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A CUP OF RICE OR- A BAG OF GOLD

It was many centuries ago in a remote village in India. Word began to spread that something was about to happen that no one had seen in their lifetime - the prince was actually coming to visit this forgotten little village. Well, everyone was excited, but no one was more excited than the village beggar.

Every day he begged out another day by sitting by the road with his little cup, hoping to get enough money to buy some rice to live one more day. He actually had two cups, one for collecting money and one for his few grains of rice. But now the prince was coming. I mean, the wealthy prince! When the prince finally arrived, the beggar mustered his most impassioned appeal, "Alms! Alms for the poor!" And the prince stopped. The beggar's heart was pounding furiously.

"Give me your cup of rice." That was all the prince said. The beggar slumped down in disbelief. Here was the wealthiest man in the land, asking for his lousy little cup of rice. The beggar was about to refuse, but instead he reached in and he put three grains of rice in the prince's hand. The prince turned to his servant and said, "Bring me the bag of gold." The beggar could hardly contain himself as he eagerly stretched out his empty collection cup. The prince reached into his bag and placed three grains of gold in the beggar's cup. And then he disappeared, never to return, but leaving the beggar to wonder for the rest of his life what would have happened if I had given him my whole cup of rice?

I'm Ron Hutchcraft and I want to have A Word With You today about "A Cup of Rice - or a Bag of Gold?"

Jesus, the Prince of Heaven, may be passing your way today with so much to give you. The forgiveness of every sin you've ever committed, a new beginning, the peace that has eluded you your whole lifetime, and an eternity with Him in heaven. He wants to make you spiritually rich.

In fact, it was very expensive for Him to be able to offer you the heaven that you don't deserve instead of the death penalty that your sin does deserve.

In our word for today from the Word of God, God describes the unspeakable sacrifice Jesus made to rescue you. 2 Corinthians 8:9 say, "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (grace means undeserved love), that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich."

When God's Son, the Prince of Heaven, is hanging on that blood-stained cross, He is totally impoverishing Himself so you can have God's love, and God's resources, and

God's heaven. It's hard for us to see that we're the beggars, but the Bible says we are spiritually bankrupt because our running of our own life has cut us off from our Creator. Only Jesus can bring us back. God says, "While we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly."

Your life is as big as you can make it, and it's nowhere near enough, is it? Jesus has chosen to pass your way today, asking you to turn over to Him the life that He gave you and the life He died for.

If you're ready to trade what you have for what Jesus has, would you tell Him that right now? Tell Him you're putting all your trust in Him. And let me encourage you to visit our website. I've tried to lay out there briefly and in nonreligious words the way you can be sure you have begun your relationship with Jesus and that you belong to Him forever. The website is yoursforlife.net. And I'd encourage you to go there as soon as possible today. Please, don't make the eternal mistake of hanging onto your little cup of rice and missing Jesus' bag of gold.

Cornelia Parsons

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Judas 1:24-25 *Aan Hom nou wat magtig is om julle vir struikeling te bewaar en julle sonder gebrek voor sy heerlijkheid te stel met gejuig, **25**. aan die alleenwyse God, ons Verlosser, kom toe heerlijkheid en majesteit, krag en mag, nou tot in alle ewigheid! Amen.*

*Groete
Sakkie*

Indien u hierdie e-pos lees en wel gereelde e-pos van my wil ontvang, stuur asseblief u volle e-pos adres in die "subject box" na sparsons@absamail.co.za

Moet asseblief nie 'n leë e-pos stuur nie.

Aangesien ek blind is en gebruik maak van 'n sagteware program waar die rekenaar met my praat, sal ek nie weet of dit 'n foto of leë e-pos is wat ek ontvang nie. In albei gevalle sal my rekenaar net stil bly.