

## THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN A PERSON'S LIFE

Acts 11:26

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** There are a lot of great and wonderful things that happen in one's life, such as marriage, giving birth, graduation, promotion, vacations, and then sadly there is tragedies and death. However the most important event that can happen in anyone's life is that of becoming a CHRISTIAN! Becoming a Christian affects both the individual and others for all ETERNITY. Sadly, most Christians don't really appreciate what they have being a Christian until late in life, if even then. Serving the Lord Jesus would certainly be more enjoyable and productive if a person could only grasp what all is involved in being a Christian. Christians have far more than a non-christian.

### I. CHRISTIANS HAVE GOD AS THEIR HEAVENLY FATHER - 1 John 3:1

1. There are countless blessings of having God as one's Father:
  - God is the source of ever good and perfect gift from above - James 1:17; Matthew 7:11
  - God provides the Christian comfort in all his/her afflictions - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4
  - When needed, God, in love, chastises the Christian - Hebrews 12:5-11
  - God has also promised to never forsake the Christian - Hebrews 13:5-6
2. There are responsibilities for having God as one's Father:
  - One must totally submit to God - James 4:7
    - One must submit to God's Word.
    - One must submit to God's workings in his/her life - 1 Peter 5:6-11
  - One must draw near to God - James 4:8
    - As a father delights when his/children draw near to him, so does God - Matthew 23:37
    - One draws near to God by cleaning his/her hands and purifying his/her heart - James 4:8
      - This is done by obtaining forgiveness and then being more determined to serve Him.
      - This involves repentance, confession of sins, and prayer - Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9

### II. CHRISTIANS HAVE JESUS AS THEIR LORD AND HIGH PRIEST - 1 Corinthians 8:6; Hebrews 4:14

1. Having Jesus as one's Lord and High Priest is a great blessing:
  - Jesus rules over all the kings of the earth - Revelation 1:5-6
    - All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Him - Matthew 28:18
    - All things have been made subject to Him - 1 Peter 3:22
    - Yet Jesus still calls Christians "His Brethren." - Hebrews 2:11-12
  - As High Priest, Jesus intercedes on the Christian's behalf - Romans 8:34
    - A High Priest who understands every feeling a person has - Hebrews 2:17-18
    - A High Priest who lives forever to make intercession for a Christian - Hebrews 7:24-25
2. There are responsibilities of having Jesus as Lord and High Priest:
  - If Jesus is truly one's Lord, then he/she must do what Jesus says - Luke 6:46
    - One must be careful to see and do what Jesus taught - Matthew 28:18-20
    - One must keep ALL of Jesus' commandments - John 15:10, 14
  - If Jesus is truly one's Lord and High Priest, then one must USE Him as such - Hebrews 4:14-16
    - One must be quick to obtain mercy and grace to help in one's time of need.
    - One must be much in prayer.

### **III. CHRISTIANS HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT INDWELLING THEM - 1 Corinthians 3:16**

1. There are wonderful blessings that come from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit:
  - The Holy Spirit gives the Christian strength to fight the desires/deeds of the body - Romans 8:11-13; Ephesians 3:16
  - The Holy Spirit helps in one's weakness when it comes to praying as he/she ought to and intercedes for the Christian - Romans 8:26-27
2. There are responsibilities that Christians have as the Holy Spirit indwells them:
  - The Christian is to keep the temple of God (his/her body) holy - 1 Corinthians 3:16-17
  - The Christian is to glorify God with his/her body - 1 Corinthians 6:18-20
  - The Christian is to "walk in the Spirit" being led by the Holy Spirit to be able to produce fruit - Galatians 5:16-18, 22-25
    - One sets his/her mind on the things of the Holy Spirit - Romans 8:5-6
    - One dwells in the Word of God which is also the sword of the Spirit - Ephesians 6:17

### **IV. THE CHRISTIAN HAS THE CHURCH AS HIS/HER OTHER FAMILY**

1. There are blessings in having the Church as one's family:
  - Church members become like fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters - 1 Timothy 5:1-2
  - Church members can replace physical relations one may lose in becoming a Christian - Mark 10:28-30; Matthew 12:46-50
2. There are responsibilities that come with having the Church as one's family:
  - Christians are to EDIFY one another - Hebrews 10:24-25
    - Christians need to get together frequently.
    - Christians are to do their share, carry their part of Church responsibilities - Ephesians 4:15-16
  - Christians are to share in the burdens of other Christians - Galatians 6:1-2
    - It is the law of Jesus to do so.
    - To do so requires that Christians know each other well and can also be depended upon to be there and provide support for one another.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. There are countless blessings and responsibilities that come with being a Christian other than these.
2. No Christian actually knows how blessed he/she really is in being a Christian.
3. It is important that Christians fulfill their responsibilities to the Lord and to their Church for to fail to do so results in lost blessings. - Hebrews 3:12-15