

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole counsel of GOD

*Without Price Since 1910*

*Loving His Appearing*

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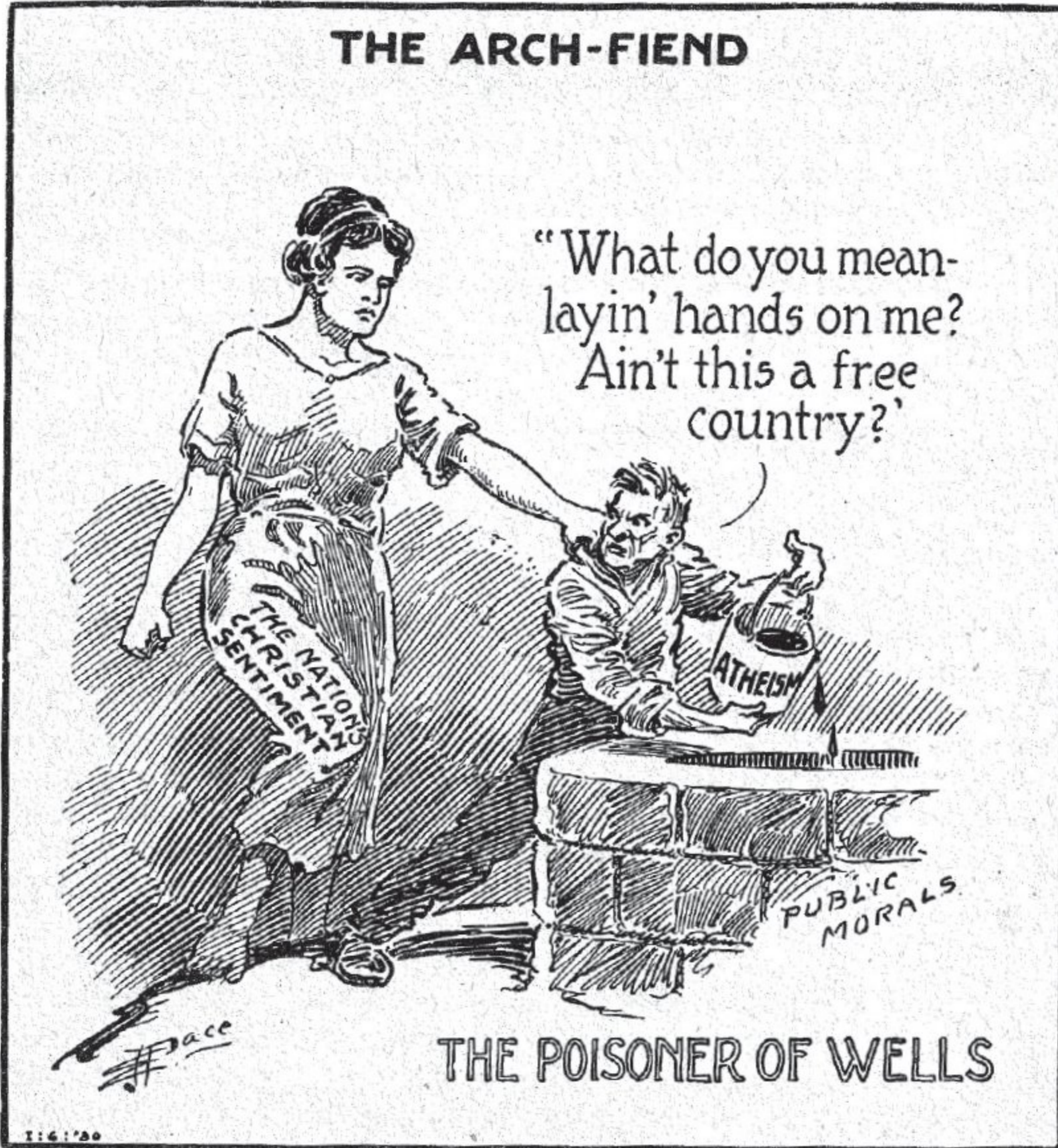
*Number 10*



**O Lord,**  
my strength, and  
my fortress, and  
my refuge in the  
day of affliction.  
*JEREMIAH 16:19.*

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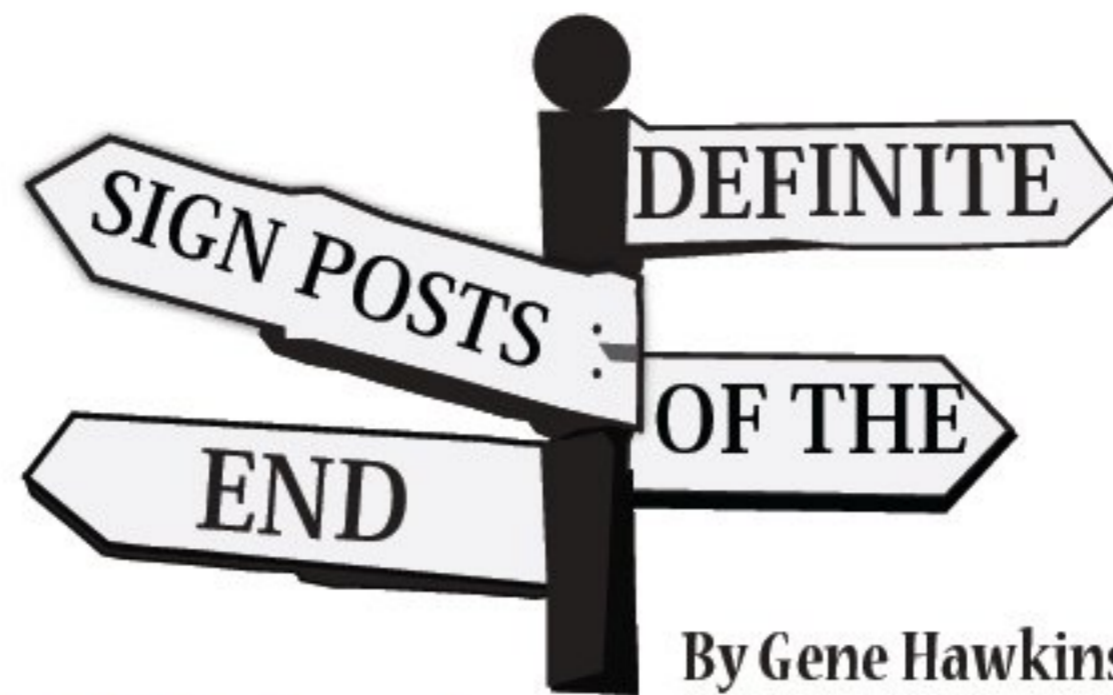
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Editor: Gene Hawkins



By Gene Hawkins

*“I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.” Dan. 7:9*

3

The current, and volatile, world conditions cause us to stop and wonder if, at this present time, we may be viewing exactly the same giant panorama which Daniel observed here. If there is one word to describe the governments of this world today, it is change. Daniel cried out “I beheld...” as though he were viewing moving pictures which were appearing rapidly before him. The word translated “cast down,” is a very interesting one. It means “to throw, set, (figuratively) assess,” but it also carries the significance to “cast (down), impose.” The word is also expanded, signifying “to hurl; specifically, to shoot; figuratively, to delude or betray (as if causing to fall):.” All of these meanings, at times diametrically opposed to one another, are extremely applicable today, for while one is falling from a particular place of power, another is put quickly in his place. The *order* of this verse is also pregnant with meaning for Daniel tells us that multiple “thrones,” here on earth, are being changed like “musical chairs,” just **prior** to the time when the “Ancient of Days did sit.....” and “his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.” This is none other than Christ Himself who will be enthroned to specifically pour out judgment upon this entire world. When that happens, all those sitting on other “thrones,” will be ruling in usurpation. Are we truly witnessing in “real” time the same changes in government which Daniel saw in spirit, those thousands of years ago?

We know that Jesus has not yet been crowned “King of kings and Lord of lords, but given the seeming rapidity with which these scenes changed before Daniel, we are absolutely assured that, that great event could happen at any moment. Scripture also teaches very plainly that the bride of the Lamb, pictured by the four living ones and twenty four elders in Rev. 4-5, must be in heaven, **BEFORE** that grand and glorious coronation takes place! How long will it be, until those same

triumphant words “COME UP HITHER!!!” which filled John’s ears, come ringing from heaven to fill our own? Rev. 4:1

We simply do not know the answer to that question, but we surely can have our ears strained to hear that Mighty Voice of the trumpet from on high. We must also watch attentively as these moving pictures unfold before us, for it seems that while thrones were being changed so quickly on earth, the throne for the Ancient of days, was being prepared simultaneously in heaven.

We can report that the “raging” or tumultuous assembling of the nations, represented by Egypt as reported in our last issue, continues unabated. Now Syria, which has been bubbling up like a giant volcano for the last couple of years, has been added to this mix and we hear cries of terror, as men worry about the start of World War III. We know from Scripture that such a war will be known as Armageddon. God’s Word also affirms that it will not take place until the very end of the seven year tribulation, which will begin shortly, but men certainly do have just cause to be extremely worried and distraught, at this present time.

Jesus warned of this day in Luke 21. “And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; **and upon the earth** distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; **Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:....**” V. 25,26 Signs of upheaval in the heavenly elements, have been rather prominent for some time but the focus of attention at this hour involves “... those things which are coming on the earth:...” They are directly related to the “distress,” and “perplexity,” prevalent among the nations. The word “distress,” literally means “restraint, i.e. (figuratively) anxiety:--anguish, distress.” It comes from another word meaning “to hold together, i.e. to compress ...figuratively, to compel, perplex, afflict, preoccupy:--constrain.” Such meanings surely describe the efforts of the nations today in trying to control or constrain this global climate among some very volatile nations. The word “perplexity,” which also describes the attitude among these same nations is also easily seen in present conflicts around the world. It signifies a state of “quandary, of being at a loss mentally with no way out.” What a fitting description of world leaders as they try to resolve the present difficulty in Syria! The “sea and the waves roaring” in V. 25 present a graphic portrait of the tremendous unrest and upheaval facing the “sea” of nations today.

The current “raging” of the waves started when Syrian President Bashar al-Assad was accused of using chemical weapons of mass destruction against his own people. 1400 people were reportedly killed in the attack on Aug. 21, 2013, an attack which Assad has vehemently denied, even to the point of insisting that Syria owned no such weapons. Syria, Russia, and China, have all basically inferred that Assad was “framed,” and that the rebels fighting against the current Syrian regime were responsible for the attack. This explanation has been summarily rejected by most of the world community, insisting that the rebels have no access to such weapons. Recent statements by Syria, and Russian President Vladimir Putin, have now been advanced asserting that if the U.S. will guarantee no attacks against that country now, or in the future, Syria would surrender those chemical weapons to international control. More “distress,” or “quandary,” is now evident, for the entire world remembers how Saddam Hussein used every delay tactic imaginable to thwart the U.N. inspectors from doing their jobs in “overseeing” his WMD. There is no reason to believe that Syria would be any more compliant.

Syria has a history of atrocities against both God and man. The Lord instructed Elijah to “...return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:” I Kings 19:15 Elisha was anointed prophet in the room of Elijah and he wept openly, when he informed Hazael that he would soon become King over Syria, “Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.” II Kings 8:11,12 The Syrian President has committed such disdainful acts against his own people.

Daniel also speaks of another very despicable Syrian. The little horn of Daniel 8 is a direct prophecy of the false prophet as “...he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, (Christ) and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.” Dan. 8:11,12 This is a direct prophecy of how the temple in the end time will be profaned when the image of the antichrist is set up there. There was, however, a local fulfillment of the “sanctuary”

being cast down, for history reveals that a Syrian by the name of Antiochus Epiphanes invaded Israel and sacrificed a sow on the altar effectually putting an end to Jewish worship for a time. Some have indicated that such an event was the only fulfillment of this verse, but that cannot be, according to verses 13,14 of this same chapter, which plainly state that the sanctuary would be cleansed 2300 days after the daily sacrifice is taken away. Though worship in the temple was eventually restored, there is absolutely no record of the designated 2300 day time frame. This simply means that 2300 days after the daily sacrifice of the end time is taken away, the allotted time of the antichrist will come to an end, and he will be completely removed and cast into the lake of fire, for then, and only then, can there be such a purification of the temple he has polluted.

Isaiah 17 also presents a direct reference to Damascus of Syria, and some have wondered if the proposed American strike against Syria could be the fulfillment of that prophecy. “The burden (doom) of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.” V. 1 We know that these words were not fulfilled at the time then present, for Damascus continued to thrive down to the day when Saul of Tarsus was struck down on the road to this fair city as he relentlessly persecuted Christians. It is also alive and well in our day. We seriously doubt that if it is bombed by U.S. war planes, it would be reduced to the “ruinous heap,” prophesied here. That total annihilation will assuredly come to pass sometime during the days of tribulation.

Jeremiah also pronounces the total annihilation of Damascus. “Concerning Damascus....they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet. Damascus is waxed feeble, and turneth herself to flee... her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day...And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall consume the palaces of Benhadad.” V. 23-27 Multitudes of refugees have already fled Syria into Lebanon, but words of this text are a specific reference to Damascus and like Isaiah 17, speaks more of a wholesale slaughter, as “all the men of war” are cut off. The strikes proposed by the U.S. would be more of a “surgical” nature, purportedly designed to target and destroy sites housing chemical weapons.

Once again the tremendous quandary of the nations comes to the fore in this matter as there are so many conflicting views on what action to take against the atrocious and despicable

conduct of Assad, who bears the same characteristics as Hazael and Antiochus. President Obama has been much criticized for drawing a “red line,” and then doing nothing when Assad crossed it. After much time elapsed, and he declared unequivocally that he would carry out strikes to punish Assad, the Pres. then deferred the decision to congress. Some political leaders, here and around the world, interpret this path as one of weakness. According to Newsmax, “Former Israeli UN Ambassador Dan Gillerman called it a “fiasco reminiscent of the Carter days,” and warned it would bring “gloating and celebrating” in Tehran. Gillerman told The New York Times the decision would cast “a very dark shadow” over U.S. credibility.” These statements simply reinforce the atmosphere of mental anguish and uncertainty surrounding this whole ordeal, many concluding that regardless of what is done, it will still be wrong. Some put forth the idea that strikes must be carried out lest Iran and other nations get the idea that they can cross any “red line,” without fear of reprisal. Others are insistent that any military action would result in Syria, along with Iran and Hezbollah, retaliating against Israel; and U.S. installations around the world.

Other nations such as Great Britain and France, seem to be clear on punishing Assad, but none are willing to join the U.S. in actual military action. White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough conceded on CNN’s “State of the Union,” that the President has not secured international military support for the mission against Syria but “But it is specific support for holding him [Syrian President Bashar Assad] to account, and it is a recognition that it happened. We feel very good about the support we have, and we’ll continue to build more.”

Tentative and even hostile reluctance of the nations to join this cause is reflected in this report from “LIGNET NEWS.” “...two members of the British House of Commons described the events behind Thursday’s stunning vote opposing the use of military force against Syria. Members of Parliament rejected 285-272 a resolution by Prime Minister David Cameron that called for an international response, including the possible use of military force, to an Aug. 21 chemical weapons attack near Damascus. According to one of the parliamentarians, the House of Commons ‘was in chaos...’ One source remarked that he was ‘stunned’ by the bitterness of the debate even by the standards of the often raucous British Parliament.” This report goes on to conclude that Prime Minister David Cameron, “acknowledged defeat on Thursday, saying, “It is clear to

me the British Parliament does not want to see British military action.”

France, likewise, has expressed no willingness to participate in military action, but according to this report from the Associated Press, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, declared that France “..would put forward a resolution in the U.N. Security Council aimed at forcing Syria to ultimately dismantle its chemical weapons program, seizing on the diplomatic opening from Russia a day earlier. France, like Russia, a permanent member of the 15-nation council, will start the resolution process Tuesday under a part of the U.N. charter that is militarily enforceable. The proposal would also condemn the chemical weapons attack.” This action came following the Russian proposal that Syria surrender all the chemical weapons (which Assad had previously denied having) to international control.

This same report indicates that China, who has repeatedly joined Russia in impeding “Western efforts to pressure Assad through the U.N. body,” also accepted the plan “As long as it eases the tension and helps maintain Syrian and regional peace and stability, and helps politically settle the issue,....” The chief of the Arab League, Nabil Elaraby, also expressed support for the proposal, 8 telling reporters that it has been always in favor of a “political resolution.” The league has blamed the government for the attack, but says it doesn't support military action without U.N. consent.”

There is no guarantee, at this point, that the Russian resolution would be entertained, and the distress, anxiety, and uncertainty in this affair, continue unabated. President Obama did ask congress to delay their vote on the matter and dispatched Secretary of State John Kerry to Geneva for a meeting once again with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, in an effort to revise the aforementioned proposal, making it acceptable to the U.S., since there is no way a blanket promise of no military action can be agreed upon. Some observers view this as a sign that Russia is now in the proverbial “driver’s seat,” and whatever America does, could be dictated by the Kremlin.

Developments, at this writing, seem to reinforce that conclusion. Russian President Putin has taken full advantage of America’s slow response to the aforementioned red line, seizing upon the fact that neither the international community, nor the U.S. congress, was willing to support a military strike against Syria. He then offered his solution to the situation and thus the entire Syrian crisis, in the eyes of the world, now hinges



on “the Russian Proposal.” An agreement was apparently reached in Geneva calling for Assad to surrender his chemical weapons, and though there are to be “consequences” if Syria refuses to comply with that order, there is seemingly no call for reprisal against him for his current use of them. There is also every indication that he will, in no wise be removed from power.

Newsmax also gave evidence that Putin has been catapulted into the limelight, when it carried the story of “Vladimir Putin's surprise appearance in the op-ed pages of The New York Times, where he challenged President Barack Obama over Syria.” There were many responses to it, but according to Newsmax, “...all sides agreed it was a stunning propaganda coup for Putin with the Times itself saying that the 60-year-old former KGB chief is now clearly the most powerful leader in the world. “Suddenly Mr. Putin has eclipsed Mr. Obama as the world leader driving the agenda in the Syria crisis,” the Times wrote on Thursday, the same day that his op-ed appeared.”

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Further advantage for Putin is summed up in these words from the same article. “Among Putin's victories, the Times noted, were: giving Syrian President Bashar Assad a lifeline just as he appeared close to losing power; preventing Obama acting without first getting backing from the United Nations Security Council, where Russia holds a veto; and making Russia “indispensable” in containing the Syrian conflict.”

We have thought for quite some time that America would be one of the nations “plucked up by the roots,” in Dan. 7:8. The events unfolding before us, surely present evidence of how easily that could happen.

Despite these developments, The U.S. insists that military force is still a very real possibility, and the world waits with “bated breath,” wondering if Assad will comply with the Russian brokered agreement. Great consternation also continues in regard to the monitoring and destruction of these weapons, even if Assad does acquiesce, due to the enormity of them. Numerous reports indicate that Syria has 1000 metric tons of these materials and military experts declare that even if undefined “international community” officials were allowed into Syria, that country does not have the necessary equipment to dispose of them. There is also great fear that Assad would use the same delay tactics that were so effective by Saddam Hussein, who succeeded in causing them to “vanish into thin air,” despite numerous assertions from highly respected intelligence agencies, that he did indeed

have them. Some, both then and now, have theorized that they were indeed exported to Syria and with the massive amounts that are now asserted to be there, that is surely a possibility. It is our understanding that these are the same intelligence agencies which confirmed the presence of such weapons in Iraq.

This current flurry of action over these volatile weapons clearly indicates that the entire global community is on the very edge of the global atmosphere wherein Jesus described “Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:....” The fears of men are not unfounded, and despite the efforts set forth by many nations to rid the world of these destructive weapons, scripture is very clear that chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons, will be in full supply during the tribulation. Revelation 9:17-19 presents a clear reference to these types of weapons and the massive results of their use. “And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three (fire, smoke, and brimstone) was the third part of men killed, ....For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails:...and with them they do hurt. And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not....” This very devastating scenario will come to pass very near the middle of the week after the seventh seal of judgment has been opened. Rev. 8:1 Unprecedented war will then ensue on a massive scale of destruction, wherein “the third part of men,” are killed. The declaration that these are “plagues,” along with the graphic analogy of smoke, surely does indicate the devastation resulting from chemical and biological weapons. The burning of fire and brimstone, relative to nuclear radiation, is also manifest, and there is no doubt that some of the current stockpiles of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons, which will be freely used according to this chapter, exist at this present hour.

The one question that is being somewhat ignored is; will Assad remain in power? The current proposal put forth by Vladimir Putin seems to guarantee exactly that, and with reason. Russia maintains a military base in Syria and is trying desperately to become the supreme power in the Middle East. They need Assad, in order to gain that foothold, and could very well succeed in that endeavor. God Himself installed Hazael

as King of Syria, and He still removes kings and sets them up, even men like unto Assad. The beginning of this article shows the very fluid governments of this present time and many are extremely concerned as to whether or not al-Qaeda or the Muslim Brotherhood would fill a vacuum left by the absence of Assad. Egypt stands as a stark reminder of that possibility. According to Daniel, this same pattern of constant change will continue until Jesus is enthroned and even after that, it is certain that the governments of men will topple, until only He is left.

The concern for those, around the world, straining their spiritual ears to hear that trumpet call to glory, must not be deterred by what we perceive in regard to our respective beloved countries. We must follow the example of Abraham who claimed the identity of being only a sojourner, just passing through this world. "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country,.... For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Heb. 11:9-10

11 There must also come a definite time in our lives when we can truly understand what Jesus meant when He said "...the world hath hated them, because *they are not of the world*, even as I am not of the world." More and more it is imperative that we identify with those worthies of faith, that we have the same testimony as those who "...confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." Heb. 11:13-16

### **COMMUNION**

**Don't neglect the quiet hour,  
For the soul that truly seeks  
Knows the thrill of holy power --  
Hears the Father when He speaks.**

**In prayer, by faith, His voice is heard;  
Our inmost soul is strongly stirred;  
All loosened cords are brought in tune,  
And we with God Himself commune.**

-- J. L. Spicer

# THE OPEN DOOR

C.B. Neidholt

*"After these things I saw, and behold, a door opened in heaven."- Revelation 4:1 R.V.*

My heart is overwhelmed with the vision of that wonderful place which our Lord Jesus Christ will soon have in heaven. So let us gaze into the glory and see Him in the age to come. During this age, Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father. This is outlined in the previous chapters. John said, "After these things." In spirit, he looked on past this Church Age of nineteen hundred years into the next age. He saw a door opened in heaven. Oh, is it not glorious, that the Apostle not only was privileged to have the vision, but he obtained it for you and me. Hallelujah! He looked not upon things that are present, but upon eternal things. The present things are temporal. 12 They will soon pass away. With John, we are gazing upon greater things. We are expecting a greater place, high and heavenly. As we read these marvelous words and wait for that open door in heaven, our hearts swell within us at the wonder of them. It especially makes my heart bubble over with joy, to know that God counted me worthy in His Son to have such a place with Him. I do not have to stay here in the next age. That door is opened for you and me. Jesus is interceding with the Father for us, that we may be prepared to enter that open door. Thank God! Jesus had said, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:16 Heaven is our home. So if any of you expect to remain on earth during the millennium, you need not stay. A door is opened in heaven for you. Get ready to enter therein. Yield to God and study His Word. He will qualify you. Then you will miss the dark tribulation days.

*"And the first voice that I heard, a voice as of a trumpet speaking with me, one saying, Come up hither, and I will show thee the things which must*

*come to pass hereafter.*" Revelation 4:1 R.V. I like that word "must." It has to be. Everything else must give way that it may be accomplished. There is not power enough in the realms of darkness by Satan and his hosts to hinder it. The Lord has spoken, and He will do it. He does not open that door in vain. Nothing shall prevent those who have the heavenly vision. Years ago, we may have thought, "Oh, how wonderful and glorious it would be to be there; but I never can make the grade. It is too great." But now we can say, "Glory be to God, for the vision of this wonderful Gospel." Through Paul's Gospel, every man may be presented perfect in Christ Jesus; yes, perfect, completely whole. He may be completely qualified by God Himself and the power of His Word which works in us mightily, to enter that open door. The Lord will have plenty of company in heaven; for He died to bring "many sons unto glory." Hebrews 2:10.

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By the eye of faith, we can look forward, and anticipate the time of our entering in. John beheld the door open and heard a voice. I dare say that when we get the vision, as I know many of you have, we also hear a voice. We hear from heaven. We feel something, and know something. And we know that we know. It is unmistakable. We know because the Word says so, and the Scriptures cannot be broken. God will see to it, that all, who really have this hope, will land there. Thank God! That trumpet talks to me. Is it talking to you today? No wonder we talk about the coming of the Lord. No doubt there is a little crack in the door, as it were, and a heavenly breeze blowing through it. That breeze will grow stronger and stronger and finally sweep some people out of this world up into glory.

They who do not see these things, may misunderstand us and think that we are glorying in ourselves. But I declare, that would disqualify us for the rapture. We can glory only in God. He is

doing it. He is qualifying us. "Not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith," said the Apostle. Then He must work in us all the good pleasure of His goodness and prepare us to go, when the trumpet shall blow. "Immediately I was in spirit," John said. There was no tarrying. As immediately as he was in spirit, so quickly will we be there. In the twinkling of an eye we will be changed.

"And behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and One sitting upon the throne; and He that sat was to look upon like a jasper stone and a sardius: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, like an emerald to look upon" - Rev. 4:2,3 R.V. Only those who have the Holy Spirit - have dove's eyes - realize what a wonderful vision John enjoyed. He not only saw the open door, but he saw the King on the throne. He also saw the rainbow as the covenant promise in our behalf, that God will do what He says. The Son of God came down from heaven, picks man up and takes him to glory. He came from glory and went back. He is coming again and will return to glory.

Beloved, it makes me think of Abraham in Genesis 13. "And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. Lot was a righteous man. He believed in the shedding of the blood; but he was not wholehearted like Abraham. He was worldly minded, and mixed up with politics. He had to be separated from his nephew, before the Lord could show him his inheritance; for Lot would not have understood it. There are some Lot Christians today; but, thank God, there are some Abraham Christians also. It is after the former

are separated from us, that God speaks and reveals the deeper truths and makes us to behold our blood-bought place and riches in Christ. They would only say, "It is imagination. It is fanaticism." And only they, who lift up their eyes and look heavenward, behold the wonders of divine grace.

Why should he look northward first? Because the throne is in the north - Isaiah 14:13,14. And from the throne, we behold the length and breadth of our inheritance in Christ. There Christ shall reign for one thousand years, and we shall reign with Him. We are, by His grace, obedient to the heavenly vision; and God will not disappoint us. He will meet our expectations, when they are founded upon His Word. As with Abraham, so the Lord bids us to look around and explore the glory land. "Seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above." Colossians 3:1,2. Behold the wonderful things, that God has prepared for those that love Him, the wonderful place in heaven; and above all, the Wonderful One, who will make the place exceedingly wonderful. Hallelujah!

15

All things are ours to enjoy for God's glory. Everything is at our disposal, for our present happiness and usefulness, and to qualify us for the glory place. Everything abounds, to the one who dares to believe God and walk with Him. Listen men. If you think that yielding to God will hinder you from having your temporal needs supplied, you are mistaken. Yield to Him, and what David said will come to pass. "Wait for Jehovah, and keep His way, and He will exalt thee to inherit the land." Psa. 37:34 R.V. Let nothing stand in your way of beholding the glory and the expectations thereof. Why are the prophesied terrible times coming on the world? That people may be made to know the uncertainty of earthly things, and learn to depend upon the Lord and put their confidence in His Word. "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28. And His highest purpose

in our lives is that we be qualified to be the Bride of Christ. They who let temporal things cut off their vision of the coming glory will certainly be exceedingly sorrowful. Let the vision grow brighter and the hope be renewed day by day. Beloved, the throne of God is there and the door is open. Some must reign with Christ there. If Satan could, he would hinder every one of us from being ready; but he cannot do it. Some must reign. God says it. He planned for it. Before time was, God said, "Let there be a Bride by the side of My Son"; even as afterwards, He said, "Let there be light: and there was light." Genesis 1:3. Even the first Adam did not reign alone. Eve was given to reign with him. God did not say, "Let Adam have dominion"; but, "Let them have dominion." Gen. 1:26. Therefore, to those who may be in the least bit discouraged, I say, "Stand fast." "Having done all, to stand." Phil. 4:1; Eph. 6:13. Stand with those who are standing true 16 in the Name of the Lord for the excellent glory. Let us permit God's purpose to be accomplished in our lives, our hearts knit together in the love of God. Thus we will be drawn on by His power. He will keep us faithful until the day of Jesus Christ. Oh, wonderful, wonderful Jesus. We will hear the trumpet blast saying, "Come up hither." Rev. 4:1. And immediately, we will go. Praise the Lord!

*(Originally printed 1931. Reprint 1964)*

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\* The greatest proof that Christianity is divine, is the fact that it rises triumphant above all the reproach, which is heaped upon it, and under which some of its best friends almost die. They, cannot stand the opprobrium.

\* We read recently, "Salvation has become a night cap to some Christians instead of a helmet."

\* What is as impartial as a traffic light? Like the Lord, it is no respecter of persons. It will change from green to red, on the preacher as well as the police officer.



# The Family of God

***“FOR THIS CAUSE I BOW MY KNEES UNTO THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, OF WHOM THE WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH IS NAMED, ....” —Eph. 3:13,14.***

**G**od the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has a large family—one part in heaven, the other on earth. It will always be so. A heavenly and earthly seed was promised to Abraham—Gen. 13:16 and 15:5.

A family supposes kinship and fellowship. It is a symbol of endearing ties. We love our family relations in the natural. We do not broadcast their faults, nor *gossip* about them. We speak to one brother about the failure of another sometimes because it is necessary. This is not to tell the world. It is to correct or help our brother. We enter into and fellowship, in some measure, his failure or sin. If he is shamed or punished for wrong doing, we are also touched and hurt.

Likewise should it be in the spiritual family. Saints in one city or assembly should not peddle their family secrets, or broadcast the sins of their brethren to those of another family at home or in another place. Such doings are plainly of Satan. They are a sore evil. The heart of Christ is grieved and the saints who are told are defiled and thereby defeated in their Christian life.

Visiting preachers are even found guilty in this respect. Some have a choice morsel from some malicious mind, and they eat it up and run right away and tell what they have heard. The lack of wisdom and brotherly love, not saying of spirituality, that is thus manifested is truly pathetic, to say the least. If there is one asset that is absolutely necessary in the ministry it is that of wisdom. How can saints trust such preachers with their money if they cannot be trusted to protect and defend the reputations of their brethren. Love spreads a mantle over the sins of the saints-1 Pet. 4:8.

If we happen to be in company with those who are in the habit of spreading gossip instead of grace, and cannot change the current of the conversation, we should leave the place, and thus bear testimony against this wicked practice. Let us never sit by and listen to a backbiter except that we hope to change his attitude and spirit. And if we ourselves have been guilty of thus sharing in the work of the devil, let us confess it to the Lord, repent of such unbecoming conduct and pray for those who are guilty in this respect.

Anon.  
Reprint 1950

# REFLECTIONS

*. . . From the Editor*

**“There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; ...  
The liberal soul shall be made fat:..”Prov. 11:25**

*This word “liberal,” I have come to hate,  
For much of God’s Word it would negate.  
Today it means there’ll be no restraint.  
Sin is unchecked and must run ram-pant  
“Just anything goes,” the world now cries,  
Don’t even you dare to criticize.  
“I’ll do as I please, so don’t bother me,”  
This is man’s idea of being made free.  
Money flows free as though there’s no tomorrow,  
It you don’t have enough, just go and borrow.  
Nations follow this plan and encourage us all,  
“If you want it, just buy it, no problem at all.”  
God’s Word declares “Borrower!” A servant you’ll be,  
To the lender who insists, “just come to me.”  
Gay is another word that’s been hijacked,  
By the liberal crowd, as God’s Word’s attacked.  
It once meant joy, and lighthearted estates,  
Now God’s abomination, it celebrates.  
And then there’s tolerance, another liberal term  
Excusing, man’s sin, so he need not squirm.  
We must be tolerant cries the critic today  
For all are “entitled” to their own chosen way.  
But God’s Word’s ignored, and there’s no conviction  
Tolerate all conduct, without restriction.  
All religion too, must now be accepted,  
Though the Name to save all, ‘s blasphemed ‘n rejected.  
God’s tolerance has been longsuffering, forbearance,  
Till Christ should appear, and man come to repentance.  
But man says “be tolerant,” and no sin is left out,  
“For this,” says he, “is what love’s all about.”  
Nothing’s done wrong for which to repent,  
Thus there’s no reason, for Christ to be sent.*

*But scripture proclaims the liberal soul shall be fat,  
So there must be good reason, that God would say that.  
The soul not the body, is the subject here,  
Truth, those who seek riches, just don't want to hear.  
Praise God for genuine, liberality  
For it brings glorious riches, to you and to me.  
The word means blessing, and to kneel before Him.  
From adoration, devotion, submission doth stem.  
The liberal soul doth scatter, to those round about.  
And his own resources? Well they never run out.  
Jesus also said "Give!" 'twill come back to you,  
Pressed down, shaken together, 'n running over too.  
That's the promise of God for the liberal soul,  
And it is God, such a giver, is bound to extol.  
Give freely to others, with no hope of return,  
For 'tis LOVE real LOVE that makes the liberal heart burn.  
He gives not to get, but to manifest Christ  
His reward is eternal, and will be of the highest.  
So let us be given, to hospitality  
And know, in true deed, liberality.*

GH

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The DVD for the 2013 graduation is now available. We had five graduates who gave a short sermonette and Sis. (Dr.) Vickie Moots gave the commencement address entitled "God's GPS." There were several who attended from out of town, and we rejoice greatly in the tremendous atmosphere of divine love which permeated this celebration.

One of the graduates had taken courses by correspondence and we have had several graduate in this manner over the years. If you are interested in taking these classes which are all on CD, please write and ask for them. School has already begun, but it is never to late to enroll. Contact us by e-mail at [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com) or you may write to us at P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030

The statement of ownership and circulation, on the inside back cover, is an annual requirement by the Post Office. The Corn Crib will fill its rightful place next month.

# *LUCIFER AND SATAN*

(Continued from September)

*Mary M. Bodie*

Seven. He aspired to the throne of God, and still covets it. Isa. 14:13,14 Nothing is too stupendous for him to attempt to attain his desire. He, who has been in the place of guardian of the throne of Deity, now dares to attempt to get that seat. He has been repulsed in his first evil design, but he is far from being defeated or conquered. He continues to seek the throne of God; though he has the place of God in the hearts of the old creation. He obtained control of humanity through Adam's fall, and has dominated the earthly scene for six thousand years, usurping the authority that belongs to the Creator and Lord of the universe. God has allowed him to rule, in some measure, this mundane sphere. He is biding His time, for there are eternal purposes to consummate, and lessons for all God's creatures to learn; hence, He is in no hurry to show Himself Satan's Conqueror. But that day of retribution is surely coming upon him. He will be cast out from the heavens where he is ensconced at present with his wicked principalities and powers, "rulers of the darkness of this world." Eph. 6:12. There will be a great battle in heaven, for he will refuse to let the Church have the heavenlies, from whence he rules the earth; but the Lord will win the day. Rev. 12:9. He will cast Satan down to earth. Then for a short period --- seven years --- he will rage and roam upon the earth, walking to and fro, "seeking whom he may devour" - I Peter 5:8. 20

God speaks Satan's doom in these words, "Therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee." Ezek. 28:18. The whole universe will be astonished at the utter defeat of Satan. The angels and people who have worshiped him will be overwhelmed at the punishment meted out to him. They will be ashamed that they were so deceived by this archfiend.

For three and a half years, he will reign as a man upon the earth. There will be an incarnation of Satan, the

counterfeit of Christ as the incarnation of God, in the world. He will usurp the throne of Christ as King; but this, too, will be in vain. Men and Satan together will unite against God, but it will prove a losing game. The Lord Jesus Christ, Who as Man, defeated him when He died upon the Cross for sinful humanity, shall chain him in hell for one thousand years. Rev. 20:1-3 When the Millennium has passed, Satan shall be loosed for a little season. He will not as yet have learned his lesson. He will not be conquered after the thousand years. He "shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth." Rev. 20:8. He will gather them to battle, but again he will be defeated. It is the end of his activity against God. His nature will not be changed. He will always be Satan, the hater and the accuser; but he will no longer be allowed to act out his malice and envy. He shall be "cast into the lake of fire and brimstone." Rev. 20:10. It is the last act of the drama of the ages. The battle between good and evil shall be finished. Good, will be the winner at the finish. Evil, shall be dethroned with Satan, and be put far away --- out of sight forever.

The unique and astounding revelation concerning the creation of Lucifer and the fall of Satan, the two names expressive of this marvelous being in his two characters, is beyond anything that is found in human literature or history. There is no fiction that equals it, for mystery and glamour. Its lessons are manifold; and it was in some sense, that all the intelligent creation might be instructed in these profitable lessons, that Satan was allowed to run his course. Otherwise, the Lord would have put him down at once when iniquity was found in him.

One of the most vivid lessons, as set forth here, is the fact that wisdom and beauty at their utmost peak are powerless to guard a creature against sin. No created being, regardless of the most exalted rank --- the most honored charge --- is safe from the uttermost abyss of depravity unless guarded by God and sustained by His grace. Furthermore, we learn that when once a creature has fallen he cannot in any manner atone for his sin. Satan, the most supremely gifted creature, has nothing to offer to God,

even if he so desired, to make amends for his iniquity. He is helpless in this respect; and becomes the striking example to the universe of abused privileges, ruined hopes, and forfeited glories. He is the fountainhead of sin to all the creatures of God who have sinned. God entered into the arena in man's defense, and made atonement for him; but Satan has lost all heavenly love forever. There is no hope for him. In his fourfold descent from the covering cherub in the very throne of God, down to the heavenlies, then to earth, afterward to hell, and finally to the lake of fire, he has been put away the farthest from God. But, it is not without regret, as the very first verse of the portion of our study teaches.

"Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus." The Lord would instruct us of His deep sorrow over the irreparable loss to His fairest and mightiest creature. The heart of God is bared. We are let into a secret --- the Lord grieves over His sinning creatures, for even Satan was lamented. 22

(Reprint 1969)

### **THE GLOWING HEART**

Sometimes we hear of hot-headed people, and possibly have suffered somewhat at their hands, but the hot-hearted are a much more rare type of character. How much the Church of God owes to these disciples of the glowing heart. What exploits may be, placed to their credit. Said those two disciples on the Emmaus Way, "Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way?" This represents the royal path, a Christian experience always aflame with loving zeal in the cause of Christ, and ever willing to tread the path of selflessness and sacrifice if thereby the Kingdom of God may be extended. Hot-heartedness is one of the distinguishing features of this glorious Gospel life and ministry. It transforms the half-hearted into enthusiastic and energetic servants of the Lord. May the fellowship of the burning heart grow larger and larger through the days. There are plenty of Sunday enthusiasts, but there is a need of more of those hearts that are ablaze seven days of every week, that go on burning in all circumstances, whose zeal refuses to be quenched by the coldness and indifference of others. Those splendid beacon-like lives which glow the brightest in the darkest night, and send their radiant joy beams athwart other lives that are shadowed. Theirs is a blessed infection in spiritual passion—other hearts are warmed at the flame that burns upon the altar of their hearts.

**Anon**

# A man after God's own heart - Part 2

*Continued from September.*

*R. Hawkins*

**W**e found out last month that God had an overcomer in David. His youth, his brothers, a giant, a jealous king, his own fears, and even success, he got past it all, unto a throne. And not just any throne. This was THE throne, the one promised to Jesus (II Sam. 7) and the one He's willing to share with '*all them also who love His appearing.*' - II Tim. 4:8

We're about to find out what God really knew about David's heart. Our 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> examples of why David was '*a man after God's own Heart*' show the difference between someone who's done some overcoming . . . . and someone who **became** a full-overcomer.

23

## *BATTLING IN THE TWILIGHT*

It was David's son Solomon who conjectured '*Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof...*' so why not skip to David's end? We can work backward for it seems fitting that after an epic beginning like a shepherd boy killing a giant, a rematch would be in order and Goliath's family gets one in II Sam. 21:15.

We may not know David's exact age at this time, but the rematch is roughly 45 years after the death of Goliath. He should be getting close to his 70's and it reminds me that I never tire of seeing our beloved older Ministers and saints laboring under the power of the Holy Spirit. We love our old prayer warriors because they fought a good fight and are up for the rematch. Paul warned us Grace saints at any age about '*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is....*' Heb. 10:25 and the *manner of some* is to slow down in the twilight.

What a wonderful **6<sup>th</sup> Heart of God** this is because David is still battling. He is not going to hear about the battle later, or watch it from afar, he is in it. He still has that fire in his belly

for those uncircumcised Philistines but we read, ‘... and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines: and David waxed faint.’

David’s men knew he had the heart of a lion, but hand to hand combat with one of the giant’s sons was almost fatal. ‘Then the men of David swear unto him saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of Israel.’ Oh how those men loved him! They forced him to retire from fighting and it’s the highest honor a soldier could give.

David returns the honor by listing 37 of his ‘mighty men’ in II Sam. 23 but looking back we see they did not start out mighty: ‘And everyone that was in distress, and everyone that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him and he became a captain over them...’ I Sam. 22:2.

Now, as this story turns, it will be David who will come into distress. It is David who will go into spiritual debt. This fearless and righteous captain of men took a fall and those most aware of it were his soldiers. This very important heart learned how to respond to sin and the man in the middle is the 37<sup>th</sup> and last man honored of David’s ‘mighty men’ and his name is Uriah the Hittite.

### ***ABIDING IN TENTS***

I wonder if Bathsheba, Uriah’s wife, came to mind as he grabs a few things from his tent at the siege of Rabbah. Joab informs him that he has been summoned back to Jerusalem to see David at the palace, which just happens to overlook Uriah and Bathsheba’s home - II Sam. 11:2. When Uriah returns to the battle two days later, his name is called again. He is with a small band sent on a needless suicide mission to approach the city ‘even unto the entering of the gate.’ (11:23) and perhaps having connected the dots, he valiantly earns his listing as one of David’s mighty men.

Only days earlier, with the ark and his fellow soldiers still in tents, Uriah had been in a strange and not-so-urgent interview with David: ‘how’s Joab doing? . . . the people? . . . the war?’ We read of no response from Uriah. David finally tells him to go home and ‘wash thy feet’ only Uriah doesn’t go home. David sends him away followed by ‘a mess of meat from the king’ that



never made it past the palace door. The next day David wants to know why.

Uriah had no way of knowing Bathsheba was pregnant with David's child but the air around the palace would have been tense. As he tried to sleep that night outside the door of the king's house he had this word of knowledge ready for David's question: '*...shall I then go into my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? ... as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.*'

David tries again that night as '*he made him drunk*' (11:13) at dinner but Uriah's steps will not move towards home. After two attempts David is forced to give up. He knows how long a siege can last and Bathsheba is going to have a baby. He sends Uriah off holding the letter that will end his life (11:15) but Uriah had managed to avoid the sharpest arrow of all: looking into the eyes of his wife.

25 Adultery, lies, and soon to be murder. It all sprang from the same heart we've been lauding, but here is how it started: *And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel, and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried at Jerusalem. - 11:1*

Going to sit this one out. Relax. Take a walk on the terrace of the palace roof.

Thing was, God had orchestrated a good reason not to take that spring off. Have you heard the story of the men with half their beards shaved and garments altered to expose their buttocks? It was done by an Ammonite king to a few of David's men --- and it's why Joab and Uriah and the rest of the army were laying siege at Rabbah. Peter once wrote, '*The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation...*' and it applies here. There was a time David would have been with them.

The tent life is a common theme in the Bible. It can be uncomfortable, long and appear boring, but it's how God talks to his saints. It's easy to get comfortable these days and the first thing to go is time to study God's Word. God knew Satan had his sights set on David and used an insult from an Ammonite king to try and put His servant in a tent. Of course it didn't work and the stage was set; not just to expose David's sin with Bathsheba but thankfully to showcase the wonderful Grace of God.

## ***‘AND THERE CAME A TRAVELER’***

You would think as close as God and David were, that God wouldn't need a prophet to deliver a parable, but the situation was critical. Here is what Nathan the prophet came to tell David:

*‘There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds; But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. II Sam. 12: 1-4.*

26

Of course David is hot. He would never consider doing such a thing --- nor could he tolerate anyone for stooping so low. Thus David pronounces death and retribution on the rich man. He was now closing in on a year of living with his sin and as we saw previously, God has been known to be blunt. This time the prophet is Nathan and he informs David, *‘Thou art the man’*- 12:7.

The parable now made sense. David had exceeding many flocks and herds; by my count six wives before inheriting Saul's collection of wives and concubines when he came to Jerusalem (12:8). Uriah is the poor man. Jewish tradition holds Uriah to be a widower re-married to a young Bathsheba who is helping him raise his children after Uriah adds her to his family with a dowry.

All is well ---- before the traveler arrives.

God had once asked Satan what he'd been up to in Job 1:7 and Satan replied: *‘From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.’* Satan will always be aware of God's elect and he had his sights on David. In this parable, he first approaches David as a *‘traveler’* trying to catch his eye. When that happens, you can bet Satan the traveler becomes a *‘wayfaring*

*man*’ who got an invite into the house. What a house guest this traveler makes because he *‘that was come to him’* always decides to stay awhile. How long did David entertain thoughts for Bathsheba? I guess long enough.

It never changes that when God’s truth and character get compromised, it starts when *‘the traveler’* catches our eye. That period of time starting with the letter that put murder on David’s resume had to have made it hard for the psalmist to pick up a pen again. But maybe he did. David could have had the whole thing buried – but God couldn’t let it go because like we said, God knew his man. God knew the words for the 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm were waiting to get out, and when David was confronted with his sin, that’s what happened.

### *A Clean Heart*

27 **N**ot every Psalm of David gives its genesis but the 51<sup>st</sup> does: *To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the Prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.*

God said he was going to drag the affair in front of all Israel (II Sam. 12:12) and David helped Him do it. This introduces our last and 7<sup>th</sup> **heart** and it put the experience to song; but more importantly our hero forgave himself and moved on (II Sam. 12:20). David’s sin did not defeat him or even come to define him as we know from this beautiful and touching 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm. The steps that brought him back into communion with God, I believe, hinge on verse 13: *‘Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.’*

There are many reasons a man can make a statement like that, but the major one David had is because he loved the LORD. God honored his plea for a clean heart because David was still teachable, and from the beginning all David really wanted was for Israel to know God like he knew him. That is a *‘man after God’s own heart’* and that kind of heart is motivated by Divine Love. A very dear saint asked me at my recent graduation from *Grace & Glory Bible School* if I had memorized I Cor. 13 yet, and as this dear brother’s manner is, he started it for me. *‘Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity....’* V. 1.

I finished the verse with him because it’s not the first time

I've pondered Paul's words on gifts. What is most amazing is that Christians can do a lot of good but with an ulterior motive. Not just the tongues of men and of angels, but knowledge of prophecy and all mysteries. Have faith to remove a mountain. Give everything to the poor. Become a martyr. The apostle Paul said, without love – *'it profiteth me nothing.'* - (13:3).

Paul could say that because Jesus gave him a revelation of Himself first (Phil. 3:8) and then one for the Church (Eph. 5:32). David's life and writings prove he got the same revelation, and Jesus tells us about it in Revelation 3:7: *'And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; these things saith He that is Holy, He that hath the **key of David**, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth.'*

I know that explaining what that door opens and explaining it from a heart like David's 7<sup>th</sup>, are two different keys.

As so many dear departed saints discovered over the years, and I am sure many of you who are vested in the depths of Paul's Gospel know too, we cannot conjure up Divine Love for the saints or anything else. God has to put it there, which he does by the new birth, and like any *'man after God's own heart'*, overcoming brings it out.

I am pleased to say I am having my own set of unique experiences as I pray many of you are too, and I know the next time I see that dear brother I'm made *'sit together in heavenly places'* with, I will try to quote all of I Corinthians 13.



***It is a misfortune that many people think it is a mark of saintliness to be easily shocked; whereas the greatest saints are the people who are never shocked. They may be distressed; they may wish things different; but to be shocked is often nothing but a mark of vanity, a desire that others should know how high one's standard, how sensitive one's conscience may be.***

A. C. Benson

## Investment

The gift of one man shines out in these latter days like a star. Robert Arthington, of Leeds, a Cambridge graduate, lived in a single room, cooking his own meals; and he gave to foreign missions, £5,000,000, on the condition that it was all spent on pioneer work within 25 years. A slip of paper was found after his death on which he had written these words:—"Gladly would I make the floor my bed, a box my chair, and another box my table, rather than that men should perish for want of the knowledge of Christ." Remembering the Lord's definite statement (Mark 10: 30) that the recompense for every such investment is a hundred times the capital, or 10,000 per cent, his requital will be one of the wonders of the coming Age; and it is extraordinary how wealthy Christians can overlook such an investment. A little more faith in the literal truth of our Lord's words would work a revolution. "When the Puritans made their fortunes," Lowell remarks, "they lost their religion."

### GOD CANNOT FAIL

'Tis not to fail, though it appear  
That life has lost its zest and cheer,  
And all the days you prayed with tears  
Are counted now as wasted years.  
Though men deride, and at you rail;  
Keep trusting on; God cannot fail.

"Tis not to fail, though men may say  
That you are down and out today,  
And all your work has been in vain.  
Do not despair; there's golden grain,  
Which you have sown on hill and dale.  
Keep trusting on; God cannot fail.

'Tis not to fail, to do your best,  
And give your all at Christ's behest:  
His recompense is greatest gain.  
The bow of promise follows rain'  
And spring's soft winds the winter's gale  
Keep trusting on; God cannot fail.

Mary M. Bodie

# OPENING ROSES

"Johnny.....where are you?"

With these words, a young mother began a search for her little five-year-old. He wasn't in the bedroom, the bathroom, nor even in the kitchen snooping around for what's new in breakfast cereal.

She looked out the window and there she saw him, walking from the garden toward the house, his colorful pajamas wet with the morning dew.

"What were you doing?" she asked him.

"Helping God," he replied.

"Helping God?" queried his mother.

"Yep. I was opening up the roses for Him."

30

Well, you and I smile at his morning chores, because we know that there is one thing you just don't do - go around opening roses! We have learned that roses open on their own, when the time is right. You just can't rush them.

But, unfortunately, we forget this truth in regard to other problems. We often feel, like little Johnny, that we can help God by doing things that the Lord has never told us to do.

Most of our headaches and heartaches in life are caused by impatience - trying to solve matters our own way, in our own time. We go around opening roses - thinking we're helping God thereby.

A sign of spiritual maturity is the ability to wait patiently upon the Lord.

Let's stop going around opening roses.

-Log of the Good Ship Grace

# ISAIAH

*Chap. 11 Concl. - Chap.12*

*Gene Hawkins*

*“And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.” V. 10*

Millennial blessings continue as the “root of Jesse,” prevails proclaiming the fact that Jesus will reign as God for that thousand year era. The Gentiles will seek Him, and the promised rest for the earth will finally be realized. This is beautifully typified by the Queen of Sheba’s account of Solomon’s kingdom. “And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom.....and, behold, the half was not told me:....Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.” I Kings 10:6-9

31

The prophecy of Israel’s restoration “in that day,” continues as we read that “...the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.” V. 11 These represent all the nations wherein Israel has been scattered, even as God decreed, but that time is over. God never did say that He would forsake this people forever, and Isaiah clearly proclaims that “...he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah **from the four corners of the earth.**” V. 12 The ensign is a flag of ownership, and Israel’s Messiah, Jesus, will put all nations on notice that He is now the owner of the entire world. This is now His Kingdom and He can do exactly as He pleases. Thus, He will assemble this nation, which has been an outcast for millennia, and put them in their rightful domain.

This chosen nation surely deserved the God’s decree against them, but setting them aside has worked in the depths of their own hearts, for “The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.” V. 13 These chapters in Isaiah clearly display the fact that Israel had much trouble within

their own ranks. Not only were the nations against them, but they were guilty of turning on one another. That has now changed. No longer will they be a divided nation of “Judah and Ephraim,” filled with vexation and envy. They will rather be a nation united and ready to mete out judgment against their enemies. “But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.” V. 14 All these were literal nations and oppressors of Israel but there is also a spiritual application, for Edom and Moab represent that which is of the flesh, while The Philistines speak loudly of religiousness. Once Israel has accepted their Messiah, such enemies will be destroyed within their own hearts, even as we discover in our own lives during this present Church Age.

“And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.” V. 15-16 The Lord Himself now takes up their cause and we can only imagine the supernatural power He will display in fighting for His Own Chosen People. The record here is reminiscent of their exodus from Egypt as they crossed the Red Sea on dry land, but this time the “highway” will lead back to the land of Israel, where Jesus will establish His Kingdom, beginning with His Faithful remnant, which has been gathered from the “four corners of the earth.”

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## Isaiah 12

**“And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee:...”**  
V. 1

This chapter is in direct contrast with II Kings, which details the captivity of both Israel and Judah. Israel was taken captive in II Kings 17 when Assyria conquered Samaria. Nebuchadnezzar carried the inhabitants of Jerusalem back to Babylon in chapter 24 during the reign of Jehoiachin. Thus began the times of the Gentiles in 606 B.C.

II Kings closes with great sorrow as both Israel and Judah were evicted from their land and were in bondage to the Gentiles even down to this present day. The last verse of II Kings declares



that Jehoiachin was brought out of his prison but his experience seems to establish the precedent for the entire nation of Israel during Gentile Times. “And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.” II Kings 25:30 Gentile powers have also “dictated” the affairs of this little nation throughout all four Gentile World Empires. Though She was again recognized as a nation in 1948, and has been a thorn in the sides of the nations since her captivity, Israel has never had a major sway and voice in the politics of this world.

This current chapter in Isaiah proclaims a decided change in that status as the prophet proclaims what will transpire “in that day.” It means the Day of The Lord as being opposed to the Day of Man. The words in this first verse indicate that a great change has taken place. Both Israel and Judah were convicted by God of severe idolatry, but their words here proclaim unadulterated praise for “the LORD.” “LORD” means Jehovah, and is, in this instance, a direct reference to Jesus, Who will be reigning as God “in that day.” The little word “I” in the above text, signifies the entire nation of Israel. No longer is it, Israel and Judah, but as noted in our last chapter, they are once again one nation united in their allegiance unto Christ, their newfound Messiah.

They have finally acknowledged God’s severe, but justified, dealings with them and declare that “...though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.” V. 1 The anger of the tribulation is past, and the awful sorrow which engulfed them in II Kings, has given way to this great comfort and shout of victory found in verse 6. “Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.”

“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.” V. 2 These are the lessons this people will have learned so well, through the horrendous hardships of the tribulation wherein the anger of The Lord was leveled against them. They were a people who trusted their own strength along with the arms and favor of the nations, but that strategy failed them miserably. They had to be reduced to absolute nothingness in order to learn that only God was their true salvation. This God was, in fact, Jesus, Whom they had rejected those many years ago, but in the midst of tremendous darkness and fear, they have learned that only He is their refuge.

He is the strength and song of victory for which they had been searching, and only the “time of Jacob’s trouble,” has taught them this invaluable lesson that salvation is indeed, only of The LORD. Such a lesson gives way to the next avenue of their spiritual growth and “Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.” V. 3 This is in stark contrast to the atmosphere which has prevailed throughout this entire period of Gentile Times, and is still very much a part of Israel’s existence today. However, their cup will, “in that day,” be filled to overflowing.

“And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.” V. 4 The key is once again, “in that day,” and it signifies a great change in the relationship between Israel and her former oppressors. This nation will become God’s ambassadors and literally teach all the nations, by example, to “Praise The Lord,” and “call upon his name.” It is a lesson which they will have learned by experience and thus are qualified to show their “new students,” how to call upon Him. They have had sufficient experience to “declare his doings among the people,” for they know firsthand the glorious things He has done in their own behalf. Their entire mission will be to see to it, that “his name is exalted.”

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He will be the Supreme Object as they “Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.” V. 5 He becomes the very Subject of their entire lives and all the earth knows “he hath done excellent things,” because this new nation has proclaimed that message.

“Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.” Once again we see the great contrast with II Kings. There were multiple cries of sorrow and anguish in that long ago day, but this is a cry of victory, and triumph, which cannot be uttered even unto this present day. Jerusalem, or Zion, is under tremendous pressure, at this current hour, as multiple forces clamor for a piece of that city. That will all change, for there will come a day when Israel alone is recognized as “the inhabitant of Zion.” There is no wonder that such a shout will go up, for Israel, as well as all the world, will know without doubt that this change has come because “great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.” God has chosen to dwell here and none will dare dispute it.



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