

Fifteen Words of Hope

(11a)

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[2 Corinthians 5:21](#)

(Continuation from 09/15/13)

Fifteen Words of Hope

[2 Corinthians 5:21 \(NASB\)](#)

²¹ He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. [24 words]

[2 Corinthians 5:21 \(KJV\)](#)

²¹ For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. [25 words]

[2 Corinthians 5:21 \(Greek\)](#)

²¹ τον μη γνοντα αμαρτιαν υπερ ημων αμαρτιαν εποιησεν ινα ημεις γενωμεθα δικαιοσυνη θεου εν αυτω [15 words]

Tragically, Christ was despised and rejected by men throughout His life. Many actually avoided Him because they detested Him so. As a result, Christ suffered not just when He died upon the cross but also during his day-to-day experiences throughout His life. Not only was He reared in poverty, but...

- 1) He was born to a virgin mother ([Matt. 1:18-19](#)).
- 2) He was born in a stable under shocking conditions ([Luke 2:7](#)).
- 3) He was born to poor parents ([Luke 2:24](#)).
- 4) He had His life threatened as a baby ([Matt. 2:13](#)).
- 5) He was the object of Herod's ambitious wrath, which led to the slaughter of all the male children two years and under (in Bethlehem and surrounding areas ([Matt. 2:16](#)).
- 6) He had to be moved about for protection when He was a baby ([Matt. 2:13](#)).
- 7) He was reared in a despicable place, Nazareth ([Luke 2:39](#)).
- 8) He apparently lost His earthly father (Joseph) during His youth, for His father's name is not mentioned in the list of His family ([Matt. 13:55-56](#)).
- 9) He had no home as an adult, not even a place to lay His head ([Matt. 8:20](#); [Luke 9:58](#)).
- 10) He had to depend upon others for financial support ([Matt. 8:2-3](#)).
- 11) He faced relentless temptation ([Matt. 4:1](#); [Heb. 2:18](#); [Heb. 4:15](#)).
- 12) He was hated and opposed by religionists and had to face their continual hostility ([Mark 14:1-2](#); [Heb. 12:3](#)).
- 13) He had the charge of insanity leveled against Him ([Mark 3:21](#)).
- 14) He was charged with being demon possessed ([Mark 3:22](#)).
- 15) He was opposed by His own family ([Mark 3:31-32](#)).
- 16) He was rejected, hated and opposed by His audiences ([Matt. 13:53-58](#); [Luke 4:28-29](#)).

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- 17) He was betrayed by a close friend, Judas, one of the apostles ([Mark 14:10-11, 18](#)).
- 18) He was left all alone at the end of His life, rejected and forsaken by all His friends ([Mark 14:50](#)).
- 19) He was tried before the high court of the land on the charge of treason ([John 18:33](#)).
- 20) He was put to death by crucifixion, the worst possible manner of death ([John 19:16](#)).

The rejection, hostility, and sufferings of Christ during His life undoubtedly took their toll upon His body. Apparently He appeared so worn and aged that he was thought to be nearly 50 years old ([John 8:57](#)).

The depth of Christ's sufferings can be seen in three facts:

1. ⇒ In coming to earth, Christ set aside all the glory, worship, and service given Him by the hosts of heaven itself, all of which He had always had. ([Phil. 2:6-7](#); [Heb. 2:14-18](#); [Heb. 4:15](#))
2. ⇒ In coming to earth, Christ bore all the temptations and trials of the human flesh as well as the mockery, hostility, and rejection of sinful people. ([Matt. 13:54-57](#); [Luke 16:14](#); [John 1:10-11](#); [John 10:20](#))
3. ⇒ In coming to earth, Christ took the sins of the entire human race upon Himself and died for those sins, suffering the rejection of God and God's judgment upon them. ([John 1:29](#); [Gal.1:4](#); [1 Peter 1:18-19](#); [1 Peter 2:24](#); [1 Peter 3:18](#))