

Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the
whole Counsel of GOD

Without Price Since 1910

'Loving His Appearing'

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Behold, happy is
the man whom
God correcteth:
therefore despise
not thou the
chastening of
the Almighty.

JOB FIVE:SEVENTEEN.

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ON THE JERICHO ROAD



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Editor: Gene Hawkins



By Gene Hawkins

“And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the LORD,... That the LORD appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared unto him at Gibeon.

And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and ... 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 9:1-3

“And unto his son (Rehoboam) will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in **Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.**” I Kings 11:36

“Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I **gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.**” Neh. 1:8-9

3

“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.” Lk. 21:20

Vast armies are not gathering around Jerusalem as of yet, but we are absolutely persuaded that the process has already begun, and that it will end with the devastation of this chosen city. This 21st chapter of Luke very closely resembles that of Matt. 24 where Jesus lists a great number of signs which clearly mark His Coming in the end of this Church Age. The disciples were completely oblivious to this new era which would shortly be introduced after the Day of Pentecost, but His prophecy in verse 6 outlining the destruction of the temple, proclaiming that “... the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down”, quickly came to pass in 70 A.D. when Titus and his Roman army overran Jerusalem.

We would point out in this message that such destruction does not negate God’s promises in regard to Jerusalem and The Temple in our opening texts. I Kings 9:3 specifically states that,

“...mine heart shall be there perpetually.” The passage from Nehemiah clearly shows that even though The Jews had been taken captive and the temple wasted away for 70 long years, yet God would still honor His promise to “... gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.” Thus, the temple was indeed rebuilt and was in fact prophetic of the Millennial Temple which will yet occupy this choice site on the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem.

4 We say again that the armies of which Jesus spoke will indeed be gathered to Jerusalem, which God has “...chosen to set my name there,” but it will not happen until the latter half of the tribulation period. However, it is also very clear that multiple nations are already making their presence known in Israel, trying desperately to make decisions in regard to this very choice piece of real estate. We generally think of Paul’s warnings in I and II Timothy regarding these last days as applying to the spiritual and moral declension of all mankind, which they most assuredly do, but the following passages are also most applicable to the nations of our day, who completely disregard the opening verses of truth concerning Jerusalem and The Temple. “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; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;” I Tim. 4:1-2 “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.... Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of **the truth**. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also **resist the truth**: men of corrupt minds, **reprobate concerning the faith**. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.” II Tim. 3: 1 & 7-9 Most Bible scholars agree that Jannes and Jambres were the two Egyptian magicians who resisted Moses and duplicated the first three miracle signs which God gave to Egypt, in an effort to introduce them to His unmistakable Presence. There did come a time, however, when they could “... proceed no further:...” and could no longer produce those illusions. Paul declares that they were examples of those today who would “... resist the truth:” It is quite clear that in the beginning Jannes and Jambres had exactly the same attitude as that of Pharaoh: “And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD,

neither will I let Israel go.” Ex. 5:2

It is rather apparent that many of the national leaders of our day could also be included among those who “know not the Lord,” and couldn’t care less about the fact that Jerusalem belongs to God! Though God’s Word clearly declares that, “The land (of Israel) shall not be sold for ever: **for the land is mine;...**” (Lev. 25:23) a great majority of prominent politicians have boldly declared that the so-called two-state solution, whereby Jerusalem would become the capital of a Palestinian State alongside the State of Israel, is absolutely the only path for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Reuters, and a number of other news sources, reported that the U.N. recently passed a resolution “...which calls on Israel to “immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.” This same article also reported the response of the chief Palestinian negotiator, Saib Erekat as saying that, “This is a day of victory for international law, a victory for civilized language and negotiation and a total rejection of extremist forces in Israel,...The international community has told the people of Israel that the way to security and peace is not going to be done through occupation ... but rather through 5
peace, ending the occupation and establishing a Palestinian state to live side by side with the state of Israel on the 1967 line.”

Israel officially rejected this resolution as being “shameful” and “anti-Israel,” further declaring that “The resolution said Israel’s settlements on Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, have no ‘legal validity.’ It demanded a halt to ‘all Israeli settlement activities,’ saying this is ‘essential for salvaging the two-state solution.”” Apparently those who support this U.N. resolution, which so vehemently condemns Israel, have completely ignored the resounding and miraculous victory which God so Mightily rendered to His Own Chosen People in the 1967 war when she was attacked by powerful enemies.

It is encouraging to note that not all politicians subscribe to this “two-state solution,” as the U.S. House of Representatives did pass a bipartisan resolution condemning the aforementioned ungodly UN measure. However, it is also a bit disheartening to read that some in Israel are very much in favor of this two-state solution, which once again reflects the unbelief and rejection of God’s Authority and Pleasure. Consider excerpts from this editorial by Haaretz, a prominent Israeli news source. “Between

Trump and Kerry, the latter is the true friend of Israel; someone who wants to rescue it from the abyss it is falling into with frightening speed. In a long and detailed farewell speech, the outgoing secretary of state sketched out the main principles of his views on Israel,... He warned of the death of the two-state solution because of the settlement enterprise, presented a logical and just framework for a solution to the conflict, and blamed Israel for aspiring to full and permanent control in the West Bank.... This is exactly how the opposition in Israel should have spoken too:... But Israel does not have an opposition that carries out its job, so it is very important to listen to Kerry, even at the conclusion of his term. Kerry said what has been known for quite a while: The two-state solution is breathing its last breath. He may be convinced that it is still possible to save it, but the most important thing in his speech was raising the question of an alternative to this solution in full force. In Israel, which is speeding toward the elimination of the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state, almost no one is dealing with the situation that will be created the day after the final ruination of this option."

6 Many are also deeply concerned and even adamant at President Trump's intention to move the American Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Newsmax published this headline: **"Trump Moving Forward With US Embassy Move in Israel Despite Warnings."** Then follows a number of quotations from various news sources on how such news is perceived by various factions.

"It's very dangerous," one European diplomat told CNN. "Chances for the peace process are going very quickly — it's now or never. Violence is always a concern and, at this point, it's probably easy for Palestinians to demonstrate their frustration."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas wrote to Trump saying he opposed the move, and has also written letters to the leaders of Russia, China, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Arab League.

Al-Jazeera reported, in the letter, Abbas told Trump the move would have a "disastrous impact on the peace process, on the two-state solution and on the stability and security of the entire region." CNN reported, in a recent speech, Abbas said, "Any statement or position that disrupts or changes the status of Jerusalem is a red line which we will not accept."

Secretary of State John Kerry also opposed the move, saying,

"You'd have an explosion — an absolute explosion in the region, not just in the West Bank and perhaps even in Israel itself, but throughout the region."

Another European diplomat told CNN the location of the move is an issue. "If it's moved into East Jerusalem, the Palestinians would certainly view it as a provocative move."

The opposing view of this debate is presented by the fact that: "Last week, three prominent Republican senators introduced a bill that would force the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio called Jerusalem "the eternal capital" of Israel and said "it is finally time to cut through the double-speak and broken promises and do what Congress said we should do in 1995, formally move our embassy to the capital of our great ally Israel."

Haaretz also covered this side of the story with the following quotes, citing examples of those who could not support any resolution demanding a two-state solution: "Congressman Louie Gohmert (RTX) cited the twostate reference as a reason why he would not support the motion. "Hebron is in what was the Promised Land, David ruled from there, and in a twostate solution, Hebron is going to the Palestinians," Gohmert said. "How do they deserve the land that was given as the Promised Land before Mohammad even existed? I can't support this resolution. I can't do it."

Rep. Steve King (RIA) also criticized the resolution. He said it "has a lot of good and right in it," but is wrong to include support of the twostate solution, which according to King "has run its course."

The positions of Mr. Trump, and these other congressmen, indicate that they are in perfect agreement with God's Word in this matter, according to the opening verses of this writing. We will also not hesitate in acknowledging that those who are so insistent on this two-state solution are very close to joining God's assessment of Jannes and Jambres and "...their folly shall be manifest unto all men,..." Regardless of what men seem to think, God will make the final decisions concerning Israel. Many of the world community are apparently falling right in line with the Laodicean condition prevailing throughout the world today. The word Laodicea means, "the people's rights," and it is rather obvious that most of these world leaders are concentrating on the so-called "rights" of the Palestinians, while at the same time ignoring the inalienable rights and entitlements that God gave to

Abraham and his seed those many years ago. Such insistence on the “rights” for the enemies of Israel has forced her into one illegitimate compromise after another, whereby she has traded land for peace that has never materialized. This nation does have a history of such compromises, and scripture is very clear that one day they will make the ultimate one when they sign that infamous covenant with the antichrist as described by Dan. 9:27. Isaiah 28:15 calls it “... a covenant with death...” and were it not for God’s intervention, this nation would experience the absolute obliteration demanded by the Palestinians and other enemies of this Chosen Nation. However, Isaiah is very quick to inform us that God will honor His multitudinous promises to Israel despite their rebellion and unbelief and “And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.” Isa. 28:18

8 God will most assuredly deliver this nation even from the throes of the great tribulation. The armies gathering around Jerusalem will be a great part of their misery “...when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.” Untold suffering is ahead for this people and the world, but God will remain true to His Word and they shall never be trodden down to the point of complete annihilation as their enemies would desire. Instead, “... behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.” Mal 4:1-3

The Voice here belongs to the same One Who promised that He would “... gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.” We note however, that any such redemption is contingent on the fact that Israel, as a nation, must accept their Messiah. They must bow before Him and “... fear my name...” ---- and indeed they will as they at last “... look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be

in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” This description of Israel’s national repentance is taken from the latter portion of Zech. 12:10. The beginning of this verse describes the great blessing for this tiny nation when they finally bow before Him and accept the Christ Who died on Calvary. “And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications:...”

It is not hard to realize that Israel has not yet reached this very coveted place. The aforementioned comments summarizing the attitudes of probably a great majority in Israel, who view the two-state solution with the Palestinians as the path to genuine peace, indicates that Israel as a nation is not ready to recognize their Real Redeemer and put all their hopes, dreams, and confidence in the pierced Lamb of Calvary. This people has suffered untold misery down through the ages, and the period known in scripture as the “...the time of Jacob's trouble;...” is directly in front of them. It is probably a certainty that men may one day succeed in establishing Jerusalem as the capital of two states. We can also rest assured that if such an event happens, it will be Israel which will make the major concessions to achieve it. We have often wondered what will induce them to bow to such concessions and whether the proverbial “carrot” might be associated with the restoration of their “religious practices.” This would be a very significant prophetic milestone, for Dan. 8:11 clearly states that the “daily sacrifice” must be taken away. That cannot happen until it is first reinstated. Regardless of what incentive may be used against them, scripture is very clear that the peace of Jerusalem will not come to pass without The Prince of Peace, even Jesus Christ The Righteous. God’s Word is also very clear on the fact that only the severe throes of tribulation during the time of Jacob’s trouble, the latter 1260 days which define the reign of the antichrist, will at last bring Israel to her knees, thus bringing forth their promised peace and prosperity. Until then, we as Christians have been exhorted to “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.” Psa. 122:6 We now know that means praying earnestly for a nation to accept their Messiah. We are to pray for a people that must, without fail, endure great hardship. Pray for a people to be protected during those awful three and one half years of “... great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor

ever shall be.” Matt. 24:21

This Church Age, of which the disciples were completely unaware in Matt. 24, and Lk. 21, is just about over. God will complete His dealings with the Church, after which He will turn His attention completely to Israel. Meanwhile, we are instructed not only to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, but to believe God for our own deliverance out of this world. Contrary to popular religious opinion, there will be an elite group of believers who are taken out of this world before the hour of tribulation centering around Jerusalem even begins. We can be of that number if we take our place with those of the Church at Philadelphia. Just as God will honor His promises to Jerusalem and Israel, so also will He ensure that the Philadelphia believers in the end of this age will be preserved. “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; ... I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, ... for thou hast a little strength,... and hast not denied my name... I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet,... Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will **keep thee from (out of) the hour of temptation**, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” Rev. 3:7

EAGLES' WINGS

If you would mount on eagles' wings
And reach the higher, nobler things;
Then this world's vain and glittering show,
Pride, fond ambition, all must go.

The soul must sink if it would rise
On eagles' wings, and gain heaven's Prize.
Mount up, mount up on eagles' wings
And reach the higher, nobler things;

Visions of God and glory bright
Shall fill thy soul with calm delight.
No longer earth-bound, then canst rise
On *eagles'* wings, and gain heaven's Prize.

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. Lu 24:46-47

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 on earth 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." Philip 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."

12 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 disciple's 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 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 in, and if we do not step in them, our lives will not count 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; and 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 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.

Back Beyond Jordan

Elizabeth Stuby

"And (Jesus) went away again beyond Jordan into the place where John at first baptized; and there he abode." John 10:40.

In this chapter and in the preceding ones we see Christ, as He nearly always was, in the midst of battle and strife. This was not physical strife, but spiritual warfare against the forces of unrighteous men who would not believe the gospel and hindered others from believing. In verse 40, we see Him going away from the strife, back beyond Jordan to the place where He was baptized.

And so it is with us that sometimes the Lord takes us back in spirit to the starting point, to the beginning of our Christian life. Today, I went back in spirit to the little Church where I was saved and filled with the Spirit of God, and received such a mighty baptism that it has kept me going forward to this hour. To me no spot on earth is so hallowed, no place so wreathed in precious memories as that little white frame Church where I met the Living God and gave Him my heart.

14 Like Jesus, I too went back to the place where I was baptized. How sweet and fragrant in my memory is that little mountain stream with its old wooden bridge, how consecrated by the precious prayers and songs that went up that day to God. As I stood in that stream to be baptized, how sweet to hear again those voices singing, "Happy day, happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away."

How good it is sometimes to go back beyond Jordan, back to the place where first we believed, back to the place where first we saw the Lord. When our lives are filled with strife and confusion, and the way ahead is not always plain, how good it is to withdraw for a little while to the place where our life with Christ had its beginning. Where joy like a river flowed through our souls, and we felt the Divine Presence awaken and quicken our spirits to "walk with Him in newness of life."

Perhaps in our Christian experience we have come a long, long way from that day and hour. Perhaps like Paul we have suffered the loss of all or many things that were dear to us. But let us count them as loss, or as nothing, that we may follow Him all the way as we started out away back there beyond Jordan. Perhaps disappointments and grief have dimmed our spiritual eyes, and sometimes we feel we have lost the way, missed it somehow although

we didn't mean to at all. Perhaps our hearts have grown at times a little bit hard, or bitterness has crept into our souls, or perhaps the temptation to indifference has crept up on us unaware. Perhaps it is not so easy to read the Bible and pray for others as when we first believed. And oh, saddest of all, could it be that we have left our first love? (Rev. 2:4) Do our hearts still yearn toward the Lord, and do "our hearts burn within us" as we talk of Him by the way?

Perhaps we need to go back beyond Jordan to the place where we found the Lord. Let us meet the Lord again and wait before Him till we feel His Spirit descending upon us, hear again His vindication that He is well pleased with us. Let us go back to that simplicity of faith, and renew again our vows of consecration to Him, and then we can go forward conquering and to conquer in His divine strength.

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"And a certain woman, named Lydia, heard us; whose heart the Lord opened, so that she attended unto the things which were spoken of by Paul." Acts 16:14 15

The things spoken of by Paul necessitate a revelation. Lydia heard his words; but the Lord had to perform an operation ere she could understand them. He opened her heart, so that she could understand the marvels of the gospel which Paul preached. This is a continuous work of the Holy Spirit. There must be developments of revelation according to the measure of the growth of believers. We do not see all the truth at conversion. The revelation of Paul's epistles unfolds as we are able to bear it. How sad that some put their own puny limit to that unfolding.

—M. M. B.

- * Here is the way to get rid of your duties — discharge them.
- * Only the few have natural wealth, but everyone may have spiritual riches. They are free for all who seek after them.
- * The man who has begun to live seriously within, begins to live more simply without.

"FRAGILE COMMANDMENTS"

Ashton Mabee tells of being present in an Eastport, Maine post office when a clerk asked an old woman who was mailing a Bible to her brother in a distant city if there was anything breakable in her package. The old woman answered, "Only the 10 Commandments."

The lady was right about the Commandments being breakable — in fact, they are not only breakable, they have all been broken; and that by all of us. The Lord Jesus asked: "Did not Moses give you the law?" then added: "*yet* none of you keepeth the law"—John 7:19.

The Apostle Paul said: "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law; that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God"—Rom. 3:19.

We all deserve the curse of the broken law; but Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree"—Gal. 3:13. Christ bore our sins in His own body on the tree. I Peter 2:24 Now He proffers a justification by faith, "from all things from which ye could not **be justified by** the law of Moses." Acts 13:38,39 Each believer can say:

"Free from the law! O happy condition
Jesus has bled and there is remission;
Passing from death to life at His call,
Christ hath redeemed us once for all"

—Selected

- * Pray for an appreciation of what you have rather than ask for so much more.
- * Sin is not removed from Christians but they are removed from sin..

A More Sure Word Of Prophecy

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” II Pet. 1:19

Peter's words here follow his personal testimony to the glorious sight of the transfiguration of Christ on the Holy Mount. It was called holy, because of the Holy One who was present there. Peter saw the change in the Person and Apparel of Christ. He heard the Voice from heaven attesting to the worth and perfection of God's Son and he felt the Presence of the Shekinah cloud overshadowing them. But he declares that we have more to convince us than even his testimony of that wonderful millennial scene. We have the more sure word of prophecy to depend upon; or "the word of prophecy made more sure." R. V.

17

The meaning is that now since the first advent of Christ there is no doubt as to the word of prophecy. We have assurance by His death, resurrection and ascension that every jot and tittle of prophecy shall be fulfilled.

Then the Apostle adds further that no prophecy of Scripture is of private interpretation or of its own interpretation. That is, no prophecy can be isolated from the other Scriptures of like character given elsewhere, which would thus run the risk of being perverted from its proper use, as a sentence more or less broken, or a page of a book or letter detached from the rest. "**Men spake from God**" not otherwise; not according to their own reasoning, or wills, or thoughts. But they were moved by Him; each prophecy in harmony with all others, and in perfection: because it comes from Him who knows the end from the beginning.

(Reprint 1930)

Author Unknown

REFLECTIONS

“Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep... I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” John 10:7-9

Jesus is The Door! The term indicates an entrance, but it includes far more than just the path of the new birth. Jesus rather provides access to multiple “pastures,” of which many true believers never take advantage. “... he shall be saved and shall go in and out...” means that one must go beyond initial salvation, and then, rather than abide in one pasture of truth, he will follow The Shepherd from one pasture to another. Psalm 23 likewise tells that same glorious story. “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:...” plural. V. 2 David also defines degrees of fellowship in Psa. 100:4 “Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:....” Some enter only the gate to God’s glorious provision but never explore His bountiful courts.

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Unbelief is the primary culprit for this failure and God denounces men for it throughout scripture. David again boldly testifies that “... he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture,... To day if ye will hear his voice,” Psa.95:7 The psalmist continues, exhorting; “Harden not your heart,... your fathers tempted me,... Forty years long was I grieved with this generation,... It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:” V. 8-10 Paul continues that refrain, strongly urging the Hebrew Christians to forsake their ways of Jewish tradition and unbelief and enter into the fullness of God’s provision for them. “Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.” Heb. 4:1 Note the distinction which the apostle makes here: “...lest, a promise being left **us** of entering into his rest, any of **you** should seem to come short...” He knew that he was of that company which had already claimed these glorious promises but was much concerned that YOU Hebrews had failed to do so, the problem being that, though the gospel had been preached to all, “... the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.” V. 2 Simply

believing such a gospel will enable men to "... lie down in green pastures,..." "For we which have believed do enter into rest,..."

Paul continues this assault on unbelief insisting that we are to be very aggressive in claiming His promises. "Having therefore, (because of Christ's redemption defined in V. 1-18) ... **boldness** to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,... Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,..." Heb 10:19- 22 The expression "... full assurance of faith..." is a reference to the very fullness of faith found only by believing the full complement of God's Word.

There will be a great difference in eternal reward due to the fact that some have followed The Shepherd more faithfully than others. Some may hear "... Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things..." Matt. 25:21 The reward of a servant will be wonderful, but there is a greater one. David describes it in Psalm 45. "The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king... the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.... they shall enter into the king's palace." V. 13-15 The reward here is for who she is --- royalty, the king's daughter. She is all glorious **within**, her clothing "...is of wrought gold," that is, the life of Christ is manifest both inside and out. We know that she has claimed first place because "... her companions..." **follow** her. Solomon likewise exclaimed: "My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her,...." S.O.S. 6:9 all because she has exclusively followed Him!

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Anointed To Reign

Margaret Keener

“... they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17 All the promises in Revelation are "to him that overcometh." Jesus was victor over every temptation and became the greatest emancipator of all times. When He arose from the dead "He led captivity captive" and ascended through all the forces of evil that sought to oppose Him to the very throne of God. There high above all principalities and powers, as absolute sovereign, He is able to assist all who desire to live an overcoming life. His strength is mighty "to the pulling down of strongholds and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. See 2 Cor. 10:15. As we govern imaginations our actions are of secondary importance; for "thought is parent to the deed." As one writer has stated, "A man is the result of all that he has thought." As we meditate upon and believe the things of God we are gradually conformed to the very image of the One Who fills our vision. See 2 Cor. 3:18.

The Christian's training is a progressive affair. God wants to fit each of us to reign conjointly with His Son upon an eternal throne. In order to rule wisely upon a temporal throne the heir to the crown receives special training. From earliest childhood he is educated for the place. The thought of his future responsibilities causes him to govern himself as befitting an heir-apparent and apply himself to gaining the knowledge he will later need. We are chosen for a higher place than any earthly monarch. Until we attain that for which we are "apprehended" our lives will **continue** to be those of instruction. See Phil. 3:12-14.

God gave us record of Saul and David that their lives should serve us as examples. Their history has been recopied by Samuel, first of the writing prophets, for our instruction. God saw the way His people were yearning to imitate the heathen nations round about. Although Samuel had served them faithfully for forty years as prophet, priest and judge, Israel desired a king like the nations. In their theocracy, God was their King, and Samuel, His divinely appointed administrator.

Although outnumbered many times by their enemies, God fought for Israel all the days of Samuel. However, the unseen forces of heaven failed to impress the Lord's people as did the visible kings who rode before their troops to battle. No doubt they were spectacular in their war bonnets and their shining armour. The showy things of earth are so contrary to the things of God. As their horses pranced forth in gay trappings, their pomp so impressed Israel that they failed to appreciate the power of angelic forces about them. Horses in Scripture speak of power and we still determine strength by so much "horse power." "The Chariots of God are twenty thousand, even **thousands of angels.**" Psa. 68: 17 While "the legs (strength) of a man are a poor thing to trust in." Israel lacked faith to visualize the mighty power at their disposal. By God's strength alone can any nation or individual hope to prevail against odds. See Luke 14:31

The Lord has never allowed any one to make a mistake without plenty of forewarning, even as in the disobedience of our first parents who knew exactly the penalty before they had ever sinned. God had warned beforehand of the outcome. Samuel was sent to rehearse their history from the time God led them forth from Egypt. Not once had the Lord failed them in any way. He warned of how a king would take the best of every thing for himself and would literally enslave the nation. See I Sam. 8:12,13. They had been delivered from the tyranny of Pharaoh and yet were asking for more bondage. Instead of receiving their tithe a king would exact it as tribute for indeed he would be supplanting God. See 1 Sam. 10:19. Still their answer was, "Nay, but we will have a king over us." 21

Knowing the vanity that prompted their desire, God allowed them a man of their own choosing. Although Kish, the father of Saul, was a "mighty man of power," his son did not inherit the father's strength. Outwardly, Saul was every inch a king. Doubtless he stood out in any crowd for his great height and distinguished appearance; but circumstances later proved the weakness of his character. As associated with the Prophet, Saul "fed upon the shoulder" to equip him with strength to carry the responsibility of a nation. (Heavy burdens are carried upon the shoulder.) In the

beginning of his career as the first king over Israel, Saul was very humble and appreciated the honor conferred upon him. Had he remained so, his reign would have been successful and the nation blessed.

Instead, when Saul had reigned but two years, his selfish, jealous disposition began to manifest itself. Later his son Jonathan, with half the number of men that his father had at his command, wrought a great victory over the Philistines. Saul "tooted his horn" as though he were the conquering hero—not willing to "give honor to whom honor is due." See 1 Sam. 13. Nothing so arouses the enemy as a partial victory, and the Philistines rose "enmasse," but as for Saul, "he was yet in Gilgal," taking his ease, instead of leading his troops to battle. Realizing the weakness of their leader, "the people followed him trembling." Hiding in thickets, behind rocks, in pits and high places, they were afraid to expose themselves to the *enemy*. A people never rise higher than their leader. As their future history proved, when Israel had a godly king, Israel did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord; but when she had an evil *king*, then Israel did that -which was evil in the sight of the Lord.

When Saul realized that he had lost the confidence of the people he intruded into the priesthood, offering burnt sacrifice, (a priestly rite), incurring the wrath of God in a vain effort to gain favor with the people. Having received his office through popularity, Saul continued to seek the approval of men rather than God. Such presumption and self-will cost him the kingdom. See I Sam. 13:13,14. In due time Samuel arrived and found Saul as sanctimonious as though he had never sinned. In fact he was so far from getting the mind of the Lord, that he never realized when he missed the will of God altogether. For this brash foolishness, Saul was set aside and his prayers were hindered from that time forth. God sought a man after his own heart. Unlike the people of Israel, God cared nothing for outward appearance but looked upon the inward quality of the heart. God's ways are usually just the opposite of those of men and his thoughts are higher than theirs. In David, the youngest son of Jesse, He saw true humility and reverence for the things of God. As a shepherd boy, alone in the hills, he had much

time for meditation and his psalms express the thoughts of his heart. Content and faithful in a small place, God knew that he could trust him with a greater responsibility. At the jeopardy of his life, David had guarded the few sheep that his father had intrusted to his care, delivering the helpless from the jaws of a lion and a bear. His eye that "runs to and fro throughout the earth" was not unmindful of that shepherd boy.

Samuel was sent to anoint David as the future king over Isarel and the anointing rested upon him from that time forth. There were times of temptation and discouragement in the life of David when he failed miserably. But when he earnestly repented God was able to forgive and forget. The anointing rested upon David through the grace of God.

Saul realized that David had been chosen as his successor and hunted him to slay him in direct opposition to the will of God. Fleeing as a fugitive from Saul and his band, hiding in caves and forests, David became familiar with every inch of the enemies' territory as well as that over which he *was* to rule. He even lived for some time in the enemies' camp and learned all his tactics. Crossing the brook Kedron (poured out) David surely emptied himself of all pride and selfwill, and took spoil from the enemy which he later used to God's glory. Although he was denied the privilege of building the temple because he "was a bloody man," David not only drew the plans but also gathered most of the material that went into the "Temple of Solomon." Yet his son received the glory.

To love a bitter enemy is certainly a real test; and David felt a compassionate love for Saul to the very last. When he had an opportunity for *slaying* Saul and was urged to do so, he refused to lift his hand against "God's anointed." He had learned to govern his desires and wait upon God for the fulfillment of His promise. Through many hard trials he had learned self-control. It was no novice that God intended to set upon the throne. Regardless of the age He is going to have a "tried people."

Saul's followers were chosen as he himself was—for supposed ability to "put it over." "When Saul saw any strong man or any valiant man, he took him unto himself." 1 Sam. 14:52. David's little

band of six hundred were just the opposite; instead of self-sufficient folk, it was composed of "everyone that was in distress, and everyone that was in debt, and everyone that was discontented," Those who through sheer love of David were willing to share every hardship. Such loyalty could not be bought by Saul even though he promoted many to places of honor, setting them as captains over fifties and captains over thousands. David had nothing to offer but the promise of ruling conjointly with him when he should gain the throne.

Of those who followed David there were three more outstanding than the rest. These obtained more honor and a greater place in the kingdom for having followed more closely than the others during his rejection. Jesus had three disciples, Peter, *James* and John, who were a little closer than the rest. They had blessed fellowship that not all enjoyed. The privilege is optional to any who will pay the price. As one star differs from another in glory, so the one who walks closest the Coming *King* will shine with a little more radiance than the others farther away. Remember, not one of David's faithful little band was forgotten when God saw fit to place him upon a throne.
SO SHALL IT BE WITH CHRIST.

24

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**The Psalmist's Resolve**

Morning—"In the morning will I direct my prayer unto  
Thee and will look up."—Psa. 5:3.

Noonday—"At noonday will I pray." Psa. 55:17.

Evening—"Let my prayer be as the evening sacrifice."  
Psa. 141:2:

Night—"I meditate upon Thee in the night watches."  
—Psa. 63:6.

Not how much I know makes me useful, but what I put in practice.

Some people use religion like a farmer does harness—he puts it on the horse when he needs him.

Men say that prayer changes things; but God changes men.



## CHASTISEMENT

I went to the chrysanthemum show last autumn. What wonderful blooms. Not only were they wonderful for their variety of color and form, but in their size. I was amazed. I said to one of the gardeners: "How do you manage to produce such marvellous blooms, of such wonderful size and perfection?" "Well, sir" he said, "you see we concentrate all the strength of the plant on one or two blooms. If we allow the plant to bear all the flowers it would, not one of them would be worth showing. If you have a prize bloom, you must be content with one instead of a score." Thus, God cuts away our useless blooms of self and popularity and comfort and ease that He may bring to perfection the exquisite white blossom of holiness, and make the immortal spirit "meet for the inheritance of saints in light," a flower fit to be planted in the Garden of God.

Author Unknown

### Not Growing Old

25

They say that I am growing old,  
I've heard them tell it times untold,  
In language plain and bold.  
But I am not growing old.  
Oh, this frail old shell in which I dwell  
Is growing old, I know full well—  
**But I am not the shell.**

What should I care if time's old plow  
Has left its furrows on my brow?  
What tho I falter in my walk?  
I still can watch and pray and talk.  
My hearing may not be as keen  
As in the past it may have been,  
Still I can hear my Savior say,  
In whispers soft, "This is the Way."

—Selected.



## A Great Secret

E.L. Sexton

"For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, if ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward" - Ephesians 3:1,2.

When Paul wrote these words, he was shut up in a prison cell in Rome. God had to send this dear man to prison, that he might put into writing the Gospel which he preached everywhere. As we read his letters, we are impressed with the fact that they are the most powerful of all.

God knows the way that we take, and at every step He holds His hand upon us. Though we may not realize it, yet He is making us go the suffering way, that His perfect will may be wrought out in our lives. In some sense, we too are prisoners of Jesus Christ. We are all shut up to Him. We have  
26 heard God call saying, "Come unto Me." We have gone unto Him; and He wants us to keep shut up to Him, and yield ourselves whole-heartedly unto His will. You know that sometimes we long to be turned loose and run with this message of grace; but Pauline people are shut up to God. We can move only as He moves us. Sometimes we get into an ill humor because things are taking place that we think ought not; but, God is having His way, nevertheless. He is supreme. Who can do or say anything against Him? He is working deep down into the hidden parts of our being, rounding out this glorious new creation. "Behold, He taketh away, who can hinder Him? Who will say unto Him, What doest Thou?" - Job 9:12.

Now you have heard before that this word "dispensation" means "a setting in order, a housekeeping, an administration." "The dispensation of the grace of God" embraces this entire day or age, from the time when the word of grace first went forth to the



Gentiles until the fullness of the Gentiles shall come in. Then we will pass out from man's day into "the Lord's day," and we will reign with Him through eternity. Paul was made the administrator of God's Word throughout this age. I do not mean that other Scriptures are unprofitable, for we find the grace of God from Genesis to Revelation. But, what appeared only in shadow and type under the Old Covenant, is now emblazoned in letters of fire; namely, that to "the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ" are revealed - Eph. 3:8. God sovereignly gave to Paul the authority and power to dispense this wonderful Gospel of grace.

The law was given in grace to Israel, to cause them to realize how unable they were to do the will of God. The law "was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator" - Galatians 3:19. That was grace. Likewise, until we really learn the grace of God, we try to use the law on ourselves and others. Instead of walking in the Spirit, we make a chalk line of law by which to walk. But, is it not wonderful, when we recognize Christ as our ability to walk and live and move and shine to His eternal praise? That is the essential working of divine grace. Many people are trying to use the Old Testament as a club to drive their fellows into the work of God. It was not intended for that. The law was given to shut up man's mouth from boasting in himself, and that he might learn by perpetual failure the impossibility of saving himself.

"He made known unto me the mystery; ... which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit" - Ephesians 3:3-5.

What is that mystery? The next verse tells us



--- "That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same Body, and partakers of His promise in Christ by the Gospel." By faith in Jesus we become members of this wonderful Body which is called, in Ephesians one, the Church. Paul alone tells us of this mystery, which is Jesus Christ in union with His people as one with Him gathered out of Jews and Gentiles. This Body is made up of the weak things of the world - "... not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called" - I Cor. 1:26. God picks up some of the vilest and most useless in the natural, saves them by His grace, and uses them for His glory. He takes the beggar from the dunghill and sets him among princes. Thank God, He also can change the one who is strongest in himself and bring him down to the place of dependence upon God and make him an eternal blessing to the people of God. If any of us yield to Him, He effectually works in us. God's ministry in us is eternal.

"Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ" - Ephesians 3:8. There is none who feels his own weakness like a believer in Paul's Gospel. We cannot climb up and get an understanding of these wonderful truths; but we find them at the feet of Jesus. We are not worthy to be called saints, nor children of God, by what we do; but our worthiness is in Christ. Paul was "less than the least of all saints," because he chose the place of uttermost dependence upon God. Brother, do you choose that place with him? I am glad that this is the greatest place, "For when I am weak, then am I strong" - II Corinthians 12:10.

"The fellowship of the mystery..." Eph. 3:9 That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs with the Jews in the benefits of the Gospel (see 3:6), is the meaning of "the fellowship of the mystery." This was



hidden in God until it pleased Him to reveal it to the Apostle Paul. He was to make all men see this by proclaiming the glad tidings to all men. This has also a personal application. It is wonderful how close together God draws some of us, so that we have sweet fellowship in the Gospel. We enjoy it mutually. We suffer for it mutually. We shall be rewarded together forever. Because of the Gospel, we are destined to have fellowship with Jesus and with one another in the glory.

"According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord" - Eph. 3:11. Many people think that salvation was an afterthought with God; that when He found man ruined by Satan, He planned a way to save him. Oh, no. All God's movements are according to a perfected plan and program, which He purposed before time began. He purposed in Himself the mystery of His will, and works all things according to the counsel of His will - Ephesians 1:9,11. Literally, according to the purpose of the ages, which He made in Christ Jesus, through the preaching of this wonderful Gospel, God is making all men see what is the fellowship of the Gospel. What He planned and purposed and kept hidden in Himself for many hundreds of years, He is now publishing far and near. Oh, what wonderful love, that He should give us an understanding of His will. Oh, that we might yield continually to the Holy Spirit, that we may understand God's will better. Wonderful grace!

"In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him." Eph. 3:12.

We do not have to come and beg, as though God were stingy. No, the riches of Christ are for us. God longs to give them to His children. His Son purchased them for us at infinite cost, even the pouring out of His holy life. Therefore, the Father wants to give us abundantly, the supply of every need that we may



possibly have. Hence, let us not beg, but praise Him for what He has blessed us with already; for He "hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Eph. 1:3. It does not read that He is going to bless us, but that He has done it already. Let us reach out and fill our arms with His wealth. If we have ten thousand dollars in a bank and we know that the bank is good, we just go to the bank with confidence that we shall receive as much as we ask for. We ask in boldness, because our account book declares how much we have on deposit. We approach the heavenly Banker with a shine on our faces, believing that we shall receive, because we have all things on deposit to our credit in His bank "in Christ." "All are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's." I Cor. 3:22,23. Hallelujah! The Life of Christ deposited in us is our -reliable account book, thank God! And the faith of Christ, also a heavenly deposit, is our unlimited check book. Here I come, Lord, with a check for deliverance from indigestion. Here I am again, Lord, with a check for wisdom and unction to give out Thy Word. O Lord, I come with a large check - patience and longsuffering under this drawn-out trial. Will the bank fail me? NEVER!

"Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory" - Eph. 3:13. Doubtless, the severest tribulation with the Apostle was that he was kept in prison so long. The need of spreading the good news was great, and he was handicapped. He was almost speechless in a godless prison. Yet, God was responsible for His Word. Hence, Paul wrote to another from that same cell saying, "The Word of God is not bound" - II Timothy 2:9. Nevertheless, no heavier burden could fall on him than imprisonment, he knowing that the Churches needed his care. Why was Paul a prisoner? "For you Gentiles." Oh, this breaks my heart. This makes



me bow down. Oh, that dear man, who loved the will of God and understood the grace of God, had to be shut up behind iron bars for you and me. He suffered hunger, cold, and nakedness for our good. Privations and hardships, persecutions and ostracism, perils on land and sea, by day and by night, were his credentials - all for your sake and mine. Beloved, he never could have endured thus, had not Christ been his life and if he had not entertained the hope of a sure and eternal reward. I say too that it is only through God's marvelous grace that the brethren whom we know, as well as other grace ministers, can stand in the fight and endure the things that are said and done to them. It is wonderful that they do not care for the things of this world, that they are not moved by religious conditions; but they care only for the things of God and that Jesus might be glorified forever. Oh, how blessed to have the assurance that God knows that we seek nothing but His glory. 31

Truly, we are rich in Christ. He emptied Himself of all. He became poor for our sakes. He was born in a manger. He had not where to lay His head. He was friendless and defenseless. He was without reputation. He knew nothing but His Father's will. His Father's arm was His only strength. The Holy Spirit was His only power. Jesus Christ surrendered all, that we might become rich, that we might come into eternal fellowship with the Father and the Son, even as They have fellowship with each other.

(Reprint 1966)



## ISAIAH 47 (Concluded)

The destruction of Religious Babylon will also occur quickly, and for exactly the same reasons: "...they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments." This truth is confirmed in Rev. 18:8 & 23. "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day,...and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her...for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived."

32 The above text assures us that it is God Who judges her, and Isaiah declares the reason. "For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said, None seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me." V. 10 Is this not the same message heard from The Catholic Church today, proclaiming that she is the only Church, and in fact speaking words that can only be attributed to God: "...I am, and none else beside me." It is only God, The Great I Am, Who can boldly declare "...I am the LORD; and there is none else." Isa. 45:18

Nebuchadnezzar and his regime surely found that none can assume such a place without consequence, "Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know." V. 11 This literally happened, as stated above, for history records that Darius the Mede made his entrance into Babylon through the sewer system, while "Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand." Dan. 5:1 This last ruler of Babylon was completely oblivious to the trouble that awaited him, until Daniel interpreted the "hand writing on the wall, informing him that "... Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." Dan. 5:28

Following all these accusations, and indictments against her, this woman representing Religious Babylon, is commanded to "Stand now with thine enchantments, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth; if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail." V. 12 The word "enchantments," means "a spell or charmer," and



is the same avenue which the aforementioned Balaam pursued in trying to curse Israel. These enchantments are Satanic, being linked with "...thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth;..." Catholicism abounds with such Satanic superstitions, and traditions, which, by their own admission, have no scriptural basis. Though God used this false system to actually preserve the scriptures throughout the Dark Ages, that light will be removed from her according to Rev. 18:23. "And the light of a candle shall shine no more **at all** in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived." She has labored in her sorceries, "from thy youth," at the expense of The Light she had in the beginning, but now even that light will be gone, and that process is already quite evident in our day. Furthermore, "Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee." V. 13 Despite seducing the nations, and commanding a world-wide following with all her prognostications and tools of witchcraft, all these "counsels," will not be able to prevent the destruction of The False Church, any more than all those elements could save ancient Babylon. God assures us that all such "tools," "...shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it." This prophecy means that the fires of destruction will be so intense that there will be nothing left to burn, "...there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it." Those observing the destruction of the False Church likewise proclaim: "For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate." Rev. 18:17-19

Isaiah concludes this chapter in perfect agreement with the same merchants recorded in Revelation. "Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast laboured, even thy merchants,



from thy youth: they shall wander every one to his quarter; none shall save thee." V. 15 Catholicism has been made rich, and has enriched many merchants by her "religious wares," even "from thy youth." That day is now over, and none of those merchants, or any other endeavor, "...shall save thee."

### **The Second Mile**

"Come here, you dog, and bear my pack a mile!"

So spoke a Roman soldier to a Jew.

"The day is hot and I would rest a while,  
Such heavy loads were made for such as you."

The Jew obeyed, and stooping in the path,  
He took the burden though his back was tired;  
For who would dare arouse a Roman's wrath,  
Or scorn to do what Roman law required?

They walked the mile in silence, at its end  
They paused, but there was not a soul in sight.  
"I'll walk another mile with you, my friend."  
Spoke up the Jew. "This burden now seems light."

34

"Have you gone mad?" the angry Roman cried,  
"To mock me, when you know that but one mile  
Can I compel such service?" By his side  
The Jew stood silent, but with kindly smile.

"I used to hate to bear a Roman's load  
Before I met the lowly Nazarene,  
And walked with Him along the dusty road,  
And saw Him make the hopeless lepers clean."

" I heard Him preach the sermon on the mount,  
He taught that we should love our enemies.  
He glorified the little things that count  
So much in lessening life's miseries."

The soldier tried to speak, as he began,  
His head was bowed, his eyes with tears were dim.  
For many years I've sought for such a man  
Pray tell me more, I too would follow Him."

Author Unknown





# 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       |                       |

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Love not the world,  
neither the things  
that are in the world.  
If any man love the  
world, the love of the  
Father is not in him.

*I JOHN 2:15.*

