

# Old Landmarks - Proverbs 22:28



**"Ask for the old paths, where the good way (road) is, and walk in it, and you shall find rest for your souls."**

- Jeremiah 6:16

## Consider Him!

- \* "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him." Isaiah 53:3,4
- \* "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you, through His poverty might be made rich." - 2 Corinthians 8:9
- \* "He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world recognized Him not." - John 1:10

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## Despised and Rejected of Men: "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief..." - Isaiah 53:3

There has never been anyone as "despised and rejected of men" as Jesus. From the time He was born in Bethlehem, king Herod sought to kill Him. As He grew, He could say, "Many a time have they afflicted Me from my youth up ..." (Psalm 129:1,2)

His own synagogue of about 30 years responded to His gracious claims and convicting truths "with great wrath, and rose up, and thrust Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of a hill on which their city was built, that they might cast Him down head-first." - (Luke 4:28,29)

His own brothers hurt him with cruel words, "for neither did His brethren believe in Him." (John 7:5)

Finally, the hatred of the religious leaders culminated in permission to crucify Jesus. But Pilate knew "that for envy they had delivered Him." (Matthew 27:18)

What quality of love it was that brought Him down to us when He knew what He would face!

The words of John sum it all up like this: "He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world recognized Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.

But, to as many as received (lit: welcomed!) Him, to them gave He power (authority) to become the children of God,

even to those who believe on His name." (John 1:10-12)

That same privilege is still available to every heart that will receive Jesus Christ today.

"Behold! What manner (quality!) of love the Father has bestowed upon us that we should be called the children of God!" (1 John 3:1)

"He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isaiah 53:12)



## Go and See - "Let us go now to Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass" - Luke 2:15

When the Wise Men from the East came to Jerusalem asking "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?" there was no rush of feet off to Bethlehem to see if it was true.

Isaiah agonized over this and wrote, "Lord, who has believed our report? ... He was

wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities" yet we have "hid our faces from Him." (Isaiah 53)

Why? Because we hide from truths we don't want to face. And it is this: sin is more serious than you or I want to admit. It's wages are death.

God's love for you is equally serious. He came to give His life to save yours. There is no greater love than this!

Don't hide from Jesus this Christmas. Go to Bethlehem and see this one who "became poor, that you and I might be made rich." (2 Corinthians

**No Room?** - *"That Christ may dwell (be at home) in your hearts by faith ..."* - Ephesians 3:17

No room,  
Only a manger of hay,  
No room,  
He is a stranger today  
No room,  
Here in His world  
Turned away  
No room, no room!

No room,  
Here in the hearts of mankind,  
No room,  
No cheery welcome to find,  
No room,  
Surely the world is blind,  
No room, no room!

Angels,  
In heaven up yonder,  
Watch with,  
Amazement and wonder,  
To see the Son of the Highest  
treated so ....

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Have you any room  
for Jesus?  
He who bore your load  
of sin?  
As He knocks and asks  
admission,  
Sinner, won't you let  
Him in?

Room for pleasure, room for  
business,  
But, for Christ the  
crucified,  
Not a place where He  
can enter,  
In the heart for which He died?

Room for Jesus,  
King of Glory?  
Hasten now, His word obey;  
Swing your heart's door  
widely open,  
Bid Him enter while you may!

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*"And they wrapped Him in swaddling clothes (flannel strips) and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."  
~ Luke 2:7~*

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**"For the  
grace of God  
that brings  
salvation has  
appeared to  
all people."**

- Titus 2:11 -

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**Life & Immortality!** *"The appearing of our Savior ... brought life and immortality to light"* - 2 Timothy 1:10

When Jesus appeared on earth, it was to bring us two things to our view: life and immortality. "Life" speaks of quality, while "immortality" speaks of length.

His work at the cross accomplished this. *"For by one of-*

*fering He has perfected forever those that are set apart to Him"* - (Hebrews 10:14). This brings immortality!

His resurrection proves not only that our sins are gone, but that *"sin shall not have dominion over you"* (Romans 6:14).

Now we are alive to the reality of *"Him who is invisible."* We have new desires to live life for a bigger picture - the Kingdom of God from Heaven! This is quality!

No wonder joy is the mark of the people who trust in Him!

**Message of the Army-** *"I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people"* - Luke 2:11

Faithful shepherds were out in the fields taking their turns watching over the sheep by night. A night like so many others.

Suddenly light blazed all around them and they became the privileged few who first heard the heavenly announcement of Christ's birth.

Just as suddenly, *"there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host (lit: army!) praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."* (Luke 2:13,14)

Imagine, an army from Heaven announcing peace and good will to our troubled, violent world! Why?

Because their Captain, Heaven's Prince of Peace, righteous and full of love, was on earth!

*"For God so (with such depth of quality!) loved the world, that He gave His One and Only Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* - (John 3:16)

## Prince of Peace: "...And His name shall be called... the Prince of Peace" - Isaiah 9:6

Don and Carol Richardson worked as missionaries among the Sawi cannibals of New Guinea. When Don explained the Christmas story of why Christ came to earth, the Sawi were unresponsive.

Although fascinated by the foreigners, the Sawi continued to fight each other. Tribes brutally battled each other in sight of the Richardsons' jungle home. Fear and frustration made them decide to leave.

When tribal leaders learned of their plan, they said, "If you will stay, we promise to make peace in the morning."

The next morning, the two hostile groups positioned themselves on either side of a clearing. Finally, one man picked up his infant son and walked across the meadow, leaving his wife sobbing behind him. The father presented his baby to the chief of the enemy clan as a gift. "As long as the peace child lives, there shall be peace, not war," he said.

Don and Carol had found a door for the Gospel! This time, they told the Sawi of the Heavenly Father who gave His Son as a "Peace Child" to earth. Now they understood! Hundreds of once-warring cannibals

received Christ and their lives were transformed.

An unforgettable Christmas came for Don and Carol when a large group of new believers gathered to worship and a Sawi man stood and read these words in his own language:

*"For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given ... of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end."* (Isaiah 9:6,7)



## This Child - "...is set for the fall and rising again of many... and for a sign which shall be spoken against." - Luke 2:34

Jesus is the touchstone of the ages. The wicked trip over Him and see Him as a wrecker of fun, an authority they delight in despising.

The humble see Him as a Rock of support; a Fortress of help and safety; an Authority under whose protection and power they wouldn't want to live without.

Jesus is still a sign spoken against. "They speak against You wickedly, and Your enemies take Your name in vain." (Psalm 139:20)

What people think of this Peace Child and how they treat Him, that will determine what God the Father thinks of them. He will not take lightly those who "trample under

foot the Son of God ... and show contempt for His blood." (Heb.10:29,30)

Even a cannibalistic tribe like the Sawis understood that the greatest evil was to despise the offer of a peace child.

With this Child, people choose their own future and eternal destiny.

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**"The Dayspring from on High has visited us, to give light to those that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

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~ Luke 1:78,79 ~

## What Time Is It?: "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation!" - 2 Corinthians

As Jesus drew near to Jerusalem for the last time before He was crucified, He wept over it and said,

*"If you had known, even you, at least in this your day, the things which belong to your peace! But now they are hid from your eyes.*

*For the days shall come upon*

*you, that your enemies shall surround you on every side and shall lay you even with the ground ...and they shall not leave one stone upon another; because you knew not the time of your visitation."* (Luke 19:42-44)

Those who reject Christ will never know what good could have been theirs. They are

left to themselves. The Lord does not twist arms, then or now. But He weeps over what could have been.

In AD 70, Titus sacked Jerusalem and did not leave one stone upon another.



## Old Landmarks Publications

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## Grandma's Pen:

**"The people that  
walked in darkness  
have seen a Great  
Light; and they that  
dwell in the land of  
the shadow of  
death, upon them  
has the Light  
shined."  
~ Isaiah 9:2~**

### In the Mall: *"Thy Word is truth!" - John 17:17*

The janitor in the mall walked towards Roland with a smile. "I like your articles in the newspaper," he said. Roland thanked him and asked him if he'd ever read the Bible.

He answered that he's been very influenced by a variety of writings. So Roland asked him, "Do you believe in Heaven and Hell?"

"I don't believe there could be an *absolute* Heaven or Hell," he responded.

"Are you *absolutely* sure of that?" Roland asked? "Do you have knowledge of *all* the information that is in the

world? Even 5 percent?"

He answered, "No, probably not."

Roland prodded further, "Then is it possible with the 95 % of knowledge you do not know, that God *could* exist?"

"Yes," he said.

Roland said, "If God exists, then he makes the rules, doesn't He?" Then Roland took him through the 10 commandments to see if he's kept them.

He admitted to lying, thieving, and blasphemy. Roland asked, "If you were to face God on Judgment Day, will you be

found innocent or guilty?"

The man began to squirm. He said he hoped their were levels of heaven where he could possibly still make it. To which Roland replied, "Are you *absolutely* sure of that, because if not, you *will* be found guilty and have judgment passed upon you. Hell is the destiny for the guilty when you die, and dying you can be *absolutely* sure about in this life!"

The man said, "Enough of this conversation for now, Roland, but we'll talk later."

**"Tell the people ..."  
Isaiah 6:9**