

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole Counsel of GOD

Without Price Since 1910

'Loving His Appearing'

Volume 106

August 2016

Number 8

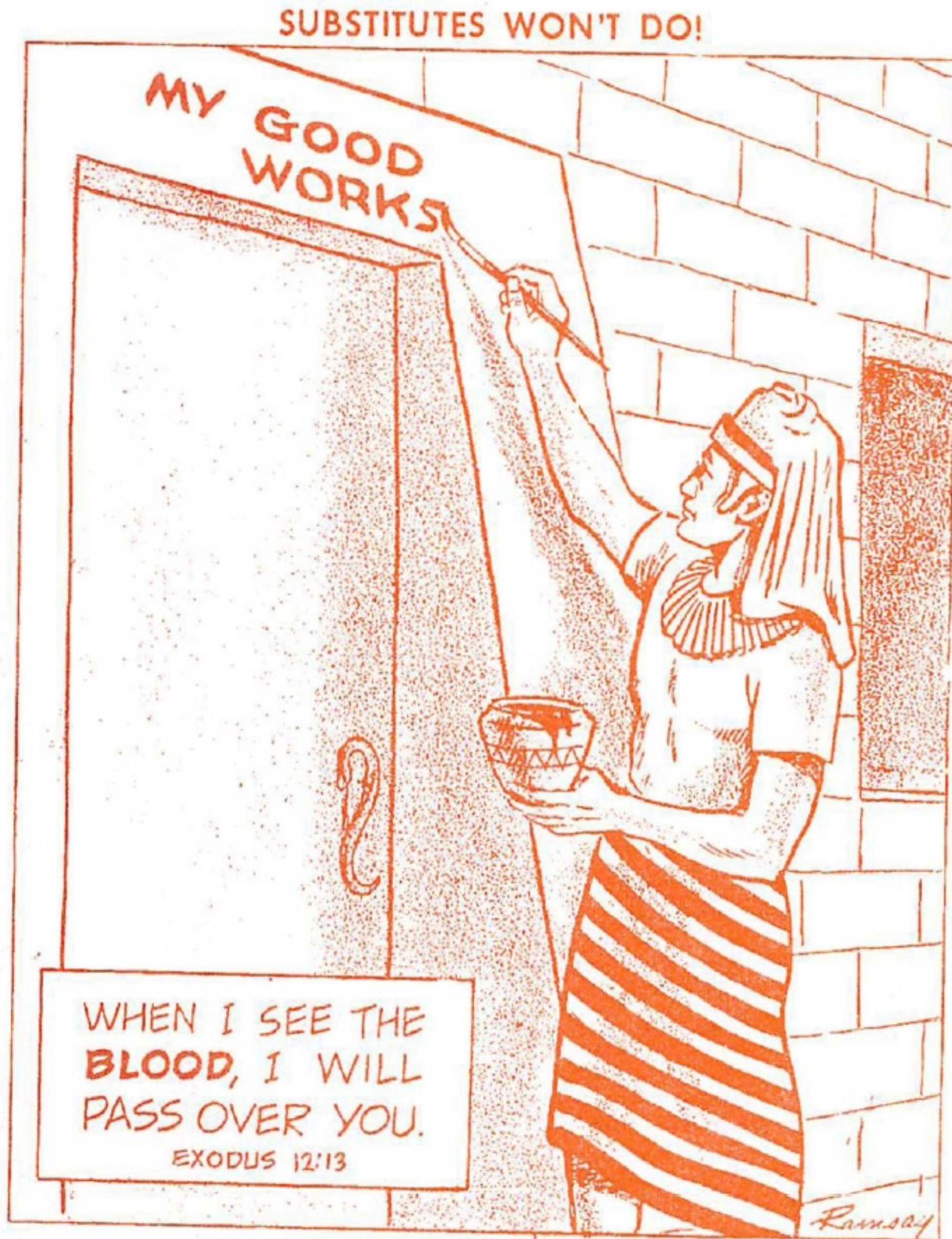


For it is  
written, Thou  
shalt worship  
the Lord thy  
God, and him  
only shalt thou  
serve.

MATTHEW FOUR: TEN

# Table of Contents

<u>Article</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Page</u>
Definite Sign Post of the End .....	Gene Hawkins .....	3
Trumpets in Scripture.....	A.S. Copley .....	10
The Word Endureth.....	Billie James Hargis .....	12
Joseph.....	Ken Trujillo .....	20
Wonder of Wonders.....	T.B. Lennon .....	25
Isaiah (book section).....	Gene Hawkins.....	30



"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



*“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.” Re 13:1*

This text records the third of five separate vision viewpoints which John experienced in this book of Revelation. The term means that he was literally transported in spirit to the exact time wherein certain events transpired. His first vision viewpoint is found in Rev. 1:10 where “I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,” meaning that the he was literally caught to the end of the Church Age where he was able to look back over the entire Grace Dispensation as Jesus, The Judge, walked among the candlesticks. His second vision viewpoint occurs in chapter 4:1 as he saw a door “... opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.” Here the beloved apostle is found in heaven as Jesus takes His place on the throne of God. The scene here in chapter 13 is a most prominent part of the “... things which must be hereafter,” and the time line takes us well into the tribulation period wherein the false prophet and antichrist actually emerge. 3

However, Matthew 24 is very clear in teaching that the conditions that prevail very near the middle of the week actually began much earlier. These times are described in Matt. 24:8 as “... the **beginning** of sorrows. It means that there is still nothing new under the sun. Spectacular phenomenon both in heaven and earth have been in existence since the beginning of time, but during this time, known as the great tribulation, all these “signs” will simply intensify, and will most assuredly manifest themselves more frequently.

The “... sand of the sea...” upon which John stood simply reflects the very unstable and volatile condition which will exist upon the earth at that time, but if one word were chosen to describe global conditions at this very hour, it would be “Volatile.” This

entire world will become even more explosive than it is now, but the shifting sands have been in evidence for some time. Jesus describes this type of upheaval, declaring that "... ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places." Matt. 24:6-7 Such uncertainty has been prevalent in our world for quite a number of years, but recent developments have most assuredly put a major exclamation point on it.

4 "BREXIT" has become a most prominent global political term in recent weeks. It is a reference to Britain's exit from the EU. (European Union) While so many around the world viewed this very drastic move on the part of Great Britain as absolute folly and destruction, one observer ran this Newsmax headline: **"Brexit is Good for Freedom, Growth, and Britain."** This article, written by Larry Kudlow, an economist and senior contributor to CNBC, lists the following advantages for Britain. "Britain will regain its political freedom, its autonomous self-government, and its independence from an EU that is spinning out of control under the power of establishment elites, unelected and unaccountable socialist bureaucrats, and a judicial court that is increasingly making legal decisions that replace Britain's powerful common law.

The EU's tax and regulatory policies, climate-change and welfare spending, and free immigration even in wartime are gradually ruining Europe. That's why I believe Brexit is good for British freedom, political autonomy and the survival of democratic capitalism."

Mr. Kudlow seems to have encapsulated not only Britain's problems, but all those with which every nation in the world must contend. Some in this country have openly trumpeted the idea that "climate change," is a more eminent threat than ISIS. Immigration, however, is at the top of the list for others who fear that ISIS operatives may gain clear access by infiltrating the country along with very needy Syrian refugees. Regulatory policies are also bringing economic growth to a standstill and socialist welfare spending will push any nation to the brink of economic debt and collapse. All of these things contribute to the volatile "shifting sands" upon which John stood, thus clearing the path for both the antichrist and false prophet to take their prophetic places. Make no mistake. The same conditions which

prevail in this present world will simply escalate in bringing these direct prophecies to pass.

The fallout from Brexit not only sent many stock markets on a rather explosive and uncertain roller coaster ride, but the future of entire nations also hangs in the balance. Consider this headline from the Washington Post. **“These countries could be next now that Britain has left the EU.”** The accompanying article then lists 7 nations which could follow Britain’s lead. Sweden, Denmark, Greece, The Netherlands, Hungary, France, and Scotland all have their own unique reasons for staying or leaving the EU, but both the role of the euro and immigration are their top priorities in making such a decision. Those decisions may well be influenced by the current carnage in Nice, France with streaming reports even at this writing proclaiming at least 82 dead and dozens more very seriously wounded. The weapon of choice in this horrendous and despicable act of terror was not an AK 47 or suicide bomb, but rather a 19 ton truck driven at high speed, literally “mowing down” parts of a massive crowd which had gathered to celebrate Bastille Day as they commemorated France’s day of independence. Speculation at this point blames Islamic operatives who were already in the country from either ISIS or Al Qaida, twin sisters of the same ungodly beast, for this atrocity. We have noted before that such terrorist organizations are very likely depicted by the ten horns which John saw on the beast rising out of the water, and thus we know that they will in no wise be eliminated before Jesus destroys them in the tribulation. Rev. 17:12-14 Surely the shifting sands are quite prominent as these nations try to forge ahead looking for ways to try and contain acts of this nature, along with all the other problems listed above by Mr. Kudlow. 5

Britain’s immediate future is most certainly the eminent concern at this present time. The U.K. Guardian headline asked this question. **“What’s the best Brexit Theresa May could get for Britain?”** It is a reference to interim Prime Minister Theresa May, who replaced P.M. David Cameron after he followed through with his promised resignation when British voters went against his desire not to withdraw from the EU. It seems that Ms. May also was in favor of staying in the EU but she has promised that

**'Brexit Means Brexit,'** indicating that she will honor the decision of the people to withdraw from the EU. Her top priority seems to be foreign policy, as related in this same news item. "Foreign Policy. One of the first consequences of Brexit is that Britain will need to negotiate new, separate trade deals with other countries such as the United States. However, this is unlikely to begin until well after whoever wins in November moves into the White House. President Barack Obama and presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton both urged Britain to remain in the EU, whereas Donald Trump backed Brexit. Trump's campaign themes were strongly echoed in the pro-Brexit message of "taking back control" and restoring sovereignty over Britain's borders. The billionaire said he was delighted by the referendum result. It remains unclear how sympathetically any future U.S. president would treat Britain in trade negotiations." So the uncertainty continues worldwide, and we are assured on the basis of God's Word that it will in no wise improve.

6 The shifting sands are also clearly evident in other parts of the world as both China and Russia try to position themselves for dominance on the world stage. REUTERS news agency recently announced that **"Russia eyes the Baltics as Putin digs in for standoff with NATO."** This article then continues giving detailed accounts of what could lead to a major confrontation between NATO and Russian forces. "Russia and NATO are each building up their military capability across eastern Europe, spurred by the conflict in Ukraine which has prompted officials on both sides to talk of the risk of a new, Cold War-style confrontation.... But much of the activity, tallied with what military analysts and Western diplomats say Russia is doing: preparing to station new missiles in Kaliningrad and build a web of anti-aircraft systems that could challenge NATO aircraft over the Baltic states and parts of Poland.... Some Western officials believe the Baltic states, which have large ethnic Russian minorities, could be seized by Moscow, much as Russia took control of Ukraine's Crimea region two years ago. Moscow says it has no such intention, but needs to beef up its defenses because of NATO buildup in the Baltic. Unlike Ukraine, the Baltic states are part of NATO, which means the alliance would be bound to act to protect them from any threat to their territory.... Russia is likely to deploy the Iskander-M ballistic missiles in Kaliningrad within the next two to three years, sources close to its military have told Reuters.... However, two local sources, one with direct knowledge of the Baltiysk naval base, said that the infrastructure work to house

an unspecified number of the Iskander missiles has been completed at the base." Such accounts surely do not ring of the peace and prosperity sought by many frantic and floundering nations around the world. Ours is a world where there is no solid standing due to these uncertain shifting sands prophesied by God's Word.

The following account by the Associated Press, proclaims a possible encounter between China and the U.S. "In South China Sea Aggression, Beijing Wants To Show Power To US" The commentary which follows indicates that both sides are simply promoting their own interests asserting that "President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping have managed to cooperate on global issues such as climate change, but tensions have grown over China's land reclamation in the South China Sea.... China has created artificial islands with military facilities, viewed by the US as an attempt to gain effective control of the area. The US has responded with more military patrols, which China views as provocative...." All of this is in response to a Hague-based international tribunal which was issued in "...a case brought by the Philippines.... The tribunal ruled it had jurisdiction in the case under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, which both China and the Philippines - **but not the United States** - are party to.... Since the tribunal ruled that some of China's artificial islands are "low tide elevations" that are not entitled to 12 nautical miles of territorial sea, the US may be tempted to sail closer than it has in the past. 'In theory we could sail within 500 meters of Mischief Reef', said Michael McDevitt, a retired US Navy rear admiral with long experience in the Pacific. The reef is one of China's reclaimed islands, about 130 miles (210 kilometers) off the Philippine coast." China's ambassador to the US, Cui Tiankai, "... said such operations are a threat to freedom of navigation by commercial and civilian vessels. He compared Obama's strategic pivot to boost the US presence in the relatively stable Asia-Pacific to American interventions in Middle East countries such as Iraq, Libya and Syria - implying that it could lead to turmoil."

There is little doubt that such verbal skirmishes as these will eventually lead to some major confrontations, as "...nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:..." bringing the very devastating effects of war to a beleaguered world. Jesus warned of the effects produced by such an atmosphere when He prophesied of "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:..." Lk. 21:26

The previous verse of this chapter concludes that those things which are coming on the earth include devastation arising from both heaven and earth. “And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;” Lk. 21:25 Such distress of nations is clearly evident along with genuine perplexity among the leaders as to which course they must take, and all of it contributes to the instability which fuels the tremendous fears that plague this world even now.

John saw a seven headed, ten horned beast “...rise up out of the sea,...” during these tumultuous times, and while those seven nations cannot be named at this point, we are rather confident that two of them will be the aforementioned Russia and China. Scripture is very plain that those seven heads will be reduced to two. “And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.” Rev. 17:10 The elimination of these five will not be complete until very near the middle of the week, at which time the antichrist will be revealed. We are indeed persuaded that the man of sin will emanate from one of these two godless nations.

8

Despite all the political rhetoric heard around the world today, nothing will stop the atmosphere of uncertainty portrayed by the sand of the sea. Isaiah also tells us that the sea itself is unstable, declaring that “... the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.” Isa. 57:20 It is that same troubled sea from whence the ultimate wickedness of the antichrist and false prophet will emerge. In the meantime, the nations will continue, like Britain, China, and the U.S. to negotiate their own best deals, but time is surely running out for them. Some in England said of the Brexit “It took two seconds for voters to mark a cross alongside leave on the ballot paper. It is increasingly apparent it might take two decades to work through the full consequences.” Such is surely the uncertainty facing the entire world.

That need not be so for those who would believe God, and especially those whose hope is to be taken out of this world BEFORE the tribulation even begins. Yes we are, and have been, in this time known as the “beginning of sorrows” for quite some time. However, as bad as things are in this world at the present time, we have not witnessed anywhere near the degree of madness



and violence which is yet to ensue. It is quite true that many of us have been absolutely sure that we would never see the current devastation being inflicted upon this world, even among God's people. The good news is that Rom. 8:28 is still valid, and serves as an absolute beacon of hope to those who love Him. One point of the good, promised by this verse, is that all these things serve to purify, perfect, and prepare us for the coming day of departure out of this world. Job triumphantly proclaimed "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Job 23:10

We know also that the terrorism pervading our world today is designed to create fear. We also read that "...fear hath torment," (I John 4:18) even the fear that will cause hearts to literally fail. God never intended that we should be controlled, motivated, or manipulated by such fear. Paul rather counsels that "... we are saved by hope:..." Rom. 8:24 Furthermore John asserts "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." I John 3:3 Finally let us claim Paul's admonition. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." II Tim. 1:7 Regardless of these days which are fraught with uncertainty and constant change, let us claim the absolute assurance of God's Word. "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." Rom. 14:8

### ***Glory of His Return***

What cloud with silver trim  
Will I behold that day –  
When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound  
And time shall pass away?

The Lamb of God will lift me up  
In robe of purest white.  
With golden crown upon my head  
To that glorious heavenly height.

And there I'll shout and sing His praise  
In that mansion up above,  
Where He will forever and ever  
Surround me with His love.

George Bergerson

# Trumpets in Scripture

A. S. Copley

**ALL ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, see ye when He lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when He bloweth a trumpet, hear ye"—Isa. 18:3.**

A knowledge of some facts about the trumpets in the Bible is profitable. Num. 10 gives the first reference to these instruments. Two trumpets of silver were common in Israel. One was for the calling of the assembly; and the other was for the journeying of the camps. The first was a trumpet of gladness, which also gave a blast over the offerings and sacrifices. The other was a trumpet of alarm, signaling to move, or to go out to battle. These practices are referred to frequently in the Kings, Chronicles and Prophets. Compare Joel 2:1, 15, which refers to the close of this age. Also Zeph. 1:16. The priests, the sons of Aaron, blew the trumpets under the direct guiding Eye of Jehovah.

10 The unfolding of the divine plans called forth the blowing of trumpets by the Lord as well as by man. Our text indicates this fact. It refers to the end of this age, when Gentile dominion will close and Jewish dominion, under Jesus Christ as King, will be in vogue. See also Isa. 27:13. Zech 9:14 is very significant. "And the Lord shall be seen over them and His arrow shall go forth as the lightning; and the Lord God shall blow the trumpet and shall go with whirlwinds of the south." He will appear to the defense and deliverance of His people, the Jews, reinstating them in the Promised Land, Palestine. This corresponds beautifully with I Thess. 4:16, when the Lord will summon the church to meet Him in the air. The expressions in I Cor. 15:52 have reference to the same culminating period, when Israel will be gathered to their homeland and the church will be gathered to glory on high. It reaches to the close of the millennium, as verses 54 and 55, quoted from Isa. 25:8 and Hos. 13:14, prove conclusively.

That will be the trump of God. I Thess. 4:16 agrees perfectly with Isaiah and Zechariah. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God." Observe the exact Greek wording and order—"For the Lord Himself, with a shout of command, with an archangel's voice and with a trumpet of God, shall descend from heaven. The definite article "the" is omitted in the original. Some imagine that Gabriel will blow that trumpet. No, no. That is not the

meaning. But the voice of an archangel being very powerful, the voice of the Lord Jesus, as the glorified Man of Nazareth, will speak with similar power. He will be the chief messenger. He will blow "with the trump of God."

Now mark Isaiah's startling words. They are addressed to "all inhabitants of the world and earth." Israel must hear it. The church must hear it. The Gentiles must hear it. Evidently, that trumpet blast will be heard more than once; for the Lord will call out to each company at a set time. The bride group, the Pauline overcomers, will hear it first. The countless crew of Rev. 7 will hear it next. Then the 144,000 of Rev. 7 and 14. Later, Israel as a nation will understand Isa. 18:3, Zech. 9:14 and Joel 2:1,15. Finally, "the last trump" of I Cor. 15:52, which will consummate the thousand year reign. "We shall all be changed"—from Adam, the first believer in Christ's redemption, down to the last one at the portal of eternity. Hallelujah! What a hope! Jesus Christ provisionally "abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel." II Tim. 1:10. At the very last trumpet blast, death will be swallowed up in triumphant victory. Life will reign supreme.

"And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets." Rev. 8:2. Here we read of men blowing trumpets; for those angels are redeemed human beings. The same truth is expressed in Matt. 24:31. Those will be trumpets of gladness. But the seven trumpets of Revelation will be trumpets of judgment. They must not be confounded with "the last trump" of I Cor. 15:52. They are not the same. "The voice of the seventh angel," found in Rev. 10:7, is not that last trump, and it cannot in any way be identified therewith. Those seven trumpeters are saints, who will fill an official place and assist the Lord Jesus in executing judgment upon the Christ-rejecting world. Study Rev. 8 and 9 and 15:7. The angel flying in the midst of heaven (Rev. 14:6) may sound a trumpet. It would seem to correspond with Matt. 24:31; for in both instances glad tidings will be proclaimed. What solemn, and yet glorious days are not far away, even at the door. May the Lord of the harvest find us watching, waiting, worshipping, working, but not worrying "till He come."

# "Thy Word Endureth"

*Billy James Hargis*

*"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Pet. 1:24-25*

The majority of the civilized world recognizes the Bible as the greatest contribution toward the advancement of mankind and its many achievements. We praise the Name of God for His eternal and indestructible Word, the Bible. Of this Book, Abraham Lincoln once said, "Accept all of this Book you can by reason, and the rest by faith, and you will live and die a better man." The Apostle Paul said of the Bible: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3:16, 17.

12        Ideals and governments change. Nations and constitutions change. Dress and habits change. Values and fundamentals change. But, the Word of God changeth not! The Word that fanned the fire of evangelism in the early stages of the New Testament Church, still points the sin-weary soul to the perfect Redeemer, Jesus Christ. The Word that drove souls and nations from eras of complacency toward the building of a Christian world under God in ages past, still thrills the believers heart and inspires countless holy accomplishments.

Perhaps the main reason for the Bible being the most read and hallowed book in the world is because its Author is God. Believing in God's existence, it is logical to presume that He would reveal Himself to His creation. In the entire universe there is no adequate revelation of God save in the Word of God. Surely, the heavens "declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork", but the Bible alone presents to all men a revelation of the Living God adequate for salvation. There is nothing unreasonable about the existence of a perfect Book from God—the Bible. And it stands to reason that our God would protect His Book from the

attacks of critics of all ages, inasmuch as this Book alone, reveals the true, loving nature of our God who has provided a scheme of redemption for every generation since the dawn of civilization and the fall of Adam in the hush of Eden.

Yet today, there are powerful forces that would destroy the Bible if they had the chance. The most powerful political threat in today's world is based upon atheism and the denial of things held sacred in the Christian's heart.

Today, there are 800,000,000 people in the world under the tyranny of godless communism. In every country, shut off from the free world by the almost impregnable Iron Curtain, religious persecution abounds to a greater degree than ever in the history of this world, save perhaps the Dark Ages. Yet, among these hundreds of millions of people behind the Iron Curtain, there are many who, in spite of tremendous mental and physical persecution, are remaining faithful to the God of their fathers. These faithful believers in God, who are subjected to such unspeakable violence, have indeed claimed the promise of God as written in II Cor. 4:9, "... Persecuted, but not forsaken..." We continually read in our newspapers, stories of priests and ministers who have escaped communism and fled into the free world, and tell of the efforts of the Reds to destroy all semblance of Christianity off the face of the earth. Recently, the story slipped from under the Iron Curtain of China, that the Chinese Communists have started to demolish all Churches in Kwangtung Province, tearing them down brick by brick. This demolition began shortly after Christmas last year, and the believers who belonged to these Churches have either been imprisoned or killed.

These persecuted believers in Christ, in Iron Curtain countries, have been deprived of religious freedom. Many of their religious leaders have been imprisoned or killed for treason, their Bibles confiscated and destroyed. In 1952, delegates to the British Isles Regional Conference of the International Council of Christian Churches, meeting in Edinburg, Scotland, heard these alarming reports of religious persecution in Communist nations and of the shortage of Scriptures among those oppressed souls. The Convention, under the leadership of Dr. Carl McIntire, its

president, decided to do something about this tremendous need. Somehow, these oppressed people under the communist flag must know that Jesus Christ is still on the throne and that He is still the Hope of the world. It was decided to send these Scripture portions by hydrogen-filled balloons behind the Iron Curtain. This ingenious method of reaching the people in communist countries with the Word of God was inspired by the former Crusade for Freedom balloon action, in which they floated many thousands of "truth balloons" behind the Communist Iron Curtain.

14 I have just returned from Europe where I served as chairman of the Bibles by Balloon project for the second time. This year, through cooperation with the American Council of Christian Churches, the International Council of Christian Churches was able to finance the project, which resulted in the sending of 113,000 pieces of sacred literature, including portions of the Bible, into Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet zone of Austria. On Friday, May 7th, this year we began the second annual launching by releasing the first Gospel-carrying balloons on the Czechoslovakian border near the little German town of Cham. About fifty refugees from the former German section of Czechoslovakia and Silesia, which are now a part of Poland, assisted in the floating of the Scripture-carrying balloons. After being filled with hydrogen gas and released, the balloons ascended to 10,000 feet before they began the long trip to the intended communist nations. Desired distance was determined by the amount of gas injected. That day, weather conditions were fortuitous, in that a blanket of clouds above and below the prevailing air current shielded these balloons from prying eyes which the year previous had spied some of the balloons out and shot them down. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the project to float the Gospel into Czechoslovakia and the soviet zone of Austria was completed, and the band of refugees who had worked so faithfully, paused in the rain-soaked field to pray fervently that these balloons might reach their loved ones and reassure them of the love and friendship of all the Christians in the free world. The balloons intended for Russia and Poland were launched later from Munich, Germany. The literature was printed in Czech, Slovak, Polish and Russian.

The Czechoslovakian government protested these launchings, however these protests did not phase our loyal Christian workers. The Communist decision to shoot down the balloons and personally deal with those who assisted in the launching, was publicly revealed by radio broadcasts and news stories from Prague. The Communists are determined that the message of Christ and the free world be withheld from these oppressed souls in the shackled countries behind the Iron Curtain. These red leaders know full well that a good Christian can never be a good Communist. Christ's message gives burdened hearts an undying determination for freedom. Therefore, the Communist fears the prayers of the Christians and the activities of the free church more than all the armies of the world. In spite of these threats, we will continue our project each year, Lord willing, until the intended half million balloons disappear behind the Iron Curtain. Any doubts that may have existed as to the effectiveness of our efforts were dissolved when we received word from Frankfort, Germany recently that a group of refugees who were interviewed by American press representatives, told of a religious revival which is taking place behind the Iron Curtain, sparked by these thousands of Christian tracts and Bible portions which we floated into these needy nations. The refugees interviewed were from Czechoslovakia, Poland and even the western fringes of Russia. These people had seen first-hand the amazing results of our first effort.

15

The other day, we were contacted by a German lady visiting the states, who told of her nephew in one of the Communist countries, who had written her to say that one of our balloons had floated from heaven into his arms early one morning. He was so thrilled to have a portion of the Bible, all his own. Each day, he and his friends, read and reread this sacred Gospel, and at least one teenage boy has embraced Christianity because of its message. Indeed, the Word of God changes people and nations. No book on earth possesses the power that the Bible does.

Early one morning, a few weeks ago, as I was driving to the ancient city of Bethlehem from Jerusalem, I chanced to look back

toward Jerusalem, that mother city of civilization situated high on holy hills. The closed gate at the Temple area seemed to demand my attention. The next day, I climbed the hill to the famous Golden Gate in the East Wall of the city of Jerusalem. This impressive structure of two arches which wears the names, the Gate of Repentance and the Gate of Mercy, is sufficient to make even the agnostic believe in the accuracy of the Word of God and the need of its message today. The gate was called Shushan in Herod's time. In 810 A.D., this ancient gate leading into the Temple Area at Jerusalem, directly opposite of the Mount of Olives, was closed. An ancient Arab tradition states that someday a Christian conqueror shall open and enter this gate on a Friday and will subsequently subdue all His enemies, and reign as King of the world. This is undoubtedly the gate foretold in Ezekiel, chapter 44. Ezekiel cried: "Then saith the Lord unto me; this gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it ... it is for the prince; the Prince. He shall sit in it." Here is just one of many instances, where the divine Word of God serves as a key to understanding some of the

## **16** mysteries of the earth.

To the Christian, the sealed gate at Jerusalem promises Hope — that someday our Savior will come back to earth and reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. Then, these times of persecution and world distress will be over. The Bible gives us that hope. The Bible promises a better world — a happier day — a peaceful tomorrow when Christ shall reign. The Communist seeks by war to build a better world. The Christian looks to Christ for a peaceful world as promised in the Bible — one free of injustice and war. Indeed, the Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. And, the Bible lies not.

\* "What saith the Scriptures?" is the question. It matters very little what views we hold, or what our opinions might be; but what views grip and hold us? Does the Word of God sway us? Are we moulded and fixed in our opinions by the counsel of Jehovah? That is what counts; not our feeble thoughts, or the sentiments of men.

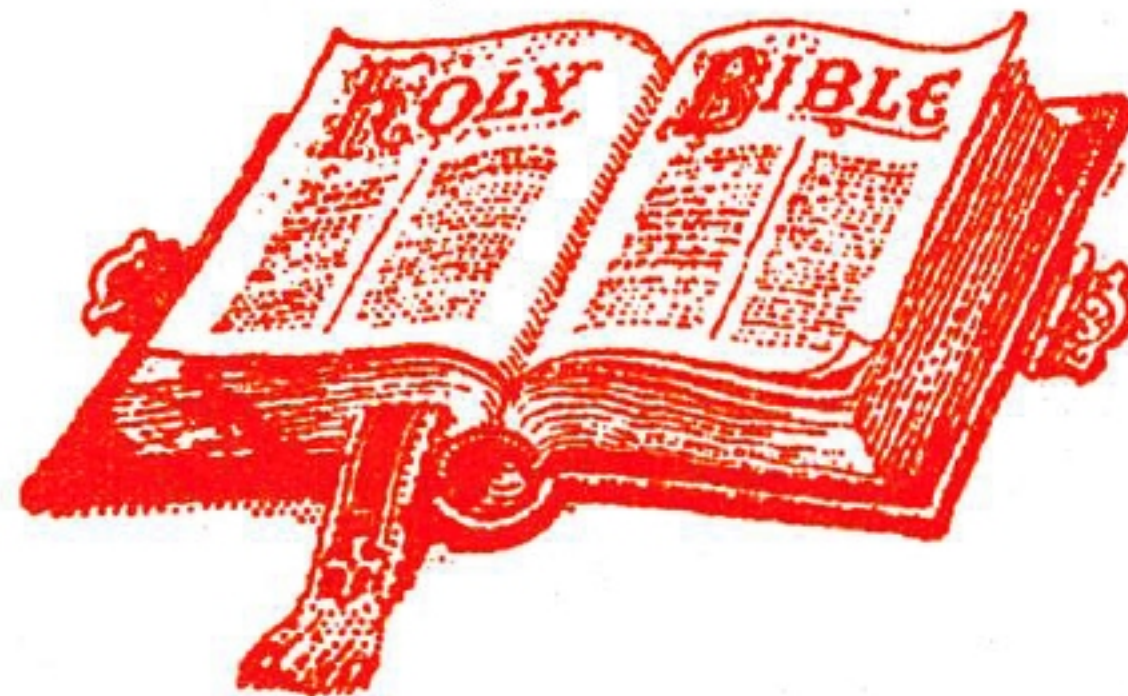


## *Testimony of Jack Fellers*

**B**ro. Jack Fellers, who may very well be identified as being the very last of the "Old Timers" associated with The Tabernacle at 2515 Harrison in Kansas City, Missouri, went home to be with The Lord on June 15, 2016. He was a great lover of the songs found in the Grace and Glory Hymnal and wrote the following in 1981.

**"SINCE JESUS CAME INTO MY HEART" I have found "THE GOODLY PEARL." I am "LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS" by "ABIDING AND CONFIDING" in God's Word and "STANDING ON THE PROMISES." "I KNOW WHO PILOTS ME," my chart and compass He. We find this "IN EMMANUEL'S LAND," and that "GOD CANNOT FAIL." He gives us peace like a river because we are living on "THE HALLELUJAH SIDE" in "BEULAH LAND." We learn this by "SITTING AT THE FEET OF JESUS" and being "FILLED WITH GOD." We must "HOLD THE FORT" for "HE IS COMING FOR ME" and you. For healing "HE IS ABLE To DELIVER THEE" because He is "MY REDEEMER" and I have been made "ONE WITH CHRIST." "HE KEEPS ME SINGING" even though the tempest is raging. We have "HEAVENLY SUNLIGHT" so "WE'RE MARCHING ON," looking for "THE HOLY CITY" and getting "READY FOR THE RAPTURE." We are going "FIFTEEN HUNDRED MILES ON HIGH" because "WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER, I'LL BE THERE." When "THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND" we will shout "TO GOD BE THE GLORY." What a day that will be! Praise God!**

17



# REFLECTIONS REFLECTIONS

...From the Editor

*“And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge. and afterward shall they come out with great substance.” Gen. 15:14*

**“AFTERWARD!”** What a powerful word! It automatically signifies a definite sequel to certain events in our lives, either good or bad. Scripture emphatically tells us that there is **pleasure in sin**, but it will last for **only a season** as we read of Moses who chose affliction rather “...than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;” Heb. 11:25 This verse loudly shouts that though sin does bring pleasure, there will be an “afterward” to such temporary enjoyment. That truth is borne out by the fact that the Prodigal son “...wasted his substance with riotous living...” and soon found himself suffering the consequences of sin with his new abode in the pig pen. Lk. 15:13-15 That too has a glorious “afterward” for him for we are told that during that experience, “... when he came to himself, he said,... I will arise and go to my father,...” Lk. 15:17-19

David likewise suffered an “afterward,” following the pleasures of sin for his sin with Bathsheba brought trouble out of his house for the rest of his life. He did not have to live with the guilt of his sins, but he did suffer the great consequences for this one night of pleasure.

Our opening text, however, details a much more glorious “afterward,” for it tells of a Chosen Nation which would suffer severe affliction and privation, “...**afterward** shall they come out with great substance.” Not only so, but this same people “... shall come hither again:...” as they returned to Abraham’s land of promise. Gen. 15:16

There are quite a number of “afterwards” promised to those willing to follow God’s plan for their lives. Psalm 73:24 asserts: “Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and **afterward** receive me to glory,” proclaiming the fact that glory awaits all those willing to follow God’s Counsel and Leadership. Joel 2:28 promises “... **afterward** I will pour out

on a nation which has endured great tribulation and, at long last, has bowed down before their Messiah.

There is also a glorious “afterward” for all those who are willing to endure the chastening Hand of God, as “... no chastening for the moment seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness.” Heb. 12:11

“Afterward” can also come from some very unlikely sources even as Gideon discovered when he was instructed to “eavesdrop” on the enemy and “And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host...” Jud. 7:11 We must understand that truth is truth no matter where it comes from and it was this enemy which literally prophesied an Israeli victory through Gideon. This mighty warrior reached out by faith and claimed God’s message for “... it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.” Jud. 7:15 That faith literally sprang into action when Gideon’s 300 men set an entire and massive Midianite army to flight and eventually “... was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.” Jud. 8:28

19

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Labor Day Fellowship Meeting

Sept. 3-4, 2016

Services will be held at Gospel Fellowship in Grandview, Missouri. Meals and Lodging will be provided. Please contact us for reservations if you need housing accommodations.

Phone # 816-618-3306

E-mail: [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com)

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU HERE!**

# Joseph

*From A Prison To A Palace*

*Ken Trujillo*

*“And Joseph’s master took him, and put him into the prison,...*

*But the LORD was with Joseph,...” Gen. 39:20-21*

20 **W**hat is a prison? One definition is “an outward facility or building, which by an authoritative proclamation, forcibly separates and confines one from society.” There is also another prison that can exist within one’s heart, soul and mind. This prison, by choice, separates and confines us spiritually from our walk and fellowship with God. This word “prison” from its Latin origin *prehension*, means to be “seized or held captive by one’s power.” *The freedom of choice is an awesome power that we possess and as we are awakened to such power, we have the opportunity to start anew!* Choices we make are based upon our own reasoning and desires, which are often influenced by outward circumstances! Confinement, both outwardly and inwardly denies such precious freedom. “Opportunities and Autonomy” are God-given and should be held in high esteem. Sometime ago I read the following quote: “*Guard your thoughts, they become words. Guard your words, they become actions. Guard your actions, they become your habits. Guard your habits, they become your character...*” We can be imprisoned and shackled by both **inward emotions** and **outward ambitions!** *Inward emotions* such as anger, fear, guilt, anxiety, bitterness, envy, jealousy, vengeance and unwillingness to forgive will bring one into great bondage. These adverse emotions can overtake us based on past experiences and relationships. Present encounters with friends, family and especially those whom we deeply love and cherish, can also present major problems. There are times we may immediately “jump the gun” as it were, trying to fix and/or alter situations by using our own reasoning and strength, rather than waiting for God’s direction and peace as we call out to Him in prayer on their behalf. *Outward ambitions* might easily present five major obstacles. 1. A “plan of action” that is centered and motivated by OUR PLAN, as opposed to resting and waiting on God. 2. A longing for success and achievement by way of reliance upon our own ability and a self-motivational mentality. 3. The danger of being captivated by an overwhelming desire for

possessions. 4. The need to be recognized, thinking that one's accomplishments deserve respect or special acknowledgment, and number 5, being prideful, boastful and thinking we're something when we are indeed nothing apart from God! These "subtle and sometimes hard-to-notice giants would hold us captive, preventing spiritual growth, freedom, and overall victory meant for every son and daughter of God. Joseph, our precious Old Testament Patriarch also had to overcome these giants as we will uncover throughout this study. These emotions and ambitions being part of our DNA may, at times, be hard to escape. However, we can have deliverance from their destructive grip, as we daily feed the new man -- that NEW NATURE -- upon God's Word which strengthens, encourages, and delivers, because "Greater is He that is in you!" We also claim the promise, "*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*" John 8:36 We would set forth *two spiritual keys* with the power to free us from these emotional shackles, the first of which is presented in the remainder of this message.

"Seek ye **first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." Matt. 6:33, This is God's promise for "*Daily Victory!*" Joseph was seventeen years old when he was feeding the flock. The number (17) is the number that represents "*Victory in Jesus!*" He nourished those committed to his care. *One cannot be a godly and effective resource in testimony and encouragement without first being nourished of God himself.* Seeking after and searching out spiritual nourishment must be "**our first desire and priority!**" Early, before our morning gets busy, let us take a little time "on our knees" before Him in prayer, seeking the "kingdom of God." Whatever the day may bring, "*... in Him we live, and move, and have our being...*" Acts 17:28 Commit ALL THINGS, not just some things, unto He who encourages our heart and He who rules and over-rules on our behalf. Our confidence, as we begin our daily journey, is knowing that God's Throne is far above principalities and powers, (Eph 1:21) and that He opens and closes doors as the Supreme Authority! We rejoice as we walk confidently through doors He opens, especially when everything goes smoothly. Can we have that same joy and confidence when the door is shut and things seem to go awry? Can we thank Him, be still and know that He is God? Not without seeking Him FIRST, and seeking Him EARLY

22 where He may be found. Prov. 8:17 Our Heavenly Father knows what is best for us personally. His Love predominates over all that concerns us each new day, as we seek Him FIRST! We begin by praising Him and thanking Him for the very breath and sound mind He gives us and for the privilege of getting on our knees, making supplication for our needs, along with the needs of others, as we pray according to His Will. I John 5:14, Eph 6:18 Secondly, our desire must be that our steps be directed by Him, while having the anointing and enlightening of the Holy Spirit in all we say and do. Psa. 17:5, Eph 1:18 Next, it is imperative that we pray earnestly to be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom & spiritual understanding for the day ahead. Col 1:9 Fourth, we must ask for His enabling grace that we might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing being fruitful in every good work while increasing in the knowledge of Him. Col 1:10 Finally, let us pray that our spiritual eyes be enlightened, "... looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,... as our lives are filled with "... loving His appearing!" Heb 12:2, II Tim. 4:8 Thayer's Lexicon offers this summation: "*Not to be confused with being subject to this earthly kingdom, but rather having His power and authority to RULE OVER IT!*"

### **Seeking! Finding! Embracing!**

We must seek, find, and embrace His Kingdom **within our hearts!** This is a most precious and secret place upon which God's concern and viewpoint is centered. The inner heart is where we lay hold of His nature, and the attributes of His promises while drawing from the well of the "never-ending power of His Mercy and Grace!" Naturally speaking, the authority and dignity of a king is expressed within and throughout the territory over which he rules – how much more must God rule within our hearts! *As He rules and reigns within us, we have His power to rule and reign within the realm of daily circumstances and adversities no matter our natural appointed place in this life! Having Christ as our "first preeminent Love" is our overcoming victory!* Once again, "**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS...**" The "righteousness of God" is *Christ in you, the hope of glory!* Col. 1:27 "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might *be made the righteousness of God in Him.*" II Cor 5:21

**The Result:** "...all these things will be ADDED unto

you!” Joseph’s name means “*Jehovah Has Added.*” Animate things, as well as, inanimate things; that is, our state of affairs both external and/or internal are included here. God will repeatedly add everything needed throughout our journey, but oftentimes must “take away in order to add.” Joseph had to be stripped, the dross removed, before the gold could cast light and sparkle through the fires of testing! Brother Scofield mentions that we are taught, throughout Paul’s letter to the Philippians, that *the Christian experience of the overcomer is not something which is going on outwardly around us, but that which is going on inwardly within us!*

God has all things in perfect order, that our “*racecourse be established.*” Our beloved apostle Paul penned a major theme throughout the Book of Philippians (the runners of the race): “***To live is Christ, and to die is gain.***” Phil 1:21 “To Live Is Christ,…” bespeaks the same truth as Seeking Him First. However, “*To Die Is Gain*” gives us a double-portion! **First – Our Earthly Gain:** *When we die to self, that is, knowing the old man (nature) was crucified with Christ, we are made free (Rom 6:7) that we might walk in newness of life (Rom 6:4).* Newness is better expressed as “new opportunities for spiritual growth, rejuvenated and strengthened with all might according to His Glorious Power. Col 1:11 These “giants of self” are extremely subtle: Self-centered! Self-seeking! Self-pleasing! Self-pride! Self-reasoning! Self-sufficient! The forces of these influences which work to defeat us are powerful and without prejudice. Joseph had to experience these giants as well. Dying to self demands complete dependence upon the Captain of Our Salvation, Who is able to subdue (put into subjection) ALL THINGS (individually and collectively) unto Himself! Phil 3:21

**Second – Our Eternal Gain:** When Paul’s “... time of departure...” from his earthly journey arrived, the heavenly door of “his eternal gain,” opened wide into the eternities of glory! Everything has its time and everyone’s personal journey will come to an end. Our life is an “open book” to the Creator of all, and each journey will have an external and an internal story. The world will have its record of the outward journey of our life; however, only we individually, and God, will be privy to the inward journey. The apostle Paul had that wonderful “Blessed Assurance” which remained in his heart far beyond the demise

of his earthly journey. *God's promise came to fruition and there was laid up for him a "crown of righteousness" the exalted rank of the mark for the prize of the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus!* WE TOO, can have the same "Blessed Assurance" which Paul proclaimed in II Tim 4:8, when God sees fit to call us home. "...and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing!" What glorious words of Blessed Hope befell Paul the Aged before he was beheaded!

24 You may remember the story of the "old bag lady" on the street in a rundown section of London, huddled down and covered up in an old ragtag shawl, cold and damp. Charles Spurgeon was on his way to preach a revival meeting when he saw her from across the street. He walked over to her and asked her, "Madame, are you alright?" She looked up at him – her shriveled old face furrowed throughout, haggard and weather-worn but with a glow and sparkle of joy in her eyes. She held up before him a morsel of bread and said "O dear brother Spurgeon, this and Christ? What want I more!" What spiritual heights of contentment we can aspire toward! Helen Keller was quoted as saying, "*the only thing worse than being blind, is having sight but no vision.*" Lord willing, we will see how Joseph's dreams and visions bridged the gap from being a prisoner to a prince in God's palace. Fanny J. Crosby's blindness could not deter her spiritual vision as she uttered these treasured lyrics:

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of Glory Divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His Blood.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long,  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior – all the day long!*

What an amazing door of opportunity this 1<sup>st</sup> Key opens for us! "*Seek ye FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.*"



# Wonder Of Wonders

*T. B. Lennon*

*"The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them." Deut. 33 :27.*

To some, this is just a piece of exalted English prose; but to a believer, it is the wonder of wonders. That the eternal God should forget my sins and remember me is of all wonders the greatest. Marvelous! How can it be? He has forgotten my sins, but remembers me. I think it is well for us to cultivate more the spirit of wonder. Wonder is one of the doors into the temple of praise, adoration, thanksgiving and worship. The trouble with many of us is that we have ceased wondering. Ruskin says, "I would rather live in a cottage and wonder at everything, than live in Warwick Castle and wonder at nothing."

It is so easy to drift into apathy and dullness, and lose our enthusiasm, our freshness. Little sympathy have I with the man who never wonders. Someone has said, "We are exposed to a great danger today — the dying out of the sense of surprise. The best way to rescue life from littleness is to associate oneself with something large." As did Isaiah when he said, "Lift up your eyes on high and see who hath created these that bring out their host by number. He calleth them all by name, by the greatness of His might; and for that He is strong in power, not one is lacking. Why sayest thou, O Jacob and speakest, O Israel, my way is hid from Jehovah? and the justice due to me is passed away from my God? Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard? The Everlasting God, Jehovah, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary. It is He that sitteth on the circle of the earth. All nations are as nothing before Him; they are a mere drop in the bucket. He taketh up the Isles as a little thing. He weigheth the mountains and holds the ocean in His hand and metes out heaven with a span." Such is our God.

**Do we want a revival? Here is the power.** Are you weak, friend? Here is the power. Are your sins like scarlet, friend? Here is all power. He can save to the uttermost. He saved

the dying thief. He saved Paul. He saved the jailer at Philippi. He saved John Bunyan. He saved Hadley. He saved me. He can save you. To God be eternal praise and glory.

"He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might, He increaseth strength." Isa. 40:29 Can we not trust Him? **Can you not cast your care on Him, yea, all of it?** For He careth for you. Just think of the millions of whirling swirling worlds He engineers from day to day, without a hitch; and has everyone to come in on the tick. Our old world is doing a million and a half miles every day going sometimes slower, sometimes faster, and coming in on the dot. We have travelled more than fifty thousand miles since coming into Church an hour ago, and not **one** of you felt a jar. Not anyone felt the slightest shake, and yet all these million worlds are moving! Nothing still! Countless, colossal, orbs rushing at lightning rate, yet no collision, no confusion! "Not **one** of them faileth," says the prophet. Not one of them comes in a moment tardy. Frederick the Great did all in his power to make a few clocks swing their pendulums together but he gave it up. Yet here are

**26** all lengths, breadths, longer, shorter, swinging — this way, that way, every way — and not one ever misses its function. My God is the Creator and Mover of them all; yet He remembers you, He remembers me.

"The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork." What is the glory of God? What is the glory of anything? The glory of a thing is that quality, or attribute which secures unanimity of praise. And the glory of God is His praiseworthiness, His infinite excellence. "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. The whole earth is full of His glory." "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." Now this is it what constitutes the glory of God — His holiness, His sovereignty, His grace, His salvation. His salvation includes you and me. "Do you suppose," said Tommy, as his little sister laid away her largest apple for a sick girl; "do you suppose that God cares for us little folks? Is He not too busy caring for the big folks to notice us much?" Mary shook her head and pointed to Momma holding the baby. "Do you think that Mamma would forget the baby? She thinks of the baby first, cause he's the littlest:" Mary was right. Let the child teach us. God's first concern is for the little ones,

the feeble ones.

"He giveth power to the faint and to them that have no might He increaseth strength; even the youths may faint and be weary and the young men may utterly fall; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Isa. 40:31  
"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him; For He knoweth our frame, He remembereth that we are dust." Psa. 103:13-14 He even marks the sparrow's fall.

Wonder of wonders, marvel of marvels, "The very hairs of your head are all numbered" — not counted, but numbered. "He telleth the number of the stars." He does not count them. He does not need to count them. He knows without counting. "He calleth them all by name." Look up at them tonight and see them shining. How plain those stars are, you say! How clearly you can see them, one by one. He can see your life just as plainly, yea, more clearly, looking down. Nothing is too small for God. "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." (give milk) Isa 40:11 It is most unbelievable; but it is the immortal message of the Lord and Master, the value of one human soul is such, as to cause the shedding of the Precious Heart's Blood of the Holy, Sinless Son of God. No teacher ever worked on so minute a scale as the Lord Jesus. The crowds followed Him; but He gave His deepest secrets to the few. "Many are called; but few are chosen." Wonder of wonders, that we are found amongst the chosen, washed in His blood and sealed with the Holy Spirit.

27

How many of you are lonely? How many of you are sick? How many of you are sad this morning? How many of you are saying, There is no one living who cares for me if I were to die tomorrow? No one would shed a tear for me. I'm alone in this wide, wide world — all alone. It is not so. Listen! "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end." He is with us in darkness as well as in light; in sickness as well as in health; in poverty as well as in wealth; in crooked places as well as in straight places. He never leaves us, nor forsakes us.

(Reprint 1937)

# Modernism VS. Fundamentalism

C. G. Powel

**“PREACH the word: be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine: for the time will come, when they will not endure sound doctrine; but having itching ears, they shall heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts.” II Tim. 4:2,3.**

Some men tell us that modernistic preaching is the old apostolic Gospel in a new setting. They say that it is adapted to modern needs and manner of life, as if humanity were different today from those in apostolic times. Others speak of a re-statement of apostolic faith and practice in modern times.

28 The Apostle Paul said that he became all things to all men, that he might by all means save some. We have all sympathy with an up-to-date presentation of the Gospel of God, providing "the faith once delivered to the saints," (Jude V.3) is neither watered down, nor adulterated. When Paul called the elders of the Ephesian Church together at Miletus he said among other things, "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Acts 20:27 He kept nothing back of the revelation of Jesus Christ and His teaching, that was profitable. Human nature is much the same (except that it is more devilish, Ed.) in the twentieth century as it was in the first. Human need is *just the same*; and we are persuaded that there never was, and is not now, anything like the apostolic Gospel, which so meets man's need at all points. "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved," except the name of Him who was crucified for us, buried and raised again. Acts 4:12 Men cry out today for the Living Bread, which came down from heaven.

Mr. H. J. Campbell's new theology, or Mr. Lester Wetherhead's psychology (of the City Temple) are very poor substitutes. They are both against Paul's sound doctrine, destructive and satanic. The clergy are wedded to science and philosophy. The Gospel of Christ "... is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 1:16 It is of faith, that it might be by grace. The salvation of men is, in the wisdom of God, ordained in a Person, even Immanuel, God with us. Truth, beauty, grace and love are personified in Him. Salvation is vested in Jesus Christ. David said, "The Lord is my light and my

salvation." Simeon said, with the infant Christ in his arms, "... mine eyes have seen thy salvation." Lk 2:30 Jesus Christ wins men's hearts and transforms their lives.

Salvation is for sinners. Jesus said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Pardon is secured upon the ground of the forfeited life (crucified) of the Lamb of God. "He tasted death for every man." "He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Heb. 9. "He bore our *sins* in His own body on the *tree*." Paul exclaimed, "...through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things,..." Acts 13:38-39 Was this Gospel the invention of man? Nay, it is not an invention. It is a revelation from God. Paul said, "I certify you, brethren, that the Gospel which was preached of me, is not after a man; for I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." Gal. 1:11,12 That was the message which delivered people in his day.

A significant fact about modern Protestantism is, that it undermines the authority of the holy canon of Scripture. It has gone the way of Rome in this matter. The Roman Catholic Church proved that to establish their vagaries, it was necessary to relegate the Bible to a place of isolation. They made it difficult for the common people to get it. Enquirers had to go to the priests for the interpretation of the Word. As compared with pagan traditions, ritualistic practices, superstition, speculative science and vain philosophy, their interpretations were hopelessly out of line with the mind of the Sprit of God.

History is repeating itself. "The right of private judgment," secured to us more or less by the Reformation has been much abused. The shame of Protestantism — its 400 sects — is evidence of such abuse. Christianity, so-called is in a deplorable condition. It is departing further from the old landmarks every day. We need not be surprised at anything we may hear, or see. The apostasy is sweeping on unchecked everywhere.

(Reprint 1936)

# Isaiah 44

Gene Hawkins

*“For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:” V. 3*

30 **The** Book of Acts comes into focus in this chapter, for both texts bespeak the glorious waters of refreshing that have been “poured out,” by the power of The Holy Ghost. Isaiah declares “...I will pour water upon him that is thirsty...I will pour my spirit upon thy seed.” Dr. Luke uses much the same language in Acts 2:18. “And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:” Both of these citations are fulfilled during this Church Age, but the greater fulfillment will not be fully realized until the Millennium. This portion in Acts specifically states that “I will pour out in those days OF my spirit,” meaning that the glorious happenings during and after the Day Of Pentecost were only a small foretaste of the massive demonstration of God’s Power which will be evidenced during the Millennial Age.

Verse 8 of our current chapter also asserts that “...ye are my witnesses.” Luke likewise outlines God’s purpose for the early apostles of the Church Age, promising that “...ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” The Holy Ghost is responsible for this “witness” AFTER that He has come upon them, and this same pattern will likewise prevail after Israel has been restored as a Spirit-filled Nation, following her acceptance of The Messiah. Verse 24 here in Isaiah, declares plainly, “Thus saith the LORD, **thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb**, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;” Israel will have enjoyed such glorious redemption in actual experience when these things come to pass, and the same Majesty of God recorded here is also found in Acts 17:24 “God that made the world and all things

therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;" This message too, will especially be conveyed during the Millennium when Israel is fully manifest as having been redeemed to the fullest extent, after Jesus has claimed His rightful place as "King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Isaiah begins this chapter by announcing the very sovereignty of God in bringing to pass His purposes for Israel. "Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen:" V. 1 This nation did absolutely nothing to warrant such treatment. Our previous chapter contains similar language and, as noted, "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people;...But because the LORD loved you,..." Deut. 7,8 God sovereignly chose them as the apple of His eye, and only His Great Love for them prompted all these glorious actions and benefits in their behalf. "Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen. For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:" V. 2-3 Israel can hope for much, according to these promises, and there are at least ten elements to consider in these verses. First, God reiterates a great theme from Ch. 43 that He has "made and formed thee." That "creation," as already seen, is "in Christ," even as we enjoy today during this present Church Age. Secondly, God's work has been "from the womb," meaning that He was already at work to perform these things before Israel was even a nation. Third, I will "help thee." Such help will be in "full bloom," during the tribulation period, when God will deliver them from the horrendous fires of tribulation as seen in the previous chapter. It is during this time that this small remnant, which will indeed become an entire nation, will experience the fourth provision which is "fear not." Such freedom from fear is not just because I "will help thee," but also brings us to the fifth benefit recorded here, for this people has become "Jacob," that is, "the supplanter." They need not fear, for God will surely make of them the nation He had promised heretofore. Jacob

of old is often maligned for being a “thief, and scoundrel,” but he was rather a man of faith who highly esteemed the place mandated by the “birthright.” This coveted place was actually his by promise, for God had said, **even before he and Esau were born**, “the elder shall serve the younger.” Gen. 25:23 Thus Jacob “supplanted,” or took the place of the first born, even as God had already decreed. Jacob took the place of Esau even as Israel will eventually supplant all the nations. This introduces the sixth part of this glorious blessing, for now Israel, as a nation will become “my servant,” in actual experience. They will, in this capacity, serve Him throughout the Kingdom Age, as they will at long last be His witnesses even “...unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

32 The seventh benefit to be claimed is “...thou Jeshrun.” This is simply another name for this same chosen nation, but it also speaks of glorious experience, for Jeshrun means “the righteous one.” Jacob has in no wise been able to boast such a state, due to their history of rebellion and idolatry, but God’s creativity has changed that, and they will now display the practical righteousness of The Messiah. Furthermore, number eight, is that they are now manifest as those “whom I have chosen.” This is a message that even the nations must absolutely acknowledge when God brings it to pass. Today Israel is a most despised people, but there will come the day when all men will know, without doubt, that God has specifically chosen them for their new role of superiority.

This brings us to the ninth benefit recorded in this verse which, once again, hearkens back to the book of Acts. “For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty,... I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:” V. 3 These are the refreshing waters of the Holy Ghost, which will be so very prevalent in that day, not only for Israel, but for all the nations to whom they shall minister. The result of that ministry is found in the 10<sup>th</sup> and final, avenue of blessing. “And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses.” V. 4 The fruitfulness, depicted here, is undoubtedly literal, for Isaiah 35:1 promises that “The wilderness and the solitary place shall... blossom as the rose.” However, this fruit must also include the fruit of the spirit, which will be so freely produced as the Holy



Ghost is freely poured out in that day, and, as seen above, not only Israel shall be fruitful, but the nations as well.

“One shall say, I am the LORD'S; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the name of Israel.” V. 5 This verse seems to be a general summation of the foregoing multiple array of blessings, and shows that men in that day just as is seen in the Church today, will determine how much blessing they will receive. “One shall say I am the LORD'S,...” simply indicating that he now belongs to the Great “I Am.” Another claims the name of “Jacob,” which is a glorious place, but there seems to be an even greater one as “another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself... Israel.” Jacob discovered this same glorious truth, for God changed his name to Israel. However, it took Jacob a bit of time, and some rather harsh experience, before he finally laid claim to his new name of “Israel,” meaning “prince of God,” for he still saw himself as “supplanting another.” Likewise, many in the millennial kingdom may not readily see their new role of royalty, but when one shall “subscribe with his hand unto the LORD,” it means that he “writes or records” it, somewhat like a contract, claiming it for himself, even as Jacob did, appropriating by actual experience the truth that “...as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.” Gen. 32:28 This surely suggests that there will be ranks in the Kingdom Age, just as there are ranks in The Church. All of these outstanding blessings will come to fruition for Israel directly because this nation finally accepts their Messiah, Who speaks the following glorious words. 33

“Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his (Israel's) redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.” V. 6 These are most emphatically the words of Jesus! John heard them almost verbatim in Rev. 1:11-18 “...I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:...And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen...” Both Isaiah and John declare the same

message: Jesus will reign as God! He became the “redeemer,” not only for Israel but the entire world, when He paid the price which God’s Government demanded on the cross of Calvary, and no one else is qualified to claim His place as Sovereign. Thus, the following questions are posed.

“And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? And the things that are coming, and shall come, let them shew unto them.”

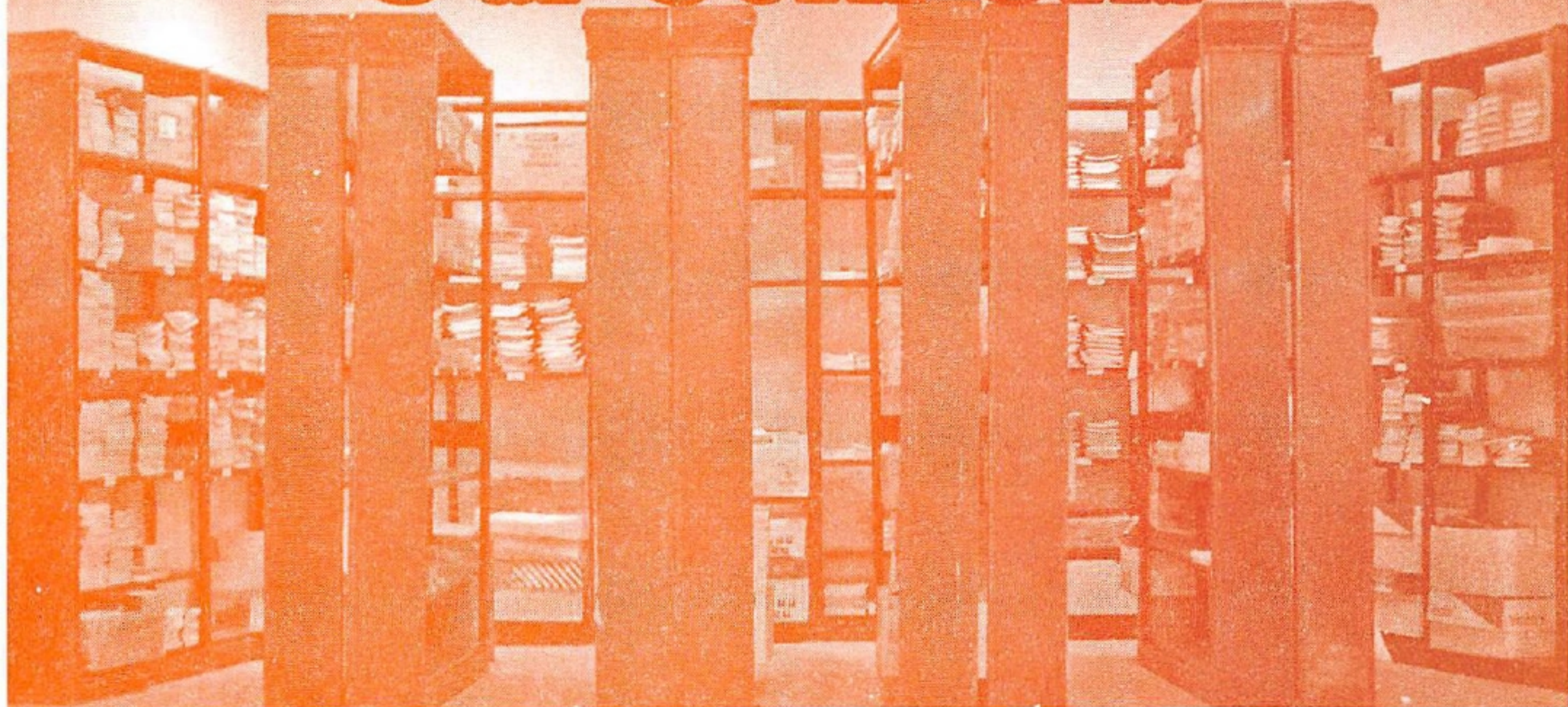
V. 7 These words are actually a challenge directed toward those who would try to predict and accomplish the things that only He can do. He says, in essence, “Who can stand in My Place, and set things in order for the ancient people?” He further challenges them to declare “...the things that are coming and shall come, let them shew unto them.” This harkens back to those of Ch. 41:22, who were likewise exhorted to bring forth “...and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, ...or declare us things for to come.” Our present text seems to call on these “prognosticators” to “shew unto them,” that is, Israel or “the ancient people,” the things that are coming, but who are they? This could most assuredly include to the “false prophets” of Israel, but due to the fact that the nations are so heavily involved with the affairs of Israel, and truly believe that they can solve all their dilemmas, these words most likely apply to Gentile World Powers, who are now called upon to “...shew them.” They are the ones who must eventually acknowledge that none can set the affairs of this chosen people “...in order for me.” There is none that can take the place of the LORD, for Christ Alone controls the destiny of this select nation.

**\* “No man has the right to do as he pleases unless he pleases to do right.”**

**\* Eternal life, which was with the Father, actually entered this scene in the Person of Christ, and tabernacled here in a body of flesh for 33 years. I John 1:2**

**\* Faith without works, God never regards. Works without faith, He never rewards.**

# Our Corn Crib



- |                               |                                  |                           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 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              |
| Fact of Tongues               | Man Child- Rev. 12               | Times of the Gentiles     |
| Faith                         | Mercy or Judgement               | Tithing                   |
| Fear of the Lord              | New Birth                        | Water Baptism             |
| First Day of the Week         | Not Legislation, Revelation      | Wheat and Tares           |
| Five Much Mores               | Oneness of Christ                | Why am I Not Healed       |
| Five Consequences             |                                  |                           |

## 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                           | Phillippians    |                       |
| 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

