscript to Charles H. Gabriel in Chicago, asking him to harmonize it so that I could have a music plate made and publish it. When Mr. Gabriel returned the finished manuscript he enclosed a note saying, **'You will hear from this song.'** And when I played and sang it for some friends they too said, **'God has given you a song that will never die, it has moved our hearts as no other song ever has.'**

The kind remarks were appreciated very much but I realized then, as I do now, that I could take no credit for the song, for you see I really hadn't written it - I was merely the instrument that God used.

"The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary.

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 't was on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies, at last, I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.

In closing notice Revelation 14:3, **"And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth."**

In ***HIS*** Amazing Grace because of the Old Rugged Cross,
Pastor David Miklas

“My Heavenly Father knows what is best. He makes no Mistakes.”

When we think of the greatness of God, we must call to mind the **139th Psalm**, where the major theme is the **WONDER OF GOD**. This Psalm is not just a lecture on theology. Rather it is the record of what happens to a believer when he takes time to think on the **WONDER OF OUR GREAT GOD**. In verses 1-18, David shares with us three wonders of God's greatness, and applies these truths to our lives.

FIRST: In verses 1-6 he tells us about the WONDER OF GOD'S KNOWLEDGE.

“O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. (2) Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. (3) Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. (4) For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. (5) Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. (6) Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.”

In theological terms this is called the **OMNISCIENCE** of God. It simply means God knows everything. If God is God at all, He certainly must know everything; otherwise, He would be a "limited God," and thus not God at all. Right now Ruth and Tim, God has knowledge of your hurt and pain.

SECOND: In verses 7-12 He tells us about the WONDER OF GOD'S PRESENCE.

“Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? (8) If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. (9) If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; (10) Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. (11) If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. (12) Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.”

In theological terms this is called the **OMNIPRESENCE** of God. Think about it, the truth of the omnipresence of God is most **FRIGHTENING** to an unbeliever but **COMFORTING** to a Christian. No matter where we are, **GOD IS THERE**. The last stanza of the Hymn "The Mighty Power of God" reads, "and everywhere that man can be thou God art present **THERE**."

THIRD: In verses 13-18, he tells us about the WONDER OF GOD'S POWER. In theological terms this is called the **OMNIPOTENCE** of God. This is saying God is all powerful. In describing **OMNIPOTENCE**, the Psalmist might have used God's vast creation as an example of God's great power. Instead, he used the miracle of birth. In verses 13-18 we read,

“For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. (14) I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. (15) My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. (16) Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. (17) How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! (18) If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.”

These verses make it clear. God, **THE AUTHOR OF LIFE**, is personally concerned with the **CONCEPTION, DEVELOPMENT and BIRTH** of each child.

These verses are saying, before God formed me in the womb, before conception, **HE KNEW WHO I WAS**. David says God knew all about him and had a plan for every one of his days before he was even born. Even though in many ways, the question is, Why would God allow a baby to die in the womb? This part of God's plan brings many questions and few answers.

The Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 29:29, "**The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever ...**" Yes, certain things are only for God to know, but what he has given to us can help during this time.

It is only natural that you would be asking in your heart the question, "**God, Why our baby?**" That question is rather difficult to answer, except to say that you need to rest in the sovereignty of God. Ron Hamilton wrote the words to this wonderful hymn "**Rejoice in the Lord.**" (1) Copyright 1978 by Musical Ministries in Praise

**God never moves without purpose or plan
When trying His servant and molding a man.
Give thanks to the Lord though your testing seems long;
In darkness He giveth a song.**

**I could not see through the shadows ahead;
So I looked at the cross of my Savior instead.
I bowed to the will of the Master that day;
Then peace came and tears fled away.**

**Now I can see testing comes from above;
God strengthens His children and purges in love.
My Father knows best, and I trust in His care;
through purging more fruit I will bear.**

**O rejoice in the Lord, He makes no mistakes.
He knoweth the end of each path that I take.
For when I am tried and purified,
I shall come forth as gold.**

There are two phrases in the above hymn I again call your attention to.

FIRST: "My Father knows best" God does know what is best for our lives and in our lives.

SECOND: "He makes no mistakes" We may in our minds and in our hearts think, God you made a mistake. God did not make a mistake, for He knows what is best not only for our lives but also for your baby.

Most of us know intellectually our God makes no mistakes and He always does that which is righteous and good for His children. However, many times it takes a trial to make His goodness a reality in our hearts. We need to live in the truth of what someone said, "**Did it ever occur to you that nothing has ever occurred to God?**" Let me share with you several thoughts about Jesus and children, in answer to the question "**God, Why our baby?**"

Jesus loves little children. In that precious verse we often quote from John 3:16, I believe God includes children as well as adults, "**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**" This is also expressed in the words of the little children's song:

**Jesus loves me! this I know,
For the Bible tells me so:
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but He is strong.**

Jesus loves me! He who died,
Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in.

Jesus loves me! He will stay,
Close beside me all the way;
Thou hast bled and died for me,
I will henceforth live for Thee.

Jesus blesses little children. In the passage found in Matthew 19, Jesus was at His busiest but He took time out to bless the little children. Jesus saw the significances and importance of the little children. In verse 13 we read, “**Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.**” On this occasion parents wanted to bring their little children to see Jesus, but the disciples said, “**No, don't bother the Master with these children. Leave Him alone.**” But Jesus stopped and in essence said, “**No, no, do not keep the little children away,**” for in verse 14 we read, “**Suffer little children (and I believe even the infants) and forbid them not to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.**”

Jesus needed little children to help Him in His ministry. In the Gospel of John 6:1-13 we read the story where Jesus fed the 5000, beside the Sea of Galilee. He could have sent the disciples to the local market to purchase bread for the crowd. However Jesus did not choose to do so. Instead there was a little boy who offered his lunch basket of five barley loaves and two small fishes. It was from this little boy's lunch that Jesus fed the hungry multitudes.’

Jesus even compared conversion to a little child. In Matthew 18:2-5 we read, “**And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, (3) And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. (4) Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (5) And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.**”

In answer to your question “**God, Why our baby?**” I could not tell you for sure why this happened. However, let me project a few thoughts as to why this may have happened.

One reason is, God needs babies in Heaven. Listen there is just enough of Heaven in caring for a little baby to know that it would not be Heaven without little babies. I think sometime God has to reach down to earth and say, “**Now I need some babies to make heaven happy.**”

Sometimes God reaches down and **honors** a family by taking their child and placing their child in Heaven. Though your hearts are heavy, in a sense, it is a real honor just as much as if your child were chosen to be the general of the armies.

Of all the homes, in the world, where there are babies and children, God has said, “**I have chosen your child. I want to spread as much joy in Heaven as I have spread in your home with this little one.**” What an honor has been bestowed

Another possibility is, God sees farther than we see, so much farther! God knows what would have happened if the child had lived to be 7, 8, 10, 20, 30, 40 or older. We do not know the possibilities of the future, but God does. How many times have you heard it said, “**Now, Mama knows best**”? Over the years, my children have said “**But Dad, why?**” And I said to them, “**Dad right now knows best, sees things you don't see, and knows things you can't possibly know right at this moment.**”

**Your baby will never know the sorrow you know today.
Your baby will never weep at a love one's graveside.
Your baby will never have any sickness, shed a tear or have a broken heart.
Your baby will never wonder about the sorrows of life.**

Here is a person who is living with Christ and is escaping all the heartaches and worries. Maybe God looked down the path, saw what was ahead in the future and said, **"I think it would be a little better to bring him home to heaven."**

Now a few words about your baby that you will want to know.

The first thing, your baby is in Heaven today. You can rest assured of that. As sure as there is a God in Heaven, the baby is there. There was a day in the life of David in the Old Testament when his son died. In II Samuel 12:23, when David knew the child had died he uttered these words, **"But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."** Notice David said, **"I shall go to him"** indicating he will see this child in heaven.

The second thing is one day you can see the baby again! Having by faith believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you too will be in Heaven one day.

Jesus said to a rich ruler in John 3:16-17, 36, **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (36) He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."**

At the grave side of Lazarus Jesus said to Martha in John 11:25-26, **"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live (26) And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? (27) She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."**

In I John 5:11-13 we read, **"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. (12) He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. (13) 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."**

Of course there will be times of sorrow and you will miss the baby. But compared to eternity, a few years is like a drop in the bucket. As the moments come and go, it won't be long until you see him again. So in the meantime believe that **"God knows what is best,"** and remember, **"He makes no mistakes."**

For a moment, become a little child. Look up to your Heavenly Father and say,

"Father, we don't understand it, but we are not going to doubt You. We don't know why. It looks to us like an unreasonable thing, but You are so much higher than we are. Your thoughts are so much greater than our thoughts. Your knowledge is so much greater than our knowledge. Your love is so much greater than our love that we are not going to doubt You."

Let the words to this very familiar children's song, you have sung often in the past, reach into your soul as you read them again.

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

What has God said that can help with this pain? In Psalm 34:17-19 we read,

“The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. (18) The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. (19) Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delievereth him out of them all.”

Here David specifically describes the righteous. Those who follow God’s right ways at times will cry out to the Lord with a **“broken heart”** and will be delivered. God understands the sadness you feel today but He does not want this to continue endlessly. He wants to bring you through it; this will not happen overnight but in time a healing can take place.

How does God do this in our lives? Not by filling them up with other activities, people and relationships to fill the emptiness, but by filling them up with Him.

It is rediscovering Jesus is all we need and He is everything we need.

It is going to Him when the pain hurts.

It is crying out to Him when the night is long and sleep won’t come. It is waiting for Him when the tears will not stop flowing. Going to Jesus you will begin to see Him bring about healing in your life.

It is remembering our God is a good God. Our God is always good even in the midst of our sorrow and pain. Our God is a loving God and everything He does, even the death of your baby, happened by the hand of a good God. Not that death is good because it is sad and painful.

The healing will continue when you are able to continuously see all that God has done in your life, and daily give thanks to him for all He has given to you, to include telling other people what you are thankful for in your life.

The healing continues when you are able to experience God using you to bring comfort to someone who is experiencing the same sorrow and pain you have felt. Paul said in II Corinthians 1:3-4,

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort: (4) Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

There is hope because God wants to heal the broken-hearted. God is the God of all comfort and he offers that today.

In I Peter 4:12-13 we read,

“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: (13) But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings: that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.”

Peter was saying, “Friends when life gets really difficult, don’t jump to the conclusion God isn’t on the throne. He is taking you through a refining process, with glory just around the corner.”

Many years ago I came across this poem from an author I cannot recall:

**My Father's way may twist and turn,
My heart may throb and ache,
But in my soul I'm glad I know,
He maketh no mistake.**

**My cherished plans may go astray,
My hopes my fade away.
But still I'll trust my Lord to lead
For He doth know the way.
The night may be dark and it may seem,
That day will never break,
I'll put my faith, my all in Him,
He maketh no mistake.**

**There's so much now I cannot see,
My eyesight far too dim,
But come what may, I'll simply trust
And leave it all to Him.
For by and by the mist will lift,
And plain it all He'll make.
Through all the way, the dark to me,
He made not one mistake.**

Throughout life there are times when the path ahead is very scary and unclear. However, it is good to have such a calming reminder of who is in control of each turn and twist of our lives.

Psalm 18:30, "**As for God, His way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.**"

Proverbs 3:5-6, "***Trust in the LORD with all thine heart: and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.***"

Romans 11:33, "***O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!***"

God has no uncertainty. He just wants us to follow Him through the winding road even when the future is not clear or able to be envisioned. When God asks us to step out in faith, and the way seems unclear to us, He will make the way clear as we follow Him.

Now may this closing story and hymn bring comfort to you and keep you in perfect peace knowing that "**My Father who knows what is best, makes no mistakes.**"

In Psalm 46:1 we read, "**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**" A biblical understanding of God is an assured comfort in uncertain times, a sound hope for humanities deepest questions. One can hardly pass over haunting tragedies in the life of hymnist Horatio Spafford without pausing to ask, "**How can a life go through so much and yet stand so firmly upon the certainty of God?**" Shortly after the death of his four daughters, he wrote the hymn "**It is Well with My Soul**". Here is his story.

Horatio Spafford had known peaceful and happy days as a successful attorney in Chicago. He was the father of four daughters, an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and a loyal friend and supporter of D.L. Moody and other evangelical leaders of his day. Then, a series of calamities began, starting with the great Chicago fire of 1871 which wiped out the family's extensive real estate investments. When Mr. Moody and his music associate, Ira Stankey, left for Great Britain for an evangelistic campaign, Mr. Spafford decided to lift the spirits of his family by taking them on a vacation to Europe. He also planned to assist in the Moody-Stankey meetings there.

In November 1873, Mr. Spafford was detained by urgent business, but he sent his wife and four daughters as scheduled on the **S.S. Ville du Havre**, planning to join them soon. Halfway across the Atlantic, the ship was struck by an English vessel and sank in 12 minutes. All four of the Spafford daughters, Tanetta, Maggie, Annie and Bessie, were among the 226 who drowned. Mrs. Spafford was among the few who were miraculously saved.

Horatio Spafford stood hour after hour on the deck of the ship carrying him to rejoin his sorrowing wife in Cardiff, Wales. When the ship passed the approximate place where his precious daughters had drowned, Horatio Spafford received sustaining comfort from God that enabled him to write, **“When sorrows like sea billows roll... It is well with my soul”**. What a picture of our hope!

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll -
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is will with my soul.

Tho Satan should buffet, tho trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
and shed His own blood for my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so” it is well with my soul.

Perhaps you are a parent or grandparent. “Where will you spend eternity?” We need to realize how few days we do have to live on this earth before our lives give way to death. Just about the time you begin living, you begin dying. Youth disappears so quickly and we wonder where the years went.

In Psalms 90:9-10 we read, **“For all our DAYS are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”**

Psalms 103:14-16, **“For He knoweth my frame; He remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourished. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place of it shall know it no more.”**

Life is SHORT, but God is ETERNAL. Life is UNCERTAIN, unless we know the God of CERTAINTY. Every step we take is a march toward the grave. O how thankful we are that God has prepared a way to heaven. Praise God the mystery of death and the sting of death has been vanquished with Christ.

In John 3:16-17 we read, **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”**

In these verses we see the NATURE of God’s love. “God so loved the world that he GAVE.” The love of God found in John 3:16 is the greatest story ever told to a listening ear. In Romans 5:8 we read, **“But God commendeth His LOVE toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.”** God proved His love by giving His very best. My friend, there is no way to estimate the cost of, our **“great salvation.”** Herein is the Love of God on Calvary, where **“He spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all...”**

I stand amazed in the presence, Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how He could LOVE me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

How marvelous, How wonderful! and my song shall ever be:
How marvelous, How wonderful! Is my Saviour's LOVE for me!

In these verses we see the **DESIGN** of God's love, "That whosoever believeth on Him should not PERISH." In dozens of scriptures all through the Bible, salvation is promised to those that believe. In John 5:24 we read, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and BELIEVETH on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation (that is judgment); but is passed from death unto life."

In these verses we see the **BENEFIT** of God's love, "...but have EVERLASTING LIFE." This is what God imparts to each and every one of us who by faith takes Jesus as our Savior - "EVERLASTING LIFE". In Romans 6:23 we read, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is ETERNAL LIFE through Jesus Christ our Lord."

In John 3:36 we read, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." Here we discover two very, very important phrases.

One of the most meaningful and glorious phrases so often heard from the lips of our Lord Jesus Christ was, "eternal life".

On the other hand, one of the most awful and appalling phrases ever uttered is that other phrase found in John 3:36, "the wrath of God".

This morning, it is between these two phrases, the unutterably glorious, "eternal life" and the measurably and unspeakably awful "wrath of God", that each of us is called to make his choice.

My friend, Heaven is not a place where everybody is going. It's not a place you deserve because of who you might be in life or how good you have been in this life.

My friend, time is short. Eternity is long. Heaven is an eternal gift Jesus paid for at the cross of Calvary and now offers it to you free, but only if you believe. Jesus said in John 11:25-26, "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, believeth thou this."

If God has spoken to your heart after reading the sermon, "My Heavenly Father knows what is best. He makes no Mistakes." right now talk to God about what He has spoken to you. Today, ask God to give you someone to whom you can bring comfort or encouragement.

Do you have the assurance that one day you will go to heaven? If you have no assurance that you know Jesus Christ, then I trust you will decide to accept Him as your personal Savior. The Bible tells us in

Acts 16:31, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..."

Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This prayer is here for those who need to ask Jesus to be their personal Savior: "I do want to go to Heaven. I know I am a sinner, and I do believe Jesus Christ died for me. I realize I cannot buy this great salvation, nor can I earn it. Knowing Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay my sin debt and to purchase my salvation, I do now trust Him as my Savior, and from this moment on I am completely depending on Him for my salvation."

If you made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior let me know? Please send an e-mail to, pdmikBBM@aol.com and I will send you some literature that will help you in your Christian life.

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