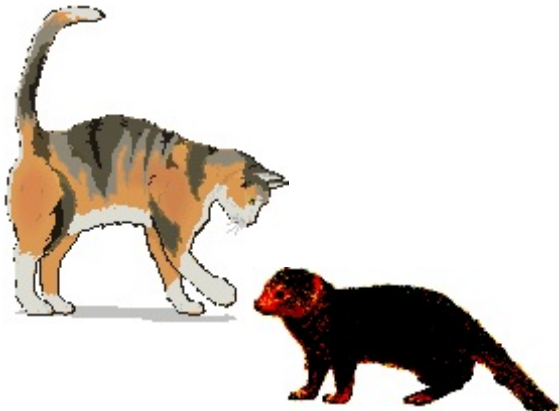


# **The Cat and the Mongoose**



**“...the Son of God, who loved me,  
and GAVE HIMSELF for me” (Gal 2:20).**

**“...The great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
...GAVE HIMSELF for us, that he might redeem us  
from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar  
people, zealous of good works” (Tit 2:13-14).**

Our favourite cat was jet black, energetic, fearless, and playful. We loved him and he loved us. As we stroked his fur we could feel and hear him purring. Cats were the only pets allowed in our house. In the yard you would almost always find hens, cocks (roosters), chicks and eggs. The chickens roamed all day inside our fenced yard. At night they would roost in the trees. The chicks could not fly and slept under the mother hen on the ground.

Now **the mongoose** is the chicks' great enemy. It is brown in colour like a rat but bigger and has a long furry tail. It is fierce and nimble and was imported into our island, Barbados, to kill off snakes. The mongooses did kill off the snakes but we now have a mongoose problem. Thankfully they only love chicks and eggs.

Chicks are only safe near to the hens. They fight for the chicks by attacking and pecking their enemies fiercely with their beaks. When danger is near the hen makes a clucking call and the chicks go to her. They dare not disobey.

One day we were in the yard, with the chickens all around. The cat was there in a playful mood. Suddenly, we saw a full grown mongoose creeping towards the chicks. The animals spotted it and the hen quickly called her chicks. Everyone became quiet and no one moved.

All at once we saw the cat crouch. We had never seen or heard of a cat attacking a mongoose. We watched him not knowing what he was thinking. In a flash, the cat darted with amazing speed, gripped the mongoose, and broke its neck, as only cats can. The mongoose died

instantly. All of this happened in a split second. The fearful foe was destroyed. To this day it is one of the most amazing feats that I have ever seen.

The cat now became our very brave and unforgettable pet. We all went across and stroked it and petted it. He had done a great job. As we felt his fur, we noticed that his body was hot like fire. All of the resources in his body had been used to produce that surge of extreme energy in order to accomplish such a feat. We buried the mongoose, but sadly, a few days later we also buried the cat. The exertion was too great for his heart.

This incident reminds me of the Lord Jesus and us. Our sins had hopelessly ruined our lives. Satan, our evil foe was intent on our eternal destruction. Just as the chicks could not help each other nor protect themselves, none of us could help or save one another. **“None of them (mankind) can by any means redeem (rescue) his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him”** Psa 49:7.

The Lord Jesus saw us all in danger and came to rescue us. On the cross He gathered up all of the resources of His being and **gave Himself**. He laid down His own life and through His death Satan is defeated. Victoriously, He cried with a loud voice, **“It is finished”** John 19:30.

**“...He (Christ) also himself ...took part of the same (became a man); that through death he might**

**destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage” Heb 2:14-15.**

Sadly, all of us have disobeyed God and deserve His eternal judgement. But on the cross the Lord Jesus paid the penalty for our sins in order to free us. **“...Our Lord Jesus Christ, ... gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father” Gal 1:3-4.**

We did not, and would not have asked the cat to attack the mongoose nor to give his life for the chickens. It was his own choice. So too the Lord Jesus chose to give His all for us. Best of all, He did it because He **loved** us. Now, He wants us to come in **faith** and **repentance** to receive the full benefit of His work. **“(God) Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who GAVE HIMSELF a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” 1Tim 2:4-6.**

No. 10

*Samuel Rice*

---

Scriptures from *The King James Version*

---

Want to know more? Write to: **Drawing Near Publications**  
Prospect, St James, BB24010, Barbados, W.I. Tel **1 (246) 438-7423;**  
437-9619; 426-6961; 421-6341. Email [sam@drawing-near.com](mailto:sam@drawing-near.com)  
Listen to ‘Wonderful Words of Life’ Sundays on 97.5 FM at 10:00am