

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole Counsel of GOD

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**F**OR  
we walk by faith,  
not by sight.  
II CORINTHIANS 5:7.



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## NO LIGHTNING WITHOUT DARK CLOUDS



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Editor: Gene Hawkins



# Definite Sign Posts Of The End

Gene Hawkins

“**W**hy do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.” Psa. 2:1-6

This portion of scripture has appeared many many times in this feature over the years, as different writers have portrayed the rebellion of men against God and His Anointed. The ultimate fulfillment of this text will come when Jesus takes His throne as King of kings and Lord of lords, for we read in V. 6 “Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.” Scripture is quite clear that Jesus will reign over both Israel and all the nations for 1000 years and His earthly throne will be in “Zion” or Jerusalem. Whether men believe it or not, the wheels have already been set in motion for that event and the rebellion of men “...against the LORD, and against his anointed...” is already manifest. Not only so, but it will escalate dramatically as the coronation of Jesus draws nigh. The exact context of this Psalm informs us that the heathen will rage or be “tumultuous,” the latter word meaning “uproar, disorderly, disturbed or agitated.” What a description of the climate emanating from all nations of the world in our day. The second part of this opening verse is a reference to Israel, who will indeed imagine the “...vain thing,” of achieving peace through the policies of the antichrist. The covenant which he will confirm “...with many for one week...” according to Dan. 9:27, will be broken, and rather than peace, Israel will ultimately experience unprecedented tribulation.

The leaders of the nations identified as “The kings of the earth... and the rulers...” are the primary subjects of these verses, telling us that rebellion against God and His order will



be prevalent as men try to deny Christ His rightful place. Many of God's people are absolutely persuaded that the coming of Jesus to claim His throne is eminent. Others of our world view such a prospect as a mere myth, but make no mistake, God's Word has always been fulfilled, and the unbelief and rebellion of men will not prevent Him from fulfilling His Purposes. We further read in this text that these same kings and rulers "... take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." V. 2-3 Such resistance against God, when He determines to change the governments on this earth, is not new. In fact, the **pattern** of rebellion set forth in this Psalm has been in evidence down through the ages. The Lord informed Daniel of the great battle which ensued when God ordained that the Medo-Persian Empire should give way to the incoming Grecian regime. "Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come." This verse simply

4 tells us that Persia was not ready to relinquish power to Greece. It also affirms the fact that there are Satanic forces or "princes" behind every nation of this world, and each of them is trying to assert dominance over the other. God has His Order, and indeed that order will prevail, but men have always resisted Him. The battles in which men engage in this regard are simply an outward display of the Satanic forces behind them. Isaiah clearly declared Satanic rebellion against God with this indictment. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: ...I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High." Isa. 14:12-14 The rebellion found in the kings and rulers of the earth here in Psa. 2 stems from Satan himself. Isaiah plainly tells us that he is "...cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" Men are simply puppets and pawns in his hands as they continue to resist and rebel against the authority of God. Satan would love to have the place that only Jesus will occupy;



thus he is doing everything in his power to alter God's order. It is interesting that both "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD,..." Some countries of our world, such as China, Russia, and Syria, are ruled by only one "king." Democracy was designed to express "the will of the people" whereby a "president" or "prime minister," would be chosen who was supposedly given the authority to make decisions for the entire nation. Such an one could be comparable to commanding the authority of a king. However, many situations in our day seem to indicate that there are certain "rulers," in Parliament, Congress, and the Knesset who would overrule or at least "temper" that authority. Daniel long ago proclaimed that God "...changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:..." Dan. 2:21 Most Christians have long understood and accepted this premise, but in our day, there are very aggressive, opportunistic, and ambitious individuals who do not recognize the sovereignty of God. Even though democracy supposedly reflects the "will of the people," it is still God Who determines all world leaders. The Apostle Paul was absolutely in step with Daniel when he wrote, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, **resisteth the ordinance of God:** and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." Rom. 13:1-2 We also know from Israel's history that there are times when God does grant the will of the people even as He informs them that their choice is not according to His Own desire for them. "And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the **voice of the people** in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them." I Sam. 8:7 The king they have chosen here, is "...Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly:... from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people." I Sam. 9:2 Men of our day often choose that which is according to outward appearance, but scripture is still very clear: regardless of how a leader may be chosen, it is still God Who ordains him to rule. Though Psalm two is very clear that "...his anointed,..." is



Christ, men must remember that God has “anointed” other rulers throughout the ages and they, too, must be received by His decree. God said to Samuel concerning Saul, “To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel,…” I Sam. 9:16 Samuel likewise informed Saul, “...The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel:...” When David had the opportunity to kill Saul, and take his place as king, he warned Abishai, “...Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless?” I Sam. 26:9 Note further that It was God Who said “...of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.” Isa. 44:28 God, in effect, “anointed” Cyrus the king of Persia to grant the Jews liberty that they might return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple after the Babylonish captivity. Though we may not always fully understand what His purposes are, Christians must surely accept the fact that God has His reasons for placing kings and rulers in their respective spheres of authority. For example, there were at least six assassination attempts made on Adolf Hitler’s life to remove him from power. Every one of them failed, even though that ungodly tyrant sought the complete annihilation of God’s Chosen People. We now know that out of that ungodly chaotic holocaust, Israel emerged as a nation in 1948. We would again be quick to point out that this was not a reference to Isaiah’s prophecy which asks the question, “...Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once?...” Isa 66:8 The nation which was born after the holocaust was not, and is not to this day, the spiritual nation of which Isaiah speaks. However, 1948 did bring forth God’s purpose of establishing a specific time wherein the NATIONS were forced to acknowledge the existence of this fledgling nation, and every nation on earth must make way for them until the end of time. Note also that history will repeat itself during the reign of the antichrist, for out of that horrific time Israel will spring forth in righteousness, having accepted their Messiah, Jesus! God had a purpose in leaving Hitler in power



and His purpose will also be realized in His use of the antichrist.

The conclusion of all this is that there have been many heads of state removed from power over the years while others have remained. Recent history saw the removal of Saddam Hussein, the ungodly dictator of Iraq who murdered his own people. It is hard to understand why a monster like Syria's Assad has been permitted to retain his power since he, too, is guilty of the same crimes, but again it is God Who makes these decisions. When and if such leaders are unseated, it must be because God approved it. Contrariwise, when men fail in their endeavor to change what He has ordained, the assessment must be that men may have not been in harmony with His Plan and Purpose.

Today's chaotic "raging" world is surely one indication that Satanic forces are literally battling against God, ultimately trying to prevent the emergence of His Anointed, Christ Jesus. Such resistance to God's ordained leaders seems to be rather evident in a number of governments around the world at this present time. Israel is, in the opinion of some, a rather crippled government due to the fact that, though P.M. Netanyahu was duly elected, some members (rulers) of the Knesset have resisted him to the point where he has not been able to form the required coalition for that government. Neither has his opposition been able to do so. England, likewise, has had her difficulties. The people have long ago chosen to leave the European Union, yet when P.M. Theresa May tried to do so, she had to resign because not enough members of Parliament would support her. Apparently, Boris Johnson has achieved that needed support. We received this assessment from one of our readers in the U.K. "Great news here in the UK with the landslide victory in our General Election, of Boris Johnson and the Conservative Party. Many believers have been praying for this, that we might actually leave the European Union. This is due now on the 31st January 2020. I'm sure this is an answer to prayer and the Lord's purposes will be fulfilled. Mr. Johnson is pro-Israel which is important too. Surely the Lord's return is very near."

There have been many rulers replaced in governments around the world down throughout history. Man's attempts at removing them have often failed, simply because God had



not accomplished the fullness of His desire. Some attempted assassinations have succeeded while others have failed. Many disgruntled people have risen up in group protests at various times, wherein their intent was not necessarily to topple a government but rather to change its policies. These tactics are now seen in Hong Kong and Iran, but whether the citizens of these countries will achieve their desire is surely in doubt at this time. These methods have often worked, especially in democratic societies. We know from God's Word that outright rebellion against any authority is never acceptable in God's program, and will, in fact, result in grave consequence for one whose heart is consumed by it. It must be remembered, however, that refusing to obey ungodly policies, such as that demonstrated by Daniel and the three Hebrew children when they refused the king's meat and wine, do not constitute rebellion. However, even if one's heart is right before God, he must be willing to take the consequence of refusing to bow to that same authority. Daniel paid the price in the lion's den, and his three friends were cast into the burning fiery furnace. David surely does give us wise counsel for our own lives in regard to attitude and conduct concerning the anointed of The Lord. "...As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; (Saul) or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish." I Sam. 26:10 In other words, "let the Lord take care of those whom He has anointed." Both Peter and Jude seem to go even further, warning against those who would even "...speak evil of dignities." II Pet. 2:8, Jude 8 It is rather interesting as we consider the reign of antichrist that he, too, would have to be included as being anointed or ordained of The Lord. That might appear to be a rather strange statement to some, but God's Word is very clear. He has allotted this ungodly man of sin exactly 1260 days to try and accomplish all the purpose of Satan. "And the king (antichrist) shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done." Dan. 11:36 It is God Who has determined the tenure of His reign, and



according to Dan. 12:7 "...it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished." The term "...time, times, and an half;..." translates to 3 ½ years, or 42 months, (Rev. 13:5) or 1260 days. (Rev. 12:6) All of them reflect exactly the same time period. Paul declared the same message concerning this king as follows: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." II Thess. 2:3 There is no doubt that the raging of these nations against God's Power and Authority will not only continue, but escalate until Jesus claims His ordained and rightful Throne. Scripture is very plain that even the antichrist will draw great opposition, for John "...saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." Rev. 13:3 The head of which he speaks is one of seven which John beheld of the end time coalition of nations described as "...a beast..." in V. 1 and simply means that the antichrist will be killed and subsequently raised out of the bottomless pit by Satan, at which time he will begin his 1260 day reign of terror over the entire earth. Though men will try, and for a time will succeed, in eliminating him, God's Word will be fulfilled and this ungodly minion of Satan will be permitted to fulfill his day. We live in days just prior to the formation of this end time coalition, and it is quite certain that men will do everything in their power to satisfy their own appetite for power. China has made her boast that she will shortly command the top spot on the world stage, and other nations such as Russia, Iran, & Syria have that same determination. Jesus is the only One Who has been promised that distinction and thus all nations of the earth will be a part of the open rebellion recorded in our opening text. "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, (Christ) saying, Let us break their bands asunder,..." Once again, we would emphasize the



stark rebellion against the will of God that prevails at this present time, but it will vehemently increase as time goes on. Christians can in no wise stop it, but we surely must not be a part of it and Psalm two leaves us with this glorious fact and hope! “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.” That wrath is a reference to the great tribulation which is coming upon this world in judgment of all the rebellion and unbelief couched in the hearts of men. God will indeed laugh at the puny efforts of men to stop His decreed plans for this earth. Men will one day discover that they are powerless to manipulate that over which only God has control. Believers have been given a glorious hope, for we, too, may claim Jesus’ promise to the Church at Philadelphia. “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from (out of) the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.” Rev. 3:10 Keeping the “... word of my patience...” simply means that we must adhere to His message and working in our own lives. Hearts must be so dedicated to Him that they will “... let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” Jas. 1:4 Scripture is very clear as to how men of God are to conduct themselves even in an atmosphere of corrupt and unbelieving governments. “I exhort therefore, 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.” I Tim. 2:1-2 The wide smiling Face of God is seen in the words, “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh:...” This marvelous and victorious statement shows us that God is in no wise worried or concerned with the antics of rebellious man. Thus, let us also follow His example “And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.” Luke 21:28



# OLD SIGHS AND NEW SONGS

A New Year's Message

Mary M. Bodie

"The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities; saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity." Ecclesiastes 1:1,2.

This book was written by no ordinary man. Solomon, the most wealthy and powerful king of the world, was its author. Three times he calls himself a preacher; and his words are sermons of a strange interlude in a minor key, informing us of the transitory state of everything upon the earth. There is not one word of joy or gladness.

Solomon had drunk deeply of all the various pleasures of this old world. There was not one desire of his which he did not try to satisfy, not one tree of knowledge that he had not climbed to its height. He held wisdom, wealth, beauty, culture, honor, fame in his grasp. Not one thing had he missed of all that it is possible for man to achieve and enjoy upon this earth. He said of himself, "What can any man have that comes after the king?" And yet — and yet, the sequel is disappointing.

The key to this book hangs at the door—"under the sun." This is the theme and it is brought to our attention, diagnosed and then set aside as inadequate and unable to furnish lasting joy to the heart of man. It takes the Triune God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—to satisfy the entire being of mankind. The Phrase "all is vanity and vexation of spirit" is mentioned seven times, and it is most expressive when its real meaning is understood. The Revised Version translates it, "a striving after wind," or "feeding on wind." Another gives it "a chasing after wind." This is truly amazing! All that is in the world — all that for which men seek all the days of their lives — all for which they deem eternal things foolish, are but A CHASING AFTER WIND.

All the labor of life, all the carnal strife, all the pitiful attempts to get somewhere and enjoy something while upon this little ball of clay are nothing, absolutely nothing, but a running after the wind, which forever eludes man's grasp. We heard of a man once who saw a five dollar bill on the ground. Before he could stoop to pick it up, lo, a gust of wind whisked it away. He chased it block after block. It was in his sight, but always too far ahead, or too high, for him to reach. After awhile it disappeared altogether. Like the will-o-the-wisp, it allured him and then eluded and left him with empty



hands. So it is with all things of this world. They allure and pull us on after them, only to disappoint us in the end. The author is the son of David, the man chosen and exalted by the Lord to the highest earthly honors. David's reign covered years of painful rejection, sorrow and privations. It is this king who rose to power on the strength of another. Wisdom and honor and riches and power were ascribed to Solomon; but it is human wisdom and earthly power—"all under the sun." And now instead of the song which should follow, listen to the dirge that Solomon chants: "All is vanity and a chasing after the wind."

The word translated vanity is often applied to false gods (Deut. 32:21), and means "emptiness, nothingness." What an end! Man's heart, with all that nature can give him—fame and riches—is far from singing. His song is empty. He still utters his sad groan of disappointment and disillusion.

12 Now turn and contemplate another scene. Read from another book, about another Son of David. Tears are dried. No disappointment is in evidence. No groans are heard. Everything is joy. The heart of man is full at last. This is a heavenly scene and the folks "above the sun" are seen praising the Lamb for redemption. They are singing a NEW song. Old things — sorrow, sighing, perplexity — have passed away forever. What a contrast! And this is the purpose of the whole Book — to furnish such striking contrasts, that we will take notice. The new is thus enhanced and made more glorious by setting it over against the dark background of the old. It is rest instead of labor, peace instead of pain, hope against despair, joy for sorrow, songs over sighs.

The Preacher, like the good workman, takes account of all the material with which he has to work. "Have I anything that others have not had? Or can I hope to find anything that has not been before?" At once he is struck by the fact that everything on earth follows a continuous pattern. Generation follows generation, the earth remains the same. The sun revolves in its course, the winds circle from point to point and whirl about to their starting place. The waters follow the same law. All things go on in one unbroken round, without change. And yet there is nothing new. It is always a repetition of what has been before, and leaves the heart of man empty.

Let us leave this dissatisfying scene and look at another Preacher. He had been enlightened by a light from ABOVE the sun and he declares that he was not chasing the wind. He was not beating the air. His zeal and energy were directed into heavenly channels. He was getting somewhere in his racing, laying hold of tangible, eternal realities. (I Cor. 9:26). The



new things engrossed him, not the circuit of natural things. Notice the never-ending circuit in his words (II Cor. 9:8-12). It begins with God and returns to Him again. The perfect number seven is found herein. One — "God is able to make all grace abound toward you,..." is the first link in the round of supply for our every NEED! Beginning with God, we are amply provided for the way. God is able. His grace is like an ocean reaching to unfathomable lengths and unmeasured depths. We may come again and again, and never find the Source empty. Sooner, far sooner, will the ocean be emptied with a teacup than His inexhaustible supply of infinite love and power by all the demands that all saints may make upon it. ALL GRACE is the only limit here. Two — "...That ye always..." Not one moment will that circle of blessing stop flowing if we draw upon it. It is ever at our service. In the quiet of the closet in prayer, or in activities of the day, that grace is freely flowing. Three — "...Having all sufficiency..." There is plenty of grace to meet any emergency that may arise, however great and far beyond nature's resources, or educational endowments. Mark the example of this when put to the test in the case of Peter and John, "unlearned and ignorant" men in the presence of the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:13). These educated men were surprised and they marveled. They did not understand that these men were drawing upon an eternal source. Four — "...In all things,..." or in every way that we are put to the test, His grace will not fail. It matters not from which side the demand comes, there is the supply to meet it all. If we are dealing with souls where natural tact and wisdom fall short, we need not fail in meeting the need. There is that boundless grace for the taking. There is courage, if danger confronts; comfort in trials that test the soul; longsuffering with joyfulness when affliction tears the heart. Five — "...may abound..." Not only is there enough, but there is **ABOUNDING GRACE**. This goes a step further than the third point. A vessel may be full, but a few more drops will cause it to flow over. We may go over the top in every good work. His grace will flow toward as we pray and take from Him for every need. There is an overflowing abundant supply. Six — "...to every good work..." Whatever we are called to do in the service of the Lord, there He will meet us. The provisions of His grace are adequate for the most strenuous, absorbing, far-reaching service which He has ordained for us. There is nothing too high or too great for us little folk if He bids us to perform it. Our part is to take from Him;



then it is His part to meet that faith, and step on the scene in our behalf. Seven — "...being enriched in everything to all bountifulness which causeth through us thanksgiving to God." By the enabling of the grace of God, we are enriched spiritually. We may go to the uttermost in service, perform the most stupendous thing, give ourselves and our money by His enabling power. We can do the impossible; and the measure of the enriching thereby is to ALL BOUNTIFULNESS, because of the overflowing stream of grace. We are then a living channel of blessing to all around. The result is abundant thanksgiving to God. The grace descending from God at the beginning is found ascending to God at the end. The abounding grace filling the vessel full until it overflows in blessing to others, will pass on the overflowing in giving thanks and praise to God. Oh, it is comforting after the dismal groans of the old creation have been heard, to turn and listen to the exhilarating songs of the new creation. The book of Revelation is filled with singing. New things are beginning and we hear the music of the redeemed of all ages from throughout the world. At the end, we hear the majestic voice of Him who is able to make all our groanings to cease forever.

14 Listen to His voice at the beginning of this new year coming from glory — "Behold, I make all things new." Rev. 21:5. Amen  
(Original Printing 1950)

## **A NEW YEAR WISH**

GOD BLESS THY YEAR,  
Thy coming in,  
Thy going out;  
Thy rest;  
Thy travelling about;  
The rough, the smooth,  
The bright, the drear;  
GOD BLESS THY YEAR.



## SOME LEAVES OF "LET US"

**W**e have a Seven-Stemmed Bunch of "Let Us" for our friends at the beginning of the year. We trust this will prove to be a fine appetizer for bread and meat during the coming year, if Jesus does not return. Four of these "let us" stems are found in Hebrews four; and the other three in Hebrews ten. The first four have grown out of three salient facts:

1. That Jesus is God's Son, expressed in Hebrews one and two, by ten contrasts with the angels.

2. The sufferings and death of Christ, in Hebrews two.

3. The faithfulness of Christ over His own house as a Son, in Hebrews three.

These three facts demand the following four exhortations:

"LET US therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into His rest, any of you should seem to come short of it" Hebrews 4:1.

"LET US therefore give diligence to enter into that rest, that no man fall after the same example of disobedience" - Hebrews 4:11 Revised Version.

"LET US hold fast our profession. For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities." Heb. 4:14,15.

"LET US therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16.

Observe that every prompting here is incited by what has gone before as indicated by the words "then" or "therefore." God never requires anything of us except He has beforehand given us a powerful reason for it. Note that nearly every chapter after the first in Romans is introduced by "then" or "therefore." Compare also Gal. 5:1; Eph. 4:1; 5:1; Col. 3:1. This is exceedingly important.

In Hebrews 5-7 the Apostle gives seven striking comparisons between Melchisedec and Christ, to bring out His eternal, unchangeable perfection by which He is able to save to the uttermost or forevermore. Hebrews eight, sums up all in three forceful facts

1. Christ's ministry as Priest in heaven.

2. His ministry in the tabernacle which the Lord pitched and not man.

3. His ministry under the New Covenant.

Chapters nine and ten amplify and establish these facts. Hence,



out of all that has preceded, grow the following three:

"LET US draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Heb. 10:22.

"LET US hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for He is faithful that promised." Heb. 10:23.

"LET US consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Heb. 10:24

What a suitable cluster of admonitions for this season of the year, and as The Apostle Paul exclaims: "So much the more as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10:25

Anon

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Show Ground

We do not need to say one word  
Nor blow our horn for higher place.  
What we are in our own heart—  
Will always show upon our face.

When we're wise and kind and humble,  
Laying hold of sovereign grace  
Loving God with all our heart—  
It will show upon our face.

As we're seeking good of others  
Willing ourself to efface  
Yielding to God all our heart—  
It will show upon our face.



## STRANGE DEATHS OF THE APOSTLES

Henry Davis

**A**ccording to tradition, all but one of the twelve apostles died violent deaths. The one apostle who died a natural death was John, the Evangelist. Even the two supplementary apostles, Matthias and Paul, were put to death violently. Ten of the original apostles and the two supplementary apostles, like Jesus, were put to death by the hands of men.

The different ways the apostles died are as follows:

Andrew, brother of Peter Barjona, was tied to a cross like the letter X in Patras of Achaia, in the first century.

Bartholomew (Nathaniel Bartholomew) was flayed alive in Armenia, A.D. 71.

James, brother of John and son of Zebedee, was beheaded at Jerusalem by Herod Agrippa, A.D. 44.

James, son of Cleopas (probably Alpheus) and Mary, probably a cousin of Jesus, was thrown from the pinnacle of the Temple and then stoned to death, A.D. 65.

John, the evangelist, brother of James, died at an extreme old age at Ephesus, between A.D. 95 and 100.

Judas Iscariot hanged himself A.D. 33.

Jude or Thaddeus, brother of James the Less, was shot to death by arrows in Armenia, A.D. 80.

Matthew, the evangelist, was slain by a sword in Parthia in the first century.

Peter, brother of Andrew Barjona, was crucified with his head downward at Rome, A.D. 66.

Philip was hanged on a pillar at Hierapolis, Phrygia, A.D. 80,

Simon Zelotes, brother of James and Jude, was one hundred and twenty-nine years old when he was crucified in Persia, A.D. 107.

Thomas, surnamed Didymus, was slain in India with a spear in the first century.

Matthias, selected by the eleven to replace Judas, was said to have been first stoned and then beheaded in the first century.

Paul (Saul of Tarsus), son of Simon, was beheaded at Rome, A.D.



# REFLECTIONS

## REFLECTIONS

*...From the Editor*

18 “Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.” Isa. 49:15-16 These words are centered around God’s love for Jerusalem, assuring her that He will not forget her as “...thy walls are continually before me.” However, it is imperative as we enter this new year, that we, too, are included in the phrase, “...I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands;...” a direct reference to Calvary. The fact is that God has a very “selective memory.” This text assures us that even though a mother might forget her own child, “...yet will I not forget thee.” Let us call attention to the fact that God does remember some things, but is very careful “not to remember” others. For example, Jeremiah gloriously shouts, “ But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel;...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” Jer. 31:33-34 Isaiah chimes in with the same marvelous message, crying out, “I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.” Isa. 43:25 God’s Word also records many benefits for us, directly because God does remember. He “...remembered Noah, ...in the ark:...” after the flood. Gen. 8:1 He also “...remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.” Gen 19:29 God also heard the groaning of Israel when they were in such great bondage to Egypt and “...remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.” Ex. 2:24 Rachel was a barren woman, yet “...God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb.” Gen. 30:22 Hannah is another barren woman who cried out unabashedly before The LORD “...and the LORD remembered her. Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel,...” I Sam. 1:19-20 Psalm 103:14 is another beautiful promise for us to claim as we



enter this year, not really knowing the things which may lie before, but ever aware of how fragile, finite, and temporal we really are, “For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.” Finally it is imperative that we claim our place are recorded in Mal. 3:16-17. “Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels;...” These are the same people as those who, like God, know they are but dust and must cast themselves completely upon Him. This truth is couched in the term “...they that feared the LORD,...” meaning those who bow to Him in unreserved reverence. These are also defined as those “...that thought upon his name,” indicating the fact that He must be a constant Presence in our lives. An entire “...book of remembrance was written before him,...” and the prospect of becoming one of His “...jewels...” is almost more than we can imagine! However, we have ample reason to trust His Memory in this matter.  
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**ANNOUNCEMENT:  
2020 Convention  
Living Waters Tabernacle  
Denver, CO**

**February 14-16, 2020**

Come join like-minded saints for a time of fellowship and encouragement during this annual gathering. Sermons, studies, and plenty of food will be provided throughout the weekend. Come and be refreshed in the Lord!



## NECESSITIES

Lynn Bishop

**T**he Lord in His sweetness will bring things from His Word to our hearts in an endeavor to bring courage and power for us to live the life of "...Christ in you the hope of glory." He will bring us to the place of being quickened to consider His tender mercy in showing us our need for Jesus on a moment by moment basis. The things God allows for our lives are at times painful. Yet, we can be encouraged day by day as He reveals to us the depth of His love commended toward us in faithfully allowing trials to show us the depths of our need for a Savior, and His plan, purpose, and passion for us to win Jesus as our bridegroom.

One of the scriptures that reveals this precious thought of need is in Paul's second letter to the saints at Corinth: "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then I am strong." II Cor. 12:10 This is quite a list our dear brother Paul wrote of – and not items that one would take pleasure in. Yet **20** Paul did take pleasure in them, and the overcomer in Christ will too. Mature Christians know from Romans 8:17 that if we are to be glorified together with Christ, there will also be the need – the necessity – of suffering together with him here and now, to obtain salvation to the fullest, all the way into the midst of the throne.

The word necessities of verse 10 is the Greek word *anagke*. It means necessity, imposed either by the circumstances, or by law of duty regarding to one's advantage. *Anagke* comes from two words, *ana* and *agkale*. *Ana* means in the midst, among, between, upwards, denoting motion from a lower place to a higher one. *Agkale* means the curve or angle of the inner arm, the bent arm; anything closely enfolding.

Both words together convey the picture of an embrace. When you are held in an embrace, you are encircled by arms and held close to the heart. Our heavenly Father knows us so well and He knows the depth of our need in every aspect. He made us and formed us as the potter shapes the clay upon the wheel: "But now, O Lord, thou art our Father, and we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand." Isa. 64:8 And then there is the upward motion from a low place to a higher one. Psalm 40:2 explains our journey upward in Christ:



“He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.” As we are held in God’s tender embrace, we are lifted from the miry pit and seated in the heavens. This is not by our merit, or anything we can do. It is an act of pure grace and mercy by God.

We also read of these necessities in II Corinthians 6:4, as Paul encouraged the saints to give no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed: “But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses...” Again, we have a list that isn’t exactly pleasant. But there is an approving, a patient enduring through the trials. Paul encouraged his son in the faith Timothy about the proper attitude to have when confronted with trials when he wrote in II Timothy 2:3. “Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”

The Apostle likewise wrote in I Corinthians 9:16, “For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” It is clear that Paul feels the weight of the burden of preaching the gospel, indeed the necessity of it. He must do it; for if he does not, woe befalls him. God tells us why He created us in Ephesians 1:6: “...to the praise of the glory of his grace wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.” It is our calling to share the hope that lies within us, that is, Jesus. One does not have to have the office of a Pastor to preach the Word. Our very lives should be a testimony of the hope that is only found in Jesus, whether we speak or not.

Perhaps some of the sweetest verses containing anagke are found sprinkled throughout Hebrews, expressing the testimony of our Lord’s atoning blood sacrifice for us. Hebrews 7:12 asserts that “...the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.” This refers to the fact that the priesthood had been moved from the temporal realm of man, that needed constant maintenance and the sacrifice of animals to prove itself, to the eternal Priesthood of Jesus Christ, our High Priest, Who ever liveth to intercede on our behalf to God the Father: “Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.” Heb. 6:20

Hebrews 8:3 likewise declares, “For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.” Earthly sacrifices are no longer necessary because Jesus paid the price



of sin on behalf of everyone forever, and is now set on the right hand of God the Father. Priests offered sacrifices according to the law; Jesus fulfilled the law completely and thereby abolished it as a measuring stick for man to live by. The law of Christ is the perfect law of love and nothing can override it.

Hebrews 9:16 records another imperative necessity. "For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator." Shortly after this verse, it is noted that even Moses sprinkled blood upon the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. Simply put, without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Jesus told His disciples in the upper room before His crucifixion after he had drank from the cup and was sharing it with them, "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matt. 26:28 We can be thankful to God that the blood of Jesus made atonement for all sin for all time and that Jesus' shed blood paved the way for all who believe on Him to be saved from eternity in hell. But there is a higher calling of God in Christ Jesus of which Paul wrote in Philippians 3:14 that the blood of Jesus also made possible, which is the call to marriage for the rib portion Wife of the Lamb.

22 God's desire is for "...ALL men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Tim. 2:4 The word knowledge means a full, complete and intimate knowledge – not knowledge as mere acquaintances, but as a husband and wife know each other. This is the high calling summons to be united in marriage with Jesus.

The price Jesus paid when He shed his blood on Calvary to save us is beyond what we can comprehend. It was the most painful experience and it included mental, emotional, physical and spiritual agony. Crucifixion was a most horrible way to die and surely not something anyone would welcome. Yet Christ looked to the joy set before Him – the joy beyond the suffering of Calvary, contemplating the victory for Himself, and indeed for us, us on the other side. The agony He endured was because He saw that He was going to be made sin, cast out of God's Presence into outer darkness while enduring the judgment of God, which made Him cry out "My God My God, why has thou forsaken me?" He had to "despise the shame," that is, ignore or dismiss it, in order to accomplish what God's righteous government required of Him. "For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the



captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.” Heb. 2:10

Do we realize what this verse is saying? Jesus was made perfect through sufferings. There was a perfect and very necessary work of reconciliation that took place at Calvary for all who would believe on Him. The sin-stains of our polluted human blood were removed by the spotless Lamb of God forever.

That day on Calvary, Jesus saw beyond the immediate excruciating pain into eternity. He knew Who He was: The Sacrificial Lamb Whom God sent to a world that was (and is) dying in every sense. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever should believe on him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 Love is what kept Jesus hanging on that cursed tree, and love is what will motivate all of us to embrace the trials God has so perfectly allowed. We are encouraged in Hebrews 12:2, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Of course, Jesus could have come down from the cross. Satan tempted Him to do so through several people who taunted Him, saying “He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, saying ‘If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.’” Lk. 23:35 But our dear Lord was not to be fooled into giving up the joy of Calvary: Salvation for all mankind for those who would believe upon Him, and salvation to the fullest for those who would love Him with their whole heart and desire him as Bridegroom.

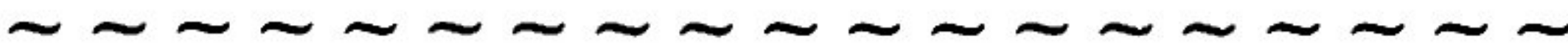
What a mother lode is in this tender word that sums up the idea of embracing suffering! It is not easy for us, naturally speaking, to embrace a person or a situation we do not like. Yet, we have such an example in the life of our precious Lord and Savior to embrace the trials. Jesus told His disciples in Luke 9:23, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.” We each have a cross to bear, and we are to bear it gladly, just as He did.

Paul wrote of the joint sufferings of taking up our cross in Galatians 6:17 when he wrote “...I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.” These ‘marks’ are noted as scars for service, piercings. Jesus’ side was pierced on Calvary after He had



surrendered to the sleep of physical death. Paul took joy in being crucified with Christ and boldly states in Gal. 2:20 "I am (have been) crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

The Readied Wife Of Jesus will experience the piercings while alive in this time of the Church Age, when the rest of Christendom is spiritually asleep. The joy set before Jesus was – and is – His Wife. The joy set before us is our Bridegroom, Jesus. He is certainly reason enough to embrace the necessary sufferings and run with patient endurance that we may attain unto that first trump call and meet our Lord in the air.



### *NEW YEAR'S WISHES*

24

What shall I wish thee! Treasures of earth?  
Songs in the springtime, pleasures and mirth?  
Flowers in thy pathway, skies ever clear?  
Would this insure thee a happy new year?

What shall I wish thee? What can be found,  
Bringing the sunshine all the year round?  
Where is the treasure, lasting and dear,  
That shall insure thee a happy new year?

Faith that increaseth, walking in light;  
Hope that aboundeth, happy and bright;  
Love that is perfect, casting out fear,  
These shall insure thee a happy new year.

Peace in the Saviour, rest at His feet;  
Smile in His countenance, radiant and sweet;  
Joy in His Presence, Christ ever near—  
This will insure thee a happy new year.

—Frances Ridley Havergal



# The Burning Bush Of The New Testament

Paul N. Smith

“**A**nd the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.” Ex 3:2-3

This was a marvelous thing to Moses as he looked at the bushy burning so brightly and yet not consumed. God attracted his attention by this phenomenon and made him to know that it was the “I AM” who was speaking to him. A bush is a fragile plant compared to trees or other shrubbery and to see it engulfed in flame and yet remain in its original form was marvelous to behold.

By this illustration, the Lord revealed Himself to Moses as the Eternal One; and He also gives us a picture of Israel's history from the slavery of Egypt to their great tribulation days. They were in fiery trial and persecution, and yet they were not destroyed. The hatred of Pharaoh seemed to inspire their growth and tenacity. It has been thus with Israel through the years; and the greatest fulfillment of this wondrous phenomenon will be manifested during the coming tribulation on the world. But there is still another typical picture seen here—the trials of the Christian, the means by which the child of God becomes an overcomer and is prepared to reign, with Christ. 25

In II Corinthians 4:7-11, we have the New Testament answer to the “burning bush.” Note verse seven: “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.” The bush answers to the earthen vessel, which refers to our mortal bodies. How fragile a bush is! How fragile is our earthen vessel! The Lord, in His infinite wisdom, chose to put His treasure in an earthen vessel. This treasure is Christ revealed and formed in us through the Gospel. There is such power and force contained in the Gospel that, if God did not ordain it as He has, our bodies would be changed to immortality the moment the Christ life entered our bodies! Notice that as God shined His light and glory upon the darkness and emptiness of the earth in creation so He has shined in our hearts. That is a great force which



could transform our body of humiliation into a glorious body.

Why, then, did God choose that this great immeasurable Treasure be placed in weak, frail, easily destroyed vessels? The answer is right in the Scripture quoted above, "That the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." God's excellent power can only be manifested when that strength is needed, and who needs His strength more than they who are living in weak bodies? God does not delight in the strength of His people, but in their weakness and dependence on His Great Arm. As we let the Christ life strengthen and bolster these weak vessels, then the strength is God's.

The next three verses show us the means by which these bodies are manifested to be earthen, and the victory displayed in the weak vessels. The Apostle Paul who wrote these words had experienced each phase of this burning. Other overcomers in the Bible also went through similar experiences which were means to their overcoming. The saints today, who choose to go Paul's way will travel this route to development and victory. There are no shortcuts or easy ways  
26 to go. This is the way God has ordained, so it is the best way.

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed." The word "troubled" means "hedged in" or "pressed." At one time or another we may be in the same situation, hedged in and unable to find a way out; in fact, there may be no way out at all except through divine deliverance. One outstanding example of one being hedged in, or pressed on every side, is that of Daniel in the lion's den, in chapter 6. This is a familiar story, even to children; but what Daniel felt before he was thrown to the lions and during that ordeal, we are not told. We do know that Daniel was a man of faith; and at this time as at other periods of perplexity, he remained true to God and always found the way of deliverance.

He was pressed in on all sides and the only way out was up, and the walls of the pit were too steep for him to climb. We are sure that he did not panic or try to escape. That God can give such assurance and calmness in time of trouble is a miracle, but He can. Others who were cast into that same pit had their bones broken by the time they reached bottom. But what was the difference in Daniels case? The answer is in Dan. 6:23.



". . . so Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God." Daniel had the mastery over the lions because he believed God.

The application is very plain for us today. Though we may be pressed in, so that no way out is seen, yet God is with us. His power will so strengthen us that we will be able to endure the lions' stares and snarls through the night. God's power is thus manifest in our mortal bodies. Daniel's bones were no more tough or unbreakable than any other's; yet, when God was manifest in him he was indestructible. He could have thereafter lived with the lions if God so chose, and he would not have suffered any harm.

The three Hebrew companions of Daniel were also hedged in by a wall of fire seven times hotter than usual. Yet, because of the Presence of God, that furnace became a burning bush, indestructible, though burning all the while. They were a burning bush within a burning furnace.

"...we are perplexed, but not in despair;" (without help). II Cor. 4:8 This word "perplexed" literally means "without understanding or embarrassed." It may seem strange to some as to why a Christian would ever be put in a position of complete bewilderment and embarrassment; but it is so. To come to such a state will prove that we are not sufficient of ourselves, and that we need the power of Christ to take over. Perhaps we have made a declaration of our loyalty to Christ or taken a firm stand for something declaring our faith for such a stand; and suddenly we find ourselves exactly opposite of our determination. Sometimes, we boldly declare faith for healing and the next moment we are embarrassed because we are sick and cannot get the victory. Embarrassed? O yes, but not without help.

A good illustration of this point is found in Peter, the chief of the kingdom apostles. Before Jesus was arrested and taken to the judgment hall, Peter made a bold and firm declaration of his loyalty to the Lord and he also declared himself willing to die with Jesus. And he meant every word of it at the time! When the actual test came, however, Peter found no strength to carry out his desire. His spirit was willing, indeed; but he was too weak to move himself in the right direction. He could not resist following Jesus afar off,



but could not boldly declare his heart allegiance to the Lord. His heart said "I love Him." But his mouth cursed and said, "I know Him not." Lk. 22:57 What was his way out? Jesus looked across that milling throng and sought out Peter. He looked deeply into Peter's eyes, even to his soul; and Peter knew that Jesus understood. The words of Jesus in Gethsemane rushed upon Peter's mind and he ran out to kneel and weep in his own Gethsemane. Was this defeat? Yes, to Peter's strengths, but it was victory—lasting and undefeatable. The life of Christ was manifested in his mortal flesh. "Persecuted, but not forsaken." The word "persecuted" means "pursued, hard driven." Have you ever been pursued by the enemy? Have you ever been chased by the enemy from one place to another without any breathing spell? Satan uses many devices and means to pursue, but it is always the same. However, whenever we are pursued, we are not alone.

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David illustrates this experience, as well as the foregoing one also. In I Sam. 21:10-15, we find David has been chased to Gath. Here, hoping to hide and rest awhile from his pursuers, he heard the people talking of his exploits and of his success as a warrior. Their suspicion of him aroused fear of being taken there. Perplexed? Yes. Embarrassed? Most assuredly. We next see the king of Israel, the anointed of God, being humbled to the place where he feigned himself to be a mad man, and scrambled on the wall even as a child might. His spittle fell down on his beard even as one who is too old and feeble to control himself. This was his means of escape. Oh, we cannot condemn dear David for this! God allowed this for David's sake.

Next see David escaping to the cave Adullam. He was pursued even to the dampness and darkness of a tomb; but he was not forsaken. All the others who were pursued and perplexed came unto him. They became one company, because they understood each other's perplexity. The pursued company today is one company; they understand each other, they fellowship each other's experience. And this was the scene of one of David's greatest victories. Here he could have ended his persecution with his own sword but, instead he let the Lord take over and strengthen him until it was God's time for



deliverance. He did not take himself out of God's hands. To kill Saul himself would have meant defeat of God's purpose for his life. This persecution was a necessary training to prepare David for the throne for he was truly a man after God's own heart.

"...cast down, but not destroyed." The Apostle Paul illustrates this experience very vividly. He was literally "struck down," but never destroyed. At Lystra, Paul was dragged out of the city, stoned, and left for dead. Acts 14:10 His would-be worshipers became his murderers. Yet, while the disciples stood round about him, he arose and continued preaching the Gospel Message. He visited again in Lystra and preached in the place where he had been stoned. One who is moving in the will of God cannot be destroyed. Though he may be cast down either literally or figuratively, yet he is never destroyed. Again, we see the burning bush. Paul despaired of life on numerous occasions; and wrote to the Corinthians that he had the sentence of death in himself that he might not trust in himself, "... but in God which raiseth the dead: " II Cor. 1:9

"Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body." II Cor. 4:10 This fifth experience is a constant daily identification with Christ. The expression of daily dying as seen in I Cor. 15:30-32, is not "dying out" to sin or crucifying the old man. This was taken care of at the cross. But there is a daily suffering of the saints who know they have been crucified with Christ, which is hard on the body and manifests more clearly that it is only earthen. Paul states he was in jeopardy. He would have been killed numerous times, if God had not manifested His resurrection power in his behalf. Jesus was pursued by His own countrymen, and assailed by Satan. Sometimes the battle caused physical strength to ebb away. A real spiritual battle saps the strength of the physical body, and the resurrection life of Christ must be poured into the earthen vessel to quicken it for further service. Paul died in many ways. He deprived himself of everything that could have been gain to him. He suffered loss, that he might know what death Jesus endured — not the final execution at the Cross — but the intense inner suffering which was climaxed at



Gethsemane. Paul wanted to know the power of His resurrection. This experience only comes thru dying daily. The only ones who know anything about this daily sacrificing are those who have counted the old man dead and the new man alive. There are times when saints feel crushed — broken. They have no strength left at all and would surely collapse. But if we collapse and give in to pressure, others will collapse too. If we take the strength of Christ daily, then when we feel as though we are melting into the earth under the weight of oppression, we feel the resurrection life of Christ girding us from within. Instead of sagging further, we feel a girder being raised; so we straighten up and become stronger than ever before. Paul prayed similar prayers for the Ephesian and Colossian saints, which illustrate the inner strengthening so necessary to go on in victory. Paul wrote to the Ephesians, praying, "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; " Eph. 3:16 The Colossians received these majestic words, "Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness." Col. 1:11 You will note that the strengthening is inner. If Christ bolsters and girds our inner life, then we are not defeated by what happens to the body. The inner strength comes first, before the victory is seen outwardly. (Thus we make manifest the fact that we are expressing not only the dying of the Lord Jesus, but also the victory of HIS resurrection life.) We get the victory within; before it is seen outwardly. Our body is not strengthened first and then victory, but the opposite. A further word concerning the two Scriptures just quoted: The one in Ephesians 3:16 tells us we will be strengthened "...according to the riches of His glory..." or "...out of the treasury of His glory, to be strengthened and reinforced." The Scripture in Colossians reads, to be strengthened "...according to His glorious power,..." or "...invigorated according to the might of His glory." The one is according to His grace (riches), the other according to His power. Thus, His grace will be sufficient, until such a time as His power will deliver.

(Reprint 1961)



## "SANCTIFY THEM"

Ethel Cooper

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."  
John 17:17

These words are a part of the Lord's prayer as recorded in John 17. Sanctification means to set apart. It implies righteousness and true holiness.

In verse 9, we read, "I pray for them (His disciples); I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given me; for they are Thine." He prayed also that the Father would keep them through His Own Name. Keep them from what? From the evil that is in the world. We know that God's 'righteousness is imputed unto all who believe; and as to our standing, we are as righteous as He. But our state can only be brought up to our perfect standing through sanctification. How can we become sanctified? Jesus said very plainly, "Sanctify them through Thy Truth." The Apostle Paul, in speaking of the overcoming Church, said that Christ gave Himself for the Church, "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of the water by the Word." Eph. 5:25, 26 Thus, God's Word is the only means of practical cleansing. It is as we read the Word and take heed to what it declares that we can possibly escape the evil that is all around us. If there were no danger of God's people failing and falling short of the glory of God, why do we have such statements as "Awake to righteousness and sin not..." (I Cor. 15:34) "And knowing the time, it is high time to awake out of sleep,..." (Rom. 13:11) along with others of like import. A sanctified life is a separated life, and keeps us in fellowship with God, prepared for service. Everything made under the old covenant that pertained to the tabernacle, and those who served in the tabernacle, had to be cleansed. If these requirements were neglected, it immediately brought down the judgment of God. Does God overlook sin in His people, along with their service, just because we are in the dispensation of the Grace of God? I say, No! God is just as much against sin as He ever was. There cannot be perfect fellowship with God when sin is allowed to operate in a child of God. We are told to walk in the light as He is in the light, and then we will enjoy fellowship with Him, and with one another-1 John 1:7. This world is called an evil world, and we are not to love the



world, neither the things that are in the world. We are to shun every appearance of evil. There may be some things that are not really evil, but if they have an appearance of evil, we are supposed to turn from them. Paul said, "Be ye followers of God as dear children." Eph. 5:1 Dear children are obedient children, who seek only the will pleasure of God: They do not please themselves, but the One who has called them out of darkness into His glorious light. They walk as children of light, never having to be rebuked or reprimanded; neither are they asleep to God's will and purpose. They are aware of the day in which they live and know that Jesus is coming soon. They also know the signs that precede His coming; and they will not be caught napping when He comes. We have believed in the coming of the Lord for years, and have seen many prophecies fulfilled in our time. When the revival of Pentecostal truth came fifty years ago, people began to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophecies of both Old and New Testaments were given. Nahum 2:3, 4 was just beginning to be fulfilled at that time. "The chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of His preparation. They shall rage in the streets. They shall jostle one against the other in the broadways; they shall seem like torches; they shall run like the lightnings." At that time there were very few automobiles, and very little speed, but we believed that this Scripture was being partially fulfilled. And now, a half century later, we are witnessing the speed of automobiles that is almost unbelievable. Another prophecy that was given by Peter on the day of Pentecost has been fulfilled the past fifty years: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy." Up to the time of this latter day outpouring of the Spirit, I had never heard a woman preach. But God's Spirit fell on women as well as men, and they prophesied as on the day of Pentecost. And today, Great is the company of women who are publishing His Word —Psa. 68:11, R.V. We have also witnessed the fulfillment of prophecies concerning



Israel, and also many others too numerous to mention. But the world with its scoffers are still saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." II Pet. 3:4 Men are blind because Satan, the god of this world, has "blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." II Cor. 4:4 And the Word declares that they shall have yet stronger delusions. And, sad to say, even many of God's children are being ensnared by Satan's devices. Let us not give way to the lusts of this world, and become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, and lose our place of separation unto Him. Let us not sleep as the servant of Matthew's Gospel, who said, "Our Lord delayeth His coming." Many are saying these words by their attitudes and actions. The Word says that the Lord will come and will not tarry. We have believed this precious message of the coming of the Lord for the past fifty years. We believe it more now than at the first. It brings joy and comfort to our hearts. We want to be ready for the first trumpet blast. "He that hath this hope, purifieth himself even as He is pure." We are saying with John, "Quickly come, Lord Jesus!" (Reprint 1957) 33

**Is This The Year?**

Is this the year  
Christ will appear  
To gather His overcoming saints  
And take them home above?  
Where nevermore they sigh or cry  
But live with Him in Love?

Is this the year  
Christ will appear ---  
The One Who died on Calvary  
And rose again His saints fo free ---  
Is this the year He'll come again  
In royal robes to reign?



## A SHINING FACE

The Chinese used to call one of the finest of the English missionaries "Mr. Glory-Face." It was because his radiant face was always glowing with the great love for both God and men that was in his heart. Somehow the goodness of his soul shone through. He looked just as good as he was. His shining face told the story of his great joy in making so many people happy. The martyr Stephen might have been given the same beautiful name, for while he was being tried by a council of angry Jews, we are told his face looked like the face of an angel. His joy over sharing persecution with Jesus because of his loyalty to his Master made his face radiant. The light upon his face seemed like reflected light streaming through the windows of heaven. His friends who saw him must have thought him transfigured, just as Jesus was that night upon the mountain, and as Moses was after praying to God on Sinai, though, "Moses knew not that...his face shone."

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## THE NEW YEAR

34

Over the top this year we'll soar,  
Higher than ever we've gone before.  
Maybe we'll reach the Open Door—  
Land up there on that Golden Shore,  
Ever to be with Jesus.

Over the top is our high aim,  
All our inheritance in Christ to claim;  
Holy and harmless without any blame,  
Translated to glory in Christ's dear Name,  
Ever to be with Jesus.

Up we'll fly in our "silver plane,"  
Leaving the world with its glittering gain.  
Christ to win and with Him to reign  
Over the world and His vast domain,  
Ever to be with Jesus.

(Reprint 1990)





# Our Corn Crib

*"Buy The Truth, and Sell It Not"*

## Tracts

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

## Books of the Bible

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

## Music CD's

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

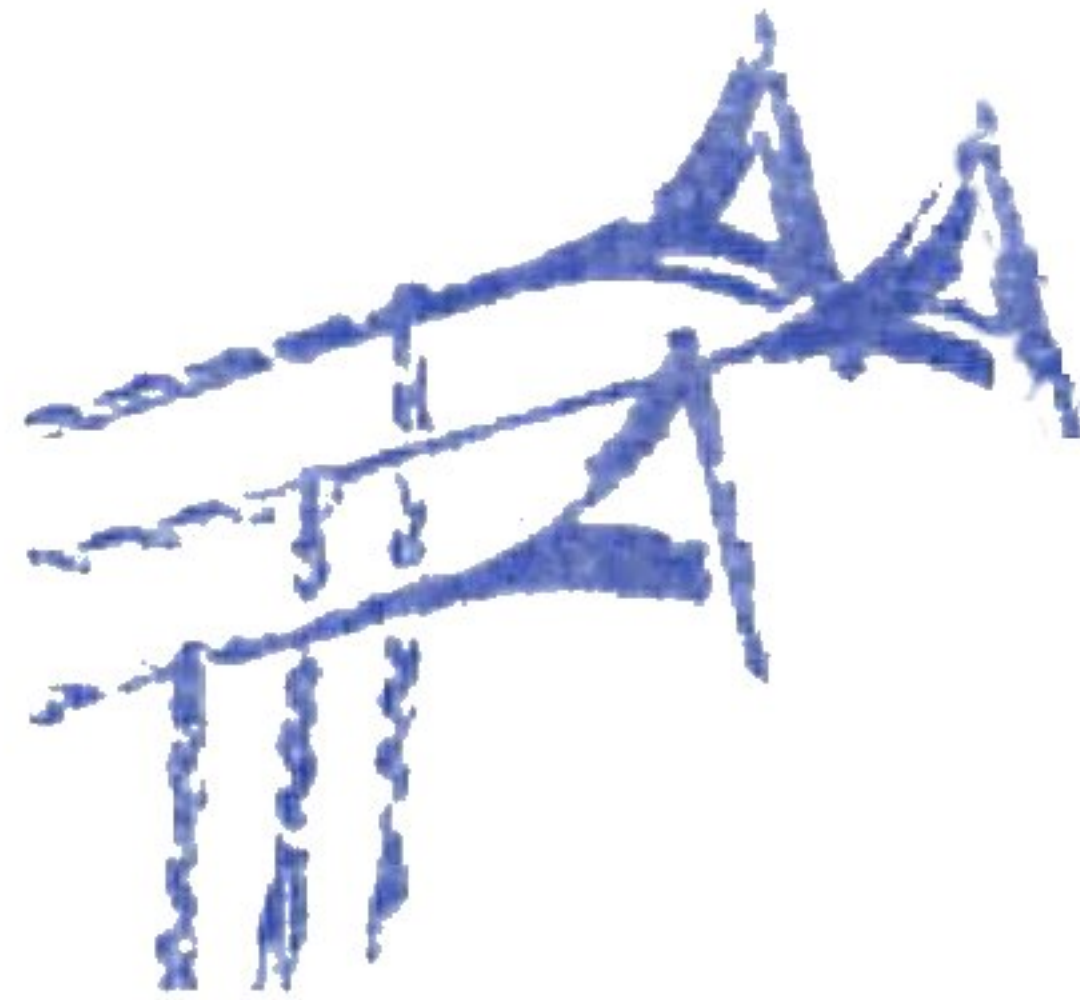
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# grace and glory

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“Also in the day of your gladness,  
and in your solemn days, and in  
the beginnings of your months, ye  
shall blow with the trumpets...”

Num. 10:10