

# Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the  
whole Counsel of GOD

Vol. 112

July 2022

Num. 7



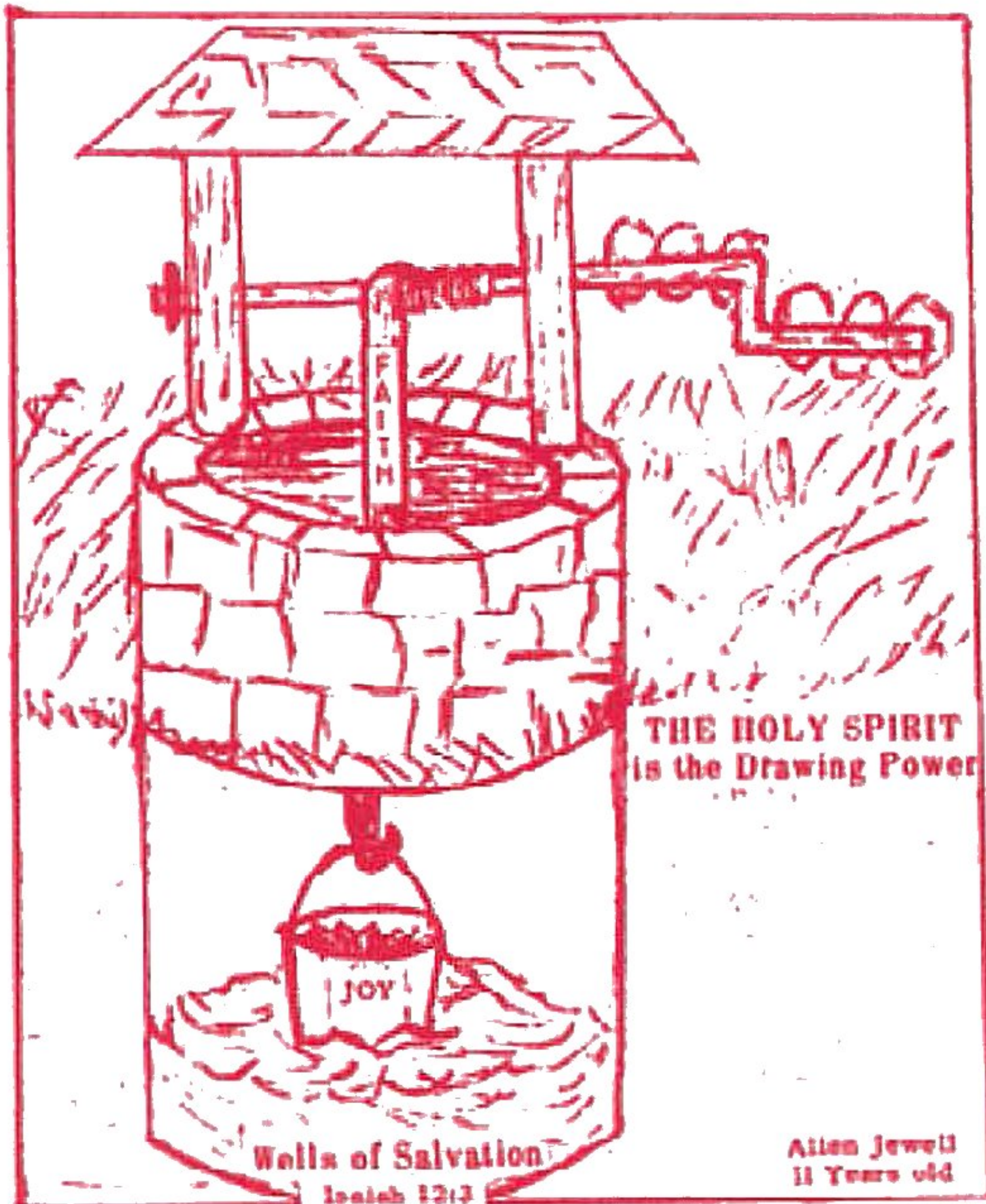
Now faith is  
the substance  
of things  
hoped for,  
the evidence  
of things  
not seen.

Hebrews 11:1.



# Table Of Contents

Article	Author	Page
Definite Sign Posts of the End.....	Gene Hawkins.....	3
God's Waiting.....	Ray Quintana.....	10
God's Timing and Purposes.....	Dr. Vicky Moots.....	20
Christ's Hour and Ours.....	Anon.....	27
Practical Points.....	Anon.....	28
Book Section Hosea.....	Gene Hawkins.....	30



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

PERIODICALS postage is paid at Grandview, Missouri.

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

Telephone: 816-618-3306. E-mail [gjhawk1@msn.com](mailto:gjhawk1@msn.com) Print Shop # 816-322-2257

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

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

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

Editor: Gene Hawkins



# Definite Sign Posts Of The End

Gene Hawkins

“**A**nd as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage,... Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” Lk. 17:26 -30

“And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the **thoughts of his heart was only evil continually....** And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast,... The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them;...”  
Gen. 6:5-13 3

The above texts from both the Old and New Testaments outline a number of signs which describe the days which prevail in this present hour, just prior to the coming of Jesus. They are called the “days of Noah,” and are first identified by the declaration that “...they did eat, they drank,...” This statement must not be interpreted as a reference to the simple necessity of meeting physical needs, but rather to all the insatiable desires of the Adamic race whereby man’s top priority is to gratify himself. This is followed by social signs as “...they married wives, they were given in marriage,...” Finally they were apparently days of great prosperity as “...they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;...” All these things are clearly manifest world-wide at this present time, but God’s overall conclusion regarding them is that the earth is “...corrupt and...filled with violence.” The word “corrupt” literally means “to decay, ruin, batter, spoil waste.” Violence suggests “...maltreatment, to make bare,



violate, imagine wrongfully.” Both of these terms are currently taking center stage daily just as they did in the days of Noah. God proclaimed the root cause of this condition explaining, “... that every imagination of the thoughts of his (man’s) heart was only evil (exceedingly grievous, hurtful, wretched) **continually.**” The key word here is “...continually...” There was a time when the evil acts of men were more or less sporadic. That is not so today, for this whole planet is literally bombarded daily with atrocious acts of violence and wickedness, oftentimes due to the insistence of some to satisfy and gratify themselves regardless of the effect it might have on others. Their own appetites must take precedent over everything else. Their own desires must be held paramount, and this condition is manifest not only in individuals using multimillion dollar lawsuits against others to obtain their objectives but also includes nations such as Russia and China who will at all costs try to exert their own will on lesser nations around them. The driving force of such nations is mostly their insatiable appetite for power.

4 The aforementioned violence and corruption is also manifest on a daily basis even among the younger generation. It is hard to contemplate how a young man could look full into the faces of children younger than he and then open murderous fire upon them, but the teenager in Uvalde, Texas did exactly that. It also seems at times that these assaults in schools have become a regular routine. American politicians especially declare that more gun laws are needed, but God puts the blame squarely within the hearts of wicked men, as noted above, declaring that “.... every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually....” Jesus said it this way: “A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.” Matt. 12:35

There is no problem that God cannot solve, and the answer to this one is to give man a new heart, as Jesus said to Nicodemus, “... Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Joh 3:3 This “educated Jew” was completely oblivious to the truth of that statement. Thus, The



Master continues, explaining that "...Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." Jn. 3:5-7 Nicodemus is still confused so Jesus explained more fully the truth concerning Himself. "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven,... And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." Jn. 3:13-18

By and large, men as a whole have unequivocally rejected God's answers to all their problems and thus continues the fact in these last days that, "...every imagination of the **thoughts of his heart was only evil continually...**"

Let all men also understand that even God's Law could not and did not prevent or eliminate the unrighteous acts of ungodly men. Paul declared plainly: "...we know that the law is good, if a **man use it lawfully;**" I Tim. 1:8 Therein lies the problem. Only law abiding citizens obey the law, and the ungodly ilk of which God speaks in Genesis 6 are driven by their own lusts and greed rather than a desire to comply with His law or any other.

Society today is also left to wonder where in the world that such an "imagination" as defunding the police or completely eliminating their presence came from. Certain politicians have also tried to set up funds in order to "bail out" known offenders and riot instigators, declaring that they would continue their lawless assaults until their desires were met. Lawlessness is also encouraged by the fact that some prosecutors refuse to prosecute known offenders and instead release them back into the streets to continue the ways of corruption and violence which Jesus



associated with the days of Noah. Solomon, the wisest man of all time, directly addressed the same problem. “Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.” It is no wonder that, from God’s point of view, “...every imagination of the **thoughts of his heart was only evil continually....**”

6 The problems in regard to marriage and social issues also lie within man’s heart. Jesus once again confirms that assessment declaring that “... out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:” Matt. 15:19 God ordained marriage and performed the first one in the Garden of Eden. However, the reference to marriage in the opening text of this article and in Matt. 24 seem to put a rather negative connotation on it. Some have indicated over the years that there were contracts for same sex marriage in Sodom and the account given of Lot in Gen.19:5 does bear witness to gross homosexual conduct. “And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may **know them.**” Jude also confirms such ungodliness as he denounces those of both Sodom and Gomorrah. “Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after **strange flesh**, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” Jude 1:7 It is appalling in our day that major politicians are literally “pushing” this ungodly idea of same sex relationships even to the point of trying to educate children at a very young age to question their sexuality. There have been major disturbances and accusations against parents for trying to stand up and insist that the education of children is a responsibility given to parents not the government. Scripture emphatically backs them up. “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” Deut. 6:6-7 Some of the burden of responsibility here must lie with the parents, because a very sad refrain of our day is that many



parents have not heeded the admonition that, God's words "... shall be in thine heart." All parents are to first appropriate God's Word for themselves and then, "...teach them **diligently** unto thy children,..." Just because that has not been done does not mean that any government has the right to force parents and children to accept their own agenda, which includes the present curricula of homosexual, lesbian, and transgender content. The reason all men should stand against such a demand is because these "imagination" are totally and diametrically contrary to the teachings of God's Word and are in great part responsible for the "...evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:" prevailing in these last days.

Finally, according to Luke's account, prosperity is also one evidence marking the condition of these last days as "...they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;..." America did most assuredly enjoy an economy envied by most nations around the world before the present administration decided to implement every tool in their power to comply with the demands of "climate change or global warming" proponents to eliminate fossil fuels. 7 Those policies have certainly met the criteria for God's assessment of these last days wherein the earth is "...corrupt and...filled with violence." It bears repeating that the word "corrupt" means "to decay, ruin, batter, spoil waste." Do those terms not graphically portray the current conditions in the U.S. and around the entire world? Likewise, the word "violence" from Gen. 6 meaning "...maltreatment, to make bare, violate, imagine wrongfully," easily describes the Days of Noah, which are currently upon us. It is also quite apparent that the difficulties which many endure today are self inflicted due to the damage incurred by these "evil imaginations" directly out of the hearts of men.

America has for years seemed to be the "bastion of hope" for multitudes around the planet. Even now, her open border policies are literally inviting anyone and everyone world-wide into the country, with no regard for proven terrorist activity, drug smuggling, and human trafficking. Some prominent politicians continue to try and defame America, insisting that it is a corrupt country and must be changed, but if that be so, "why is everyone



trying to get here?” It is still quite true that this country, like Israel, was founded on godly principles of Scripture which has given her a history of great prosperity. Sadly, that distinction is fading fast due the fact that men as a whole are in daily rejection of God’s Word. All of the aforementioned ills of these last days described above are directly because men absolutely refuse to hear, let alone appropriate the tenets of Scripture.

8 A great many are convinced that coming elections will “turn this country around.” That could be a great possibility. If the current policies regarding fossil fuels were to be reversed, it would have a staggering positive effect on America as well as the entire world because this country could once again be an exporter of oil to other countries which are also experiencing great loss because of such “evil imaginations.” Jesus forecast of prosperity for these last days could very well come again. However, it is imperative for every believer to understand that if such a thing should occur, it could also disappear just as quickly as it already has. It is, therefore, imperative that those who are truly looking for Jesus to come keep their eyes on that hope rather than any projected by this world. Paul specifically warned the Thessalonians, a people who were diligently looking for Jesus to appear, that, “...yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” I Thess. 5:2-3 The apostle here makes a decided distinction between “...yourselves...they...and them...” meaning that those who are not aware of Jesus’ impending appearance are slated for destruction directly because they were deceived into thinking that all was well because “...peace and safety...” had arrived. Thus it must be concluded that there could be a short era of “...peace and safety...” even before that official time arrives AFTER Jesus takes His throne and opens the first two seals of judgment in Rev. 6. Paul’s advice to these Thessalonian overcomers surely applies to those of this present time who are determined not to be caught unawares. “But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and



the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ," I Thess. 5: 4-9 Paul's distinction between "...ye brethren..." and "...others..." continues here as he encourages these enlightened believers to "...watch and be sober..." He further insists that "... God hath not appointed us to wrath, but...salvation..." Many may assume that the term "...wrath..." is a reference to hell but such is not the case. It rather refers to the wrath of the tribulation period, and God did not appoint those of the Church to endure it. However, when men fail to hear Him, when they refuse to listen to His Word as do so many in our world today, the consequence will be the same. Note also that Paul here refers to "...they that sleep sleep in the night;..." This must of necessity be a reference to believers for unbelievers are always described as being "...  
9  
dead in trespasses and sins..." Eph. 1:1 Only believers sleep, and that condition must be avoided at all costs for those who would escape the wrath of tribulation.

It is quite certain that the "evil imaginations" associated with the "...days of Noah..." will continue to increase despite any change in government personnel. However, forewarned is also forearmed and because of that, adherence to God's Word is imperative. Scripture is very clear that, "...all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light." Eph. 5:13 Like the Thessalonians who were "...children of light,..." this admonition is for our own lives and benefit. God's Word will reveal the falsity in regard to the "evil imaginations" proceeding from the hearts of men today, and place our attention firmly on things above. Let us therefore, be encouraged, for "...when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand." Lk. 21:31



**GOD'S WAITING  
FAITH, & PRAYER!**

Ray Quintana

**“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.” Psa. 27:14**

David is led by the Holy Spirit to say, “Do not think that you are mistaken in keeping to the way of faith, but wait upon the Lord,” and, as we are apt to fail, he repeats the exhortation, making it more emphatic the second time, “Wait, I say, on the Lord.” Hold on with your faith in God, persevere in walking according to His will; let nothing seduce you from your integrity. Let it never be said of you, “Ye did run well, what did hinder you that you did not obey the truth?” And lest we should be faint in our minds, which was the second danger, the psalmist says, “Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart.” There is really nothing to be depressed about, there is no real danger, you are safe while God lives, and while Christ pleads, and while the Spirit of God dwells in you. I ask, “Is God alive? What fear do we have?”

**10** Therefore, be not dismayed, nor even dream of fear. Be not timid and unbelieving, but! “Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart.”

I Kings 18 reveals how Elijah bowed his knee on the top of Carmel and prayed to God for rain. For three years there had not been a single drop that had fallen upon that area. He pleads, and having finished his intercession, said to his servant, “Go and look from the top of Carmel towards the sea.” Elijah believed he had the request which he desired of God and therefore sent his servant to see. The answer which was brought back was not encouraging, but he said to his servant, “Go again seven times,” and seven times that servant went. The prophet does not appear to have staggered in his faith. He believed he had the request, and therefore expected soon to see it, since seeing is often a blessed reward of believing. He sent his servant till at last he brought back the news, “There is a little cloud the size of a man’s hand.” This was enough for Elijah’s faith. He acts upon the belief that his request has been realized, though not a drop of rain has fallen. He exhorts Ahab to get his chariot ready, the rain surely would fall. It was the prayer of faith.

David also says, “My voice shalt thou hear in the morning,



O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." Psa. 5:3 As men take an arrow from the quiver, so David takes his prayer, and fits it to the string, bending the bow by intensity of desire. Then he takes his aim and directs his prayer to God. He is not shooting to the right hand or to the left, but upwards to the Lord. He points his polished shaft, not to those who will afterwards read the psalm, not to those who are listening to his voice, but rather to heaven. Then, having done so, he draws the bow with all his strength, and away flies the arrow. Anxious to know how it speeds, he looks up to see whether the Lord accepts his desires and continues to look up to see whether a gracious answer is returned. This is like unto the Christian, knowing he has an answer to his prayer, and waiting and watching till it comes.

Hannah also bears witness. She was a woman of a sorrowful spirit and prayed without an audible voice, as only her lips moved. As soon as Eli told her that God had heard the prayer, observe the change which was wrought in her, "...then was her countenance no more sad." I Sam. 1:18 Why did Hannah smile? Thou hast not yet seen thy husband; thou hast no signs that God has visited thee, and granted the desire of thy heart! No, but the man of God hath said it, and that is enough for her. The wrinkles disappeared from her brow, and the tears from her eyes. You ask her why, and she says, "I have the request that I desired of God: I asked in faith, and the Lord has been pleased to hear my prayer."

Then the wonderful instance of Jacob, who not only believes in prayer, but he will not let the angel depart till he wins the blessing from Him. This was going farther. Not only believing that there was a blessing for him, and that prayer could get it, but he had a determination not to cease from prayer till he had some visible token that he had obtained it. Here was strong faith. The case may be exceptional, and especially when we pray for temporal mercies. I do not think we have any right to set the Lord to such and such a time, and to say we will not rise from our knees till the favor is given. That might be presumption rather than faith. But there are times when mercies are so necessary, and when we are so clear that our prayer is according to God's will, and when the prayer is so evidently written upon our heart by the Holy Spirit, that we may even say, "I will not leave this closet till you give me your answer; I will not let thee go except thou bless me." I have to complain of myself, and perhaps you have



to complain in the same manner, that so much of our prayer is lacking here. O that we had true faith, the real faith which would honor God, and comfort ourselves by believing that we have the request which we have desired of Him. The truly prayerful man is resolved in his own soul that he must have the answer. He feels his need of it; he sees God's promise; his heart is stirred to earnestness, and he cannot be satisfied to go away without some token for good. Prayer has power in it, and know that you have the requests which you ask of Him. To believe that the Lord will hear my prayer brings honor to His truthfulness. I believe the Lord will keep His Word. I believe that He can make the Word of His mouth stand fast and steadfast. It is honorable to His love. Again, to believe that God hears prayer and to look for an answer is truly to reverence God Himself. When He sees us waiting upon Him, He will not permit us to wait without receiving the reward. He will strengthen thy heart; wait, I say, on the Lord. Stand upon your watch-tower and hear what the Lord God will speak. For He will speak peace unto His people, and to His saints.

12 Furthermore, to believe in the result of prayer tries and reveals faith. We speak not here about a hurried prayer, when business is calling us away; or requests which we have only expressed godly opinions, or passed over holy words not really coming from our hearts. But, brethren, when we pray and expect the answer for prayers of faith, then Faith lays hold upon God. Patience standing by her side, knowing that the windows of heaven, however fast they may be closed, will open soon, and God's right hand will scatter His liberality upon waiting souls. So, Faith waits and watches, and waits and watches again. This is the reason why the glorious doctrine of the soon appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ has such a blessed effect on some of God's people. It exercises our faith and brings hope into the field. It answers to faith, exercises our watching faith, and trains our hope to look up. The devil says, "Surely God will never hear your prayer." You answer, "I have the request, and am waiting till the Lord puts it into my hand: it is up there, labelled for me and set aside in the treasury for me, and I shall have it. I am waiting till the time comes when I may safely receive that which is mine even now." So, the flesh whispers, it is in vain; but Faith says, no, prayer is blest, prayer is God's Spirit returning whence it came, and it will never fail. But how can such a sinner as you are, hope to succeed



with God, whispers Unbelief? But Faith, like Abraham, considers not its own body though dead, neither the deadness of Sarah's womb, but staggers not at the promise through unbelief. Faith keeps on waiting still till it gets its reward.

Some may say, "how can I think that God will hear such prayers as mine? I am fickle as the wind that blows, and full of infirmities; I am one of the meanest of His sheep. If I were one of His ministers, I would believe that my prayer was heard, but I am the least. I do serve God sometimes a little, but oh! how little! and that little is marred with selfishness! I am the very worst in the whole family, how can I think that my prayer will be heard?" Brother, let me remind you that it is not the man who prays to God, but the fervency of the prayer, and in the virtue and the goodness of the great Intercessor Jesus Christ. Didn't the Apostle James write these words: "Elias (Elijah) was a man of like passions with us?" Why was that statement made? It was for those who say, my prayer is not heard because I have such and such faults. Elijah was a man of like passions with us, and yet he prays earnestly that it might not rain, and it rained not, so that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man is not prevented in its acceptance before heaven, by the infirmity of the person who offers it. Yes, some might say, "but, you do not know the particular state of mind I have been in when I have prayed. I am so flustered, and worried, frustrated, vexed, and troubled, that I cannot expect my prayer, offered in such a state of mind, to prevail with God. Did you ever read the thirty-fourth psalm, and carefully consider where David was when his prayer had such good speed with God? He says, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. . . . This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." Now where do you think David prayed that prayer which God heard? Read the heading of the psalm: "A psalm of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed" You recollect what he did. He played the madman, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard, acted the fool, and was never more a fool than he was then; and yet even then in his fool's play God heard his prayer.

There is a very good lesson here. Thou child of God, though you may have gone so far astray and played the fool, do



not let this keep you back from the mercy-seat! It was built for this purpose. If God did not hear you except in your "good times," we would have perished long ago. The gates of His grace are open at night as well as at day, and saints fallen from grace may come and find mercy, as well as those who have kept their garments white. Do not, I pray you, get into the ill habit of judging that your prayers are not heard because of your failings in spirit. "Yes," some might say, "it is not merely that I do not so much doubt the value of prayer on account of myself, but my prayers themselves are such poor things. I cannot get the fire I want. I cannot groan out my heart before God. If my heart would but ache, I would be content, but I cannot get to God; I do not know how to lay hold upon Him and wrestle with Him. Therefore, I cannot expect to prevail." Dear brother, let me remind you that if your prayers be sincere, God will direct you. When Christ was asleep in the ship, His disciples came to Him and said, "Master, carest thou not that we perish?" and he rebuked them: "O ye of little faith, wherefore do ye doubt?" But he did not refuse to hear their cry for all that; for he rebuked the winds and the waves, and there was

**14** a great calm. He may rebuke the unbelief of your prayer, and yet in infinite mercy He promises. There is no promise that He will hear unbelieving prayers; and He who wavereth must not expect to receive anything. But the Lord may go beyond his Word and give us mercies notwithstanding that fault, but all other failings He graciously overlooks and receives our prayers through Jesus Christ. Let your sense of poverty in prayer lead you to dislike your faults, but not to dislike praying. Let it make you long to pray better, but never cause you to doubt that with true fervency you can come to God through Jesus Christ your Lord. Your prevailing is not a matter of hope but a matter of certainty, and your success is as absolutely sure as the laws of nature.

Furthermore, I have no doubt many of God's people cannot think their prayers are heard, because they have had as yet such very few replies. There is a story of a rabbit and a greyhound. The greyhound hunts by sight and once the rabbit is out of sight, the race is over, for the greyhound cannot follow where he cannot see. The true hound hunts by scent, but the greyhound only by sight. Now there are some Christians too much like the greyhound. They only follow the Lord as far as they can see His mercy manifested. But the true child of God hunts by faith, and



when he cannot see the mercy, he scents it and still pursues it, till at last he lays hold upon it. Why, man, you say you have had no answers! How do you know? God may have answered you, though you have not seen the answer. You just have not waited upon Him long enough. He will not tarry. "For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry." Heb 10:37 After all, isn't that what we are ultimately waiting for? He will soon return.

God has not promised to give us the particular mercy in kind, but He will give it to us somehow or other. If I pay my debts in gold, no man can blame me because I do not pay them in silver; and if God gives me spiritual mercies in abundance, instead of temporal, He has heard my prayer. You may pray, like Paul, thrice, that the thorn in the flesh may be taken away from you: God's answer is given, and it is, "...My grace is sufficient for thee:..." II Cor. 12:9 Christ prayed that God might hear Him. He was heard in that He feared, but He had not the cup taken from Him. No, but He had an angel to comfort and strengthen Him; and this was in truth an answer, though not such as the prayer seemed to require. You have had an answer, and if God has heard thee but once, pluck up courage and go again.

15

Many do not pray expecting an answer, because they pray in such a sluggish spirit. Then there are those who pray in a legal spirit. Why do you pray? Because it is my duty? Children of God know it is their duty to pray, but they pray because they believe in the value of prayer. I should not expect God to hear me because I began to pray from a sense of duty. No, I must pray because my heart wants to pray. A child does not cry because the time to cry has come, nor does a sick man groan because it is the hour of groaning, but they cry and groan because they cannot help it. When the new-born nature says, "Let us draw nigh unto God," then it is the time and the place.

Inconsistencies will bring us to doubt the power of prayer. If we do not plead with God again, and again, and again, we shall not keep up our faith that God hears us. "Oh!" says one, "we have no time to pray at that rate." What do you do with your time? Time to play with toys, and roll in the dust with the beggars of earth, but no time to sit upon the throne of glory, and to offer the sacrifice of praise unto the Most High! Shame on such Christians! May God give us true shame for this, and henceforth may we be



much in prayer and expect gracious answers.

Dear friends, let us believe in God's answering prayer. The Lord says, you shall make thy prayer unto me, and I shall hear thee. Know that the Lord has set apart him that is godly for Himself. The Lord will hear when I call upon Him. I shall call upon Him, and He will answer me. Call upon me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me. It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. All things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. And whatsoever we ask we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. How is it possible after all these scriptures that God should refuse to hear us? Is He a God, and can He lie? Have we promise upon promise, upon promise, and will He break them all? God forbid. Brethren, if there be a God, and if this Book be his Word, if God be true, prayer must be answered; and let us  
16 go on our knees, and go to the sacred engagement as to a work of real value.

Will God let his children cry, and not hear them? He heareth the young ravens, and will He not hear His own people? He is a God of love. Would you let your sick child lie and pine, and not go and answer their groanings? Will a God of love close His ears against His people's cries? Do you think He will let the tears stream down our cheeks when we are petitioning, and not put them into His bottle? Oh! remember His loving kindness! A loving Father that heareth prayer. This is His memorial throughout all generations. Do not rob Him of His character by distrusting Him.

Then consider the value of Jesus' blood. When you pray, it is the blood that speaks. Every drop of that holy blood cries, "Father, hear Him! Father, hear Him! Hear my children's cry!" "Hear the saints you have commended into my hands." I love them! That blood was sprinkled on the mercy-seat that the mercy-seat might be a valuable mercy-seat for you and me. Do not doubt the blood of Christ. What! Can He die, and yet that blood have no more value in it than the blood of bulls or of goats? We cannot



think this! Then do not doubt that prayer prevails! Think, again, that Jesus pleads. He points to the wound upon His breast, and shows His pierced hands. Shall the Father deny the Son? Shall prayers offered by Christ be cast out from the heavens? Oh! these things must not and cannot be what we think!

Besides all this the Holy Spirit Himself is the author of your prayers. Will God compose the desire in our hearts, and then not hear it? Shall there be a schism between the Father and the Holy Spirit? You cannot dream of such a thing! Oh! believe me, God hears prayer! Dear saints, by the light and life you have received of the Holy Ghost, do not discredit Him by thinking that He can teach us to pray a prayer that will not be accepted before God. Let us pray more. O that the spirit of prayer would come down upon us! Let us expect greater blessings. Let us stand on our watch-tower and look. Let us cry mightily unto the Most High, pouring out our hearts like water before Him, and He will open the windows of heaven, and give us greater blessings than we have ever had before. Let us wait by faith in His word and by prayer, look for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

17

## KNOWLEDGE THROUGH SUFFERING

*I knew Thee not,  
Thou wounded Son of God  
Till I with Thee  
The path of suffering trod;  
Till in the valley  
Through the gloom of night,  
I walked with Thee,  
And turned to Thee for light.  
I did not know  
The meaning of the Cross;  
I counted it but bitterness and loss  
Till in Thy gracious discipline of pain  
I found the loss I dreaded purest gain.*



# REFLECTIONS

...From the Editor

**“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”** Jo. 8:34-36

Freedom! What a glorious word and thought! However, genuine freedom comes only at a price. Most older Americans were taught from youth that their own freedom stemmed from the fact that their forefathers were willing to pay the supreme price to gain total independence from England. Likewise, Jesus promised freedom “...indeed,...” that is, “actually, really, truly, verily, unquestionably” indicating that which is a most sure reality. The subject in this text is freedom from sin, but that which is promised is in reality all inclusive. However, the pattern for every freedom is the same. Someone must pay for it. Scripture is very clear that Jesus must pay the price for sin in order to free men from it. “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” II Cor. 5:21 Believers will never know the price Jesus paid as He was literally made, or became that which He absolutely abhorred during those awful hours on Calvary.

Freedom from death is also a glorious provision of redemption but the same pattern prevails. Jesus must die to free both Himself and His people from that dominion. “Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.” Rom. 6:9 God counts that His death represented the death of every believer and thus, “...we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Rom. 6:4

Freedom from law and its curse is another glorious freedom of which, sadly, many believers know nothing of. However Paul declares plainly that Jesus must become that curse to provide



freedom from it. "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:" Gal. 3:13

A guilty conscience, due to sin, has likewise plagued every human being born into this world. The law could do nothing to free that conscience, for under the law were offered "...gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;" Heb. 9:9 Jesus, however, did. "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Heb 9:14 The price He paid was to assume all the guilt of all mankind for all time. The Psalmist records such guilt as reproach, and heartfelt shame due to sin. Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour:...Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none." Psa. 69:19-20

The overall summation is that Jesus, The Son of God, willingly paid the price of becoming The Son of Man, that all men might be given the opportunity to become sons of God. The shame He bore at Calvary has not only freed us from sin but imparted His righteousness. Men are not just freed from death, but have been given eternal life in its place, and the curse has not only been removed but replaced with eternal glory in heaven even as Jesus prayed, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory,..." Joh 17:24 All these things are just a small portion of the promise that "...ye shall be free indeed."

19

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

We have recently had a number of Grace and Glories returned with the cause listed as "No such number." This is very puzzling because the same address has been used for a number of years. When these magazines come back, we have, for the most part, no choice but to remove that name from our mailing list. Thus if you do not receive your Grace and Glory please let us know and we will restore it. Also, we so highly value those who distribute this publication to others and have been praying earnestly that God would increase our circulation, that we might be a faithful witness of Jesus' Soon Coming in these last days.



(Ed. Note: We must apologize for inadvertently re-printing the May segment of Dr. Moots' messages on "God's Timing and Purposes" in the June issue. Hopefully we are back on track with these excellent lessons from Ecclesiastes)

*God's Timing and Purposes*

(Ecc. 3:1-8)

Dr. Vicky Moots

“A time to love...” Ecc. 3:8a

Love actually began before time began, before the foundation of the world, with the love that God had for His Son. God then chose to share that love with His creation, as we read in John 3:16: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Before I go any further, I need to discuss the different types of love that are mentioned in the New Testament. The Greek word “eros,” from which we derive the word “erotic,” referring to a sexual, sensual type of love is not found in the New Testament. There are two other Greek words for love which are used: “phileo” and “agape.”

20

“Phileo” is often referred to as “brotherly love” and denotes fondness or affection including kissing. This is used to express our natural love for each other, exclusive of sensual love. “Agape” is the purest form of love. It is selfless, unconditional, committed to the highest good, a self-sacrificial type of love, irrespective of the worthiness of the object and expects nothing in return. It is not possible for us to possess this type of love apart from a relationship with God, as John informs us in I John 4:7-8: “Beloved, let us love one another: for love [agape] is of God; and everyone that loveth of born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

John makes it clear in verses 9-10 that love [agape] was first sent to us by God in the form of His Son: “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation [atonement] for our sins.”

As believers, we are commanded “to love” (“agapao”, the verb form of “agape”) others and God. It is not an option. It is now our “time to love.” Jesus, Himself, gave us this commandment in



John 15:12-13.

First of all, in v. 9, He states, "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love." That means that Jesus loved us with the same quality and intensity of love that His Father loved Him! Now He desires for us to receive the fullness of that divine love and to remain steadfast in it, to continue walking in it day by day.

Then in vv. 12-13, He commands us to love others with the same kind and intensity of love (agape) with which He loved us, a love that caused Him to willingly sacrifice Himself for us: "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." That same love also caused Him to lay down His life for His enemies, for we were yet enemies when Christ died for us.

Are we really expected to be able to do that, to love even our enemies? How is that possible? It is not possible if we try to do it on our own. However, anything that we have been commanded to do in the Scripture, we are enabled to do, not by our own efforts, but through the life of Christ in us. Therefore, it is "not I but Christ," as Paul said in Gal. 2:20.

21

Agape, divine love, is not based on our emotions; it is the fruit of the Spirit, as Paul tells us in Gal. 5:22, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love..." We read in Rom. 5:5, "...the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost..." but we need to share it. We can choose to manifest God's love, in spite of our emotions, by yielding to the Holy Spirit in our lives and allowing the "Christ in us" to love through us. It is only then that we are able to love someone who is undeserving, or someone who has hurt us, with the same kind of love that God showed to sinful mankind. That love was placed in our hearts in the person of Jesus Christ when we were born again.

In I Cor. 13 Paul discusses the necessity of divine love (agape), translated "charity," and states that we are nothing apart from it, no matter how many good deeds we do. He then lists the characteristics of agape in vv. 4-7: "Charity [agape] suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things...endureth



all things.”

As you can see, all of these characteristics describe the life of Jesus. They are the exact opposite that of human nature, and can only be manifest in our lives through the life of Christ in us, as a new creation, as we walk in the Spirit.

So, when is it our “time to love?” Today, and every day, from now through eternity, for Paul tells us in v. 8 that “Charity [agape] never faileth [comes to an end] ...” Paul ends the chapter with v. 13: “And now abideth faith, hope, and charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity [agape].” Why is it greater? Because faith and hope will come to an end when we see Christ face to face, but love will continue for eternity. Why not start sharing God’s love now!

22 Ecc. 3:8b: “...and a time to hate...” We certainly seem to be living in a time of hatred, in a world filled with hate and violence. But hate isn’t new. It has been a problem ever since the first murder was recorded in the Bible, in Gen. 4:8, when Cain killed his brother Abel. He became angry when his offering was not accepted by God, but his brother’s was. Cain’s anger and jealousy turned to hatred toward his brother who had done nothing wrong, and the result was murder. The daily newscasts are filled with similar stories of anger, hatred and murder.

The word “hate” means “a strong dislike of something or someone; to loathe or despise.” Hate is the opposite of love, so how can there ever be a time for us to hate? There is never a time for us to hate people, but there are certain things that we should hate, particularly evil actions or practices that go against God’s Word. In fact, we should actually hate hatred itself since it is evil. We are commanded to hate evil in Ps. 97:10: “Ye that love the LORD, hate evil.” We find a similar command in Amos 5:14-15: “Seek good, and not evil...and love the good...”

But what is “evil”? The dictionary meaning of “evil” is “anything morally bad or wrong; sin; wickedness; depravity.” In order to determine if something is evil, you must first have a fixed moral standard with which to compare it, one that does not change. That standard can only be found in the pure, holy, unadulterated Word of God.

God pronounces judgment upon those who try to set their own standard for good and evil in Isa. 5:20. “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light



for darkness...” Unfortunately, we find that this is exactly what is happening in the world today. We must be aware of this and be sure to use God’s Word as the gold standard to determine the things which we are to hate. Be careful to only hate the action, not the person, for God hates sin but loves the sinner and sent His Son to die for us and set us free from our sins.

To simplify things, we are to hate the things that God hates and to love what God loves. Solomon gives us some examples in Prov. 6:16-20: “These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”

The number “seven” is God’s number for completeness, so it does not mean that there are only seven evils that God hates. There are many other things that are against God’s principles which are not listed here. Verse 20 then tells us how to determine what they are and how to avoid them: “My son, keep thy father’s commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother.” Our Father’s commandment is to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbor as ourself. Grace is our mother and is the basis for God’s love toward us and those who have wronged us. God’s love is the antidote for hate.

23

Now I would like to discuss some confusing verses in Scripture which make it appear as though God hated certain people or that Jesus even commanded us to hate our father and mother. Let us first examine the verse in Rom. 9:13, which Paul quotes from Mal. 1:2-3: “As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.” The word “hate” is “miseo” in the Greek. When used in contrast to love, it does not remain its literal meaning of hatred but means a lesser degree of love. The verse could be restated as, “Esau have I loved, but Jacob have I loved much more.”

God loved Jacob to a greater degree because He had chosen him for a special purpose, even in the womb, before either of the twins had done good or evil. The twelve sons of Jacob were to become the heads of the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel, God’s chosen people, for God changed Jacob’s name to “Israel.”



We find the same comparative degree of love in a more familiar, but equally confusing, Scripture in Luke 14:26, where Jesus states, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." This is stated a little differently in Matt. 10:37 which helps to clarify its intended meaning: "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

The word "hate" in these references is used as a "hyperbole", which is "an exaggeration used for effect, not meant to be taken literally." The extreme contrast between love and hate is used to illustrate the superlative degree of love which we are to have for Christ compared to our natural love for our family, or even our own lives. Abraham demonstrated that kind of love for God when he was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac on the altar. Paul also demonstrated his supreme love for Christ when he declared in Phil. 3:8, "...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ." He even stated in Acts 20:24, "...neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I may finish my course with joy..."

The day of Christ's appearing is quickly drawing nigh, so now is our "time to hate:" to hate the evil in this world and to give Jesus first place in our lives, so that we, too, may win Christ as our prize.

Ecc. 3:8c: "...a time of war..." No one likes the idea of war, but if you are under attack, you must be prepared to fight back. We are spiritually under attack, as declared by Peter in I Pet. 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant [alert and watchful]; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith..." So how do we resist him? We must be watchful and aware of his tactics and be skillful in the use of our weapon of defense.

In the natural, soldiers are put through rigorous Basic Training (boot camp) in order to prepare them for all elements of service, both physical and mental. They must learn discipline and are taught to obey orders without hesitation or question. They are also strengthened physically through hardships and given weapons training, as well as being taught how to recognize the



enemy and his tactics.

Spiritually, we also need similar training and preparation for battle. Our trials help to strengthen us for warfare, as Paul tells Timothy in II Tim. 2:3-4: "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

Satan, our enemy, tries to cause us to take our eyes off of the Lord and to become entangled (trapped) with earthly affairs and the problems of this world. This is not pleasing to the Lord, for we have not been called to fight this world's battles, or to try to solve its problems. This is spiritual warfare; we are not fighting people.

If the enemy you are fighting has a pulse, you are fighting the wrong enemy. Paul declares to us in Eph. 6:12 who the real enemy is: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of the world, against spiritual wickedness in high [heavenly] places."

Paul is referring to Satan and all his evil forces, demonic powers and principalities, not to world leaders, for this is not an earthly battle, as Paul makes clear to us in II Cor. 10:3: "For though we walk in the flesh [the natural body], we do not war after the flesh." We do not fight flesh and blood.

Therefore, Paul further instructs us in verses 4-5 that for spiritual warfare we must submit ourselves to the authority of our spiritual Commander-In-Chief and use spiritual, not natural weapons: "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal [fleshly], but mighty through God to the pulling down [total demolition] of strong holds;) Casting down [smashing down] imaginations [reasonings], and every high [prideful] thing that exhalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

We must take our own thoughts and reasonings captive, as prisoners of war, to be under the control of Christ. Too often we try to fight Satan with our own words, but they are ineffective weapons and have no power against him. We must fight this war with an approved weapon that has already been put to the test. The only weapon that has been issued to us for spiritual warfare is "the sword of Spirit, which is the word of God." Eph. 6:17



Jesus Himself was able to overcome Satan with that same weapon when He was tempted by him in the wilderness. We read of this in Matt. 4:1-11. Satan attacked Jesus when He was in a weakened state from fasting, and tempted Him in three separate areas. Each time, Jesus responded, "It is written," and quoted a scripture in counter attack, thus using the sword of the Spirit. Verse 11 then reveals to us the victor of this battle: "Then the devil leaveth him..."

Our tactic for victory is the same: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7). After first submitting ourselves to God's authority, we are then commanded to resist the devil. We can only do that by wielding the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, just as Jesus did. Heb. 4:12 declares that there is no greater weapon, no sharper sword, than that: "For the word of God is quick [living], and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword..."

26 In addition to our weapon, we have been issued our protective gear called the armor of God, complete with helmet and combat boots. This is described in detail by Paul in Eph. 6:13-17, and we are expected to suit up with it every day upon arising: "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11).

We are currently on active combat duty for it is "a time of war." Are you ready for action? Be sure to clean and polish your weapon every day and become familiar with its use, and "... 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." Eph. 6:13

\*\*\*\*\*

***John Oatman, Jr. has written: Count your blessings NAME THEM one by one; Count your blessings see what God has done; Count your blessings, name them one by one - and it will surprise you what the Lord has done,***



## **Christ's Hour and Ours**

**"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." Joh 12:27-28**

**These are the words of Jesus just before He was crucified. He had come into the world for this cause, to die. That was the objective of His life. Just for this cause and for no other was He born. Every step of His life was in fullest accord with the Word and will of God. He was directed by the Holy Spirit from His birth to the day He was nailed to the cross. The perfection of His obedience is outstanding. We cannot begin to compare ourselves with Him, this most holy and perfect Man, the Lord Jesus Christ. Comparison with Him would truly be odious. Nevertheless, we have our life's work and for that cause we each come into such an hour. Paul had a life work; he came to such an hour. He was the advance herald of the glorious Grace message. He said, "he had finished his course, he had kept the faith." These are glorious words telling of victory, telling of achievements. He, too, had come to his hour in due time and finished his work. And we today have come to such an hour. God has reserved the greatest thing of all the dispensations for this sixth age: He is bringing forth His great masterpiece, the Church. This is the present hour. Some of us are living for that great moment. We have come unto this day when the Church will be completed and will be taken up out of this sinful world into her place in the heavens. We have come unto THIS VERY HOUR, filled with great expectation. We are privileged. Many people have longed to come unto this hour, but it is for us to be here at this point of time, this hour when He is setting the furniture in place in heaven, getting ready His throne on which the overcomers of the Church shall sit and rule with Him. It is a great honor to be waiting for translation to be here when that mighty shout is heard from the sky, when the trumpet of God is blown-to be here and be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. To be here when the voice of command, "Come up hither" is given and the overcomers shall rise in a glorious moment to be with the Lord forever. We will live in a changed environment. Our days of humiliation will be gone forever, for we will rise to exaltation and honor. What a privilege---the hour of translation--- the peak in the Christian life---to go without dying. Oh happy hour! Oh happy moment when we shall see our Saviour's face and be like Him, changed in a moment into His matchless image.**



## **Practical Points**

Anon

If Adam and Eve needed God's keeping power in the garden in Eden, how much more do their offspring need His keeping power out of the garden.

If Adam and Eve could not keep themselves when they were innocent and sinless, how can their descendants make themselves free from the sin which they have inherited? How can they keep themselves saved, with sin in the flesh?

If the sinless pair proved unworthy of being trusted in the garden, surrounded with every comfort and convenience, it is not strange that God said of fallen man, "Have no confidence in the flesh."

"Many Christians do not need more power; but they need to know how to use the power they have."

"If I really live for Christ, I need not worry over what my fellowmen think of me."

"If God's will has become my will, I need not fear what the end will be. It must be victory."

28 "The Word of the Lord is on trial in your life. What will the verdict be?"

"The Christian says, that Jesus Christ is the cure for sin, for pains and aches and for all your troubles. The world says, that Reform is the cure for sin, Remedies are the cures for pains and aches; but the solution for all your problems is unknown. What do you say?"

Prayer places the petition before the Physician; but faith foils the foe and obtains the fruition.

"The Jews' religion" is stoutly opposed in the New Testament, and should be by us; but we should pray for the Jewish people instead of harping against them.

"Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God."

"What if the jingle of the fingers and feet do not ring true with the jingle of the voice? Our words will have very little weight on the ears of others."

"A loose tongue is more dangerous than a loose lion."

To Be War-minded is safe and wise providing we "fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life."

Grace does not drive; but it draws. Jesus said, "And I if I



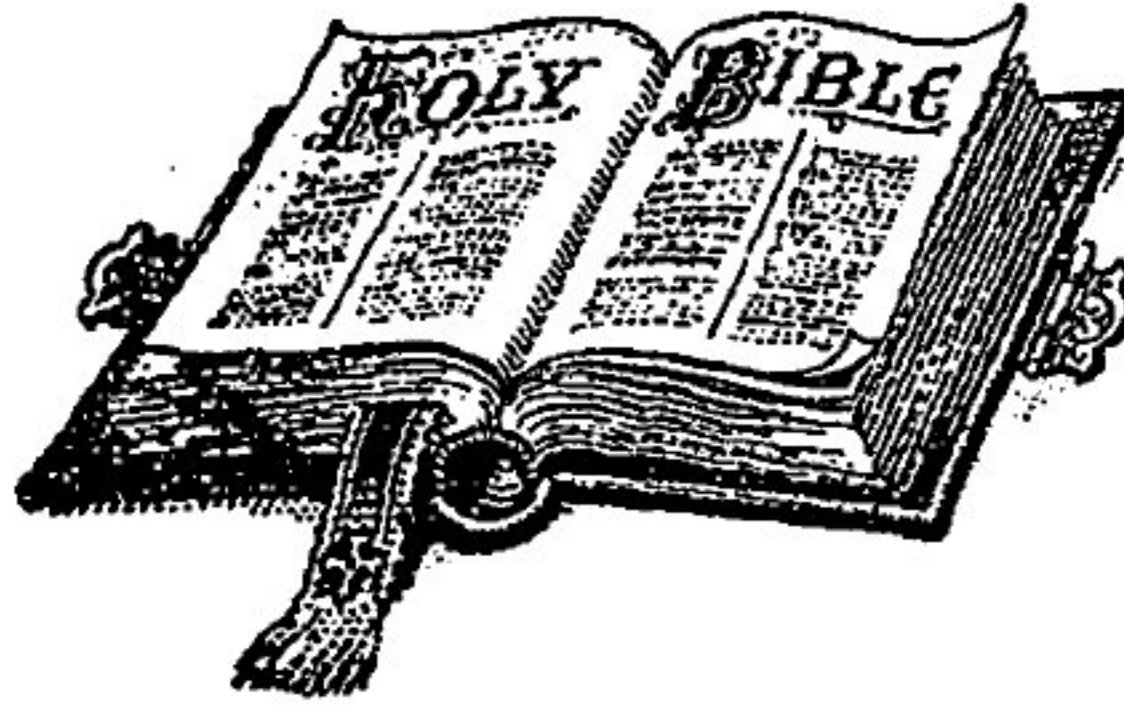
be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me."

Believing God's Word is the greatest and wisest act of any human being. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge....." Prov. 1:7

He that rests most sweetly upon God's promise is prepared most completely to be a co-worker with God.

The reality that the Bible was written by divine inspiration is proven positively by the fact that many of the prophecies of the Old Testament have been fulfilled; also many of those in the New Testament.

Wise words win wonderfully when woven wittily.  
(Reprint 1939)



29

***"BE STILL AND KNOW  
THAT I AM GOD"***

Psalm 46:10

Hannah Whitall Smith

There is an immense power in stillness. A great saint once said, "All things come to him who knows how to trust and be silent." The words are pregnant with meaning. A knowledge of this fact would immensely change our ways of working. Instead of restless struggles, we would "sit down" inwardly before the Lord; and would let the Divine forces of His Spirit work out in silence the ends to which we aspire. You may not see or feel the operations of this silent force; but be assured it is always working mightily, and will work for you, if you only get your spirit still enough to be carried along by the currents of its power.



## *Hosea 7*

**“When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without.”**

Chapter six closed with God’s indictment against Judah, but the opening text of this chapter clearly indicates that God has once again focused His attention on the ten tribes of Israel, or Ephraim, with the purpose that He “...would have healed...” them. However, rather than accept that offer Israel instead sought deliverance from Assyria. “When Ephraim saw his sickness,... then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.” Hos. 5:13 This “...sickness...” is a reference to their idolatrous ways against God, and, of course, Assyria could do nothing to remove their guilt from such “...iniquity...” It is also called “...the wickedness of Samaria...” which was the capital of these ten tribes revealing the fact that Israel’s leadership directed the entire nation into idolatry against God, or as is noted here committed “...falsehood...”

30

That falsehood was in worshipping other gods rather than the True God of heaven and earth, and the resulting consequence was tremendous hardship for Israel as “...the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without.” Such oppression by the multitudes against this chosen nation is a direct result of the fact that they forsook their God, but that same rebellious attitude will constantly ignore the real problem for “...they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.” V. 2 Men may think that God will ignore their idolatrous ways but He declared the message repeatedly: “For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:” Ex. 34:14 Such jealousy has now provoked Him to bring all this spoilage upon a very offensive people, and once again it is the leadership in Israel which has pressured their subjects to follow for, “They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies.” V. 3 The common people simply followed in idol worship in order to please those who ruled over them. God teaches submission to authority throughout the scripture but never did He intend that men should be “.... adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the



dough, until it be leavened.” V. 4 An adulterer is one who takes another head other than the one ordained by God, and in this case He would be that Head. Hosea uses the analogy of leavened bread to illustrate the growing out of control fleshly rebellion of Israel, thus illustrating his point. The Septuagint translates the phrase: “...as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened,” as follows: “on account of kneading of the dough until it be leavened.” This is simply a rather poetic way of showing forth Israel’s innermost zeal and emotion attributed to idolatry. Every effort has been made to ensure that the whole loaf is leavened. Paul leveled this same accusation against the Corinthians. “Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened...” Cor. 5:6-7 So it is that the hierarchy of Samaria is likened unto a baker kneading and heating the leaven of idolatry in order that the whole nation be consumed with it.

Hosea now turns to another illustration of Israel’s error in following after idols declaring that, “In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.” V. 5 This would be a reference to the “wine” of religion and here the “princes” or trusted advisors of the king, have influenced him with the wine of idolatry, thus “... he stretched out his hand with scorners,” or used his influence to promote the scorn of idolatry against God. The problem is once again traced back to a corrupt heart. “For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.” V. 6 This analogy sets forth the same truth as that found in V. 4 where fleshly leaven thrives within the heated heart of unbelief and rebellion, and the next verse asserts that the followers have walked in the same path as their adulterous leaders. “They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me.” V. 7 Rebellion begets rebellion and the resulting consequences are the same for, “...all their kings are fallen...” Not only so, but there seems to be no attempt among the people or their leaders to seek a right way for, “... there is none among them that calleth on me.”

“Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.” V. 8 God had long ago chosen



the entire twelve tribes of Israel to be "...an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth." Deut. 14:2 Ephraim is now said to "...have mixed himself among the people;" that is, among the nations. They have forsaken God's care of them and because of it are now "...a cake not turned..." meaning that that they are simply steeped in their own idolatrous ways, refusing to be "turned" or corrected and now they are literally "burned" with gross idolatry. The results are once again quite plain to all who observe them for, "Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not." V. 9 Ephraim is not even aware that spiritual strength has all but vanished and his appearance is now as one who is aged. Furthermore, they still refuse to be "turned" or corrected even though "...the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this." V. 10

32 God also defines them as "...a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria." V. 11 The word "silly" means "simple or deluded" signifying the fact that Ephraim's conduct has left her wide open to deception and fraud. Thus, she is deceived into thinking that Egypt or Assyria have the answers to her dilemma and they simply do not. Scripture is also quite clear that this entire nation will make the same error in the end time when they are deceived into making the infamous covenant of the end time with the antichrist. "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Dan. 9:27 Just as Ephraim of old tried to put their confidence in both Egypt and Assyria, so also will this entire nation be deceived into thinking that the antichrist will solve their problems. However, Daniel is very clear that "he shall make it desolate...and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Israel will be the "desolate" even as Isaiah also confirms. "Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement;..." Isa. 28:15

Hosea further explains that, "When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of



the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.”  
V. 12 This prophecy came to pass when the ten tribes were taken captive by Assyria, but it will be magnified in the aforementioned week of great tribulation. God will most assuredly “...spread my net upon them...” thus bringing to pass Jesus’ assessment of the same time, “...except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.” Matt. 24:22

All this destruction did come to pass at the time then present but will be fulfilled to even greater degree at the end of this Church Age, as Hosea now declares “Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me.” V. 13

“Woe...” is a very strong term defining judgment. Three of them are prophesied in Rev. 13, announcing the most severe world devastation of the tribulation week. Such “woe” is pronounced directly because Israel “...have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them...” Israel’s great transgression is that they have rejected the Risen Christ. God did not scatter them among the nations because they delivered Jesus to the Romans for crucifixion, for that action was used to fulfill His Plan of redemption, and was in fact a part of the 70 weeks of blessing promised in Daniel 9. His judgment was rather poured out upon them because they rejected Jesus AFTER He had been raised from the dead, proving that He was God’s Chosen Redeemer. This they proved at the stoning of Stephen after this godly servant of God “...being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him:...” Acts 7:55-58 Jesus was “...standing on the right hand of God...” ready to return and set up His kingdom on the earth at that time, but the rejection of the Promised Messiah prohibited that. Now the destruction which was prophesied is in the offing, directly because “...they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me.” V. 14 They “...howled”



in misery due to the hardship and torment which had come upon them, but such difficulty did not cause them to cry unto The Lord in repentance. Instead they "...assemble themselves for corn and wine..." trying to claim the necessities of life which are the blessing of The LORD, but they are still steeped in rebellion against Him.

34 This same scenario is repeated over and over in this present world and it seems that men often interpret God's gracious response to them as His approval of their deeds. This Supplier of all man's needs declares plainly, "Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me." V. 15 He did, and in this present day, still does, try to "correct, chastise, or instruct them" which is the meaning of the word "...bound,..." but Israel simply would not hear. He also "...strengthened their arms..." that they might exert mighty efforts in righteousness, but still "...they imagine mischief against me." This Great God is indeed a God of opportunity but that offer of Divine Grace was soundly rejected. Thus, He insists that, "They return, but not to the most High:...." Such a return is rather back to the nations like unto Egypt and Assyria, but they are now indicted for severe dishonesty, for in the same breath, Hosea declares that, "...they are like a deceitful bow:..." It means that their defenses are directed against the wrong foe, even God, and the result is disastrous because, "...their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt." V. 16 The "...rage of their tongue:..." unequivocally expresses their vehement rebellion against God which will never prosper and though Israel had a long history with Egypt, they were taken captive by Assyria. Egypt is often used as a symbol of the entire world and surely This Chosen Nation today is held in derision by the masses around the globe whereto they have been scattered, directly because they "...imagine mischief against..." God.

\* Bubbling over, running fast, Looking upward, going past. A.S.C.

\* "Life's greatest tragedy is to lose God and not miss Him"





# Our Corn Crib

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

## Tracts

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

## Books of the Bible

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

## Music CD's

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

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



Grace and Glory  
P.O. Box 831  
Grandview, Missouri 64030

