

## ON HIS DIME

1/21/2017

I remember a cute little book that came out in the early nineties called, "Life's Little Instruction Book." It became a best seller right off the bat and was packed full of short, simple things a person could do to make their life more enjoyable. One of the many wonderful suggestions it offered was to "Pay the toll for the car following you at the tollbooth."

This seemed like a fun thing to do and I could hardly wait until my next trip from San Jose to Oregon to try it! I was excited to think of how surprised the other person would be to realize that someone they did not even know had paid their toll!

So there I was; waiting in the line at the tollbooth, the excitement growing the closer I came. When I reached the tollbooth and expressed to the attendant that I wanted to also pay for the car behind me, there was a confused and bewildered look on her face. She then offered a shrug of the shoulders and accepted the money. With that, I took off like a shot! I wanted to be long gone by the time the car behind learned of the coming surprise!

I have to say, it was a lot of fun. I got a sense of joy in having done that random act of kindness. There was a sense of fulfillment in knowing that it had probably made their day! They had gone through on my dime (actually my dollar!) and would likely remember it for some time! Who knows, maybe they got such a kick out of it that they returned the favor for the car behind them!

This reminds me of what Jesus has done for us. He has paid our toll. With His own life upon the cross, Jesus paid the price for our sins and there is absolutely nothing we can do to add to what He has already done. The finality and perfection of His substitutionary atonement was fully expressed from the cross when He uttered the words, "It is finished." With that one act, Jesus forever paid for the sins of every person who follows Him.

Of course, one difference between the tollbooth example and what Jesus has done for us is that we could never pay the toll required by our sin! We could never pay the infinite cost for the immeasurable injustice we have perpetrated by sinning against our holy and righteous God.

And that's why Jesus came. He came because the Father willed Him to come. The Father who created you for worship. The Father who is patient, kind, merciful and gracious loved you enough to give His only Son so that you could have a relationship with Him.

If you have followed Jesus in faith then you have a Great High Priest who has paid your toll. One day, when you knock at Heaven's door, He will open that door and you will go through on His dime!