

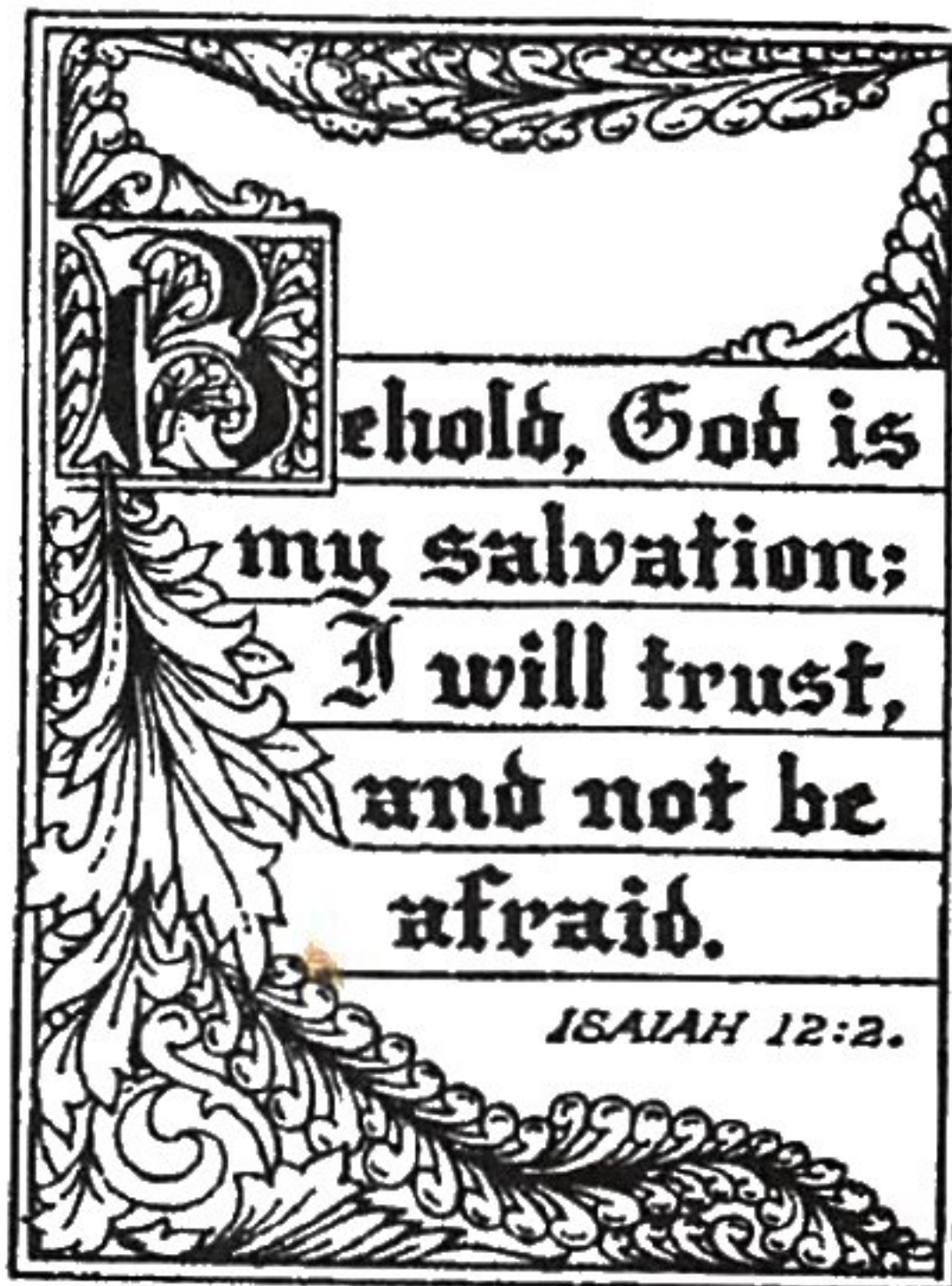
# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole Counsel of GOD

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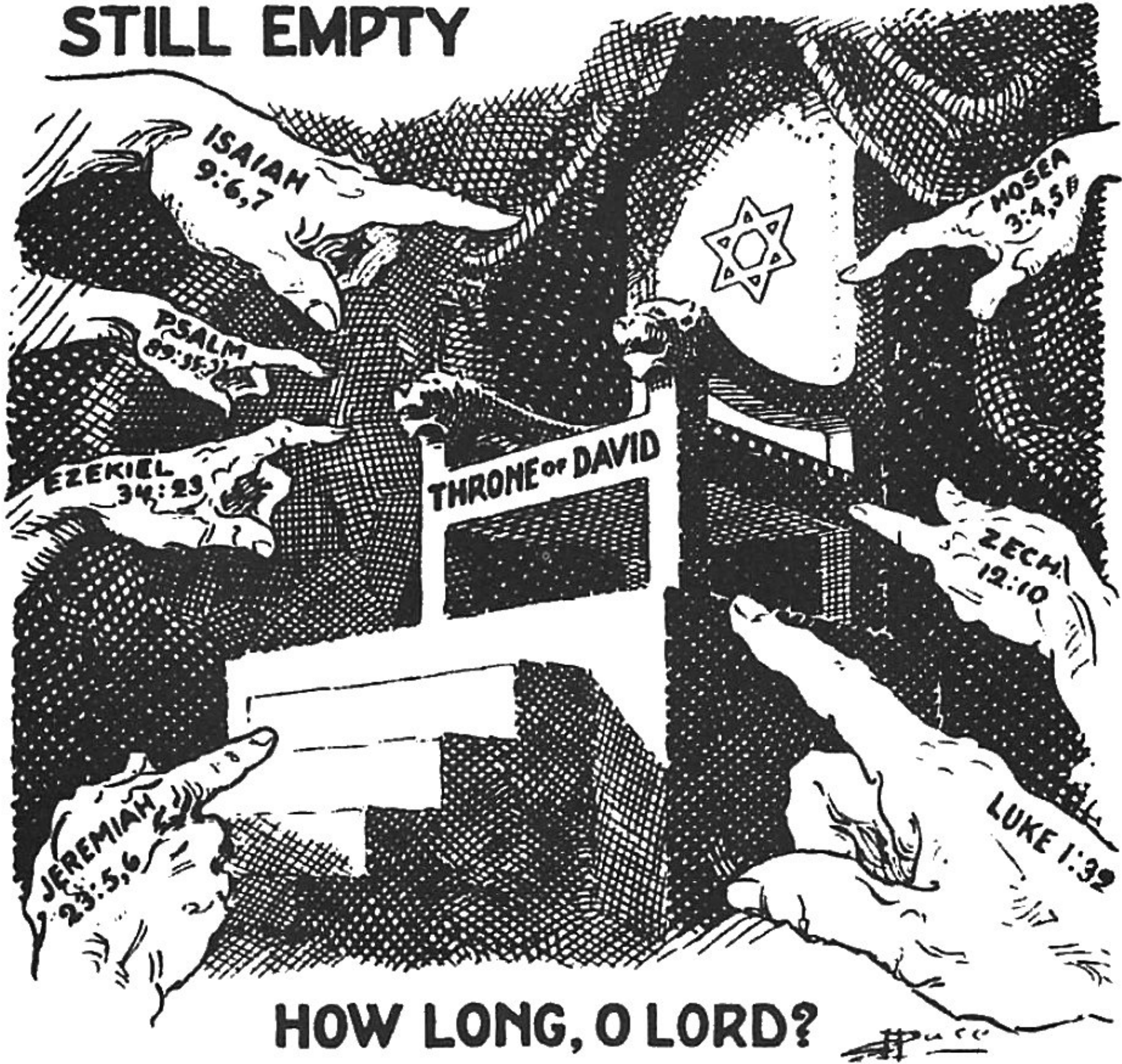




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## STILL EMPTY



## HOW LONG, O LORD?

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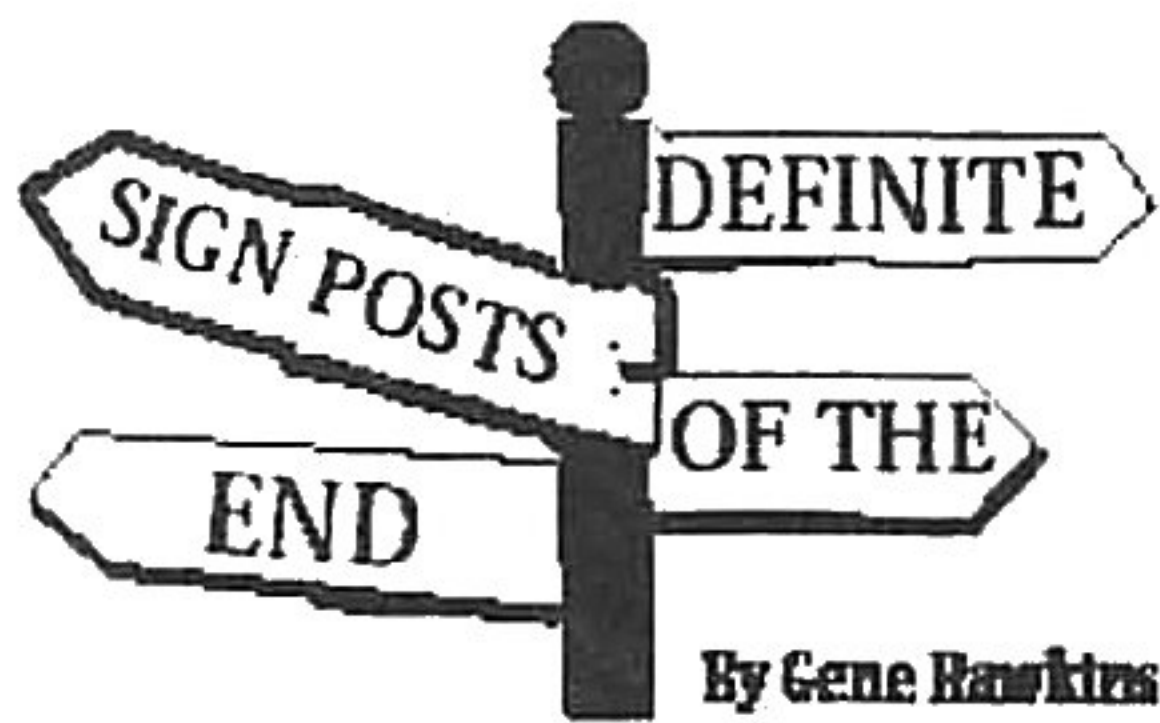
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**Editor: Gene Hawkins**





“**A**nd the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns..... And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.” Rev. 17:7&12

“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work:... And then shall that Wicked be revealed,... Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,...with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” II Thess 2:7-12

The prophesied signs of Jesus’ eminent return continue to mount daily, but it seems that they are being largely ignored by the societal masses around the entire world. Hurricane Dorian is an acute and dramatic example of Jesus’ declaration that, “... **there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;** Lk. 21:25 He further asserted that “...there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Matt. 24:7 Many of these destructive forces are, in fact, weather-related, but rather than accept these striking signs for what scripture has declared them to be, men are instead proclaiming, “We can fix it!” Thus, all their attempts to, in their words, stop “man-made global warming.”

Much energy and financial endeavor today is spent in trying to repair the damage done by these horrendous storms. It is most assuredly heart-rending to see the effects of such



devastation as that inflicted by Hurricanes Dorian, Andrew, Harvey, multiple tornadoes, and a host other weather-related catastrophes around the entire globe. There are quite a number of very humanitarian organizations which are trying desperately to help in these horrific situations, and we surely applaud their efforts. The hearts of many Christians have also been touched by the dire need of people and have indeed done what they could to help. However, due to the fact that these tragic events will escalate, the day will come when none can help. There will not be enough financial aid among the totality of nations to accommodate all the restoration which will be required due to the massive avenues of destruction prophesied for these last days. So we can guarantee on the authority of God's Word, that men will never be able to completely "fix it."

4 Violence is another very prominent characteristic prophesied for these end times, which Jesus likened unto "...the days of Noe..." Matt. 24:37 According to Genesis 6:11, those days were fraught with chaos, as we read that "The earth also was **corrupt before God**, and the earth was filled with violence." Once again, the loud refrain from men of our day is that "We can fix it!" Following every mass shooting around the country, their only answer is to pass more gun control laws. Guns are not the problem! Man has found multiple weapons of death and destruction down through the ages. The problem is not with the weapon but with the wicked heart behind it, just as it was in the days of Noah. "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every **imagination of the thoughts of his heart** was only evil continually." Gen. 6:5

Escalating reports of unrest and upheaval among the nations which are described in Matt. 24:6 as, "...wars and rumours of wars:..." continue unabated in the news cycles of our day, often without even a hint of any impending peace or resolution on the horizon. These, too, seem to be completely ignored as a harbinger of Jesus' soon return, and are considered as just another fact of normalcy for our day.

So-called religious signs are also bountiful in these closing days of The Church Age. They, too, are largely ignored, perhaps because they are somewhat veiled in the **political** rhetoric of this present time, as seen in the text quoted above from II Thess. 2.



We would call attention to the fact that, "...the mystery of iniquity doth already work..." This simply means that Satanic opposition was in full operation, even during the time then present, at the very beginning of the Church Age. Paul then warns of "... that Wicked...Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,...with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish;..." That "...Wicked..." is none other than the false prophet, who will prepare the way for the political antichrist, whom Paul described in verse 3 of this same chapter as, "... that man of sin..., the son of perdition;" Note here that the apostle not only emphatically warned of the deception that would usher in the reign of antichrist, he also declared the specific **REASON** as to why it would come to pass, namely "... because they received not the love of the **truth**, that they might be saved." This is a reference to the truth of God's Word, which men have so uniformly rejected world-wide. Paul continues this assault on those who have rejected God's Truth, asserting that "...for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned **who believed not the truth**, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

5

This same parallel in regard to the perilous times of these last days, along with rejecting the truth of God's Word, is found also in II Tim. 3:8 "Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith." Jannes and Jambres were magicians, wise men, whom Pharoah undoubtedly used as political advisors even as Nebuchadnezzar did when he called in wise men in the days of Daniel. Paul defines such men as Jannes and Jambres as those who would "...resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith." The truth here is once again referring to God's Word, which Jannes and Jambres openly defied when they withstood Moses. The meaning of the word "...corrupt..." is not pretty, for it signifies "to spoil entirely, i.e. (lit.) to destroy; to deprave; --utterly perish." Reprobate is likewise defined as being "unapproved, rejected; worthless (literally or morally):--castaway, rejected, reprobate." The ilk of whom Paul speaks has been found "...reprobate concerning **the faith**." The term here is "THE faith," rather than simply "faith," and it is a reference



to THE faith or the full complement of God's Word. Those accused have soundly rejected the profound principles and edicts of God's Word, of which David exclaimed and explained, "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and **for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**"

This is one major problem of our day. Men have completely disregarded God's Word! Even worse, some of them have twisted scripture to fit their own political agenda, which once again shows forth a major sign of these last days. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from **the faith**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" I Tim. 4:1 We have seen this verse fulfilled multiplied times in the erroneous doctrines of religion published throughout the ages, but now modern day politicians are invoking scripture to try and sway voters. One openly gay presidential candidate recently declared in essence, "if you do not like the fact that I am a homosexual, then talk to my Creator." This attitude reflects the

6 "doctrine" of many in our day who try to insist that "God made me this way." Scripture is very emphatic that the gay lifestyle is an abomination to God, and under the law was worthy of death. It is also put on the same par as lying down with a beast. Lev. 20:13-15 We can only ask the question: "Why would God pronounce this ungodly action as an abomination and then immediately turn around and **CREATE** that which is abominable to Him?" The answer is simple. He did not create this or any other perversion of the flesh that man accepts as normal. James gives us a very clear answer to this ungodly doctrine. "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God **cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:** But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his **own lust, and enticed.**" Jas. 1:13-14 The fact is, according to scripture, that men have made the ungodly choice to be as they are!

This same politician also violated the truth of God's Word in trying to justify even late term abortion, by claiming that the term "...breath of life,..." used repeatedly in scripture, means that life is not present until the first breath is taken. God's Word is very clear: "... the life of the flesh is in the blood:..."



Lev. 17:11 The whole world knows that blood is imperative for conception. This quote from the man above is simply a political statement proclaiming the ungodly doctrine created by Planned Parenthood that the “mass” in the womb of a woman is simply not a human being. Scripture begs to differ. Not only did God declare in Jeremiah 1:5 “Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee,...” both the old testament and the new repeatedly describe a pregnant woman as being “...with child...!”

The hypocrisy of man and his laws in this matter of abortion is also quite amazing. Though *Roe V. Wade* is actually not a law passed by Congress, but rather a decision by The Supreme Court, Planned Parenthood adamantly pushes her agenda, in the legal community insisting once again that the “mass” within the womb of a woman is a non-entity. However, if a pregnant woman is killed by a drunk driver, the offender is rightfully charged with **two** counts of murder or manslaughter rather than just one, regardless of “how far along” she may have been.

There should be absolutely no problem at all defining these ungodly practices of homosexuality and abortion as being “...doctrines of devils;”

Both the political and the religious world are also seen united in Rev. 17 where John saw “...the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.” V. 7 Catholicism is the only “religious woman” that can come anywhere close to the criteria described by the multiple facts of this chapter. She is seen here riding the beast, or the end time political machine which will ultimately be reduced to the one man rule of antichrist, meaning that Catholic influence prevails even at this present time in political systems around this entire world. However, it is the ten horns which we would consider in this article, and those horns also are easily identified as being both political and religious.

John is specifically told that these ten kings “...have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.” The description of such rulers very easily portrays many currently active terrorist groups worldwide. They are indeed political groups, for though they “...have no kingdom



as yet....” they are desperately seeking one, and will in fact reign for “...one hour...” or a short period of time as part of the regime established by the antichrist. Not only so, but these ten kings “...shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” Rev. 17:14 This war with the Lamb plants them firmly in the “religious” camp, as these terrorist groups of our day wage “holy war” or Jihad against “...the Lamb... and they that are with him...” Not only so, but these same kings “...shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.” V. 16 This simply means that entire the Catholic system will eventually be destroyed by these terrorist bands who are even now warring against The Lamb. It is easy to see why groups such as Isis, al Qaeda, Hezbollah, and many other Muslim religionists would attack Catholicism, for she herself boasts that she is the face and spokesman for The Lamb throughout the entire world today. She calls herself “The Mother Church.” The term “Christian” is defined by the global majority as being synonymous with Catholic.

Another target of these ungodly religious political terrorists is Israel, and for the same reason: they are God’s Chosen People, even in their present state of unbelief. The way such enemies attack the Lamb is to wage holy war against what they perceive as His people. The timeline here in Rev. 17 is well into the tribulation, but as with all the end time signs, they are already clearly demonstrated at this very hour.

Isis has most assuredly been deeply fractured, but they are in no wise eliminated and in view of the above text, they, along with a great many other terrorists, will not meet their demise until they have completed God’s purposes for them in the tribulation period. Some may have thought that the death of Osama bin Laden would have ended the practices of al Qaeda, the force behind 911, but his son Hamza bin Laden had carried on the ungodly activities of that organization. CNN has now reported on Sept. 14, 2019 that “President Donald Trump in a statement on Saturday said late al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden's son Hamza bin Laden had been "killed in a United States counterterrorism operation



in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region." The death of Hamza will not eliminate al Qaeda any more than that of his father. All these ungodly groups will make "...war with the Lamb..." until King Jesus completely destroys them.

The efforts of the aforementioned groups are clearly religious and their practices are most assuredly anti-scripture and anti-God. They are surely a major part of the "...mystery of iniquity..." which invaded this world in the very beginning of the current Church Age. Their religiousness is also loudly proclaimed by the "war cry" which has been heard at one time or another in virtually every country where such terror has been implemented. That cry is "Allah akbar," said to mean God is great. Some have tried to say that "Allah" is just another reference to The True God, indeed The God Of Israel, but according to God's Word that cannot be so. Not only have these groups specifically denounced The God of Israel, the Apostle John declares so very succinctly: "And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." I John 4:3 The ungodly Muslim religion, as is true of every other false religion around the entire world, denies Jesus! The text from Rev. 17 clearly denotes the fact that these terrorists are gather directly against Jesus, The Lamb, The Anointed of God! 9

It is a scriptural certainty that all these evil practices will continue, and though world leaders must stand against the aggression of wicked nations, prophecy will most assuredly come to pass and the ultimate battle of Armageddon will be fought. It is our own conduct in these very divisive and, perilous times which must be addressed and Paul's message once again provides the answer.

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not



provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.” Rom. 13:11-14 Let every Christian take to heart this urgency of time, that “... now it is **high time** to awake out of sleep...” The term “...high time...” signifies that this is the immediate **hour** to invoke all these things in our lives. Peter likewise follows this same pattern as he attests to the fact that this world is slated for judgment. “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” II Pet. 3:10 He then adds that since we know of a surety that these things are coming, or “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God,...” V.11-12 Both Paul and Peter agree that if we truly do see that the day or hour of Jesus’ return is eminent, then our own practical lives and conduct will be reflected “...in all holy conversation and godliness...”

10

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### PERFECT SIGHT

Here I see but dimly;  
I shall then see face to face  
He who died to save me  
By the wonder of His grace.

Now I sometimes wonder  
When I do not understand,  
But He draws me closely to Him  
By His gentle, loving hand.

Here I only know in part;  
Then as I am known,  
And when the veil is lifted  
I shall see Him on His throne.

--Beula Clark



## "EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS"

Verta Giddings

"**A**nd, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Rev. 22:12,17,20

The heart cry of the overcomers today is for Jesus to come again to receive us unto Himself. God has not allowed us to know the exact time when the trumpet will sound and we will hear the call to "Come up hither..." Rev. 4:1 Speaking of His second coming, Jesus said, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only." Matt. 24:36 By this we are assured that God has a time set for Jesus' return. He will come at the appointed time, and nothing will stop Him. God works "...all things after the counsel of His own will:" Eph. 1:11 His purposes are brought to pass on scheduled time. Let us consider, however, that God uses His people as instruments in bringing this will to pass. Their cry comes before Him and He begins to move in their behalf. Thus, the cry of His people becomes the instrument of His choice. Let us consider some Scriptures to illustrate this point.

11

God told Abraham, "Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; and also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance." Gen. 15:13,14 This, of course, happened just as God said. Abraham's great-grandson, Joseph, was sold into Egyptian slavery by his brothers. He rose to prominence and fame after much hardship and suffering, through the interpretation of Pharaoh's dream. Joseph was set over



all the land of Egypt and was the means of keeping the nation from starvation, when seven years of famine followed seven years of plenty. His brethren, back in Canaan heard of the plenty in Egypt and came to buy corn. After Joseph's revelation of himself to them and the reconciliation, the whole family moved to Egypt. They were well treated for awhile, but finally "...there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph." Exodus 1:8. By this time the Israelites, Abraham's seed, were in bondage in a land not theirs.

12 In the second chapter of Exodus we have the account of the birth of Moses, God's deliverer for His people. God's plan was already in operation, but really unknown to His people. Moses tried once in his own strength to take the place God had for him, but failed. He then went to the back side of the desert and stayed for forty years. Then we read in Exodus 2:23-25, "And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they CRIED, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God HEARD their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them." In the chapters following we read of their deliverance out of bondage through the Red Sea into freedom, with Moses as their Leader. Had God kept His Word to Abraham? Were not His purposes brought to pass at the right time? What instrument did He use? Answer - The cry of His people.

Another instance comes to our attention. Jeremiah the Prophet prophesied of the seventy years Babylonian captivity unto the people of Judah. "And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years." - Jer. 25:11 This captivity was brought about because of the disobedience and idol worship of God's people.



Daniel was one of the first captives taken to Babylon. Daniel 1:1-6. God marvelously used him while there to interpret dreams, visions, and the handwriting on the wall. He suffered much, but God caused him to be honored there too. Daniel spent time searching the Word, and he realized that finally the seventy years were expired. Daniel 9:2. What did Daniel do about it? Did he just say, "Well, the seventy years are up, and that is that"? No. For verse three tells us that he set his "face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes." Did God answer? II Chron. 36:22,23 tells us: "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the Word of the Lord spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Lord God of heaven given me; and He hath charged me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all His people? The Lord his God be with him, and let him go up." God worked at His own appointed time. What instrument did He use? In this case, I believe we can heartily say, "Daniel." 13

God showed Daniel how long before the Messiah was to come into the world and then be cut off. Daniel 9:26. Notice it says, "AFTER threescore and two weeks..." The "after" leaves the time a bit uncertain, so an actual date could not be set. Paul tells us in Galatians 4:4 "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law." Jesus was sent on time. Some saints, however, stand out in connection with His first coming. Luke 2:25 tells us that Simeon was "just and devout," and he was "waiting for the consolation of Israel." God "revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ." When he held the



Infant Jesus in his arms, he knew the revelation was fulfilled. While he was waiting, don't you suppose he was crying out to God? We see in verses 36-38 of this chapter that Anna, a prophetess, "served God with fastings and prayers night and day." When she saw Jesus there, she "spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." By this we see that there were saints on earth at the time of Jesus' first coming who were expecting Him and waiting for His appearance on the earth. Is it hard to believe that they were praying and asking God to send the promised Messiah? It was revealed to one at least that this glorious event was soon to come to pass. How easy to assume that believers of this caliber were the instruments God used that time.

Now the Word holds many promises of the Second Coming of Jesus --- even of the Rapture. Let us consider some. "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and  
**14** receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2,3 "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Acts 1:11 "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thess. 4:16,17 "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." Revelation 1:7 This speaks of His revelation.

When will be the time of His coming? Hosea 6:2 tells us that, after two days, God will revive His people Israel. II Peter 3:8 gives us the information "...that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years,



and a thousand years as one day." Nearly two thousand years have passed since this dispensation began. Remember, too, that God's way of reckoning time is some different from ours. God will work in, through, and for, His people Israel, when His purposes for this age are finished. We can also tell that the time is near by the countless signs given us in His Word --- national, moral, and religious.

What is the admonition for us today? Hebrews 9:28 says, "And unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." To "look" means to await long and patiently, to await ardently. Then Paul, in II Timothy 4:8, tells us that "a crown of righteousness" is laid up for all them "that love His appearing." To "love" means to cherish with reverence. Look in Romans 8:23 and you will find that we are in bondage yet, as far as our bodies are concerned. We groan, awaiting the day of Christ's coming when we shall not only see Him but will have our glorified bodies as well. We groan, that is true, but we are excited. So we cry out, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Yes, the time is set for Jesus' coming. He will come and NOT TARRY. Yet in all this the instrument could well be, as it has been before, the cry of God's people. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Let us blend our voices in this heart cry unto Him.

15

(Reprint 1965)





# Grudgingly . . . Or Willingly

Eva Laura Bond

**I**t is an amazing thing to the wholehearted Christian as to why it is so difficult a lesson to learn. That is, the lesson of giving. The Lord has so many wonderful things spoken to the cheerful giver, yet few believe it enough to venture out on the promise and only give in a charitable sense. Those who give from a heart of love receive so much more in return, blessings that can be obtained with no other service we may render. We do not give to obtain, because that fact is already settled that we will, but because the Lord asks us to, for it is our duty, or rather an obligation. We are happy to submit, because it is prompted by love alone. Love acts willingly, not because we have to, but because we love. Love sacrifices, love bleeds for another and love is constant, and that willingly. In fact, a wholehearted love does not question willingness, for it is of mutual kinship with love. So, actually, this is a pretty close check up on your love for Christ.

**16** Let us reminisce a little about some who gave willingly and some who gave unwillingly. There is the widow who gave her mite with gladness, and God blessed the gift. Her mite also preached a sermon to the one who has much and gives slightly. What a gain for her and what loss to the unwilling and unbelieving one. Ananias and Sapphira gave only a part and that grudgingly, and the Lord cursed them with death. So here is the promise of an abundant life to a cheerful giver.

The lad with the basket of bread and fishes gave with gladness and many were blessed. Sometimes we think if we had more we would do this or that, but Christ asks only for what we have now — not what someone else may have. We would never expect to bless thousands with our meager gifts, but given willingly it will bless far more than we can ever know.

Cain gave unwillingly and that not what he should have, and God could not respect it. We want God's approval, his blessing and honor, but first we must become subject to him and do as he asks.

King Herod gave nothing to God and was smitten to death and eaten of worms, thus showing a double portion, now and in the future. A blessing follows the gift here and



rewards in the future.

The rich young ruler would not so much as give his heart and went away sorrowfully. In all of our giving we must know first that he wants our heart, our life. If Christ has that, He will hold the purse strings, and all gifts, talents and activities will be at His control as we yield Him our all.

A very wonderful example of this is the beloved Paul and many others, who gave even their very lives for the gospel's sake and died triumphantly.

Those in the Old Testament period gave one tenth to the Lord. Surely if they did that much then, we can now, in this glorious grace age of spiritual freedom.

(Bonds Of Peace 1952)

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### God Is Faithful

There has not failed us one good thing  
Of all the Lord has said.  
What He has promised He has done;  
And hitherto has led.

17

Tho' we grow old as years go by,  
And hoary is our head;  
He will not leave, nor e'en forsake,  
Those for whom He bled.

Then what have we to ask beside?  
His love wil ne'er grow cold.  
Amid the further strain and stress ---  
His Hand will still uphold.

Mary M. Bodie



# REFLECTIONS REFLECTIONS

*... From the Editor*

“**F**or we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.” II Pet. 1:16

Peter’s remarks in this chapter follow his declaration that “...that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.” V. 14 History records that Peter was crucified, while Paul was afforded the “privilege” of a Roman citizen and perished by the edge of the sword. Neither of these men drew back from his final appointment, and both of them seem to follow the same pattern of instilling urgency in the hearts of their followers to follow the ways of The Lord.

18 Peter uses his experience on the Mount of Transfiguration as the basis for his comments, declaring plainly that, “...we have not followed cunningly devised fables...” That scene is a prophetic picture of Jesus’ second coming in power and great glory when He will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. Peter insists that, “we did not make this story up,” but neither did he want men to base their lives on “his experience” as so many of our day are wont to do. He rather asserted the glorious scriptural fact that, “We have also a **more sure word** of prophecy;...” V. 19 That “...more sure word...” is a reference to the full complement of God’s Word! Men may have had some wonderful, scriptural, and God-given experiences, but only the Word of God can serve as the true anchor of instruction and direction in this day of chaos and turmoil. It is this same Word of which David vehemently proclaimed, “...I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.” Psa. 138:2

Peter further instructs us in the tremendous sacredness of that Word, greatly emphasizing the fact “...that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.” V. 20 This simply means that men are not allowed to put their own “twist” or supposition on God’s Word by taking scripture out of the context



in which it is written, trying desperately to use the scripture to create their own agenda and doctrine. The little word "For..." at the beginning of V. 21 clearly announces the REASON for which God's Message is not "...of any private interpretation." "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." This simply means that if those holy men of God must be "...moved by the Holy Ghost," to write down this message in the first place, then we too must be "...moved by the Holy Ghost," to understand it. The Apostle Paul likewise proclaims this same glorious truth. "But as it is written, 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. **But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." I Cor. 2:9-10 Bless God! We, too, can understand clearly this "...more sure word of prophecy."

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19

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

We have once again received word that some are advertising on Amazon Bro. Copley's writings on The Song of Solomon for as much as \$245.00. We can do nothing about that since none of the material from Grace and Glory is copyrighted. However, we would love to spread the word that all literature from Grace and Glory Publications is sent out free of charge and postage paid.

Note also that we have been publishing some of the tracts and booklets in the Corn Crib over the past few months. Some may not have read them recently and as we prepare to reprint those that are almost depleted, have decided to print them in the book section of the magazine. We trust that you do enjoy them and remind you that all the material in the Corn Crib is available and ready for distribution. We would love to sow as much seed possible before The Lord translates us to glory.



## Jesus Wept

John 11:35

**H**ow wonderful! The Son of God groaned and wept. Let us never forget it. He, though God over all, blessed forever; though the Resurrection and the Life, though the Quickener of the dead; though the Conqueror of the grave; though on His way to deliver the body of His friend from the grasp of the enemy - sample of what He will soon do for all who belong to Him - yet, so perfectly did He enter into human sorrow, and take in all the terrible consequences of sin, all the misery and desolation of this sin-stricken world, that He groaned and wept! And those tears and groans emanated from the depths of a perfect human heart that felt as only a perfect human heart could feel - felt according to God - for every form of human sorrow and misery. Though perfectly exempt, in His own divine Person, from sin and all its consequences - yea, because exempt - He could in perfect grace enter into it all and make it his own as only He could do.

20

"Jesus wept!" Wondrous, significant fact! He wept not for Himself, but for others. He wept with them. Mary wept. The Jews wept. All this is easily grasped and understood. But that Jesus could weep reveals a mystery which we cannot fathom. It was divine compassion weeping through human eyes over the desolation which sin had caused in this poor world, weeping in sympathy with those whose hearts had been crushed by the inexorable hand of death. Let all who are in sorrow remember this, Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His circumstances are changed, but His heart is not. His position is different, but His sympathy is the same. "We have not an High Priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like we are, apart from sin." Heb. 4:15

C.H. Mackintosh



## The Power Of Faith

Mary M. Bodie

**"Y**e have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy" - James 5:11.

"Elias (Elijah) was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not...And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit" -James 5:17,18.

James is proclaiming the power of faith in this chapter of his little letter. In fact, James is emphasizing different phases of FAITH, all through his epistle. He states that faith is the victory in every part of the Christian life.

In the first chapter, FAITH is upheld as the sole sustaining asset in the trial which besets every believer. The second chapter suggests it as the only way of good works. Chapter three declares it as the way of victory. Chapter four tells us that it is the way of dependence upon God. Chapter five affirms it as the way of power - power to endure, power to do. **21**  
Faith is the prominent theme of the letter.

To prove his case, James, at the close of his discourse, brings on the scene two of the striking examples of faith from the Old Testament. One on the line of endurance, the other of doing. They witness to the truth of his statements as to the preeminence of faith. These men teach that faith was always the way of spiritual power, even agreeing with James that there is no other means of pleasing God than by faith. Men never had salvation or prestige or honor with Him, other than by believing Him.

Job is the oldest writer of the Bible, and is the first witness that James calls on the scene to back up his argument as to the power of faith. He lived previous to Moses and Sinai. All authorities agree that his book is the oldest among the sixty-six of the Bible, because there is not one reference to Abraham and his family, the Law, or the Law-giver - Moses. This would be impossible in a book of such a vast discussion of facts upon the problems of life,



if these characters were known at the time.

According to James, Job occupies a unique place on the program of the ages, and testifies among God's worthies to the power of FAITH, and in a peculiar sense - its POWER TO ENDURE. He stands forth as the illustration of its might in this way, making men patient in all matters, whether these be in circumstances, afflictions, bereavements, or the uttermost of physical pain. The power of faith to endure is stupendous, as manifested in a yielded life, as Job testifies.

The Patriarch did not at first understand the wherefore of the trial, nor the reason of the multitude of sorrows which came upon him. He did not know that, through these tribulations, he was to be the synonym of patience to all men throughout the ages; nor that he was the type, the witness, the striking figure of faith's power to stand the greatest sufferings, the most intense pain, with never a murmur against God; though he bewailed his fate and his misfortune in possessing three such friends as Eliphaz, Bildad, and  
**22** Zophar.

Job received all of his trials from the hand of God, not from Satan. His wife could not understand the reason of them. She blamed God in allowing them to so suffer; for she was also in anguish at the loss of children and fortune of every kind. She urged Job to curse God and die - Job 2:9. His friends blamed him, declaring that he was chastened of the Lord for some wicked way in him. Hardness, cruelty, censure, and criticism for Job are found in their words. They had no sympathy nor comfort for the patient, suffering man. They did not understand, even as the majority of folk today, why the godly suffer. In fact, this is the problem of the book. Job gives the answer himself. He declares that all his sufferings were allowed of God, that he might be tried. He was to be purified thereby, as he tells us, "When He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" - Job 23:10. Notice that he acknowledges the Lord in everything.



Job was a marvelous man of faith and practical righteousness. He was an example to all men of his day. If he had not been of this caliber - able to stand such terrific trials, and justify God in all of His ways with him - he would not have been thus tested. The hedge which was around him would not have been removed. The Lord would not have let Satan get at Job, if He was not sure that this man of faith would not fail - Job 1:12. God knows His men. Some are able to stand in any place and under all circumstances. The new man in them is so developed that they can hold fast in the darkest night, believing God in the most pronounced trial, while others fail in a little test. The new man in them is so immature that they need to be coddled continually to keep them going on in any measure. Their faith is so little that it will not stand any strain put upon it. Therefore, they are seldom tested; and they generally, like Job's comforters, judge those who are so tried.

23

We say, it is a privilege, an honor, to be allowed to suffer to the uttermost in the will of God. It is a sign that God can trust us, and that we will be faithful in any place. Trials, thus allowed, purify us. They deliver us from the dross which is a part of all of us, until it is burned off in the furnace of affliction. The trial of our faith works good for us. We are kept down at the feet of the Lord, humbled and little, made to cry mightily, exercised in the very depths of our being, as the waters of woe overwhelm our soul. We are thus broken and contrite in the hands of the Lord, not murmuring nor complaining at His ways with us. We prove the Word of God and He proves our faith, at the same time.

Job, as James declares, witnesses to this fact. He endured because he had FAITH. It held him steady amid the taunts of friends and foes. "He endured, as seeing Him who is invisible" - Hebrews 11:27.

Elijah is the second man to be called from the Old Testament record to prove the power of faith. The mighty



prophet steps up and takes the chair, and testifies by his works to its might. He shows the force of faith in the way of doing, not enduring, though he did not come short on this line either. But his strong point was performing. And James emphasizes the fact that he was a man like all other men, weak and fallible. His strength was not in himself, but in his faith in God. He believed Him, and thus his name has become the synonym of power to do.

24 James declares that he prayed earnestly. Ah, this tells the story of his might. He was dependent upon God. He went down before the Creator in weakness and need. Israel, his people, were departing from God. Ahab and Jezebel, worshippers of Baal, were on the throne - a wicked pair; and the people were following in their steps. The prophet's heart was broken. He was despairing. They refused to listen to the words of Jehovah, the true and living God. He knew something startling and destructive must happen to awaken them. He called on the Lord to send judgment upon His people. He prayed that it might not rain for three years. He even set the time limit, knowing that a drought of such length would ensure a famine which would bring them to their senses.

God heard Elijah's prayer. It was in the will of God and for His glory. The prophet had the mind of the Spirit, in thus petitioning the Lord. His prayer was not born of his own desire. He was not seeking his own things, nor hoping to pay back in their own coin, the harshness of the people. Oh, no. He loved them and was seeking their ultimate blessing; but he knew that judgment must come first. Therefore, he prayed, and the prayer of faith was heard. It had power, and brought forth the result that he desired. The windows of heaven were shut up. The rain was stayed; and Israel, beginning with the king and down to the lowliest in the kingdom, were desperate. They were brought down to the dust before the Lord; and this is the point - Elijah's FAITH WAS THE POWER that brought this about.

But that was not the end of Elijah's faith to do. He did not leave Israel to suffer and die in their dilemma. When the



trial had brought forth the desired result, "he prayed again." Thank God, for the second prayer. It is "again," indeed, for Israel. God came upon the scene to execute the will of Elijah, which was also His will, and the waters fell in torrents upon the dry ground. Mercy followed judgment, and the people rejoiced. The power of faith was evidenced a second time in mighty demonstration, far beyond the finite mind to understand. Faith is a force impossible to fathom. Its power no man can penetrate or estimate - POWER TO EXECUTE, POWER TO ENDURE!

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### Great Is The Lord!

Ascribe ye greatness to our God;	Deut. 32:3
Great is the Lord, and to be praised.	Psa. 145:3
The mighty God, this is His Name;	Jer. 32:19
To Him our voices we have raised.	Psa. 29:2
Great is our Lord, and of great power;	Psa. 147:5
Great is His faithfulness to all;	Lam. 3:23
How great in counsel, great in goodness!	Jer. 32:19'
	Psa. 31:19
Upon Him we will ever call.	Psa, 18:3
Great are His mercies toward His people,	Psa. 103:11
How great His love wherewith He loved us.	Eph. 2:4
How precious are His thoughts to usward;	Psa. 139:17
The sum of them is marvelous!	Psa. 139:17
Who is so great a god as our God!	Psa. 77:13
Unsearchable His greatness is.	Psa. 145:3
Great things past finding out He doeth;	Job 19:10
He is our God, our praise is His!	Deut. 10:21

Dorothy Caswell



The Grace Of Faith  
George Mueller

I have lacked nothing — NOTHING. I have had my trials and my empty purse, but my receipts have aggregated tens of thousands of dollars, while the work has gone on these fifty-one years. Then with regard to my pastoral work these same long years, I have had great difficulties, great trials and perplexities. There will always be difficulties and problems, but God has sustained under every one of them, and delivered me out of all my trials — and the work has gone on.

NOW this is not as some have said because I am a man of great mental power or endowed with energy and perseverance — these are not the reasons. It is because I have confided in God, because I have sought God and He has cared for the institution which under His direction, has one hundred and seventeen schools with masters and mistresses and other departments of various sorts. The difficulties of such undertakings have been gigantic, but I read that they that put their trust in the Lord shall not be ashamed. Nearly twenty years ago a beloved brother from America came to see me and expected to see me an old man helpless and decrepit, bowed  
26 down with burdens, and he wondered I did not look old. "How is this?" he said, "that you look so young under such a load as you are carrying?"

"My dear brother," I said, "I have always rolled the burden on the Lord. I do not carry one-hundredth part of it. The burden comes to me and I roll it back on Him. I do not carry the burden." And, now, in my seventy-sixth year, I have physical strength and mental vigor for work as great as when I was a young man in the University studying and preparing Latin orations. I am just as vigorous as at that time.

How comes this? Because in the last half century of labor I have been able, with the simplicity of a little child, to rely upon God. I have had my trials, but I have laid hold on God, and so it has come that I have been sustained. It is not only permission, but positive command that He gives us to cast the burden upon Him. Oh let us do it my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee." Day by day I do it. This morning again sixty matters in connection with the church of which I am pastor I brought before the Lord, and thus it is day by day, and year by year, ten years, twenty years, thirty years, forty years. And now my beloved brothers and sisters, come with your burdens, the burdens of your business,



your profession, your trials and difficulties, and you will find help.

Many persons suppose it is only about money that I trust in the Lord in prayer. I do bring this money question before the Lord, but it is only one out of many things I speak to God about, and I find He helps. Often I have perplexity in finding persons of ability and fitness for the various posts that I have to have supplied. Sometimes weeks and months pass, and day by day, day by day, I bring the matter before the Lord, and invariably He helps. It is so about the conversion of persons—prayer, sooner or later, is turned into praise. After a while, God helps. It is so about the needs of our work sending our tracts and books, and missionary efforts. After a while God helps. We're never left, we're never confounded.

Do not, however, expect to attain full faith at once. All such things as jumping into full exercise of faith in such things I discountenance. I do not believe in it, I do not believe in it, I do NOT believe in it, and I wish you to plainly understand I do not believe in it. All such things go on in a natural way. The little I did obtain I did not obtain all at once. All this I say particularly, because letters come to me full of questions from those who seek to have their faith strengthened. Begin over again, staying your soul on the Word of God, and you will find an increase of your faith as you exercise it. 27

One thing more, "Oh I never will have the gift of faith, Mr. Mueller has." That is a mistake, a gross error. This is the same kind of faith that all Christians have had. It is the same sort of faith that all God's children may obtain — the same kind that Simon Peter had — and that of all the worthies of faith. My faith has been developed by exercise, but all faith is the same, the only difference is in the degree; mine may be more exercised by use.

What little faith I have is the grace of faith, not the gift. But he that has the grace of faith always has it accompanied by love, rendered charity. The gift of faith is able to command, may even command devils. The grace of faith has to do with the written Word of the Lord. At first I was only able to trust the Lord for ten dollars, then for a hundred, then for a thousand and finally for, as much as I needed. You may commence the same way, and your faith will increase, I assure you.

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- \* Living The Christian Life is like driving a car --- you cannot look one way and go another.



## DEATH NOTICE

**"Mrs. Prayer Meeting** died recently at the First Neglected Church on Worldly Avenue. Born many years ago in the midst of great revivals, she was a strong, healthy child, fed largely on testimony and scriptural holiness, soon growing into worldwide prominence, and was one of the most influential members of the famous church family.

"For the past several years Sister Prayer Meeting has been in failing health, gradually wasting away until rendered helpless by stiffness of knees, coldness of heart, inactivity, weakness of purpose and will-power. At the last she was but a shadow of her former happy self. Her last whispered words were inquiries concerning the strange absence of her loved ones, now absent from her presence, busy in the marts of trade and places of worldly amusement. Her older brother, Brother Classmeeting, has been dead for many years.

28 "Experts, including Dr. Works, Dr. Reform and Dr. Joiner, disagreed as to the cause of her fatal illness, administered larger doses of organization, socials, contests and drives, but to no avail.

A post-mortem showed that a deficiency of spiritual food, coupled with lack of fasting, faith, heartfelt religion, shameless desertion, and non-support, were contributing causes. Only a few were present at her death, sobbing over memories of her past beauty and power. Carefully selected pallbearers were urged to tenderly bear her remains away but failed to appear. There were no flowers. Her favorite hymns, "Amazing Grace" and "Rock of Ages," were not sung. Miss Imo Modern rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," but none had any idea where this fancied isle might be. The body rests in the beautiful cemetery of Bygone Glories, awaiting the summons from above.

"In honor of her going, the church doors will be closed on Wednesday nights, save on the third Wednesday night of each month, when the Ladies' Pink Lemonade Society serves refreshments to the members of the men's handball team."

Selected



# The Judgment Seat Of Christ

Gene Hawkins

“**F**or we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in His body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” II Cor. 5:10

This Scripture often strikes fear in the hearts of dear Christian people, because the time and purpose of this ministry of Christ is misunderstood. There are those who teach that God diligently keeps records of every misstep and evil deed and then on "judgment day" all the secrets He has kept over the years will be made manifest for everyone to see. It is with this thought in mind that we endeavor to dispel some of the myth and mystery surrounding this subject and expound on the personal advantages of the Judgment Seat of Christ.

When do we appear before this judgment seat? Some suppose that Paul's use of the word "shall" in the text indicates that it is at a future time. As the verse states, the reward will be received at a future time, for it is an eternal one. However, judgment must occur now. Paul declares in I Corinthians 11:32, "when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord." Peter corroborates his statement by saying, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God?" I Pet. 4:17 29

Chastening, which is a direct result of judgment, is taking place in our lives now. Likewise, Peter is referring to God's people as being the house of God, and this is where judgment begins--**TODAY**. The Apostle John agrees with these Scriptures, as he describes the Judge and the time of judgment in Revelation 1:13-16. We must understand the entire text from which these verses are taken. In verse 10, we read concerning John, "I was in spirit on the Lord's day, and heard **BEHIND** me a great voice, as of a trumpet." The "Lord's day" refers to the end of this present Church Age. John was caught away in spirit to that day, when he heard the voice behind him. He turned and saw seven golden



candlesticks, which represent the seven churches listed. V. 20

Those seven churches represent all the conditions which prevail throughout the Church Age. John also saw the Judge, the Lord Jesus Christ, walking in the midst of the candlesticks. He beholds what has already transpired, not that Which is yet to be. There is a message from the Judge to each church in chapters two and three. To each church, except Smyrna and Philadelphia, He commands, "Repent." THERE WILL BE NO REPENTANCE after this life, so these Words must refer to the present time. The whole of Christendom is found in the conditions pictured by these seven churches. When the Judge scrutinizes and evaluates our lives and points out those things which are wrong, there must be repentance and correction now, not after we are in heaven. The desired purpose is to come to the state expressed by the Smyrna and Philadelphia churches, which record no need for change, but express their rewards.

30 This thought of being judged and given space to repent is by no means a new doctrine presented for the first time in Scripture in Revelation. We find it in I Samuel Three where God informed the child Samuel that He was going to "reward" the house of Eli for their evil deeds. "For I have told him (Eli) that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity WHICH HE KNOWETH; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not" (I Samuel 3:13). Eli accepted that decree, and there is apparently no ignorance on his part as to why it was going to happen.

Nebuchadnezzar exemplifies another case with the same pattern, except that a specific time period is allowed for his repentance. Daniel admonished him, "Wherefore O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquility." Dan. 4:27 The next events of this chapter take place twelve months later. Pride is still present in the heart of Nebuchadnezzar, for we read, The king spoke, and said, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power and for the honor of my majesty?" Dan. 4:30

Immediately after this, he is driven out of his house and



kingdom and made like unto the wild beasts. This was the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy to him one year earlier.

A third example is found in Daniel Five, where Belshazzar sees the handwriting on the wall. Daniel is called in to interpret the writing and declares: "And thou his son (Nebuchadnezzar's grandson), O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, **THOUGH THOU KNEWEST ALL THIS**; but has lifted-up thyself against the Lord of heaven . . . Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting" (5:22-27). In all of these cases we must conclude that these people were judged and given a chance to repent **BEFORE** the consequences for evil were exacted. Likewise, the message to the churches is "repent," or else.

Let us notice some of the characteristics of the Judge, which correspond with other Scriptures, and reinforce the fact that He is judging us today. First, His eyes were as a flame of fire. These piercing eyes are able to look deeply into the heart of man. His scrutiny is going on today. Men look on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. I Sam. 16:7

Second, His feet were like unto fine, or burning brass. In Scripture, brass is symbolic of judgment, as the altar whereon the sacrifices were burned with fire, was made of brass (Exodus 27). The brazen feet of Christ are seen as He walks amidst the churches, judging the flesh where He walks.

Third out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword. This sword is the Word of God, described in Hebrews 4:12 as being "living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Our thoughts and intents are being judged, or evaluated right now as God's Word goes forth.

This operation of God's unique sword is seen in John 15, as the Heavenly Husbandman judges and purges the fruitful branch that it may bring forth more fruit.

We want to emphasize as strongly as we can that such cutting is taking place today, not after we arrive in heaven. The judgment seat of Christ, as it is presented here, is actually an advantage to us. Our Apostle, Paul, brings judgment and chastening



together in I Cor. 11:31-32: "For if we would judge ourselves we should not be judged. But when we are judged, (now), we are chastened of the Lord, **THAT WE SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED WITH THE WORLD.**" God is dealing with us as sons and those whom He loves He chastens. Such chastening is far different from punishment for wrong doing; rather, it is valuable training and instruction in spiritual things. He wants to present us faultless before the presence of His glory. Jude 24

Paul projects this same purpose in Philippians 3:15-- "Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and **IF IN ANYTHING YE BE OTHERWISE MINDED, GOD SHALL REVEAL EVEN THIS UNTO YOU.**" This is for the present time.

### Dispelling a Myth

32

There are some who hold up the judgment seat of Christ as an object of fear to make us watch our every step, so that at the "judgment bar" all our sins and iniquities will not be held up as an embarrassment to us. **PRAY TELL. WHAT GOOD WOULD THAT DO?** How would a display of such works of iniquity glorify God, or magnify redemption? It is vitally important to realize that God's incentive for overcoming is not **FEAR**, but **DIVINE LOVE**. Fear is a very strong human emotion, but only Divine Love never fails and will overcome every obstacle.

Those who promote such thoughts violate some of the most beautiful Scriptures of God's Word. What shall we do with the following statements of God? "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us" (Psalms 103:12). "For Thou hast cast all my sins behind Thy back" (Isaiah 38:17). "I even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25). "Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7:18-19). "But now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to **PUT AWAY** sin by the sacrifice of Himself" (Hebrews 9:26). "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now



where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin"  
Heb.10:17-18

All these beautiful verses attest to the fact that our sins were laid upon Christ, and when we accept Him, we will never be judged for them again. Christ has borne that judgment and they have been put out of God's sight forever, by the blood of the sacrificial Lamb of God.

### Rewards

"We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may RECEIVE the things done in his body." The Ultimate result of judgment is that we may RECEIVE A REWARD. Concerning his own ministry, Paul said, "I judge not mine own self . . . but He that judgeth (present tense) is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until The Lord come who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsel of the hearts; and then shall ever man have praise of God." I Cor.4:3-5

Paul is not only talking about the works that men have done, but also the "counsels of the hearts," or the attitude in doing them. Only God can evaluate the attitudes of men, and in that regard, Paul says, "but with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you or of man's judgment." V. 3 If wrong attitudes or works are found in us today, we have the option of ignoring them or correcting them. God is faithful to bring to light those hidden things right now; the reward will come only after this life is over. First Corinthians three describes what happens when one's works are fleshly, or as "wood, hay, or stubble." The fire of God's judgment will prove them either to be good or bad, and though his works may be burned and he has no reward, yet he himself, shall be saved. I Cor. 3:12-15 33

Paul's own reward, as well as ours, is defined in II Timothy our, and it is quite evident that he knew he had already been judged. He did not leave this life fearing some unknown calamity was waiting for him beyond this mortal veil. He emphatically declares: "For I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT. I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE. I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day." II Tim. 4: 6-8

He was confident that the Righteous Judge had finished His work in him and was assured that the crown of righteousness already belonged to



him. The subject of rewards is also found in each of the Judge's messages to the seven churches in Revelation. We read in each one, "to him that overcometh will I give." Each reward is different, depending upon the DEGREE of overcoming involved.

Every Christian is an overcomer in some measure, by the virtue of the fact that he has accepted Christ as Savior. However, every Christian DOES NOT OVERCOME ALL THINGS as is evidenced by the accounts of these seven churches, along with what we see in Christendom today. There are many things that are brought to light today, but all men will not yield to God's correction, and rectify the situation. Their eternal reward will be limited. Our desire should be that of Paul's: "Wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him." (I Corinthians 5:9).

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#### MY PSALM

34

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want—  
What a wonderful promise to me.  
When the day has been hard, and the night long—  
Then I repeat Psalm twenty-three.

He leads me in pastures that I should go—  
He does this all for my good.  
But sometimes my faltering feet are slow  
To go in the path that I should.

He bathes my tired head with oil,  
His love He will not sever.  
And, when my days on earth are o'er,  
I'll dwell with Him forever.

--Eula Young

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U.S. postal regulations require that we publish an annual statement of ownership and circulation for Grace and Glory. The Corn Crib will be restored to its customary place next month.

| 13. Publication Title                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                    | 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below                |                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grace and Glory</b>                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                          |                                                             |
| 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation                                          |                                                                                                                                                                    | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months | No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date |
| <b>National and International publication of Christian Lit.</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                          |                                                             |
| a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>1667</b>                                              | <b>1600</b>                                                 |
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# grace and glory

P.O. Box 831

Grandview, Missouri 64030

