

# Did you Know?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. He was English.
- At the age of 16, Patrick was captured by Irish pirates from his home in England and sold into slavery in Ireland.
- God used the trauma of slavery to Patrick's benefit. The experience brought Patrick to an attitude of seriousness about God. In his own words, *"It was there that the Lord opened the understanding of my unbelieving heart, so that I should recall my sins, even though it was late, and turn with all my heart to the Lord my God, and he took notice of my humble state..."*  
-St. Patrick
- During slavery, some taunted him, calling him "Holy Boy" because he was always praying and talking about his Savior.
- After six years of slavery,

Patrick escaped from Ireland.

- After he escaped, Patrick decided to return to Ireland as a missionary. This was an incredible decision. Patrick received much opposition for Christ. At times, he was put in chains again and he went in and out of slavery.
- However, Patrick gladly gave up his freedom because he was concerned for the souls of the people of Ireland. He knew that his captors were actually the captive ones—in slavery to sin. They were trapped by the deceptions of myths, and had no meaning in life or hope for eternity.

## Patrick's Message

"There is no God except God the Father...and His son Jesus Christ."  
"Through Him were made all things—both visible and invisible."  
"When death had been overcome by Jesus' death on the cross and

resurrection from the dead) He [Jesus] was received into heaven... and was given all power and authority over heaven and earth."  
"[Jesus] will come again and judge the living and the dead."  
"He poured out upon us richly the Holy Spirit." (God indwells true believers through His Spirit.)  
"[Jesus] gives the gift and pledge of immortality" (Eternal life is a gift to those who repent of their sin and turn to Christ. It cannot be earned.) *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23, the Bible)

## How did Ireland Respond?

- Patrick suffered greatly, sometimes barely escaping with his life. Many followers of Christ were put to death during this time. Nevertheless, Patrick continued to

Born: A.D. 385  
Died: March 17, A.D. 461

[www.juststopandthink.com](http://www.juststopandthink.com)

For more information about knowing God, see

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."  
(John 3:16, the Bible)

"He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."  
(1 John 5:12, the Bible)

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6, the Bible)

- In the end, Ireland responded with enthusiasm to this good news. People received Patrick's message about how Christ defeated death and paid for sins. In fact, all of Ireland was affected and changed. As a result, the world remembers Patrick to this day. However, it was not ultimately Patrick to whom early Ireland responded—but to Jesus Christ.

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Paul Gallico: Doubleday & Co. Garden City, New York.  
"The Steadfast Man" A biography of St. Patrick;

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himself.  
"Confession" and "Letter to Coroticus" These are the two extant documents written by Patrick  
Bibliography:

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him [Jesus] the iniquity of us all."  
(Isaiah 53:6, the Bible)

Who was he?  
Saint Patrick