

(continued from the front)

friend is dead, and now you are seriously wounded.”

“It was worth it, though, sir,” the soldier said.

“What do you mean, ‘worth it’?” responded the lieutenant. “Your friend is dead!”

“Yes, sir,” the private answered. “But when I got to him, he was still alive, and I heard him say, ‘Jim, I knew you’d come.’”

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13).

Another war is being fought—and the decisive battle has already been won. As Jesus, the Son of God, hung on the cross, Satan, the archenemy, likely thought the victory was his. But, he was mistaken. For on the cross, Jesus conquered sin. He paid the price for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2), so that you and I might be forgiven and have the hope of eternal life with Him in heaven.

On the cross, Jesus died for His friends and His enemies alike. Through His sacrifice, all may find forgiveness of sins. If we place our faith in the Son of God and trust Him (Hebrews 11:6), repent of our sins (2 Corinthians 7:9–10), confess Him before others (Romans 10:9–10), and are baptized in His name for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38), then His blood becomes the payment for our sin. As we continue to follow Him as Lord, His blood continues to cleanse us from all sin (1 John 1:7).

While we were dying in our sin, Jesus came to our rescue. He gave His life for us so that we might live. This great act of love should cause each of us to say, “I’m so glad that You came for me!”

Won’t you respond to His love?



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No Greater Friend



Horror gripped the heart of the World War I soldier as he saw his lifelong friend fall in battle. Caught in a trench with continuous gunfire whizzing overhead, the soldier asked his lieutenant for permission to go out into the open field between the trenches to bring his fallen comrade back.

“You can go,” said the lieutenant, “but I don’t think it will be worth it. Your friend is probably dead, and you may get killed in the process.”

The lieutenant’s warning didn’t matter—the soldier went anyway. He managed to reach his friend, hoist him onto his shoulder, and bring him back to his company’s trench. As the two of them tumbled together into the bottom of the trench, the lieutenant checked the wounded soldier, then looked at his friend. “I told you it wouldn’t be worth it,” he said. “Your

(continued on the back)

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