

## FAST and CURIOUS

When I was a young teenager I used to put together model cars, but I sometimes did more than just follow the instructions, I'd sometimes get out my hobby knife and customize some cars. I also used to read a lot of books about racing custom hot rods. I really wanted a fast car!

In my senior year of high school, my Dad told me I could get a car, so I set out looking for the car of my dreams. It was on a back country road....just sitting there, calling my name! It was a metallic green with chrome that was like new, a 1940 Ford with custom interior and a big Buick engine under the hood! I asked the elderly couple what they wanted for it, as it had "FOR SALE" in the window. They explained it was their son's car, he'd died in Texas and they wanted to sell it. "I'll bring my Dad tomorrow", I promised.

The next day my Dad agreed to see the 1940 Ford I wanted for only \$800.00. When we arrived, the first thing my Dad did was to open the hood....."No way you'll have this fast car!" I was devastated!

I found out a few days later that a man purchased the car and in the trunk was a box of over two thousand silver dollars, which the elderly couple did not know was there. WOW! I could have had a \$3,000.00 car, plus a box of over 2,000 silver dollars, for only \$800.00

Are you like I was, back in the 60's? I wanted fast cars, custom cars, new clothes, money in my pockets. I wanted it all. I was always saving up money to purchase THINGS that were all mine.

So, how does the CURIOUS part of this story enter in? That is a great question! I am a little curious what would have happened to me if I had been able to purchase that souped up, custom car. I already KNOW that I would have raced it in town. I already know I would have sat at the red light, waiting for someone to pull up next to me and give me that look, and a nod, then our tires would be squealing at the green light. At about midnight, south of town, with our headlights off, I'd be racing someone on US-23.

I have no doubt that I would have wrecked that car in a race. If I had died back then, everything I owned would have been left behind for my parents to sell to someone who wanted THINGS!

As to CURIOUS...if I had died back in those days, at 17, where would I be today? I can tell you the answer to that question....I would be in the fires of hell, because I never cared to know God. Oh, I knew of God, I even went to church. But nobody ever explained to me that to be saved from my sins, I simply had to believe sincerely that God sent His Son Jesus Christ to earth to give up His life on the cross to pay for my sins and to save me from the eternal flames of hell!

I AM SAVED, ARE YOU? JUST CURIOUS!

## HOPE BEGINS WITH KNOWING JESUS AS YOUR PERSONAL SAVIOR

**It is possible to have a complete assurance that you are going to heaven. The Bible says,** I John 5:13 "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

**What must you do to know you are going to heaven?**

**1. You are a sinner and do not deserve to go to heaven.**

Rom. 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one."

Rom. 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

**2. The only way to pay for your sins yourself is by spending eternity in hell.**

Rom. 6:23 a "For the wages of sin is death..."

Rev. 20:14 "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. "

**3. You cannot do anything good enough to earn your way to heaven.**

Titus 3:5a "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us..."

Eph 2:8-9 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. "