



WHAT DOES THE 'GOOD NEWS' MEAN

(the meaning)

Dear Reader, 'The Answerer' says ...

I am now 89 Years old and I write this memo from my home state of Western Australia. I am still here, but in a hospital bed. I have been here for weeks. But it is located far closer to my family, which allows them to visit more regularly.

Yay = I love being a grand-dad!

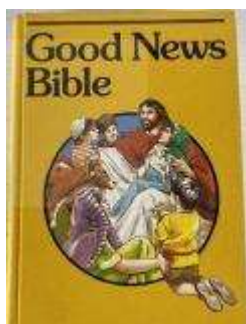


Because many of my readers may not live in Australia, as I guess from many of your comments: I thank you for these comments = it is great reading them all again, while I sit here and recover!

So, I have been thinking of you all.

It made me realise that you might have thought "WHAT DOES THE 'GOOD NEWS' MEAN" whenever I mention it? This story was written just in case you might not know what the "Good News" is truly all about.

The "Good News" is the stories of the life of Jesus, written down by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I often call these four authors (or writers just like me) the four 'GOd-SPELlers' because these four books in the New Testament (or new part) are called the Gospels. They spell out God's story for us. These men were there. They saw it happen with their eyes. I can only tell you about it because I read it in their books. 'The story' or 'this story' could be called 'His-story' - being the 'History of Jesus.'



People who liked this His-Story so much and that it truly was 'Good News' to their ears - used the term on the front of the whole book containing all the 66 little books (including the 4 Gospels) and so here it is the whole Bible cover shown with one of the most well known stories pictured on the cover. *"The Lost Sheep."*****

The Gospels tell different stories about Jesus. Here I will summarise the four books and just tell you the Good News quickly. It begins with the Archangel Gabriel visiting Mary to give her a message from God. It was that Mary was a favoured (respected) lady and that "...the power of the most high God will overshadow you so that the child born to you will be called the Son of God. You are to name him Jesus for He will save the people from their sins." That little encounter (story) can be found in written by Doctor Luke in chapter one. (Copied from Luke's Gospel chapter 1: verses 26 to 38.)

People needed to be saved because sin separates us from God. We have all done it – whatever it is! I know you are thinking of it. We humans have been doing sin, since Adam and Eve in the beginning! Many people then drifted far from God. So He planned to send his son Jesus to die in our place, to 'save us' as this was to make the way for us to get to heaven. It was Jesus, who died on a cross instead of us, and so he was also known as 'The Lamb of God' - being like a 'Sacrificial Lamb'.



High above Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, is a 30 metre (97 feet high) statue of Jesus with his arms stretched out over the city, as a welcome to all to come to Him. It is as if the statue is reaching out across the whole world. 'Christ the Redeemer' or 'The Redeemer' is its name – it is for everyone! For you?

I like very much the word 'redeem' and 'redeemer', because that is what Jesus is doing. It cannot be bought, earned or bargained for. **The "Good News" - is that getting to heaven is a free gift: You take it, or leave it.**

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." (Copied from John's Gospel chapter 11: verse 25. John was a fisherman.) Believing in Jesus and His father, God, takes only a moment - but you then have the rest of your life to learn more about God and His ways. If you choose to join God's family it helps to choose a good and serious church nearby. There are some churches that are not much more than Sunday social clubs where people just enjoy the singing, food and good company. Go to a church where this 'Good News' that I am telling you about, is preached (talked about) often.



PS: Give yourself a lift (hope) and Google search John Newton. Read of his many years of evil living and even being the captain of a "Slaver"- a ship carrying slaves to America. Read on to see how he later became a Preacher and wrote the much loved hymn 'Amazing Grace'. It is more popular now than when he wrote it 230 years ago. (Another writer, just like me - Cool, eh!) It includes the words **"...how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me."**

May you be blessed, by reading 'THE GOOD NEWS' and then by joining Gods family. I say a prayer for you, "May God be with you and bless you, as long as you live." Amen. Regards, Peter Harris.

AKA: www.theanswerer.com.au

Sent from my iPad - from my hospital bed: maybe this picture is a clue as to = why I ended up in a wheelie-chair!