

The Book with No Words

As a youngster growing up in a strong Bible believing church, I heard from a very young age that I was a sinner. That wasn't hard for me to believe at all; in fact, I already knew that I had a few issues with my temper and such. I had also stolen, lied, cheated, and broken the rules many times before I was only four or five years old. So, it was great to hear that there was hope for me. The best story book I ever heard was the one my Sunday School teacher shared with her kindergarten class. It was odd though because this book had no words only three pages each a different color.

The first page was completely black which represented my heart which had a condition which we are all born with, and that is the condition of sin. Like every other human, I had a dirty heart that needed to be cleaned up. Romans 3:23 says; *For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.* Sin actually means to miss the mark and we all miss God's standard, his mark.

The next page was all red. The red page represented the blood that Jesus shed on the cross when He sacrificed His life for me. II Corinthians 5:21 reads; *He who knew no sin became sin for us, that we might become right with God.* I think that is one of the most powerful verses in the Bible. He who knew no sin means that Jesus was indeed God in the flesh, the only begotten son of God. He was perfect and therefore he could be the sacrifice that was needed.

Page three was an all-white page. My teacher explained that the white page indicated how clean a person's heart becomes upon receiving Jesus into one's heart. We used to sing a hymn in church called *Whiter Than Snow*, it went like this; *Lord Jesus I long to be perfectly whole, I want you forever to live in my soul, take down every mountain, cast out every foe, now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Whiter than snow, yes whiter than snow, now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.*

I remember coming home from church and asking my Mom what it all meant. She explained it again and we prayed together that I would receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. You know what, He became my Savior that very day. It wasn't all peaches and cream after that though, I have had to work hard at following Jesus, but as each year has passed, I have become stronger in the Lord. I don't know what I would do without Him in my heart and life. The joy and hope that He gives me when I pray and follow His ways are so tremendous.

Coram Deo, is a Latin phrase which means, *Living every day in the presence of God.* It's not just saying the words that Jesus is my Savior that makes a person a Christian. It's the fact that we live in His presence every day in obedience to God through prayer, reading the Bible and loving others.

Until next week, God bless.