

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole counsel of GOD

Without Price Since 1910

'Loving His Appearing'

Volume 105

February 2015

Number 2



**The Lord**  
is good, a strong  
hold in the day of  
trouble; and he  
knoweth them  
that trust in him.  
NAHUM 1:7.

# Table of Contents

<u>Article</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Page</u>
Definite Sign Post of the End .....	Gene Hawkins .....	3
The King & Queen .....	Amy Copley .....	11
Jesus' Cause, Love! .....	Ray Quintana .....	20
Abundant Grace .....	W.B. Cissna .....	26
Beginning at Jerusalem .....	Paul N. Smith .....	29
Isaiah (book section) .....	Gene Hawkins .....	33

## THREE BAD APPLES



"GRACE & GLORY" (USPS#224-300 ISSN # 279-6996) is published monthly by Grace & Glory Gospel Society, 13011 Grandview Rd., P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030.

PERIODICALS postage is paid at Grandview, Missouri.

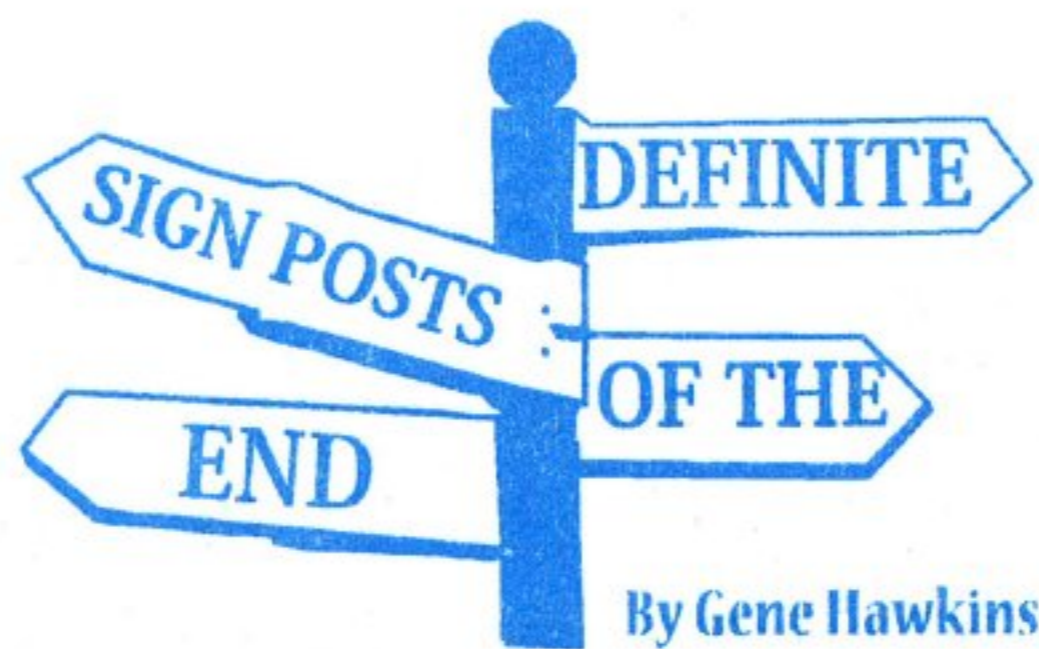
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "Grace & Glory," P.O.Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030.

Telephone: 816-618-3306/ Print Shop: 816-322-2257 /E-mail: [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com)

Web site: [www.gracegod.org/](http://www.gracegod.org/) [gracegod.com](http://gracegod.com). Bible lessons and audio sermons are downloadable.

GRACE&GLORY is published for the purpose of proclaiming God's Holy Word. We believe that the scriptures are inspired of God and were given to His holy apostles and prophets by the Holy Spirit. (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:21) GRACE & GLORY has had continuous publication without subscription price since 1910. We are able to continue this ministry by your kind financial support.

Editor: Gene Hawkins



*“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;” I Tim. 4:1*

*“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;” II Thess. 2:3*

*“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves,..... proud, blasphemers, .....unholy,...fierce, despisers of those that are good,...Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. II Tim. 3:1-5*

**R**ecent terror attacks in France, as well as other parts of the world, provide a graphic fulfillment of all the above citations. Departure from “**the faith**” is listed as the root cause of the problem and the same truth is expressed as “a falling away,” and “denying the power thereof.” All of them simply mean that men have chosen to ignore God and the Word He has imparted to them. Solomon, declared in scripture to be the wisest man that ever lived, also chimes in with this assertion. “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” Prov. 29:18 This man could surely speak from a political experience and does give much advice in regard to governments. The “vision” of which he speaks is a direct reference to the Word of God, which is also termed “the faith,” in the New Testament. We would emphasize that men are not simply found devoid of faith, but are rather accused of departing “from THE FAITH.” The fact is that scripture acknowledges only “ONE faith,” (Eph.4:5) and that is “...**the faith of the Son of God,...**!” Gal. 2:20 We also read that “faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.” Rom. 10:17 It is further stated that the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and

truth.” John 1:14 Hebrews 1:2 likewise affirms that God “Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, ...” Thus Jesus, The Son Of God, is synonymous with “**the faith,**” and this is the problem with our own country and the world. Men, in general, are doing everything they can, to rid themselves of Jesus! These Islamic extremists totally deny Him as The Son of God, even as did the Jews of Jesus’ time. They claim to know God, as Allah, yet deny His Son, Jesus Christ. Such a claim is impossible, if one would know the only True God of Heaven and Earth, for Jesus exclaimed “I and my Father are one.” John 10:30

There are a number of prominent religious leaders who have, both eloquently and truthfully, pointed out that the horrendous violence on High School, and College, campuses across America in recent years, is directly attributed to the fact that prayer, or any other reference to God has been completely banned. Their writings have been virtually ignored, but those catastrophes are a glaring example of the aforementioned departure “from the faith,” wherein men have truly “lost the vision” of Christ, and the literal consequence of death has surely ensued.

4

Tragedies, such as that in France, will most assuredly continue as these terrorist groups pursue their objective of trying to convert the entire world to Islam. We have previously stated in these pages that such groups as Al Qaida, ISIS, Hamas, The Palestinian Authority, and countless other terrorist groups, especially based in the Middle East, have all the characteristics of the ten kings associated with the beast in Rev. 17. These kings will eventually destroy the woman who rides that same political beast, as they wage Jihad against her. Catholicism is the only “religious woman,” around the entire world, who can claim this identity, for only She has the global influence required to alter the political climate throughout every nation on this planet. Thus these terrorists battle against what they, and the majority of this world, see as the representative of Jesus.

God’s Chosen People, The Jews, are also primary objects of their Jihad, and they were also targeted in France, where the whole scenario reeks of religiousness. These Islamists were greatly offended by a cartoon, printed in the satirical French Magazine Charlie Hebdo, ridiculing the so-called prophet Mohammed, and

thus carried out their reprisals with Jihad. Many politicians and national leaders around the world continue to defend the Islamic religion, declaring that these extremists have simply “hi-jacked,” an otherwise peaceful religion. Let the scripture answer such false assertions for we are plainly told that in these latter days “....some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;” meaning that Islam is Satanic. Add to that the fact that these Jihadists fit the very profile of evil wherein Paul describes those who “....shall be lovers of their own selves,.....proud, blasphemers, .....unholy,...fierce, despisers of those that are good,...Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:” This ungodly religion, which, denies Christ, and gives heed to the very violent and destructive doctrines of devils, and Satanic spirits, masquerading under a veil of peace and quiet, is determined to impose “Sharia Law,” upon the entire world. Such law is by no means peaceful, but rather endorses “honor killings,” inflicted upon anyone, who will not submit to Islam or would violate the edicts set forth in the Quran. It is a law practicing violence, brutality and discrimination, as is evidenced 5 by recent reports out of Syria and Iraq, describing torture and beheadings of journalists, along with anyone proclaiming to be a Christian. Islam is, in fact, a primary part of the perilous times sweeping across the world today, and many political figures have expressed outrage against the very requirements of Sharia Law because they literally trample on “human rights,” around the world.

There are many in the political arena, very much concerned about their own citizenry, who insist that Islam must be identified for what it is. Frustration with world leaders, who seem to defend this ungodly religion, comes through loud and clear in the following quotes from the Anti-Defamation League’s National Director, Abe Foxman, published by Haaretz, who blatantly declared that “If French President Hollande continues to say that what happened last week in Paris has nothing to do with Islam, then we’re going nowhere. If Obama cannot articulate the words ‘radical Islam’, then it’s a lost cause. What are they going to say at this meeting that the U.S. is convening in Washington on February 18? That the subject is radical extremism? If we cannot articulate what it is then we won’t

be able to deal with it either.”

There was also another plot carried out in France, at the Hyper Cacher kosher supermarket, where a gunman killed four Jewish hostages and a policewoman. He claimed that he was acting on behalf of ISIL, though no evidence has been discovered to prove that connection. The fact remains that all these attacks stem from the devilish doctrines of Islam, and it also seems that there may be a war between these factions as each tries to claim responsibility for such violent Jihad in an effort to establish their own supremacy. All of them desperately want “their own kingdom,” and recognition by the entire world.

6 Consternation, distrust, and displeasure, were also quite evident among the nations in the aftermath of these atrocities when France hosted “the unity march against terror.” American President Obama was soundly criticized because he did not attend the rally, electing instead to send a “low profile representative.” On the other hand, *The Washington Free Beacon* reported that “French President Francois Hollande did not want Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to come to Paris Sunday to participate in the march against terror.....However, Netanyahu came anyway.” According to various sources, Mr. Hollande was very much afraid that if either Netanyahu or Palestinian President Abbas, were to attend the rally, it would bring the tensions of the Israeli- Palestinian conflict into his country. When “Bibi” came uninvited, it was incumbent upon Hollande to invite the P.A. President. Thus a number of reports relate the tension between these two leaders of Israel and France, as “they appeared together.” In addition, one of the major problems for the French President was Mr. Netanyahu’s declaration that French Jews should “come to Israel in the wake of the terror attacks,” which the French took as a personal insult to the way they treat the Jews in that country.

It is quite apparent from all these reports that world leaders are at a complete loss in trying to solve the unending problems with terrorism or each other. The world, as a whole, has indeed forsaken God’s Ways, and left to their own human reasoning, the effects of such rebellion will only escalate until God puts a stop to it ---- At Armageddon! Though so many, both politically and religiously, proclaim a message of restoration or “revival” for this

little earth ball, God's decree still remains. The day of peace and tranquility which only Jesus will eventually bring, ".....shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;" II Thess. 2:3 This simply means that there will be no "revival" or miraculous restoration, of any nation on earth, until Jesus sets up His Own Kingdom. The falling away will continue, unabated, until the man of sin, the antichrist, is officially unveiled and comes to power, but that will not occur until very shortly before the middle of the tribulation week. Until then, the violent effects of departing from the faith, illustrated by the atrocities in Paris, will continue unimpeded.

There is also evidence of this departure "from the faith," hitting much closer to home, and much closer to our hearts. The Kansas City Star describes an "Oasis For Nonbelievers," about an assembly which gathers "weekly in a way that appears churchlike, but there's no prayer, no reference to a higher power." There is also, and absolutely, no mention of "dogma," that is doctrine, or The Word of God. Most are atheists or agnostics, although people of faith aren't excluded.

Our hearts are grieved to know that former pastors, and mainstream Protestant members, with degrees from conservative Pentecostal Schools, are among the leaders in this new venture. The idea here is to "do what church does minus the dogma and exclusion." Another former Christian Minister declared that "religion has done some things really well, and one of them is to provide strong communities where people find support." He further stipulated that "Oasis is meant to be an 'oasis of acceptance' and a stopping point on the journey to refresh and recharge. Mostly the thrust of the weekly gathering is to hear something new about the world."

These comments sound much like the Athenians of Paul's day who "...spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing." Acts 17:21 They also prove the fact that God did indeed create us as "social" individuals and ordained us to have fellowship around the table of God's Word. However, man and his humanistic ways always has a better plan than God but such a scenario, as that described above, will never bring the

real joy and lasting satisfaction they seek. They too demonstrate having “a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.”

8 Many staunch Christians have seen this falling away, or departure from the faith, in varying degrees for some time. It is also quite evident, from reports such as these, that men will continue to ignore God’s Word, very often in their own quest for unity, as we have reported previously in this feature. However, we need not be a part of this prophesied spiritual declension. It is imperative for those, who are truly looking for Jesus to take them out of this world before the night time of tribulation begins, to realize that God does not show us these end time signs just for observation. We can, in no wise turn the tide that is sweeping across this world but we most assuredly can, and must, take the steps to keep us from being caught up in it. Jude warns of the same departure from the faith when he was literally constrained, and impelled by The Holy Ghost, to “exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” Jude 3 If we “earnestly contend,” that is, “struggle, compete, contend with an adversary,” for the faith of God’s Word, then we will guard our own lives against the consequences which result from this falling away. Jude directly warns against the very issues of ungodliness and rebellion sweeping across this country and this present world, as he tells, in graphic detail, why we are to earnestly contend for the faith. “For there are certain men crept in unawares, ....turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance...how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” V. 4-7 We too live in a day when men have very deceitfully crept in and have made a mockery of the power of divine grace, using God’s longsuffering and mercy to excuse their appetites for riotous living. They continue to deny Jesus His rightful place



as Head of the Body, and though many have also witnessed His glorious power of deliverance, as did the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt, still they too “believe not,” as they refuse to pursue the depths of God’s Word. Jude’s reference to the fallen angels testifies of the gross rebellion of Satan himself who would exalt himself to be “like the most High.” Isa. 14:14 The ungodly gay doctrines of Sodom and Gomorrah, likewise continue to run rampant in societies around the world and many still deign to excuse such perverted desires as being allowed by Divine Grace, indeed ordained of God. Fornication, which is directly forbidden by scripture, is now completely accepted, by the masses as pre-marital sex has now become a way of life in our society and is simply touted as being “normal.” Jude also warns that there “..... should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.” V. 18-19 The mockery here is directed against all of the Word of God and the standards set forth in It. Such people are indeed “sensual,” that is, controlled only by the senses, as they walk according to their own fleshly lusts. 9

Earnestly contending for the faith means that we must, in our own lives, stand against such activity and humanistic thinking, even though we be very much in the minority and are ridiculed for being too “narrow minded,” and not able to adapt to the times. We can, in no wise, control what others do, but we most assuredly can go on record before God, and all that will listen to us, that we absolutely do not accept the perverted standards set by society. We most assuredly cannot practice them.

The only way to “contend for the faith,” is to wholeheartedly “embrace “the faith,” which means that we must lay claim to all of the Word of God, for faith comes only by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Jude gives us this very pointed instruction. “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,” V. 20 This does not mean that we can simply “pray” for unbounded faith, but rather that we must constantly be in an attitude of prayer crying out for The Holy Ghost to reveal this message of “the faith” unto us. Jesus outlines His primary ministry for our lives in John 16:13. “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you

into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." This Mighty Messenger will fulfill this ministry in our own lives if we but give Him the opportunity to do so.

Jude concludes his discourse with these glorious words of victory which are very much applicable for those living in the midst of this great falling away. "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. V. 24-25 Never did God intend that we should be a part of this falling away and Jude's promise is that if we follow his instruction of contenting for the faith, God is able to keep us from falling. Not only so, but He will further present us "faultless, before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." Some would argue the possibility of such perfection but so says the Word of God and the chief apostle to the Church leaves us with this same glorious message and promise. "And the very God  
**10** of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Thess. 5:23

~~~~~  
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"-2 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.(1952)

# The King And Queen

Amy A. Copley

"MY HEART IS INDITING A GOOD MATTER. I SPEAK OF THE THINGS WHICH I HAVE MADE TOUCHING THE KING. My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. Thou art fairer than the children of men. Grace is poured into thy lips; therefore God hath blessed thee forever." Psa. 45: 1,2.

This Psalm records two outstanding characters — a king and a queen. The first eight verses speak of the king. The characters and companies of people are typical of spiritual things. This king and queen are types of the heavenly King and Queen. And does it not make your heart glad to know that God is delighted to let us study about them and understand their real typical meaning? My heart is just filled with the glory of the Lord that our understanding is enlightened. To study them with delight is positive proof that our heart is reaching out to know Christ, the Son of God, as the King, and we may lay hold of the victory purchased for us that we may qualify to be the Queen.

David was king in Jerusalem, reigning over Israel. Someone wrote these words to him and said, My heart is inditing a good matter," or as the margin reads, "My heart is boiling or bubbling up." Is it not wonderful that the Holy Spirit made someone, hundreds of years ago, write a precious Psalm like this to the king of Israel? Oh, that writer was inspired by the Spirit of God. His pen could not go fast enough. It was as though it were a tongue. He had such a vision of the king and the queen, of the wonder, the glory, the power, the greatness and the authority of them that he could scarcely find words to express it. In the natural, the king is always put first and then the queen. So it is in the spiritual. It is Jesus first and then His Bride.

It is so wonderful to me when I read about Jesus praying for His "darling" while He was on the cross. Psa. 22:20 That was when He bore your sins and mine, our shame and our reproach. It is no glory or honor to us; but it is all to the glory of God. He had to bear our reproach and be cut away from the presence of God before we could be highly exalted with Him. Should we not worship Him and praise Him, that while He was suffering He thought of us? When Jesus was here on earth, people did not see Him as fair. No, He

despised, the lowly Nazarene. There was no beauty in Him that we should desire Him. The Spirit of God took the writer away on into the ages, away past David's experience. God only used David as a little back-ground to show forth things concerning His Son in the ages to come.

**"Thou art fairer than the children of men; grace is poured into thy lips; therefore God hath blessed thee forever."** V. 2 Grace is poured from highest heaven into the lips of the Son of God. I could dwell right here. Every verse here is so wonderful. We cannot begin to do justice to it in a few minutes time. We could talk about Calvary, the back ground of this Psalm, but we will pass on. Though the Son of God bore our reproaches, though He took the lowest place, God has highly exalted Him and He is highly blessed for evermore; but the blessing is not yet made manifest. The full victory of Calvary has, not been manifest; but the spirit of God caused this writer to say the Son of God was blessed forever. There is coming the day when the Son of God will be blessed forever.

**"Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty. And in thy majesty ride prosperously, because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things."**V. 3,4. The Spirit carries us to the end of this two thousand years. It is wonderful how the Spirit of God in one little verse can carry us clear across the ages and bring marvelous truth in just a few lines. Revelation 1:13-15, describes the majesty of Christ.

"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and His hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; and His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and His voice as the sound of many waters." This is a picture of the majesty of Christ as the Judge of Christendom. He is now walking in the midst of the Churches, examining, separating and classifying the saints. He is seen here, not as a weak, lowly Man, but as Judge, with divine authority. Can you picture anything so wonderful? What an amazing vision John had while he was on the Island of Patmos, of the greatness and glory of the Son of Man. When Jesus was on earth, He was Man in humiliation, in weakness, and went to the cross and bore our shame. He was marred with our sickness and

our sins; but He was raised from the grave, the glorified Man of God.

"His hair and His head were white like wool and His feet like fine brass." The Son of God is judging in Christendom today, and He is going to judge the world when He comes back in righteousness. He will reign in righteousness, judge everything and put down all rule and all authority and all power. He will do that in the world at large. Today He is doing that in every individual that yields to Him. When we begin to yield to the Lord, He begins to put down all rule. When we say, Yes, to Him today, He puts down a little more rule; tomorrow we say, Yes, and He puts down authority and power. I see the Trinity of God putting down the trinity of evil, the world, the flesh and the devil. God is Ruler in our lives. Jesus is the Authority, and the Holy Spirit is the Power. How can we do anything else, other than the will of God, when the Trinity of the Godhead is in our lives? It is perfectly ridiculous to talk about backsliding. Let us go forward and let the Son of God do it all in us. Now that is a little description of the majesty and glory of the Son of God.

The Lord Jesus will sit on His Own throne. The Father will give Him a throne which He will bring down from the highest heaven into mid-heaven, and He will bring other thrones with Him. We see that in Dan. 7. There He will first judge the earth for about seven years. Now I want you to see a little of the judgment that will take place. 13

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war." Rev. 19 :11. This is still the vision of John. White speaks of purity. The horses speak of power. The Son of Man is coming back in the purity of God and in the power of God. He is the only One that is able to judge righteously and make war. Jesus is going to make war against everything that is evil in this world. There will be a terrible fight in heaven before the Son of Man comes back. Michael will hurl the devil out of heaven. Thus the heavens will be purified and made holy for the Son of God and His Bride, the Queen. Then after that battle, there will be a battle on earth. Jesus with His saints will judge the religious systems of Christendom. After that, will take place the marriage supper of the Lamb; then they will come back in the power of God Himself to put down the false prophet and the anti-Christ; and the

devil will be cast into the pit for a thousand years. What a vision John had when he saw all of this. Surely he saw much more than he put on paper.

We truly are a favored people in being brought into the light and truth and the liberty and privileges we have in Christ Jesus. To me it is wonderful.

**"Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter. Thou lovest righteousness and hatest wickedness; therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."** Vs. 6,7 Here the Son of God, as if already upon His millennial throne, is addressed as God. When that day comes, the Father will sit back for a thousand years and give His Son full sway as universal Ruler. The Father will rest, and say to the Son, Now I will take a vacation for a thousand years; you and your companion, who have been separated from you for so many years, take full control and show to the universe what your redemption has done. I will enjoy my Sabbath, while you and your Bride enjoy the throne life. This is why we have that wonderful Scripture—"Unto us a  
14 child is born; unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isa. 9:6. Then, not now, He will be called by those titles. Then, He will be called the Counsellor of heaven and earth, and every council meeting will have to be held under His judiciary. Then, Jesus will be called the Mighty God. Then, He will be called the Everlasting Father.

**"The scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter."** Justice will be meted out on every hand then; for divine righteousness will reign supreme. Bribery will have no weight with King Jesus. He always loved righteousness and hated iniquity. Because of this fact, His Father anointed Him with the oil of gladness above His fellows. The Spirit was poured upon Him without measure.

**"All thy garments smell of myrrh and aloes and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad."** V. 8. The odor of Calvary will never leave the Son of God. He will be seen as the Lamb slain, throughout eternity. Myrrh speaks of the sufferings of Christ. The Queen will be known as the "wife of the Lamb," not the wife of the Son, but of the Lamb. She too suffers today in being qualified to be His Bride.

## Another Scene

**"Kings' daughters are among thy honorable women; upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir. Hearken, O daughter, and consider and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people and thy Father's house: so shall the King greatly desire thy beauty; for He is thy Lord, and worship thou Him." Vs. 9,10** Here the story changes. A new character steps forth. The King will not be on the throne alone. Does that mean anything to you? The Queen will sit with the King in His judgment over the world. Why will she? Because she judges the world with Him today. She begins by judging the flesh in herself now. If we first judge ourselves, we will judge the flesh in others with grace and tenderness. If through grace we have the victory over our own flesh and over the world now, we shall be able to judge and reign with Christ hereafter.

Therefore, there is a process of preparation between conversion and the throne. First, she hearkens to the voice of the Holy Spirit, who will guide her into all the truth. Then she must consider what the Spirit says, and incline the ear. If we do not incline our ear to the Spirit's voice, we will never hear the sweet things our Beloved has to say to us. Finally, we must forget our household. Let me quote Paul's amazing words—**"Brethren . . . one thing I do; forgetting those things that are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the Prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."** Indeed we do some pressing. We press through all kinds of hindrances. We are determined to win.

**"So shall the King greatly desire thy beauty."** He does not see us in the old creation, but in the new creation, "without spot or wrinkle." He sees us as His Love, His only One, His choice One, His undefiled. Our beauty consists in our wholehearted love and devotion to Him. He works in us the beauty which delights His heart. Our beauty is shown forth by acknowledging Christ as our Lord and by our worship. There is not one word said here about doing anything. But we read, **"He is thy Lord; worship thou Him;"** for the Lord seeks worshipers.

**"The King's daughter is all glorious within. Her clothing is of wrought gold."** V. 13. Here is given us a description of the Queen. The king's darling is so precious to him, that he loves to speak of her. I will quote a portion of Scripture that

gives us a wonderful pattern. **"And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold. And thou shalt make two cherubim of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make it in the two ends of the mercy seat."** Ex. 25:17,18. That mercy seat is a picture of our Lord and His Bride, or the full over-comers joined to Him. That mercy seat and the cherubim were beaten out of one piece, which speaks of our likeness to Christ and our oneness with Him, **"bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh."** He was beaten for us, and we are being beaten for Him. It hurts us to be beaten. We do not like it at the time; but after the victory is won, then, the glory floods our souls. Then, we are so happy, because we have a greater vision of Christ than ever before. They who take the grace of God and accept this beating process, will be rewarded the first place with Jesus hereafter; **"for I reckon, that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."** Rom. 8:18. Thank God, because we let Jesus Christ execute judgment in us down here, we shall stand with Him in glory and with Him execute judgment over men and angels.

### The Queen's Presentation

**"She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needlework.** The virgins, her companions that follow her, shall be brought unto thee." V. 14. Some of us have to wear second hand clothes here some times, garments often that are a misfit; but we will not wear that kind up there. We shall have a wonderful wedding garment of **"wrought gold."** What is that garment? First of all, we have a wonderful standing in Christ Jesus. Because He is righteous, we are righteous. Because He is holy, we are holy in Him. Brother Paul wrote, saying, **"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God that worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure."** His righteous life must be wrought in us; then, we work it out in righteous acts. John, writing of this Queen, said, **"To her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen pure and white; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints."** Rev. 19:9 Greek. As we yield to God, He works in us to do His will. We go the way He wants us to go. We minister to the needy and homeless. We pray for the sick, and maybe do some house work for them. All things that we do in the Father's will are the **"righteous acts of the saints."** All



those deeds make up our wedding garment of "wrought gold in fine needle work." Friends, is your shuttle weaving today ?

Finally, if we yield to Christ and walk in His perfect will, some virgins will follow us and also appear at the marriage in the air. You say, "There goes ranks again." Well, we cannot get away from that truth. I see three classes of people in this Psalm. The Queen is one company. The group represented by the daughter of Tyre is another company. Is the Lamb going to marry the daughter of Tyre? No, but she will be at the wedding with a gift for the Bride. Will the Lamb marry the virgins, the friends of the Bride? No, yet they will be there; for the wedding will not be complete without them. How wonderful! We are stripped of everything down here. We suffer the loss of all things; but up there we will receive the gifts. The very people who persecute us, because we go this way, may have to bestow gifts upon us then, by acknowledging that we were right. And those gifts will last forever. Then the Father promises to make **"the name of His Son to be remembered in all generations; "** therefore, He adds, **"the people shall praise thee for ever and ever."**

(Reprint 1959)

17

### Perfect Trust

I cannot understand

The why and wherefore, of a thousand things;  
The crosses, the annoyances, the daily stings,

I cannot understand;

But I can trust,

For perfect trusting, perfect comfort brings.

I cannot see the end,

The hidden meaning of each trial sent,  
The pattern into which each tangled thread is bent,

I cannot see the end;

But I can trust,

And in God's changeless love I am content.

Selected

# REFLECTIONS

## REFLECTIONS

...From the Editor

*And the LORD said unto him, ...I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.” I Kings 9:3*

**W**e often think of ourselves as having a heart for the Lord. Indeed, Jesus commanded that “...Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.” Matt. 22:37 David likewise cried out “Bless the LORD, O my soul: and **all that is within me, ...**” Psa. 103:1, and Psa. 119:2 lists repeated references to the heart. “Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.” V. 1 “With my whole heart have I sought thee:...” V. 10 “Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.” V. 34 David further reiterates his own experience declaring that “I intreated thy favour with my whole heart:... V. 58, and “.....I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.” Verse 145 tells us that he “.... cried with my whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.”

However, this opening text assuredly announces that God is also possessed of a heart. Solomon has just dedicated the new temple and The LORD answers by assuring him that, not only will His Name be placed there, but His Heart “shall be there perpetually.” Today’s world, in no wise acknowledges that Jerusalem belongs to God, but scripture assures us that it is so.

Jeremiah also gives wondrous insight into the Heart of God. “And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul. For thus saith the LORD; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.” Jer. 32:40-42 What a joy it is to know, during “this season of love,” that God also has both a Heart, and Soul, which is turned toward His people. The promises here are

a direct prophecy announcing the restoration of the Jews. He will first put His "fear in their hearts," meaning that they will, at long last, understand the "fear of the Lord," as they finally accept their Messiah and submit themselves unto Him. He will then be able to fulfill His Covenant and "plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul."

Though these things are written directly of Israel, God has exactly the same Glorious Heart and Desire toward us today. He also would plant us in our own inheritance in the heavenlies, and whole-heartedness for God is exactly the same as it is for us --- full and complete resolve with absolutely no thought of refusing to fulfill His Promise. The Heart of God is reflected in the assertion that "God so loved the world that he gave..." John 3:16 His Heart, filled with Love, is shown forth, even in greater depth in Rom. 8:32. "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" No wonder David cried out "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name."

GH 19

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Last Call!**

**President's Day Weekend Convention**

**Living Waters Tabernacle**

**February 13-15, 2015**

## **LADIES RETREAT**

**May 1-3, 2015**

**Carbondale, Kansas**

***For more information please call***

***Brenda Hawkins 816-765-7607***

***or e-mail [jerbrenhawkins@yahoo.com](mailto:jerbrenhawkins@yahoo.com)***

***June Hawkins is available at 816-618-3306***

***Or e-mail [jghawk2@msn.com](mailto:jghawk2@msn.com)***

# Jesus' Cause, Love!

Ray Quintana

*“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, That He would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.” Eph 3:14-19*

Paul prayed that we would know the love of God in Christ and to be filled with all the fullness of God. Love is the greatest subject we could ever conceive, and without it, we are empty. The entire brokenness and heart ache that Paul felt was because of the love of God. We too have the opportunity to know that kind of love in our own lives.

20 If we would examine a mother's, or a father's, love in the natural, it is so similar to God's love, but yet so different. It is so different that it fills us with wonder and praise, just to ponder it. God's love has a depth and a breadth and a length and a height that is beyond comprehension in its glory. Yet we can know the love of God.

Leviticus tells us of five Levitical offerings, given to Moses, which describe the cause for which Jesus came. Five is the number of Divine Grace. It took those five offerings to fully describe and to portray what Jesus did on the cross and to fully exhibit the wonder of redemption which He brought forth. One of those offerings was the peace offering.

“And he shall lay his hand upon the head of his offering, and kill it at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about. And he shall offer of the sacrifice of the peace offering an offering made by fire unto the Lord; The fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that is upon the inwards.” Lev. 3:2-3. God always received the fat from all of the offerings. Only He could appreciate the inward zeal, and energy, that Christ had or the motivation that He had in giving Himself unto His Father. Such motivation had to be Divine Love, even as Jesus cried out “I do always those things that please Him.” John 8:29

God is love, and He is motivated by it even as we read, "God so loved the world that He gave....." John 3:16.

When we are saved, the life of Christ is planted within our hearts, and if God is love then we have His love in us which must grow. Love is like a fire that can never be put out? The devil can't do it because God created that fire. "Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it." Song 8:7.

The requirements in Leviticus, forbade eating either fat or blood. Four of the five offerings were blood offerings. All of them had specific laws which accompanied them, for God left nothing to chance. The peace offering is a fellowship offering telling us of feasting with God on the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. Notice what man received. "And the priest shall burn the fat upon the altar: but the breast shall be Aaron's and his sons." Le 7:31. The breast is symbolic of the affection or the heart of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is love. It is beautifully illustrated by John at the last supper as he leaned his head on Jesus' breast. Some saints enter into the very love and affection of Christ and others are, at best, held at arm's length.

That night when Jesus announced that someone would betray Him, the disciples looked on one another and said, "is it I?" Finally Peter said to John, who was leaning on Jesus breast, "ask Him who is it?" Some people enter into the very affections of Christ, which gives them a liberty with Him, like John, which others do not have. They understand the love of God. John was not afraid he would be reprimanded. He understood the love of Jesus. We too must enter into the very love and affection of Christ, knowing that we have the right to go in unto Him; knowing that we are not going to be reprimanded for taking liberties with Him. That is partaking of the breast of the Lord Jesus Christ in this peace offering.

The offering priest also received "the right shoulder;" which speaks of strength. Lev. 7:32 The Apostle Paul said, "when I am weak then I am strong." He was taking the shoulder of Christ, leaning upon that shoulder of ever present strength. It is experimental; it is not something that we just talk about, but we rather live and move in its power. We understand it because we have experienced it. The strength of Christ is when my own is gone and I am still standing. That is partaking of the shoulder of the Lord Jesus. But all believers do not come into that place.

rejected, forsaken of men, and He was the only One that could help. "So a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed,..." and, we would emphasize, "...came where he was." V. 34. This is a picture of what Jesus did, for Jesus' cause was love! He came where we were. He came down into this sinful world right along with us. What love! He did not avoid this man, but rather got right down in the dirt and the filth with him on that dusty road with all of the grime that was there. Jesus did exactly the same thing for us. Philippians 2 records seven steps downward that Jesus took, coming down from God, into the dust, in order to implement His Plan of redemption. Jesus went to him and bound up his wounds. There is only one way that that could be effectively accomplished. He had to settle the sin question first, by the shedding of blood for you and me in order to make peace by the blood of His cross. Jesus paid the debt that was against us, the debt that brought us into absolute death, He paid the price.

22 Then He bound up his wounds pouring in oil, symbolic of the Holy Ghost. It is the anointing power of the Spirit that separates us unto God. It is a separate experience, and despite what some say, we are not saved and filled at the same time. The oil was never poured onto anything that did not belong to God. We must be born again before God can fill us with the Power of the Holy Ghost. He then poured in wine, also symbolic of the power of the Holy Ghost, Who brings His intoxicating joy with Him, but He is not done yet, for this certain man is now ushered into an inn. This is real separation, where we are separated unto Christ for fellowship. It speaks of the full provision of the Apostle Paul's Gospel message. This innkeeper points to none other than the Apostle Paul who was charged with giving forth this Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ for this entire age

Then notice what Jesus said: "and on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee." V. 35. What a cause! Love! This is the full redemption, provided for us in Christ Jesus. Nothing to pay, nothing to buy, no debts for us to assume, He paid the full price of our full redemption spirit, soul, and body until He can present us holy and unblameable and unproveable before the Lord. That is the power of the message we preach. It is Jesus Christ's cause, which is love. He brought us to the inn,

rejected, forsaken of men, and He was the only One that could help. "So a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed,..." and, we would emphasize, "...came where he was." V. 34. This is a picture of what Jesus did, for Jesus' cause was love! He came where we were. He came down into this sinful world right along with us. What love! He did not avoid this man, but rather got right down in the dirt and the filth with him on that dusty road with all of the grime that was there. Jesus did exactly the same thing for us. Philippians 2 records seven steps downward that Jesus took, coming down from God, into the dust, in order to implement His Plan of redemption. Jesus went to him and bound up his wounds. There is only one way that that could be effectively accomplished. He had to settle the sin question first, by the shedding of blood for you and me in order to make peace by the blood of His cross. Jesus paid the debt that was against us, the debt that brought us into absolute death, He paid the price.

Then He bound up his wounds pouring in oil, symbolic of the Holy Ghost. It is the anointing power of the Spirit that separates us unto God. It is a separate experience, and despite what some say, we are not saved and filled at the same time. The oil was never poured onto anything that did not belong to God. We must be born again before God can fill us with the Power of the Holy Ghost. He then poured in wine, also symbolic of the power of the Holy Ghost, Who brings His intoxicating joy with Him, but He is not done yet, for this certain man is now ushered into an inn. This is real separation, where we are separated unto Christ for fellowship. It speaks of the full provision of the Apostle Paul's Gospel message. This innkeeper points to none other than the Apostle Paul who was charged with giving forth this Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ for this entire age

Then notice what Jesus said: "and on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee." V. 35. What a cause! Love! This is the full redemption, provided for us in Christ Jesus. Nothing to pay, nothing to buy, no debts for us to assume, He paid the full price of our full redemption spirit, soul, and body until He can present us holy and unblameable and unproveable before the Lord. That is the power of the message we preach. It is Jesus Christ's cause, which is love. He brought us to the inn,

and He took care of us, and He has committed us to the Gospel by the Apostle Paul. This is where Christ takes care of us. He is in glory now, but we are entrusted to the innkeeper, and the Gospel of grace and glory.

It will also take the Holy Spirit, to fill us with this same love. We can never know the fullness Christ, and love of God in its fullest, without the Holy Ghost “.....because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.” Rom. 5:5

24 The basis for all this is found “In the body of his flesh through death,.....” Col 1:22 Redemption carried a tremendous price, and, as He said in Luke, whatever you spend more, I will repay it. Jesus paid for us on the cross of Calvary. Think of the love He has for you and me. He says; don’t think about demanding any payment from this man. God has already made full provision for us to have this complete redemption in Christ Jesus. “In the body of his flesh through death,...” (and here is the purpose for it all) “....to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:” Col 1:22. Some Christians accept the fact that they are no longer enemies of the cross, or an enemy of Christ, and God, but all Christians do not lay hold of the challenge, “if ye continue in the faith.” “The faith,” is the fullness of the Gospel: the fullness of the Word of God; the fullness of Christ; the breast and the shoulder; the love and strength of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. “If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul (the innkeeper) am made a minister;” Col 1:23. Jesus’ cause was the love which He had for us, even from before the foundation of the world.

Let the love of God swallow us up today. He loved me and gave Himself for me! We can know it. When we know this love, it is the greatest thing to come into our lives. Every experience, that we will ever have, is nothing compared to having the love of God fully possess our lives by the Holy Spirit. God loves me! God wants this to be a reality with us. Jesus’ cause is love. It is the love of God that seeks people. It is the love of God that brings us to repentance. It is the love of God that overwhelms us. Yes we need to preach about judgment; it is in the Word of God. But judgment never changes too many people. It is the Love of God



that overwhelms them. It is the Love of God that is needed in the Church. The Love of God will bring God's everlasting treasure to our lives.

Some would say, Lord, I would sit at your feet and hear what you have to say, and receive your words, and that's so wonderful. But I can't stop there, No, Lord, I have not asked according to the royalty of your promise. "Unto you who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that I ask or think, according to the power that worketh in me." It is impossible to express the full meaning of these words. You, Oh Lord, are able to do all things. Oh Lord, who can doubt the power of your love?

Lord Jesus lift me higher! Not at Your feet only would I sit, but I want to lean upon Your Breast. Oh, put me where John was, so I may lean my head upon Your Bosom. Let me not merely learn Your Truth, but may I feel Your Heart beat, and know Your Love to me. Then I would say, "No Lord, I have not asked according to the tenor of your promises. You have lifted me from Your Feet to Your Breast; now lift me higher, to Your Lips as Your Bride." Oh, "Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth, for His love is better than wine." "Oh Lord, let me give to You my love, but more importantly let me receive the present blessings of Your Love to me by the Holy Spirit. May I not only know it, and feel Your Heart beat, but receive it as my lips of prayer, meeting Your lips of blessing. Let my lips of thanksgiving touch Your lips of Love. I have Your promises where I can come to Your throne of grace and throw my arms around You, and say Jesus you are my joy. Your love is my love; Your presence is my heaven; Your character is my great example; I trust in You, and I love You! That is what my soul longs for!" Yes we can know the love of Christ which passes knowledge. It will take us to the heights but then we must prepare for a flight which is higher still. "Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors." Prov. 8:34.

25

\* 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.

\* God can say "I" all He wants to and not be conceited.

# Abundant Grace

W. B. Cissna

**“AND ALL BARE HIM WITNESS AND WONDERED AT THE GRACIOUS WORDS WHICH PROCEEDED OUT OF HIS MOUTH”—Luke 4:22.**

**T**hese sinners at Nazareth "wondered at the gracious words." A sermon about the Grace of God, in general, would be tolerated anywhere, but the Lord did not leave the matter there. He wanted them to know the real character of Grace and how they might receive it, so He illustrates it in verses 25-27 with two illustrations of Grace from the Scriptures.

Illustrations often come home to the heart, and grip the conscience, while doctrines make no impression. These people at Nazareth, like many people today, did not like illustrations, especially when they made it so plain that Grace would bless a poor Sidonian widow or a Syrian leper if it wished, without considering that the widows and lepers of Israel had any previous claim. Had Israel fulfilled their part of the covenant, they could indeed have claimed much from God, but their whole history had proven them as guilty as their neighbors, and, they were even more criminal because they had been given more light. Grace can only act on the ground that all are alike in deserving nothing. A religious Israelite could only have the blessing of Grace on the ground that he deserved nothing and, that being so, how could he find fault if God blessed a poor Sidonian widow or a Syrian, before himself. It surely would be Grace for both alike, and Grace has the right to choose its objects where it will.

Let us look further into these two illustrations. The prophet, Elijah, had found the widow, reduced to extremity, brought down to a handful of meal and a cruse of oil, reduced to a point where there was nothing between her and death except that which typified Christ and the Holy Spirit. It is a blessed thing to be brought to that point. Then it has to be all Grace. David was brought to that point when he said, "There is but a step between me and death." I Sam. 20:3. When a person comes to realize that if Christ and the Holy Spirit were taken away, and that there is nothing between him and death, he will then find that he needs nothing more. "The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth. I Kings 17:14. The time of famine, and need, is the time of Grace,

and that Grace will never fail its objects until the famine is over. Christ as a Savior, along with the Holy Spirit to make Him known, is the provision of Grace for all believers.

The widow must learn that Grace goes deeper still because her need is deeper. She must learn that Grace will not only save from death, but through death and out of death. Her son sickens and dies. We never learn the depths of Grace until we find ourselves under the power of death. Our sin has, brought death upon us, and has placed us under the judgment of God. Grace would fail to meet our need if it did not remove us from the power of death and give us life which death cannot touch. How this is accomplished is shown in figure in the case of the widow's son. First, he was laid in the prophet's bed. Sleep is a figure of death, and the child was identified with the prophet in the place which was the figure of death. The prophet was a type of our blessed Savior, who has been, not in figure only, but in actual fact, in the place of death, and each believer has been identified with Christ in His death. Then the prophet stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried to the Lord, and the soul of the child came into him again. It answers in type, I think, to the action of the Lord in John 20:22 --- "Receive ye the Holy Spirit." In the old creation God breathed into the nostrils of Adam the breath of life, and he became a living soul. In John we have the Son of God, as the last Adam, associating His brethren with Himself in the possession of a life which death can never touch; a life which is in Himself, and which He gives to all who believe on Him. This is the glorious end of Grace, for we read in Rom. 5:21—"Where sin abounded Grace did much more abound: that as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might Grace reign, through righteousness, unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

27

Another illustration is needed. The question, does Grace work such spiritual wonders for our souls and do nothing for our bodies? We have bodies with the seed of corruption in them, bodies carrying the seeds of disease, decay and death. This condition is manifest in Naaman, the Syrian leper. His body was corrupted by a disease which is plainly shown. He sees his members eaten away until they drop off. His existence is a living death. His condition plainly shows the condition to which sin has reduced man's body. Is Grace going to bestow blessing on the soul and leave the body to the spoil of corruption? Never! Seven times plunged beneath the waters of Jordan (death) and the flesh of the leper becomes as that

of a little child. His body was restored, from corruption which was attached to it, through faith in that which typified the death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The triumph of Grace will never be complete until our bodies partake of the full benefits of the Christ, and are freed from what Paul calls "the bondage of corruption." This will be when the Lord returns. Our bodies will be raised in power and glory and incorruption. As for those living when our Lord comes, the power by which He is able to subdue all things unto Himself will be put forth to change bodies of humiliation and fashion them like unto His glorious body. "We shall be like Him, for we shall see him as He is."

I will venture to say those poor sinners at Nazareth had not too much "religion," but they had enough to hate Grace. And so it is today. Man does not like to be brought to the position of the Sidonian widow or a Syrian leper, either in his own estimation or in that of others. But that is the only way by which Grace can triumph. "For by Grace are ye saved .....not of yourselves, lest any man shall boast."



## THE TWO MARTINS

At the beginning of the Reformation, Martin of Basle came to a knowledge of the truth, but, afraid to make a public confession, he wrote on a leaf of parchment: "O most merciful Christ, I know that I can be saved only by the merit of Thy blood. Holy Jesus, I acknowledge Thy sufferings for me. I love Thee!" Then he removed a stone from the wall of his chamber and hid it there. It was not discovered for more than a hundred years.

About the same time, Martin Luther found the truth as it is in Christ. He said, "My Lord has confessed me before men; I will not shrink from confessing Him before kings."

The world knows what followed, and today it reveres the memory of Luther, but as for Martin of Basle, who cares for him?

# Beginning At Jerusalem

*Paul N. Smith*

*"THUS IT IS WRITTEN AND THUS IT BEHOVED CHRIST TO SUFFER, and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM." Luke 4:46,47.*

This chapter of Luke's Gospel records the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and His appearances to His disciples. The text is part of His last words to them before His ascension. His last words are recorded by Luke also in Acts 1:1-11. The fact that these are the last words of Jesus should put more importance upon them. He was leaving the disciples to carry on in the world, and it was of utmost importance for them to heed His admonitions. It is significant that Jesus said three times for them to "begin at Jerusalem."

First, Jesus said "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations beginning at Jerusalem." The Gospel had its beginning in Jerusalem. The disciples were told to remain there until further developments. There was no other city at that time which had a group of disciples that were waiting for the promise of the Father. Antioch was not a center of truth as yet, for the Gospel had not even gone out in Jerusalem by apostolic commission. Thus Jesus outlines the program for the earliest beginnings of the Church Age.

Of course, the preaching of repentance and remission of sins was to come first, of all. The basis for that message had just been laid when Jesus hung on the Cross, bearing the sins of humanity. "All things must be fulfilled which were written" of Him in the law of Moses, and The Prophets and The Psalms. His entire life was centered on that one purpose — to fulfill the Scriptures. He said, "Lo, I come to do Thy will, O God." He signified that He had fulfilled His part by crying out, "It is finished." He then gave His disciples instructions for further fulfillment of the Scriptures.

The glad news of salvation was now to be broadcast to all nations -- but, beginning at Jerusalem. The disciples could not choose a city of their own liking, had they desired to do so. This is also prophetic of the Kingdom Age when Jerusalem will again be

the center of Truth, the Gospel emanating from there to the whole world. The disciples began the preaching of the Gospel then, and that preaching has continued, during this age, with the calling out of the Gentiles, sandwiched between that first declaration and the Kingdom Age, when truly all nations shall hear the Glad Tidings via Jerusalem.

In the beginning of this age, the message of salvation did reach all nations as seen in Acts 8. The disciples were scattered abroad and "went everywhere preaching the Word." Phillip was used mightily in Samaria, and then to the desert, Gaza, to give the message to the Ethiopian, who in turn carried it to Egypt. The news of remission of sins spread like wild-fire in those early days, and continued during Paul's ministry. Thus again, at the beginning of the next age, this Gospel, shall be preached among all nations "beginning at Jerusalem."

30 Second, "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you, but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." The news that there was remission of sins was not all that was in store for these disciples. It was a wonderful message which they were to proclaim, but without the enduement of that power from on high, it would not go forth. And, this message was not preached until they were endued with this power.

The disciples' Leader had left them to carry on without His Presence, and guidance. Could they have gone on alone? No, and it was plainly evident in the fact that Peter, with six other apostles, decided to go a fishing (John 21) until the Lord appeared to them and told Peter to feed His sheep. Hence, they needed something to enable them to go against the tide of unbelief and rejection of the people, and their own discouragement and disappointment. That command or invitation, "tarry ye until," was welcome news to them, for undoubtedly they felt the need of more power and faith.

So, we see them returning to Jerusalem with great joy, anticipating the promised out-pouring of the Holy Ghost. It is not good to leave Jerusalem until that blessing comes. Had they disobeyed the Words of Jesus, the cause of Christ would probably have suffered; but there are those who will always follow Him. Many today get the message of remission of sins and immediately

set out to the "regions beyond." But oh, they need to settle down in Jerusalem, and be endued with Holy Ghost power. God has certain steps for His people to follow, and if we do not step in them, our lives will not count as much for Him. These disciples were not told how long they would have to wait; nor in what manner the promised power would come, but they went nevertheless, and were joyful because they were in God's will.

Their faith and obedience were rewarded when, after ten days, the promised Holy Spirit fell; the power to proclaim the Gospel; the guidance to lead them into The Truth; the comfort to lift them in spirit; the One to lead them now that Jesus had ascended to His Father. So, after they were clothed with power, the next command became a fulfillment.

Third, "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in (beginning at) Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8 Thus, the prime requisite for witnessing, is to be filled With the holy Spirit. In the early days that power was needed to offset years and years of prophetic silence and unbelief of the people. This was something new. That power was needed in Paul's life as he brought a new message to the Church. And that power is needed today when, in the face of enlightenment of the Truth, men are turning this message down. Can we effectually testify without the power of the Holy Spirit? No one can preach a sermon, and make it real to the hearts of the hearers, unless the Holy Spirit quickens the Word. How much better then, if the speaker be quickened too! Jesus didn't expect His early disciples to go forth without the power of the Holy Spirit. Does anyone think he is better equipped than they were? Many there are who had better tarry in Jerusalem until they be endued with power; sit awhile in Antioch under Paul's teaching — then go forth. The Truth, backed up by the power of God, is sure to strike home in the hearts of the people — thus, the Scripture will be fulfilled in you, as in the lives of Jesus and His disciples.

## Tongue - Tied

S. O. Sheldon

A wise old owl sat on an oak.  
The more he heard the less he spoke.  
The less he spoke the more he heard.  
Let us be wise like that old bird.  
When swift to hear and slow to speak.  
The good of others we will seek.  
Foul things we see and know, we'll hide.  
By faith let's go thru life tongue-tied.

A woman brought to Christ one day,  
Was charged with sin. What would He say?  
Though Moses in the law had shown,  
For crimes like hers, she should be stoned.  
With her accusers standing round,  
Christ stooped to write upon the ground;  
But not a man could there abide,  
Thru the same law, they were tongue tied.

Self-righteous men can never stand  
Before stern law and its command,  
Though they accuse, they're guilty too.  
Condemned are they, just thru and thru,  
They would not kneel to Christ and pray;  
So one by one they sneaked away.  
Like snakes into their den do glide,  
They hunt for darkness, all tongue-tied.

"Where are thine accusers?" Jesus said.  
Said she, "You see they all have fled:"  
For Moses' law had pricked their heart.  
You too may also now depart.  
Just "Go in peace and sin no more.  
Thru grace you'll find my open door."  
By faith in Christ alone she died,  
Thus law forever was tongue-tied.

There is a path no fowl shall know.  
'Tis where God's grace we ever show,  
And what we hear we speak with care.  
Thus help our brother's burden bear.  
So if we see his faults today,  
Let's bow before the Lord and pray,  
And talk to HIM and none beside,  
Like that wise owl let's be tongue-tied.



# ISAIAH 27

(Concluded)

Gene Hawkins

**“Y**et the defenced city shall be desolate, and the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness: there shall the calf feed, and there shall he lie down, and consume the branches thereof.” V. 10 Amidst the striking words of blessing which have been heaped upon Israel, comes this edict of desolation against her enemies. The blessing for this nation can only be accomplished by bringing destruction to “the defenced city,” which is representative of that end-time regime which will be so intent in destroying this chosen nation. Locally, such a city would have been Babylon and Tyre, and just as they met their demise by the decree of God, so will it be for that ungodly world government which will preside over the end of Gentile Times. A graphic portrait of that local destruction is described as a “habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness:” The formerly “defenced (fortified or isolated) city” is now a place inhabited only by animals where the calf should “feed and there shall he lie down, and consume the branches thereof.” Thus we are confronted again with the fact that this chapter agrees with Daniel who clearly shows that the restoration of Israel must be accompanied by the destruction of her oppressors. This truth is clearly illustrated by the remaining verses of this chapter.

33

“When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour.” V. 11 The symbolism here is fragrant with instruction for these “women” surely represent the “religious and deceptive women” of terrorism today who are truly consumed with the idea of setting on fire the broken and withered boughs of life, and anything associated with the True God of Heaven, including that of Israel. They are further described as a “people of no understanding” and though God has indeed made them, and formed them, He “will not have mercy on them.” We often hear the old adage that “A Loving God would not send people to hell,” but it seems that men forget that God is a God of justice as

well as mercy. Men make their own decision in regard to their eternal destiny, and if they choose to reject the Very One Who created them, He has no choice but to judge them accordingly. His Righteous Government will not allow even one sin to go unpunished and if men choose to reject The Christ Who bore that punishment for them, they will bear it themselves.

Isaiah continues with the prophecy of Israel's restoration declaring clearly that ".....it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel." V. 12 "That day," is most assuredly the day prophesied by Daniel, as well as many other prophets, wherein Israel should be fully restored. The poetic term "beat off," is actually a reference to harvest, and it is this nation which will be "harvested," and gathered unto The Lord. It will include "channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt," signifying the fact that this nation will be gathered from all corners of the earth whence they have been scattered. "Ye shall be gathered one by one," meaning  
34 that every last Jew will be accounted for "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem." V. 13 Those ready to perish would again be Israel, and though they were in foreign lands, the "trumpet" will signal their triumphant return to their homeland, and this time it will be to "worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem." There are many factions clamoring, even in this present day, for a piece of the temple mount. Recent reports indicate that Jews, Christians, and Muslims, have hatched a plan to re-build Solomon's Temple to its exact specifications, and former splendor. Whether or not God will permit this is not known at this time, but even if such a thing should be accomplished, it will not stand. Such a temple would be destroyed, for the Temple Mount belongs only to God and only His Hand will be used in building His Millennial House. Then, and only then will it be used as the Gathering Center for exclusive worship of The One and Only, Most High God!



# Our Corn Crib

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

## Tracts

|                               |                                  |                           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A Problem, Solution & Triumph | Freedom                          | Pauline Sanctification    |
| Arrangement & End of Ages     | Gifts of the Spirit              | Pauls Superlatives        |
| Attack against the Truth      | Glossolalia                      | Phoebe                    |
| A Burning Truth               | God- A Triunity                  | Preaching Another Jesus   |
| A Growing Relationship        | Gospel Records                   | Predestination            |
| Caught up with Paul           | Gospels, Acts & Epistles         | Preparation of the Bride  |
| Cherubim & Seraphim           | Holy Spirit- Baptism & Anointing | Ranks in Resurrection     |
| Chaste Virgin                 | How to Receive Holy Spirit       | Resume of What we Teach   |
| Comfort in Time of Sorrow     | It is Finished                   | Salvation for the Body    |
| Death, Hell & Lake of Fire    | Jesus Heals Today                | Scriptural Terms Defined  |
| Destiny of the Wicked         | Judgement Seat of Christ         | Words on Eternal Security |
| Diamonds in the Rough         | Law or Grace                     | The Adams Case            |
| Dying Daily                   | Life Everlasting                 | The Two Adams             |
| Earnest but Wrong             | Light on the Law                 | The Sin Offering          |
| Eternal Life                  | Living Ones                      | The Unforgiven Sin        |
| Extra! Extra!                 | Made Sin for Us                  | This is That              |
| Faith                         | Man Child- Rev. 12               | Times of the Gentiles     |
| Fear of the Lord              | Mercy or Judgement               | Tithing                   |
| First Day of the Week         | New Birth                        | Water Baptism             |
| Five Much Mores               | Not Legislation, Revelation      | Wheat and Tares           |
| Five Consequences             | Oneness of Christ                | Why am I Not Healed       |

## Books of the Bible

|             |                                     |                  |                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Genesis     | Esther                              | Luke             | 1, 2 Thessalonians    |
| Exodus      | Job                                 | John             | 1, 2 Timothy          |
| Leviticus   | Ecclesiastes                        | The Acts         | Philemon              |
| Numbers     | Song of Solomon-A.S.Copley          | Romans           | Hebrews, James, Titus |
| Joshua      | Paul's Gospel in S.O.S.-A.Mooneyhan | 1, 2 Corinthians | 2nd John              |
| Judges      | Isaiah                              | Galatians        | Jude                  |
| Ruth        | Prophets-Joel, Nahum, Hab, Malachi  | Ephesians        | Revelation            |
| 1, 2 Samuel | Zechariah                           | Philippians      |                       |
| Ezra        | Matthew                             | Colossians       |                       |

## Music CD's

*Wings of Faith* - Live- '79 feat. Greg, Milita, Rick, Sue & Frank  
 Tabernacle Choir Album- 1963- Beloved Grace & Glory Favorites

\*All titles free of Charge. Call, Write, or e-mail your order

# grace & glory

P.O. Box 831  
Grandview, Missouri 64030

