

Grace and Glory

Declaring unto you the
whole Counsel of GOD.

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Great is the
Lord,
and greatly to be
praised in the
city of our God,
in the mountain
of his holiness.
PSALM 48:1

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THAT LITTLE CHAP WHO FOLLOWS ME

A careful man I want to be,
A little fellow follows me.
I do not dare to go astray,
For fear that he'll go the self-same way.
Not once can I escape his eyes,
Whate'er he sees me do, he tries
Like ME he says he's going to be,
That little chap who follow me.
He thinks that I am good and fine,
Believes in ever word of mine:
The base in me he must not see,
That little chap who follows me.
I must remember as I go
Through summer sun and winter snow,
I am building for the years to be,
That little chap who follows me.

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Editor: Gene Hawkins

Definite Sign Posts Of The End!

Gene Hawkins

“**A**nd the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?” Num. 14:11

God’s query “...how long will it be ere they believe me,...” could well be asked of Israel, the nations, and the Church as a whole at this present hour, for the circumstances recorded in the above text are almost identical to prevailing world conditions at this present hour, where Jesus is poised to bring His purposes to pass. The scene above reflects the fact that Israel had sent twelve spies to search out the land of Canaan, and though they brought back the glowing report of a land which “...floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it,” that message was drowned out by the assertion that “... the people be strong that dwell in the land,... We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched...” Num 13:27-32 3

God’s intent for Israel at the time then present was to simply believe Him, and traverse into the land He had promised them without question, thus the inquiry, “...how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?” He had most assuredly revealed a number of signs as proof that He would deliver them out of Egypt and into Canaan, beginning with all the miracles and judgments which fell on the land before they ever left Egypt. They had also “...passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.” Heb. 11:29 He provided manna from heaven, and later on quails, when they had no food, and when only “bitter waters” came forth at Marah, God showed Moses a tree, “...which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet:...” Ex 15:23-25 Surely all these “signs,” and more which would follow, left this choice nation without excuse for their unbelief.

This same scenario is currently in full bloom for the above

named subjects, and all of them also are without excuse due to the signs confronting them at this present hour. God's purpose for Israel is to usher them into the Millennium where they shall fulfill His desire that they should be "...unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation...." Ex 19:6 Furthermore, "...the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: ... make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; ..." Deut. 28:1&13 Israel will be the head of the nations, and as a kingdom of priests, she will minister God's righteousness to them AFTER she accepts her Messiah. The world is at the threshold of all this coming to pass, but such a state is surely a laughable myth in the eyes of rebellious men. Nevertheless, these same nations will be forced to comply with God's decree. Thus God's question "...how long will it be ere they believe me..." applies full well to all nations of the world.

4 A number of these nations are currently engaged in unbridled hatred against God's Chosen People, while others simply employ every effort imaginable in using them to their own advantage. It is also rather noteworthy that the nations of our day are constantly trying to establish their own desire to rule this world and they are completely ignoring God's Word to do it.

It is also quite certain that most people are extremely tired of hearing about "climate change" or "global warming," but that unmistakable myth is being forced down the throats of the world's population DAILY. The voices of qualified scientists, who insist that erratic temperature fluctuation existed long before the advent of the industrial revolution and use of fossil fuels are largely ignored or completely silenced by national media. This is yet another example of God's promise during these closing days of the Church Age that He "...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. 2:11-12 Thus, there seems to be a compulsion to address this subject in these pages, because all these national efforts are yet another demonstration that these nations are blatantly demonstrating the reason for God's question "...how long will it be ere they believe ME?" If men truly believed God in this matter

they would know of a surety that He not only created the heavens and the earth but only He "... will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." II Pet. 3:10 Such is the destruction that only God can bring about, yet men continue to publish blatant lies about earth's destruction in order to achieve their own objective.

Two major and unsavory elements come to the fore in the use of these tactics which are fear and control, one being the result of the other. Even children are being affected as they are specifically taught that world destruction is eminent unless men implement all governmental restrictions to lower the world's temperature. It seems that men are really not aware of the fact that these are exactly the same tactics the antichrist will use when he emerges to rule the world. Thus, it must be understood that Satan is simply working through world governments in an effort to pave the way for his own man of sin.

Some of the methods used to promote fear and thus impose control over humanity are almost humorous were they not so serious. Some are now proposing that gas stoves be eliminated because this use of fossil fuels contributes mightily to global warming. Others insist that meat be eliminated from man's diet because the cattle which produce it produce emissions which, once again, heat up the environment. Law keepers, who do not accept the teaching of eternal life because they do not understand that two natures are in every believer, have for years prevented men from receiving the depths of God's provisions for mankind through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus. Now, the stupidity of "global warming" alarmists' restrictions, such as those listed above, will also deprive humanity of the physical comfort and betterment of life which God has already provided. All of this loss, both spiritually and naturally, is directly because such leaders DO NOT BELIEVE THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD!

Another example of man's unbelief is couched in the current and vehement effort to promote the "transgender" debacle. There are a multitude of problems produced as men claiming to

be women participate in women's sports and thus rob female athletes of their trophies. Another transgender male has literally terrorized a certain women's sorority, insisting that he has the right to intrude into their private quarters because "he is a woman." This ungodly "transgender doctrine" has also penetrated the ears of innocent children who are literally being taught that they can choose their own gender. Let all men realize that such efforts as this are in reality a blatant rejection of GOD and His Word, for scripture is emphatic that "...God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Gen. 1:27 When men preach such lies they portray their very Creator as One Who has made a mistake, and scripture is again emphatic that it is impossible for God to either fail or lie.

6 The Church as a whole has likewise turned a deaf ear to the teachings of God's Word in regard to Jesus' soon return, and thus merits the question, "...how long will it be ere they believe me for all the signs which I have shewed among them?" The disciples came to Jesus asking "...what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (age) Matt. 24:3 This is a very familiar refrain to those who have earnestly looked for Jesus' second advent, but it is even more intriguing when viewed in context with the final verses of Matt. 23, which are a direct reference to Jerusalem. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Matt. 23:37-39 These statements, along with Jesus' assertion in Ch. 24 regarding the temple, that "There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down," prompted the disciples' question "...what shall be the sign of thy coming,..."? Such an inquiry was put forth directly because they were intensely looking forward to the restoration of Israel. Jesus discourse in Matt. 24-25 is a lengthy explanation of the "signs" which will appear both prior and well into the 7 year tribulation, wherein Israel will be born as a nation in one day

and will subsequently emerge as the aforementioned Kingdom Of Priests during the thousand year reign of Christ as God Almighty. Once again, the key to Israel's realization of their restoration is that they must believe what God has said, crying out "...Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord..." which is proof that they have accepted their Messiah.

The disciples did not know that the Church Age would be initiated on the Day Of Pentecost 50 days after Jesus' resurrection, but Jesus did, and thus the many "signs" found in these chapters along with Luke 21 and Mark 13 are to be heeded by current believers. However, as noted above, the Church as a whole has chosen to ignore God's Word in like manner as Israel did those many years ago. The promised land of heavenly glory is even at the door, but the modern day Church seems totally oblivious to that prospect. There are multiple examples of that fact. One is that the Church seems to have forgotten God's standards of separation, righteousness, and purity. Paul declared plainly that, "...Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:25-27 All Jesus' efforts, stemming from Divine Love, were put forth in an effort to put the Church on glorious display without "...spot, or wrinkle...without blemish," but there is no way such a description fits the Church as a whole at this hour. The effort in our day seems to justify the idea that this same Church must adopt the ways of the world. Much Church conduct today is appalling to those who would measure it by the standards of God's Word. One report came our way recently about an adulterous woman who had cheated on her husband and then brought her "new guy" into the Church, who had great musical ability. The Pastor, then, either ignored, excused, or justified such conduct, simply saying that "we can use them in our music." Many believers today are confronted with the problem of homosexuality in their families, a practice scripture calls "...an abomination..." Lev. 20:13 Paul likewise denounced such relationships in Rom. 1:26-27. However, some Churches

insist that these individuals must be “supported,” meaning that such conduct must be accepted, despite what God has decreed. Other believers have also accepted the world’s practice of simply “living together” outside the confines of marriage, whereas Paul plainly declared in view of Jesus’ coming that believers must “Abstain from all appearance of evil.” I Thess. 5:22 Paul was apparently confronted with this same problem when he wrote to the Corinthians. “For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, ...lest there be debates, envyings, wraths,... And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.” II Cor. 12:20-21 This is a record of fleshly conduct among believers and the apostle’s message here is that these things must immediately CEASE.

8 There are also reports on venues like “facebook” and other social media that some professing to be believers have embraced the transgender doctrine, and their actions and words seem to bear that out. Such people insist that they be not called “he or she” but rather “they.” Keep in mind that flesh is flesh and it can most assuredly be manifest in the lives of these believers who are indeed possessed of two natures.

This Church at Corinth is most assuredly representative of the entire Church today, and Paul voiced his concern about their bridal aspirations. “Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.” II Cor. 11:1-3 The “...simplicity that is in Christ...” is simply believing Christ, Who is the Head of the Church, something Eve DID NOT DO. She knew what God said, but did that which was contrary, just as the Church is doing today. “...how long will it be ere they believe me,...”

Note in the above text that if the whole Church will automatically be the bridal company, then Paul’s fear was totally

unfounded. Couple that with the aforementioned account to Ephesus, declaring that the Church Christ presents to Himself will be "...a glorious church,..." because she will reflect the very glory of her Head, Christ Jesus. She will also be a bride "...not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but... holy and without blemish." None in the Church can claim this state if they continue in the sinful and unrighteous practices of which Paul warned the Corinthians to repent.

The good news in these closing days of this Church Age, is that there are those, like unto the Thessalonian believers, who have most assuredly had their senses attuned to the voice of the Lord and HAVE believed the signs set before them. "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night....when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them,...ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light,...Therefore let us not sleep, as do others;... 1Th 5:1-6 There is absolutely no need for these to hear God's cry "...how long will it be ere they believe me...?" Instead they could well voice their own cry unto the Lord "How long,...? for these believers live in great anticipation that His promises are indeed "yea and amen." They are fully persuaded of His assurance, "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Rev. 3:11 Not only so, but this same select company, despite all the opposition, chaos, and adverse ungodliness sweeping across planet earth at this very hour, still cling steadfastly to His infallible Word that "... yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry!" Heb. 10:37

"Even so, come,

Lord Jesus."
Rev. 22:20

The Open Door

C. B. Neidholt

"After these things, I saw, and behold a door opened
Ain heaven" Rev. 4:1, R. V.

Beloved; my heart is overwhelmed with the vision of that wonderful place which our Lord Jesus Christ will soon have in heaven. So let us gaze into the glory and see Him in the age to come. During this age, Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father. This is outlined in the previous chapters. John said, "After this..." In spirit he looked on past this Church Age of 1900 years into the next age. He saw a door opened in heaven. Oh is it not glorious that the apostle not only was privileged to have the vision, but he obtained it for you and me. Hallelujah! He looked not upon things that are present, but upon eternal things. The present things are temporal. They will soon pass away. With John, we are gazing upon greater things. We are expecting a greater place, high and heavenly. As we read these marvelous words and wait for that open door in heaven, our hearts swell within us at the wonder of them. It especially makes my heart bubble over with joy to know that God counted me worthy in His Son to have such a place with Him. I do not have to stay here in the next age. That door is opened for you and me. Jesus is interceding with the Father for us, that we may be prepared to enter that open door. Thank God! Jesus had said, "Ye are not of this world even as I am not of this world."

Heaven is our home. So if any of you expect to remain on earth during the millennium, you need not stay. A door is opened in heaven for you. Get ready to enter therein. Yield to God and study His Word. He will qualify you. Then you will miss the dark tribulation days.

"And the first voice that I heard, a voice as of a trumpet was speaking with me and saying, Come up hither, and I will show thee the things which must come to pass after these things." R.V. V4. I like that word "must." It has to be. Everything else must give way that it may be accomplished. There is not power enough in the realms of darkness by Satan and his hosts to hinder it. The Lord has spoken, and He will do it. He does not open that

door in vain. Nothing shall prevent those who have the heavenly vision. Years ago, we may have thought how wonderful and glorious it would be to be there; but "I never can make the grade. It is too great." But now we can say, "Glory be to God for the vision of this wonderful Gospel." Through Paul's Gospel, every man may be presented perfect in Christ Jesus; yes, perfect, completely whole. He may be completely qualified by God Himself and the power of His Word, which works in us mightily, to enter that open door. The Lord will have plenty of company in heaven; for He died to "...bring many sons unto glory." Heb. 2:10

By the eye of faith, we can look forward and anticipate the time of our entering in. John beheld the door open and heard a voice. I dare say that when we get the vision, as I know many of you have, we also hear a voice. We hear from heaven. We feel something and know something. And we know that we know. It is unmistakable. We know because the Word says so, and the Scriptures cannot be broken. God will see to it that all who really have this hope will land there. Thank God! That trumpet talks to me. Is it talking to you today? No wonder we talk about the coming of the Lord. No doubt there is a little crack in the door, as it were, and a heavenly breeze blowing through it. That breeze will grow stronger and stronger and finally sweep some people out of this world up into glory. 11

They who do not see these things, may misunderstand us and think that we are glorying in ourselves. But I declare, that would disqualify us for the rapture. We can glory only in God. He is doing it. He is qualifying us. "...not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but the righteousness which is of God by faith,..." said the Apostle. Phil. 3:9 Then He must work in us all the good pleasure of His goodness and prepare us to go when the trumpet shall blow. "Immediately I was in spirit," John said. There was no tarrying. As immediately as he was in spirit, so quickly will we be there. In the twinkling of an eye we will be changed.

"And behold there was a throne set in heaven and one sitting upon the throne. And He that sat was to look upon like a

jasper stone and a sardis, and there was a rainbow round about the throne like an emerald to look upon." Rev. 4:2-3 Only those who have the Holy Spirit, realize what a wonderful vision John enjoyed. He not only saw the open door; but he saw the King on the throne. He also saw the rainbow as the covenant promise in our behalf, that God will do what He says. The Son of God came down from heaven, picks man up and takes him to glory. He came from glory and went back. He is coming again and will return to glory.

Beloved, it makes me think of Abraham in Gen. 13. "And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes and look from the place where thou art, northward and southward and eastward; for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it and to thy seed forever." Lot was a righteous man. He believed in the shedding of the blood but he was not wholehearted like Abraham. He was worldly minded, and mixed up with politics. He had to be separated from his uncle before the Lord could show him his inheritance; for Lot would
12 not have understood it. There are some Lot Christians today; but, thank God, there are some Abraham Christians also. It is after the former are separated from us, that God speaks and reveals the deeper truths and makes us to behold our blood-bought place and riches in Christ. They would only say, "It is imagination. It is fanaticism." Only they, who lift up their eyes and look heavenward, behold the wonders of divine grace.

Why should he look northward first? Because the throne is in the North. Isa. 14:13,14. And from the throne, we behold the length and breadth of our inheritance in Christ. There Christ shall reign for 1000 years, and we shall reign with Him. We are, by His grace, obedient to the heavenly vision; and God will not disappoint us. He will meet our expectations, when they are founded upon His Word. As with Abraham, so the Lord bids us to look around and explore the glory land. "Set your mind on things above, where Christ is." Col. 3:1-2 RV Behold the wonderful things that God has prepared for those that love Him, the wonderful place in heaven; and, above all, the Wonderful One, Who will make the place exceedingly wonderful. Hallelujah!

All things are ours to enjoy for God's glory. Everything is at our disposal, for our present happiness and usefulness and to qualify us for the glory place. Everything abounds, to the one who dares to believe and walk with Him. Listen men! If you think that yielding to God will hinder you from having your temporal needs supplied, you are mistaken. Yield to Him, and what David said, will come to pass. "Wait for Jehovah and keep His way, and you will be exalted to inherit the land." Let nothing stand in your way of beholding the glory and the expectations thereof. Why are the prophesied terrible times coming on the world? That people may be made to know the uncertainty of earthly things and learn to depend upon the Lord and put their confidence in His Word. "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord, to them that are the called according to His purpose." Rom. 8:28 And His highest purpose in our lives is that we be qualified to be the Bride of Christ. They who let temporal things cut off their vision of the coming glory, will certainly be exceedingly sorry. Let the vision grow brighter and the hope be renewed day by day.

13

Beloved, the throne of God is there and the door is open. Some must reign with Christ there. If Satan could, he would hinder every one of us from being ready; but he cannot do it. Some must reign. God says it. He planned for it. Before time was, God said, "Let there be a Bride by the side of my Son; even as afterwards, He said, "Let there be light, and there was light." Even the first Adam did not reign alone. Eve was given to reign with him. God did not say, "Let Adam have dominion! but "Let them have dominion." Gen. 1:26 Therefore, to those who may be in the least bit discouraged, I say, "...Stand fast..." Phil. 4:1 "... and having done all to stand." Eph. 6:13 Stand with those who are standing true in the Name of the Lord for the excellent glory. Let us permit God's purpose to be accomplished in our lives, our hearts knit together in the love of God. Thus we will be drawn on by His power. He will keep us faithful until the day of Jesus Christ. Oh wonderful, wonderful Jesus. We will hear the trumpet blast, saying, "Come up hither." And immediately, we will go. Praise The Lord!

(Reprint 1931)

WAILING WALLS

Jack W. Bannister

"And the very God of peace sanctify you completely; and I pray God your whole spirit and (whole) soul and (whole) body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Thessalonians 5:23)

Within this verse we find the very desire of God for our existence in this life, which is preparation for the life we will enjoy throughout the coming ceaseless ages. Therefore, we should give our full attention to the deeper meaning of the words written here. One of the key words is "sanctify." It means "to deliver from a state of commonness and uncleanness, and put into a state corresponding to the nature of God."

14 Who or What is called to be sanctified? It is certainly not the old man (the fallen nature); that part of humanity was and is unchangeable. Therefore "our old man has been crucified with Christ." Rom. 6:6 In the mind of God, the old man is out of business forever. As we begin to understand Romans Seven, we begin to agree with God, and then that truth becomes experimental in our lives. When we are born again, we receive the life called "the new man," which is the personality of Christ, or His life put into us. The old man and the new man are the forces of power that seek to influence us one way or another. Since the old man is not saveable, and the new man doesn't need to be changed, then what is changed? It is the natural man, what we are as an individual that is saved and needs sanctifying. The chart at the end of this article shows a few characteristics of each of these three areas of a believer's existence.

The natural man is the receiver of salvation. I want to emphasize that the old man is unsaveable; the new man doesn't need salvation; so that leaves only one, the natural man. Someone will ask, "What has that to do with wailing walls?" I will also ask a question: "Is sanctification only for the present, or does it include the past?" The answer: "It is for both -- the long ago past and the recent past." You see, my friends, we all build invisible walls. This is our defense, our fortress against wrongs or hurts that would cause us to be wounded in the battle of life. Behind

those walls we feel protected; however, this results in "wailing" in any negative or damaging situation of our lives. This becomes our hidden, personal sanctuary, but inside those walls there will be reruns of distasteful events. And, have you ever noticed that when you think of those things they are almost always negative? Even though we become Christians, filled with the Spirit, and know the Bible well, sooner or later the pursuing past catches up with us and we have to face it by faith. It is then we have the opportunity to gain a glorious victory in all tenses of our lives. If we were robbed of the privilege of our growing years, if we were not permitted to express ourselves as a little boy or girl, sooner or later, we will begin to express our childhood feelings even though we are adults. Why is that? Because everyone must experience childhood! This is not failure; it is not defeat. It leads to the road of emotional maturity. Jesus said, "Let little children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). That is the Christian expression of the born again childhood. Even so in the natural, everyone must go through the childhood experience. Most people do not want to admit it, but it is the human equation. Have you ever heard the statement: "They're acting like a child!"? Well

15

Here are some examples of the bricks in the wall. If people in our past put us down, we learn from that experience to put others down. If people made fun of us, we learn from that to make fun of others. If people disdained us, we learn to disdain others. If people criticized us excessively, we strive to be a perfectionist and criticize those who do not measure up to our standard of perfection. These are all defense mechanisms to keep people at a distance from our inner feelings. These are just a few things that have been put into our thinking pattern of life. Sooner or later, we must reach maturity -- spirit, soul and body. How can we ever reach that goal unless we develop from a beginning?

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses." Matt. 6:14-15 Here are two verses that unlock the gate of our wall. These walls are not referring to salvation but

to our daily lives. When we forgive, we give up our pride and our desire to retaliate. Ignoring the past wrongs simply keeps the wrongs alive within our walls. We must devote the things of the past to death. How? By forgiving the offender and rising above the offense. What if the offender is dead? Well, he isn't dead inside our wall, for we have been keeping him alive in our thoughts, so we could punish him in our mind. God wants to renew our minds. Rom. 12:2 By His Word, God will re-program our thinking. This disarms the offender and defuses the weapon that is in the hand of the past.

Does this information surprise you? If it does, do you know why? Because the truth of life it contains is not understood nor taught in most Gospel meetings. Even if it is taught, many turn it aside. Know why? Because they are in denial. They think, "How could a Christian have resentment of early memories and still be a good Christian? My sins have been forgiven." Ah, my friend, that is true, but the memories of the past do not come under the category of sin. They are frailties of our humanness. Are you
16 aware that Jesus died for our frailties as well as our sins? In the sanctification process, the Lord heals our infirmities, frailties, as well as our physical infirmities. The essence of sanctification is healing. Healing for what? The whole person! We now can rejoice that God cares enough for us to heal in all three tenses of our lives.

When we start taking down the walls we become vulnerable. Why? We are starting to forgive and forgiveness is a form of love, and love is vulnerable, or subject to wounding. In forgiving our growing-up family we gain spiritual strength to forgive the Christian family--other believers. This becomes a double victory -- victory over the past and the present, for the hurt is still in the present. It becomes a victory par excellence! Forgiveness is not sweeping things under the rug and ignoring them. They will not go away until we deal with them. The Holy Spirit allows those things to surface in us, and through that He is suggesting that we deal with them. Many believers will not follow God's urging, and that is why many people lack a forgiving spirit; they have not forgiven those who trespassed against them.

We need to cooperate with God in the dismantling of our wailing wall and let Him rebuild us as a temple. Then we will enjoy the Shekinah glory -- God's Personal Presence -- in the holy of holies. We will find a deeper fellowship with God which was blocked by the wall. Think about this! -- God dwells in the forever tense; time has no authority over Him. He can, and will heal the past as well as the present if we let Him do it. We should not let the negative past control the positive present, for it will becloud the glorious future. If God offers us more light on any subject and we do not receive that light, we will walk in darkness in that measure and concerning that part of the truth. Hello! Are you still there? Are you willing for the great inward healing that will release you to be the great person God intended you to be? Or, are you going to settle for the status quo and engage in pity parties and judgmentalism of those people and events of the past? Only you can answer those questions.

(Reprint 2004)

HIS GARDEN

17

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.

Beula Clark

REFLECTIONS

...From the Editor

“Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not;...but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.” Joh 20:17

Jesus, The Man, knew from the age of 12 that God was His Father. He tried to convey the truth that God was also the Father of every believer. One evidence of that fact is that He referred to God as “your Father” at least 7 times, just in the Sermon on The Mount. He would continue to preach that truth throughout His earthly ministry, but His hearers did not seem to get the message. The above text takes place AFTER the resurrection and seems to set forth a priority that His “...brethren...” should embrace this new relationship for themselves.

18

Jesus’ own life set forth the example of what it means for one to claim God as his Father. He declared very emphatically and succinctly, “I and my Father are one.” Joh 10:30 That comment immediately invoked the Jews to take up stones against Him, but Jesus prayed specifically for believers “That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us:...” Joh 17:21 Jesus did not mean that He and the Father were One Person, as has been purported by some, but rather that He and His Father were one in mind, purpose, intent, and agreement. There was no controversy between them. Jesus desired that same relationship for us.

“...the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth:...” Joh 5:20 This likewise is a glorious blessing to be claimed by the one who would lay hold of this Father/Son relationship which Jesus exemplified. He also declared “...as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.” Joh 8:28 Isaiah further asserts, “The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season... he

wakeneth morning by morning, ...to hear as the learned.” Isa 50:4
The pattern is the same for all who would surrender to The Father
as Jesus did, and untold revelations of truth will follow.

“The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into
his hand.” Joh 3:35 The Father likewise gives good gifts to His
sons today for, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from
above, and cometh down from the Father of lights,…” Jas. 1:17
These would especially be glorious spiritual gifts given unto sons
whom He can entrust with such treasures.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and
I lay down my life for the sheep.” Joh 10:15 This shared intimate
knowledge reveals the fact that Jesus knew what His Father desired,
and God surely knew that Jesus was willing execute His Father’s
pleasure. Thus we are informed “Therefore doth my Father love
me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.” Joh
10:17 Some might conclude from such language that Jesus was
trying to “earn” His Father’s love by laying “...down my life...”
Such is not the case. It is quite true that Jesus lay down His life
in order to accomplish His Father’s will and provide redemption
for the sheep, but God proved His love for His Beloved Son by
raising Him from the dead. This should be a great lesson for those
today who would claim their own place as sons of God. This
loving Father will still bring forth His resurrection power in their
lives despite the sometimes horrendous circumstance that may
warrant it.

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GH

ANNOUNCEMENT!

Labor Day Meeting

Services will be held at

Gospel Fellowship, 13001 Grandview Rd.

Grandview, Missouri 64030

Dates: Sept. 2-3, 2023

Food and lodging will be provided. Please contact us at

gjhawk1@msn.com for further information.

You may also call at 816-618-3306

The Door Man's Cry!

Ray Quintana

Isought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing." Psa. 34:4-10

20 "This poor man cried,..." which was David, and the Lord heard him, and saved him. His prayer was not intended for men, nor was it mainly meant to be a relief to his own mind; it was intended for the ear of God. David is seeking in this prayer. "I sought the Lord, and he heard me...." He heard me seeking Him. He heard me calling after Him in the dark. He heard me running up and down that I might find Him. To search after the Lord is prayer such as God hears. Then David said, "They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed." Psa. 34:5 And who were they? They are the people of God. It is the whole company of the saints in heaven, and the saints on earth. It can be said of all of them and all of us. They looked to Him, and were lightened. As there is life in a look, there is light in a look.

All of us can look to Christ. They looked unto Him, and were lightened. Looking unto God is often one of the very best prayers. It is a look which says, "Lord, I believe you! I trust you! Be O Lord, pleased to show thyself to me." If there is life in a look, then there is the breath of life in a look, and prayer is that breath. If we cannot find words, it is oftentimes a very blessed thing to just sit still, and look towards the hills whence cometh our help. I sometimes feel that I cannot express my desires; and at other times, I do not know my own desires, except that I long for God. In such a case we must sit still and look up. In the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up. A look is a choice prayer. It is the look of a tearful eye towards my wonderful Savior.

Then we can describe prayer in V8. "O taste and see that

the Lord is good....” When we come boldly to the throne of grace, we have a taste of grace in the act of coming. We cannot know His goodness without tasting it, can we? Oh! Taste and see. Partake of it. Become practically acquainted with it. We must trust God ourselves, Oh! Taste and see that the Lord is good, for blessed is the man that trusteth in him. The Lord is good. You can only know this by personally experiencing it for yourself. It says taste and see. Also, faith is the soul's taste. A taste is only a brief introduction. Just taste it is all that God is asking for. It also begins with a taste of the Word of God and then we grow and continue in His grace.

This taste leads to so much more and even greater things. Notice, this poor man did not make a grand announcement. He just took to crying. It was only a cry. In great pain a man will cry out. He cannot help it, even if he could. A cry is short, but it is not sweet. It is intense, and painful. We cry because we must cry. This poor man cried; “God be merciful to me.” What a meaning in a few words. “Lord remember me!” A cry is not only brief, but bitter. A cry is a sorrowful thing. A cry is not artificial. It is not from the lips, but from the heart and soul, that a man cries. A cry is attended with a flood of tears, and a bitter wail. These are prayers that enter into the ears of the Lord Himself. You cannot set a cry to music, either.

The sound of a cry grates the ear, it rasps the heart, and it grieves the minds of those who hear it. Cries are not for musicians, but for mourners. If prayer be a cry, it is clear that it is one of the simplest acts of the mind. Dear saints, whatever we need, pray for it in whatever way which our awakened heart suggests. God loves it when we come before Him, especially with that which is on fire, He loves that. Not that which is dressed up, but that which leaps out of the soul just as it is born in the heart. He delights to receive such prayer. This poor man did not do anything grand, but from his soul he cried, and the Lord heard him. He was all alone, so that nobody else heard him, only the Lord.

Yes, the Lord, all glorious, bowed His ear to him. In God's ear the songs of angels are continually resounding. He hears all the voices of all the creatures He has made. Yet He stooped from His eternal glory, and gave attention to this poor man's cry. God does hear prayer! He grants the desires and requests of lowly men and women. Do you know we can never pray in earnest unless we believe that God hears us? The Lord never ceases to listen to the

cries of those who seek His face. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth. This is truly marvelous! This is our faith, for it is written in His Word, and experienced in our lives. There is one of God's special titles that I love; He is the God that heareth prayer!

22 The Lord will hear our prayer, even if we cannot put it into words. He has an ear for thoughts, and sighs, and longings. A wordless prayer is not silent to Him. For God reads the intents of the heart, and cares more for those from an earnest heart than for the words of our lips. It seems that this poor man could not speak, but he cried. His heart was so full that he could only cry, but God heard him. This kind of heartfelt prayer wins answers from God. The Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. When God is about to bestow a blessing, doesn't He move us to pray? We pray, God hears, and He answers. This is a process of divine grace. What richness and great grace is revealed in this statement. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. I Samuel 21 declares that David was so poor he had to beg bread of the Lord's priests. This is said to be the circumstance from whence this psalm is written. Then, though he was a soldier, he had to borrow a sword from their treasures. He had no house, no home, no income, no country, and there was no place safe for him. He was poor indeed when he wrote these words. This poor man cried. We should not imagine that poverty would damage our prayer. Does the Lord care about the age of our coat? What is it to Him that we have a shallow pocket, and a scarce cupboard? He owns the cattle on a thousand hills. But this poor man cried. Does God hear poor men?

Oh yes, He does, the poorest of the poor, the poor in spirit. He hears those who are so poor that even hope is so dim that we fear for natural existence. This poor man was also a troubled man. He did not know what to do in his blizzard of trials. He was surrounded with difficulties. Because he was a troubled man, he cried. Maybe we wonder what he cried about, but no one knows his inward griefs, nor do they know ours. His old companions perhaps thought he had gone out of his mind. Maybe they said religion had turned his brain. This poor man cried, and no man noticed him because he was so poor and so wretched. But the Lord heard him. The Lord does not turn away from his cry.

The Lord takes delight in coming to us, and binding up our wounds. The Lord so heard him as to make that poor man rich

in grace. David was also a hopeful man. There must have been some hope in him, though he could not perceive it. People do not cry for help unless they have some hope that they will be heard. Where there is a cry of prayer, there is a crumb of hope. Oh, the richness of divine grace, that God should hear us nobodies, and that God should look upon those who are less than the least of all saints. Even the Apostle Paul said, "I am the very chief of sinners!" Yet Paul saw the richness of divine grace by the help of the Holy Spirit. He who prayed was poor, but he did not pray to a poor God.

This poor man was powerless, but he did not cry to a feeble God. This poor man was empty, but he went to God's fullness. He was unworthy, but he appealed to God's mercy. Our God delights in mercy. He waits to be gracious! He takes pleasure in blessing the weary sons of men! This poor man cried to the Savior who is able to save to the uttermost. Remember, we cannot draw water out of our own emptiness. We must come to God, who is the fountain of all divine grace. Our own merit may not be worth much, but the mercies of God are unsearchable riches. Divine grace is akin to mercy and divine grace is a power. This is how David viewed Divine Grace. Grace is the power that David found to overcome the condition he was in.

James wrote in Jas. 4:6 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." The word wherefore means; because he giveth more grace; God resists the proud. This is the power of Divine Grace. It is the answer here for a separated and a righteous life before God. So, He giveth more grace. The great key to divine grace is the humble. The humble is the person who recognizes his need of God. David was poor, but spiritually he was rich because he was humble and recognized his need of God. He recognized that he needed some kind of power or energy in order to overcome his condition.

He realized that he could lay hold of God when he was almost overcome by all those fears. He knew God gives more grace to the humble. David acknowledged and recognized that he needed that power of divine grace in his own life. I believe that is what this Psalm 34 tells us, and that the Apostle Paul reveals the same thing. Therefore, David cried with great hope, and believed that God with His matchless grace; as well as His power and

wisdom would do the work in him and for him. He will do the same for us. He will grow us up into Him in all things if we let Him! Notice, the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. He gave him salvation from all his troubles. Surely his sins were also a part of his great troubles.

24 The Lord saved him and us out of all of them through the atoning sacrifice of His Dear Son. The effects of sin were some of his grievous troubles. The Lord saved him out of all of them by dying on the cross. David had fallen into a perilous position by his own fault, and troubles came upon him thick and heavy. But in answer to prayer, the Lord made a way of escape for him out of all of them, and led him into peace. He had troubles without and within, troubles in the family, in the world, and he felt ready to perish because of them; but the Lord delivered him out of all of them. Note the word "all," which is rather large and comprehensive. Verse 4 asserts; He "...delivered me from all my fears." Sometimes our fears are more painful than our troubles. We suffer more in dreading troubles than in enduring them, don't we? But the Lord removes such fears, thereby removing all shame in the same way. "They looked unto him and were lightened, and their faces were not ashamed." They were happy because the shame of their sin was gone! They were no longer distressed about the past, and no longer under fear of wrath in the future. The Lord saves them, and us, out of all our fears. Then, the Lord saved them out of all their wants. "There is no want to them that fear Him. They that wait upon the Lord shall not want any good thing." V. 9 Oh, to be saved from all fear, shame, trouble, and then from all want or lack! But this is not all. For this poor man was saved from all dangers.

"He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken." V. 20 How complete is God's deliverance! Think of the men down through the ages as God has wonderfully heard theirs and even our prayers! There was once a man, named Jonah, who found himself in the belly of a fish, but was miraculously kept alive. Jonah cried; "...the weeds were wrapped about my head." He was in a strange, dark, horrible place, and he says of it, "...out of the belly of hell cried I..." Was his cry of any use? Yes; we read, "...out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. My prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple." Jon. 2:2

Psalm 23 also depicts the fact that David knew the One

present with him was the Lord as, "My Shepherd." Note a beautiful outline of this Psalm. The first three verses record all the pronouns referring to the Lord in the third person: "He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me... He restores my soul." The Psalmist changes the last three verses to the second person, "...thou art with me; thy rod (Your rod not His rod) and thy staff (Your staff) they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: (You prepare a table before me); thou anointest my head with oil;..." (You anoint my head) Why the variation? There is something inexpressibly blessed in that change. During life the believer speaks of the Lord as; "He leads me..." and so forth; but as we enter the valley of the shadow, we speak of the Lord, for He is there by my side! God's Word is so.....?! How can we even explain it! How we need to weigh and ponder every jot and tittle in it. Sometimes the tense of the verb, at other times the number of the noun marks that which is most important for us to observe. Here the change of pronouns brings out such a precious line of truth and growth of the believer's walk with the Lord. David acknowledged the presence of the good Shepherd in the valley and the comfort from His gracious care. He went on to say: "You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies." Scripture portrays the table as fellowship, and that of the most intimate kind. What loving and full provision He has made to supply our every need.

25

I also have pondered Lk. 22:21 "But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table." Oh, what grief that brings to my heart. Judas did that. But Jesus is my Shepherd! How glorious is Christ when He comes forth with His eternal power to fight the lion that would rend our soul! Think of Him in heaven pleading for His people, pleading the merits of His blood, in intercession as He smites the wolf, and chases away the lion and the bear, that not one of us may be destroyed or even touched. Oh! taste and see that the Lord is good. I said, you can only know this by personally experiencing it for yourself. Faith is the soul's taste. How do we do that? Paul said, in Acts 20:32 "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

The Word of His grace is the only thing that is able to build us up. What we lay hold of the word of His grace now, determines

the degree of our inheritance. We must lay hold of it now. Peter says we are building a spiritual house. I Pet. 2:5 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." How do we build the spiritual house? "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon." I Cor. 3:11 We build on the foundation of Christ, by faith, and faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God. "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost." Jude 1:20 Praying in the Holy Ghost is praying for the revelation of truth and the purposes of Christ in my life through His Word. Peter instructs us "...to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." There is only one sacrifice that God accepts, and that is the sacrifice of Christ. This is what He wants from us who are willing to give ourselves to His purposes exactly as Jesus did. We must be built up by the word of His grace.

26 Wherever we may be, and in whatsoever trial we may be involved today, the Lord hears our cry, and will come to our help. If any soul here is like Jonah, in the very belly of hell in feeling and fear, yet, your cry will prevail with heaven, and the Lord hears our cry. He wants us to grow in grace and in truth! A poor man's cry will sound through to the throne room of Divine Grace where Christ waits. And the sweetness of that cry will come to the ear of God, and He will respond to it, for that is the richness of His Divine Grace. Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

(Transcribed from an audio CD of the Denver
President's Day Convention 2023)

"Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Precious Lord, Take my hand,

Lead me on, let me stand.

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light;

Take my hand precious Lord,

Lead me home.

Thomas A. Dorsey

Living Faith

Dr. Vicky Moots

“**E**ven so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.; But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?” Jas. 2:17, 20:

Today I am going to use these verses in James to perform a spiritual check up of your faith. Do you have living faith? If you are born again, then you have living faith, because without faith you cannot be saved. But how healthy is your faith? Does it produce works?

In the natural, if you wanted to evaluate your health, you would see a doctor for a checkup. The first thing that they would do is to check your vital signs: your blood pressure, pulse and respirations. Why? Because these are outward measurements which can be obtained that indicate the internal activity of the heart.

What are the outward vital signs of our faith? How would someone who is examining us spiritually be able to evaluate our spiritual health? According to James, one of the vital signs is our works, so let us look into this further. If we have the life of Christ in us, there should be outward evidence of our faith for others to see. 27

We read in I Sam. 16:7, that “...man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.” Only God can see our heart. All others are looking on the outside of us. The book of James gives us an example of how the world examines us regarding our faith. James speaks of works as being the outward evidence to those around us of the faith which we possess in our hearts.

As a physician, if you were to see me in the office for an exam, I would not be able to see your heart, but I would know how well it is beating simply by feeling your pulse. That is one of the first things they teach you in a CPR course. A pulse wave is produced each time the heart muscle contracts, so the pulse is outward evidence of an internal, invisible, beating heart. It is an outward sign of what is taking place on the inside.

The spiritual relationship between faith and works is much like the physical relationship of the pulse to the heart. Good works in the life of a Christian are outward evidence of living faith and have been ordained by God, as we read in Eph. 2:8-10: "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. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Good works are the result of our faith. They are the fruit of the new creation, not the root. We are not saved through works; we are saved to works. Faith works in us to produce works through us for God's glory.

28 In the physical body, the pulse does not cause the heart to beat. Which came first? The pulse or the heart beat? Which is dependent on the other? There can be no pulse outwardly if there is not first a living, beating heart on the inside. Likewise, in the spiritual sense, works cannot produce faith, but living faith can, and should, produce good works, because God has ordained that we should walk in them.

How strong is your faith pulse today? We are told by Paul to examine ourselves (not each other). Living faith on the inside should produce a good strong pulse externally that others can feel when they examine your faith.

Living faith will produce living works, not dead works. Dead works are self-works, and they bring glory to self. Living works are the result of God working in us and through us, and they will always bring glory to His name and not to ours.

Living works are also loving works, for they can only be done through God's love (agape), as we learn in I Cor. 13. Without love, our works lose their eternal value. They do not point others to Christ because they only glorify the one who is performing them.

But most important of all, living works, produced by faith and performed through love, will not only glorify the name of Jesus and give evidence of our faith, but will also prepare us for bridehood. The wedding garment of the bride of Christ will be fabricated from the pure, righteous, living works which she has

unselfishly done by faith. The nature of this fabric is revealed to us in Rev. 19:7-8: "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour 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 righteousness [righteous acts] of saints."

That means that with each righteous act that we perform, each good work that we do, which God has ordained for us to do, we are faithfully weaving the pure linen fabric for our wedding dress to prepare ourselves for that day. But the good works of living faith which we do, and the wedding garment which we are preparing, are not intended for our glory, for they are produced through the power of the resurrected life of Christ in us, for the purpose of bringing glory to His Name and drawing others to Him.

Praise the Lord for living faith and living works.

29

PERFECT SIGHT

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

Now I sometimes wonder
When I do not understand,
But He draws me closely to Him
By His Gentle, Loving Hand.

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

--Beula Clark

Spiritual Fathers

Paul N. Smith

"The father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham. For the promise, that he should be heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith ... therefore, it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all." Rom. 4:12-16

Abraham showed complete trust in God and His promises. Earthly fathers put emphasis on providing material things for their children. They want the best the world has to offer in the way of housing, education and recreation, but often neglect the more important things ----the spiritual needs of their families --- temporal material possessions vs. spiritual wealth.

30 Abraham is an example of spiritual fathers. He forsook the obvious ease and wealth that he had in Ur of the Chaldees and followed the Lord through desert wanderings into the land of Canaan. His family did not have the cultural advantages that a large city could provide, but they had the greater advantage of being in fellowship with the God of heaven and earth. God honored Abraham's faith and obedience by bestowing great wealth upon him. He gained much land and cattle, and many servants; yet, his emphasis was on spiritual values.

Solomon describes a spiritual father and leader in Proverbs 20:5-7. "Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out. Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness (virtues); but a faithful man who can find? The just man walketh in his integrity; his children are blessed after him." We fathers have a tendency to tell our children our own virtues; what we accomplished when we were their age; how we walked miles to school; how we worked for pennies a day; how honest we were. But, what about now! Do we still walk in our integrity? Do we have moral soundness? Example is the best teacher our children can have.

David wrote: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in His way. Though he fall, he shall not

be cast down; for the Lord upholdeth him with His hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth, and his seed (children) are blessed" (Psalms 37:23-26). A "good" father will put the Lord first in his own life, and will walk in God's way; his children will follow.

Fathers are not perfect, which most of them will admit. They may fail through some decision-making, misjudgment, or by being uninterested in their child's activities. Spiritual fathers will admit their short-comings and will ask God for the strength to do better. Fathers are not infallible; they can make mistakes. They can fall "seven times", but they also rise up, better prepared to carry on. Fathers have a great responsibility in raising their children, especially in these present days. If they follow in the steps of our father Abraham, they will have done all they could, and their children will rise up and call them "blessed of the Lord."

(Reprint 2005)

TELL IT TO JESUS

Christian, when thy way seems darkest,
When thine eyes with tears are dim
Straight to God thy Father hast'ning,
Tell thy troubles all to Him.
Not to human ear confiding
Thy sad tale of grief and care,
But before thy Father kneeling,
Pour out all thy sorrows there.

Sympathy of friends may cheer thee
When the fierce, wild storms have burst,
But God only can console thee
When it breaks upon thee first.
Go with words, or tears, or silence,
Only lay thee at His feet;
Thou shalt prove how great His pity,
And His tenderness how sweet.

Think, too thy divine Redeemer
Knew as thou canst never know
All the deepest depths of suffering,
All the weight of human woe;
And though now in glory seated
He can hear thy feeblest cry,
Even hear the stifled sighing
Of thy dumb heart's agony.

—Sent in.

THE POWER OF REVELATION

Anon

There is a remarkable prayer of thanksgiving of our Lord in Luke 10:21: "I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and prudent and hast revealed them unto babes."

32 What things are these which the Father hides from some people and reveals to others? We learn from Verse 17 that the seventy had returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject unto us in Thy Name." This was the revelation -- that the whole spiritual world was subject to the Name of Jesus, and this revelation gave them a power superior to all the power (dunamis, Greek) of the enemy, and even the authority (exousia) over it. In His Name they could command even the unclean spirits and they must obey, even as they did in His Presence. So, we learn the wonderful truth that spiritual revelation confers power and even authority in the spirit world. All authority in Heaven and earth has been granted to Christ, but we need a special revelation from the Father in order to exercise that authority. No man can learn any spiritual truth except it be taught him by the Father, through the Spirit. "All things are delivered to me of my Father; and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal Him" (10:22). This knowledge is beyond the compass of the greatest intellect and is altogether hid from it.

The text verse seems at first to put a premium on ignorance, and this is how many understand the expression, "revealed unto babes." In the world, some men cannot help becoming wise any more than others can avoid being ignorant. But, it is within the power of the wisest as well as the most ignorant, to become a babe. It must be so, or salvation would not be possible to all men; for except we become as little children, we cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The fact is that the wisest man on earth, or the man who has gained more human knowledge than any of his fellows can, by the grace of God and the power of God, become a babe

by means of the new birth. He then can have the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God, which shall give even to him authority in the spirit world and power over the enemy. At the same time, a man who is unable to read a word of Scripture may be gifted with Spiritual knowledge. A great mistake being made today is that men are seeking spiritual knowledge by natural means. This is the reason for the lack of spiritual understanding of God's Word. Spiritual revelation can only come by inspiration of the Spirit. Natural man cannot know these things; they can only be seen by the enlightened eyes of the inner man. The natural eye cannot see God; the natural ear cannot hear His voice. I Cor. 2:11-14

The Holy Spirit will reveal the things that have been freely given to us by God, yea even the deep things of God. It is by means of these revelations that we are "strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man." By this means, Christ is developed within us. The Tabernacle in the wilderness as well as the temple, is a glorious type of this. The body, or outward man is the outer court. The inner man is the holy place where Christ 33 takes up His abode with the Father. It is in the holy of holies where the Shekinah glory was manifested. However, there were times when the whole temple was filled with His glory, and this is so when the power of God is felt in our natural bodies as well as in our spirits. As we look on Him with unveiled face, we are being changed "into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." II Cor. 3:18



* In the light of Christ's brilliance, the world's wisdom is but a shadow.

ONE GLASS OF MILK

Anon

A poor boy who was selling goods from door to door to pay his way through school, discovered that he had only a dime left, and he was very hungry. He decided that he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door.

Instead of a meal, he asked for a drink of water. The young lady thought he looked hungry, so she brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it slowly and then asked, "How much do I owe you?" She replied: "You don't owe me anything. Mother taught us never to accept pay for a kindness."

He thanked her again, and as Howard Kelly left that house he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was stronger also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Years later, that young woman became critically ill. The local doctors were baffled. They decided to send her to a larger city, where specialists could study her rare disease. Dr. Howard
34 Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, he went to her room to see her. He recognized her at once. He determined to do his best to save her life. He gave special attention to her case, and after a long struggle, the battle was won.

Dr. Kelly requested the business office to give him the final bill for approval. He looked at it, then wrote something on the edge, and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure that it would take the rest of her life to pay all of it. Finally, she looked and saw some words written along the edge of the bill. It read: "Paid in full with one glass of milk." Signed, Dr. Howard Kelly.

Tears of joy ran down her cheeks, as she gave praise to the Lord: "Thank you, God, that your love is shed abroad through human hearts and hands!"

**Standing on the promiese that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail.
By the Living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.**



Our Corn Crib

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grace and glory

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But they that wait
upon the Lord shall
renew their strength;
they shall mount up
with wings as eagles;
they shall run, and not
be weary; and they shall
walk, and not faint.

