

Daily Devotion for June 17, 2020

“Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.”

John Newton

The other day I saw where statues of slave traders such as Robert Milligan Edward Colston, and others were being torn down in the United Kingdom as well as a statue of Orville Hubbard in the US.

All of this reminded me of one of the most well known slave traders in the Christian Community, John Newton who in the mid-1700's was the captain of a slave ship. He would often travel to the West Coast of Africa where he would capture, sell, and transport black slaves to Europe and America.

On March 10, 1748, while traveling to Europe in the midst of a heavy storm and thinking all would be **lost**, he cried out to God for mercy and the ship was saved. For a few more years, he continued as a slave ship captain. But as he slept at night, he was tortured by the sounds of hearing the whips crack against the backs of the slaves and the sounds of those being tortured and beaten. Experiencing guilt and being convicted of the inhumane treatment that he was giving to the black slaves, he remembered the Christian lessons his mother had taught him as a young boy about God's love and the forgiveness that was offered through his Son Jesus on the cross. He cried out to God for forgiveness and experienced God's Amazing Grace.

After that experience he penned these words that have been a blessing and comfort to millions around the world, and I pray that they would be for you today, **“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.”**

Thought For Today: What is it that is so amazing about Grace? What is grace? How has the amazing grace of God impacted your life. Can you echo the same words of John Newton, “amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me?”

Prayer Focus For Today: Today, thank God for His Amazing grace. Pray that our lives would be filled with grace. Continue to add this week's prayer fuel to your daily prayers. Deo Volente.