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Scripture Lesson:-

Acts 4: 12. There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved,

Introduction:- Our world has sought peace and happiness in almost everything- everything except Jesus Christ.

George Bernhard Shaw once said, "I am no more of a Christian than Pliate, and yet I am sure that Jesus Christ is the only hope of the world." He said that we have not discarded Christianity because we have tried it and found it did not work. We simply have not tried it at all. Today men and women across our world are sensing that our supreme necessity is Jesus Christ. Mahatma Gandhi is said to have remarked, "there is only one way out for India; he is the only way out for our world." We have given ourselves in a quest

for knowledge, and our souls have remained empty. We have thrown ourselves into a quest for wealth, and our riches have disappeared like ashes before a strong wind. We have gone in for pleasure, and sorrow stalks us, and we are a disallusioned.

Christ is our supreme need. "His is the greatest name that ear has heard or tongue has uttered or mind has known or heart has conceived!"

Jesus was born in a manger. He lived in a little town, despised town, called Nazareth. He

spent most of his time as a laborer in Joseph's carpenter shop. He was reared in obscurity and in want. He died an ignominious death. And yet, he is remembered, honored, respected, loved, and worshipped as the Son of God by more than a third of the world's population. He is the light that will guide us through the boisterous of life. Other men pass into oblivion. Jesus stands forever. Skeptics may hurl their taunting epithets at him, but He, the Master, marches on down through the years.

Evil is to be destroyed by the irresistible power of Christ. Through the Christ, women have achieved purity, honor, respect, and love. Slavery has fallen in the path of his might. Child labor is almost extinct. The laborer is respected. Illiteracy is passing away. Hunger, ah hunger, is being satisfied. Disease is being conquered. War is now widely viewed as an uncivilized antiquity. The influence of Jesus Christ is pervading the world.

## II.

Christ is wonderful in his person. As he stood before Pilate that last fateful night, Pilate said, "I can find no fault in this man!" All through the centuries, men and women have been saying, "I can find no fault in Jesus," Lord Byron said, "If God were man and man were God, Jesus Christ was both." Jesus Christ is wonderful in that he belongs to no particular nation, class, clan, denomination, or creed. Everyone can claim him as his own. Jesus belongs to the ages. He belongs to everyone.

## III.

Christ is wonderful in his revelation of God. In John 14 are recorded for us those words of the Master, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." Jesus was very conscious of the fact that he was representing God in this world. He came to show what God was like. For long years man had thought of God as a God of hate, jealousy, revenge. He had been feared. But Jesus came to demonstrate the fact that God is not only omnipotent, omnipresent, eternal, but also compassionate, long-suffering, just, loving and lovable. A man of India remarked, "I don't know what God is like, but if he is anything like Jesus Christ, he can have my all!"

Christ is wonderful in the inspiration that he has wrought in the hearts and lives of men and women across the years. He is wonderful in the tribute that he has received from all who have considered him seriously. Through the long centuries, since the early dawn of Christianity, there has been an endless procession of men and women, boys and girls, who have brought the best they possessed to Christ. The great and lowly, kings and slaves, rich and poor, elite and outcast, learned and illiterate, old and young have paused amid the busy rush of life to pay homage to the Christ of God. They come like Nicodemus to cry from the depths of their wondering souls, "We believe and are sure that thou art a teacher come from God!"

They cry out with Simon Peter, "Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God." Saints beyond number have pledged to him their highest allegiance. Andrew, Peter, James and John, Paul are only a few of the countless millions who counted their lives

dear unto themselves. III

Christ is wonderful in the praise and the honor that he has evoked from all who have become acquainted with him. While lightning flashed across the sky, and the sun veiled its face, and the earth trembled in an earthquake, the Roman centurion who stood beneath the cross of Jesus said, "Surely this was the Son of God!" Renan, the great French skeptic, closed his book, "The Life of Jesus" with this statement, "whatever may be the surprises of the future, Jesus will never be surpassed. His worship will grow young without ceasing. His suffering will melt the noblest hearts and all the ages will proclaim that from the sons of men there is none greater than He!"

Christ is a wonderful friend. He came to earth to be a friend of man. He "sticketh closer than a brother!" When we are in the clutch of circumstances, Jesus does not fail us. When the howling storms of doubt assail us, Jesus remains true. When catastrophe comes to lay waste all that man holds dear, Jesus does not forsake. When man is intimidated by the avalanches of evil, Christ is there to uphold by his omnipotent power and to sustain us with his abounding grace. When death reaches out with cold fingers Christ stands by, and his eternal promises give us hope for the future. IV

Christ is wonderful in the hope that he brings to a despairing world. J. Hudson Taylor tells of addressing a group of Buddhists in Ningpo one night. When he had finished his sermon, one of the Buddhists arose and said, "All of my life I have been seeking light for my mind and peace of heart. I have tried Taoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism in vain. But I

do find light and peace in what I have heard to-night. Henceforth, I follow Christ!" Yes, Jesus is wonderful in the hope that he brings to men and women.

Christ is a wonderful Savior. The angel said to Joseph, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." Mary Magdalene had descended to shame and disgrace until she became the habitation of devils. Then came Jesus and saved her completely. Matthew had become a tool of the Roman government. He helped to further enslave his countrymen and was looked upon with contempt and hatred. Then one day he met Jesus, and was transformed into the sort of man that he really wanted to be. Saul of Tarsus was filled with religious bigotry, hatred for the church, prejudice, and self-righteousness and murder. But when he came to know Jesus, he was completely saved from evil that he later wrote to the church at Corinth, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling symbol!"

I once knew a man who was sinful to the core. He was drunken, profane, vulgar, perverted, selfish, immoral. From the profane community in which he lived, he learned to swear when only a little boy. When he was fourteen he was often intoxicated. Early in life he learned the ways of dishonesty.

Then one night in a church service he felt the convicting power of the Holy Spirit. He knelt at the altar of prayer, repented of his sins, completely renounced the old life, and dedicated himself to a new life. Christ wonderfully saved him. He

was transformed into a child of God. Thereafter he was able to say with Paul, "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new!"

Conclusion:- Whatever may be the heights to which we would ascend, whatever spiritual splendor we may attain, when we at last stand in the presence of Christ our Master, victors over sin, we, like many men and women of long ago, shall drop to our knees and say, from the depths of our souls, thank God, we are here at last.

My dear brother, my dear sister, if you would arise from despair to hope, if you would have the peace that passeth understanding, if you would have the power to live victoriously in a world of defeat, if you would be free from the frustrations of a haunting anxiety, if you would be saved, accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling symbol." I once knew a man who was sinful to the core. He was drunken, profane, vulgar, perverted, selfish, immoral. From the profane community in which he lived, he learned to swear when only a little boy. When he was fourteen he was often intoxicated. Early in life he learned the ways of dishonesty. Then one night in a church service he felt the convicting power of the Holy Spirit. He melted at the altar of prayer, repented of his sins, completely renounced the old life, and dedicated himself to a new life. Christ wonderfully saved him. He