

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole Counsel of GOD

Without Price Since 1910

'Loving His Appearing'

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Give thanks unto  
THE LORD.  
call upon his name,  
make known his  
deeds among  
the people.  
1 CHRONICLES 16:8.



# THANKSGIVING DAY

Mary M. Bodie

Our Father, again at the close of the year,  
We thank Thee for all things, howe'er they appear.  
We bring Thee our baskets full up to the brim,  
But especially our heart is thankful for Him, Our  
Savior and Lover, our Bridegroom and Friend.  
None other so precious, Who loves without end.

We thank Thee, He leads by road easy or hard,  
Thru doors that are open and those which are barred,  
In pathways of tears and deep sorrow and pain,  
By crosses and losses; but all things a gain.  
We thank Thee, our Father, for joys that are given,  
And pleasures withholden—all things from heaven.

And they're working for us, by day and by night,  
A crown of rejoicing, all glit'ring and bright.  
And soon we'll be called to the glory away.  
We thank Thee, O Father, for that hope and that day.

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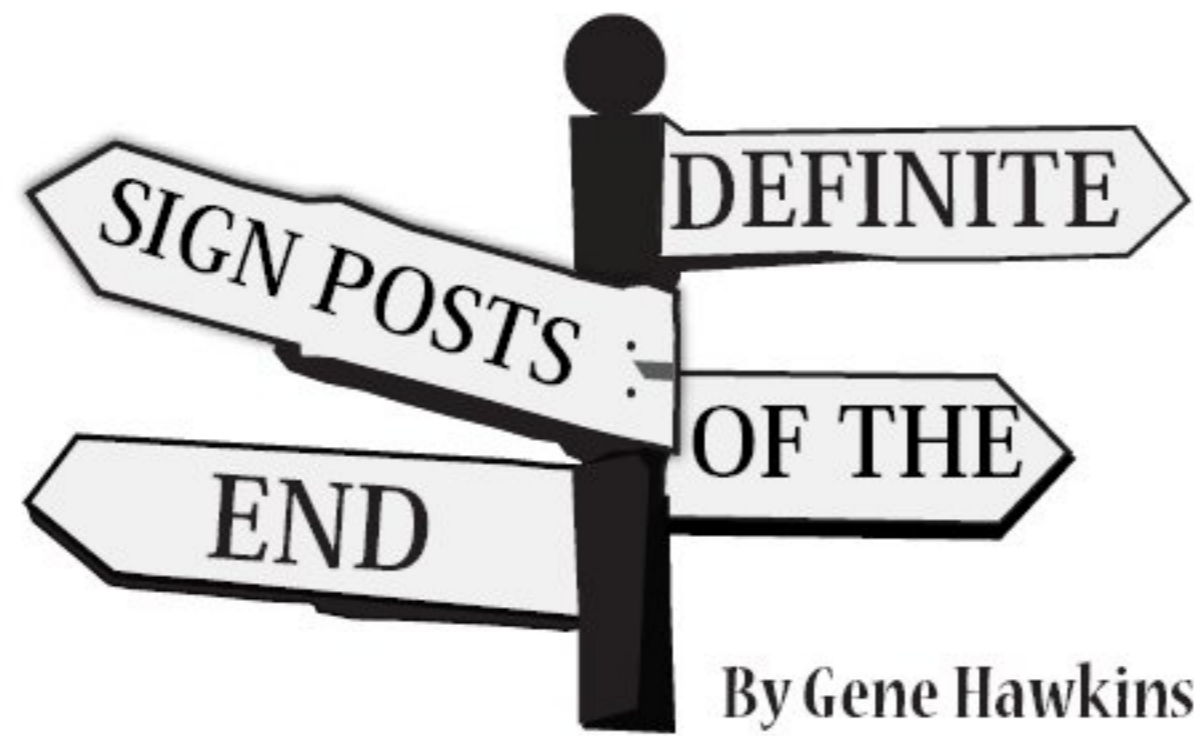
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Editor: Gene Hawkins



*“All these are the beginning of sorrows.” Matt. 24:8*

3 **T**his verse has oft been quoted in this feature, for a great number of years, as previous writers saw living examples of the deception, wars and rumours of wars, nation rising against nation, kingdom against kingdom, famines, pestilences, (plagues, lit. disease) and earthquakes, which Jesus outlined, in the previous verses of this chapter. It is also well known that the term “beginning of sorrows,” is in reference to a woman in child birth. The birth pangs are very mild and far apart, in the beginning stages of labor, but increase, both in frequency and intensity, as “her time” draws near. The birth, of which we speak, is actually the nation of Israel, which will be born in one day. “....Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once?” Isa. 66:8 Thus, it is the “earth,” of our day which is experiencing all the above “contractions,” that will bring about this great event. Jesus comments in Matthew 24 are also especially in regard to Israel and her eventual restoration, as He sought to answer the disciples’ questions.

All of the above mentioned “sorrows,” are surely before us today and they are indeed increasing in both frequency and intensity. We shall not cover all of them, but some are so prominent that they occupy news headlines almost daily across this nation and the world.

Jesus declares in verse 22 that “.....except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved:” This declaration of doom is in reference to the Battle Of Armageddon, which would completely destroy the earth and all its inhabitants if King Jesus did not sovereignly step in and stop it.

All the “wars and rumours of wars,” along with the various nations and kingdoms of the world waging war against each other, will eventually escalate into the world wide conflagration known as Armageddon, and the news is filled daily with these skirmishes

which Jesus identified as the “beginning of sorrows.”

We know from Daniel that ten nations will form an end time coalition which will be reduced to seven when three of those “horns,” or nations are plucked up by the roots. Dan. 7:8 We cannot see that this ten nation coalition has actually emerged at the present time, but we certainly can observe nations positioning themselves to take a dominate role over all the rest who would be a part of the coming one world government.

Russia, though Vladimir Putin has asserted time and again that he has no intention of taking over Ukraine, continues to be very aggressive against that nation in the quest to completely restore the former Soviet Union. Bloodshed, violence, and severe unrest prevail mightily in that corner of the world.

Russia has also seized the political opportunity to advance her own cause when The U.S. greatly stumbled in the matter concerning the infamous “red line, drawn in the sand” for Syria.

Another example of these nations positioning themselves to assert their own supremacy is the possible “union,” between Russia and China, primarily allied against the U.S.

Artyom Lukin an associate professor and deputy director for research at the School of Regional and International Studies, Far Eastern Federal University (Vladivostok, Russia), published the following assessment in the Huffington Post.

“It would not be accurate to describe the Sino-Russian strategic partnership as an alliance yet, but the relationship is certainly growing stronger, evidenced by, among other things, the recent mega gas deal, Russia's willingness to sell China its most advanced arms and the expanding scale of bilateral military exercises.

The Ukraine crisis may well become a tipping point, sealing the fate of Eurasian alignments. The Western push to punish and isolate Russia is drawing Moscow closer to Beijing, which, tellingly, has taken a stance of benevolent neutrality towards the Kremlin's actions in Ukraine and its takeover of Crimea. One may suspect that, in exchange, Beijing would expect from Moscow the same kind of "benevolent neutrality" regarding its assertions in East Asia and the Western Pacific.

The personalities of the Russian and Chinese leaders, Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, are going to be a major factor in deciding the Russo-Chinese alignment. They are two autocratic chief executives who have concentrated in their hands almost exclusive powers to make foreign policy decisions. Putin and Xi seem to get along quite well and

share a flair for hardball realpolitik. Matched against contemporary Western leaders with underwhelming foreign policy performances, the Putin-Xi duo is going to be a formidable force.”

Such a report as this only reinforces the fact that these wars and rumors of wars will continue as all these nations, with their power hungry leaders, do everything in their power to assume world-wide control. There is no doubt that the bloodshed so manifest in Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, and all the rest of the Middle East, as well as the entire world, will continue until all such countries are literally drawn into, that final battle called Armageddon. Indeed, Mr. Lukin asserts in this same article that “the U.S. policy of containment is pushing China and Russia ever closer to forming a powerful anti-Western alliance, greatly raising the possibility of a Third World War.” Once again, “the sorrows,” of this end time have only just begun.

5 We have also previously reported the heinous crimes of ISIS or ISIL in their quest to establish their own kingdom or state in Syria and Iraq. We know they have no intention of stopping there, but the U.S. and many other nations, are hard pressed to try and stop them. “Boots on the ground,” have been ruled out by some nations, who are reluctant to get involved despite the carnage they see before them. Air strikes have proven, for the most part to be ineffective, and this warfare will also continue to that great end time battle wherein all of them will be destroyed.

Iran also continues to be a major problem causing great distress and upheaval, especially in Israel, as they are determined to become a nuclear world power. We have stated in previous issues that such “rumours,” of nuclear war will eventually come to fruition as the actual reality, detailed in Rev. 8:8-9, is realized. Until then, these prophetic birth pangs will continue unabated.

Moral decay is another of the “birth pangs,” that started out in comparatively mild, manner but is also escalating out of control as men completely disregard the decrees of God’s Word, going about to establish their own so-called creed of rights and equality. The Supreme Court of the U.S. continues to try and rule by legislation, even going against the will of the people, setting aside God’s requirements for marriage and insisting that “gay rights,” must be forced on every state in the union.

The city of Houston, Texas went so far as to try and subpoena various materials, including sermons, given by some

ministers who took an open stand against an ordinance which the City Council passed in May “which consolidates city bans on discrimination based on sex, race, age, religion and other categories and increases protections for gay and transgender residents..... supporters said the measure is about offering protections at the local level against all forms of discrimination in housing, employment and services provided by private businesses such as hotels and restaurants. Religious institutions are exempt, but city attorneys recently subpoenaed the pastors, seeking all speeches, presentations or sermons related to the repeal petition.” Later reports state that the word “sermons” was dropped from the petition, but it appears that any godly minister who stands up for God’s Standards of righteousness will be actively resisted, and accused of breaking the law, all in the name of “protection.”

Catholicism has likewise relinquished long held “moral,” standards according to a recent document out of the Vatican which was apparently initiated by Pope Francis.

Newsmax published this report: “Conservative Catholic bishops distanced themselves Tuesday from a document showing an unprecedented opening toward gays and divorced people, saying it doesn't reflect their views and vowing to make changes to the final version.

The provisional document produced at the halfway point of a two-week meeting on family life said gays had gifts to offer the church and that their partnerships, while morally problematic, provided gay couples with "precious" support.

It said the church must welcome divorced people and recognize the "positive" aspects of civil marriages and even Catholics who live together without being married.” Though the “organizers of the synod” said the paper would be “amended” and that the “value of the document had been overstated by the media,” “The document was remarkable both in what it said and what it didn't say: Gone were assertions of Catholic doctrine present in most church documents that gay sex is "intrinsically disordered" and that couples who cohabit are living in sin. In their place were words of acceptance and welcome.”

We are quite sure that so many of those who have gone before us, and were grieved by the tremendous decline of their own day, would be absolutely appalled by the immorality that is freely flaunted at this present time, and we are persuaded, because of scripture, that it will wax worse and worse. These “birth

pangs,” will likewise culminate with times likened unto the days of Noah, and that of Sodom and Gomorrah. In fact Jerusalem, “...spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.” Rev. 11:8 This is God’s assessment of that city, very near the middle of the week, when the ministry of the two witnesses has ended, giving way to the reign of the anti-christ. We can only imagine the gross ungodliness that will prevail around the entire globe at that time, and it has already begun.

“And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.” Rev. 16:9 This verse is simply a report of that which is already manifest in our day. Two major things are here specified; “heat” and “plagues.”

7 “Global Warming,” which has been amended to “Climate Change,” because the term “warming” sounded so ridiculous in view of record low temperatures reported repeatedly all over the world, has become a world-wide political football. The key phrase in this verse is “God which hath power over these plagues:...” The great controversy of our day is whether or not man is responsible for these weather changes due to his use of Co2. We can say, on the authority of God’s Word, that if every nation, on the face of this planet, were to completely eliminate the use of fossil fuels tomorrow, it would not prevent the condition described in the above verse from happening! We do not doubt that the dreaded warming will come, but is man responsible for it? We can also issue an emphatic YES! to that question, but it is not because of green house gases produced by the use of fossil fuels. It is due to SIN. God said in the very beginning of creation, after man had eaten of the forbidden fruit, “And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: **cursed is the ground for thy sake;** in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; **Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee;** and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; **In the sweat of thy face** shalt thou eat bread,....” Gen. 3:17-19 The earth, and man’s entire environment, has rebelled against him ever since God expelled him from that beautiful garden, and the evidence of that rebellion is becoming more apparent by the day with all the signs and wonders which Jesus predicted.

A report was recently released stating that “97% of

scientists agree that Co2 causes global warming,” but The Wall Street Journal called that report “a fiction.” In addition, according to Newsmax, 31,000 scientists signed a petition stating that climate change **was not** caused by humans. John Casey, a former White House space program adviser, consultant to NASA headquarters, and space shuttle engineer, has also produced evidence from NASA refuting “scientific claims,” that climate change is man-made. Mr. Casey asserts that “...according to NASA’s own data, the world has warmed .36 degrees Fahrenheit over the last 35 years. He further assures us that, contrary to reports that the Arctic Ice Caps are shrinking, they have not only “*not* melted . . . but they’ve expanded in size by 43% to 63%,” during the last seven years.

We are quite certain that this debate over “climate change,” with each side producing their own “valid reasons” for the stance they have taken, will continue into the tribulation period. Reports are also clear that Global Warming has proven to be extremely lucrative for those who have championed it. However, we were much intrigued by Mr. Casey’s answer to the question, “What Does Cause Climate Change?” It is absolutely in harmony with The Word of God, as he stated unequivocally “Every day, the temperatures rise and fall with daytime and nighttime....These two cycles happen automatically. We can neither change them nor stop them any more than we can stop the Earth’s rotation.... So clearly, the Earth’s temperatures rise and fall based on its exposure to . . . the sun. ....You see, there are larger cycles of the sun . . . “solar cycles.” This may not seem earthshattering, but solar cycles are — *bar none* — **the most devastating argument against man-made “global warming.”** 8

John Casey’s answer can be easily summed up with the emphatic announcement in Rev. 16:9 that “...God, which hath power over these plagues:” is responsible for the phenomenon known as “Climate Change.”

The second point of devastation in this verse is “plagues,” which would include the “pestilences,” listed in Matt. 24. These plagues reach their peak in Rev. 15 – 16. “And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.” Rev. 15:1 These chapters then give the intricate details of that awesome devastation which will be poured out upon this earth.

The same pattern, surrounding the “birth pangs,” prevails here, as seen previously. Ebola is the current culprit pushing,



both political leaders and medical experts around the world, to their limits, trying to contain it. Plagues have been a part of this world's history from the fall, and men have been hard pressed to try and control them. Many are the product of man's own foolishness and rebellion such as the many venereal diseases including HIV and AIDS. We are plainly told that many such maladies are indeed incurable but, according to God's Word, man's great dilemma has only just begun, and the current Ebola crisis becomes the pattern for the future. Stories abound today with men "pointing fingers," as to what should have been done, but was not. So-called "protocols" were not properly followed, or else they were entirely inadequate. The debate rages on as to whether International travel to certain countries should be curtailed or even banned. All these scenario's will become progressively worse as this world escalates into her "hard labor pains."

9 There is nothing that will "save this planet," from the prophesied devastation outlined in Scripture. The question for all Christians is, "what do we do about it?" The answer to that query is simply that the only way "OUT" is "UP." There are those in Christendom who seem to realize that, but most teach that the whole Church will be taken out of this world automatically. God's Word does not teach that. Jesus plainly declared "And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." Mk. 13:7 This exhortation comes on the heels of His many instructions surrounding His eminent return. He gives a very wide range of events that will take place during the four "watches" of the tribulation period, but the overriding message is "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, ....Take ye heed, watch and pray: .... Watch ye therefore:.... Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping..... Watch." Mk. 13:32-37

The problem today is that the sleepy, lukewarm, Church does, in no wise, appear to be truly watching and anticipating Jesus' Return. The instruction here in Mark is actually to those who will still be here when the "night watches," of Mk. 13:35 begin, but Paul gives exactly the same message to those who would be ready **before** that period even begins. "Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.... they that sleep sleep in the night:...For God hath not appointed us to wrath, (the great tribulation) but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,.." I Thess. 5:6-9 Jesus promised this same deliverance

to the Church at Philadelphia. “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from (out of) the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” Rev. 3:10

This world is getting extremely dark and bleak but, rather than give in to fear and panic, or the false hope that it will all somehow get better, let us:

“JUST LOOK UP!”

**-CHRIST IS COMING-**

Written in 1893

Hear ye not the voice of warning:—  
Christ is coming from on high?  
At the midnight, noon or morning,  
Soon His form will rend the sky:  
Lo! He comes, in power and splendor,  
Justice unto all to render,  
And His Name to magnify!

Some anxious hearts are yearning,  
As the many *signs* appear  
Time foretells His quick returning:  
And they feel the hour is near  
When His voice shall break with terror  
On the darkened powers of error  
That have ruled the world with fear.

For He'll judge each living nation,  
When that fateful morning dawns;  
End their march through tribulation,  
Where that awful chasm yawns  
To engulf within its burning  
All who scoffed at His returning  
And oppressed His faithful ones.

There'll be bitter sobs and sighing—  
Wails of anguish everywhere;  
With the groans of millions dying  
In the midnight of despair  
While the cry for help is falling  
On the ear that heeds no calling  
Though their pleadings fill the air.

Rise ye up—ye souls that slumber!  
Trim your lamps and hasten out,  
And be ready with that number  
Who shall hear His welcome shout.  
Rising up beyond the sighing  
Of a world in darkness lying;  
Doomed to death **through** sin and doubt.

—John Boddy.

# *The Love Life*

*Alice S. Mooneyhan*

♥ ♥ **BEHOLD**, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not." I John 3:1.

**J**ohn arrests our attention by his exclamation, "Behold," that we might consider what a marvelous work God has wrought in the redemption of sinful humanity. God has adopted us out of the Adamic family, out of a weak, sinful, godless race, and has set us in His own family, giving us the place of sons, and more, imparting to us His own holy nature. **"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."** V. 2. By the new birth our spirit is quickened to divine life so that we are even now, while living in this world, partakers of His divine nature—sons of God, though our bodies still await the day of glorification, and to the world; the present change in our spirit is not discernible. **"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure."** V. 3. What a hope! **"We shall be like Him."** There could be no greater hope for the sons of men. No glory of this world can compare with that hope. All earthly desires and ambitions drop away as we look beyond to the glory that shall be revealed in us when He shall appear, for **"When, Christ, who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory."** Col. 3:4.

11

The law revealed man's sinful nature which is against God's holiness, and made sin a transgression against His righteous government, so that man was a rebel against God, but the great love of God moved Him to condescend to our low estate, and to take upon Himself the form of flesh, to become an offering for sin, and to put away our sins, for He was the spotless Lamb, the only one who could redeem us, **"and in Him is no sin."** V. 5. Nor is there sin in the life He has given to us. There is a great gulf between the two realms in which men dwell, and also between those who dwell in the two realms—the natural realm and the spiritual realm. The two creations are viewed in verse six. The

one **"in Him sinneth not;"** the one out of Him sins, and that is the, evidence of his dwelling place — not in God. Emphatically John declares (V. 7) that righteousness is, the fruit of the righteous - life whose source is in God. Only God can make a man righteous, and the "by-faith" righteousness is the only kind acceptable with God. The devil is the source of sin, even as God is the source of righteousness. The old creation is under the dominion of sin and Satan, **"But God sent His Son in the likeness, of sinful flesh, and (as an offering) for sin, condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, hut after the Spirit."** Rom. 8:4. Verse 9 states very definitely the holy and undefiled nature of the new creation. They have the nature of God which repels sin. The new creation life is a positive, energetic, holy life which cannot be contaminated, nor defiled by sin, because it is generated by God and preserved in God. No matter how loud a profession of righteousness a man may have, unless he has this "by-faith" righteousness (Rom. 1:17), out of which 12 righteous deeds grow, he is not a child of God, but instead, he is a child of the devils tare (Matt. 13:29, 38). Tares resemble wheat so closely that in the parable cited, it is declared that the man forbade his servants to pull them up lest the wheat be uprooted also. But John declares the character of the tares — **"he that loveth not his brother."** Love is the certain evidence of the new life, and the unfailing fruit of it. Cain is an example of religious professors, but the hatred he had for his brother proved that his profession was false. The world is an enemy of God and of God's people. But the love which God has bestowed upon us to make us His sons is in the life He gives us so that we love the children of God, even as Moses who **"chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."** It was religious men who hated Jesus and accused Him to Pilate; religious men stoned Stephen to death; religious hatred caused great persecution upon the true saints of God later in the church dispensation, and many have suffered martyrdom at the hands of religious men who hate the truth. Verse 15 declares that **"Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."** Religious profession is not the proof of eternal life,

but love, even to the sacrificing of our own life for our brethren (V. 16), as is often necessitated in times of great persecution, when to assist God's people in their need will be an offense with great penalty. But even now, love manifests itself, **"not in word, nor in tongue, but in deed and in truth."** Love moved the Son of God to lay down His life for us, and we have the same life within us which moves us to compassion for our needy brother, knowing that we have access to God's great storehouse, and that we can go to Him with full assurance of faith that He will grant our requests because we are His children, well-pleasing in His sight because we are begotten of the same Father. **"Ye know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."** V. 14; **"And hereby we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit which He hath given us."** V. 24 We are in Him, and He is in us, and we know it. **"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God."** I John 3:1 (the authorized version states that **"we are the children of God."**)

(Reprint 1948)

### **WARNING FOR OUR TIMES**

Beware of any attempts to separate Christ, and Him crucified as the Lamb of God, from Christianity. Bishop Moule said long ago: "No surer test can be applied to anything claiming to be Christianity than, Where does it put Christ? Is He something in it or is He ALL?" "Whosoever abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God." II John 9,10 However men pride themselves upon their proficiency in the advanced thought of the day, God is not with them if they receive not the clearly-defined doctrine of the Gospel concerning the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.

—Prophecy.

# Give Thanks For "All Things"

*Paul Smith*

"FOR ALL THINGS ARE FOR YOUR SAKES, THAT THE ABUNDANT GRACE MIGHT THROUGH THE THANKSGIVING OF MANY REDOUND TO THE GLORY OF GOD" - II Corinthians 4:15.

**A**s this time of the year rolls around, we are exhorted to count our blessings. It is quite easy to develop a stereotype list of blessings: home, wife, husband, children, health, food, clothing, employment, liberty, justice, sports, TV, good neighbors, etc. The list could be lengthened or shortened as dictated by each ones circumstance. We Christians, always begin our list with the Lord, salvation, peace, etc.

These are things that make us feel good, and look good, and act good. They mean possessions - things in which we can boast, or take pride in ---- feeling that surely the blessing of the Lord is upon me and my family. Perhaps, on the one day called Thanksgiving Day, we count our blessings. Perhaps, just perhaps, we can go through the entire day and not utter one derogatory word - not one complaint about our lot, our health, our wife, our husband, our children.

Careful reading of the verse copied above informs us that "ALL THINGS" are for our sakes. Of course, the Apostle Paul meant the blessings that are bestowed upon us by a loving Father. This is easy to give thanks for; but wait a minute. What does the next verse say? "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day."

We will not be able to count them as blessings when they first arrive. They will seem like evil things, from the hands of our enemies.

Our dear wife may not act so wifely. Our faithful husband will seem to be unfaithful. Our children may become disobedient and unruly. Our boss may become unreasonable, and expect more from us than others. Money may be scarce, and we cannot eat

as well as we would like. Our clothing may become threadbare, and no new outfit in layaway. Our job status becomes precarious. Our neighbor snubs us, or curses us. Our favorite team loses. Someone steps on our freedom and tries to destroy our "rights." Our good health disappears, and we feel good for nothing.

Give thanks for all that? Well, not exactly. We can't really thank God for the evil things themselves, but for what God WILL WORK OUT FOR OUR GOOD THROUGH THE EVIL THINGS. We give thanks because we know that all things will work out for our good. James tells us to "count it all joy" when we fall INTO divers temptations. We can only do this because we know that the Lord will deliver us OUT of all our trials.

Thanksgiving, then, is because God delivers. Thanksgiving is for the grace of God that is necessary for us in our time of testing. The adverse things that happen to us cause us to call upon the Lord. This works good too, because as sure as we call upon the Lord, He will deliver us. Then we praise Him the more. The more we are delivered, the more praise goes up to Him. When others hear, and see, God's deliverance in our case, then they too will praise the Lord and lay hold of Him for their trials.

So, you see, there is no losing when we trust the Lord. Let all things come our way; God can handle them. If we buckle under the trial, God doesn't buckle. He remains strong and able to deliver. Then, too, deliverance is not all we receive. We become stronger and more mature with each test and each deliverance. Our faith is strengthened after each time. There is always abundant grace; there is always deliverance; there is always a strengthening of our character and our faith in the Lord.

Last but not least, all of this earthly scene with its "all things" is working for our eternal glory. There is really no way to adequately translate the Greek, but we have the best that we can understand - "a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." Say each word to yourself slowly, and catch the climaxing thrill that ends in glory. Is thanksgiving for one day? Only if we follow the Lord for just one day. It is for every day that we have on this earth. It may be our last one before glory.

(Reprint 1975)

# Lord, Remember Me

Leslie Barrowcliff

***“And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee,.....” Judges 16:28***

**W**hat can we say to a brother who has fallen by the way? What can we say to a sister who is burdened through yielding to temptation? Is there recovery? Can lost ground be recovered? Can the loss be turned to gain? Must the saint who has fallen remain forever in bondage, loss and misery? Nay; in the Old Testament and in the New, we have PROOF that God forgives the saints as well as the sinners. "He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe His holy Gospel," (Book of Common Prayer) and He giveth repentance according to His great goodness and mercy. Romans 2:4 Let us remember Samson who recovered his great strength, proving God had remembered him. Let us remember the dying thief who cried, "Lord, remember me" and received this gracious answer from the Savior's lips, "Today, shalt thou be with me in Paradise." And Peter's restoration not only to fellowship, but to leadership also—fully restored by his loving Lord and Saviour. Lord, remember me! In all our lives there comes a time when we feel the pressure of adverse spirits, of evil powers, of failure to do or to have done God's Will. But God is rich in mercy. In Him is plenteous redemption. He hath forgiven ALL our iniquities though taking vengeance of our inventions. The years the locusts have eaten He will restore. Sin has been blotted out by the precious Blood of Jesus which cleanses from all sin. Let us refuse the condemnation of the Adversary and forsaking all pathways contrary to God's Will, find peace in the pathway of His Holiness.



## **LORD, REMEMBER ME**

Lord, remember me.  
Remember me when storms oppress  
And fill my soul with fearfulness;  
When friends forsake me, foemen chide,  
When I can find nowhere to hide  
Except in Thy dear wounded side—  
Lord, remember me.

Lord, remember me.  
When I am tempted Lord, to stray  
From out the straight and narrow way,  
Then keep my soul in touch with Thine,  
Lest from Thy way my steps decline;  
O leave me not to weep and pine!  
Lord, remember me.

Lord, remember me.  
Whene'er the Cross seems hard to bear  
And for my soul none seem to care,  
And I am left forlorn and lone,  
When tears are shed to all unknown,  
O Lord in mercy hear my groan,  
And remember me !

Lord, remember me.  
When all my cares and sorrows past,  
And I behold Thy Face at last,  
May my soul blessed and shining bright,  
Enraptured in Thy holy Light,  
Testify that through the night,  
Thou hast remembered me!

# REFLECTIONS

## REFLECTIONS

. . . *From the Editor*

***“O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.” Psa. 105:1.***

**W**e want to do this very thing. We are not setting aside only one day to praise the Lord for what He has done, but our hearts are filled continually with thanksgiving for the many deeds He has done among us.

As you know, a great responsibility has been shifted from one pair of shoulders to another, but we say with all humility that the Lord has undertaken in a marvelous way. We all know that such responsibility cannot be borne by one person alone, or by many persons either, without the fact that we have shifted the load to the broad shoulders of our wonderful Leader and Head, Jesus Christ, and we eagerly and willingly submit to Him.

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There have had to be changes made in personnel in the printing plant as well as in the Bible School, but we joyously report that the Lord has made it all so easy. We rejoice in the cooperation of all concerned and we can truthfully say, "How good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" and harmony. The Lord has done this and we are glad. The Bible School is a joy to our hearts in that the students are eager to learn the Word and are examples of the transforming power of God.

We also want to thank all the readers who have responded with wonderful letters of eulogy of the truth and of the ministry of Sister Mary M. Bodie. We could easily fill an entire issue with nothing besides letters, but we want all of you to know our appreciation of your continued faithfulness to the work of the Lord

here in Kansas City. May He come soon and catch away the waiting ones.

The words above were penned by Bro. Smith in November, 1959, after Sis. Bodie had gone home to be with The Lord in August of that year. We can surely identify with him, and echo the sentiments he expressed, in regard to feeling the great burden of responsibility which he had in continuing the work. We also would add our own voice of praise unto the Lord for His Glorious Faithfulness. "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." Psa. 106:1 These exact words appear a total of five times in the Psalms, four of them being found in verse one of each respective Psalm. The message of Divine Grace or Mercy prevails and we too rejoice in the majesty of the Amazing Grace which God has extended to us. We too have witnessed the mighty Hand of God, as He has gloriously met the needs of this ministry, just as He did for those who have gone before us. We too have experienced the love and faith of so many who do have a burden for the work here and are holding up our hands in faith and love before Him.

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So we too would "give thanks unto the Lord," and "call upon his name," and "make known his deeds among the people," as a glorious testimony of the abiding love, grace, and faithfulness, which He has demonstrated through His people!

GH

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We would remind our readers that we do have an Audio Version of Grace and Glory. The articles are read by Sis. Kathleen Tye and are available on CD for all those who may be sight impaired. Order from our e-mail address [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com) or from our address at P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri, 62030.

Due to Postal Service requirements, our annual circulation report will be found on the back inside cover. The Corn Crib will reclaim its rightful place next month.

# Changing A Perspective

*Nichole Marroquin*

*“Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all.” Job 38:18*

I was once told that “You cannot change someone’s perspective,” but today I am going to try and defy that long enough to change yours. The words in this text were written when Job was going through some really difficult times, and those times are not far from us either; all of us are going through some really difficult things, not to belittle Job’s troubles. God Almighty has taken over Job’s training, and says to him after all of his mild complaining, “Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? Declare it if thou knowest it all.” Do you know it all? Because I really don’t --- far from it, and I think that Job needed to hear that. As do we! There are seven billion people on this earth, and that was just the 2012 survey. There are 245 births per minute, and 105 people die each minute. That is a lot of people, but this earth is pretty big. We often say “It’s a small world,” but The United States alone is roughly 3.8 million square miles. The earth is 8,000 miles in diameter, so God asks, “Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? Declare it if thou knowest it all.” Do you feel little? Well, I’m about to make you feel even smaller. I hope to put this into perspective.

The universe is 13.8 billion light years wide, so we are told. They cannot really measure it, so they say that the universe is 13.8 billion years old. That would be like me saying that “this room is 50 years old because that’s how wide it is.” It also must be only a temporary number, as well, because the universe is expanding; it’s just growing out. Scripture declares that, He stretches it out, and He spreads it out. Isa 40:22

The sun is 875 miles in diameter, and 1.3 million earths could fit inside it. Brother Hill (former pastor of Living Waters in Denver, Colo.) said something similar to this one day in a sermon - and I remember a brother, after the service, saying “I don’t like it when people talk about the cosmos and how big it all is and stuff. I just don’t like that kind of stuff.” I look back at that and now I feel I don’t think that’s wise to say that,” because David said, “When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers; what is man that thou are mindful of him.” I’m not trying to ridicule that brother, I want us to see many people can feel that way when realizing how

insignificant we are in light of the size of the universe. However, Brothers, God put this in the Word because I believe He wants us to have humility. It is a God-given attitude. “Have you perceived the breadth of the earth? Declare thou if thou knowest it all.” Was God referring to how big the earth is or how miniscule it is? Either way, He wanted Job to realize how big He is and how small our trials are! The fact is that in our galaxy the sun is not even the smallest star. There are several others that are even bigger than the sun. “Arcturus” is the fourth brightest star, and it is twenty times bigger than the sun. How many earths can fit in that? How many of you and me can fit in that? I only need one of me, I do not want more of me. He must increase, I must decrease. Likewise, “Antaras” is 800 times larger than our sun, and that’s still in our galaxy. There are even more super giants that are 1500 times the radius of our sun all still in our galaxy. There are about 1 hundred billion galaxies in observable space. I’m feeling a bit tiny.

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In 1977 there were two space shuttles called Voyager One and Voyager Two that were sent out to look at Saturn, and to study the rings around it. They passed Saturn in 1981 and got all of these wonderful pictures, discovering beautiful things in the process. Something interesting happened afterward, Voyager One passed Saturn and sent back a picture of the earth in 1990. In this grainy picture of dark space, the earth was a tiny pale dot. It took up one pixel. And one of the men that was in charge of these things – Dr. Carl Sagan, an astrophysicist and highly respected astronomer, stood in awe and said, “Look again at that dot, that’s here, that’s home, that’s us; on it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you have ever heard of; every human being who has ever lived, lived out their lives, the aggregate of our joy and suffering. Thousands of confident religions, ideologies, economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward. Every creator and destroyer of civilization; every king and peasant. Every young couple in love; every mother and father and hopeful child, inventor and explorer. Every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician; every superstar and every supreme leader. Every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there on the mote of a dust suspended on a sunbeam. Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those emperors and generals, so that, in glory and triumph, they could become the momentary masters of a fraction of a dot.” Do you feel small, insignificant? How big do your trials look now?

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.” Ps 19:1 “The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.” Ps 97:6 “When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, what is man that thou art mindful of him?” Ps 8:3,4 I am persuaded that the mighty men in this Bible had a heavenly vision of that, and without a telescope! Abraham called himself “dust and ashes,” when he went to intercede for Lot. He said, “Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, the creator of all this, which am but dust and ashes.” Gen. 18:27 And note what God did when he did that: He rescued someone, because Abraham had the audacity to speak to the Lord Almighty. But God also called man dust, of Adam He said: “From the dust thou art and to the dust shalt thou return.” Gen. 3:19 Man is compared to dust in scripture.

God also said to Abraham, “I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.” Gen. 13:16 He also said that “I will make thy seed as the stars of the heaven....,” (Gen. 26:4) and there are a lot of them. Did you know that each of the 7 billion people (or more because that was in 2012) living in this earth, could own 1 trillion stars to themselves. 22

Let us also put this into perspective. We understand the breadth of the earth now, right? It’s not as big as you think it is, and it is a small world after all. Psalm 102:19 declares plainly that “.....he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the Lord behold the earth.” Consider the perspective of Jesus as He “.....made himself of no reputation, and ....was made in the likeness of men:” Phil. 2:7 He was there with the Father from the beginning and formed it all with Him; He was equal with Him, yet He humbled Himself, and became a speck of dust. “Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool.” Isaiah 66:1 “We will go into His tabernacle; we will worship at His footstool.” Psa. 132:7 “Let all the earth fear the Lord; let the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.” Ps 33:8 Does that put it into perspective, as to how small we are, and how we really must stand in awe? I would take it upon myself, to ask You, Lord, I’m but dust and ashes, but please, if there were ten righteous in that city would you rescue it? We would likewise put Hebrews 4:16 into perspective: “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we

may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” We can come, even as a speck of dust, boldly to the Creator of this universe? We are under His floor mat, but we can intercede! How this should minister to us His infinite mercy! Not how great we are or how we have something so special, that’s completely missing the beautiful point God wanted Job to see! I am mighty! I made all this! I have a really great microscope! I can even become small enough to come and visit you! You’re pretty tiny and your trials are insignificant, but I want to be with you! I want to show you my power and mercy! Put your trust in me!

We can, and must, also put our trials into perspective. II Kings 6, beautifully illustrates the perspective of how small we are in this big universe and how great our God is. If He is infinite in mercy, He’s infinite in wisdom, He’s infinite in grace and love; He’s infinite in judgment. “Then the king of Syria warred against Israel and took counsel with his servants saying, in such and such a place shall be my camp. And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place for thither the Syrians have some down. And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of and saved himself there not once or twice. Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing, and he called his servants and said unto them, Will you not show me which is of us for the king of Israel? And one his servants said, ‘None, my lord, O king, but Elisha the prophet that is in Israel telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.’” II Kings 6:8-11 How did he do that? I think his informant was the Creator of the Universe who looks down from heaven to see if there is any who seeks God. Ps 14:2

“And he said, Go and spy where he is that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.” V. 13 It seems that Elisha is in major trouble now. However God is surely Greater. “And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?” V. 15 How many times have you felt like that? I feel it often. I don’t know what I’m going to do, I can’t do this, LORD! Let us put our danger into perspective. “And he answered, Fear not; for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.” V. 16

Can you imagine what that servant's thinking right now? "Uh, there's two of us; we're surrounded." "And Elisha prayed and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes that he may see....." V. 17 This is the perspective with which I would leave you today. "And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man and he saw, and behold the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." The whole host of heaven is also standing around us. Our God is surely Greater! Is there anything too hard for our Great God? I have the audacity to say, not one thing!

I hope that I've helped you realize the smallness of your life, and of your trial. It is nothing in the eyes of God, nothing. If He can make something out of nothing, even as scripture declares, (Gen 1:1) we would ask the big bang theorists, "Where did the stuff come from that made the big bang?" I don't understand that theory is a better one than ours. So they try to ask us, "Well, prove there's a God." Well, "prove there was something that made the big bang." Both theories require a faith of some kind.

Our daily lives are also to be put into perspective. "Therefore, take no thought saying, what shall we eat or what shall we drink? Or wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek, for your heavenly father knoweth that you have need of all these things." Matt. 6:31 My husband and I have been blessed in the natural, and I don't think so much about what I'm going to wear or what I'm going to be eating, as many truly are suffering today, but this verse has a beautiful spiritual application even for the hungry and poor. Remember the lame beggar Peter healed? Notice that there are three things: clothes, food and drink. All our basic needs. Doesn't the Lord love numbers? I believe He's a mathematician, He's a scientist, He's a physician, so what else do we see as the number three? The trinity. "What shall we eat?" - The Bread of Life. "What shall we drink?" - A New Wine. "And what shall we be clothed with?" - The animal skins, right? The first thing God did after the fall, was cover Adam and Eve with the skins of an animal, just as we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ. Thus we have all three of them. Do you want the Holy Spirit today? Do you want to be covered in His blood? Do you need the Bread of Life? Do you want God to apply the Righteousness of Christ to your account? Your Father knows that you have need of these things. Your trials are nothing. "You being evil and



give good gifts to your children, how much more your Heavenly Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask.” Luke 11:13

But I don't want you to leave feeling too small, or too unimportant. Psalm 102, is absolutely wonderful, and I shall use it constantly to encourage myself. “But thou, O Lord, shall endure forever; and thy remembrance unto all generations. Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favor her, yea, the set time, is come. For thy servants take pleasure in her stones and favor the dust thereof.” V. 12 I believe when He humbled Himself, He had His eyes on you and me. There was something He had compassion for, and He wanted to lift that beggar out of the dunghill. He needed to bring a prince out of ashes, “So the heathen that shall fear the name of the Lord, and all of the kings of the earth thy glory.” V. 15 Did you know He will make some dust His glory? Where are we? His footstool. Every time we come to worship Him at His throne, remember who you are. You are dust and you are ashes, and you have the audacity to walk in and ask Him what you need, and tell Him who you're thinking of.

I will end this message with my testimony, and the reason why I am a miracle speck of dust. When I was a little girl, my Sunday School teacher asked the class, “When did you become a Christian?” When it was my turn I said, “I was born a Christian.” I didn't know, I didn't even know what day I was saved or anything; I was raised in the grace message; I grew up hearing this message. But I also remember the day in High School, when that was ripped away from me. I walked into the class, and someone said to me that evolution was the next topic. I said to the teacher, (because I am very forward and I tell everyone the hard things, which is not a blessing most of the time) “I can't learn this; it's against my religion.” And do you know what he said to me, very sweet and gentle? “All I ask for is an open mind,” and that's what I gave him. I remember clearly. But I tell you that soon after, my faith was destroyed, and I declared myself an atheist. I had a very close friend who believed that when we die we just become the ground and I had a very influential person around me who was interested in philosophy. This person said to me, “If God could build a rock so big that not even He could move it, does that mean that He's still All-Powerful and All-Mighty, that He can do anything?” Those words destroyed me, because that was the same period wherein I was introduced to

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evolution. I also had Mormons in my school, who were very moral and religious, and I was extremely confused. How do they have morals? In my confusion, I questioned everything that I knew. Thus I was convinced that I was an atheist, and even declared it to my parents. The only logical conclusion for me was that there is no God! God doesn't exist, and there's no purpose to life. Just returning to the ground when we die made sense to me.

Do you believe that God sees us all? Do you believe that the world revolves around us? I tell you what: I have a mighty God, and I don't know what on earth He sees in me. But shortly after experiencing all these thoughts, two men walked into my school, and murdered twelve students and a teacher. I was on my way to the library room where they also killed themselves, and for some reason God brought a girl to me and asked me to leave the school and get lunch, which I did. I actually previously told her no already. I had to finish a project that was due the next hour, but I went with her and while we were there at lunch some students came and told us what was happening. I believe that God rescued me, and I do not know why. So I testify that God is faithful, and if He wants to move mountains for you, He will.

So, I still had a burning question in my heart, could God make a rock so big that not even He could move it? Just as gravity cannot make a ball drop up, there are laws for God even in His infinite might. He cannot sin, lie or abide with evil or leave filthy, wicked men unjudged. So it is not outside His might to create this Rock. Neither does it change His greatness. So, absolutely He can. "From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee; when my heart is overwhelmed lead me to the rock that is higher than I." And He showed it to me, so clearly that I went to that "philosopher," and said to him, "You know what? God did make a Rock so big that not even He could move it, and that Rock is Jesus Christ. But why on earth would He want to move it? He did it on purpose." What's even more beautiful, God also crushed that mighty Rock for you and me! Jer. 23:29 I testify today, that man is a Christian.

I home school my children, and if anyone asks me why, I will stand boldly and say, "It could be the bullying and violence, absolutely. That's enough reason for me to keep them out of schools. However, the peer pressure and the need to be like the world to be accepted, that concerns me as well. I also had friends in high school, and co-workers, who were homosexual. I

worked with a bunch of them, and it was very confusing. Their logic, their very device, I believe, is to convince the children that it's O.K." But can everyone see what young people are going through? Is it any wonder where our young people are? If the devil can convince one-third of the holy angels who saw this world created, who were in God's presence and knew Him, how can we think our little children can be safe in this world where Satan abides? Satan comes as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, and Satan wants our children, and he wants us. God gave mine to me, and I want to do everything in my power to keep them as the arrows in the hand of a mighty warrior. I'm going to shoot them, and assure that they are on the mark because He's guiding me. He is all around me, and I want them to hit that mark. "Satan, you cannot have my children, because you couldn't have me." And I'm a miracle, and I'm standing here to tell you, and tell Carl Sagan; you were on to something; you were so close. So, we are a fraction of a dot for a moment of time, but we are the dust that is favored! Don't you want to be there?

(This message was given at the 2014 Labor Day Convention and has been edited for print.)

### **Things We Cannot Do Without**

1. Without shedding of blood is no remission—  
Heb. IX 22.

2. Without faith it is impossible to please God—Heb. XI 6.

3. Without works, faith is dead—James II 14-26.

4. Without holiness no man shall *see* the Lord —  
Heb. XII 14.

5. Without love we are nothing—I. Cor. XIII 1-3.

6. Without chastisement we are not sons of God—  
Heb. XI 146-8.

7. Without Christ we can do nothing — John XV 5.

# **HERE AND THERE**

A. S. Copley

"....Worship Him that liveth forever and ever...." Rev. 4:10.

**W**orship will be the supreme employment of the saints in glory, especially the bride company. Isaiah hears them exclaiming with seraphic sweetness and power, "**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:** the whole earth is full of His glory;" (Isa. 6:3) for our Bridegroom will then be reigning from heaven over the earth. John beheld them and said, "They rest (or rather cease) not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was and is and is to come." Worship is the chief engagement of the full overcomers on earth. I am more and more persuaded of this fact. To the extent that we learn to worship God in the Spirit here and enjoy that devotion, we will enjoy worship in the ages to come. Our every activity now is "a training" for the activities in glory. If our chief engagement here is service, like the uncountable number of Rev. 7, service will be our chief activity in the ages to come.

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Even rulership, great as it is, cannot be compared with divine worship; for the overcomers "cast their crowns before the throne, *saying*, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power." This is sublimely wonderful, that divinely ordained service will be swallowed up in devotion and adoration, worship and praise. The Bride leads the hosts of heaven in thanksgiving and praise. Most saints seem to weary of being on their knees after a few minutes. Their voices seem to get tired. Their body has not become sufficiently saturated with the Life of Christ and the power of the Spirit to continue long in worship. Work, worry and warfare have too much place in their lives. They are qualifying themselves to "serve God day and night in His temple" for many of them prefer to be with the **big crowd**.

At the super-glorious banquet in the heavens, the bride company will lead in worship. And observe that "to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." What a gorgeous array! And this is what thrills me, that the righteous acts emphasized most are worship and adoration toward the Lord. Not once is it said that the

bride group serve the Lord in heaven, though no saints serve Him more earnestly and truly than they, and none have a graver responsibility than they. They call the judgment horses into the ring (Rev. 6). They sound the trumpets (Rev. 8). They have control of the wrath bowls (Rev. 15).

But the ministry that exceeds all others, which is not even termed a ministry, is that of thanksgiving and praise and adoration to the Redeemer and Savior of men. Therefore, the "garment of praise" is the most unique and attractive one of the Bride's costly trousseau. Worship toward God is the greatest, the sublimest act of righteousness that we can render to Him. Of all the linen deeds, this is the fine linen, the clean linen, the bright linen, the most commendatory righteous acts of any saints. No saint, clothed with chills, dryness, starch and form, need hope to be in that choicest of heavenly bands. If we choke on hallelujahs and praises now, we will miss that high and glorious place up yonder. Oh, to be on our knees and faces more before the Lord. Oh, to fill our mouths more continuously with thanksgiving to the God of all grace. Oh, let us make the welkin ring with our adoration in the home and in the sanctuary.

Music drove the devil away from King Saul. Singing and shouting, worship and praise will drive away the blues and break Satan's fiendish power. No arguing; but praise! No answering back; but praise! Less explaining; but more worship. Less correcting; but more praying. Occupation with Jesus and the Father in whole-hearted devotion solves problems, heals wounds, silences criticisms, works wonders, and prepares us for glory. This is the surest way for us to make ourselves ready for the bridehood in glory.

\* Here is something to think about. Man is the only one of God's ceation that sows seed.

\* God supplies every bird its food, but He does not throw it into the nest.

\* God stripped Job of all his wealth and left him the richest soul on earth.

## *Letters --- Bless God, We Get Letters!*

Alaska

Dear Editor: This will indicate a change of address. I am grateful for the Senior Citizen Lady many years ago that submitted my name for receiving Grace and Glory. Words cannot adequately express the wisdom, informative information received to guide and bless my spirit and soul. Guilty, not condemned, was especially helpful. A copy was made for wake-up call class, held Tuesday evenings. I pass G&G to friends who devour the entire booklet.

I Thess. 4:11 denotes how we should work ---- study to be quiet, and do your own business, and to work with your hands...that ye may have lack of nothing, that you may depend on no one. Note: The goal of working is that there will be a reward for your labor. God has a reward for those who have worked for Him. Matt. 16:27 He shall reward every man according to his works. Celia Heath

Kansas

Thank you so very much for the Word of God, sent in the mail to us. We thank God for your ministry. Love and Prayers.

Linda & Gene Runge

Tennessee

To Whom It May Concern: I am writing to you on behalf of Squires Library at Lee University regarding our Grace & Glory subscription. I have just received the October 2014 issue of your publication and noticed we missed the September 2014 issue. Would it be possible for you to send us this back issue if it is still available.

Norma Osterman

Oklahoma

Dear Bro. Gene: Pray things are going O.K. there. He is coming soon. My hope, my peace, and rest, all in Him. Praise His Wonderful Name! Things are going O.K. here. I am just sitting back, waiting for His appearance. Won't that be great! Praise The Lord. Bonnie Bergerson

Colorado

Mr. Hawkins: I do very much enjoy the Grace and Glory's Signs of the Times. It is good to hear about biblical events of that which is happening! And always the encouraging words. May the Lord continue to bless you and God's ministry.

Jonathan Knott

# ISAIAH 25

*Gene Hawkins*

**T**his chapter correlates beautifully with Lamentations, but it is by stark contrast. That book records the deep mournful cries of Jeremiah due to the tremendous abasement of the Jews. Our current chapter portrays the glorious exaltation of this people, after they have returned to the Lord. Thus, Isaiah begins with this glorious paean of praise. “O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.” V. 1 This marvelous, and victorious attitude is directly because this once rebellious people, who experienced the tremendous difficulties portrayed in Lamentations, have finally submitted themselves unto The LORD. The misery described in Isaiah 24 is now past and they are finally ready to claim the promises of old as they realize, by experience, that “thou hast done wonderful things.” These “wonderful things” refer to the miraculous works that God will perform in preserving them throughout that horrendous time of tribulation known as Jacob’s trouble. Furthermore, this Chosen, and now victorious people, will claim the promises made to them throughout the O.T. They will, finally and fully, comprehend that “thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.”

31 “For thou hast made of a city an heap; of a defenced city a ruin: a palace of strangers to be no city; it shall never be built. Therefore shall the strong people glorify thee, the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee.” V. 2-3 This “city” represents all the enemy cities which have stood in total opposition to Israel, and this verse declares that such “defenced” or fortified cities and palaces will never be built against this people again. Not only so, but “the strong people,” that is the Gentiles, “shall glorify thee,” meaning that these nations will eventually be forced to bow before the Supreme God of Heaven.

This theme of praise continues giving credit where it is due. “For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against

the wall.” All these words fitly describe the difficulties from the varied sources of opposition that Israel will face during the time of Jacob’s trouble. The Jew, will be the poor, the needy, and the distressed, and God will rush quickly to their cause “when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.”

Our next verse also prophesies the future as “Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud: the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low.” V. 5 The “strangers,” are, again, the Gentiles who seem to be the source of their discomfort. The “shadow,” from this pressure comes directly from God as He shields His Chosen Ones from the horrific “heat,” of this tribulation period. Not only so, but God goes much further than just delivering this nation from the onslaughts of the enemy. Verse 6 informs us that He will set up Jerusalem as the center of His Kingdom. “And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.” This ancient city now becomes the Mountain of Blessing, not just for the Jews, but God prepares a feast “unto all people.” The Gentile will finally realize that blessing comes through the Jew and these “fat things,” along with the “feast of wines,” or joy, and the “fat things full of marrow,” which bespeak all the glorious provisions purchased at Calvary, are now made available to all, even among these Gentile nations, who will lay hold of them. 32

“And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.” V. 7 This “mountain,” is a reference to Jerusalem, and at this present hour there is a “covering,” a “vail,” of trouble, misery, suffering, and dread hanging over it like a pall. But in that day, God will destroy that atmosphere, and the Jew, along with all the nations of the world, will benefit from it because the victories which Jesus won at Calvary will finally come to full fruition as seen in the following glorious, and victorious words.

“He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD



hath spoken it.” V. 8 We would note again that Lamentations is a literal documentary of crying and misery. The first two verses of that book are somewhat of a synopsis of the entire text. “How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary! She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.” Lam. 1:1-2 The atmosphere here in Isaiah is completely reversed, the language being much like Jesus’ promise to the Church. “For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” Rev. 7:17 The entire nation of Israel will experience that same victory, and freedom from their tears of sorrow and pain, just a few years later after the judgments of the tribulation have been consummated and they enjoy the victory of the cross which gives them and all the world triumph over death.

“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” V. 9 These words emanate from the victorious heart of Israel for they have finally learned by experience that “the battle is the Lord’s.” I Sam. 17:27 They will re-live, even in greater measure, the Great Red Sea victory whereby they learned “The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.” Ex. 14:14

“For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest, and Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.” V. 10 The little word “for” gives the reason for the glorious victory of V. 9. This “mountain,” Jerusalem, is fully in the Hand of The Lord. Surely the whole world will be able to identify with this, because present day Jerusalem is in absolute chaos, with multiple factions clamoring for a piece of it. It does, however, belong only to God, and when it is in the Hands of its Rightful Owner, the entire world will experience the glorious results. Moab is representative of all

those factions who tried desperately to claim “God’s property,” and all of them will be trodden down, “even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.” The description here is one of total annihilation, and that will be the story written in regard to those who would dare resist Him and “steal,” that which belongs only to The God of Israel.

The fullness of His judgment upon them is further disclosed by the rather poetic words of Isaiah as he brings this chapter to a close. “And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim: and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands. And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.” V. 11-12 Such an analogy expresses the sweeping, and all inclusive, judgment which will be uniformly poured out upon all those nations who have dared to set an encampment against the apple of God’s Eye.

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God forbids you to look toward Jerusalem,  
Mighty men;  
You are warned with a curse, **O** Moslem.  
“Behold gloominess, sorrow, distress and anguish ;”  
When it is light, it shall be darkness  
Weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth.  
Nations forget not! The Reaper will reap.

—Alberta Boling.

**Every step of faith** not only takes us forward, ‘but leaves a footprint behind for others coming after *us* to see.

We tire of the pleasure we take; but never of the  
pleasure we give.



# Our Corn Crib

*"Buy The Truth, and Sell It Not"*

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1, 2 Samuel	Zechariah	Philippians	
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**H**onour the Lord  
with thy substance,  
and with the  
firstfruits of all  
thine increase.

PROVERBS 3:9.