

**The Holy Spirit now desires to take your heart even deeper into how much His great love endured for you at the cross. He wants you to know just how low God would go to save your soul and make you His bride. The answer, dear bride of Christ, is overwhelming!**

## **HE BECAME A WORM – HE SAID SO!!**

"This is love; not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." **1 John 4:10**

**PRAY WITH ME:** "Dear, dear Abba, Father, what an incomprehensible sacrifice You made by sending us Your heart, the Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son to go through infinite suffering for me. Cause my heart to know just a small portion of the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of Jesus' love and suffering for me His bride, that I may become all that He desires in me, from me and for me! Amen!"

### **HOW COULD THE LORD SAY, HE BECAME A WORM?**

He said in **Psalm 22:6**, "But I am a worm, and not a man, A reproach of men, and despised by the people." On the cross the Lord spoke verse 1 and what was on His heart continued.

### **JESUS SAID THAT HELL HAS WORMS THAT WILL NEVER DIE!**

He said in **Mark 9:47,48**; "And if your eye causes you to stumble, cast it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes, to be cast into HELL, where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED."

### **THE WORM IS RED! THE WORM IS SIN! THE WORM IS CRUSHED!**

**Isaiah 1:18** states, "Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD; though your sins be as scarlet (Hebrew shani), they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson (Hebrew tolaath – worm), they shall be as wool." The Hebrew word "tolaath" refers to the worm from which the color crimson or red is obtained. The other Hebrew word "shani" is the product (red dye) which comes forth from the crushed eggs of this worm-like creature. So the Hebrew word has two meanings: "scarlet" and "worm". Keep in mind that in **Isaiah 1:18** the color red represents "sin" and it also means "worm"!

### **THE JOY OF GOD WHO BECAME A WORM**

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the JOY set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." **Hebrews 12:2**

Jesus had just gone into the Garden of Gethsemane, He fell on His face and cried out to the Father, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." What was in that cup? God's anger and all of our horrible, stinking sin worms! He would drink that cup of sin-worms and His pure soul would become full with our sin worms!

Yet, in **Hebrews 12:2** it says that "who for the joy set before Him endured the cross". What joy? Seeing you and me saved, changed and out of the clutches of Satan; seeing the devil defeated and knowing that in the future Satan would be locked up forever never to hurt anyone again; seeing that there would never again be any more death, sorrow, sickness, crying, pain, or curse (**Rev. 21:4; 22:3**)! HALLELUJAH!

Jesus hated the cross but the joy of what the future would hold for all of us sustained Him. All of our sin worms would disappear forever except for those who would reject Him. Those sin worms would live on forever crawling all over them (**Mark 9:44,46,48**). Can you imagine Jesus loving us this much that He would go to such depths to suffer for us? To help us understand this the Holy Spirit uses the illustration that Jesus became an ugly, sin-filled, meaningless, humiliating, powerless worm.

### **HOW HIGH AND AWESOME IS OUR GOD?**

Never forget that our God created the universe! I can't understand that He is greater than that which He created. HE IS BIGGER THAN THE UNIVERSE ITSELF. Think about these words from the old hymn:

*"O Lord my God, when I an awesome wonder, Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed. Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee How Great Thou Art."*

How low would God, the One who created the universe, go to save you and me? From the highest heights of His glorious throne in heaven to an excruciating death on a cross, He became a WORM! Yes, you heard right! Let's begin this amazing journey through the Word of God. After considering these scriptures, ask yourself this question, "Do I love Jesus more?"

### **THE WORM REPRESENTS OUR SINFUL, WEAK CONDITION**

Here are some instances where the Hebrew word "crimson" is also translated in the Bible as "worm" in the following scriptures:

**Job 25:6** – *"How much less man, that maggot, and the son of man that worm."*

**Isa. 41:14** – *"Do not fear, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel."*

Worms are lowly and have no power. There is no beauty in them. The worm is ugly. They live, crawling around in the darkness of the earth. Spiritually, God sees our soul in the same condition. Jesus became a human being so that He could have all of our filthy sin worms put in His soul on the cross.

That is what He sees in us! Who would ever want to touch even one of those sickening things? He decided to have all the world's worms placed in His pure holy soul for you and me.

### **WORMS ARE SEEN AS DESTROYERS OF LIFE**

In **Deut.28** the Lord pronounces the curses which come upon God's disobedient children. **Verse 28** states, *"You shall plant and cultivate vineyards but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes, for the worm shall devour them."* **Deut.28:39**

From the very beginning of life, the sin nature within us begins to eat away at our soul. Sin destroys relationships, joy, love, peace, unity, life, fullness and so much more! THE VERY THING WHICH DESTROYS US, JESUS HAD TO BECOME! Glory to God! In a few minutes you will see this from the Word of God itself. It says so!

THANK YOU LORD - YOU BECAME OUR SPIRITUAL SIN-WORMS FOR US IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE DEADLY, ETERNAL RESULT OF DYING WITH THEM ON OUR SOULS!

## **SATAN TRIES TO HIDE IT BUT WORMS ARE HIS TRUE IMAGE**

Although Satan is able to transform himself to appear as an angel of light (**II Cor.11:14**), His downfall is revealed in **Isa.14:11-16**. In **v.11** he is described as being covered with "worms" (sin), *"Your pomp and the music of your harps have been brought down to Sheol; Maggots are spread out as your bed beneath you, and worms are your covering."* So Satan is filled with sin (worms)!

Some Bibles in **Isa.14:12** used Satan's former name "*Lucifer*". Other Bibles say "*O star of the morning, son of the dawn!*" Why the difference? The first is his name the other is the definition of Lucifer's name. No matter how Satan tries to hide it or cover it up, underneath are horrible slimy worms that represent the ultimate filth of sin! Without Jesus' blood to cleanse us we look the very same way!

## **FRIGHTENING! OUR SIN-WORMS WILL NEVER DIE IN THE LAKE OF FIRE**

The last verse in **Isa. 66:24** declares, *"And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."*

Remember this verse in **Mark 9:44** where Jesus spoke about the eternal place called "Hell" where souls will suffer for eternity and *"...where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched."* The spiritual sin "worms" infesting their souls will never die. Jesus had to become the worm in order to defeat Satan and defeat every worm that crawls all over our souls and then give us His righteousness (**2 Cor.5:21**).

Keep in mind that Jesus said hell was made for the devil and His angels (**Mt. 25:41**). Those who die without having Jesus in their soul look just like Satan, and it will be for all eternity. Their bed and covering in the Lake of Fire will be crawling with the worms that will never die just like we found out about Satan in **Isa. 14:11**. Jesus said that those who do not belong to Him have the devil as their father! **John 8:44**.

## **LET'S REVISIT PSALM 22 - JESUS, GOD THE SON, BECAME A WORM!**

Look again at **Psa. 22:1-6,16**. Hundreds of years before Jesus' crucifixion, it was prophesied in **v.16**. This is a Psalm about crucifixion. On the cross Jesus cried out in **Matt.27:46**, *"My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?"* The first six verses tell us about what was on Jesus' heart while dying on the cross.

From this Psalm, the precious Holy Spirit allows us to get a glimpse of what was going on in our Lord's heart while He was dying for our sins. Listen to His heart cry out for help but His Father will not respond! *"O my God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; and in the night season (darkness on the cross), and am not silent."* Why? His Father had always heard His cries before (**Heb.5:7**). The answer is in the next verse. **Verse 3** tells us that the Father is holy. Jesus was now unholy because He had become all the putrefying sin-worms of the world.

Keep in mind that **2 Cor. 5:21** says that Jesus became sin for us. He didn't just take it but actually became it. *"e made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* So He became our sin-filled worms.

**Gal. 3:13** tells that Jesus didn't just take the curse that was on us but actually became it. *"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having BECOME a curse for us..."* He became the curse of our sin-filled infested soul.

He didn't just take the curse HE BECAME IT! Oh the awful stench of His soul! It was the trash heap of our sin! How utterly awful that the pure, holy, righteous Lamb of God became all of our spiritual and soul filth before the eyes His holy Father!

No wonder Jesus cried out in **Psa. 22:4,5**; "*Our fathers trusted in You; they trusted, and You delivered them. They cried to You, and were delivered; they trusted in You, and were not ashamed.*". Then comes the powerful, unimaginable cry of Jesus as the awful realization of what He had become pierced His holy spirit and soul. In utter despair He cries out, **Psa.22:6**, "*But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people!*"

He was saying, "*I have become a repulsive, helpless, naked and defenseless worm! I am not even a man whereby You may answer My cry to You, Father. I am all that You hate. I have become worthless! Father, You cannot answer my prayer.*" The Worm was about to experience the most agonizing and tormenting pain that ever could be known. As you meditate upon the following paragraph, remember how the red dye was obtained - by crushing the worm!

### **NEVER FORGET THE CRUSHING OF JESUS, YOUR SAVIOUR AND LORD**

Once again, remember that to obtain the redeeming scarlet, crimson dye (His blood) Jesus had to become the sin-worm, in order to be crushed! The Worm, Jesus, now was crushed by God, for it says in Isa. **53:5** "*...He was crushed for our iniquities....*" (heb. "daka" - means to "*crush, beat or break into pieces, destroy, shatter, to be oppressed, to be smitten, to be made humble or contrite*")."

All of those words describe what was happening to Jesus, the Worm! And who crushed Him? It was His Father! "*But it pleased the Lord to crush Him!*" **Isa.53:10**.

It pleased the Father because Satan would be defeated once and for all. It pleased Him because there would be a new spiritual family that would love God forever! It pleased the Father to crush Him because Adam's race would now be restored to its rightful place of rule (see **Rev.5:9,10**).

### **FROM FILTHY WORMS TO GLORIOUS NEW GARMENTS**

The original garment of our soul is seen as a "*filthy rag*" (**Isa.64:6**). Praise God, that as the Father crushed His Son, the cleansing, saving blood came forth for His people. It would be used in giving her a spotless spiritual garment.

The moment our souls cried out for salvation; the moment we realized just how rotten our sin nature was within us; the moment we turned to Jesus and confessed our sin and received Him, He came rushing in and ripped off the stinking, worm-infested rag which was enwrapping our soul and placed His own glorious, pure and righteous garment on us.

Hear the joyous cry of one who had received this glorious clothing from the hand of God. "*I will rejoice greatly in the Lord, My soul will exult in my God; for He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness.*" (**Isa.61:10**; see **Rev.19:7-9**)!

"*And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in - That on the cross my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin! THEN SINGS MY SOUL - 'HOW GREAT THOU ART!' "* Oh, dear redeemed one, bow down your heart and soul and simply worship the King who became a worm! As love pours out to Him, you will desire to keep (obey) His word. **John 14:23** "*Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word....'*"

**PRAY WITH ME:** "Dear, dear Lord, my heart is full of love for You. I am overwhelmed by Your love that would become so ugly for me who was unlovable. I ask only one thing of You, cause my heart to want to obey Your Word as never before. May that show just how much I do love You. Thank You, thank You, thank You with all of my heart, for Your name's sake, Amen!"

Let's close by meditating on the blessed words from the hymns of the past:

### WHO IS HE?

Nailed upon Golgotha's tree, faint and bleeding who is He?  
Hands and feet so rudely torn, wreathed with crown of twisted thorn.  
Once He lived in heaven above, happy in His Father's love!  
**SON OF GOD, 'tis He, 'tis He** on the cross at Calvary!

Nailed upon Golgotha's tree, mocked and taunted who is He?  
Scorners tell Him to come down, claim His kingdom and His crown!  
He it was who came to bless, full of love and tenderness!  
**SON OF MAN, 'tis He, 'tis He** on the cross at Calvary!

Nailed upon Golgotha's tree, as a victim, who is He?  
Bearing sin, but not His own, suffering agony unknown!  
He the promised sacrifice, for our sins has paid the price!  
**LAMB OF GOD, 'tis He, 'tis He** on the Cross at Calvary!

Throned in glorious majesty, Lord triumphant, who is He?  
He's the One who came to die, now in heaven, exalted high!  
With adoring hearts we now, At His blessed feet now bow!  
**LORD OF ALL, 'tis He, 'tis He** throned in glorious majesty! *author unknown*

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### WAS IT FOR ME?

Was it for me, for me He wept and prayed, My load of sin before Him laid;  
That night within Gethsemane, was it for me, that agony?  
Was it for me He bowed His head, upon the cross and freely shed  
His precious blood that crimson tide, was it for me the savior died?  
It was for me, yes, all for me, O love of God, so great so free,  
O wondrous love, I'll shout and sing! *J. M. Whyte*

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### WAS IT FOR ME?

Was it for me, the nails, the spear, the cruel thorns, the mocking jeer,  
That rugged cross, 'twixt earth and sky—was it for me He came to die?  
Was it for me, that opened tomb, dispelling fear and death and gloom?  
So vast a truth proclaims to me that I through Him can victor be.  
Yes, all for me—the cross, the grave, A risen Lord with power to save!  
My joyful heart is filled with praise As songs of happiness I raise.  
He loved me so! He loved me so! Dark Calvary He chose to know,  
To vanquish sin and death and woe; 'Twas all because He loved me so. *Rose N. Coull*