## THE SWEET SOUND OF GOD'S SAVING GRACE

## 1. The Sweet Sound Of God's Saving Grace

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet The Sound That Saved A Wretch Like Me. I Once Was Lost, But Now Am Found Was Blind But Now I See!"

Written by: John Newton, born in England in 1725 died in 1807

Age 7, his mother dies. Age 11, he goes with his father, who is the Captain of a ship.

Shipwrecked! He remembered verses his mother taught him. Cried out: "Lord Have Mercy On Us!"

Thought: What Mercy Could There Be For A Wretch Like Me?

Pens The Words To Amazing Grace How Sweet The Sound

# 2. The Story Of Saul Who Becomes Known As Apostle Paul

Was a Pharisee who studied under the respected rabbi Gamaliel. Thought salvation came from the mosaic law and hard work.

Saul on the road to Damascus - "We Are Saved By Grace And Not By Works"

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> **not by works, so that no one can boast. EPHESIANS 2:8-9 NIV** 

**ACTS 9:3-5, 7-9 NIV** <sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting, "he replied. …"

<sup>7</sup>The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

ACTS 9:17-20 NIV Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>18</sup> Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again.

He got up and was baptized,<sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. <sup>20</sup> **At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God**.

#### 3. The Thief On The Cross With The Christ

**ZECHARIAH 4:6 NIV** So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: '**Not by might nor by power**, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty.

**LUKE 23:33-34 NASB** <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

**LUKE 23:39NASB** One of the criminals who were hanged *there* was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

**LUKE 23:40-41 NASB** <sup>40</sup> But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> **And we indeed** *are suffering* **justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."** 

LUKE 23:42-43 NIV <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

## 4. What Is Your Story?

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet The Sound That Saved A Wretch Like Me. I Once Was Lost, But Now Am Found Was Blind But Now I See!" "Amen"

#### **COMMUNION:**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you, in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

**The Bread** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." **MATTHEW 26:26 NIV** 

**The Juice** Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." **MATTHEW 26:27-28 NIV** 

Our Church - In Our Hall Doors Open at 9:30am Please Wear A Mask and Wash or Sanitize Your Hands Keep The Distance, 6ft Apart, Unless In The Same Household