

I'm Glad that I am a Christian

Sometimes Christians get discouraged. There are a number of things that can make a Christian feel depressed. Family problems, failing health, lukewarm brethren, hypocrisy, and the obnoxious behavior of other Christians can make a Christian discouraged. A Christian who is discouraged doesn't have his heart in his spiritual service. When a Christian is discouraged, he often does not feel like going to worship services. Being discouraged can get to be such a problem, that some Christians even wish that they were not Christians. Some go so far as to quit living as Christians are supposed to live.

A God Does Not Want Christians To Be Discouraged

- Lk 18:1 *"He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart."*

- 2 Cor. 4:16 *"Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day."*

- Gal. 6:9 *"And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary."*

B There Are A Number of Things That A Christian Can Do To Overcome A Discouraged Heart

1. *Pray about the things that have caused the discouragement (Lk 18:1; 1 Pet 5:7).*

2. *Get busy doing good things for someone else. This is what God told Elijah to do when he was discouraged (1 Kg. 19:15). This puts us around other people and helps us to see that life goes on.*

© **When Discouraged, A Christian Needs to Consider the great Blessings of Being in Christ.**

1. After describing the virtues of a Christian, the apostle Peter wrote, “*For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins*” (2 Pet. 1:9).

2. Christians may forget the difference Christ has made in their lives.

If I wasn't a Christian:

- What kind of attitudes would I have about myself?
- Were would my marriage be today?
- What destructive or sinful habits would I be doing?
- What good Christian friends would I not have?
- What would I think about Jesus and His Word?
- What hope would I have at death?

Being a Christian means:

- I have the promises of God
- I have been forgiven
- I will be resurrected to eternal life
- I will have heaven as my home
- I have a great family in Christ– the church
- I have the power of God to help me
- I have a great work that God wants me to do

Being a Christian means my past has been redeemed, my present makes sense and my future is bright. Therefore, *I am glad to be a Christian*. Being a Christian gives me hope, power, and direction. I am going some place very special. *I am glad that I am a Christian*.

3. When a person becomes a Christian, they dedicate their heart to Christ. They have Christ as their Shepherd. They have been included into the family of God. They have been given the privilege of prayer.

- In heaven, you will hear no regrets about: living the Christian life; about being baptized; about worshipping God often; about living pure; about being faithful to your mate; about following the Bible; about seeking the mercy of God; about having to spend eternity in a place like heaven.

I am glad that I am a Christian. There is much to live for, and there is much to do. Although, I may get discouraged, there is no looking back. I am “*pressing on toward the goal for the prize*” in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:14). ***I am glad that I am a Christian!***

Roger Shouse

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