



PAID IN FULL

## We Owe a Debt We Cannot Pay

(1 Peter 2:1-25)

“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” (2 Cor. 5:21). We are greatly indebted to Christ our sin-bearer, our sinless Substitute! He paid our sin-debt in full. ***We owed a debt we could not pay; Christ paid a debt He did not owe.*** Sadly, many people believe that they can pay the debt that they owe. A recent poll showed that one-third of Americans who call themselves "born-again" believe **good people can earn salvation**. Nearly half of Americans believe they can **earn their way into Heaven** by being good or doing enough good deeds.

Consider the national debt (more than 38 trillion dollars). How are we ever going to be able to pay back this debt? Let's think about one trillion dollars. If I were to pay **\$1.00 every second**, it would take over 31,000 years to pay back this debt. Multiply that by 38 and it would take well over a million years to pay off the national debt. How utterly foolish to think I could pay off the national debt by contributing nickels and dimes?

When it comes to our enormous, massive sin-debt, seeking to perform good works or noble deeds is like giving God nickels and dimes. It would never work. “All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags” (Isa. 64:6). If we don't trust the sin-bearer, the One who died as our Substitute, then salvation for us will be impossible. **Christ paid a debt He did not owe, and He paid it on our behalf, and He paid it in full.** The Righteous One once suffered for sins on behalf of the unrighteous ones (1 Pet. 3:18). Salvation is possible only because He bore our sins in His own body on the tree (1 Pet. 2:24). Hallelujah what a Saviour!

George Zeller, [www.middletownbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletownbiblechurch.org)



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