

PRAYER STUDY 33
Excuses People Give for Not Accepting Christ
(source unknown)

I AM TOO BAD OR TOO GREAT A SINNER.

1st Timothy 1:15 says Jesus came to save the Chief of Sinners, and though their sins be as scarlet(Isaiah 1:18), Jesus is able to save to the "uttermost" (Hebrews 7:25) and will not "cast away" any who come to Him(John 6:37).

I AM AFRAID I CAN'T HOLD OUT.

God will not permit us to be tempted above what we are able to bear(1st Corinthians 10:13). We are not to keep ourselves but are kept by the power of God(1st Peter 1:5). Christ is able to keep us(Jude 24) and no man can pluck us out of His hand(John 10:27-29). He who has begun a good work in us will continue it unto the end(Philippians 1:6).

I WILL BE PERSECUTED.

Yes, all who will live Godly will suffer persecution(2nd Timothy 3:12). Jesus suffered persecution for us(1st Peter 2:20-21, and we must not let even those of our own household keep us from Christ(Matthew 10:34-39). The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the Glory which shall be revealed to us(Romans 8:18).

I AM SEEKING, BUT CANNOT FIND HIM.

The reason is you do not search with "all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13). As Christ is seeking you(Luke 19:10), if you are really seeking Him, it won't take long for a seeking Savior and a seeking sinner to find each other.

I AM TRYING TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

It is not "trying" but "RECEIVING!"(John 1:12).

I CAN'T BELIEVE.

In most cases the reason is an unforgiving spirit(Matthew 5:22-24 & 6:15), some daring sin(Matthew 18:8), love of the world(1st John 2:15), business or social entanglements(Mark 8:36, 2nd Corinthians 6:14-17), being ashamed(Luke 9:26). Isaiah 55:7 will show you what you must do and Galatians 6:7-8 will show you the consequences if you don't. Romans 10:17 shows you how FAITH comes.

IT IS TOO LATE.

The dying thief story tells us it is never too late until we are dead(Luke 23:39-43).

INCONSISTENCES OF CHRISTIANS KEEP ME FROM CHRIST.

Jesus said, "What is that to Thee? Follow thou me." (John 21:22) 2nd Corinthians 10:12 show us that it is not wise to compare ourselves with one another, that we are not to judge one another, that we are not to judge another man's servant(Romans 14:4), that everyone of us shall give a personal account to Christ(Romans 14:10-12). Only Christians can be inconsistent. They are trying to follow Christ and Satan is trying to prevent them (Romans 7:18-25).

I DO BELIEVE, BUT I DON'T FEEL SAVED.

Feeling is the FRUIT, not the ROOT of salvation(Galatians 5:22, 1st Peter 1:8). The Bible nowhere says we are to trust in our "feelings" for salvation, but we are to trust in the PROMISES of God.

.....

PLAN OF SALVATION

1. *For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.* Romans 3:23
2. *While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.* Romans 5:8
3. *We were therefore buried with Him through baptism.* Romans 6:4
4. *Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.* Psalm 51:7
5. *Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.* 2nd Peter 3:18
6. *Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.* Revelaton 2:10

THE WORD SALVATION

In both the Old and New Testament, both the Hebrew and the Greek words for salvation, IN ADDITION TO THE NEW BIRTH, literally mean:

DELIVERANCE
PRESERVATION
PROSPERITY
HEALING

SOUNDNESS OR WHOLENESS THROUGH AND THROUGH
AID(HELP AND COMFORT)