

## The Taki Too at Tillamook Bay



"Everybody was happy and jolly. They were all excited to go fishing. The trip began so normal," said Jeff Folkner, the owner of the Garibaldi Marina on Oregon's Pacific Coast. Earlier in the morning, he had sat in his office sipping coffee and watched as the thirty-two foot charter boat named Taki Too had motored out of the harbor.

The Taki Too was a ruggedly built, no frills boat. It had a small cabin that accommodate just a few people at a time. Most of the seventeen passengers sat on benches in the open air. Captain Davis had many years experience, so he knew where to find fish as well as any other charter boat captain on the coast.

The boat sailed out of the harbor and into the wide expanse of Tillamook Bay. Two large rivers flow down from the Cascade Mountains and empty into the east side of Tillamook Bay. All this water finds its way to the ocean through the mouth of Tillamook Bay. As this water heads out to sea, it beats against the incoming waves and currents of the Pacific Ocean, producing treacherous currents and chaotic waves.

Some of the passengers, when they saw the frothy high waves kicked up by the wind and conflicting currents, decided to put on life jackets. Others looked past the turbulent water at the entrance of the harbor and saw the long, regular succession of the ocean's rolling waves on the blue Pacific. These passengers decided they would wait until after they had passed over the sand bar at the entrance of the bay and into calmer water.

As the boat crossed the sand bar, a large wave slammed against the Taki Too, and instantly it flipped over. It happened so fast that no one on board had time to react and jump clear. They were plunged into the frigid water beneath the overturned boat and had to fight a life and death struggle to swim from beneath the boat.

Once they surfaced they had to battle the waves that seemed to batter them from every direction. A few brave people on shore who saw the disaster waded through the pounding surf and swam out to help. When it was all over, only eight of the nineteen people on board made it to safety. The rest perished in the ordeal. Only the passengers with life jackets survived.



Can you look ahead to the time when you too will have to make the dangerous crossing? The crossing I am referring to is the passage from time to eternity known as death. Each one of us will have to make it. Not one can escape it. Just like those passengers on the Taki Too who donned life jackets and made it to safety, only those who have Gods salvation through faith in Christ will make it to the calm and bliss of heaven. All others will be lost without any hope of being saved. Those who are lost will find out how awful a mistake it was to neglect the salvation of their souls.

Why do you need to come to faith in Christ? Because he is the only Savior for sinners this poor world will ever know. About two thousand years ago he died on a cross and made an atonement or covering for sin. His death is the only sacrifice God will ever accept for sin.

He was not only a very special man like the Muslims say but he was also the one and only Son of God. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son" Son."(Jn3.16) When he claimed to be the Son of God he was in fact claiming equality with God. His claim was substantiated by the miracles he performed, such as walking on water, calming a raging storm with the command "Peace be still" (Mark 4.39), the miraculous feeding of thousands with a few loaves of bread, healing multitudes of sick folk as well as countless other miracles. These miracles substantiate his claim to be the Son of God. Muhammad never cleansed a leper, Buddha never miraculously fed thousands, and Confucius never gave sight to a man who was born blind. The Lord Jesus Christ has done all these things. But most of all his claim to be the Son of God is proved beyond all shadow of doubt by his resurrection from the dead.

His dead body was wrapped in linen and placed in a tomb. A large rock was rolled in front of the tomb to seal it off. From Friday evening to Sunday morning his lifeless body lay enclosed in that dark tomb. Early Sunday morning he arose from the grave. After his resurrection his followers saw him on several occasions. They even ate a meal of fish and honeycomb with him. One of his disciples, who later would be known as doubting Thomas, even thrust his hand into the spear wound in his side. He remained on earth for forty days in a resurrected state before he ascended into heaven. Others were raised from the dead, such as Lazarus, Jairus daughter, and the widows son in the days of Elijah. All these persons then lived out their lives and died. Only the Lord Jesus was raised from the grave never to die again. He lives now in the power of an endless life.

Before he was crucified he made many statements to the effect that all men need to look to him in order to be saved. Here are just a few of these statements.

"I am the resurrection and the life he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall

he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." (John. 11: 24,25)

" For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3.17)

"And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (John 11:26)

Later, when he was ascended up into heaven he sent his followers to preach the same gospel message. They were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write:

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." (Acts 16:31)

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." (Acts 13:38, 39)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Son of God has been saved. They have put on as it were a life jacket that will keep them safe when others without faith will be plunged into terrible judgment for their sins. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."(Hebrews 9:27) At some future day those who reject the gospel message will have to face the Lord Jesus as their final Judge. Revelations Chapter 20 depicts this time of final judgment. Only the wicked dead those who reject Christ will be there. " And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."



Oh wont you prepare to make the crossing from time to eternity by placing your faith in the Son of God. In mercy and in love God now invites you to receive the gift of salvation. The moment you receive him as Savior is the moment that your name will be written in the book of life. Dont delay another second but place your trust in him before it is forever too late. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)