

Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the
whole Counsel of GOD

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Lord,
I have
loved the
habitation
of thy house,
and the place
where thine
honour dwelleth.

PSALM 26:8.

Table Of Contents

Article	Author	Page
Definite Sign Posts of the End.....	Gene Hawkins.....	3
Satan Arrayed Against The Gospel.....	Mary M. Bodie.....	10
God Breathed.....	Paul N. Smith.....	15
The Lord's Feasts.....	John Ney.....	20
Law & Grace.....	Ethel C. Black.....	25
S.O S. Call.....	S. O. Sheldon.....	31





“**A**nd when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.” Rev. 6:5-6

The devastation announced by the above account will not come to full fruition until this world is well on her appointed march into the throes of the very eminent tribulation period prophesied by God’s Word from ages past. Since there is a striking resemblance to the characteristics which Jesus uses to describe the present era known as “the beginning of sorrows” in Matt. 24:4-8, some believe that the seals of judgment defined in this sixth chapter of Revelation have already been opened. That surely cannot be the case, for scripture is quite clear that these seals of judgment will not be opened until after Jesus takes His throne in heaven and the tribulation has begun. The Church at Philadelphia, which typifies the bride of Christ in the end of this age, and is depicted by the four beasts (living ones) and 24 elders in Rev. 4 & 5, must be present at Jesus’ coronation. Jesus clearly promised this Church that, “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” Rev. 3:10 This means that this choice company will be in heaven BEFORE the tribulation proper even begins. Even with the massive and often inaccurate news accounts around this entire globe, we have not heard even the slightest whiff of a rumor that large companies of people have mysteriously disappeared from the face of this earth, meaning simply that this bridal company has not yet been translated to glory and Jesus has not as of this present moment assumed His place on the millennial throne.

Not only so, but there have been absolutely no reports of the daily sacrifice being taken away, nor any indication or announcement that the infamous covenant with the antichrist declared by Dan. 9:27 has been signed. When Jesus takes His throne in heaven, all the nations on this earth will be ruling in usurpation. Thus, when Israel signs their covenant of death with the antichrist, it will be the equivalent of a declaration of war against Jesus, The King of kings and Lord of lords, and the tribulation will officially begin. We repeat, "That time has not as yet begun!"

When The Lamb of the Tribe of Judah begins to open the seals in Rev. 6, unprecedented devastation will ensue. Right now all the characteristics described by these judgments have surely **begun** to unfold before our very eyes, but they will increase both in intensity and frequency until their full upheaval is unleashed after this devastating seven year period of destruction actually begins.

4 This third seal tells us of food shortages and rationing which will exist, as there will be "...A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny;..." This world has already experienced these things primarily due to war, but erratic weather conditions are also responsible. Men of our day are quick to jump on the band wagon and attribute all the difficulties brought about by erratic weather conditions to man-made global warming or climate change, but God has a history of initiating such difficulties due to the rebellion of men. Consider the way He showed His displeasure after Israel demanded and received King Saul. The godly voice of Samuel cried out, "Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking (demand) you a king. So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day:..." Given the tumultuous weather of our day, we can only imagine that which is coming, along with many other factors which will contribute to the difficulties described above when all the judgments are poured out.

Next comes the command: "...see thou hurt not the oil

and the wine.” The latter seems to be indicative of the fact that wine must be consumed at that time, due to the pollution of the water. Men have been confronted for years with the problem of water pollution due to gross negligence in disposing of certain manufacturing wastes. However, the tribulation will surely introduce a new threat of it due to nuclear contamination, and the world has some specific evidence to prove it. The following article was published by “The Independent” in April 1998 in regard to the Russian nuclear disaster which took place some 12 years earlier. “SCIENTISTS monitoring the shelter encasing the ruins of the Chernobyl meltdown have detected signs that it is leaking highly radioactive water capable eventually of causing a "catastrophe" by poisoning the water supply of Ukraine, a country the size of France. Tests on bore holes around the giant sarcophagus that encloses the remains of Reactor 4, which exploded in 1986 causing the worst nuclear disaster in history, have detected signs of tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen, in subsoil water. This has raised fears that it could eventually find its way into the nearby Dneiper River, or into the water table, and - after many years - into the drinking water of Ukraine's 50 million population.” This was only one disaster. Our world is at present trying to ward off multiple nuclear threats. Though talks have already taken place and more are scheduled, not one nation trusts North Korea to abandon their nuclear ambitions. Likewise, Iran has no intention of curbing their nuclear programs despite the fact that the U.S. has terminated previous agreements with them and invoked severe sanctions on them which have severely crippled the Iranian economy. Such power hungry leaders have absolutely no regard for the pain they cause their subjects and will pursue their own agenda regardless of consequence. Revelation 8:8-9 presents a very clear indication that some rogue nation such as N. Korea or Iran will touch off a nuclear holocaust. “And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.” It is not clear whether the “...great mountain burning with fire...,” is a reference to the nation that launched the nuclear weapon or the nation that may have been hit by it. Regardless, the results will be exactly the same. The entire sea of nations will be affected

by it and there is no reason to believe that massive pollution, due to nuclear contamination, will not be found in the waters as well as many other essential elements required to sustain life around the entire world. The purity of the wine is all that will remain which is fit for human consumption.

6 The oil will likewise be a most precious commodity during the coming tribulation, thus the command, "...hurt not the oil..." is basically a decree to preserve it. Many of us well remember the governmental declarations from yesteryear that oil reserves around the world were dwindling, and unless we took drastic steps to preserve the oil, all these fossil fuels would be gone forever. America and other nations worldwide soon witnessed long lines at the gas pumps, and citizens were inundated with even small intricate steps like turning off the lights when you leave a room in order to preserve this precious oil. Some nations began to produce unbelievably small family cars, while at the same time exacting high taxes on gasoline, in order to decrease the demand for fuel. There were a number of skeptics at that time who doubted that there ever was a real shortage, and some of that skepticism was based on the truth of this very command "...hurt not the oil..." The term basically means that God Himself will take all measures necessary to ensure that all these nations have plenty of oil to fuel their war machines as they speed toward keeping their appointments with Armageddon. Those skeptics were actually proven to be correct, for it was also quite amazing and telling that after gasoline prices had doubled and even tripled in some places, we heard not even a hint of oil shortages around entire world.

Today the narrative has drastically changed due to the new found mantra of "global warming, or climate change." Now, even though America is no longer held hostage by the oil rich nations of OPEC, and has become a leading exporter of oil and natural gas due in part to Pres. Trump opening up the rich oil reserves in Alaska, along with other deregulatory measures, "A Green New Deal" has been introduced. It is intended to completely **eliminate** the use of fossil fuels, because the entire global temperature will reportedly skyrocket and destroy the planet in 12 years if drastic actions are not taken immediately. According to some

politicians, we must reverse the effects of the great industrial revolution which propelled us into the tremendous economic advantage we now enjoy. We simply have no choice but to employ every restriction available to eliminate the possibility of earth coming to an end. The original proposal of the New Green deal even suggested that high speed trains must replace airplanes both in local travel and across the sea from one country to another. The internal combustion engine must become a distant memory, for the atmosphere cannot absorb any more CO₂. The cattle which God put upon this earth to meet the needs of men must be eliminated because their waste contributes to CO₂ emissions.

Brilliant scientists have been credited with justifying the need for this new green deal legislation. However, we would also point to a few headlines from days gone by, when media outlets all over the world also based their articles on evidence from brilliant scientists. ***Warning - an Ice Age is Coming.*** Between 1973 and 1977 TIME published a number of blaring Page One covers like: "The Cooling of America;" "The Big Freeze" and "How to Survive the Coming Ice Age" (with a sub head "Things You Can Do to Make a Difference.") The Australian paper The Canberra Times of Nov 22, 1974, ...quoted Prof. George Denton of the University of Maine as saying: ***Ice Age is due soon.*** Sept. 9, 1972 The Windsor Star (Canada) **THERE'S AN ICE AGE COMING!"**

7

These headlines were compiled by Iain Calder at (Stocksnapper/Dreamstime.com) along with a number of excerpts from news articles at that time, such as "The Science section in TIME under the heading "Another Ice Age" suggested that the "tell tale signs were everywhere." Temperatures in America's Midwest had dropped 2.7 degrees since the 40s. And man was possibly responsible (sound familiar) because farming and burning fossil fuel was sending dust and particles in the air and blocking sunlight..... The Science section in TIME had a little map showing that the freezing Arctic was expanding big time and this was causing a devastating six-year drought in Africa."

We can only wonder which set of these "brilliant scientists" we are to believe at this present time. Outside of both parties agreeing that man is somehow responsible for these extreme hot and cold temperatures and trends, they both reach diametrically contradictory conclusions! The first set from the 70's certainly

seem to have missed the mark, for earth has in no wise become a deep freeze. The sub headline quoted above "Things You Can Do to Make a Difference,") would indicate that someone must have overcorrected in order to produce the horrendous oven which the earth has become today.

We have noted previously in these pages that some so-called experts have predicted the end of the earth in as little as twenty, fifty or a hundred years, but the current political prediction is now twelve. Rather than believe all the doomsayers of our day, it is high time for men to believe that which NEVER FAILS or ever changes, --- The Word of God. We have pointed out previously that if Jesus were to be enthroned tomorrow, the seven year tribulation would follow and would then give away to the remaining 1,000 year reign of Jesus. After that, John reports that he saw in vision "...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 This simply means that this earth is guaranteed at least 1,000 years before its demise when time gives way to eternity.

8

The great problem facing men today is not global warming, but rather **global unbelief**. It is quite evident that all these proponents of the new green deal simply do not even accept, let alone believe, the authenticity or authority of God's Word. Jesus asked this very pointed question: "...Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Lk. 18:8. This coming King also asserted: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Matt. 5:18 The only thing wherein we may put all our trust and confidence during these closing volatile days of this Church Age is God's Word. The new green deal is just another example of man's total unbelief and idiocy, and we can say on the authority of God's Word that the command "...hurt not the oil..." will be implemented. Every nation around the world will have sufficient fuel to fulfill all God's purposes for them regardless of the attempt to rid the earth of oil consumption.

While we may be a bit amused by all man's efforts as he tries to control the elements of the universe in an endeavor to accomplish what only God can do, we must take seriously Jesus'

query in Lk. 18:8 for our own lives. Will He indeed find the faith He is searching for in the lives of His own people? Our hope and pattern of life must be exactly the same as that for which Paul commended the Thessalonians, as they "...turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come. I Thess. 1:9-10 Our hope must be the same as that which Jesus delivered to the Philadelphian Church. It is high time for God's people to rise up and actively look for that blessed day when Jesus will come and fulfill that glorious promise: "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Rev. 3:10 This is the deliverance from wrath to which Paul alluded, and means that we will be in glory well before the decree ever goes forth on this earth. "...see thou hurt not the oil and the wine."

"I SAY UNTO YOU, WATCH!"

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.

M. E. Barber

Satan Arrayed Against The Gospel

Mary M. Bodie

"THE GOD OF THIS WORLD (or age) HATH BLINDED THE MINDS OF THEM THAT BELIEVE NOT, lest the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine upon them." II Cor. 4:4, R. V.

10 Here in plain language is a statement from the writings of the Apostle Paul, that Satan is the god of this age. He says also that there is an organized effort on his part to hinder people from receiving the Gospel of the grace of God. The devil blinds men's minds to the real essence of the truth of the cross. The reason for this concerted action is that his place and power in their lives are thereby annulled. Observe that Satan is designated "the god of this age," and not simply of this world, as translated in the King James' version. The people of God in this age, called the Church, have been given the greatest and highest privilege of any people. They have been raised up provisionally and made to sit together with Christ in the heavenlies—Eph. 1:3,4. That has been Satan's headquarters; hence, he concentrates all his forces against men during this age. He is to be ousted from heaven when the Church enters into their inheritance in Christ in heaven.

Satan blinds men, Paul says. He is against all Scripture. He is back of all the attacks upon God's Word — all the efforts put forth to destroy faith in the writings of truth. He is the master mind, ruling in Soviet Russia and all other places of the world, where infidelity, atheism, evolution, modernism and every religion of works has sway. These are all the result of the war waged against God and mankind by the power and energy of his organized foes in the heavenlies. He began his attack in Eden and succeeded in his plan there. He came to Eve with a denial of the truth of God's Word and the penalty upon sin. He charged God with falsehood by his question to the woman. "Yea, hath God said that ye shall surely die?" She believed his lying suggestion rather than the truth of God, and thereby brought ruin and death upon all man's progeny. She was deceived and she led Adam into sin and death. The human race fell because of the one man's disobedience. Thus, Satan gained the ascendancy.

Christ the last Adam met Satan by the plain statement of

Holy Writ He conquered by its power alone. "It is written,..." was the weapon He steadfastly used until Satan gave way and moved on, leaving Him for a season. Lk. 4:13 Satan began his war against the truth in the beginning, as an angel of light. In this age, the consummation, he is appearing in the same guise. Religion is his middle name. He has all manner of religions. It is his bait for the unwary. He does not care how religious men may be if he can only get them to deny the Scriptures in the fundamental point — the atonement. He wages especial war against the cross and blood of Christ. He will allow folks to believe all the other part of the truth, so long as they deny the need of the ATONEMENT of the cross. He will let them believe in the effects of the Gospel. That is, He will encourage life, turn over a new leaf, make resolutions, and even help them to keep them, so that he can hinder them from realizing their need of Christ as their Savior. We see his power in this respect manifested in Christian Science, Unity, and all the modernistic religious frenzy that is upon the people. They desire the ideals set forth in the Gospel message; but at the same time will not yield to its power whereby all these ideals may be incorporated into their lives. They take the teachings of Jesus as their mode or rule of life instead of taking Him as their life. They would walk in His footsteps without acknowledging that they come short and cannot make the grade.

11

But we say Satan does not hinder men's endeavors on the line of imitation of Christ. That just suits him, but he makes war against a reproduction of Christ through the atonement of Calvary. And the reason of this is clear. It is the only way man can be delivered out of the power of Satan. The cross is the only power that annuls the works of Satan and makes him absolutely helpless. It is the sure and only basis of victory over the enemy; hence, it is no marvel that he fights against it with all his united power.

The Lord Jesus Christ on the eve of His death referred to Satan three times as the "**prince of this world,**" and these points are most instructive and distinct. The first is John 12:31, "**Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.** And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all unto me. This He said, signifying what death He should die." This word, "**judgment**" has the force of "decision," "sentence" or "crisis." He is saying, as it were, "This is the decisive hour; now is the crisis moment of the ages,

when the sentence upon the serpent, spoken by Jehovah in the Garden of Eden, shall be executed." Gen 3:15 "Now has come the crucial hour of the world's history, when the head of its prince should be bruised, and he be cast out as its ruler." It was to be carried out by His death upon the cross. "If I be lifted up," I will bring him down, is the meaning of His words. Physical death must be meted out to Him that through death He might mete out eternal death to Satan. The usurping god of this world must be judged and annulled by the judgment meted out to Christ upon the cross. The Seed of the woman must bruise the serpent's head.

12 The second statement relative to the prince of this world is found in John 14: 30. **"Hereafter I will not talk much with you; for the prince of this world cometh and hath nothing in me. But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do."** Here are depths of spiritual truth. The prince of this world was coming, Jesus said, to exact from Him the penalty of death; but he would find no cause in Christ; the true Prince, the Seed of the woman. There was no penalty attached to His life. Satan could find nothing in Him. No sin in thought, word or deed could "be laid to His charge." And Satan had found this out when he sought to tempt Him those forty days in the wilderness. Lk. 4 He was that "Holy Thing," born of Mary; "holy,. harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners,." Nevertheless, He must die. O, marvel of marvels! For what cause must He come under the power of death? Because He loved the Father; because He must obey the will of God. We die as sinners because we do not love or obey. He died because He did both love and obey. Satan wielded the power of death over all men because of sin. Christ took our place before God. He offered Himself as our ransom; hence, Satan slew Him: but in doing so he destroyed himself. It was his undoing. He lost the power of death thereby. It is true we do not yet see all this accomplished. "We see not yet all things put under" the Conqueror's feet. The Seed of the woman has not yet been manifested as the Prince of life; but we see Jesus by faith; and the basis of Satan's annulment is laid in His death and resurrection. This glorious fact shall shortly be manifested. The second coming of Christ draws near.

The third reference of the Lord Jesus Christ to the prince of the power of the air, we find in John 16:7-11. He says, **"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. John 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."** He makes use of the same expression, as in the first citation. The ruler of this world has been judged. He has been sentenced to banishment forever from heavenly and earthly spheres. The death of Christ has laid the foundation of his eternal defeat. These two princes, Christ and Satan, cannot be ruling at the same time. One or the other must be conquered. Men decide by their attitude which is reigning in their lives now. The Holy Spirit has come to enable them to decide the issue. He convicts them of sin and their need of Christ's righteousness which He has provided for them by His death on the cross. Some of them accept Him, thus rejecting Satan's claims. He is thus cast out or deposed as the ruler in their lives. His power as prince is broken. He is found as judged or sentenced to banishment. The Spirit makes men see, when they believe the Word of God regarding Calvary, that Satan can do nothing against them when they face him and refuse his power over them. Then all things that are permitted by the Lord, the ruling Prince of our new life, are working good for us. He has already provisionally provided this great overthrow of Satan's kingdom, and now faith in Jesus' all-conquering name gives the victory. We are thus equipped and able to hold forth the Word of life—the message of the grace of God—the Gospel for this age, without fear or fainting.

13

We are also taught, by the Apostle Paul's writings, the same meaning of the cross in its relation to Satan and the wicked spirits. The Lord showed him from heaven in fuller measure what He declared while He was on earth as to the defeat of Satan. In the letter to the Colossians, we read, "He forgave us all our transgressions and blotted out the writing against us which opposed us with its decrees, having taken it out of our way, by nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the principalities and powers which

fought against Him and put them to an open shame, leading the captive in triumph of Calvary." Col. 2:14,15 In other words, he is saying that the prince of this world was cast out.

Furthermore, Paul instructs us in the letter to the Ephesians, chapter 6, how to hold the victory over Satan. He declares that we must put on the whole armor of God and stand against him in all his united power in this heavenly panoply. We are to face the foe and resist him by faith in the cross, as the basis of every victory, and boldly speak the Word of God. In these closing days, there is more need than ever that we take our stand and preach the gospel with all our ransomed powers. We have but a short time to battle against the enemy, a short time to wage the good warfare and fight the good fight of faith, therefore, we must haste while it is yet day and we have the opportunity to deliver the captives from the hands of Satan, loosen their chains, unstop their deaf ears and unveil their blind eyes. The Gospel alone has the power of such deliverance. Let us then take our stand on the ramparts of the heavenlies and dare to boast in the cross, and shout aloud the victory of Christ of Calvary over all the forces of Satan. Then we shall surely see the darkening shadows flee. God will bear witness to His Word.

(Reprint 1932)

FAITH'S ANSWER

I cannot tell what shall betide
My feeble barque, as it doth glide
Along the shore of life so drear,
With danger signals ever near.
Yet, of one fact, I'm very sure,
I shall not faint, but shall endure,
For God, who guided yester-year,
Shall comfort and dispel all fear.

I cannot tell if Satan's ire
Shall rise against me as hot fire,
Or whether men shall mock and jeer,
And friends forsake this passing year.
Yet, I will trust my Saviour, Friend,
Who promised His Great Arm to lend,
And hold me up on rugged way,
To keep and bless to endless day.

Author Unknown

God-Breathed

Paul N. Smith

“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” Gen. 2:7

We have some very interesting words in the Bible that tell us of God's way of imparting divine life or inspiration to humanity as the case may be. In the above Scripture, we have the beginning of the first man who dwelled on the earth; the first Adam as contrasted with the Second Adam — Christ. The first Adam had his affinity with the earth. He was made from the dust of the ground. He was a lifeless, earthy form; but God breathed into his nostrils and he became a living soul. He was no different from the beast or cattle of the earth as to being created. They were all made on the sixth day; they all had life. But the way that they received life was vastly different.

The beasts and creeping things received life and breath; but God did not breathe into their nostrils. The man received a special breathing-in because he was destined to live forever. Thus, when God breathed into Adam, his soul and spirit became eternal. And man will live forever — in eternal bliss if he is born again, or in eternal torment if he refuses the life of Christ.

The animals have no souls or spirits to live on after their bodies have ceased to function. Adam and the animals all had life; but God literally puffed into Adam the vital life that makes God eternal. When God's breath comes upon anything, it takes on life. Even dust was made to move and to function in a miraculous way. Who can deny that the human body and its mechanics are a marvel!

Yet, the body, though wonderful as it may be, is only dust; and when the breath that God put into that inanimate form leaves, the body will go back to its original composition — dust.

What a difference God makes! He can make something from nothing, and bring life out of death. This is the only instance in the Old Testament where God breathed into anyone's nostrils, but we will see Job 32:8 and from the New Testament, that God's breathing-in and His breathing-on was not confined to the first Adam.

John 20:22 records a marvelous symbolic gesture by the Lord Jesus Christ. "And when He had said this, He BREATHED

on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost!" This word "breathed" has the same meaning as the one in Gen. 2:7, and its root is the same as the others which we will quote later. Now, notice the contrast of the first Adam and the Second Adam. The first Adam had to be breathed-in by God, but the Second Adam, although identified with man, did not have to be breathed-in, but He breathed-on His disciples.

He was illustrating to these disciples that through His death and resurrection, He was able to impart — not the life which Adam received, but the new creation, resurrection life. The root of this word means to germinate or sprout. Thus, these men already had the life of Christ in them, but it had yet to grow. They possessed the embryo of that life, and He gave them the promise of another breathing-in and on — the Holy Ghost. They had just begun to experience divine inspiration of that divine life.

16 And in the same sense, God has breathed upon all those who have accepted His Son and are born again. When Jesus talked with Nicodemus about the marvel of the new birth, He used the illustration of the wind to make him to understand. It was hard for Nicodemus to see that a man could have another birth. But, of course, Jesus was speaking of a spiritual birth, and His words explain the method of imparting this new birth to a trusting and believing soul. "The wind bloweth where it listeth (or desires), and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, or whether it goeth; so is everyone that is born of the Spirit." John 3:8.

The Holy Spirit is the power by which the life of Christ is imparted to us. But how the Spirit does His work is as much a mystery as the source and course of the wind. The weather men tell us from what direction the wind is blowing, but cannot tell us where it originates, or what course it will follow. Thus, when we accept the Gospel message, the Holy Ghost blows into us the life of Christ. He does literally, what Christ did figuratively. He gives divine life by breathing on us. We are as helpless and unwitting as the first man was. We cannot understand how God puts Christ's life in us, but we must simply believe that it is so. And then, the results in our lives are enough witness that it is true. Now for another manifestation of God's breath on man.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came

a sound from heaven as of a RUSHING MIGHTY WIND, and it filled all the house where they were sitting." Acts 2:1,2. This wind is from the same Greek word as that in II Tim. 3:16 concerning the inspiration of the Scriptures. God breathed hard on them this day, (this word means to blow hard). The word "rushing" is from the same word used in II Peter 1:21 translated "moved." The word "mighty" means living activity or life-giving. Therefore, when the Holy Ghost was poured out on all flesh, God breathed on them the moving, active life of the Holy Ghost. Jesus said that the Holy Ghost would give the power to witness of the words of God. The Holy Ghost, God's Witness and Agent during this age, empowers all them who yield to Him, to declare God's message to humanity.

Our next Scripture is the one to which we referred in II Tim. 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" Now couple this verse with Job 32:8 — "But there is a spirit in man; and the inspiration (breath of God) of the Almighty giveth them understanding." By these two Scriptures, we learn that God breathed on certain men to record His acts and purposes for all the ages. Even though men are yielded to the Lord, it requires a special breathing-on for such a task. That is what makes God's Word eternal. The Word is also life-giving as we believe and yield to the truth contained therein. From the Word we receive the life of God. Also God, through the person of the Holy Ghost, breathes on us to give us understanding of the Word.

And as Peter wrote in his first epistle Ch. 1:21, men were moved upon by God to proclaim His Word. The Holy Ghost rushed upon them in mighty power and demonstration of the Spirit, and they were moved to do His bidding, oftentimes midst terrible opposition. God still works the same today. If we believe, yield, write, speak, it is because the divine breath of God is upon us. It is wonderful to be filled, moved and controlled by the power of God. And one of these days, God is going give a mighty blow of divine enablement, whereby some saints will fly to glory. That breath of God will change their mortal bodies, making them like Christ's body, and this same breath will bring life to the sleeping dust of the departed saints, and together we will rise to be enveloped in a mighty whirlwind of glory!

REFLECTIONS REFLECTIONS

... *From the Editor*

“Buy the truth, and sell it not;...” Prov. 23:23 “...
freely ye have received, freely give.” Matt. 10:8
“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that
hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and
milk without money and without price.” Isa 55:1 “For the time
will come when they will not endure sound doctrine;...” II Tim
4:3

18 Our hearts were greatly grieved several months ago after
receiving separate reports from a couple of our readers that Grace
and Glory literature was being advertised for profit on the internet.
God’s gospel of grace set forth by the above scriptures has surely
been violated, along with the policy of Grace and Glory to
publish The Truth without price since 1910. There seems to be
nothing we can do in this matter since none of these writings have
ever been copyrighted. One great concern which we do have is
that someone may try to publish some of this literature or even
slightly change it, and attach their own name to it. While the
writers in this venerable paper did not and do not publish truth
to enrich or honor themselves, God’s Word is very clear that men
should “Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute
is due; ...honour to whom honour.” Rom. 13:7

The time has surely come in these last days wherein the
internet has most assuredly been used in some cases to make a
literal mockery of the gospel and corrupt “...sound doctrine;...”
For example, it is now possible for anyone to become an ordained
minister of the gospel in order to perform weddings and the process
is perfectly legal according to the standards of men. We can
only wonder what the consequence would be for impersonating
a judge in order to conduct that same ceremony. Paul was very
clear that we “...lay hands suddenly on no man...” I Tim. 5:22
Moffet translates the verse thus: “never be in a hurry to ordain a
presbyter.”

Bro. A. S. Copley, the founder of Grace and Glory was very
precise when he published the “The Price of Our Publications.”

We quote the following excerpts as a summation of his comments:

"No Price Affixed

We place no price on any of our publications because the Scripture says, "Buy the Truth and sell it not." Prov. 23:23. Jesus said, "...Freely ye have received; freely give." Matt. 10:8. Paul sought to "make the Gospel of Christ without charge..." I Cor. 9:18 It becomes us to avoid even the appearance of making "...merchandise..." of the Gospel. John 2:16 & II Pet. 2:3. We do not advertize our personal needs, nor the needs of the work. We do not beg, nor resort to cute and cunning tricks to get support. The Lord teaches us plainly in His Word to trust Him and not look to the people, though He uses the saints, and sometimes sinners, to supply every need. This is the divine plan as Paul declares — "Even so hath the Lord ordained, that they which preach the Gospel, should live of the Gospel." I Cor. 9:14 Hence, all our work is financed by free-will offerings."

We would also note that Bro. Copley was much concerned about the truth being compromised. "...Now and then someone writes to us to send the paper and tracts because they are free. For example, "If your paper is free, I would like to have it." ...Others say, "If your tracts are free, I would like to distribute them." And such tract distributors mix our tracts with others which directly contradict what ours teach, which we disapprove of; for we are thus misrepresented."

19

Today our hearts rejoice because God has continued to finance this work even down to this present day. We have witnessed the same glorious Hand of supply demonstrated in the lives of those who have gone before us and we rejoice greatly that God has supplied all our needs too. We would ask you to pray earnestly that God would protect the Truth published by Grace and Glory and that it be not corrupted by the ungodly tactics available on the internet.

GH

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Isaiah Book One (Gen. – Mal.) is now printed in book form and ready for distribution. Orders may be place by tel. 816-618-3306, by e-mail gjhawk1@msn.com or by "snail mail" Grace and Glory, P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Mo. 64030 We are hopeful that Book Two (Matt.-Rev.) will be completed and ready for distribution in the next few months.

The Lord's Feasts

Camp Sermon by John F. Ney

When He said these words unto them, He abode still in Galilee. But when His brethren were gone up, then went He also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. Then the Jews sought Him at the feast and said, Where is He? And there was much murmuring among the people concerning Him; for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; - but He deceiveth the people. Howbeit no man spake openly of Him for fear of the Jews." John 7:9-14

Notice in verse two the feast is called the feast of the Jews; but in the Old Testament (Lev. 23) it is called "**the feast of the Lord.**" When the feast of the Lord becomes the feast of the Jews, or of the Gentiles, the Lord is not wanted. Thank God for a feast that is not of the people, but of the Lord and for the Lord. Thank God for the feast which God has provided in His beloved Son.

20 In Leviticus we read that all the feasts and sacrifices and offerings were unto the Lord. Everything was unto the Lord. We only do not want to feast here; but we want God to have a feast. May this indeed, be the feast of all feasts. I am glad that Christ did not have to come secretly in the middle of this camp; but He is here at the very beginning of it. It is a feast of the Lord and unto the Lord. He is feasting and so are we.

Abel made a feast unto the Lord. He offered up a firstling of the flock and God was well pleased with his offering. That is only a type of our Christ who was offered up on Calvary. Then we read (Gen. 18) that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit came to Abraham while sitting in his tent door and feasted with him. He killed a fatted calf and Sarah prepared a banquet and three men feasted with Abraham. They figure the Trinity. God feasted on all the offerings which were offered up by faith. They were all types of Christ, the One on whom all the world may feast. But at the feast of the Jews, they did not receive Him. Hence, He had to

come up as it were in secret. If they had desired Him, He would have been there at the beginning. Jesus said to His brethren, your time is always ready; but my time is not yet come. Oh, if they had really believed that He was the Christ, they would have set aside all that typical worship and have feasted on Him, the real Food of the feast. They could have known: but they did not want to know who He was. He was not wanted at that feast. He was one-hundred percent out of joint with it, hence, He went up secretly. He should have been the chief man at that feast; for it was concerning Him. Nevertheless, He was not wanted there. He was rejected and despised, though He was the chief fellow on the scene after He arrived. He was criticized, and there were divisions, because one said this, and another that of Him. He was the main bone of contention. When one who is in the Spirit comes in to places where it is all form, they want to get rid of him. Thank God, when we have feasted on Christ once, we do not enjoy religious feasts. He is the resurrection and the life, the Head of the new creation. The Dutchman says, The man 21 is what he eats, that is true in some measure in the natural, but in the spiritual it is all true. If we feed on Christ, we become like Christ and grow up in Him. We become partakers of His divine nature. Let us look at a few of these verses.

"And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" Jesus attracted the attention of everyone. He was something just contrary to nature, which was out of joint with Him. They could not understand Him. His presence caused much reasoning. He was taught and led by the Holy Spirit and lived "a supernatural life." Hence, He was beyond the people.

"Howbeit we know this man, whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is. Then Jesus cried in the temple as He taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am. I am not come of myself; but He that sent me is true, whom ye know not." Here Jesus said plainly that they knew Him; but they did not want to know Him. He says, "If any man will do His will, he

shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." God makes men know the Truth; but they reject it. They cannot blame Him for their ignorance.

"And many of the people believed on Him and said, When Christ cometh, will He do more miracles than these which this man hath done?" Thank God, there were some at the feast who were nibbling at Him anyhow. They did not all reject Him. And some people today receive Him and enjoy His feast. "Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the Scripture said, that Christ cometh of the seed of David and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? So there was a division among the people because of Him." Yes, there was a division because of Him. Thank God, we, who believe and feed on the holy Christ and see the grace of God, know but one division—separation from the old creation. We are a new creation. We know only one
22 peace, one Christ, one Lord, one body, one faith. We have quit all trying to make harmony. Thank God, we are one people, one body. As truly as we believe and feed on Christ, we are one. We are through with trying to do something that has already been done.

When the Passover was observed by Israel (Exodus 12), they ate the lamb in haste with their loins girded, shoes on their feet and staff in their hands. They passed over by eating. That is how we pass over. By the first bite we take of Christ, we pass out of death into life; and He is eternal life. Thus, we have eternal life when we believe on Jesus. Then we begin to feast. Oh, we have a wonderful Christ. Hallelujah! He is an all-sufficient Christ.

In the preceding chapter, Jesus told the people that He was the living Bread, the true Bread from heaven. He demonstrated by the natural, that there was no limit to the greatness of that Bread. The supply could not be exhausted by feeding the 5,000 with five barley loaves and two fishes. He blessed the bread, and there was enough for all.

Hallelujah! Our Loaf is so big that it cannot be exhausted. There is enough for the babes and for the young and aged in Christ. They all may feast three times a day.

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink: "That was the feast of tabernacles, which according to Leviticus, lasted seven days. In the midst of the feast, Christ went up and taught in the temple. That was the fourth day; but three days later was the last day, that great day, of the feast. Oh, if the Holy Spirit would enable us to feel what Christ felt that day. His bowels yearned over the multitude. He was the essential part of that feast, the real food thereof. He was the eternal life-giver. He was their eternal life. He is the All and in All, and was there for them to accept. The gathering was over, "and every man went to his own home"—V. 53. The chief priests and Pharisees exclaimed, "... Why have ye not brought Him? The officers answered, Never man spake like this man." John 7:45-46

I believe there is no meeting like this meeting. I believe this camp meeting is the feast of the Lord. It is no man-made feast. We are not at an oyster supper, or ice cream supper. We are feeding on Christ. This meeting has gone on year after year; and it seems that the tide is rising. The saints are growing and more are coming each year. As I was asked to speak, this is the thought which came to me. Would it not be wonderful if the last day of this feast would be our last day on earth? Oh, if He would come and we would forever be with the Lord. Oh, then we would feast with Christ forever more. He will come. Soon He will have to come. His heart is melted and yearning for us. He must come.

We read a verse in Song of Solomon. "I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished and the pomegranates budded. Or ever I was aware, my soul made me like the chariots of Amminadib"---- Chap. 6:11,12. Notice the margin. "Or ever I was aware, my soul set me on the chariots of my willing people." It appears that the wholeheartedness of God's people and their willingness to walk

in His light and ways will compel Jesus to come. As we look on Him and cry, "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly," He will take us away. He has to take us away. But it is as if we took Him away. I am glad we have cut the shore lines and we are feeding on Christ and enjoying His love.

24 Brother Copley spoke about a dream that Joseph had. We have dreams too. I had a dream the other night. I was swimming in deep water, and had to hit on all fours to keep from sinking. Then a big snake came right before me and was aiming straight for me. Then I woke up. Well, praise God, I know our anchor holds. We are out in the ocean of God's love. We have cut the shore lines. We have cut loose from all natural resources. We have no faith in our own strength. We are a new creation and joined to the Lord. When we are floating along in God, the powers of the devil are right up against us. We are just as helpless to meet him alone as a man who is swimming and a snake coming straight for him. We have spiritual conflicts with Satan; but thank God, when he may be so near, we shall awaken in the glory of God.

That is our glorious hope. If it will not be at this Camp, it will be some day. Meanwhile our anchor holds. Is it not wonderful to know that our Christ is all-sufficient? As far as we ourselves are concerned, we feel as weak as can be; but Christ has conquered the devil. He overcame him through death and through weakness on Calvary. That is the way we overcome him today. We overcome him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony. I am glad for the plan of redemption. This Man Christ Jesus is the only Man. We feast on Him now and are strengthened to meet our foe. We have fellowship with Him and with one another. Oh, what will it be through all eternity. What will it be when we are around the throne and on the throne where the Lord will sit? If our fellowship as one family is so great now, what will it be when we have our glorified bodies? We will feast with Him and be like Him through all eternity.

(Reprint 1930)

Law and Grace

Ethel C. Black

Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee; and I will make of thee a great nation and I will bless thee and make thy name great and thou shalt be a blessing, and, I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blest."

Gen. 12:1-3 That, was the covenant of grace, which God made to Abraham. That covenant can never be set aside by law, as the Apostle declares — "And this, I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect." Gal. 3:17

The Jews were outwardly zealous for the law — Rom. 9:31,32. They complained that Jesus broke the law by healing a blind man on the sabbath day. — John 9. Jesus answered them, "Did not Moses give you the law? and yet none of you keepeth the law." Then He proceeded to show them where they broke the law. He said, "Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers,)" {Abraham, Isaac and Jacob} "and ye on the sabbath day, circumcise a man." John 7:22 Truly, they were in a dilemma. God had told Abraham to circumcise himself and his son in token of the covenant which He had given to him through grace. Thereafter, every male child was to be circumcised on the eighth day. Gen. 17:9-12 Now, if the Jews did not circumcise a child because the eighth day fell on the Sabbath, they broke the covenant of circumcision; but if they did circumcise the child, they violated the law of Sabbath keeping. Though they were zealous for the law, yet in performing the rite of circumcision, they owned that the covenant of grace superceded the law. This fact Jesus tried to show them. 25

Grace reigns through righteousness, even the righteousness of faith. But legal hearts fail to grasp this truth. John had said, "The law was given by Moses; but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17 Jesus Himself said, "God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might

be saved." John 3:17 All that is grace. The Jews tried Jesus by bringing to Him a woman taken in adultery, saying, "Moses, in the law commanded us that such should be stoned; but what sayest thou?" John 8 Now let us see if He can show grace and not break the law. First, Jesus gave the critics a chance to keep the law, by saying, "He that is without sin (for he who keeps the law must be free from sin), let him first cast a stone at her." But no stones were thrown. Grace again reigned; for He Who alone, had the right to cast a stone, added, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more." Only under grace, and not under law, can it be said, "Sin no more." The law exclaims, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die;" but grace cries, "The believing sinner shall live."

26 The Jews saved the stones to cast at the Son of God, because He told them the truth, that none of them had kept the law. He had convinced them of sin. No one had ever kept the law, even as Peter boldly declared, saying, "Now, therefore, why tempt ye God to put a yoke on the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers, nor we were able to bear?" Acts 15:40 Though today there are many who claim to keep the law, yet Jesus' words still remain true. "Did not Moses give you the law? and yet none of you keepeth the law." Hear the words of the Spirit through Paul — "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law. Do you not see the lightning flash and hear the thunderings of Mount Sinai? Behold, "...and so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake." That fiery law would have slain all Israel the day it was given had it not been "ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator," Moses, the type of Jesus Christ, "the Mediator of the new covenant," which is absolutely of grace. Heb. 12:24 No sinful man can stand before God's fiery law; for "the law is holy, just and good." It cries aloud, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:4. "The letter (the law) killeth." The ministry of law is called "the ministry of condemnation, and of death." II Cor. 3 All men stand as guilty rebels in the presence of the law of God, which law condemns them to die.

But God's holy Son stepped on the scene. He took the place of sinners and "was numbered with the transgressors." "He tasted death for every man." "He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Now "we judge that if One died for all,

then all died," and thus, "we were made dead to the law by the body of Christ;" for by His death in our stead, He paid our penalty and satisfied the law. I through the law, died to the law, that I might live unto God. That is, the law put me to death in putting my Substitute to death. "I have been crucified with Christ." "Our old man was crucified with Him." The old creation went down into death through Christ's death in our stead; and the new creation came up with Him in His resurrection free from sin and from self. Hallelujah! What a deliverance.

The New, Reigning Life

"Henceforth, it is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Gal. 2:20 I do not even live by my own faith. No, it is His faith. We may not feel delivered from the law; we may still feel that we are under it and must try to keep it: but it does not depend upon our feelings, but upon the Word. What does God say? Hear it — "Ye are not under the law, but under grace;" therefore, sin shall have no dominion over you. After that faith (or Christ) is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster (the law); for we are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Gal. 3:25,26 Therefore, the believer is called upon to reckon with God. Whether or not he so reckons, the facts remain; viz, according to the law, he is an executed criminal, having been crucified with Christ; but now he believes on Jesus and thus has "put on Christ." He is an exonerated and exalted saint, "alive for evermore." It is just so with all believers. "God has raised us up together with Christ and made us to sit together with Him in the heavenlies," where law can never come. To faith, this is real. Grace now reigns. There is no more bondage. The heart is set free. We serve by love. We do not try to keep the law, nor ourselves. We rest in the grace that saves and keeps. This is a rest and keeping that never can be known under law. Such saints depend entirely upon God and are occupied with Christ. Herein is joy unspeakable and full of glory. The joy of the Lord (not of law keeping) is our strength.

(Reprint 1931)

The Upsetting Sin

"Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us"—Heb. 12:1.

"The sin," to which the Apostle here refers, is that of unbelief. He has been admonishing the Hebrews relative to faith, and pointing to the Old Testament overcomers as examples of the power of faith. They were not upset by circumstances, nor hindered by trials, because they lived by faith. All things worked good for them. They overcame the wicked one by believing God. This is the only way to get rid of the sin which doth beset and upset us.

28 But even this is not enough in itself to win the race. The Apostle urges that weights be laid aside. That is, anything which hinders running well is to be dropped. There are some things which are not exactly sin; but they are weights. Take the case of the natural race. It is not wrong for a man to wear an overcoat; but if he expects to run a race and win, it is a very foolish thing to do. He is handicapped right at the start. The same is true in carrying a suitcase, or other articles of clothing. These are very necessary, no doubt, but they must be laid aside when running a race. It would most certainly hinder him in his racing, and cause him to lose the prize. Folks in the natural strip themselves of every bit of unnecessary luggage when running a race.

Likewise, should we do in the spiritual. The weights must be laid aside, everything that handicaps, or hinders our spiritual gait must be dropped. There is no use asking, "What is wrong in this?" or "Where is the sin in that?" If we want to win "the race that is set before" every Christian, we must strip of those weights which cause our feet to lag in the running, or become tangled on the race course.

Lassitude, indifference, or slumber will fall upon us unless the weights are dropped. But that is only negative. There must be the activity of faith also. "Looking unto Jesus," gives us the positive side: He dropped everything, seeing the reward—His princely people associated with Him on the throne—hence, He endured the cross, despising the shame. He won the race. He overcame all things. He is the great Overcomer, the File-Leader of our faith. As He won, so may we, by His enabling grace. And we are *going* to glory, overcoming as we go.

Contributed

Millennial Glory

“**A**nd as He prayed the fashion of His countenance altered and His raiment was white and glistering” Luke 9:28-36.

It is interesting and instructive to note that it was while Jesus was praying that He was transfigured. We too may change our countenance if we abide often in the presence of Deity. Moses' face shone after He had been up in the mount with God. It is the one effectual beauty parlor. Let us patronize it more.

The Gospel of Luke shows Jesus often in prayer; for He is photographed there in the role of the Son of Man. His face shone from the light of the throne on the day of His transfiguration and His garments were changed into radiance, or like flashing lightning. They glistened and glowed with the splendor that is surrounding Him now and which shall surround Him forever.

Two men from heaven appear, Moses and Elias, and do homage to this Man whom earth refused to honor. They represent the worthies of faith who shall be with Him and give Him honor when He comes to earth again. Moses died and had been raised from the dead 1500 years before; and Elijah had been taken to heaven without dying 1000 years previous. They were not unconscious as is evidenced here; but knew the Lord and His purpose of redemption. They spoke with the Lord and the subject of their discourse was His death which they knew was shortly to take place in Jerusalem. It was the theme of heaven if men on earth did not believe. And we are not surprised when we remember the relation of that death to God, to the law, sin, death and salvation.

But how was it possible that in the dazzling light of that shekinah glory, the three chosen Apostles were heavy with sleep, the very same condition in which they were afterwards found in Gethsemane? Nevertheless, they saw His glory. They heard the Father own Him as His Son and insist that the Apostles listen to Him. Peter desired to make three tabernacles, but God said that there should be but the one. We have here a veiled hint of the Trinity of God, who thru the millennium shall be represented in the Man, Christ Jesus. This whole transfiguration scene looks

forward to the Second Advent of Christ when He shall reign as God Almighty over the earth for 1000 years. Then is the time that He shall be called the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, etc.—Isa. 9:6,7. At the present time He sits upon the Father's throne---Heb. 1:3. He is the Mediator for His people, the church, during this age; but shortly He shall rise up and sit upon His own throne as King.

INFINITE JOURNEY

I'm going on a journey
And I won't be coming back;
I'll have no need of luggage
So I do not need to pack.

I have a straight through ticket;
There will be no delay
When my Captain calls for me;
I'm waiting for that day.

I do not know the route I'll take,
Nor do I know the hour.
But this I know, it will be soon,
And He'll come with mighty power.

The dead and living shall arise;
We'll all go up together
To meet our Bridegroom in the air,
And be with Him forever.

When I reach my destination
There'll be many to welcome me,
But the thing that is most exciting:
My loving Savior I'll finally see.

-Beula Clark

The "S.O.S. Call

S.O. Sheldon



"And behold there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but He was asleep. And His disciples came and awoke Him, saying, Lord, save us; we perish." Matt. 8:24,25. It is a very common thing for a ship to be tempest-tossed and storm-driven on the great waters. They are often in hopeless peril. On such an occasion, the despairing sailors hoist a mariner's flag, having on it in bold print the letters "S. O. S." which means, "Save O Save " Perhaps some other ship may behold it and come to the

rescue of the helpless crew. Or if they sight another vessel, they exclaim with a very loud voice, "Save O Save; Save O Save; Save O Save." Today, sailors also give the signal of distress by wireless, or by radio.

31

The whole world is at sea. All men are sailing on the great ocean of life. With most of them it is dark. All of them are tossed more or less, with waves of sorrow and driven by winds of trouble. Disappointments in business, domestic brawls, selfish strivings for ease, or supremacy, sickness and pain, accidents of various kinds—all these and more, bring people to a helpless and hopeless state. Then they begin to hoist the flag, or cry out, "Save O Save." The devil answers their cries with imitation lifesavers, usually religious. Christian Science, Unity, Russelism, etc, offer their help, and apparently afford deliverance. But it is only temporary at best, and exceedingly deceptive; for sinking men only thus become victims of dark, damning errors, from which some are never set free. Jesus Christ is the only real Life-Saver. He alone can save. His name means "Savior." Jesus Christ, God's dear Son, is the Answer to every sorrow, the Queller of every storm, the Life-Saver from every peril.

Two Great Classes

In this world, there are two classes of people; and in eternity, there will be just two classes of people—Saved and Lost, Saint and Sinner. Sinners are not being lost; they are already LOST. Maybe some do not realize their LOST CONDITION; but they are as much lost as others who do. Some, who know their lost condition, send up their

"S. O. S." call to Jesus the Saviour, who "came to seek and to save that which was LOST."

People at sea never send out their "S. O. S." call until they know that there is no hope of saving themselves. Some one hearing their cry of "SAVE O SAVE" must come to their rescue. The same is true in the spiritual realm. As long as people have hope of saving themselves, they do not call in faith to the SAVIOUR OF SINNERS for deliverance from the bondage of sin. But when some are awakened to their real condition, they call in faith and the Saviour of Sinners comes to their rescue and saves them from Eternal Ruin. Never did a sinner call on HIM in real faith and find that He would not save.

32 Many a soul has sent out his S. O. S. call at sea and perished before help came. But Jesus saves unto the uttermost all that come unto God by HIM. Multitudes are today sailing the sea of life in their little boat of self-righteousness, with a faint hope that they shall some day land in the place where the good people go (as they often speak), meaning heaven. Perhaps when some one, interested in their eternal welfare, asks them the question, Are you a CHRISTIAN? they are seriously offended and usually reply, "You betcha," or "I hope so," or "I am trying to be," or "You do not find many people around these days who are not," or they say, "Why, of course I am a Christian; do you think I am a heathen?" or they answer, "Partly so," or "I have done all that is required, except to live it."

Now if those people are really Christians, why do they make such replies? Why do they not say, "Yes, Praise God! I am a Christian!" Why should any one think that he can be partly a Christian? Perhaps he is what one man termed, "a DAYLIGHT CHRISTIAN." He takes pictures in daytime and takes anything he can get his hands on at night. Trying to be a Christian is no where taught in the Word of God; for self-effort can never save.

Multitudes are deceived today with a Christless religion. They are nice, respectable people, educated, refined, honest (?). They may be churchgoers, alms-givers and say prayers. They are strong believers in "MY RELIGION," yet have little, or no saving faith in Christ. Perhaps such people think that they are saved; and yet they say that none can know that he is saved until the judgment day. They disregard the words of Jesus, who said, "Now is the judgment of this world"—John 12:31. They are not ready to believe that.... ALL Mankind WAS Judged On Calvary.

They do not like God's verdict, which declares that "there is none righteous, no not one; there is none that doeth good, no not one." They refuse to believe that "destruction and misery are in their

ways, and the way of peace they have not known." They deny that "there is no fear of God before their eyes." They do not want to believe that God's holy law has pronounced "all the world guilty before God," so that "every mouth may be stopped"—Rom. 3:10-19. Therefore, of course, they reject....

THE SINNER'S SUBSTITUTE,

refusing to acknowledge that they were executed as criminals in the judgment, which was meted out to God's sinless Son on the Cross. They thus actually give God the lie, saying that Jesus did not need to die for them. But it is true, nevertheless. "ALL have sinned." Christ had to die in man's stead in order that he might be saved. Therefore, it is too late to live a better life, hoping thus to gain God's favor. It is too late to keep the commandments in order to be saved; too late to be good, expecting thus to reach heaven. IT IS TOO LATE to DO anything, but simply...

"BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ,"

and accept eternal life as a free gift from God. However, it is not too late to be LOST eternally, if the atoning merits of Christ are rejected. The Scripture saith, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned"—Mark 16:16.

How important then, that all who hear this glad message of the Gospel, should believe and accept Christ as their personal Saviour. What an eternal mistake to reject the Grace of God. Paul exclaimed, "Through this man (The Risen Christ), is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins, and by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" — Acts 13:38,39.

Truly this is good news to know that by HIM, all who believe on Him, are justified. Hence, our standing before God depends on our believing the Gospel, not on our feeble efforts to keep the law. The law can not justify the guilty; it can only condemn. Being simply a ministration of death, it cannot give life. Christ met all the righteous claims of the law and bare all the penalty it demanded from sinful man, when He died on the cross for all mankind. Thus all mankind were entirely and forever provisionally FREED FROM SIN. If they only believe on Christ, they are experimentally freed forever. Therefore, all men are shut up to believe on Christ, or be lost forever. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." The way that seemeth right is just to try to be good and do the best you can. That may include being a little religious, and helping the poor; but none of these things will save a soul who is dead in sin. Until fallen man believes what God's Word says, he can have no life. He is

already "dead in trespasses and sins." That is, he has no life God-ward, no spiritual life. Doing the best he can will never bring him to life, nor bring life to him. Nay, he must be brought to life by the risen Lord, who is "a life giving Spirit." Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." How foolish for a dead man to try to live a little better. Before he can live any better, he must receive LIFE, as a free gift from God. In other words. he "must be born of the Spirit."

What Then Shall I Do?

That is a sensible and serious question. The jailer in Philippi asked, saying, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30. That is equivalent to the "S. O. S. Call." The answer comes back, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Put your case into His hands. Put the responsibility of your salvation on the Lord, who died for you. Believe that Jesus saves you JUST NOW. He never fails to hear the S. O. S. call which comes from one who really wants to be saved. Do not try to help the Saviour save you. "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord," Trust Him alone. Your efforts will only hinder Him and delay your deliverance. Proclaim with a loud voice,

I am a poor sinner, and nothing at all;

But Jesus Christ hears me and answers my call.

34 Having taken this position by simple faith, your sins will all be remitted forever. You will positively be...

FREE FROM SIN.

You will be made alive in Christ, and know it. You will have eternal life; because it is written, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life"—John 3:36.

How Shall I Know It?

Even as did the Psalmist, who saw his helpless condition and sent out his S. O. S. call. "In my distress, I cried unto the Lord and He heard me and delivered me." Then, having believed, "the Holy Spirit beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God."

Reader, can you say that Jesus saves you? Are you enjoying the salvation of the Lord? Or are you still hoping to be saved? Do you hope to be saved when you have lived a little better? Or after you have held out faithful to the end? Oh, reader, believe the Gospel today and begin to live; then you will sing,

"On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand.

All other ground is sinking sand."

(First Printed 1927)



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