





# The Nude Lady And The Free Gift *A Short Story*

*Sam O Salau*

**I**t was a very cool afternoon and all looked as beautiful as ever. The sun was shining, the birds singing and the leaves on the trees were dancing to the gentle blowing breeze. Evelyn Beauty stood by the tall big tree that had always caught her fancy since she found herself in this beautiful garden. There should be something strange about this tree, she wondered to herself.

Since she had been in this garden, everything seemed so mystical. It is the most beautiful garden she had ever seen, heard, or read about all of her life. The flowers are beautiful, the lawns well mowed, the grasses green, the pets cool

and lovely, and the general outlay welcoming and enticing. Everything just seemed to her like a piece of art that can never be real.

Much more than the aesthetics, glamour, and beauty of the place which was beyond description in human words, her major wonder is how she got in there. This is another mystery waiting to be unfolded. She just woke up one morning and found herself lying naked under the shadow of a tree. This was all she could remember.

“Good morning beautiful princess, it is my great pleasure to meet you”, a young husky voice had said behind her as she lay there wondering what on earth she

was doing under a tree, naked. She had looked back and saw a very handsome man at the prime of his youth, beaming with a smile, with an outstretched hand, waiting to receive hers.

“My name is Adams Strong”, he introduced himself as he helped her to her feet. Evelyn ran a quick check on this newly found friend, warning herself to be careful of trusting strangers. He looked well fed, fair in complexion with curly hair, smart and agile. He looked really handsome with strong arms and his tummy was lined with six well defined packs.

She looked into his eyes and it seemed there was fire in them, burning through

all the veins in her system. Could this be true, she was falling in love with a stranger? Love at first sight or whatever it is called, she seemed to be at peace comfortably with the presence of this stranger.

“Are you okay?” She was brought back to her senses from the world of fantasies by that same voice she is now beginning to get used to, the husky voice of Adams Strong. It is the third time she has heard that voice in the past few minutes. It is the only voice she has heard since she found herself under that tree.

“Are you okay?” Adams Strong repeated.

“Oh yes, I am”. She managed to say. “Just a little bit tired and need some water”, she added.

“I feel some more rest will do for you.” Adams Strong confessed in his husky voice. “But first, let me get you some water”, he said as he turned to leave.

Evelyn Beauty tried to help herself up but discovered it was not that easy. Her legs were shaky, as though they had never been used before. She leaned on her elbow and drag herself up, resting her back on the big tree beside her. She watched Adams Strong as he returns with a cup of water in his hands. He was naked, but not ashamed. Then she



remembered she was naked too. What could be happening?

“Here you can have the cup of water”, Adams Strong said as he stretched his hands to give the cup of water to her.

Evelyn Beauty received it without either looking at him or saying thank you. Rather, she replied with a barrage of questions, as though she was not expecting any answer to the questions.

“Where am I”?

“How did I get here?”

“What am I doing here?”

“How can I get out of here?”

“I do not have the answer to all of your questions, but I will answer the ones I

can. The ones I cannot answer, we will ask Mr. Gracious Being whenever He comes.” Adam submitted.

“Gracious Being? Who is He?” She inquired.

“I guess He is the owner of the garden. He placed me here to take care of the garden and tender it. He is the only one I have seen around here apart from the animals before your arrival.” He answered.

Adams Strong casted his mind back to the first day he also found himself under the same tree in the beautiful garden. He remembered how strangely, though beautiful, the place looked. He had been

very lonely and had been praying for a companion. Evelyn was lucky to have seen a companion like him on her first arrival, he thought to himself. On his own arrival, there was no one that looked like him to welcome him. All the company he had were just the animals and the birds of the air.

“This place is called Eden East Gardens, and it is the most beautiful place on earth. I have not been here for too long too. The place is a private garden. It belongs to Mr. Gracious Being but He promised to give it to me if I take care of it well enough. He has placed me in charge of everything in the garden, living or non-living. He comes around every evening to play with me, keep me

company and supervise all that I have done. What I don't know is if He will be coming today, knowing fully well that I have another company already." He explained to Evelyn who now has garnered enough strength to stand on her feet, although still resting her back on the tree.

"Have you told Him I am around"? She inquired with a surprised look on her face.

"No, I have not!" He answered nonchalantly, as though he really did not have to.

"How then can you conclude that he is aware of my coming?" She probed further.

“You do not understand, Gracious Being always have his way of knowing things. I can bet it with you, He already knows.”

“Oh my goodness! What else do you think He will know about me? Can he help me with who I am, or perhaps tell me where I came from?”

“I guess He can, but I do not know if He will want to.” He shrugged as he speaks.

“I really would like to meet him. I pray he comes again today.”

“I cannot guarantee you that He will come today, but I know He will come soon”. He confessed, stretching out his hand in a manner that shows he wanted her to put hers in it.

This is the second time he is doing this, Evelyn thought to herself. The first time,

few minutes ago, she had turned down his handshake because she could not trust him. This time around, she felt she could not reject this offer since he looks harmless and inviting. More so, he is fun to be with.

She stretched her left hand to receive his right hand and the ten fingers locked in each other. She felt a strange sensation pass through her again and wondered if this could really be what she thought it is. Is she falling in love with this Prince Charming? Only time will tell.

“I cannot wait to see him?” She managed to utter out between her lips after she summoned enough courage to speak.

“You will very soon, there is no doubt about that.”

“Please tell me, what does he look like, tall or short, fat or slim, light or dark, ...  
... .”

“You seem to love asking questions?”

Adams cuts her short, still holding to her hands. He also seems to be developing an increasing love for her since the first time he saw her under that tree. He has never seen anything as beautiful as she looked before.

“I have not even started asking, I have a lot more to ask. I cannot remember anything about myself, even my own name. Why will I not ask questions?”  
She poured out her mind.

“Okay. We will take it one at a time. Your name will be called, hmmm, Evelyn Beauty!”. He said after thinking for a while.

“Evelyn Beauty?” She looked surprised as she called the name again after him.

“Yes. Evelyn Beauty”. He said emphatically.

He had given her the name Evelyn Beauty because of her great looks and wonderful shape. This is the second time he will be giving names to creatures. One of the first major tasks that Mr. Gracious Being gave him is that of giving names to all of the creations in the garden. The first few ones looked tasking for him, but after a while, the names flowed more easily. Mr. Gracious Being was so



pleased with all of the names he had given each of the creatures brought to him. This gave him confidence in himself. This was why he could give her a name he feels is appropriate for her – Evelyn Beauty.

“Why did you pick that? I never heard that name before?” She queried.

“As long as you have no objections to it, permit me to call you that.” He pleaded.

“What other options do I have? I don’t know my name, and cannot remember any other name that fascinates me so much that I want to answer, and you are magnanimous enough to help out with a name that sounds so sweet, why would I want to reject it?” Evelyn Beauty explained, reasoning aloud, talking more

to herself than to the man who is still standing by her side.

Adams Strong squeezed her fingers lightly to show his pleasure with her acceptance of the name.

“Thanks for the name”. She replied his gesture with a wide smile.

He caught a glimpse of her set of teeth as she smiled. They all looked so clean and bright, as though they have never been used before now. He wondered, could his own set of teeth also had been like that the very first day he came to the realization of himself. He also had a number of unanswered questions:

Who is his father?

Who is his mother?

What brought him here?

For how long would he stay here?

And the greatest question of all is, what is so special about the tree? He has kept away from the tree since the day Mr. Gracious Being asked him not to eat of its fruits. Will Evelyn Beauty also keep away from it, or would she eat from it? What would happen if she decides to eat from it? Will she surely die?

“I said thanks for the name”, Evelyn Beauty said for the second time, breaking into his thought line.

“You are welcome,” he said reluctantly

“You seem to be lost in thought”, she observed. “What could be bothering you?” Evelyn Beauty inquired.

“Oh, never bother. It is a minor issue.”

“I care to know”. She replied

“It is none of your business, at least now”, he snapped back at her.

“I take that as an insult”, she said with a frown on her face, looking downcast.

She looked more beautiful with a frown, he observed. “My humble apologies. I did not mean to insult you. Just being careful.”

“Being careful of what?”

“You won’t understand”

“Okay then, would you please tell me what is bothering you?” She asked again.

“Please, I really will like to know.”

“If you insist.”

“I insist.”

“Okay, I promise to tell you, but that will be later in the day.”

“Why not now?”

“Because you look tired and fagged out. Some good rest will do for you. There are four big rivers around this garden: Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Euphrates. You choose one and I will take you there, you have a cold bath in the hot sun, and then retire to have some rest. Then later in the evening we will talk about the issue.” Adams Strong explained, trying to get her attention from the issue that is bothering him.

“That sounds like a good plan. I think I need the bath, and then the rest.”

“Great then! Choose one of the four rivers where you would like to have your first bath in Eden East Gardens?”

“I don’t know any of them.”

“I just told you their names a while ago.”

“You don’t expect me to cram those names. They don’t sound like anything I have heard before in all of my life”. All of my life? She wondered to herself. How long or how short the *all* is, she really cannot remember. Her head is just blank.

“Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Euphrates,” he repeated again, not knowing she was long cut off from the discussion.

“I think I will go with the last one, Eu... Euf... Euph...,” she stammered while trying to call the name. She really has not mastered names. It is the first name she is meant to memorize aside the name of her new found friend - Adams Strong, the owner of Eden East Gardens – Mr.

Gracious Being, and her own name – Evelyn Beauty.

“Euphrates?” He helped her with the word.

“Whatever you call it.”

“That is great! You won’t believe it, that is my favourite too. You will love it. Just that it is so close to that tree.”

“Which tree?”

“Oh, never bother.”

“You seem to be hiding so much from me. Am I sure am safe with you?”

“Oh yes, you are. It is still about the issue I want to discuss with you later in the day.”

“I cannot wait to hear it.”

-----

Adams Strong was going in front while Evelyn Beauty followed behind. He seemed to know everywhere and everything in the garden. The journey to the river Euphrates was more of an excursion to her. He pointed out to things and explained them to her. He greeted all the animals as they passed them by. One of the creatures that fascinated Evelyn Beauty most was the Crafty Curl.

“Here we are at the river.” Adams Strong announced.

She looked at the river. It was crystal clear. She could even see the waterbed at the bottom of the river. A long stretch of beautiful flowers outlined the boundaries of the water. Bright colorful creatures



were dancing around in its crystal clear waters, as though they were excited at the sight of her and are staging a welcome performance. A small golden fish darted across as she bent down to scoop a handful of water. Her hands nearly missed it.

“I will leave you here to take care of yourself. You can rest under that Almond tree when you are through with bathing.” He said, pointing to a tree not too far away. “I will come around in the evening to keep your company”.

“Thank you”, she replied as they both parted ways.

She jumped into the river and swam around for some few minutes. Where she learnt how to swim, she could not recall.

She cast her mind back to all that has happened that day. So much has happened in such a short time, but nothing made any sense to her. She still cannot make anything of it. Whatever happens, she pray she is in a safe hand. She got out from the river and lay under the Almond tree. A lot of things still bothers her mind.

Who is Adams Strong?

Why is she falling in love with him?

Who is she, Evelyn Beauty?

What will Mr. Gracious Being say when  
He sees her?

As she pondered on this thought, she did not know when she slept off.

---

Wake up sleepy head”,  
She heard a voice from  
the dream world. The  
voice seemed very distant. She managed  
to open her eyes and saw Adams Strong  
standing by her. She was not expecting  
anyone else apart from him. She had  
woken up a couple of times before now  
but had drifted back to sleep because she  
did not know where was safe and where  
was not safe for her to go in Eden East  
Gardens.

“Thanks for checking on me.”

“It is the least I can do for a friend”, he  
said as he helped her up.

“I am a lot refreshed now after that  
sleep”

“I knew you needed it. What would you like to eat?”

“I really do not feel like eating anything.”

“I have some fruits here. They will be good for you.”

“That is so thoughtful of you. Thanks a bunch.”

They sat back under the Almond Tree to eat the fruits.

“You promised to tell me what was bothering you in the afternoon this evening”. She demanded

“I have no intention of failing to keep my promise”. He said with a grin.

“So what is it?”

“Hmmm”. He coughed to clear his throat. “Mr. Gracious Being warned me

about a particular tree in this garden. It is the only tree we cannot eat from.”

“And why is that? Why can’t we eat from it? Is the fruit that bitter?” she asked.

“I do not know. He called it the tree of knowledge of good and of evil. He even said that the day we taste of its fruits we shall surely die”. He concluded

“Death?” She sounded alarmed. “That sounds very serious.”

“Yes it is. I have never even gone near it before, not to talk of touching the tree or holding its fruit.”

“So, where is the tree?”

“That one right before us. Just beside the Euphrate.” He said, pointing to a tree a little farther than where they were.

“Can I have a closer look at it?”

“No. Not now. Nor ever. We shall not go near it, nor touch it.”

She felt disappointed as she lay back to take the fruits that Adams Strong brought to her. She really wanted to see the tree. She wanted to touch it, and perhaps, just taste it. She has no intention of eating it, but just to taste it to see how bitter it is. If Mr. Gracious Being asked Adams Strong not to eat, it should be very bitter, and she needs to confirm if it truly is.

-----

Adams Strong's words reverberated in her ears as she moved closer to the tree. "*We shall not go near it, nor touch it*", he had said, and he was emphatic about it. She looked around, but could not find him anywhere nearby. This, for her, could be a good opportunity to just feel the bark of the tree. She took few steps farther, and she was just one more step away from the tree. She looked around one more time to be sure he was not really seeing her.

Her heartbeat rate doubled, as though she was about to take a major decision in her life. Those words reechoed again: “*We shall not go near it, nor touch it*”. But here she was, so close to the tree, and nothing has happened yet. She summoned enough courage, took the last step, and was side by side with the tree. She was expecting something, a ghost or whatever to jump out of the tree, pounce on her and swallow her up. But nothing happened. Then she told herself, could this be a trick from Adams Strong to keep her away from one of the best fruits in the garden. The answer is only one more action away; touch the tree and pluck the fruit.



She ran her hands on the back of the tree. She liked the feel. It felt strong and tough. The branches are low enough for her hands to reach. She convinced herself that she would not need to jump to get a feel of the leaves. She plucked the first leaf. She held it close to her nose to perceive the scent. She felt it in her brain as the fragrance sent cold chills down her spine.

She went round it and plucked another leaf, and then another, and another. Nothing bad had happened to her yet. She wondered, but he said Mr. Gracious Being warned that we shall surely die, I have plucked three leaves but I am still alive. Could Adams Strong be hiding something from me?

“Good evening Miss Beauty”. A voice that sounded very strange to her startled her from behind. She almost fainted out of fear. She looked back to see who was greeting before venturing to exchange the pleasantries. It was Crafty Curl. She remembered seeing Crafty Curl for the first time in her life the day she was going to River Euphrates with Adams Strong. He had told her that Crafty Curl was the serpent that lived with him in the Eden East Gardens. At that moment, she intuitively felt awkwardly restless about being around the snake. She wondered what it was doing there in that hot afternoon.

“Afternoon Crafty”, she replied

“I could see you are really enjoying your stay here.”

“Oh yes. Thanks. It has been wonderful so far. Adams Strong has been a good company.”

“Oh, Adams is a nice guy. Everyone in Eden likes him. He is so jovial and nice to be with”

“You can say that again” she agreed.

“But how have you been coping with feeding.” Crafty Curl asked.

“And why did you ask?”.

“I thought I overheard Mr. Gracious Being telling Adams Strong not to touch any of the fruits in Eden East”.

“No he did not. We are free to eat from any of the trees. It is only this particular tree – the tree of the knowledge of good and evil - that we cannot eat from.”

“Why can’t you eat from it?”

“Don’t know! Maybe because it is bitter.”

“How can the fruit of such a lovely tree be bitter? I don’t believe that.” Crafty Curl said as he moved closer to the tree in one long twist. He proceeded to pluck a fruit from the tree while Evelyn Beauty watched in amazement.

“Do you care for a taste?” he asked her.

“No thanks. We have been warned not to eat from it.”

“Well, I don’t care what you are told. I want to have a feel of this fruit.” He took a bite of the fruit and his face came alive.

“This is delicious. How on earth will someone ask you not to eat such

delicacy?” he said as he took another bite.

“Are you sure of what you are saying? Can I trust you? I hope you are not just deceiving me?

“Why will I deceive you? Whoever said this fruit is bitter is the greatest deceiver in the whole world.” He showed the half eaten fruit to her as he spoke.

As she watched him savor each bite of the fruit, she felt tempted to take a bite, but the words of Adams Strong kept coming back to her, “*We shall not go near it, nor touch it*”. What is the big deal there? She thought. I have already gone near and I have touched it. Nothing bad as happened. Crafty Curl had eaten

it, and he said it was good. I can as well have a taste.

“Can I have a closer look at the fruit?” she requested from Crafty Curl

“With all pleasure,” he replied. He threw away the shaft of the fruit in his hands, having eaten the flesh. Then he stretched forth and plucked one of the biggest of the fruits on the tree for her.

“Thanks for the effort”, she said as she received it from him. She looked closely at the fruit, examining it carefully. It was indeed pleasant to the eyes and good for food. She wanted a taste of it badly. “I remember Adams Strong said that if we eat of it we will surely die.” She protested one more time.

“But I have eaten it and I am not dead. Or do I look like a ghost to you? Why

will you belief Mr. Gracious Being. He knows that once you eat this fruit, you will become wiser than you are, and you will be like him. That is why he scared you off it. Can't you see reasons?"

She nodded in agreement as she took her first bite. She chewed gently at first waiting to see if anything would happen. "I think I like the taste. It is truly delicious." She took the second bite and then the third. Then she started to eat as though she had been denied food for over a week. In no time she finished the first fruit. Crafty Curl had another ready for her.

"I need to go now. Adams Strong will soon be around. He will not be happy seeing me here" Crafty Curl announced as he takes his leave.

“Thanks Crafty. You are indeed a good friend”. She said as she waved him goodbye. “See you some other time.” She took another fruit before deciding to take her leave. She took some couples along to show Adams Strong. She was too sure that Adams will like the taste.

-----



**S**he found him on his way back from work. He looked worked out.

“You look so tired and need something that will refresh you” she observed.

“Yes. I did a lot today, much more than I have done in the past weeks”

“Would you mind some fruits?”

“Won’t mind anything that will relief me of some stress?” he said as he took a bite of the fruit. “This is so delicious. Haven’t tasted this before in this garden.” He finished the first and took another fruit. “Which part of the garden did you pick this from?”

“Around the Euphrates”

“Euphrates? Which of the trees”

“The one at the farthest end of the river, surrounded by the olive trees, not too far from the biggest fig tree in the garden”

Is that not the tree that we have been asked not to eat from, the tree of the knowledge of good and bad?”

“Yes it is. Crafty Curl came around. I saw him eat it and he did not die, so I took a bite and I loved it and I thought you would like it too.”

“Oh no. You should not have done that. I warned you.” He said bitterly. “Mr. Gracious Being will be crossed with us now.”

Their eyes were opened instantly and they saw each other’s nakedness. They both wondered why they were naked. They were so ashamed of their

nakedness that they had to cover themselves with leaves. They both felt very bad of their actions.

“Maybe I should have listened to you.” Evelyn Beauty apologized.

“No need crying over spilled milk. The deed is already done.” He said, making her feel more remorseful.

Mr. Gracious Being came to the garden in the evening to play with them as He always did. But they were too frightened to meet him. They were naked and ashamed. A feeling of guilt enveloped them. Mr. Gracious Being was not too pleased with their actions, and so punished them for it. He sent them away from the gardens. The man will have to

labour before he eats, and the woman will give birth in great pains.

This was the beginning of the problem that has spanned many generations up till now. It is the story of how man fell from grace to grass. The first man ever created, Adam nicknamed Adams Strong in this story, and the first woman, Eve identified as Evelyn Beauty, were deceived by the devil who came in the form of a snake (Crafty Curl) to disobey the most Gracious Being on earth, God.

This caused an interruption in the wonderful relationship between God and man. Adam and Eve used to enjoy the presence of the Lord in good measures. God usually came to the garden from

time to time to play with them, until this nasty incident happened. The devil, not pleased with the situation of things, succeeded in destroying the relationship between God and man.

The reason God created man in the first place was to continually have fellowship with man, so that after man's days on earth, he may proceed to heaven to continue his fellowship with God. God was so sad because the action man took put an enmity between man and almost thwarted God's eternal purpose for creating man. Man no longer could reach God and God could not relate with man again because sin has entered the bloodstream of man.

Since man was created to worship and fellowship with God, there is always a desire in man to seek for ways to relate back to God. There is always a longing in man to be at peace with God. So man started looking for avenues to relate back to God, and he tried all that he could do, but nothing was sufficient enough to bridge the gap between man and God.

This thirst for God is still in man up till now. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, man has tried so many ways to come back to God because of this hunger in man. All that man tried are just physical means of reaching back to God. But the problem was not a physical one, so all the physical solutions man proposed could not solve this spiritual problem.

Man finally settled for one thing – sacrifices. They make sacrifices every time for their sins. This seemed to work for a while, but man always had to offer sacrifices from time to time. This is because they discovered that ones you can spill blood on the altar, God will be at peace with man for a while, then his anger will rise again. So they have to offer sacrifices often: daily sacrifices, weekly sacrifices, monthly sacrifices, annual sacrifices and ‘*every-now-and-then*’ sacrifices.

After a while, God himself now determined to help man. Instead of this continuous spillage of blood, God decided to spill a ‘*once-and-for-all*’

blood. This seemed to be the final solution to the problem of sin in the human race as it will cleanse everyone's blood and there will not be any need for other blood sacrifices again. This will close the gap between God and man and mankind will eternally be at peace with God again.

As good as this plan looked, there was another problem with it. Every man who was born on earth was born a sinner. This is because man does not become a sinner by sinning; man is a sinner by nature. Our first father, Adam, was a sinner, and so everybody that comes through his lineage will always be a sinner. It is in the gene.



This became another issue; no man born with the gene of another man can save the world. God needed the blood of one who does not have the genetic traits of Adam in his bloodstream to become the savior of the world, and no man in the world was qualified to do that. If a man born with the DNA of another offers his blood as sacrifice, there will still be sin in his blood. So, his blood will not be adequate to atone for any sin, even his own, talk less of others. This is because sin is not in the act but in the blood.

That is why you don't teach small kids to steal; they just naturally begin to steal. Which school will a 4yr old kid go to, to know how to lie? It comes naturally, because sin is in the blood. To cleanse

the sin in the blood, you need a man who does not have sin in his blood to die and shed his blood as a sacrifice for the remission of the sins of men.

The only person who was qualified to do this was Jesus. All the religious books in the world, testify to it that Jesus' birth has no male intervention. It is in the Christian religious book called the Bible. It is in the Muslim religious book called the Quran. He has no human gene in his blood. It was a miraculous birth that science cannot explain.

To prove that there was no sin in him, when he came to the world, he lived a sinless life. He went everywhere doing good. He healed the sick, raised the dead,

delivered the oppressed and he set captives free. Even contrary to the philosophy of the religious leaders of his days who believed that on a particular day of the week you don't perform miracles, He still did. There was no single record of sin about him because there was no trace of sin in him.

When it was time for him to die, you will think a good man like him who lived a good life that affected millions of people in good ways will die a peaceful death. You would think He deserved a very nice and befitting burial, with so much funfair and celebration to mark a life well spent. Jesus also would have loved to die that way; but if he had died that way, there will be no sin-stained blood

again to spill to save humanity. Man will still have to continually spill the blood of goats and rams, to atone for sins.

When it was time for him to die, the religious leaders convinced the masses to demand for his crucifixion. The leaders of the community thought they could save him from this gruesome death that awaits him by offering the people who were clamoring for his death an alternative. They brought the worst criminal in the land on one side and brought Jesus who has no record of any evil deed on the other hand, asking them to choose who they want to be freed. They did this innocently because they thought they could help Jesus and save him from the hands of those who hated

him. They felt it was the religious leaders who influenced the masses to decide the fate of Jesus, knowing that Jesus was a good man.

So the political leaders brought Jesus and the thief to the public scene and announce to them “I want to release one person out of these two. This man here has stolen your goods, killed your husbands, tormented your wives, embarrassed your youths, kidnapped your sons, raped your daughters and had done all the terrible things you can imagine in this land. We have held him in custody for a long time, and that is why there is some measure of peace in the land. On my right side is the man Jesus, whom you all know. He has been

going to your temples to heal your sick, raise your dead and has done all manner of good things. Who do you want me to release to you?”

You would have thought they would have said unanimously “release Jesus”, because among them, was the man whose son was always had epilepsy and Jesus healed, among them were those that were blind that Jesus had given sight to, among them was Lazarus who was dead for four days before Jesus raised him from the dead, with Mary and Martha, his immediate family. Jairus the priest, his daughter that was brought back to life, the wife and all the sympathizers were all there. But the

loudest voice that day unanimously said “crucify him”.

The people who were clamoring for his death that day were not the one who took the decision. It was in the plan and purpose of God that Jesus had to die, that his blood had to be spilled so there can be a once-and-for-all sacrifice for the sin of humanity. So Jesus died on the cross, was buried, and on the third day rose from the dead to complete the work of salvation of men, because his death was useless without him rising from death.

With Jesus’ resurrection, God was happy because man can now relate back to God like it was in Eden Gardens. Sons of men do not need to offer sacrifices again

because this sacrifice is a once and for all sacrifice. All men need do is to believe that Jesus had spilled his blood on earth for the remission of all of their sins. Once man can accept this pure blood by faith, an end comes to his struggle to look for ways to please God. He can now be reconnected back to God without any more sacrifice.

However, here comes the problem with humanity – mortal reasoning. Man begins to wonder, how can just accepting one man's blood as a sacrifice for me be enough for my sins? I have been offering sacrifices of bigger animals every year before now. How will just accepting somebody's blood, someone I do not know before, work for me?



This reasoning makes it more difficult for man to appreciate the blood spilled on the cross. Man began to look for alternatives. He continued in search of ways to please God. But God keeps telling man, you don't need all of these ways you are looking for. The sacrifice I desire has already been paid! Man still does not understand. One man's blood cannot just be enough, there must be other additional ways to please God, and that way they must find by all means!

Some of them feel, "may be if I begin to wear a particular style of cloth, either at home or to the place of worship from now on, and I tie a particular turban on my head, or I wear a particular color of

cloth every day, I will be connected back to God.”

God looks at them and say, “I don’t have any problem with whatever material, style or color of cloth you choose to put on. If you like you can decide to put on white or red all the days of your life. But you must first do the foundational thing, which is to accept the blood that has been shed for the remission of your sins.” This, man seems not to want to understand.

Some people feel, “maybe if I pray multiple times in a day, pray in the morning, afternoon and evening, and add one prayer session in between each so I can have five prayer times every day,

God will be merciful to me and reconnect me back to him.”

God looks at them and say, “I don’t have any problem with your multiple times of prayers per day. If you like, pray a million times a day. But you must first do the foundational thing, which is to admit that Jesus died to save you from the grip of your sins and by him alone. You can be reconnected back to God.” This, man seems not to understand.

Some people feel, “maybe if I go to a specific location, to go and seek God’s face, like, go to the wilderness to seek God’s face, or the peak of a very high mountain top to pray, or travel so far to the holy land, say, Jerusalem or Mecca,

where the originator of this religion lived, maybe it will reconnect me back to God.”

God says “I do not have any problem with all of these. You can go anywhere to pray. You can go for excursions and sightseeing on your holy pilgrimage trips. But you must first do the foundational thing, which is to admit that only Jesus’ blood can deliver you from your sins and give you eternal life.” This, man seems not to understand.

Some people feel, “how can you ask me to believe in a God I have not seen. Why not allow me make an image, and put eyes, nose and mouth on it. If I begin to worship this image, God will see my

effort in trying to reach him and may reach back to him.”

God looks at him and say “see a foolish man. I have presented the acceptable route to you. What other image do you want? Why will you prefer an image over me, the creator of the whole world?”

Some people feel “maybe if I join my father’s religion, and do what they do in this religion, maybe it will reconnect me back to God.”

God says “you don’t need religion. All you need is Christ. Once you have Christ, religion becomes nothing again. Accepting Christ is starting a

relationship with God, and only Him can give that relationship. Religion will only give you set rules, but only Christ can transform your lives.

Some people feel, “maybe if I just mingle with them in a place of worship and become a worshipper like them, maybe it will connect me back to God.”

God says “it not just worshipping. It is about Christ who had a pure blood and was willing to share that blood for the remission of sins. Just accept him into your life, and you will have a relationship with me.”

Some feel, “how can it be that easy, it has to be a little difficult. How can I just

be reconnected back to God like that, just by believing in one person? There has to be more. Let us make some rules, this is what you should eat and what you should not eat; this is what you should wear, and this is what you should not wear; everyone must fast for thirty or forty days every year; in fact let us not put on shoes to church again. Maybe if we punish ourselves, it will reconnect us back to God.”

God says “don’t just punish yourself for nothing sake. If you decide to punish yourself, God has no problem with it. But why punish yourself when you can have it easily and all you need to do is to believe that one person’s blood was shed for the remission of the sins of the world.

Some feel, “it can not just be that easy. Salvation should demand much more from man than just believing in the blood of an innocent man. Let us make it a little difficult for ourselves. Maybe if we deny ourselves of jewelries and all the beautiful things of this world, it likely will reconnect us back to God.

God say “I don’t have problem with jewelries. It is your choice to use or not to use. What I need is the foundational thing; give your life to Jesus. If you have not done this, you have not done anything.”

Some people say “maybe if I donate money to religious bodies, or if I even



build religious structures for them, and ask them to write my name in front, if God sees it, he will be lenient with me and connect me back to himself”.

God says “Building religious structures is a good thing. But first, do the foundational thing, a blood has been shed on the cross of Calvary and all you need to do is to admit that the blood was shed for your sins and admit that the blood is enough for all of your sins. This, man finds difficult to do.

Some people say “if I do freewill offering, and I give food to the poor around me, and distribute money to all the beggars in all the bus stops around

here, I am sure God will reconnect me back to him and give me peace.”

God says “Alms giving and free will offerings are good. But until you admit the free will offering of the sacrifice Jesus made for you on Golgotha, all other sacrifices are useless.

This argument between man and God is a simple case. It is like a student seeking admission into the university who has not written the qualifying examination, but thinks “maybe if I attend lectures faithfully every day, although class starts 8:00am, if I get to class 6:00am every morning, stay in class till 10:00pm daily, even if class ends at 4:00pm. If the lecturers see my commitment and my

faithfulness, they will understand that I am a good student and will be merciful enough to grant me the admission. You know he will only deceive himself. Things do not work that way. Since he has not done the main thing, whatever other things he does, no matter how good, is not reckoned with. But the moment he does the right thing, every other act of good he does, no matter how insignificant before man, counts before God.

You cannot save yourself by your own terms; you can only save yourself by God's terms. It is only when you do what your situation requires that you enjoy what your life desires. God says all that

man needs is just to believe that the blood of Jesus was shed for his sins.

To do what God expects of you, all you need is just to take these four simple steps:

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that the penalty of your sin is death.
3. Acknowledge that you cannot help yourself.
4. Accept God's solution to your problem.

Of all the religious leaders that ever lived, only one person said boldly, "I am the way, the truth and the life." He did not say "I am one of the ways".

I hereby gladly present to you today the blood that was shed for the remission of your sins, the only way you can be reconnected back to God, Jesus Christ the savior of the world. If you are ready to accept him into your life, just say this prayer right now where you are.

*Lord Jesus, I have now recognized myself as a sinner. I have discovered that none of my works of righteousness is adequate in itself to save me from the grip of sin. I agree that the penalty of my sin is death, and I acknowledge that only the blood of Your son Jesus that was shed on the Cross of Calvary for the remission of sins can save me from this eternal separation from You. I accept your solution to my problem. I ask that*

*Jesus come into my life, cleanse me of every iniquity, and make His abode in me. Write my name in the Book of Life, and give me the grace to live for Him the remaining days of my life, so that I can reign together with Him in eternity. Thank you for answers to my prayers, in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

If you just prayed this prayer, I will like to congratulate you. I can confidently assure you that your name is now written in the book of life. For other materials that can help you live the kind of life God expects you to live so that

you can become the person He desires,  
please contact us with the details below:

[samosalau@yahoo.com](mailto:samosalau@yahoo.com)

[samosalau@gmail.com](mailto:samosalau@gmail.com)

+234-809-341-5875

+234-813-529-1769

If you are a believer who needs to  
rededicate your life to the Lord, you can  
also contact the address above.

For those who needs more of this tract for distribution to people in their environment, or those who desires to sponsor more of this publication so it can reach more people, you can also make your intention known through the same address.

For all those who have been blessed by this message, I will like to hear your testimonies.

Remain in the Lord,

Sam O Salau

Twitter: @samosalau

[www.samosalau@yahoo.com](mailto:www.samosalau@yahoo.com)