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## Introduction

Recently, a friend began to weep as he talked about his grown son who was not living for Christ. "Pastor," he said, "you don't know how much I love my boy. Will you pray with me that he will find Jesus?"

"Do you realize that God loves your child more than you do?" I told him. Then we prayed together that the Holy Spirit would draw his son to Christ.

The heart of the Almighty is saddened by sin. God says, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live" (Ezekiel 33:11).

There are two important things we need to know about the salvation of our loved ones:

1. It is God's will for all to be saved. The Word declares, "The Lord is...not willing

- that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).
- 2. Jesus said, "He that doeth the will of my Father will enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 7:21).

Why are those who bring the message of salvation wise? Because they are doing God's will.

As a believer, you know that Jesus died for your sins. But how will others find the same redemption?

It was not God's plan that He should call with a loud voice from heaven for people to be saved, or that angels should preach the Gospel. He commissioned you and me: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16).

Jesus was not speaking only to the disciples or to ministers of today. The whole body of Christ you, me, and every believer—must declare the message of the Cross. Where do we begin? Salvation must start at home—with our son, daughter, husband, wife, mother, and father. Then we must reach out to our extended family members, uncles, aunts, cousins, grandparents, and to all those we love.

As you read these pages, I am praying God will greatly inspire you and give you the burden, knowledge, and wisdom to lead your family to Christ.

- BENNY HINN

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# FOR YOU AND YOUR HOUSE

If it can happen to me, it can happen to you! At one time I was the only member of my family who knew Jesus, yet as the years passed, my mother, father, sisters, and brothers all found Christ!

If you've almost given up the hope of seeing your loved ones saved, this book is for you. On the authority of God's Word, you not only can claim salvation for your household, but you can see them born again.

When I met Jesus at a high school, student-led prayer meeting in Toronto in 1972, my family thought I had lost my mind. "Either you forsake this experience or we will forsake you," insisted

my father, who was an extremely strong-willed person from the Middle East.

Immediately, there was great tension in our family.

Jesus had become the Lord of my life, but my family just didn't understand. My grandmother (on my dad's side) was deeply concerned and began sending telegrams from Israel to my father, demanding, "You must do something about your son." She even flew to Canada in an attempt to talk me out of this "Jesus thing."

"Grandmother," I told her, "I love and respect you, but I will never forsake Jesus. And you need to know Him, too."

One by one, every member of my family found Jesus as their personal Savior. "Benny, I want what you have," they told me. God even allowed me to pray with my grand-mother before she passed from this life.

#### "And Your House"

One of the great revelations of God's Word is that salvation is promised for not only an individual but the entire household. Look for a moment at the story of Paul and Silas, who were beaten and thrown into prison for preaching the Gospel. The jailer was instructed to keep them secure, so he placed them in an inner prison and bound their feet with chains.

How did Paul and Silas respond? At midnight they "sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them" (Acts 16:25).

Suddenly there was a great earthquake. The foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

"And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself" (Acts 16:27, NKJV).

Why was the jailer about to take such drastic action? Under Roman law if you guarded a prisoner who escaped, you were required to give your life for that fugitive. It would be easier to take his own life rather than to face the courts and be killed—and if he did not, one of his family members would be substituted.

Scripture records that Paul called with a loud

voice, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here" (verse 28, NKJV). In the darkness, the jailer called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out, saying, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (verse 30).

Why would he ask such a question? That guard heard the two Christians singing and praising God in the night and was drawn by the Holy Spirit to seek the Savior.

# "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." -Acts 16:31, NKJV

Then Paul and Silas gave the jailer this marvelous assurance: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household" (Acts 16:31, NKJV).

Think of it! Salvation was for not only this man but for his entire household: "Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house" (verse 32, NKJV).

What a mighty God we serve!

### A Lamb for Your House

In the Old Testament, God commanded Moses to speak to the people of Israel, saying, "On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household" (Exodus 12:3, NKJV).

During the Passover feast, it is the tradition for every Jewish family to take one lamb for a family—and if one man partakes, all can partake. The lamb is available for the entire house.

Today, if one person receives Jesus—the Lamb of God—the Lamb is available for all in that dwelling.

Are you beginning to grasp how your family has special privileges because you have been saved?

## Safe in the Ark

I remember asking a group of young people, "Why do you think God asked Noah to build the ark?"

"To save all the animals," they responded.

No. He prepared it for his family. Noah, "being divinely warned of things not yet seen,

moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household" (Hebrews 11:7, NKJV).

What faith Noah must have had! People living in his day had not seen water fall from the sky, and yet this man declared, "It is going to rain, and the whole world will be flooded!"

Quickly, he began building an ark to save his family from something he could hardly describe. "Oh, you foolish man," the people must have laughed.

In a world filled with iniquity, there was only one person who found grace in the eyes of the Lord: Noah (Genesis 6:8). His three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, were not walking with God. How do we know that?

The Lord said to Noah, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation" (Genesis 7:1).

Only one—"thee"—did God see as pure and virtuous in the world. I believe when you are righteous before the Lord, your entire family will be touched by His amazing grace.

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It was Noah's faith that allowed his family to be saved.

Centuries later, Peter wrote that God "spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly" (2 Peter 2:5).

How many people were saved? Eight. Noah's three sons and their wives, Noah's wife, and Noah, the eighth person. God placed him *last*, showing clearly that all of his children, even though unrighteous, were included in His righteousness.

Is the Lord concerned about your family? You can count on it!