

GOD'S PLAN

I PETER 3:18-22

BACKGROUND: In a most difficult passage to understand (I Peter 3:19), there is no consensus of agreement on the interpretation among respected commentators. (See **Luke 23:43, I Peter 4:5-6, fn 4:5-6.**)

JESUS PREACHES mostly in the Old Testament through the Prophets, in the New Testament through the Apostles, and now He preaches their words through you. He preaches to the ungodly, who are in a state of imprisonment, bondage, or captivity (See Spiros Zodiates, The Hebrew-Greek Study Bible, I Peter 3:20, p. 1520.) (**I Peter 3:18-21, fn 3:18-20, II Peter 1:19-21, fn 1:20-21, Romans 10:14-15, fn 10:15, Ephesians 6:18-20, fn 6:19-20, Ephesians 1:17-21, fn 1:19-20**) *How does the power that resurrected Jesus from the dead help you?*

JESUS BAPTIZES. In Noah's day the water was a sign of destruction, and he was delivered from the destruction by the ark. When you came to know Jesus, you were delivered from the destruction of slavery to sin that engulfed your life, and you were baptized by the Holy Spirit. You are in Christ just as Noah was in the ark. Because of this "dry" baptism, you now have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a clear conscience from sins of your past. (**I Peter 3:21, fn 3:21, Acts 1:3-5, fn 1:5, Romans 6:3-7, fn 6:11, Romans 8:14-17, fn 8:14-17[1st], Hebrews 9:12-14, fn 9:12-14**) *What is the evidence in your life that you received this "dry" baptism?*

JESUS RULES. God's love for you compelled Jesus to die on the cross for you. His resurrection demonstrates His sovereignty and His power over death, over you, and over all things. (**I Peter 3:22, fn 3:22, I Peter 3:15, fn 3:15[1st], Romans 8:31-39, fn 8:34, Hebrews 1:3, fn 1:3[2nd], Colossians 1:15-20, fn 1:18**) *Is there an area in your life that Jesus does not rule? How could you change that?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?

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