

Dear Cousin Brian,

It has been a long time since I have spoken in-depth with you. I understand that you have been having some hard times and have been feeling a bit lost lately. I remember being in your same situation not that long ago. But I had an encounter with the man we call Jesus. I think it is time to get to know him for your self.

Let me tell you a little bit about this man Jesus. Do you remember that time we were at the amusement park and we were separated from my parents. We were told explicitly not to leave there side. Dad told us we could go on all the rides we wanted but we must go with. We then saw that new ride and dad was busy with my sister so we went on our separate way. We then had that encounter with that man who tried to give us candy. It was amazing that we did not eat the candy and dad caught us in the nick of time.

In the bible Adam who was the first man had a similar experience. But his experience did not turn out as well. He and his wife ate a piece of fruit and as a result they were separated from God and essentially their power source. They were outside of the good graces of their father, God. For generations upon generations people had to struggle because they had to go through life outside of the perfect will of their parent, God.

As a result Jesus came to us to spare us from the punishment of being separated from our father. John 3:16 states that God so love the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believes on him shall not parish but have everlasting life. That teaches us that when we die we don't really die but we spend an eternity with God.

Many may think that the purpose of God through Jesus is just so you get to heaven after you die. But scripture teaches that the enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus has come that we might have life and that more abundantly. The enemy came to destroy the relationship man has with God, but Jesus came to mend that.

I know that we were on our way to being "good" individuals and we heard many of the bible stories. We both fell away. But we have to also remember the story of the prodigal son who fell away and his father symbolic of God forgave him and granted him his spot back at the table. God is calling us back to him.

There is a blessing in coming back to God. It will give us the direction we so need. We have walked around lost without direction, but when we accept Jesus we were begin to order our steps. Unlike how we grew up, Jesus and the church is not to punish us or keep us from having fun. Jesus is not a slave driver. He calls us friend. He teaches us in scripture that we are his friend because he lets his friends know what he is doing, and that is simply forgiving us from our wrongs and giving us a new direction and new life.

There is so much more to this relationship with Jesus and so much more that he wants to do for us. Give him a chance and he will give you a new and improved life. Accepting that Jesus lived, died on the cross for our sins, was buried in a borrowed tomb, rose on the third day and is coming back for us, grants us the prize to be with him eternally.

Give Jesus a try and watch manifold blessings come to your life. Please get back in touch with me so we can continue this conversation about Jesus.

Sincerely,

Nigel

GRADE = 100