

Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the
whole Counsel of GOD

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When he arose,
and rebuked
the winds and
the sea; and
there was a
great calm.
MATTHEW 8:14.

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HE CAN STILL INNER STORMS TOO



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Editor: Gene Hawkins



By Gene Hawkins

“And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but **only** those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.” Rev. 9:1-4

The events of this chapter will not begin until **after** the 7th seal of judgment, recorded in Ch. 8, has been opened. This final judgment describes the most devastating portion of the tribulation period and the “...star...” which falls from heaven is a major part of it. That star is none other than Satan who is cast out of heaven, into the earth. He is then given the key to the bottomless pit and wastes no time in opening it in order to unleash a horde of wicked spirits which are here described as “...locusts upon the earth...” The antichrist or “...the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit...” (Rev. 11:7, 17:8) is a part of that wicked band, which is here depicted as “...smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.” This is an important fact, for it means that the antichrist will begin his 1260 day reign of terror at this point, 250 days before middle of the week.

These “...locusts...” are “...given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power,” meaning that they have the wherewithal to bring forth great pain and torment to their victims, but cannot kill them. “And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.” Rev. 9:5 However, their power is severely restricted

for "...it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but **only** those men which **have not the seal of God in their foreheads.**" Though the antichrist will be given unprecedented power for 1260 days, God still exercises His Own Sovereignty. The stipulation here is that **ONLY UNBELIEVING** Christ rejecters, who "...have not the seal of God in their foreheads," can be targeted by these wicked forces. God separates those upon whom He has put His seal of ownership from the rest of humanity. Ours is a day when it is loudly proclaimed that "all men are the children of God." That is a totally erroneous claim. All men have most assuredly been created by God, but all of them can in no wise be identified as "His children." Jesus said it thus when He addressed the Pharisees and other Jews who had rejected Him as the Messiah. "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do...." Jn. 8:44 Paul likewise distinguishes the difference between the "...the children (sons) of disobedience: ("ye are of your father the devil") and those who

4 "...were by nature the children of wrath." Eph. 2:2-3 Paul's description in these verses proclaims that all men born into this world deserved to be judged by the wrath of God, but "...you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;" Eph 2:1 Simply stated, this means that the new birth provides God's seal of ownership to those who do have "...the seal of God in their foreheads." They are those of whom it was commanded "...that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree;..." They are spared because the "...green thing..." of Christ's resurrection life is within them.

It has been noted many times in these pages that the period designated in Matt. 24:4-8 as the "beginning of sorrows" bears a very strong resemblance to the seals of judgment outlined in Rev. 6. Scripture is very clear that those seals will not be officially opened until after Jesus takes His throne in heaven. Thus, we know that the tribulation period has not yet begun. However, current events cannot be denied. The characteristics of all these judgments are already quite evident, and they are becoming more severe with each passing day. One

might then wonder that since there is clear evidence of the judgments in our midst, does it also mean that God's protection upon "His people" in this pre-tribulation period has already begun?

That fact is not without precedent in scripture. God emphatically told Pharaoh just before Israel left the land of Egypt bound for Canaan, "...I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be." Ex. 8:23 After that, none of the judgments that fell upon Egypt affected God's Chosen People. Israel's exit out of Egypt is very much typical of the times in which we live today. God led them out of that land and across The Red Sea after this manner. "By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned." Heb 11:29 That same pattern will be repeated yet again as Israel will be conducted across the Red Sea of the tribulation. They are the woman described in Rev. 12:6 "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." This is the same period ruled by the antichrist wherein Israel shall be preserved from death and destruction. She will then become the head of the nations during the Millennium while all her enemies will suffer the same fate as the aforementioned Egyptians.

Let all men understand clearly that we are on the very threshold of this prophesied tribulation period. The entire Church will be in heaven by the time the events of Rev. 9 take place, but again we pose the question, "Has God's separation of His own people already begun in this pre-tribulation period?" There is absolutely no doubt that the day of deception, violence, uncertainty, fear, panic and uncertainty described in Matthew 24 is here. One of the latest examples of such characteristics is found in reports regarding the current coronavirus, which has engulfed the entire world. The World Health Organization (WHO) first informed the world of this pandemic and the report was that though a person was infected with the virus they would not necessarily become sick with it, nor would they exhibit any symptoms. However, men were told that they could possibly be "a carrier" and unknowingly pass it on to other individuals. Thus, there was

a severe “lockdown” throughout the entire globe. Another report was recently issued by the WHO saying that the possibility of a person **without symptoms** spreading the virus was “...very rare.” The following day, still another report which was displayed in a “Facebook live video” stated that “asymptomatic people can in fact spread the virus, though the degree to which they can is unknown.” Still another Fox News medical contributor, named Dr. Marc Siegel, who is not a part of the WHO but sought to clear up the “misunderstanding,” declared that “a person can be infected, yet never get the virus.” This seems to be the consensus from a number of different sources. Dr. Siegel further asserted that “If a person gets the virus, he can then spread the disease by coughing or sneezing,” and again most medical experts would confirm this view. He then concluded that “if a person does not show symptoms, he does not have the virus and cannot spread it.” We have witnessed the absolute frustration, confusion, and even panic among some who heard these reports, and with reason. The account from the WHO is completely conflicted and seemingly contradictory even to itself. The final opinion of Dr. Siegel is definitely and diametrically contradictory to that of the WHO. So what are we to believe? There is only one answer to that question and it is that we must turn to God’s Word. The WHO, in the beginning, basically announced that everyone on the planet could be a “carrier” and thus unknowingly pass this sickness on to anyone around them, but is this scriptural? Which of the above opinions can be confirmed by The Word of God? One good example would be from II Cor.8:12 where Paul asserts that **“if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.”** Simply stated, this text means that “we cannot give what we do not have!” The context of this chapter is in regard to money. However, it is a principle that can be applied in a multitude of ways in our lives. For example, we can only give love to others which we have received from God. Likewise, we cannot show grace to another unless we have first received the same from Him. Ephesians 4:32 likewise instructs us to forgive “...one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.” Contrariwise,

we are solemnly warned against spreading “the virus of bitterness.” “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;” We cannot give to others that which we have not taken to ourselves. Surely this same principle must apply to the coronavirus. The priest of the Old Testament was charged with the awesome responsibility of ascertaining whether or not a certain individual had truly contracted leprosy before he was banned from the congregation in order to keep him from passing the disease to someone else. Lev. 13 & 14 The identifying symptoms had to be without doubt or speculation. The conclusions of the WHO account come nowhere near such a requirement.

Our opening text states clearly that God does separate His Own. Peter reinforces that truth stating that, “The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:” II Pet. 2:9 These words are clearly illustrated in graphic fashion by the events recorded in Rev. 9, and there is no room for speculation about the events of that time. It is clearly stated that no believer will be victimized by that torment. There is also no doubt whatsoever that God used His Words to Pharoah: “...I will put a division between my people and thy people:...” as a “sign” of His Own Power and Sovereignty. However, we cannot say with unequivocal certainty that true faithful believers at this present time will not be affected at all by this virus, even though we have not personally heard of ANY who have succumbed to it. Thus, we must find comfort and instruction in what we DO know from God’s Word. Scripture emphatically declares that those who do have “the seal of God in their foreheads,” are not to be plagued with fear and panic. “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.” I Jn. 4:18 There is much concern, however, that some of our day may be instilling fear on purpose in an effort to hold people in bondage. Jesus emphatically proclaimed, “...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” Jn. 8:32 He also warned us that “...many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” Matt. 24:5 That statement does not simply

mean that some would come into this world **claiming to be Christ**, but would rather purport themselves as being able to **accomplish** what only He can do. It seems at times that politicians worldwide are making that claim, and one day the antichrist will succeed. Paul likewise warned us of deception during these last days. “But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.” II Tim. 3:13 He also presented a veritable clinic on the relationship between truth and deceit during these last days, as he tried to encourage the Thessalonian saints. “And then shall that Wicked be revealed,...Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan... 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. 2:8-12 Truth brings freedom, but men must also understand that anytime truth is not forthcoming, its benefits cannot be realized. Note the exact words of the apostle, **8** “...for this cause God shall send them strong delusion,...” That cause is from the previous verse: “...because they received not the love of the truth,...” Deception prevails when truth is withheld! This has been evident for years in the “religious” community as men simply refused to follow Paul’s example “...to declare unto you all the counsel of God.” Acts 20:27 Alex Berenson, a former investigative reporter for the New York Times, wrote a book entitled “Unreported Truths About Covid-19 And Lockdowns” directly because he was convinced that the documented data he had seen proves that truth was not published in regard to the coronavirus.

One segment in this book addresses deaths which have occurred during this pandemic. Mr. Berenson asserts that “... the topline death figure does not account for the fact that the deaths will be heavily concentrated among the very old and sick. More than half would likely have died within weeks or months in any case, as Neil Ferguson said in his British testimony. From any point of view, those deaths are unpreventable. Their **timing** is a function of the coronavirus, but their **cause** is underlying conditions such as cancer or heart disease or dementia. Meanwhile,

children and young adults are at minimal risk from the virus.”

We know for a certainty that news outlets have used these deaths as the measure of coronavirus severity, but once again there is no way of knowing how many actually died from the virus and there is no way of ascertaining how many were indeed true believers. Thus, there is no positive proof that the aforementioned division between God’s People and the wicked has come to pass, in this regard, at this present time. However, we must be encouraged by Peter’s admonition that “The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations,…” Psalm 91 is a beautiful confirmation of that glorious truth, and we as believers must evaluate our own faith in laying hold of it during this dreadful time of crisis. Each of us must ascertain, “do I believe the promise of God’s Word or will my life be directed by the fear and chaos which prevails in this world?”

“He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;” Psa. 91:4-5 This psalm is filled with promises of God protection and the fact that we need not live our lives in fear and torment. However, there is also a very key word in these verses which applies directly to the subject of this entire article. The term “pestilence” meaning ‘plague’ is twice recorded. V. 3,6 Jesus used the same terminology in Matt. 24:7 as He warned of “... pestilences,...in divers places” during the end time. This Psalm also outlines the devastation which can surely apply to our day, for “A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it (the plague of V. 6) shall not come nigh thee.” V. 7 Once again, it must be decided whether or not personal faith will reach out and claim these glorious words of preservation in the face of the dramatic devastation which prevails on either side of us during this current crisis. God’s people are surely not beyond the pale for daring to believe that He is surely making a division between themselves and those “...which have not the seal of God in their foreheads,…” at this present hour!

Jesus used this same language as He addressed the disciples just prior to His ascension into glory shortly before the

Church was baptized into one body on the Day of Pentecost. “And these **signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” Mk. 16:17-18 These words were most assuredly true at the beginning of this age and they have in no wise lost their power now in the end of it. The key to enjoying their benefit is that, “... the signs shall follow them that **believe!**” Note that we do not get the sign and then believe, but rather just the opposite! This order has prevailed from the very beginning of this Church Age. Men must believe first, then they are rewarded with the benefit. That has been the problem from the beginning. For example, “... they shall speak with new tongues...” was a reference to the fact that tongues were given as a sign that men had been filled with the Holy Ghost. It was clearly manifest on the Day of Pentecost and beyond, but still people refused to believe. Some have made excuses that this phenomenon was only for the “apostolic era.”

10 Others have gone so far as to say that “tongues is of the devil.” These never did receive the “sign” of tongues simply because they did not believe. “They shall take up serpents...” Some have severely abused this promise as they “take up the serpent to prove their faith.” This promise was demonstrated literally in Acts 28, when a viper attached itself to Paul, who then “...shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.” Acts 28:5 The serpent, however, is a symbol of Satanic power, and those who believe will see victory even now over the “...principalities...” and “...powers,...” against which we wrestle. Eph. 6 Make no mistake, this same serpent is responsible for the current pandemic even as Satan is responsible for the havoc unleashed in Rev. 9.

Finally “...if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them;...” This is surely a provision for the “unknown perils” which seem to lurk on every corner of our society today. So let us look up, for all these signs are here, “...and when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.” Mk. 13:29

THE CROSS AND SATAN

Mary M. Bodie

"NOW Shall The Prince of this world be cast out: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto Me." John 13:31

Here is given to us in unmistakable language, by these words of Jesus, the tremendous consequences of the CROSS in relation to the devil. He is described as "PRINCE OF THIS WORLD", which acknowledges him as a personality. Furthermore, his authority and influence is stressed by this appellation of honor and dignity, yet he is elsewhere called a serpent and deceiver of the whole world. Rev. 12:9 The one tells us of him as God created him; the other as he made himself.

The CROSS is our subject with its results to this ENEMY of mankind. It "brings the serpent to naught," which is the exact meaning of "destroy." Heb. 2:14 In other words, the serpent's power has been annulled by the CROSS. He was the original cause of the fall of man. The lifting up of a serpent upon a pole in the wilderness (Numbers 21) is a marvelous figure of Christ lifted up upon the cross. John 3:15 The serpent is not the type of Christ. He is rather the type of the sinful first creation which has been poisoned by the serpent, at its fountain head (Adam). He was the cause of Christ hanging upon the cross accursed of God when all natural creation put on mourning, except mankind, for whom He was the Substitute. It was thus Christ achieved victory over Satan. The fallen race, who were all under the sentence of death, because of the sting of the serpent, paid the penalty of sin (death) in their Representative Head, Christ. He was there on the CROSS in the place of our first head, and bore the curse that was pronounced upon Adam in the day that he ate the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden. By the CROSS the serpent was defeated by his own weapon, death which came upon man because of him. 11

The death of Christ on the cross in its results toward Satan is described in Colossians, as that of a Mighty Conqueror who in battle overthrew all his foes putting them to an open shame. The fallen flesh had been taken possession of by the evil powers and principalities. They work through fallen flesh, use it as it were

to accomplish their wicked purposes upon the earth. They have become strong through the flesh, but when Jesus died and rose He put them off humanity by putting off the likeness of sinful flesh, "...having unclothed himself in putting off His body..." --- Col. 2:11 R. V. He deposed the principalities and powers and made a show of them openly, triumphing over them by the CROSS.

How marvelous and absolutely divine the plan. God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. The Creator in the Person of His Son, taking upon Himself the sins of the whole world, in likeness of sinful flesh, yet without sin, thus making a way for man to get back to God. And by His death and resurrection, He became the Head of a new race, built up and formed out of His very nature and substance — "partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption of the world."

12 This is the meaning of the CROSS as it pertains to the devil. The sinful nature over which Satan had power has been put off in the putting off of Christ's body. In Calvary we have the antidote for the sin that dwells in our flesh. The fallen poisoned creature has been crucified on the CROSS in the Person of Christ and everyone of us have the privilege of leaving the first Adam and his sinful race and stepping into Christ, the Last Adam and His holy, sinless race — a new creation.

The CROSS is the weapon God has given us to deal with the sinful old creation, including his wisdom and all that pertains to him and bring to naught Satan's power and eventually destroy death itself. Through the CROSS, when the full results of redemption have been manifested, there shall come a "new heaven", cleansed from every trace of the revolt of the fallen angels, and a "new earth," freed from every mark of the curse of the Fall. The Son of God will one day view the accomplishment of all that He came on earth to do and for which it appears the earth itself was created to be the scene. It was the battle ground upon which the Redeemer must enter into conflict with the fallen rebel, Satan, the once glorious arch-angel and wrest the spoils of victory from him.

The tragedy of Calvary not only meant victory over the invisible powers of evil and the cleansing of mankind by the blood, but more. It meant the future cleansing and deliverance

of the heavens from the presence and power of the arch-enemy. O, the CROSS has lasting effects, which will reach far beyond the millennial age. The lonely death of that matchless Man will have its full out-working when He shall deliver up the Kingdom of God to the Father when He shall have put down all rule and authority and power." I Cor. 15:20,21

Then will come the end. The enemy, Satan, will be cast into the lake of fire prepared for him and his wicked principalities and powers. They were all judged potentially at Calvary, but the sentence will be carried out when the Conquering Christ of Calvary comes again to reign till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. "And when all things have been subjected unto Him, then shall the Son also be subjected unto Him that did subject all things unto Him that God may be all in all." I Cor. 15:28. The Son will bring all things in the universe into harmony with God; and when everything has been accomplished, every enemy destroyed, then, He will hand the Kingdom back to the Father and be subject to the Father forever.

13

I AM THE BIBLE!

I speak every language under the sun,
and enter every corner of the earth.

I bring information, inspiration; and
recreation to all mankind.

I am the enemy of ignorance and slavery,
the ally of enlightenment and liberty.

I treat all persons alike, regardless of
race, color, creed, or condition.

I have power to stretch man's vision, to
deepen his feelings, and enrich his life.

I am a true friend, a wise counselor, and
a faithful guide.

I am as silent as gravitation, as pliant and
powerful as the electric currents, and
as enduring as the everlasting hills.

I am the Bread of Life, with the message
of salvation for every lost soul.

I am the Bible.

—Christian Action

The Gospel Vindicated

Francis Romer

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” Rom. 1:16

It Has Truly Been Wonderful To Be Able to attend Bible School for two years, and I can also say that it has been the best two years of my life. I praise the Lord for these past two years and that He made it possible for me to be here in the School. I can say even as Paul, that "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ." Often times before I knew the truth, people knew that I was a Christian, but I never testified to them, because I hadn't taken in the Word. Praise God, now I am able to testify and carry this Gospel to others.

I will speak on the phrase, "Ashamed of the Gospel." Let us look at II Tim. 1:8. We notice here that Timothy was beginning to be ashamed of Paul, since Paul was in prison. He thought no doubt that Paul was getting old and not able to carry on the work. Paul wrote Timothy a letter and admonished him to go on and **14** not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of His prisoner. Notice it says that he is God's prisoner. Why should we be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord? Paul wasn't responsible for this; he was in the will of God, and preaching the Gospel. He was God's prisoner. Praise the Lord! Each of us can be a prisoner of the Lord. He can use us for His will. He says, "Be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God."

We have been saved and called with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. Paul says that he was called with a holy calling, and not according to his own works. It wasn't because of anything he had done, the Lord had called him. We know how he was going against the will of the Lord and he was knocked down on the way to Damascus. The Lord turned him around and made him a different sort of man. He was saved. He had a new creation life. He was the opposite sort of man after the Lord took hold of him. Paul was not responsible for being in prison or for the sufferings he had to undergo.

It was God that allowed him to be put in prison. It was his testimony for Christ that brought on the suffering. We cannot

be ashamed if we take hold of the truth and witness of it. Paul declares that he was not ashamed of his sufferings because he knew that the Lord was allowing them and was taking him through. He said, "I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him, against that Day of the Lord." We know that Paul committed Timothy to the Lord and he knew that the Lord was able to keep him and to carry him on. In the same way, we may become ashamed of those who are carrying on this Gospel because of the littleness of the way or maybe some afflictions have come upon them or something of that order. But we may yield to God and become partakers of their afflictions. We may come to the place where we are not ashamed of them or the testimony of the Lord. Also, we know that the Apostle Paul committed the Church to the Lord and we know that we are part of the Church. The Church is no small part of that commitment, and Paul says that he knows the Lord is able to keep that which he has committed unto him against the Day of the Lord. Notice further, in Rom. 5:3-5 we read that "tribulation worketh patience, patience, experience; and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed." We are not ashamed because we have our hope in Christ Jesus. That is where our hope is, and that makes us not ashamed. If we just stop to think that we have a hope in Christ, then why should we become ashamed of Him or the Word of God? We can go forth proclaiming the Word because we know it is true. "Prove all things and keep that which is good." When we prove the Gospel, we know it is the truth and we are not ashamed of it. We should tell it to everyone that we meet, testify every chance we get, because we are not ashamed of it.

15

Then again in I Peter 4:16, we are told of the sufferings that the saints might go through; but if we suffer as Christians, let us not be ashamed of the sufferings, but glory in the behalf of the Lord. Again we call attention to II Tim. 2:15. Paul is telling Timothy to "study to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word or truth." I praise the Lord that we can go out and not be ashamed of this Gospel and give it forth to others. We read in Rom. 9:33, "If we believe on Christ, we are not ashamed," also Rom. 10:11 is similar to the verse just read. Then Rom. 1:16 — you all know this verse and that is what I say tonight — "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of

God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Then it goes on to say what is in this glorious Gospel. If we read these, we see why we should not be ashamed and why these glorious things that are in here make us not ashamed. As we go on with Christ and take in this Word and study to show ourselves approved, workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, then we can say we are not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.

In Heb. 11:16 we see a different picture — "Wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God." Truly we go on and we take our heavenly place. We seek that heavenly place and we have the hope that we are going to be seated there in our glorified bodies and be made manifest as Sons of God. Then Christ says here that He is not ashamed of us. In closing, we read Phil. 1:20. He says here that in nothing he (Paul) shall be ashamed. It is wonderful to know that we do not have to be ashamed of this Gospel of Christ. Praise the Lord!

(Reprint 1953)

16

HIS GARDEN
Beautiful garden
Of lilies so fair
And roses so fragrant
None can compare.
Dressed by the Gardener,
Jesus my King,
Ever my song
Of praise I will sing.
Soon He is coming.
To gather His own;
We'll sing and rejoice
'Round His glorious throne.
No more sorrows,
No more tears,
Praising our Savior
Through eternal years.

Beulah Clark

THE UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

Dr. Vicky Moots

“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.” II Cor. 9:15

The word “unspeakable” means “beyond description.” There are no human words to adequately describe it. The value of it far surpasses any known earthly treasure, so there is nothing with which to compare it. Yet, it is God’s free gift to all of us.

“He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?” Rom. 8:32. God gave His all when He gave His Son for us all (“for God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son”) to purchase our freedom from sin, our salvation. But the Son Who died in our place also gave His all.

Through that gift, God has freely given to all who will receive it all things. Nothing that God has provided for us is withheld from us except through unbelief. Can we really comprehend the immensity of that gift?

How can we through our feeble attempts at good works ever hope to add anything to an incalculable gift such as that? Why not just receive it by faith and enjoy the fullness of the riches of His grace? “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:” Eph. 2:8

17

The Unspeakable Gift

Thanks be to God for sending us
His unspeakable gift of Love –
Wrapped in the package of His dear Son.
Special delivered by His Holy Dove.
‘Tis a rare and unusual present
Imported from Heaven above,
A gift that keeps giving and giving-
The unspeakable gift of God’s Love.

REFLECTIONS

REFLECTIONS

...*From the Editor*

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free,…” Gal. 5:1

18 Freedom! What a glorious word! This is the time of year wherein America celebrates her independence from the religious oppression of England. Current generations took no part in those battles which were fought to buy that freedom, but we are privileged to enjoy the glorious benefits which have ensued. Paul’s declaration to the Galatians follows this same pattern as we are exhorted to lay hold of a freedom which Christ won for us those many years ago at Calvary. The point here is that the liberty has already been provided. Men have been made free and now the only thing left to do is believe God that we might have the practical reality of it in our lives. The same thing is true for this nation. There was a time when men realized that it was God Who had given the battle into their hands. They even commemorated it on their currency, “In God We Trust.” Today some want to obliterate such a memory chiefly because they have the idea that we will trust our own ingenuity and power rather than God. Thus the protests across our land when men should be glorifying God for what has already been won.

Standing symbolizes independence and freedom. Believers are exhorted to “sit at the feet of Jesus and learn of Him.” There is also no substitute for “kneeling at the Cross” in humility and total submission before God. There is also coming that great day of rejoicing wherein many of God’s People will “bow” in adoration and worship before Jesus, casting their crowns before Him. Today, however, is primarily a time to “stand,” sometimes for certain blessings, at other times against very formidable enemies. The above text continues with, “...be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage,” a reference to standing against the bondage of the law. We must also stand in the liberty which Christ has given us over sin, “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.” Rom. 6:14

When Israel crossed the Jordan from the wilderness into Canaan, “...the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over

Jordan.” Josh. 3:17 This act of the priests symbolizes the fact that we too may “stand firm” on the dry ground of resurrection, meaning that we came through death without dying, for we did not even get our feet wet. This is a liberty which has been provided to every believer, but all of them simply do not know it and do not enjoy the victory of it. Some have never learned that the work of our redemption is complete in Christ and need not struggle in our own strength to obtain its benefits. We only need to believe God for what has already been provided.

Paul also exhorted the Corinthians to “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.” I Cor. 16:13 Once again, the refrain is to simply stand fast and believe God. Therein lies our strength which identifies us as real men of God.

Finally, we are exhorted to “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil..... Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;” Eph. 6:11-14

So “Stand Up America,” and rather than exert all this useless energy in rioting and unbelief, simply believe God for all the glorious liberties which have already been won for us directly because Jesus fought and won the battle on the Cross of Calvary those many years ago, and those mighty warriors of the 1700’s believed God to secure freedom for an entire nation in 1776.

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ANNOUNCEMENT:

Since we are immediately going to press with this issue, and the decision for the Denver Youth camp will not be made until July 1, 2020, we are unable to announce whether or not it will be held. That information will be available on the Living Waters web site shortly.

Climax Of The Ages

Ralph E. Hawk

"God,...Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" (FRAMED THE AGES) Heb. 1:1-2

Before time began, in eternity, when the triune God planned His dealings with men, He decided to deal with men through the various means which we know as the seven dispensations. To the careful Bible student it is quite simple to divide these dispensations, as it is evident that God did not always deal in the same way with different people in different times. But what we wish to notice in the citation quoted above is that the Son of God had a preeminent place in the framing of these ages. And let us note also Eph. 1:10. "That in the dispensation of the fulness of times (climax of the ages) He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him." Jesus said, "I am the First and the Last . . ." and we see that not only was the Lord Jesus Christ instrumental in the planning and the carrying out of God's plans for the ages, but that when all things are gathered in one, they will be gathered in Him; that is, it was with Him and His glory in mind that all these dispensations were planned. Of course, this verse points forward to the next and last dispensation, the Millennium, or Kingdom Age. Being persuaded, then, that all these dispensations have a direct relationship to Him and His glorification, let us look at them individually and discover how they have their foreshadows and fulfillments in Christ.

20

"And God blessed them, (Adam and Eve) and God said unto them. Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and SUBDUE it and have DOMINION over the fish of the sea ..." Gen. 1:28 Here we have record of the first dispensation, the first way in which God dealt with man after He created him. This dispensation is known to us as Innocency, and the primary feature of it was that man was given authority to subdue and have dominion over the rest of the creation of God: in other words, he was given the right to reign over the earth. But, sad to say,

although man was made sinless and innocent, he did not stay that way long, but through disobedience he became sinful and lost that dominion which he had. But it is wonderful that at the very threshold of God's dealings with men, He shows His desire to have men reign and, above all, to have fellowship with them. That which happened to Adam and Eve also happened in every dispensation in which man had a part to perform. Any time God revealed a plan in which man had either to do or not do something, it failed miserably. But though man failed, God still accomplished what He had in mind, as He was showing mankind the need of absolute grace, the only way in which men can be redeemed and bring joy to the heart of the Father. I Cor. 15:24 shows how God will yet bring to pass that which failed in the age of Innocence because of the weakness of the flesh. "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet." So God actually had in mind another Man when He gave dominion to Adam—the Last Adam, who will reign in righteousness for one thousand years, then turn the Kingdom back to His Father in perfect shape. 21

In the second dispensation, Conscience, God put man on probation, so to speak, and gave him no law and no promises. It is just as if God left man in his fallen situation just to see what he would do; left him to follow his own conscience as to finding fellowship and blessing from God. In this we find a strong indication of the truth that God desires to have men to love and serve Him, not because they are forced, nor because they are afraid not to, but because they want to. It has never been God's desire to force His fellowship upon man. You say, can this work? One of the greatest overcomers of all time was produced by this dispensation. "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." Gen. 5:24 Here is profound proof that God is so able to touch the heart-strings of a man that he willingly submits himself wholly to the Lord. And how wonderful also is the counterpart of this, the latter-day fulfillment in the climax of the ages. "And the four beasts (living creatures). . . rest not day

and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. And when those beasts give glory and honor and thanks to Him that sat on the throne the four and twenty elders fall down before Him that sat on the throne, and worship Him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy..." Rev. 4:8-11 The saints will be a great portion of the glory of the Lord in the Kingdom Age, and here we see those people who compose the Bride of the Lamb worshipping the Lord BECAUSE THEY WANT TO. These people yielded to the Lord here on earth because they were enthralled with Him as He revealed Himself to them. They, like Enoch, "Have this testimony, that he pleased God." Heb. 11:5 The people who compose that wonderful Bride company will be there because they WANTED TO BE THERE MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE. Thus, the Age of Conscience will be fulfilled completely in the glorified full-overcomers. It is because they walked in the steps of the Lamb of God, Who willingly walked the downward way in full obedience to His Father.

22 "And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth ... into your hand are they delivered." Gen. 9:1-2 As soon as Noah and his sons had landed on dry ground after the flood, God instituted a new dispensation, the one we know as Human Government. During this Age, men began to build cities and countries, and some men began to rule over other men. Man can accomplish much by concerted effort, but it is always things in which he harms himself, as we well see in our own day. If God had not confused the languages of the people at the tower of Babel, we might well shudder to think of the "accomplishments" of men down through the years. The language barrier has been called the greatest hindrance to world understanding and co-operation, and we see in our day that as men learn one another's language, greater understanding does ensue. But it was God's purpose that man should have that dispensation of Human Government, even though He was forced to put limits upon it. In a sense, basic government established in that Age continues today. For

example, the code of Hammurabi, from that time is called the basis of modern government. But all this was truly in view of a later Man and a later day, for shortly "Human Government" is going to come into its greatest manifestation. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name; that at the name of JESUS every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in the earth and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil. 2:9-11 Yes, that will be human government such as this world has never known, but it will be HUMAN! Every knee shall bow at the name of JESUS, the name of the suffering Man, Whom God will exalt. How our spirits cry out for that day.

The fourth dispensation was an outstanding one because it is one of those in which God alone took full responsibility for its fulfillment. It is the Dispensation of Promise, and Abraham is the central figure, the receiver of the blessings of the promise. The basis of this dispensation, and of the unfulfilled Abrahamic Covenant, is seen in Gen. 12:1-3. Of course, those promises as they pertain to Israel, the earthly seed of Abraham and people of God, will literally be fulfilled, but there is an even greater fulfillment in the "seed," the Lord Jesus — "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made . . . And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after cannot disannul... For if the INHERITANCE be of the law, it is no more of promise. But God gave it to Abraham by promise." Gal. 3:16-18 God plainly made promises to two distinct phases of Abraham's seed — Israel, the earthly (sand of the sea), and Jesus and His body (the stars of heaven). The latter is of greatest importance, for we read that Abraham "Looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Heb. 11:10 This city for which he looked is quite apparently the New Jerusalem, the Bride of Jesus Christ adorned by the rest of the believers. Abraham's promises have not yet come to their greatest fulfillment, but they surely will.

Next comes the dispensation of Law. "Now therefore, if

ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation." Ex. 19:5-6. Great things were offered to Israel under Moses' leadership. If they were to be a "kingdom of priests," it is apparent that God offered to use them in behalf of the Gentiles, since priests must act before God in behalf of others. Heb. 5:1 However, Israel never was able under that covenant to make even themselves fit to be presented before the Almighty God, and of course, never occupied the exalted place as "a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation." But we realize again that God, who knows the end from the beginning, was not at a loss as to what to do. In reality, He looked forward to the time when Israel, through the Lord Jesus Christ, will fulfill that place. "For finding fault with them, He saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant . . . For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord: I will put my laws INTO THEIR HEARTS: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." Heb. 8:8-10 Offered under the law, that exalted priesthood was unattainable because they were "...weak through the flesh..." (Rom. 8:3), but through a new birth, Israel will yet obtain that place through Christ Jesus. Neither the efforts of men nor the devil can bring God's purposes and promises to naught.

"But God who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved") Eph. 2:4,5 Of course, this dispensation in which we live, grace, will have its fulfillment in God's dear Son. It is glorious, amazing and wonderful to be living now. What a privilege to be "made alive with Christ." As we often say, "It is all grace now, but it will all be glory after while." We see this glory summarized in verse 7, "That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches

of His grace in His kindness toward us THROUGH CHRIST JESUS." And the intricate and hidden needlework which is going on in the overcomers now will be on display very shortly, "To the praise of the glory of His grace." Eph. 1:6 "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give HONOR TO HIM: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteous acts of saints." Rev. 19:7,8 Yes, the theme of the Bible is Jesus, and all its events, dealings, shadows, prophecies and dispensations point forward to the Climax Of The Ages, when the Lord Jesus Christ shall reign in righteousness, surrounded by His people. "He that shall come will come, and will not tarry."

(Reprint 1960)

FAITH'S ANSWER

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

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

25

Author Unknown

THIS IS THE REST-- THIS IS THE REFRESHING

Geoff Haase

“To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.” Isa. 28:12

This lovely verse gives hope for the weary soul plus a promise, first to the Jew and then to us the Gentile believers of a promised rest. Through the cross and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Jew and Gentile are made one in Christ, as Paul announces in I Cor. 12:13 “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” He further declares, “For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;” Eph 2:18-19 “...This is the rest...” cried Isaiah. Rest and refreshing go together. Jesus offered “rest of soul” to the Jews of His day. To rest from their labour in the law and to change yokes.

26 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Matt. 11:28-30 The old yoke of Moses was neither easy or light. Peter says “...why tempt God to put a ‘yoke’ upon the neck of the disciples (new testament believers) which neither we nor our fathers were able to bear?” Acts 15:10. We are yoked to Jesus and His Father.

Mother Grace will never go back to Law as Paul describes in Gal 4 with this summation: “Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.” Gal. 4:30 The Chief Apostle to the Church says to his children everywhere “...be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage...” Gal. 5:1. Once we find the substance, we can never go back to shadows. This is rest from the bondage of Law, rest from the bondage of sin, rest from all our self effort, to please God. Rest from guilt and condemnation --- Rest.

“...This is the Rest...”

“...With stammering lips and another tongue will I speak to this people.” Isaiah 28:11

The prophet says “...This is the rest,... and the refreshing...” Refreshing is like rejuvenation--- ready to go again. It carries the idea of mental and emotional refreshing, a sense of deep satisfaction. Moses makes a strange statement when saying, “...on the Seventh day God rested and was refreshed.” Ex 31:17. Again on the same line “...David took a harp and played with his hand: and Saul was refreshed,...” I Sam. 16:23

When we are first saved, we know we can rest in the finished work of Jesus and know our sins are put away and a new life has begun in our quickened spirit. But there is more rest when we receive the Spirit in Pentecostal fashion, and that is exactly what Isaiah is referring to. The promise of the rest which the Spirit brings, the refreshing in our life --- and Yes!!! Another tongue.

Paul quotes from Isaiah 28:11 when giving the Church at Corinth instruction and Fatherly correction in the use of tongues, interpretation of tongues, and prophecy. “In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.” I Cor. 14:21 We know this Holy Spirit phenomenon began back in Acts 2 and will continue in the Church until the time of perfection comes. “But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.” I Cor. 13:10 There will come a day when prophecy (the gift) tongues and knowledge will no longer be needed. They will cease, because their use for edification during this Church Age will have ended. “Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.” I Cor. 13:8 Untill that day comes, we still encourage these “spirituals.” “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.” I Cor. 12:1 Paul then spends an entire chapter explaining how these “spirituals” are to be used in building up The Church.

This is a part of our Rest and Refreshing. Yet aside from

the function of the gifts in the Church, we note that believers were expected to be anointed with the Spirit or sealed by the Spirit. They were filled with the Spirit and spoke in tongues and magnified God and prophesied after the pattern of Acts 2: 4. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." This same pattern was repeated in the Gentiles after Peter went to the house of Cornelius. "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished,... because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues,..." Acts 10 v 44-46 Acts 19:6 likewise confirms this same glorious truth in Ephesus. "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

28

When I received the Holy Spirit in this biblical way, I spoke in a new language I had never learned; I came into a new scriptural experience. I felt great and knew that it pleased God. I had not only been born of the Spirit when I was saved at 12 years of age, but then at 20 years of age and hungry for more. I was prayed for to receive my "down payment" --- my own personal "anointing" and "seal." "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," Eph 1:13 See also II Cor. 5:5 "Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit."

"Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." II Cor. 1:21-22 It is God Who establishes us, anoints us, seals us, and gave us "...the earnest..." (guarantee of down payment – deposit) "...of the Spirit in our hearts." The "...earnest..." of the Spirit is a foretaste of our full inheritance. When I was born of the Spirit, I was ready for heaven. "Jesus answered...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old?... Jesus

answered,...Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” Jn. 3:3 – 5. When I was filled with the Spirit, I was ready for service. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...” Acts 1:8 This indeed brings you into more rest. This is the rest of which Isaiah spoke. It happened at Pentecost. Every believer should go on in his experience to the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Have you come into this rest? There is a wonderful rest in receiving salvation and knowing Jesus as your Saviour and God as Father as found in Eph. 2:8-9. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” Beloved, the fullness of this rest is the rest and refreshing of the indwelling Holy Spirit. All is free. The cross of Jesus makes these things ours by faith. We believe, we trust him, we say yes to the promise of Luke 24:49. “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.” Acts 1:5 likewise promises, “...but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence,” and Acts 2:1-4 declares plainly, “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come,... suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind,... And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire,... And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Please ponder these scripture verses and seek to become acquainted with them. 29

The Psalmist's Resolve

Morning---- “In the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee and will look up.” Psa. 5:3.

Noonday— “At noonday will I pray.” Psa. 55:17

Evening— “Let my Prayer be as the evening sacrifice.”
Psa. 141:2

Night—“I meditate upon Thee in the night watches.”
Psa. 63:6.

THE NOBLEMAN'S DAUGHTER

Christ For Me

The daughter of an English nobleman - worldly, proud, ambitious, and fond of pleasure - was brought to know Jesus as her Saviour. Her conversion was manifested in her life and ways. Her father who was a thorough man of the world was greatly displeased, and sought in every way to lead her into the world in the hope that she might give up her "foolish notions."

30 Temptations in worldly society, extravagance in dress, and traveling in foreign countries were all tried to drag her down again to the level of the poor world. But her heart was fixed. Jesus was more to her than all that earth could give, and to Him she was resolved to cleave. Baffled and disappointed, her father resolved upon one last desperate effort, by which his end should be gained or his daughter's earthly prospects ruined. A large company of nobility were invited to the house. It was arranged that during the festivities the daughters of the different noblemen should entertain the company by singing, accompanied by music on the piano. She was chosen as one of the number. It was a moment of trial for the young believer. If she complied, and joined in singing the songs of the world, her testimony for Christ would be wrecked and her communion with God broken. If she refused, her father had threatened to expel her from his house. She would be publicly disgraced and lose her place in society. The gay company were gathered together, and one after another performed her part. At last the name of the young lady was announced, and the eyes of all were turned toward her. The crisis had come, and everyone wondered how the scale would turn. She arose and with a calm and dignified composure, took her seat at the instrument. Her father thought he had gained his point. After a few moments of silent prayer then, with a voice of unearthly sweetness and solemnity, she sang:

No room for mirth or trifling here
For worldly hope or worldly fear,
If life so soon be gone;
If now the Judge is at the door,
And all mankind must stand before
The inexorable throne.

No matter which my thoughts employ
A moment's misery or joy.
But, oh, when both shall end,
Where shall I find my destined place?
Shall I my everlasting days
With fiends or angels spend?

When the singing ceased, the solemnity of eternity was upon this gay assembly. Then without speaking, they dispersed, one after another slipping from the room. The father wept aloud and, when he was left alone with his daughter, he asked her prayer for his soul's salvation. Her prayers were not in vain; for the proud man was humbled before God to confess himself a sinner, to accept by faith the Saviour of the lost as his own, and to follow and live for Him. His life, his wealth, and his talents were henceforth the Lord's.

Unconverted reader, it may be the fear of man that is keeping you from Christ. You dread the frown of relatives who, like yourself, are without Christ. You need not. If you claim the Lord Jesus as your own and only Saviour, He will strengthen you and give you courage to own Him as your own and only Lord. 31

"How long halt ye between two opinions?" Choose this day between Christ and the world.

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### TRUE GREATNESS

Learn to grapple with souls. Aim at the conscience. Exalt Christ. Use a sharp knife with yourself. Say little, serve all, pass on. This is true greatness, to serve unnoticed and work unseen. Oh, the joy of having nothing and being nothing, seeing nothing but a Living Christ in glory, and being careful for nothing, but His interest down here. —J. N. Darby.

\* Every step of faith not only takes us forward, but leaves a footprint behind for others coming after us to see.

\* We tire of the pleasure we take, but never of the pleasure we give.



## A TRUE STORY

DURING my military service in India, in those stirring times of mutiny and murder, I had in my regiment a little bugler who was too weak and delicate for the life he had to lead; but he was born in the regiment, his father had been killed in action, and then his mother drooped and died. After his mother died his life was made miserable by the scoffing sneers and ribald jokes of the men whose butt he was.

32 When little Willie Holt was fourteen years old, the regiment was bivouacking some miles from camp for rifle practice. I had intended leaving the lad behind, but my sergeant-major begged hard to "take him along." "There is mischief in the air, Colonel," he said; "and, rough as they treat the lad, his pluck and his patience tell on 'em; for the boy is a saint, sir; he is, indeed." I had a rough lot of recruits just then. Before we had been out a fortnight several acts of insubordination had been brought to my notice, and I had pledged to make an example of the very next offense by having the culprit flogged. One night targets were thrown down and otherwise mutilated. On investigation, the act was traced to occupants of the very tent where Willie Holt was camped.

In vain I appealed to them to produce the man, and at last I said: "If any one of you who slept in number four tent last night will come forward and take his punishment like a man, the rest will get off free; but if not, there remains no alternative but to punish you all, each in turn to receive ten strokes of the cat." For the space of a couple of minutes, dead silence followed; then, from the midst of the prisoners, where his slight form had been completely hidden, Willie Holt came forward. "Colonel," said he, "you have passed your word that if any one of those who slept in number four tent last night comes forward to take his punishment, the rest shall get off free. I am ready sir; please, may I take it now?"

For a moment I was speechless, so utterly was I taken by surprise; then, in a fury of anger and disgust, I turned upon the prisoners: "Is there no man among you worthy of the name? Are you all cowards enough to let this lad suffer for your sins? For



that he is guiltless you know as well as I." But sullen and silent they stood, with never a word. Then I turned to the boy, whose pleading eyes were fixed on me, and never in all my life have I found myself so painfully situated. I knew my word must stand, and the lad knew it, too, as he repeated, "I am ready, sir." Sick at heart, I gave the order, and he was led away for punishment. Bravely he stood with bared back, as one, two, three strokes descended. At the fourth a faint moan escaped his white lips; but ere the fifth fell a hoarse cry burst from the crowd of prisoners who had been forced to witness the scene, and with one bound Jim Sykes — the black sheep of the regiment — seized the cat, as with choking utterance he shouted: "Stop it, Colonel, stop it, and tie me up instead! He never did it, but I did;" and with convulsed and anguished face he flung his arms around the boy. Fainting and almost speechless, Willie lifted his eyes to the man's face and smiled — such a smile! "No, Jim," he whispered, "you are safe now, the Colonel's word will stand." Then his head fell forward — he had fainted. The next day I visited the hospital tent where the boy lay dying. The shock had been too much for his feeble strength. He lay propped up on the pillows; and at his side half kneeling, half crouching, was Jim Sykes. I saw the drops of sweat standing on his brow as he muttered brokenly: "Why did ye do it lad? Why did ye do it?" "Because I wanted to take it for you, Jim," Willie's weak voice answered tenderly. "I thought it might help you to understand why Christ died for you."

"Christ died for me?" the man repeated.

"Yes, He died for you because He loved you. I love you, Jim, but Christ loves you much more. I only suffered for one sin, but Christ took the punishment for all the sins you have ever committed. The penalty was death, Jim, and Christ died for you." "Christ has naught to do with such as me lad; I'm one of the bad uns; you ought to know." "But He died to save bad ones," answered Willie. "After you have sinned against Him He loves you so much that He came all the way from Heaven, and suffered and died in your place, and now He is calling you. He wants to cleanse you from every stain of sin and make you fit for His Presence. He wants you to live with Him in glory. He



was wounded for your transgressions. He was bruised for your iniquities, the chastisement of your peace was upon Him. How can you resist such love as that? "He says: 'He that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but is passed from death unto life.' Won't you receive Him now?"

The lad's voice failed him, but he laid his hand gently on the man's bowed head. After a little while we saw a strange light in his dying eyes, and with a happy cry he flung out his hands as if in welcome. Then gradually the weak arms dropped; the light faded from the shining eyes; and his spirit passed over from earth to heaven.

—Selected.

(Reprint 1947)

### When Will He Come?

When evening comes—

And the long gleaming rays of sunlight show  
Athwart the trees which line the streets below,  
We look above at awesome amber glow,  
Of setting sun, glorious in its light;  
And we wonder, will He come tonight?

When midnight comes—

Dark shadows fall and all the world is still.  
The stars appear and moon comes o'er the hill,  
Its mellow radiance, making our souls thrill  
With hope, as we gaze at sky's adorning.  
And we wonder, will He come this morning?

When daylight comes—

And the beautiful greensward is wet with dew,  
And the firmament is draped in tints of blue,  
We ask, O shall our dream just now come true,  
While men are working, or at play?  
And we wonder, will He come today?

Anon





# 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       |                       |

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# grace and glory

P.O. Box 831

Grandview, Missouri 64030

*Therefore I  
say unto you,*  
**W**hat things soever  
ye desire, when ye  
pray, believe that  
ye receive them,  
and ye shall have  
them. *MARK 11:24*