

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole counsel of GOD

Volume 109

November 2019

Number 11



## Psalm Of Thanksgiving

Let us sing unto the Lord:

Make a joyful noise to Him.

Come before Him with thanksgiving—

Make a joyful noise unto Him with  
Psalms.

Let us worship and bow down:

Kneel before the Lord our Maker.

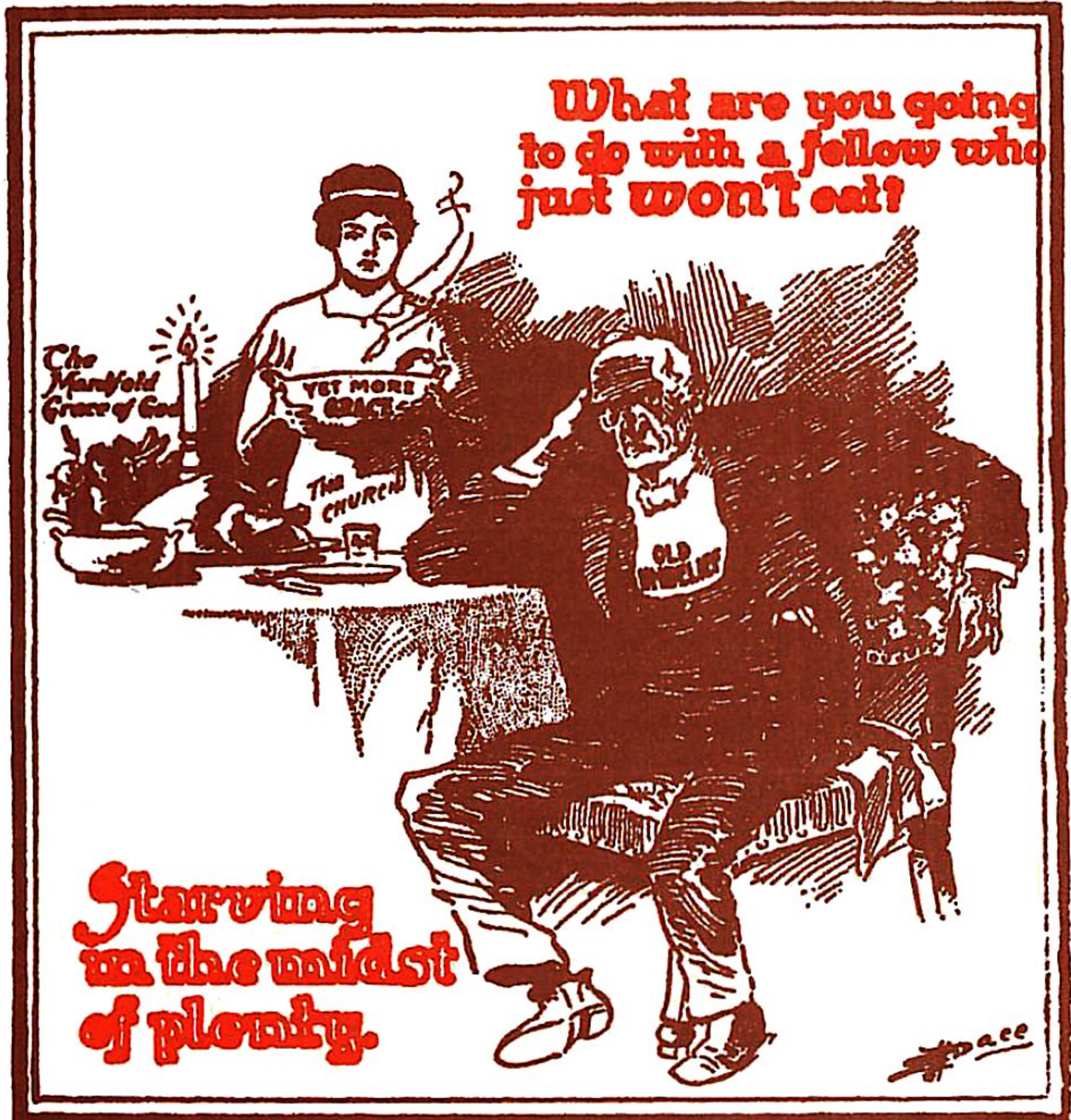
For He is our God;

And we are the sheep of His hand.

Psalm 95

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

PERIODICALS postage is paid at Grandview, Missouri.

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

Telephone: 816-618-3306. E-mail [gihawk1@msn.com](mailto:gihawk1@msn.com) Print Shop # 816-322-2257

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

GRACE & GLORY is published for the purpose of proclaiming God's Holy Word. We believe that the Scriptures are inspired of God and were given to His holy apostles and prophets by the Holy Spirit. (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:21)

GRACE & GLORY has had continuous publication without subscription price since 1910. We are able to continue this ministry by your kind financial support.

Editor: Gene Hawkins



“**A** noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD.” Jer. 25:31

“Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering. All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.” Isa. 40:15-17

The first part of Jeremiah 25 foretells the seventy year captivity of Judah as well as all the nations round about after God anointed Nebuchadnezzar as ruler of the first world empire in 606 B.C. God specifically prophesied through the prophet that, “...I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, (Judah) and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about,.. And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.” Jer. 25:9,11 The latter part of the chapter contains specific prophecy for these end times and is once again addressed especially to the nations as noted in the text above wherein God explains that He has “...a controversy with the nations,...” Verses 32-33 also emphasize this end time scenario which presents an apt description of Armageddon. “Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from **one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth**: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.”

We may be sure that God’s controversy with the

nations has already begun in these closing days of the Church Age just prior to the tribulation period. Today's news announces emphatically that "...evil shall go forth from nation to nation..." and no nation on earth is excluded. The great problem with so many of the nations today is that they think they are greater than God. Isaiah quickly refutes that notion, declaring that, "...the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance:..." This is, of course, God's view of them, but they count His Opinion as nothing.

Israel must most assuredly be included in God's controversy with the nations, because she has always been at the very center of His dealings with all men around the entire globe. It is quite evident that at this present time, Israel is much concerned and indeed threatened by the fact that "...evil shall go forth from nation to nation..." in these last days. The following headline from The Jerusalem Post after President Trump removed U.S. troops from Northern Syria is a most telling report of Israel's rather independent attitude in these last days. **"After Trump abandons Kurds, Israel knows it can't rely on anyone."** Then follows this explanation, declaring that, "Trump's decision must also be seen within the context of the Iranian-backed attacks last month on the Saudi oil facilities, and the deafening lack of an American response.

Don't let the lack of any formal Israeli response to US President Donald Trump's dramatic reversal of policy and decision to remove US troops from northern Syria fool you: Jerusalem is deeply, deeply concerned about this step.

Not because it will suddenly impact Israel's ability to take action in Syria when it desires to halt Iranian attempts to entrench itself there... but because it drives home the idea that Israel really can only rely on itself."

One major theme which emerges from the above account is that Israel has been forced into a position whereby it "...can only rely on itself." It is quite obvious that modern day Israel, faced with the prospect of being forsaken by all the nations, will trust in their own ingenuity and strength rather than call upon Jesus, their Messiah. They still suffer today from the same major problem which plagued them in the days before the Babylonish captivity. "From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon ...the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened.

And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear. They (the prophets) said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, ...And go not after other gods to serve them,... Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the LORD; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.” Jer. 25:3-7

The above narrative from the Jerusalem Post concludes with the grave threat which Israel faces from Iran. Israel has long tried to find ways to thwart the efforts of this ungodly and wicked nation in their quest to obtain a nuclear weapon, but the fear outlined here is that the current actions by Pres. Trump might clear the way for Iranian dominance on the ground. “Eran Lerman, now the vice president of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security (JISS), said that no one “in their right mind in the region” today would rely on the Americans, and this is something that could very well push various actors into the waiting arms of the Iranians. Calling Trump's step a “moral outrage,” Lerman said that one possible consequence of the move might be to chase the Kurds — in their battle with the Turks — over to the side of the Assad regime and its Iranian backers. This would have serious consequences for Israel, he said, because it would remove the last barrier in northern Syria preventing a land bridge — a contiguous supply route — running from Iran through Iraq and Syria into Lebanon and ports on the Mediterranean Sea.” 5

The battle over whether President Trump’s removal of U.S. troops, which allowed Turkey to invade Northern Syria, will undoubtedly continue for some time, with some defending it and others loudly condemning it. We know that much of this battle is political, as one nation tries to take strategic steps to leverage their own position of dominance over every other nation. Whether they realize it or not, many world leaders at this present time are most assuredly motivated by the “...spirit of antichrist...” which John asserts is already “...in the world.” I John 4:3 One of those leaders will in fact become the man of sin, the antichrist of the end time. God declared through Isaiah’s prophecy that all of them are just “...a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust...” in comparison to Him, but none of them seem to get the message.

This current situation with Israel’s attitude being that they can rely only on themselves is just a minute foretaste of what is

actually coming for this chosen nation in the last days. Hosea plainly asserts that God Himself will force the nations away from her. "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, (enclosure) that she (Israel) shall not find her paths. And she shall follow after her lovers, (nations) but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now." Hos. 2:6-7 Jesus also prophesied of this same dilemma for Israel when He uttered this prophecy which will be fulfilled during the tribulation period. "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be **hated of all nations** for my name's sake." Matt. 34:9 Undoubtedly the term "...all nations..." does include even those who have befriended Israel down through the years and would be described as "sheep nations." Matt. 25:32-40 We can only wonder if President Trump's decision to remove these troops from Syria is just a small indicator of this coming isolation for Israel.

6

It is not clear at this time whether or not Israel's fear of Iran gaining access to her borders will be realized, but God's Word is very clear that the day will come when God Himself will clear the way for all nations to come against Jerusalem. "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, **that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.** And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon,... For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, **to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.**" Rev. 16:12-14

According to scripture, the Euphrates River is a boundary for Israel. We know assuredly that war machines of our day would literally have absolutely no problem crossing this river. Thus, the language here is symbolic, meaning simply that God is going to remove all obstacles in order that all these nations might have full access to Israel as He gathers all of them to this last great Battle Of Armageddon.

Surely the time for all nations to forsake Israel has not

yet arrived, and despite the above report, we are confident that there is still a very strong relationship between Israel and the U.S. However, it is absolutely certain that Israel will eventually become totally isolated, even to the point of thinking that her only option will be to make that infamous covenant with the antichrist. Dan. 9:27. She will be so deluded at that time that she will not realize that this is in reality a "...covenant with death..." Isa. 28:14. That time has not yet arrived, and it is most assuredly uncertain as to how many more threats that Israel must endure before she is truly abandoned by all these nations.

Both Jeremiah and Isaiah write extensively of the idolatry found in Israel and among the nations. According to Jeremiah, it seems to begin with the fact that **"ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the LORD;..."** The foregoing text from Isaiah also reflects man's rebellion against God especially in the "religious sense." **"And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering. All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?"** Isa. 40:16-18 This is actually an indictment against all nations, including Israel, for offering their gifts to gods other than The One True God. They are also accused of trying to find a comparable replacement for Him in some-**one** or some-**thing** else. Paul, The Chief Apostle To The Church, likewise describes these same characteristics of idol worship. **"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man,... Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts,... Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator,..."** Rom. 1:21-25

The very pinnacle of this gross idolatry will be found in the antichrist, the man of sin, described as one **"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.” II Thess. 2:4 The spirit of antichrist is already in this world, as noted earlier, and this idea of man thinking that he can do what only God can do is already rampant in our day, as some seem to have answered the challenge which God made to those who would worship false gods in Isaiah’s day. “Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob. Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.” Isa. 41:21-23

8 God has thrown down a gauntlet and allowed men to choose their own issue, so to speak, exhorting them to “... shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things,... and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods:” Can these things not be seen in the world’s obsession with global warming or climate change? Some have boldly “prophesied” that the planet earth will be destroyed in 12 years if all of their environmental protections are not followed. A number of scriptures have been listed previously in these pages to refute such claims, but once again the great problem of these last days is that men will simply not adhere to God’s Word. It seems that the proponents of this doctrine truly believe that they can make certain predictions and then bring them to pass. They would greatly reduce or eliminate the horrific effects of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, drought, blizzards, and a host of other plagues and difficulties that only God has the power to control.

Another issue could be that of world peace. God says “Let these prognosticators promise it and then bring it to pass!” However, men have proven over and over that they are powerless to accomplish it. Current conditions in regard to Turkey, The Kurds, & Syria, along with Brexit, and the Palestinian – Israeli conflict, are all faced with a “we’ll see what happens” attitude. Men simply cannot predict what is to transpire in the future and then produce it. Contrariwise, God does know the end from the



beginning and one example of it is found in this same chapter of Isaiah, along with Chapter 44. The record here foretells the arrival of Cyrus who will free the Jews that they might return to Jerusalem after the Bablylonish captivity. The remarkable thing is that this prediction was made long, long before Jerusalem was even taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar.

True believers may not always understand why dictatorial rulers like Assad of Syria, and Maduro of Venezuela, along with the leaders of Russia, China, Turkey, and Iran, are permitted to continue their ruthless regimes, despite the brutality and destruction often carried out against their own people, but we do assuredly know that "...he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:..." Men can in no wise predict, control or guarantee the future, but scripture is very clear that God's controversy with the nations will continue until it is completely resolved at Armageddon, and He has His Own reasons and purposes for those whom He has placed in power. Paul, quoting from Isaiah, declares plainly that "... it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Rom. 14:11 Men will be under no illusion in that day that God is God! Today, however, we have the glorious privilege of willingly and lovingly bowing before Him in worship and adoration. We are thus exhorted "... that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Tim. 2:1-4 It is God's responsibility to move world leaders like chess pieces on a board. It is our burden to bow before Him and pray earnestly "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Matt. 6:10

## DAY

Kathryn Devers

“**B**ut, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” II Pet. 3:8

The word "day" is used three ways in the Scripture. (1) Genesis 1:5 - "And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night." This is a part of the solar day of twenty-four hours, which is called light. Jesus said, "Are there not twelve hours in the day?" (2) It refers to a time set apart for some distinctive purpose, as the Day of Atonement in Leviticus 16. On this day, the High Priest entered the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle to place the blood of the animal on the mercy seat for the sins of the people, believing they would be rolled back for another year. The shadow was fulfilled in the real substance, Jesus Christ, as He shed His blood on Calvary - Romans 3:23-25. A distinct purpose was accomplished on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2), the descent of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised to send to be with them in His absence as an abiding Comforter, Teacher, and Guide (John 14:16,17,26). (3) Day is a period of time (long or short), revealing the purposes of God which are to be accomplished. The Apostle Paul speaks of the day of salvation, especially referring to the time since Calvary, but the time to accept Him is now. Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day" (while life gives one an opportunity to work). Now is the day of opportunities; what we do must be done quickly.

But let our attention now be focused upon a particular day when the revealed purposes of God shall be accomplished. It is the "Day of the Lord." Much time is given this subject in God's Word. The Lord's Day must begin in heaven, before "The Day of the Lord" begins on earth. This begins when His throne is set up in heaven, and He takes His place on the throne. "After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice

which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald." Rev. 4:1,3. He is sharing His Father's throne now. (Romans 8:34). This day covers a period of one thousand years. The first seven years are fulfilled in judgment, because the rulers of the nations will refuse His authority by continuing to usurp the place that rightfully belongs to Him.

This day will come unexpectedly to the many, for even some Christians will be intoxicated with the affairs of this life, caught unaware, and found sleeping. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." I Thess. 5:2. The children of the light or the day will be watching with expectancy to be ushered out of this world and into His glory. These are the overcomers of this age, described in Rev. 3:7,13; 4:4,11. They will be fully qualified to reign with the Lord Jesus Christ.

**11**

Study briefly Revelation, the sixth chapter. It is an index to the remainder of the book; also an epitomized view of the week, or seven years tribulation of Daniel 9:27. The six seals of judgment described in this chapter cover the entire period, as they are opened at different intervals. Seal one is opened at the beginning, bringing into view the confederacy of nations and the declaring of peace which will end shortly. The riders of these various horses speak of the different phases of the rule of anti-Christ. He will be on the scene from the very beginning, yet not revealed as the one "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God" until a later date. Under this seal he appears to be a pursurer of peace, having a bow but no arrow; yet, his persuasive manner will win the hearts of people and conquer them. The formation of the nations is in view now, yet it is not discernible as to who they are. In the Common Market of Europe and the NATO, they are desiring union for

more strength. "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them" - 1 Thess. 5:3.

Perhaps at this point seal two is opened, and war replaces peace. The rider begins to manifest what is in his heart. No doubt this is the downfall of the United Nations - Rev. 17:10 - "Five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come." The one not yet come, refers to the one wounded to death in Rev. 13:3. He appears to be the eighth, but is of the seven, because of his resurrection. His deadly wound is healed. At what time does this happen? Let the Scripture answer. "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them" - Rev. 11:7. "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit" - Rev. 9:1. The keys of the bottomless pit are given unto Satan. This takes place 250 days before the middle of the week. The first two

**12** woes continue through this period of time - Rev. 9:1-12; 11:13,14. He takes his throne at this time, and continues his wicked reign for three and a half years - Rev. 13:5.

Who is this man? In the September "Grace and Glory," Sister Alice Mooneyhan affords wonderful light on this subject. Quote: "I may startle you when I say the other 'who is not yet come' is possibly a political ruler who represents the Catholic Church. In chapter 17 we see clearly that the church is actually reigning over the nations at the beginning of the seven years. In that case, the prince that shall confirm the covenant with many for one week (Daniel 9:27) would, of necessity, be a representative of the church. Now there are actually two men in the Catholic Church who are in the place of authority: the Pope who rules over the religious ceremonies, and the Jesuit General who is a political leader in the church. The latter has greater authority at the present time than the Pope. The history of the Jesuit order is very interesting and I am convinced that the leader of this Order is the one mentioned in the prophecy as the prince

and also in Revelation as the one who will be the eighth (Rev. 17:11)." In the latest news, Pope John has chosen Agustin Cardinal Bea, 71 year old German Jesuit Biblical scholar, to lead the secretariat for Christian unity at the Ecumenical Council in Rome, October - December. These many signs are not happening by chance, but God's Word is being fulfilled. Jesus is coming soon. Hallelujah!

Under seal 5, the anti-Christ will demand the worship of the believer - Rev. 13:15. Many will lose their lives for the Word of God, and for their testimony. Freedom of worship will not be known then. How we should avail ourselves of this wonderful privilege now, cherishing it with all our hearts.

The third and fourth seals include the remaining part of the tribulation period. The man of sin will be manifesting the fullness of his power. Food will be rationed. No one can buy or sell unless he has his mark - Rev. 6:5,6; 13:16,17. This power is often exercised through organizations and labor unions, which causes hardship for many industries.

A terrible time awaits this world. God's judgments are pending. Rev. 6:8 speaks of wars and its ravages. The prophets Joel and Zephaniah declare it to be a day of darkness, gloominess, trouble, distress, wasteness, desolation, and of wrath and anger.

The sixth seal is opened under the fourth. This takes us to the close of that day. The nations of the earth have been gathered, and the battle of Armageddon fought (Rev. 16:14-16; Joel 3:2; Zech. 12:1-3). The aftermath is so great; the effects are seen in Rev. 6:12-14. Compare this with Matthew 24:27-31. This is just prior to the revelation of Jesus unto the nation of Israel. This is known as the great and notable (or conspicuous) day of the Lord.

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" - Rev. 1:7. This Scripture will have its fulfillment at this time. Satan is bound in the bottomless pit - Rev. 20:1,3 - and Jesus will continue His reign of righteousness and peace as the only

Lord and despot.

The revealed purposes of God are accomplished in a wonderful way when Jesus takes His throne in heaven. There will be the rapture of the church; the great whore will have been judged; the battle of Armageddon fought; the anti-Christ, false prophet, and Satan cast into the lake of fire; world dominion conquered; with all enemies under His feet.

Signs are appearing in heaven and on earth. Let us look up, for our redemption draweth nigh. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

**GOD IS**  
Heb. 13:5

When I see no way before me,  
When the path with light seems dim,  
There comes to me a blest assurance—  
God is there! God is there!

Tho my eyes see not His face,  
Tho my ears hear not a sound,  
Yet this comforting assurance—  
God is there! God is there!

Faith seems small and, oh, so weak,  
Footsteps tarry to walk on,  
Still His Word holds this assurance—  
God is there! God is there!

Then the morning light shines on me,  
Gone the night of doubt and fear.  
For He whispers to assure me—  
"I am here! I am here!"

—Martha Wainright

**"B**less the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits" - Psalm 103:2.

The Psalmist is fond of addressing the soul as though to arouse it from lethargy. Within is a whole choir of minstrels, let them all awake! All that is within should be attuned to God and His praise. Let us not repine for the past, nor strain after the future. We often forget the rare benefits of the present moment, because we suppose that there is something more absolutely satisfying ahead. Here and now God is forgiving, healing, redeeming, crowning, satisfying, and executing righteous acts. Live in the present! Live in God - the same yesterday, today, and forever! It is enough. The past records of God's dealings with His people are an incentive to faith. What He was, He is. He is a fountain brimming to the full with pitying love, which flows over in mercy and forgiveness. "Bless the Lord, O my soul!" We are reminded of the conductor of a vast orchestra and choir, whose trained ear missed the note of the piccolo. So God will miss your voice if you refrain from His praise. 15

- F.B. Meyer



It is said that once when Sir Michael Costa was having a rehearsal with a vast array of musicians and hundreds of voices, a man who played the piccolo far off in a remote corner said within himself, "In all this din, it matters not what I do," and he ceased to play.

Suddenly the great conductor stopped. Amid a great silence, he cried aloud, "Where is the piccolo?" The quick ear had missed it.

He listens for thy praise!





## THANKFUL FOR PLENTY

Plenty of Food. "Ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied,"  
Joel 2 :26.

Plenty of Water. "Thou didst send plenteous rain," Ps. 68:9.

Plenty of Goods. "He shall make thee plenteous in goods,"  
Deut. 28:11.

Plenty of Production. "The Lord thy God will make thee plenteous  
in every work of thine hand . . .," Deut. 30:9.

Plenty in Store. "So shall thy barns be filled with plenty,"  
Prov. 3:10.

"Bread enough, and to spare," Luke 15:17.

Plenty for All. "A plentiful country," Jer. 2:7.

Plenty of Mercy. "Slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy,"  
Psa. 103:8.

Plentiful Pardon. "Return unto the Lord, for He will abundantly  
pardon," Is. 55:7.

Plentiful Peace. "And the peace of God, which passeth all  
understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus  
Christ," Phil. 4:7. 17

Plentiful Redemption. "With the Lord is plenteous Redemption,"  
Psa. 130:7. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only  
begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not  
perish, but have everlasting life," John 3:16.

Plentiful Grace. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward  
you, that ye always having all sufficiency, for all things, may  
abound unto every good work," II Cor. 9:8.

Plentiful Resources. "Unto Him who is able to do exceeding  
abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power  
that worketh in us," Eph. 3:20.

Plenty for the Future. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither  
have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath  
prepared for them that love Him," I Cor. 2:9.

(Selected)

\* God's Telephone Number is JER. 33:3.

\* A man is never such a free man as when led  
by the spirit.

# REFLECTIONS

... From the Editor

“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;” Col 4:2

This little word “...continue...” establishes prayer as a way of life in our experience, rather than a matter of convenience or sporadic need. Not only so but “...watch...” indicates that we must be “vigilant” or “keep awake” in that endeavor. Finally we note that an attitude of faith is to be present as is expressed by “...thanksgiving...” even before the answer to prayer may have been realized.

18 Scripture is replete with examples of those who “called” or “cried” unto The Lord. Peter is very specific and rather adamant with his instruction for the last days “...that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Acts 2:21 This same pattern has been displayed down through the ages. Moses “...cried unto the LORD;...” when Israel came to the bitter waters of Marah and were indeed “saved” when “...the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet:...” Ex. 15:25 That tree was symbolic of Christ Himself Who was “cut down” and cast into the bitter waters of humanity at Calvary, thus providing salvation for all.

The glorious pattern of calling on the Name Of The Lord resulting in salvation is surely manifest here, despite the fact that not one word of thanksgiving is uttered after this glorious miracle. Thus, it is not at all surprising that the very next chapter relates how Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron due to lack of food.

The children of Israel cried out to the Lord again after Joshua was dead and they “...did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their God....” Jud. 3:7 That repentant cry, however, brought salvation for “...the LORD raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.” Jud. 3:9 Othniel did prevail against their enemy and though there is no

record of “thanksgiving,” God was Faithful to bring salvation and the land had rest forty years.

Stephen is another who dramatically proved “...that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” However, we learn from his experience that God’s plan for deliverance may not always agree with what mere mortals may have in mind. “But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, **calling upon God**, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.” Acts. 7:55-60 Stephen is recorded as a man who was “...full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.” Acts 6:8 Such faith surely comes to the fore in the closing moments of his life as this godly man cried unto the Lord and experienced God’s salvation. It is not difficult to envision this embodiment of faith, with hands lifted high, literally entering “...into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:...” Psa. 100:4 Not only so but surely Saul of Tarsus was one who became the answer to his final entreaty, “...lay not this sin to their charge.”

19

Let us also follow Stephen’s example and “Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;”

GH

### **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Isaiah Book Two (Matt. - Rev.) has now been printed and is ready for distribution. You may order by e-mail: [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com), by phone: 816-618-3306 or by regular mail: Grace and Glory, P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030.

**“O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.” Psa. 105:1**

## **FIVE CHARGES OF THE APOSTLE PAUL**

**Paul N. Smith**

**"T**his charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away, concerning faith have made shipwreck" - I Timothy 1:18,19.

The Apostle Paul gave four distinct charges to Timothy his son in the faith, and one to the church at Thessalonica. These five, though they do not comprise all the commandments of the Apostle to the Church, give us an interesting study. The word "charge" in this portion of Scripture, also in I Timothy 6:13,14, carries the meaning to "transmit a message or a mandate - a command." Paul had every right to transmit this mandate to his spiritual son, and not to him only but also to those who have carried on with this Gospel that was committed to Paul and then given to his successors - the Timothys who preach the Gospel of Grace.

This **FIRST CHARGE** is a serious one, as are the others. It entails warfare - holding faith and a good conscience. Verse three of this chapter gives us the charge that Timothy was to hand down to others - "that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine." Galatians 1:6-9 gives us the solemn warning of Paul to the Galatians, that whoever preached another Gospel (which is not a gospel) "let him be accursed." This is twice repeated and is of no little significance.

What a responsibility was placed on Timothy! What a responsibility is placed on every minister today! How many are "holding faith, and a good conscience"? Few are those who are really holding the faith that was committed unto the Apostle Paul, and have a good conscience toward God. Many are the ministers, some even professing to be Spirit-filled, who have put away this faith and are not teaching the whole counsel of

God. Do they have a conscience toward God? The conscience of the majority of ministers seems to be toward the people, especially the influential and popular. With the abundance of error that is around us today, it is surely a warfare to "hold fast the form of sound words" which we have received -II Timothy 1:13. There are many words, but the sound of them is usually hollow, words without weight or meaning. Christendom is headed for shipwreck, as typified in Acts 27 and 28, because the Protestant churches have left the faith of the Gospel and have turned aside unto "fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying" - I Timothy 1:4. Each Protestant organization we see today was once fundamental and stood for the Truth as far as they went. Luther, Wesley, and others began a revival of the Truth, which lasted for a while; . but soon other leaders came in who, having left the faith they once knew, are causing Christendom to be shipwreck. Paul arrived safely on shore; and those who walk in the light of Paul's Gospel, and yield to the power of the Holy Ghost working through the Word, will come out safe and sound on glory's shore. This warfare is not child's play, but takes a hardy soldier to stand the strenuous battle against Satan and his legion of doctrines that are running rampant around the world today. Those who are armed with the whole armour of God are able to stand against the wiles of the devil and, with the Sword of the Spirit, push against and through all opposition to the Truth; and in the end, stand out amidst the ruins, victorious and crowned! The Apostle gave his testimony to this in II Timothy 4:7,8. He warred a good warfare and he was not without reward. A crown of righteousness was laid up for him and also for others who have fought a good fight and kept the faith and love the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The SECOND CHARGE is found in

I Timothy 5:21, "I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality." In this chapter, the Apostle enumerates divers commandments to be followed in the assemblies. Timothy had the responsibility of the churches after Paul's home-going, and therefore needed to be instructed as to the manner of his predecessor. The widows, who were widows indeed, were to be taken care of. Also, instructions given are pertinent for the assemblies and pastors today. There would be fewer splits in assemblies, more growing assemblies, if the pastors would follow implicitly the pattern set forth in the Word of God. It should cause every minister to walk softly before the Lord, and solemnly and humbly give forth the Word of God, trusting the Holy Spirit to take the words spoken and make them life  
22 to the hearers. A word spoken by the Spirit's power will not be ineffective. A life, moved by the Spirit and saturated by the Word of God, will not be ineffective either.

I Timothy 6:11-21 gives us the THIRD CHARGE. Fighting "the good fight of faith," meanwhile laying "hold on eternal life," is the substance of this commandment. This was given in the sight of God Who sees all things and knows also the hearts of men, and Who will judge all men according to their work. This charge, no less important than others, was to be kept, "without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Timothy 6:11. How only can such a mandate be kept, except by the power of the Spirit? Men are helpless to walk as the Lord would have them walk, except they are given up wholly to God and have a rich knowledge of the Word. Those who are depending upon their

theological teachings and their own physical efforts and attainments can never hope to attain to this high place mapped out for the successors of Paul. What a sad picture God must see!

Timothy was to instruct those who were rich in the world that they be not high-minded nor trust in their riches. The truly Pauline preachers are not rich in this world nor high-minded, and they trust alone in God. This is their fight of faith. This is laying hold of the eternal life they have. Their faith is in the "living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy" - I Timothy 6:17. Instead of material riches, they are rich in good works, laying up in store in heaven eternal riches and treasures that do not rust or decay. Their concern is not with how much they can get, nor how high in the estimate of the people they are; but their concern is their life before God. All their riches come from God and return unto God. Their life is God's life. Their riches are His riches. His reward then becomes their reward. Thrilling is the outlook and uplook of such ministers.

23

The FOURTH CHARGE given to Timothy is a most important one. The word "charge," in this instance and in the second charge, carries a stronger meaning than the other two. It means: "to testify, witness, protest earnestly, bear record, be a testimony, a martyr." No small wonder then that Paul should use this word in this particular place. His charge was before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, the Judge of the quick and the dead at His appearing. "Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine" - II Timothy 4:2. That charge seems to ring through my being as a loudspeaker shouting this command during this age. "PREACH THE WORD ---PREACH THE WORD --- PREACH THE WORD." It cannot be too often shouted. "Wouldn't it be better to give the people what they want?"

Someone asks. No! Preach the Word! "But, people just won't come out for a Bible study." Preach the Word! "My congregation enjoys book reviews so much better." Preach the Word! "The people get restless and tired so soon." Nevertheless, Preach the Word! Those who really preach the Word in the power of the Spirit become martyrs to a declining practice --- preaching the Word. The Word will find lodging, however; and there are still hungry hearts taking in the Word, growing up into Christ in all things, and abounding in this grace that was given unto them.

24 Paul preached the Word and made full proof of his ministry, and surely Timothy carried on as well. The Apostle was not ashamed to declare this Gospel, nor was he backward in instructing others the right way. He endured all afflictions, all suffering, to preach this Gospel of Christ. Why was such a charge given? Verses three and four explain this, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." The time of this sad era is almost upon us in its fulness. No one will be able to endure this sound doctrine that does not accept it. As the Word is given out, it cuts away the flesh and puts that sinful flesh up before the eyes of the hearers, and they are offended. No one likes to think he is nothing. The Word declares that all flesh is grass. Man does not like to depend upon anyone, especially God. His messy finger is always in the pie, spoiling the whole contents. Surely the word offends the unbelievers.

The FIFTH CHARGE is found in I Thess. 5:27, "I charge you by the Lord, that this Epistle be read unto all the holy brethren." Paul was always putting the responsibility of these charges on the Lord. He was committing these charges in the sight of God,



and spoken by the Lord. What a glorious example! The word translated "charge" in this verse is yet another word and carries additional meaning. It has several meanings - "to put on oath; solemnly enjoin or adjure; to limit; restrain; a bound or limit; a frontier." This first Epistle to the Thessalonians, as well as the second one, has the preeminent message of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His people and to the world. In each chapter of this book, the coming of the Lord is mentioned: 1:9,10; 2:19,20; 3:11-13; 4:14-18; 5:1-8,23,24. This was to be read unto all the holy brethren. From this we know that this Epistle was not written alone to the people of that particular assembly, but to all those who are born again. The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is one of the most important messages we can preach in this day. It stirs the hearts of unbelievers and believers alike. Paul was restrained to give forth this message. He, in turn, put Timothy on oath to preach this message; and not only Timothy, but every minister of the Gospel. This truth was to be read to all the holy brethren. The unholy men will not accept such a truth. They say, "Where is the promise of His coming? Aren't things just as they were in the times of our fathers?" Yes, they are unbelieving; but that does not make the Word of God of less truth or effect. The Lord Jesus Christ is coming, and there is no doubt about that. This life would be unbearable without the hope of the soon-coming of our Lord. What would the Christian have to look forward to? The world has only heartaches, sadness, and trouble facing them. A new world will not change matters - there will still be the same old people. A new administration won't help either - there will still be the same old heart in man. The only hope is in the New Man, Jesus Christ, who shall return to this earth and take over the affairs and rule in righteousness.

Paul's whole life and ministry was motivated by the

coming of the Lord. He moved through the Spirit in view of the coming of the Lord. He had this hope, and constantly spoke of it in his letters: His sermons must have been filled with this Hope. No wonder he solemnly enjoined that this Epistle be read to all the brethren. The life of the believer is shaped and purified by this message - I John 3. Believing this message puts a great frontier in front of us for our view. There are no boundaries to those who are alive with this glorious message. Yet, they are limited in their view also. Their view is filled with the Lord of Glory. Nothing else crosses their vision. Earthly thrones, wealth, fame, never come into view. Only the Throne of Glory, the riches of God's grace, and the fame of Jesus Christ meet their gaze. Paul could fight on, Timothy could carry on, and we can go on, because we know that the coming of the Lord is near at hand. We cannot let down - the Lord is at hand. We must preach the Word - the Lord is at hand. We must hold fast the faithful

**26** words - the Lord is at hand. And those who are looking for His coming and loving His appearing will some day soon be rewarded for all their labors and their toils in this life. They will be glad they followed in the footsteps that were laid out for them. Their hearts will rejoice with exceeding gladness that they followed the instructions of the Lord. There is no failure to the child of God who is trusting in the Lord. The Apostle Paul prayed for those who had the hope of the coming of the Lord, which is a fitting ending - "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it" - I Thess. 5:23,24.

(Reprint 1965)

- \* **The Bible is the one photographer that dares to give man a true likeness of himself.**
- \* **Faith must produce something. It walks without seeing; runs without evidence that is tangible. It flies without wings.**

## A SONG OF CHRIST'S VICTORY

Mary M. Bodie

“**L**et God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.” Psa. 68:1-2

The Psalm from which we quote is one of the most majestic triumphant songs of David, the choir leader of Israel. It is outclassed by none, for sublimity of language and grandeur of sentiment. The nation is viewed as associated with their new Head, the ascended Christ, under Whom all the blessings given to the fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are fulfilled to them.

How marvelous are these writings of truth. The inspired prophet, with his farseeing eyes, looks from his day down through all the centuries and voices the most glorious distinctive assurances of blessing. The glorious promises of Jehovah are seen as verified and fulfilled to the ancient people in their Messiah. Moses' immortal words, his Divine eulogy of the nation, along with Balaam's gracious prophecies, and the superb song of Hannah, all echo and re-echo here. But beyond and above all this, the language of the Psalm is so peculiarly its own that we meet with at least a dozen phrases that are found nowhere else in all Scripture. 27

The song is in two sections. It begins with the prayer of Moses recorded in Num. 10:35. Israel at that time was beginning her victorious march to the land of Canaan under the guidance, as it were, of their Divine Leader. They were in the path of steady advance, and as they kept their eyes upon Him there could be no failure. That was typical of the victorious ongoing, recorded in our Psalm, resultant of Calvary. The causes of the failure found in Numbers are apparently gone. The Grace Covenant is viewed as replacing that of the Law; hence, all is blessedness indeed, as it shall yet be for that people of destiny. David anticipates that glorious future. He views Israel's enemies as the enemies of God. He has taken up the cudgels in their defense. The battle is the Lord's, as is so often said. Like wax before the fire, so their foes shall melt away before the Presence of the Lord. The fiery heat of His judgment shall fall upon them. But the righteous shall be glad and rejoice; yea, they shall leap with joy and sing unto God

a psalm of praise. He rides upon the heavens to their help, the singer exultingly chants.

28 He describes the Lord, the Captain of their salvation, as marching at the head of the army as one with His people. The singers follow Him. They make way for the warriors, for the spirit of praise is ever the spirit of power. Christ with them is the all-sufficient guarantee of their ultimate triumph. David sings the praises of Jehovah, and exhorts all to praise the mighty One. "Extol Him,..." he cries, "...that rideth upon the heavens by His Name JAH, and rejoice before Him." The latter awesome title of God condenses into one syllable all that the Name Jehovah comprises --- ROCK OF AGES --- He that was, He that is, He that shall be: the Eternal Past, the Ever Present, and the Eternal Future. He, the Father of the fatherless and Judge of the husbandless, is worthy of all praise. He has a large family now through the death and resurrection of Christ. His Son is no more solitary. He has many brethren. They were captive and in prison. He has not only brought them out of bondage, but into prosperity and blessing, removing the curse of barrenness and isolation. It is only the rebellious who "dwell in a dry land." Thus, God's gracious, as well as righteous, character is declared in a few words.

Then David returns to the history of Israel in the desert. He vehemently declares that there was no lack of power on God's part. He cries, "O God, when Thou wentest forth before Thy people, when Thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah: The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the Presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the Presence of God, the God of Israel."

As we said, this is a most unusual Psalm. It is unique in more than one instance. It celebrates type and antitype, fact and figure, substance and shadow. It looks back to the coming out of Egypt, and the beginning of the nation Israel; and it looks forward to the coming out of the world of the nations, and a new beginning of the nation. It looks back and commemorates the first coming of Christ and the victory of Calvary, and it also points down to His second coming. It not only looks back to Pentecost and celebrates the Presence of God with them at Sinai under law, but also Pentecost under grace at Jerusalem on which day the one hundred and twenty were baptized into one Body. This latter was provisional --- not alone for the Church, but also for Israel. If

they had received their Messiah and King, He would then have returned and immediately set up His Kingdom upon the earth. In the Psalm, this glorious consummation is seen as a fact. The people have the assurance that God is with them, the Psalmist declares. Even nature itself does Him homage; for the heavens "dropped" or bowed, and the earth quaked at the Presence of Jehovah.

But Israel in reality failed to receive their King at His first advent; hence, the fulfillment of this prophecy waits His second coming. In the meantime, another Divine purpose is in process of fulfillment. The heavenly people are being gathered out of every nation and kindred and tongue for a glorious dwelling place of Deity in the ascensions above --- "It is He that buildeth His stories in the heaven, and hath founded His troop in the earth; He that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is His Name." Amos 9:6 This heavenly temple is composed of living stones, quarried out of the ebony hearts of humanity --- black marble we might call them --- of every race upon the globe. The full number is almost complete. After centuries of Divine work upon them --- chiseling and polishing --- they are perfected and beautiful, ready to be fitted into their individual place into the building.

29.

But as we return to the Psalm we are again impressed with its magnitude. It is history in a nutshell, compressing both shadow and substance in its few words. It declares the scattering of the Church after Pentecost, and the going forth of both men and women preaching the Word everywhere. Acts 8 In the Revised Version the women are given the prominence: "The Lord giveth the Word: The women that publish the tidings are a great host." Psalm 68: 11

The Church is seen as a great army going out against the enemy, not a weakling army either, but a gigantic powerful multitude equipped and trained by the Lord Himself, the Captain of the host of the Lord. They are a royal company, likened to kings of armies advancing against the foe.

Those of the army who remain at home, helping together by prayer, have their reward with those in the conflict. They "... divided the spoil." That is, they shared in the victory and honors of those who went forth at the command of The Leader. Psa. 68:12. Further then we have a hint of the condition of the captives

taken in the siege. "Though ye have lain among the pots, yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold." V. 13.

How beautiful is the language of Scripture, so unusual and sublime! There is an allusion to the soiled estate of the sinners of the Gentiles who were captured by the royal army of the Lord. They were brought to Him in their tarnished condition, black with the soot of sin, having lain among "...the pots,..." others as dirty as themselves; but they did not remain in this terrible plight. They were changed, not only outwardly but inwardly. The description is alluring "...as a dove with silver wings and golden feathers..." which figures redemption and Divine life. The old creation is viewed as altogether of the past, "...old things are passed away;..." and the new creation evidenced, "...all things are become new." Not only a negative condition of cleanliness or uncleanness is manifest, but "...beauty for ashes..." is seen. Isa. 61:3 The soiled and unsatisfactory righteousness of self-effort is gone forever from the sight of the Lord. No longer is our ugliness manifested when we are born again, but beauty is evidenced instead. We are covered by His comeliness. Oh, the depths of the mercy and goodness of God! "How unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding (tracing) out!" Rom. 11:33 Amen forever!

30

"We shall be like Him, we shall be like Him, and in His beauty shall shine. We shall be like Him, wondrously like Him, Jesus our Savior Divine."

Then reference is made to the exaltation of Christ above the hills, or nations of the world. He has been seated upon His Father's throne, but later He shall be crowned King upon His Own throne. It is this latter glory which is implied here. The Church redeemed, saved, and glorified shall be joined to her Head and Lord. Israel's King --- "...the Seed of Abraham,..." "...the Root and the Offspring of David..." shall be exalted over all the kings of the earth. - Heb. 2:16; Rev. 22:16.

The time of the restoration, rejuvenation, and "restitution of all things" --- the glad day to which all creation is hastening --- is here celebrated by the songster. Acts 3:21 "The hill of Bashan,..." "fruitful," is viewed as "...the hill of God." It speaks of the fruitfulness of Christ's kingdom or throne. Bashan was the summit of the land of Og, the Amorite, when Israel were on their way to enter Canaan. Num. 21: 33-35 The apex of the triumph

of Christ over all the power of Satan and the flesh, as evidenced by infidelity or the reasoning of man, is celebrated. The question, "Why leap ye, ye high hills?" refers to the wonder of the nations at the glorious hill of the King of the Jews. Why be astonished at the Presence of Jehovah? It is written that He shall dwell in Zion. "This is the hill which God desireth to dwell in." Psa. 68:15,16 And when He wants anything, He is surely going to obtain it.

Then we note further evidence of the victory of the conquering Christ on the hill of triumph, the summit of exaltation. The mountain range of Bashan, towering above sea level, might well be used to symbolize power over all; but it refers, as we noted, to Zion, the beautiful city of God. It is there that Jehovah desires to dwell, and there He will abide forever. It tells us of the throne above in the heavenlies and the throne below in Jerusalem; on the one the Church shall reign with Him, on the other the nation Israel.

"The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place." Psa. 68: 17. The chariots are the saints themselves. The word for "angels" is "messengers" and refers to the redeemed, even as is the case in Revelation. We are here viewing "the Lion of the tribe of Judah" upon His "high hill" of Zion, and His fellows in that day, the blood-bought from among the children of men. "For unto the angels hath He not put in subjection the world (or age) to come," but unto man has it been made subject. Though we do not yet see this consummation, the apostle assures us that it shall come. "We see Jesus," who has taken upon Him the seed of man that He might redeem and save a lost humanity exalted to glory and honor. God has put all things under His feet. Heb. 2:5-18

"Thou hast ascended on high, Thou hast led captivity captive: Thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the Lord God might dwell among them." V. 18. It is Christ in death and resurrection, Who is the subject here. He came down for the purposed redemption of mankind. He went up when this was accomplished, leading "captivity captive." That is, taking up with Him a multitude of redeemed men, some with their glorified bodies, openly triumphing over Satan and his horde of wicked spirits in the heavenlies. He put them to shame, showing their former captives delivered from death and the grave by His power. Then He poured out the Holy Spirit to endue His

people on earth with power. That is, He has not only negatively freed men from the dominion of sin, death, and Satan; but He has enriched them. As the Apostle Paul declares, as relating to these gifts, "...God hath set some in the Church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues." I Cor. 12:28. The singer, at this point of the song, breaks forth in an inscription of praise to God Who is the God of Israel --- "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah. He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto God the Lord belong the issues from death." V. 19,20.

32 "But God shall wound the head of His enemies, and the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses." V. 21 Here we have presented a different scene. Israel are viewed at the end of their wanderings in a union with Jehovah, which fellowship shall never be broken. There is but a hint of the trouble which will precede their ultimate blessing. The devil, antiChrist, and false prophet and all those associated with them in that last rebellion against God are seen as defeated. The singer continues his song of victory, alleging that what Jehovah hath purposed He shall perform, regardless of all the power against Him. He has declared the ultimate triumph of Israel, and so it shall be.

"The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring My people again from the depths of the sea: That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of thine enemies, and the tongue of thy dogs in the same" - 68:22,23.

The exodus of the Jew from the world is assured, of which his coming out of Egypt was the pattern. He will come into his own land, as it is written of him, even though his path be obstructed by national hate and Gentile power. These will all give way before the might of the living God. The Psalmist paints the scene with glowing colors. It is as a moving picture before our eyes, played with realism and grandeur. The nations will see the advancing of God's army and be overwhelmed with amazement and fear, while His people will be jubilant as David sings:

"They have seen Thy goings, O God; even the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary" - 68:24. As the ark of God led the procession in the past and was ushered into its rest in the sanctuary amidst the praises of Israel, so the Divine King



will be welcomed by the adoring multitude - the remnant of the delivered nation. God is here viewed as taking His former place of fellowship; and it is the God-Man their King, the long-rejected but now welcome Leader and Deliverer, who is welcomed by the people.

"The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels" - 68:25. Observe that the singers are the leading figures. God honors the human voice above the instruments of music, for the melody in the heart of man is what God desires. Then the harmony of the musical instruments will be acceptable. It is the maidens or damsels with their passionate rhapsody of soul which are singled out for special mention. Well may the virgins sing a new song to the virgin's Son. It is fitting and beautiful, and reminds us of Miriam and her maidens in their dance and Song of victory after the Red Sea deliverance. Ex. 15:20.

The enumeration of the tribes which follows is interesting when its spiritual significance is realized - "There is little Benjamin with their ruler, the princes of Judah and their council, the princes of Zebulun, and the princes of Naphtali" - 68:27. Benjamin represents the Christ of power, the Messiah who abides, not suffering but reigning, even as Joseph represents Him as the suffering One. But Israel must receive the Messiah as Joseph before He can take His place of power upon the earth. "Little Benjamin" counted as nothing and less than the least by the Gentiles as well as Jews - rejected, denied, and derided, unknown in His true greatness - shall yet arise, the Conqueror of the nations, to reign over the earth. Then "the princes of Judah," the praising and worshiping tribe, will find their true place at His feet. Next we find the "princes of Zebulun" - "dwelling" - clearly answering to the condition upon which Israel are seen entering with the Lord. Lastly, the "princes of Naphtali" - "my wrestling" - will find like Jacob their father, that their strength is made perfect in weakness. The inspiration breathing through this portion is perfection itself. God has commanded the prostration not only of Israel before their Messiah and King, but of all the peoples of the world, as the singer declares. "Because of Thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto Thee" - 68:29.

The kings of the earth shall bring their tribute unto Jerusalem, for the "King of kings" shall have His

earthly headquarters there. But even then, there will be some adversaries that will be forced to yield, for so the Psalm informs us. "Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, till every one submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter Thou the people that delight in war" 68:30. It is a hint of real disarmament of the nations which the Lord Himself will put over when He is on His throne. There will be no camouflaging then, no playing at a curtailment of armaments, but the reality will be in evidence. The nations "shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" - Micah 4:3. The reign of peace shall begin when Christ reigns. Egypt will send dignitaries to wait upon Him; and Cush, or Ethiopia, will stretch out the hands and implore the mercy of the Lord. No more will the haughty head be in evidence, nor the stiff neck and unbelieving heart.

34 Man will at last own His Master in the Man Christ Jesus, and yield to His sway. Pride will be humbled; but it is thus that the creature is blessed in taking his place in the dust before the Creator. The song ends with a call to all the kingdoms of the earth to praise the Mighty God of Israel, whose excellency is seen over the people and His power in the ever moving clouds.

The final verse is the response from all the people; for the will of God will then be done on earth, His Kingdom having come. O God, Thou art terrible out of Thy holy places: the God of Israel is He that giveth strength and power unto His people. Blessed be God" - 68:35.

### ***I KNOW HE'S COMING***

***He's coming, yes, He's coming--  
I'm longing for that day  
When He will come  
From out the sky  
And catch His bride away.***

***I do not know just when He'll come--  
At morning, or at noon,  
But this I know  
'Twill not be long--  
I know He's coming soon.***

***--Beula Clark***



# 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

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

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

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