



The tragedy of the sinking of the Titanic brings before you Jesus' question "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36) Suddenly these 1,502 people were called away from this world. Away from loved ones and friends. Away to spend eternity in happiness or woe. Where will you spend Eternity? If you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour, you will spend Eternity with Him in Heaven. If you reject Him you will perish in Hell for Eternity.

'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' (John 3:16)

Invitation

If you desire to know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, send us your name and address, in BLOCK CAPITALS, and we will send you a free copy of the booklet "PARDON FOR SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PEACE WITH GOD" by W.J. Patton.

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THE TRAGEDY OF THE TITANIC





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HIGH IN THE CROWS-NEST of the new liner Titanic, Fred Fleet peered into the night. He had been warned to watch for icebergs. The cloudless sky blazed with stars. It was bitterly cold and the sea was smooth like glass. Suddenly Fred saw something directly ahead and he rang the bridge, "*Iceberg directly ahead.*" He watched as the iceberg glided by the starboard side of the ship.

Inside the liner all was going on as usual. This was the maiden voyage of the Titanic. There were 190 families of the wealthiest people in the world on board. Altogether there were 2,207 passengers and crew. In the First Class smoking room the bridge game was going ahead when an Officer appeared at the door and shouted, "*Men get your life belts on; there's trouble ahead.*"

Down in Boiler Room No. 6 Fireman Barrett heard a crash, and the whole starboard side of the ship seemed to cave in. Water began to pour in, swirling around the boiler room. The same was happening in Boiler Room No. 5. Some of the passengers felt the jar of the impact of the iceberg, but the folk around two card tables hardly looked up. People could be heard chatting in their cabins, unaware of the fact that the iceberg had ripped a 300 foot gash along the side of the Titanic, below the waterline. The great liner was doomed.

Captain Smith ordered all the women and children to go on deck. As the people moved up to the Boat Decks, one could see how they felt by the things they took with them and the things they left behind. Major A. Peuchen left a tin box on the table of his cabin. In that box there were 200,000 dollars in bonds and 100,000 dollars in stocks. Out into the cold night the passengers went.

Up the stairs they trooped - a hushed crowd, each wondering what would happen next. The seamen began to clear the 16 wooden lifeboats. Properly filled these boats would have held 1,178 people, but there were 2,207 people on board.

Some of the women did not want to leave their husbands. One of these was Mrs Isador Straus, whose husband was a millionaire. They refused to be separated. While the women were getting into the boats, two of the men went away and got dressed in evening clothes. They said, "*We are prepared to go down like gentlemen.*"

In one boat that could hold 40, only 12 people were in it. As the bow of the Titanic began to sink, some men rushed forward to get on one of the lifeboats, but the Second Officer Lightoller fired his revolver in order to stop their rush. Inside the great liner 29 boilers were blowing steam, hundreds of cases of food and drink, pianos, tables and chairs were flying about. Then the forward funnel fell off.

The women in the boats were dazed and dumbfounded. The Titanic was sinking. The Band was now playing, '*Nearer my God to Thee.*' Under the sea with her went 1,502 people into Eternity. For a time hundreds of them thrashed about in the freezing water.

Some of the people in the boats began to pray. Over the sea came desperate cries for help. It was now 2.20 a.m. Eighty five miles away the ship Carpathia received the S.O.S. call from the Titanic, and came thundering along to the rescue, firing rockets all the way. Some hours later they were at the very spot where the Titanic had been. The Captain's heart sank, for there was no trace of the Titanic.

