

## **IF JESUS HAD NOT COME** **1 Corinthians 15:13-19**

In one Christmas movie, “It’s A Wonderful Life”, one man by the name of George Banks was shown a life of what the world would have been like had he never walked on this earth. He sees a town torn to pieces with gambling, and wild-living, because he never was born. He sees a city that is taken over by a tyrant, because he wasn’t there to stand for the “less fortunate”.

The whole gist of the movie reveals the power of one single solitary life that desires to make an impact in a positive way. While that story was simply a person’s imagination, there was a great degree of truth behind the story. The fact is we can never know what impact our lives have made on the lives of others, and what impact one person can make in this world.

However, have you ever thought, or stopped to think for a moment, what would the world look like if Jesus had not come to earth. What would the world be like today, if there was no such thing as the cross? What would the world look like today if Jesus had never walked the earth? What would the world look like today if Jesus had not appeared on the scenes of humanity? What would the

**1. IF JESUS HAD NOT COME...THERE WOULD BE NO EXAMPLE OF TRUE, PURE AND PERFECT LOVE.** If there is one word that describes the very nature of Jesus, it is love. When Jesus arrived on the earthly scenes, there was a new word that was used, that never had really been used of love, it was called “agape”. Agape love is a love that has not one string attached. As Jesus called his disciples to Himself, He revealed to them, a love that they could never comprehend, understand, or fathom.

Peter found the love of Jesus, when Jesus desired to use him, even though he had denied even knowing Jesus. Paul the apostle realized the love of Jesus, when Jesus desired to use his life, while he was on his way going to get Christians and persecute them. Had Jesus not walked on this earth, we would have no idea of what “genuine, true, pure love” is.

There would be no loving person on this earth, because only God through Jesus can give pure and true love. Imagine for a moment living in a world where all there was is hate, hate and more hate. We

may live in a world of evil, but the reality is, there are many that love, because God has placed His love inside their heart. 1 John 4:19 makes it clear how we can love... “ We love him, because he first loved us.” If Jesus had not come, you would not have the capacity to love, neither would you desire to love. There would be a coldness in the heart of every single person on the face of the earth. Why? Because no one would have the love of God! It wouldn’t even be a reality in the human heart.

We would awaken to a cold heart each and every day of our life. That would be the entire world if Jesus hadn’t come. When you look at men and women in Scripture, and how radically they were changed by the love of God. If Jesus hadn’t come, there would be no change for the better in humanity. Because only Jesus can change the human heart! The world of hell is the world that realizes what life will be without God. For in hell there is no love, no joy, no compassion. There is only selfishness, only hatred, hatred and more hatred. No compassion and no kindness will be in hell. Yet, that is what this world would look like had Jesus not come. Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world”. Had Jesus not come, there would be no “Light” in the world. There would be no person desiring to live right before God...not one.

**2. IF JESUS HAD NOT COME...MANKIND WOULD HAVE NO IDEA OF WHAT GOD IS REALLY LIKE.** If Jesus had not come, mankind would have no idea of the love of God. The Bible says that the very nature being of God is love, meaning that His ways are love, His actions are loving, even when we don’t understand them. Because that is the Being nature of God. However, had Jesus not come, we would have no way of knowing what type of God, God really is. Jesus said this, “I and the Father are One”.

This means that whatever Jesus is like, that is the way the Father is. But had Jesus never come, we would have no idea of what type of God, God really is. We can look at nature and know that the Creator is all powerful. We can look inside ourselves and realize that the Creator is all-intelligent. After all who could make millions of people so differently and give them intelligence, unless you were an Intelligent Being. But we would have no One to show us the true love of God.

The very purpose of Jesus on this earth was to show a watching

world the love of God. Had Jesus not come, we would have no clue as to the degree of the love of God. Neither would we have a clue the extent God's love would go for us. While we look back 2000 years and read of Jesus perfect life on this earth, and we read of the cross where He was crucified out of love for us, and to take away the sins of the world...had there been no Jesus, there would be no evidence of all of that. There would be no perfect life demonstrated on the earth. There would be no calling of the 12 disciples.

**3. IF JESUS HAD NOT COME...THERE WOULD BE NO ONE TO ABLE TO TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF MAN.** The Bible makes it clear in John 1:29 "...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." However, imagine for a moment Jesus not being there to walk up to John. Imagine that scene never happening. The reality is, had Jesus not come, there would be no proper sacrifice for sin. Yes, millions could have been crucified, but before Holy God, the only proper sacrifice for the sins of mankind was a perfect sacrifice. Before Holy God, there was only one type of sacrifice that could be provided for the sins of mankind...a pure and eternal sacrifice. For it would take an eternal life to receive the eternal wrath of a holy God...and one thing is for sure...mankind cannot provide it.

If Jesus had not come, then our sins would remain on our shoulders, on our own heads, for there would be no one to forgive us of our sins. God cannot just say "I forgive you" without a sacrifice for sins. For Scripture declares, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." (Hebrews 9:22 ) Imagine for a moment, that there is no one to intercede for you. Imagine for a moment...if Jesus had not come, there is no one to make intercession for you before the Father. There is no One to be the "Go-Between" between you and the Father.

While the Father doesn't long to see any life perish...He by His nature must punish all sin. He can do nothing less as Holy God. You couldn't pay enough money for your sins. In truth, the Lord would require your soul as payment for sins. Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. Before a holy God, without sin being dealt with by a pure and perfect sacrifice, that soul before God must die and die for eternity...because He holiness demands it. If Jesus had not

come, there would have been no cross, no shedding of blood, and thus no possibility of eternity of heaven for any of us...not a one.

**4. IF JESUS HAD NOT COME...ALL MANKIND WOULD BE CONSIGNED TO HELL FOR THEIR SINS.** Listen to these words very carefully, "Without the shedding of blood there is NO remission of sins". What does that mean? Simply this, if Jesus had not come, and died on the cross, then all of us are consigned to hell.

Scripture says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12) If Jesus hadn't come, then there is no one that can be saved. There is no person going to heaven...not a single solitary one. There is no need to preach, because there is no good news to preach. There is no gospel to share.

There is nothing to look forward to...if Jesus had not come. Imagine the horrible thought that at the end of your earthly existence, we will die, and after we die, we will all go to hell. That would be the reality for our lives if Jesus hadn't come. For there is salvation in none other name. Paul said it this way, "our faith is vain and our preaching is vain". Imagine the complete horror of what life would be like, and the hopelessness and despair of all mankind. To imagine a world like this is beyond our comprehension.

**5. JESUS HAS COME...FORGIVENESS OF SINS, JOY, LOVE AND ETERNITY WITH GOD ARE REAL.** For us to realize how precious Jesus is, we need to stop and realize for a moment what this world would be like if He had not come. But the good news is Jesus has come. He came and lived 33 years on this earth, as a perfect man, showing the world that He was the perfect sacrifice. Showing the world that He was the Lamb of God. When Jesus walked to the cross 2000 years ago, He was the only one able to pay the perfect, complete and eternal sacrifice for sins. He didn't die for himself. But His death was for you. If He hadn't died for you...you would have no way of God's forgiveness of sins...and you would be certain to miss heaven. It isn't God's will that any miss heaven, that any miss the wonder of having their sins forgiven. However, God gives us choice...and with choice it involves the option of choosing for or against. What you do with Jesus will determine your life for all of the eternity of your existence!