

Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the
whole Counsel of GOD

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For I will restore
health unto thee,
and I will heal thee
of thy wounds,
saith the Lord.
JEREMIAH 30:17.

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INVINCIBLE WEAPONS



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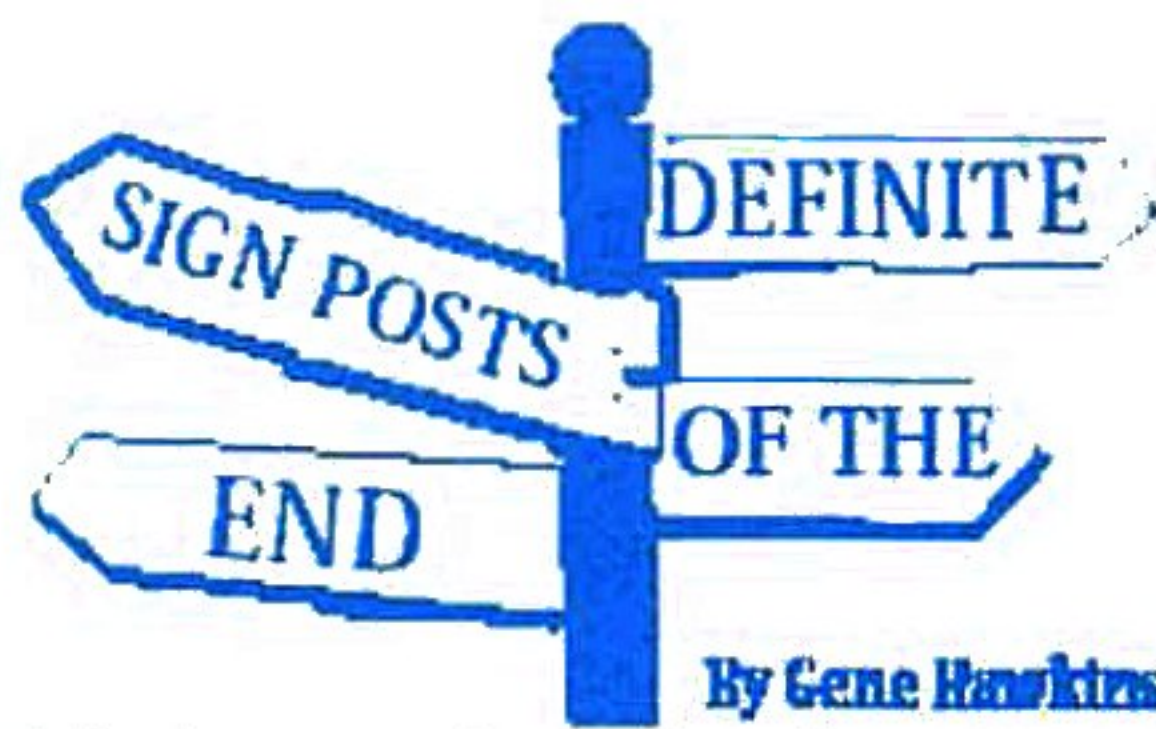
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Editor: Gene Hawkins



“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.” II Tim. 3:1

Most observers today, both among believers and unbelievers, would heartily agree that “...perilous times...” are HERE. However, the majority of men around the world refuse to make the connection between these same “difficult, i.e. dangerous, furious, fierce, perilous” times and the “...last days...” While some political activists and proponents of “global warming or climate change” insist that the world as we know it will end in twelve years, others are convinced that time will continue on indefinitely. Both extremes emphatically deny the truth of scripture. Many Christians know assuredly that these last days, permeated with perilous times, will also produce the second coming of Jesus, for the Master Himself announced it. “But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matt. 24:37

Following his announcement of the coming perilous times above, Paul lists no less than twenty specific characteristics or conditions which will prevail during this time. “For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” V. 2-5 Note also that so many of these defining words can be applied to nations as well as individuals. General society along with religious groups and political agendas are also included. However, there are a number of other writers who also describe this perilous atmosphere which now pervades global society.

Psalm 2:1 asks the question, “Why do the heathen rage,...: or why are they “tumultuous?” This same verse is

quoted in Acts 4:25 wherein the word "rage" literally means "to snort (as a spirited horse), to make a tumult:--rage." The word from whence it comes also signifies "to grate the teeth (in pain or rage):--gnash." What a graphic description of many nations today which are grappling for power and fulfilling the next two verses of Psa. 2. "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." The fact is that none of these nations will surrender their arms after Jesus takes His throne and thus all of them will be ruling in usurpation. That resistance is already very much in evidence throughout all the nations of this world.

These perilous times are also likened unto the days of Noah upon which Moses enlarged in Genesis 6. "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Gen. 6:5 The prophet continues to unfold the chaotic conditions which prevailed in Noah's era with these words. "The earth also
4 was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.... and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.... the earth is filled with violence..." Gen. 6:11-13

Peter also produces a somewhat comprehensive outline of these perilous last days beginning with things that are seen at this present hour and concluding with events which will not take place until after the Millennium. "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,... saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, **that by the word of God** the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, **by the same word** are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment... The Lord is not slack concerning his promise,... But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth

also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” II Pet. 3:3-10

The scoffers who would ridicule those who believe in the eminent return of Jesus are here. We fear that many of the Christian community are among them for there are those that also express the opinion. “...Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation....” Sadly, we have heard a number of Christians proclaim the idea that Jesus will surely return, but most assuredly not in their own lifetimes. The apostle then gives the reason for such passive and nonchalant attitudes, as an entire generation seems to ignore the glaring signs around them, declaring, “For this they **willingly** are ignorant of, **that by the word of God** the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:...” In other words, the problem is one which has plagued humanity from the beginning of time: Men simply do not believe the Word of God!

Peter concludes that the same Word which prophesied the flood of Noah’s time wherein “...the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:..” is the same Word of God which now proclaims the fact that “... the heavens and the earth, which are now, **by the same word** are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment...” Many passages in the book of Revelation are very clear that a nuclear holocaust will ensue during the awful week of tribulation which is coming upon this world. However, as horrific as it will be, the earth will not be completely destroyed as some suppose. The fire ball of destruction which Peter portrays above will not transpire until after the millennium, the reason being that King Jesus must preside over a kingdom of unprecedented peace and tranquility for 1000 years, after which God will create “...a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.” Rev. 21:1

There are two major characteristics in Paul’s list of “... perilous times....” which have gained great prominence among the nations at this hour. Those two terms are **trucebreakers**, and **incontinent**. The word “incontinent” literally means “powerless,

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i.e. without self-control,” and it surely expresses the atmosphere surrounding a number of nations at this present time. Venezuela has exhibited tremendously violent upheaval and chaos, like unto the days of Noah, in recent weeks due to the fact that Nicolas Maduro, the dictator of that nation, refuses to relinquish power to newly elected President Juan Guaidó. Many other countries have been drawn into the conflict. The Miami Herald sums it up as follows. “The United States is weighing options to limit Russia and Cuba from meddling in Venezuela, perceived as a stumbling block in the pursuit of a solution to the political crisis in the country, a senior State Department official told the Miami Herald. “It’s a main focus for the Department of State to get the Russians and the Cubans out of Venezuela,” the official said on condition of anonymity to speak candidly about U.S. policy. Venezuela is facing a dramatic humanitarian crisis and a political standoff between leader Nicolás Maduro and Juan Guaidó, the head of the opposition-led National Assembly who is now recognized by the United States and more than 50 countries as the legitimate interim president. Guaidó’s call for a military and popular uprising against Maduro failed on April 30, after high ranking members of the government and the military, who were negotiating a transition government, abandoned the plan and backed Maduro. Russia’s support of Maduro has also proved crucial in keeping him in power. During the failed uprising last month, Pompeo (U.S. Secretary of State) had said the Venezuelan leader was ready to leave on a plane to Havana but “the Russians indicated he should stay.” Russia had signaled its strong support for Maduro’s regime by sending 100 more personnel to Venezuela in March. And so far, the Russian government has not suggested a change in position. A meeting between Pompeo and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov this week showed the disagreements between the two governments again.”

The uprising for which Mr. Guaidó called surely did result in much violence and upheaval as confirmed by T.V. pictures showing people actually being run down by Maduro government military vehicles. This is just one instance of men being completely out of control. We have also seen the same evidence in Iran as their citizens revolted against the actions of another extremely oppressive government. Like demonstrations have also been seen in France, and men are somewhat powerless to stem the tide.

Iran represents another out of control government, and that condition seems to have escalated after Pres. Trump withdrew from the nuclear deal brokered by former Pres. Obama. Reuters published this report under the heading: **“Renewed tensions with Iran”** The conclusion is then drawn that, **“Since President Trump last year announced America’s withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, his administration has slowly reinstated punishing sanctions on Tehran. In recent weeks, Iran signaled it would reduce compliance with the restrictions imposed by the agreement unless the European parties to the deal provide Tehran with promised economic benefits. That seems unlikely, in that European companies refuse to do business with Iran for fear of the American sanctions.”**

Current news accounts indicate that Iran is now threatening to enhance their enrichment of uranium for the purpose of developing nuclear weapons unless their demands for sanctions relief are met. Not only so, but the Associated Press has reported that a rocket had landed near the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. Though no group has claimed responsibility for that attack, most observers believe that Iran was behind it. Incontinence around the entire globe is quickly becoming a way of life, and we are confident that such incidents will increase as this world speeds toward the tribulation.

Examples of “trucebreakers” are also becoming quite common in today’s world as witness this headline from Reuters. **“U.S.: China reneged on trade commitments, sparking Trump tariff hike”** The explanation then follows that, **“China backtracked on substantial commitments it made during trade talks with the United States, prompting President Donald Trump to impose additional tariffs on Chinese goods slated to go into effect on Friday,... U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, who has been an advocate for tough structural changes in China, said Beijing had reneged on commitments it had made previously that would have changed the agreement substantially...”**“Over the course of the last week or so we have seen ... an erosion in commitments by China,...That in our view is unacceptable”.....Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, considered to be less hawkish toward China, said China’s backtracking became clear with **“new information”** over the weekend. **‘They were trying to go back on language that had been previously negotiated, very clear language, that had the potential of changing the deal dramatically,’ ...”**

Other reports accuse N. Korea also, of violating a commitment to stop their nuclear aggression. **“The Signal”** published this commentary by Bruce Klingner, a senior research fellow for Northeast Asia at The Heritage Foundation’s Asian Studies Center, who spent 20 years in the intelligence community working at the CIA and Defense Intelligence Agency. “North Korea launched its first ballistic missile since 2017, in a move that is likely to signal displeasure with the stalled state of U.S.-North Korea nuclear talks. The regime tested a new short-range ballistic missile as well as a 300 mm multiple rocket launcher artillery system over the week-end...Secretary of State Mike Pompeo seemed to downplay the missile launch, noting that it did not violate Chairman Kim Jong Un’s moratorium announced in Nov. 2017 which was focused on intercontinental ballistic missiles....But the missile launch is a violation of the United Nations resolutions which prohibit any N. Korean military activity using ballistic missile technology. The international community declined to impose new sanctions on N. Korea after previous short-range missile activity. Yet S. Korea has sounded a different note, declaring it is “very concerned” by the North’s military activity. S. Korean officials criticized Pyongyang for violating last year’s Panmunjom summit declaration...in which both Koreas pledged to cease all hostile acts that could raise military tensions on the Korean Peninsula.”

There is no doubt that nation will continue to rise against nation and that all of them will use any means at their disposal to gain their own supremacy. China makes no pretense of the fact that she intends to dominate the world both economically and militarily in a very short period of time, but it is quite certain that a number of other nations also have that same desire. Scripture is very clear that one day one of them will succeed, and from that nation will come the antichrist. Daniel, too, writes of the perilous latter days and relates it thus: “And the king (antichrist) shall do according to his will; (God has specifically given him 1260 days to accomplish his own purpose) and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.” Dan. 11:36 Paul describes these exact same times and this same central figure in II Thess. 2:3-4 “Let no man

deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.”

These perilous days, bringing deception, violence, incontinence, trucebreakers, and overall rebellion, will steadily increase until the very spirit of antichrist is totally eliminated from this world when Jesus casts both the antichrist and false prophet into the lake of fire. Until that time, it is imperative that God’s people diligently follow Paul’s admonition as to how we must conduct ourselves in such potentially devastating times. “But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.” I Thess. 5:8

Consider one more “peril” of these last days. “And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.” Lk. 21:11 All of these “signs” have been attributed to the erratic weather of our day, and men continue to name the real culprit as global warming. We have stated numerous times in these pages that only God can control the temperature of this world and He is surely the only One who can show forth these “... fearful sights and great signs....from heaven.” America has been greatly plagued just in recent weeks and months with massive snowfall, and flooding in a great number of areas across The U.S. More recently tornadic winds have been responsible for much property damage and loss of life. It is surely not our imagination that these God- controlled events are becoming much more frequent as time goes on. We were somewhat amused recently, however, by virtue of the fact that officials have now determined that the recent massive “Camp Fire” in California, which had been attributed to global warming, was in fact triggered by faulty electrical lines. That power company is now taking steps to keep from going bankrupt due to the many law suits being filed against them. There are many, many, difficulties of these perilous times which can be laid directly at the door of sinful and rebellious humanity, but only God can control these tremendously

devastating weather patterns which are taking place world-wide.

Perilous times are here to stay until the tribulation is past. God's people must contend with them, and our best course of action is to arm ourselves with Paul's admonitions to Timothy after informing his young successor of the perilous times which have come to pass in our day. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 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, throughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3:12-17

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I SAY UNTO YOU, "WATCH!"

M. E. Barber

Watch for the morning is breaking,
A Moment and He will be here.
The mists and the shadows are fleeing,
The darkness will soon disappear;
And He, for whom ages have waited,
The Lord who has tarried so long
Will come in an outburst of glory,
A moment, and we shall be gone.

Watch for the morning is breaking,
A moment, and heaven will be won.
A moment, and we shall be with Him.
A moment, the journey is done.
Lord, keep us each moment unsleeping,
And count us all worthy to be
In that noble band of Thy watchers,
'Whose lives are a vigil with Thee.

Five Steps Of Faith

A.S. Copley

"...WALK IN THE STEPS OF THAT FAITH OF OUR FATHER ABRAHAM..." Rom. 4:12 One of the thrilling introductory words of Romans (1:17) is this --- "...the just SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." They are uttered three other times. Let us consider five of Abraham's steps of faith, for all victorious believers walk in his steps. We find them recorded in Genesis. They are rich and racy.

Step 1. ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD. When he lived in Ur of the Chaldees, God bid him leave that country, and made him a sevenfold promise. Gen. 12:1-3 Again He appeared to him, and spoke words of instruction and comfort to him. "AND HE BELIEVED IN THE LORD; and He counted it to him for righteousness." Gen. 15:6 That was the patriarch's first step of faith. That is, he became justified by faith. The Apostle Paul refers to his experience as a striking example of his great doctrine of justification by faith apart from works, and pronounces him "THE FATHER OF US ALL" - 11
Romans 4:16. This is the beginning of the life which the just live by faith. My friend, have you taken this first step of faith? If not, you may take it now. You may be saved today, for now is the day of salvation. Believe on Jesus now. Why put it off? Procrastination is the thief of time.

Step 2. ABRAHAM WALKED WITH GOD. The Lord appeared unto him again, saying, "I am the Almighty God; walk before Me, and be thou perfect." Gen. 17:1 The God who is sufficient, the God of resources, spoke and vouched His Presence to him. So Abraham walked in filial fear of Him. Many people live as if He were not around, and not noticing our conduct. "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." Prov. 15:3 Many believers act as if that were not true. They even say that He does not observe our fleshly conduct; hence, they live loose lives, walking after the flesh. "If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die (get out of fellowship with God): but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye

shall live." Rom. 8:13 God should be in all our thoughts and ways. One of Paul's great ambitions was "to walk and to please God." 1 Thess. 4:1 He walked before Him, as did his father Abraham. New Covenant conduct is expressed in these words - "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us (who are saved) that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Tit. 2:11,14 A standard lower than this misrepresents the pure Gospel of grace and causes spiritual saints to blush with pain.

Step 3. ABRAHAM JUDGED THE FLESH. "And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin...In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son. And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him." Gen. 17:24-27. Study verses 9-14. Circumcision (literally, "cutting around") speaks of putting to death the old creation. To fulfill this requirement and Moses' law, Christ was circumcised at the age of eight days. Lk. 2:21 But He experienced another cutting off. Christ was crucified for us and we were crucified with Him. "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ." The verse immediately following proves that this refers to Jesus' death - "Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead." Col. 2:11,12

We agree with that circumcision, or cutting off, when we count the old man dead and recognize the Christ life only. It is not enough to acknowledge our death with Jesus as a theory, or doctrine, simply; but we must "put off the old man with his deeds" in actual practical experience. We must judge, or condemn every sinful propensity in ourselves. (Let our neighbor tend to his own). Christ "condemned sin

in the flesh." Abraham condemned sin in the flesh. And so do we, as we walk in the Spirit.

A sinning religion is not taught in Paul's writings. Jesus Christ "gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us FROM ALL INIQUITY, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people (a special treasure), zealous of good works." Tit. 2:14. He came to "save His people FROM their sins," not in their sins. And God is able to make all saving-grace and keeping-grace abound unto us by His Word and Spirit.

Step 4. ABRAHAM DELIVERED OTHERS from their enemies. A battle was pitched. Four kings united and rose up against five other kings. Lot, Abraham's nephew, dwelt in Sodom. Well, Sodom and Gomorrah were carried away in the fray. Hence, Lot also and his goods were taken. When Abraham heard that, he armed his three hundred and eighteen soldiers and went in pursuit of Lot. He smote the enemy and brought back Lot, his family, and goods. Gen. 14:1-16. He showed his unselfishness. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others," wrote our Brother Paul. God has sent us to deliver the captives, and loose them who are bound by sin and sickness. We may rescue others from error by wise testimony and kind teaching. We may walk in this useful step of our father Abraham. Will we do so, by God's grace? A little maid delivered a Syrian captain from leprosy by her simple testimony. She simply said to the captain's wife, whom she was serving, "Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! For he would recover him of his leprosy." II Kings 5:3 He was marvelously healed.

Step 5. ABRAHAM GAVE TITHES. This is a very important step. It is the more interesting, because five is the number of grace. The indivisible God ("there is one God") has revealed His marvelous grace to divided humanity (figured by four) that they might be gloriously saved. Melchizedek was the king of Salem and the priest of the most high God. When Abraham returned with Lot from the battle, Melchizedek met him, bringing him bread and wine, and blessed him. The Patriarch

"gave him tithes of all" the spoil which he had brought from the fray. Gen. 14:17-20 Let us observe several striking facts connected with that event.

JESUS CHRIST CAME on the scene --- "a Priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." Heb. 7:11,17,21 Three times Paul declares this fact. The grace covenant began with Abraham, to whom God made a sevenfold promise. And it is no small item that giving the tenth was introduced at that time. The importance of tithing is emphasized by that fact. Melchisedec was a great man, "Priest of the most high God...King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace." Heb. 7:1,2 Now if Abraham gave a tenth to him, should we not much rather give the tenth of our earnings to Jesus Christ? Why was this step of faith recorded in Genesis? And why has the Apostle said so much about it, if we are not to observe it today? Can we say that we have walked in the steps of the faith of Abraham, if we do not render the tenth unto the Lord? Doubtless that was the origin of tithing and the basis of it.

ABRAHAM WAS UNDER GRACE. He tithed four hundred and thirty years before the law given by Moses. Therefore, no one can slip out of this obligation upon the pretext that it was a part of Moses' law. None can say that it was for Israel only. Moses is not our father; but Abraham is the father of us all. He set the pace for us in this matter, as well as in other matters of grace. Who taught him to tithe? Did it originate in his own brain? Was that a streak of self-righteousness, by which he hoped to perfect his justification? Nay! Never! God evidently taught him. He doubtless instructed Isaac to give a tenth; and he in turn likewise taught his son Jacob, who also tithed. Gen. 28:22 The reason for their tithing is found in the next stern fact.

THE TENTH IS THE LORD'S. "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord." Lev. 27:30. To whom did the tenth belong in Abraham's day? It belonged to God. That is why the Patriarch paid it to the

Priest. That is why Jacob promised it to the Lord. Now if the tenth was the Lord's in Abraham's day and in Moses' day, to whom does it belong in our day? Dare any man say that it is his and not the Lord's? We can readily understand why the Lord said to Israel, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me." Mal. 3:8 They were withholding from God what belonged to Him. They were misappropriating another party's possessions. Is that not what saints do today, who fail to tithe their earnings? It is most reasonable to conclude that if the tenth was the Lord's in Moses' day, it was the Lord's in Abraham's day; and likewise it is His in our day. Divine principles never change.

WAS THE PRECEPT OF TITHING EVER REVOKED? If so, when and where is it recorded? Circumcision and Sabbath keeping were types or shadows. They both served their time, but are now out of office. They passed away with the setting aside of the other shadows, because the substance has come. But tithing was not a type, or shadow, or symbol; hence it has never been revoked, or set aside. The tenth IS still the Lord's. 15

JESUS CHRIST COMMENDED TITHING. He gave judgment, mercy, and faith the first place: but He also gave tithing its place. He said to the Pharisees, "Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Matt. 23:23. The Apostle Paul also commended tithing by the space he gave the subject in Heb. 7 He pointed out this praiseworthy step of the faith of Abraham.

DOES THE READER OBJECT, because it was taught under the reign of the law? Then you must also pull Brother Paul on the carpet, for he reverts to customs under the law in his instructions about giving. He says, "It is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn"; and adds that "For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of



FIRST PRAYER IN CONGRESS



O Lord, our Heavenly Father, High and mighty King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers on earth and reignest with power supreme and uncontrolled over all the Kingdoms, Empires, and Governments; look down in mercy we beseech Thee, on these American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor, and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring henceforth to be dependent only on Thee; to Thee, they have appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support which Thou alone canst give; take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in council and valor in the field; defeat the malicious designs of our cruel adversaries; convince them of the unrightness of their cause; and if they persist in sanguinary purpose, O, let the voice of Thy own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle! 17

Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation, that the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony, and people may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety prevail and flourish among Thy people. Preserve the health of their bodies and vigor of their minds; shower down on them, and the millions they here represent, such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the Name and through the merits of JESUS CHRIST, THY SON, OUR SAVIOUR. AMEN.

The "First Prayer in Congress" made by the Rev. J. Duche, as found in Thatcher's Military Journal, dated December, 1777.

REFLECTIONS REFLECTIONS

“**W**hat shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?” Rom. 8:31

Paul’s reference to “...these things...” could apply to all the glorious truths upon which he has expounded in the previous chapters of this book, but it is certain that the glorious provisions of this current chapter are especially emphasized. The apostle begins with the majestic and unequivocal declaration that there is no condemnation to a believer directly because he is “...in Christ Jesus....” V. 1 This verse should properly end here, for the words “...who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit,” have been interpolated, giving the impression that “...no condemnation...” is because of our walk, rather than our new identity “...in Christ Jesus,” as a new creation. II Cor. 5:17

18 Paul’s list of “these things” continues as he begins to describe such blessings as freedom from the law, sin, and death, along with the glorious truth of sonship, and inheritance in Christ Jesus. We also learn that we are “...saved by hope:...” (V. 24) and “...that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” V. 28 All “...these things...” or glorious provisions are summed up in V. 32. “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”

His answer to “...what shall we say to these things?” is, “...If God be for us, who can be against us?” This proclamation means that if God guarantees “...these things...” there is no force in heaven or earth which can deprive us of them. Jesus said of Him, “My Father,... is **greater** than all;...” John 10:29

Others have likewise ascertained the Majesty of God. Note Jethro’s affirmation to his son-in-law Moses: “Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods:...” Ex. 18:11 David said “...LORD, who is like unto thee,....” and again “The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,” Psa. 35:10, & 113:4-5 Isaiah chimes in with God’s Own testimony

of Himself. "I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me:..." Isa. 45:5 Then follows this marvelous thought, adding to the list of "...all things..." which Paul announced in our opening text. "...I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:" Every believer should be able to identify with these words, for we must all come to realize that God has "...girded..." us or "compassed us about" long before we even knew He was providing such glorious protection.

The spectacular reality here is that the same Grand Personage described in all these verses is also **my** Father even as Jesus declared after the resurrection, "...I ascend unto my Father, and your Father;..." John 20:17 He further asserted: "Fear not, little flock: for it is your **Father's** good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Lk. 12:32 The kingdom for the disciples and Israel is on the earth. Ours is the kingdom of heaven wherein we have we have been "...raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." Eph 2:6-7 What a joy to know that the day of "...your Father's good pleasure..." is already here and all "... these things..." are ours for the taking!

19

ANNOUNCEMENT:

LAST CALL!

Living Waters Tabernacle Youth Camp

July 21-24, 2019

Youth Camp will be held at Highlands Camp and Retreat Center in Allenspark, CO, near Estes Park. Each day there will be Bible studies for all ages, supervised recreation, and evening Church services.

For lodging and registration please contact pastor Jesse O'Dorisio by phone at 303.907.8099 or by email at jfo2000@gmail.com or contact Polly O'Dorisio by phone at 303.594.0933 or by email at pollyodorisio@gmail.com.

Forms and additional information will be available at www.livingwaterstabernacle.com. We invite you to join the saints for this annual gathering to give glory and honor to God and be strengthened and renewed by His Spirit.

"It Is Time!"

Roger Sadberry

(Given at the 2019 February Conv. In Denver)

I feel this morning that it is time for the body of Christ to wake up. We have all had times in our life when we might feel that we have been a bit asleep to the things of God and what He wants to do in us. There are many ways whereby we can be awakened.

How many of you have kids who like to stay in bed? You try to figure out, how am I going to get them up, and awake? I think the Lord thinks that sometimes of us. When are they going to wake up, when are they going to go and do what I have commanded them to do?

We would look later into some of the Pauline epistles for a bit of instruction today, but consider first this text from Psa. 102:13 "Thou shall arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favor her, yea, the set time, is come."

20 Surely the coming of the Lord is near, I have just always believed that, because that is the way I was taught. It is like pastor said, "Now is not time to get ready, it is to be ready." We have a sense of readiness about us when we are serving God, when we believe that Jesus is coming for His bride, when we are sure that He is the Bridegroom, The Majestic One, that He is longing for us as much as we long for Him.

We do not to know the actual hour, but we do know the seasons. We are acutely aware of things that are happening around us. It is time to press in and get closer, to 'wake-up,' to so many things.

The Bible declares that it is not only "time" but it is 'high-time.' There is a time that has crescendo and we sense that time today. If we know that Jesus is coming, we know there is something happening in our world, but what needs to happen is something within us – it needs to happen in me.

I never want to take the grace of God for granted because there are those who use and abuse the grace of God for all kinds of things, like a toy or something that they can just play around

with. This is serious. When God reveals His grace to you, there is a spiritual light that comes on. It is something I was taught all my life. I cut my teeth on the grace of God but when the Lord revealed it to me, there was a change. I woke up to something that was completely different. We can teach all day long, but God has to instruct us through the Holy Ghost.

Paul knew something and it really was born out of love. It was the love that he had not only for the saints of God but also out of the love he had for Jesus Christ. Do you love Him this morning? Don't you love what God is doing? Even though things might be going on in life, we just keep loving Jesus and He brings us through.

Pastor was talking about situations and they used to say that we could stand here all night and testify and sometimes they did. I feel like that in my life now, I can stand here before you and testify all night about what God has done in me. It is all because of grace and purpose. The grace train has attached now to purpose. So we are moving along with the Lord because of grace and purpose.

21

Paul said we have to know the time. **“And that knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believe.”** Romans 13:11 It is time, it is time! All of you have something in your life saying, “Well I just don't have time for that.” This is something that we make time for; we make time for loving the Lord. We make time for studying, we make time for prayer. We make time.

We don't always know the time; we don't always see that. Paul said it is high time to awake out of sleep. There is a sleep that has come over the body of Christ. My grandpa used to call it 'spiritual chloroform.' People are walking around to save funeral expenses. There is a sleep in the body today.

I asked of sister if there is an app on the phone where we could do an alarm, and I was praying this morning and the Lord said, “please don't do that, it would be too alarming.” I was going to set an alarm and play it but I did not want people hitting the ground. In California, when we hear shots firing, people hit the ground. It's not a good thing.

There are different ways we can wake up. One way is something that is alarming. We have heard people pray, "Lord, bring him to You, no matter what it costs." Please do not pray that, because I have seen people end up as a paraplegic after someone had prayed that. We want God to wake us up. We thought 9/11 would wake us up, but in six weeks people were back to the same habits they had before. Everyone was carrying on with life; "Well it happened." Now the media has us so numb in watching reports on TV that it is just incredible. What is it going to take to wake us up? The Lord wants us to rise. The fires and earthquakes in California didn't seem to wake people up or to draw closer to the Lord or draw closer to His love. They didn't seem to do anything.

We had a woman at the hospital where I am currently working, who came in the front door, went straight up the stairs to the third floor. She arrived on the third floor where there is a spot with a high banister. She pushed the chair, and jumped right down into the lobby. She broke her neck and died. Everyone was stunned. I walked up on it and it was an incredible thing. I thought, 'Lord what is happening?' We began to pray with people and coach people and have sessions with debriefing. Even with an event such as that, the next day people are going, "Yeah that happened." Did it do anything to you? Did it wake you up? Did it make you realize that we need life? We don't want to see lives taken.

One time my wife went to Europe with her mother and I was home with the kids. I was trying to figure out how I am going to get the kids out of bed for school. My son had this Star Wars recording thing and I made a recording in which I said, "Wake up, get out of bed, get dressed, brush your teeth, eat your breakfast, and go to school." I had an alarm that went off and I set it outside the door every day. It worked. They were up and they were out ready for school.

Take this to a whole new level: What is it going to take for God's people to wake up? We can talk all day long about being in the Bride but sometimes it just becomes rhetoric. I don't want that in my life. I want my heart to be ready; I want my heart to be awake, to stand up to the things of God.

There is a lot of controversy in the body of Christ today. We are challenged, especially in California. There are all kinds of doctrines popping up and people that are coming up with things that make me think, "Are we reading the same Bible?" This is just incredible. What is it going to take to wake you? It is a sleep that comes over us!

When I had my first stroke, they started shaking me because I was going out and drifting and I remember them shaking me. I was thinking, "Why are they shaking me like that?" They wanted me to wake up! Has God ever shaken you to the fact that you need to wake up? Some things shake us. The Bible tells us not to be 'soon-shaken.' Where? In our mind. Don't be soon shaken in mind. Do you know that today we have so many mental health issues that pharmaceutical companies are prescribing psychotropic drugs? It is just in the billions of dollars, yet we cannot come up with a new antibiotic. We are not to be soon shaken in mind.

I could have been shaken on Friday sitting at that airport, but like our brother said yesterday, "It was the peace." I have a contract with the Lord, I have an agreement with Him, and I have given up my right to understand. Things in the natural don't really matter anyway. This is the peace of God that passes understanding. It does not just bypass, it surpasses understanding in the natural realm. So I just give everything to the Lord. "Lord, it's Yours."

Don't be soon shaken in mind – how many things have affected our minds? Family issues, family dynamics. We have kids who are just brats, doing stuff where we say, "What in the world is that?" We can get 'soon-shaken' in our mind and it can do a real number in our brain. The remedy is to let the peace that passeth understanding rule. The best way I think we can wake up is to have that internal alarm. Do you have it? Do you have that wake up?

My parents used to say, "Well I got a check from the Holy Ghost." I used to ask, "How much was it? They didn't mean money. They were talking about 'check or don't do that.' Do you have an internal alarm?"

I have an internal alarm at 5 a.m. “Thank you, Dad, for teaching us to get up.” Five a.m. no matter where I am, no matter in what time zone I had gone to bed. Internal alarm 5 a.m. I want that spiritually. “Lord, at any hour, or any given time, I want You to wake me up. Let’s wake up to the fact. The time-keeper is really God’s Word. You can wake up at 2 A.M., and the Lord does this a lot, and I say, “Really Lord, I will be up at five, it’s two A.M. You do the math”

24 You begin to pray. There are times when the Lord wakes me up and that internal alarm goes off and I stop complaining and start praying. The Lord will bring people to mind and you begin to pray. All of a sudden you go back to sleep. I want this thing to be an internal alarm, not by something alarming but by knowing... the Word of God which is sharp, and powerful. The Word of God is powerful, alive, and that same Word is in me. I should be sharp; I should be powerful; I should be alive in the Lord Jesus Christ. I must be awake to righteousness today. Some people are asleep to righteousness because it is all *self*. This righteousness isn’t of me, it is Christ in me. When I awake to righteousness, I am just gaining more of what God is in Christ, in me. Then I begin to see these things. We must look at what God has done! We can talk about natural things and healings and all kinds of issues which God is resolving. He really has done a work. Has He ever done anything for you? I feel like I may have had the most: healings, and restorations and all kinds of stuff, and shouldn’t even be here today.

Think about what God has done for us spiritually, what He gave in His Son! His Son gave his life. I accepted that and I have love. My life is eternal because Jesus is eternal. My dad always loved to preach to the legalists and he would say, “We don’t have spasmodic luck. Jesus isn’t some jumping jack that bounces in and out.” He believed in eternal life and that is what we have because Jesus is that Life. So when we awake to righteousness, it makes us wake up to a lot of things that God has already done for us.

When we awake to righteousness, we are awaking to the fact that Jesus has done the work. When He said, “It is finished!”

that is exactly what He meant. He finished the work, now I choose to allow it to start in me. To start – we are all at different phases, we are all at different stages in our walk with God, but let it start somewhere. I don't know how many people have come to me and said, "Pastor, I just don't where to start reading the Bible." So we give them study-lessons, we give them helps. The main thing is that you start --- that you start what God has finished.

If I thought, "Well, God has finished the work, I really don't have to do anything," that would be wrong teaching, because what He finished is just starting in me. I want Him to finish that work. I want to say that I have finished my course! I want to say that I have run this race to win Christ, and that I long for Him and He longs for me. When we do that we become alive and we begin to long for Jesus.

Note again Rom. 13:11. **"And that knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."** What happens in verse 11? We have to look at the "now." Paul says if we know the time, then we have to understand 'now is the time.' It is kind of 25 like Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith..." It is not the faith of yesterday, nor the faith of tomorrow. It is rather the faith of 'now.' If you need something today from the Lord, it's that 'now faith,' which God must begin to work in us. It is that 'now high time,' and there is something to be said about the timing of God which is always perfect. The results, and how it is played out in our lives, may seem imperfect, but trust me as you trust the Word of God, God's timing is always perfect.

People say, 'But brother Roger, this has happened in my life.' I would respond, "It was for a reason!" I texted Brother Jesse on Friday as I waited at the airport: "All things, brother, all things." No, I didn't get here, but I didn't panic either – "All things." What's the purpose? Some things in life, we will never know and I don't think we need to know everything. We are just a bunch of nosy people, I am anyway. I want to know everything and I can listen to three conversations at once – so don't start talking smack about me, because I'll hear you.

But I think we need to know "the now." Look at all of

the “nows,” in the Scripture. Look at all of the “suddenlys,” in Scripture. Look at the “immediatelys.” Those things are what God wants to do in us now! And we are waiting for something to happen; let it happen. When? Now! Now is the time. Now it is high time to awake out of sleep. Why? The reason is that our salvation is nearer than we believed.

The day you accepted the Lord is the day you accepted the Lord. The day we accepted Him was the day we were born again. There is a lot of controversy in that, for some people say, “Well, he didn’t really accept the Lord because he walked out of fellowship.” No. The day you accepted the Lord is the day you accepted the Lord --- case closed. What happened after that is all on you --- not on God. We have to understand now is the time and that salvation is closer today than the day you believed.

How many have heard the story, “Well I have heard the coming of the Lord all of my life. Grandpa preached it. His grandpa preached it. I have heard it all of my life.” But I believe the Word of God says, ‘it is closer today than the day I believed.’

26 So, if I believe that, I need to wake up; it is time saints, it is time to wake up and say, “Lord, I don’t need anything alarming except for the alarm of Your Word to go off in my heart.” I don’t need to be shaken because that might mix-up my brain. I want this internal Word. I want something to happen inside because that is where the new creation lives --- within us.

We look a lot at the outward appearance. We look a lot and judge a lot about the outward but God looks at the heart. I remember when I stopped doing the eye once-over – looking at people up and down, and thinking, “Nada, that’s not going to happen.” Then we had the humblest woman in our church that you thought, “Is she just delayed, what is wrong with this woman?” She would get up and play the piano and it was the best lesson as a kid to see the heart of people. I think it is time that we begin to see people in the love of God, through the love of God. I can even love my mother-in-law; she is not hard to love. God gives us that kind of love and adoration. Today is the day that we need to say, “Lord, You truly can come today,” and instead of it just being something that comes out of our mouths, it needs to come from

our hearts.

He truly can come today. Am I awake to that fact? Have I rallied around enough and gotten my heart right with the Lord? Sister and Brother Astle used to come up to Bakersfield for fellowship meetings and she would talk about the Bride and your garment, which was spotless, and I knew that I had sat in a lot of stuff that week and my garment was not that clean or unwrinkled. I remember feeling like a heathen and then I thought, "Why can't I have that? Why can't I walk like that?" Then God began to work in my life. It is called deliverance! "Whom the Son has set free is free indeed." If you are not set free, you really don't know the Son the way you need to know Him and you don't know that it is high-time to wake up out that sleepy stage of your life. We have to understand that the day is closer today than the day we accepted Jesus Christ. It is kind of like that saying in reference to how you spend your dash. You were born 1955 – died 2002. The time between those two dates is your dash. How are you spending that dash today? Are we really longing; are we really seeking the things of God? When you seek Him, you will find Him. It is not a big secret, it is a mystery but it is not a secret. If you seek Him today, you will find Him.

27

Here is another real secret in humbling ourselves: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time." I Peter 5:6 How do you humble yourself? You get right with God! There are people here today who might be out of fellowship with God and thinking, "Well, I am fine." Really? You ask people how they are and you hear, "I'm fine!" Really? It is easier to say, I'm fine, than to say, "I need help, I need prayer, I need God to truly deliver me and wake me up to the fact that I am not living right." Do you realize that having a spotless, no wrinkles white robe demands a cost? Salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you. There is something that happens when we begin to walk with God and our friends walk away. That is a true cost. Then when we grow in grace and in knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we realize we have not given up anything.

Here Peter says, "Humble yourselves therefore under the

mighty hand of God...” Do you realize that our lives are under the mighty hand of God? We serve a mighty God. We serve a God that will come in for us when we really don't deserve it. He can be a 911 God, a God who receives you back.

28 There is a little clause that follows immediately: “Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.” V. 7 If you are cumbered about with care this morning, it is time to give it up to the Lord. Whatever it is, it could be the smallest things. God is not looking under boulders for things in our lives. He is looking under pebbles for things to do for us today. Those very small things, those little foxes that come in and just kind of spoil the vine. It is a time of humbling. I believe that it is time that we seek God like we never sought Him before. It is time that we reach out to Him because the exalting in us is the reward that we are building today. I was probably taught the best about rewards under my dad's ministry. We would accomplish certain tasks and proudly say to my dad, “Look we did this and we did that, and we got this accomplished and all this happened.” He would say, “And you just got your reward.” What does that mean? It was “I, I, I”, instead of saying, “Lord, we give it to You.” Our reward and inheritance is in heaven, but you can have your reward down here if you just need the accolades.

It is high time that we wake up to whatever has gone dormant in our lives. Don't pray that God bring some kind of alarming event in your life. Don't pray that He shake you like a Quaker. Rather pray, “God work in me both to will and to do of your good pleasure.” Give Him the ability to do what the enemy is trying to take from you. Let Him restore it a hundredfold.

I've related my testimony of being down to many. I was in physical and speech therapy for six months and it was just horrible. My little wife prayed, petitioned the Lord day and night. I was in the pulpit a week after the worst stroke I had. I had to be helped upon the platform. Something happened when I opened the Word of God and I began to preach. I had all kinds of stuff going on in my life. This is showing you the dividing line between the natural realm and the spiritual realm. We dwell way too much in the natural. We need to take a step over into the spiritual realm. I

would just preach like today, they would help me off the platform and I would sit down and become a blubbering idiot. I would go to speech therapy and I was teaching the book of Ruth and building a syllabus for every week and I gave it to therapist. She said, "How did you do this?" I said, "I didn't, and I never have, it has always been the Holy Ghost that has worked in me. It is not mine, it is His." When you go through something like that, you have a little different appreciation and perspective for what God is doing. I believe today it is time that we begin to say, "Lord, what is it in me that has gone dormant? What's asleep? Gifts? Maybe you have been lax in using gifts, talents? I had a man tell me one time, "Well the Lord took the talent from me of playing the guitar." I said, "No brother, you did that to yourself. It has been a year since you played the guitar." Let us begin to pray and ask God, "What is it that is asleep in me that has kind of gone dormant or even relaxed?" I believe it is time.....Amen.

(This message was transcribed from an
audio CD, and edited for print)

29

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MY ALL.

Christ is the Rock on which I stand;  
He leads me by His strong right hand.  
In times of stress He is my rest;  
He is my song When things go wrong.  
He is my hiding place When foes assail;  
He is my calm In stormy gale;  
He is my friend When others fail.  
He is my joy In time of sorrow;  
He is the hope Of my tomorrow.  
He holds me up Lest I should fall;  
He is my everything; He is my all.

--Beula Clark



## The Rescue

Eva Laura Bond

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” 1 Thess. 4:14-18

30 The story was told by a war prisoner of he and his wife who spent several years in a miserable camp with very little to eat, and that was only rice. On the day they were to be lined up and shot down, an American airplane flew over with the word RESCUE printed in large letters on the wings. Can you imagine the feelings these people had as they saw deliverance from their wretched state? Yet, in trying to imagine how they felt concerning that, may we ask, “Have you actually read the above scripture and with your finite mind tried to fathom its reality?” Oh yes! Many of us undoubtedly have. But it is impossible, for it will require the work of the Lord to instantly change these fleshly bodies of ours to glorified ones. Then will we understand.

Today we are strangers and pilgrims as seen in 1 Pet. 2:11, but soon those who will be ready at His call will fulfill the highest place man can possess. Today there is no glory and honor as men call it, but then we will be as He is. Today our preaching and teaching may be thought insignificant and powerless by some, but in that day after the rapture, the word of the testimony we left will burn deeply in everyone's heart who was touched by our influence. Oh Yes! Today we stand alone, full of brotherly love with out-stretched hands putting forth a message to prepare many for this place in Christ, yet many are blinded by soulish, selfish, and numerous desires which every individual know themselves, but fail to take victory over. Many,



who did stand, are not today! "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?" Gal. 5:7. This is the day in which we wait momentarily for HIS return. What anguish awaits those who fail to stand. Eph. 6:13.

If we suffer with Him we shall also reign with Him. But, how few will choose the path of suffering? I Pet. 5:10 IF we suffer, then we are on training ground, letting Him prove just how much we really do mean what we say, that we choose to go all the way with Him. The testing will show our standing with Him. In the suffering we are mellowed and tendered and then made fruitful. It takes much love to suffer as this poem points out:

I want the love that suffers and is kind,  
That envies not nor vaunts its pride or fame,  
Is not pulled up, does no discourteous act,  
Is not provoked, nor seeks its own to claim.

How true it is we are making our choice as to the things pertaining to the spiritual or earthly. No doubt, to many, the Lord is saying, "now they have their reward."

One thing Bro. C. E. Foster said in a recent issue of his paper is that we should be content in the small ministry if that is what God has called us to do. Surely many have missed the best from the Lord because they have tried to make things larger themselves. If we take a lesson from the natural — our United States is made up of thousands of towns having a population of less than ten on up, but we can travel many miles before reaching the larger cities. Thus it is in the spiritual. The real life, found in flowing channels of Christ, are more often quite hidden. "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Col. 3:3 We may look at the huge machine shops but we never *see* the electricity which causes their massive wheels to spin with such speed that the eye cannot follow them. Seldom do we hear of the little tugboats, but we often hear of the huge ocean liners such as the Queen Elizabeth carrying hundreds of people to other lands. Yet, the magnificent famed Queen Elizabeth stands helpless and powerless at the landing and must be guided, as all huge ships, by the tiny tugboats that look like they could hardly budge themselves. Indeed! Ours is to do God's work in God's place. It is no restraint to Him. He says, whether He saves by many or few, (I Sam. 14:6)



thus showing, it is all God's work. It is time for the rescue from the sky, so don't be fretful and fearful now! Had you ever given thought to the testimony and ministry that will follow the "caught away overcomers," when "the rescue" follows that first trumpet sound? That faithful testimony and influence will do much preaching then, far more, no doubt than we are able to comprehend.

Let me climax the preceding paragraphs with two lines from A.B. Simpson. The labor of others seems to crystallize and become its own memorial. Others again seem to blend so wholly with the other workers that their own individuality can scarcely be traced. How beautiful!

Therefore, choose Deut. 30:19. "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:" Allow God to hide each of us away, alone with Him and remember God is in big things but despises not the small labor of love.

32 Let us all be kind hearted one toward another for the "... sweetness of the lips increaseth learning." Prov. 16:21

Soon the rescue in the sky will take place. The question is, "Are you ready?"

(Reprint 1950 from Bonds of Peace)

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### WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT?

A man may know how to rule the elements, yet not know how to rule his own spirit; he may know how to turn aside the flashing thunderbolt, but not the wrath of God from his guilty head.

He may have all the knowledge of a Newton, a Laplace, a Watt ; he may know many mysteries and understand many hidden things, but if he has no personal knowledge of the love of God, brought near to sinful men in Christ, what shall it avail ?



## Apples of Gold

### Whitened Sepulchers

All around Jerusalem, in every direction, are vast cemeteries. The King's Dale, or the Valley of the Kedron, which is located East of Jerusalem between Mount Moriah and the Mount of Olives is probably the largest cemetery in Palestine. Jews from all parts of the world will travel to Jerusalem to pay a large sum of money for a burial place in this valley among the tombs of the prophets because they believe that the resurrection of their bodies will take place there.

Three tombs stand out prominently in the valley. The first is a square structure of large stones surmounted by a conical, funnel-like spire. This is the Tomb of Absalom, the son of David, who rebelled against his father, and who, being caught by the head in the branches of a tree, was slain by Joab, David's chief general. The pillar was set up by Absalom to perpetuate his name, as we find in II Sam. 18:18. "Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the King's Dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place." Jews throw stones at the pillar in execration of the disobedience of this ungrateful son.

33

A short distance to the south is the Tomb of St. James, the brother of our Lord who was martyred in the precincts of the Temple about 68 A. D. This tomb is an extensive series of chambers cut out of solid rock. The front of this grotto is a porch with Doric columns on either side, and from which this porch is a passageway leading to the Tomb of Zachariah, which is a solid, cubic, rock-hewn monument, surmounted by a pyramid. The Jews claim that this is the Tomb of Zachariah of II Chronicles 24:20, while the Christians understand that it is the Tomb of Zacharias mentioned in Matt. 23:35. "That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar." Surrounding these tombs are innumerable Jewish graves marked by small slabs of stone or small sepulchres.

On the upper edge of Mount Moriah, along the city wall, is a Mohammedan cemetery, and according to the Jewish and



Moslem creeds the final judgments will take place in this valley.

Here and there, in both cemeteries, can be seen whitewashed sepulchres. The process of whitewashing the sepulchres is performed on a certain day of every year, not for ceremonial cleansing but for **beautifying them**. We are at once reminded of the words of our Lord, found in Matt. 23:27. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and all uncleanness." What a Solomon lesson! Many there are who have a mere profession of religion, but whose hearts are full of corruption.

—Wm. H. Lee Spratt

(Reprint from Bonds of Peace 1950)

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### THE LILIES OF THE FIELD

34 When you read in the Bible of how Jesus walked upon the hills of Galilee and spoke of "the lilies of the field," do you have a picture in your mind of just how those lilies looked? Do you think of the lilies that He saw as being like our white lilies?

Travelers tell us that everywhere in Galilee, wild flowers grow in beautiful profusion, that they are the most beautiful of all the flowers that grow in the Holy Land. Phlox, lupine, oleander, poppies, hyacinths, iris, gladioli, and jonquils grow everywhere upon the hills of Galilee.

As to the lilies, they are not white at all. They are scarlet and purple - gorgeous things to see. Think of the color of these lilies - scarlet and purple! "...even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Matt. 6:29.

"... greater than Solomon is here." Matt. 12:42 The scarlet speaks to us of the Blood of Jesus Christ, the purple of His Royalty. In these are pictured His, two advents --- His suffering at Calvary, and His soon coming, when He will rule and reign.

"His lips like lilies, dropping sweet smelling myrrh." S.O.S. 5:13. We see His suffering here also, in the myrrh. His Bride is spoken of as a lily, in S.O.S.2:1-2. She will be "like Him." She suffers now, and will reign with Him then.





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

## Books of the Bible

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

## Music CD's

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