

Glorious Gospel Publication



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Contents:

“Let us have Grace”	
Jack Davis	1
Poem - Praise the Lord	2
A Good Report	
Ruth Rogers	3
The Last Days	
Anita Clark	7
“Jesus Christ, the same...” Part 2	
Bonnie Richards	11
Beloved, Let Us Love... (Part 9)	
Doug Delhay	15
The Book Of Daniel - Chapter 8:12-27	
E. J. Davis	19
Announcements	23

“LET US HAVE GRACE”



“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, *let us have grace*, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.” Heb. 12:28,29

Is not Godly fear and Godly fire compatible, by laying faith’s claim to God’s grace? In the second half of this chapter (Vs. 18-29), we find such great contrast of conditions in believer’s approach and relations to God. The God of *all grace* has called us unto His eternal glory by Jesus Christ.

Oh, how marvelously blessed we are today in this Age of Grace. When we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, we became a part of the heavenly segment of an unshakable kingdom. Our citizenship is in heaven. Our heart’s treasures are above. We are urged now to appropriate by grace the high glories of said kingdom, on a course of faith. It is our privilege to receive and honor now the coming universal King of all kings to the throne of our hearts. Our worship today is only acceptable (well-pleasing) as we appropriate His grace. We do well also to allow Him who is the same yesterday, today and for ever, to establish our hearts therewith making us steadfast, unmovable. Heb. 13:8.

In our service of worship we are urged to approach our Father’s throne with confidence. Heb. 4:16. He says “Come Boldly.” But let us fear ever becoming presumptuous. Be fully aware that He is able to see any and all the dross. He is willing to apply the heat to burn it out.

With the statement of verse twenty-nine we are so very glad that we may worship Him as **our** God. Heb. 11:16, “...God is not ashamed to be called their God...”



Praise the Lord

***To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the Life Gate that all may go in.***

***Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.***

***Great things He hath taught us, great things He
hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth
hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people
rejoice;
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath
done.***

— Selected



A GOOD REPORT

by Ruth Rogers

I Know Whom I Believe In

On July 6, 2008 at 12:30 a.m., my youngest daughter, Heidi, was riding an ATV down an old railroad track trail where the railroad ties had been removed. Her ATV only had a single headlight to light the road ahead of her. She thought the path leading back to the house was coming up soon, so she turned left. In doing so, she went right off a 20 foot drop-off and landed in a creek flowing under the road. The creek was 2 feet deep and very cold.

We think the ATV landed on top of her face and crushed her skull under her skin from above the teeth to the top of her head. A handle-bar put a hole the size of a baseball in her forehead and left an open cavity to the brain ...the bone in her forehead was completely gone. Heidi may have landed on a rock that put a ½ inch crack in her skull from the top of her head around her head and down to the beginning of her neck... one of her many miracles is that this injury did not even break the skin. We also think the ATV's running board broke her pelvic bone and 3 ribs with her final injury being a broken left wrist.

After the ATV landed, it rolled over causing her to go face down into the water. When one of her friends went looking for her, he found her face down in the water, so he turned her over and held her head out of the water until the paramedics came and brought her up out of the creek and back to the house where the helicopter was waiting to life-flight her to the hospital in Wichita.

Later, I was told that during the whole flight Heidi was alert and talking until they landed on the helipad of the hospital; then she coded blue and became unresponsive. The trauma doctors took her to the surgery to put her on life support and temporarily sewed up her forehead. She was kept sedated for several days to allow her brain to swell and then return to normal...even the ½” break was in Heidi’s favor because the brain had “room to swell” without causing excessive high pressures in her brain.

In the meantime, at 2:15 a.m., I received a call that Heidi had been in an accident and was in the hospital. Immediately, my oldest daughter (Johanna) and I hurriedly put a few things together and drove from Lenexa, Kansas, to Wichita, Kansas arriving around 5 a.m. The Lord carried me safely all the way.

Between the Sheriff and Emergency Room reports, I was lead to think that Heidi was not that critical. That is until I arrived and saw her. Her whole face was bruised and swollen to the size of a watermelon and she was bleeding from her eyes. The doctors kept her sedated for several days to allow her brain to swell and then return to normal. By the 4th day, Heidi was taken off life support because she was trying to breathe on her own. During that 1st week, each day a different part of her body was healing and the swelling in her face began to go down too.

By the 2nd week Heidi was opening her right eye. Because she was not able to eat through her mouth, a feeding tube was put into her stomach. At this time she went into surgery where the doctors put 2 screws and 2 pins into her left wrist.

At the middle of the 3rd week, she opened the left eye and started to talk. It was then she was moved out of SICU in a private room on the main floor. Because Heidi was sufficiently stable, the doctors decided to do surgery on her face (put in a titanium mesh to cover the hole in her forehead, and literally

put together her eye sockets, nose, and top teeth with screws and several specially cut plates). Bro. Jack and Sis. Earlene Davis came to visit just at the moment Heidi was going down the hall to surgery; Heidi asked Bro. Davis to pray for her because she was scared. After 5 hours of surgery, she was back in her room but her eyes were swollen shut again. Soon her eyes opened and she was able to walk. After 3 weeks and 2 days, Heidi and I were ready to go home.

On July 29, 3 weeks after being home, Heidi was walking up the 3 flights of stairs to our apartment without any problems; and, she was able to start back to college (she plans on being a physical education teacher). Sept. 5, the cast on her wrist was removed and the feeding tube pulled out too.

When we left the hospital in Wichita, she had double vision. The eye specialist she saw in Kansas City said he did not want to do anything to her eyes because she was healing so fast and that once the 12th nerve began working her double vision would go away...which it has!

Praise the Lord, her double-vision has cleared, her eyes move together as they should, and she is able to drive. Heidi is also having movement therapy on her wrist and has recovered complete mobility. She will be seeing an orthopedic surgeon in order to get a release (her pelvis must be completely healed) to start running and exercising with her college softball team. She is planning to play with her team in January 2009!

In looking back, I know that God held my heart in His hands as I drove to Wichita; protecting and preparing me for what lay ahead. The Lord held me up from the time I walked into SICU and throughout the 3-week 2-day hospital stay. When I first arrived and the emergency nurse and doctor were explaining Heidi's condition I could feel my whole body beginning to get weak. All I could do was pray, "Lord, I believe, please help my

unbelief.” From that moment on I knew the Lord was taking care of my baby girl and that I needed to be strong for her and Johanna.

The Lord gave me strength through knowing He would heal Heidi and that I needed to encourage those who came to visit us. The Lord gave me a peace about my job and our finances by letting me know that when I left everything at His feet He would take care of us. Because Heidi was a full-time college student I was able to keep her on my medical insurance...The Lord knew this would be a great financial help to me.

Each day, I saw the miraculous hand of God healing my child as well as supplying all my needs because I was away from home without income, a place to stay, food to eat, and clothes to wear. I saw the Lord’s hand working for me through my older daughter, Johanna, who had just returned home from Idaho in March. She took care of our home while I was in Wichita with Heidi. After Heidi returned from the hospital and wasn’t able to drive yet, Johanna was such a support when things got rough and helped with driving Heidi to and from her college classes. Also, the saints from Grace Assembly Church at Wichita who were lead of the Lord to help me with food, finances, homes to stay in and transportation to go to church and hear the Word of God.

From my heart, I can truly say,

“I know whom I believe in and am persuaded
that He is able to do anything.”

Ruth Rogers

*I’m walking and talking with Jesus,
Each day as I journey along;
I’m never alone, Hallelujah!
The joy of the Lord is my song.*

THE LAST DAYS

Anita Clark



“Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation [tribulation] which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown” (Rev. 3:10,11).

We are living in the last days. The time of Christ’s return for His bride is fast approaching. Also, the time of the wrath of God is rapidly on its way. The verse above speaks to us, “to keep the word of His patience.” The Amplified version words it like this, “Because you have guarded and kept My word of patient endurance [have held fast the lesson of My patience with expectant endurance that I give you],”. Another translation says, “Because you have kept My word patiently.” Many are departing from the faith. Praise God there are many who are standing for the truth of the Word of God, and are on guard against error. It is plain that a qualification of being in this Philadelphia group, who represent the Bride of Jesus Christ, is keeping, guarding the Truth. Error rages in these last days. Satan is trying to deceive as many as he can to leave the Truth behind.

II Thess. 2:3, in speaking of end time things states that the evil global ruler will not come, “except there come a falling away first...” In church history, we know that there was what is called “the Dark Ages” around 500 to 1500 A.D. Throughout the Church Age there have been times of declension and times of revival, but it seems to imply that there will be a “falling away” just previous to the appearing of the AntiChrist. Let us be awake and watching for the soon return of the Beloved Lord Jesus, the

true Ruler of the Universe before the tribulation of seven years begins. Let us hold to the truth, standing against all falsity. We're not looking for AntiChrist. We are looking steadfastly for the Son of God, our Beloved Bridegroom.

Globalization Is the Watchword – These are scary times! I heard a newscaster the other day say, “These are perilous times.” I wondered if he knew that he was quoting the Scripture (II Tim. 3:1). God will bring into power whomever He chooses. According to Daniel it may not be the good, godly man, but a man that will fit into His plan for events to progress to the end. Let us press on and not be worried. God is in control! Isn't that a comforting thought? Globalization will come in a hurry after the Bride of Christ is taken out. The overcoming praying people of God hold back the forces of evil from erupting upon the scene, but when they are gone to heaven, evil will be rampant. Although the tribulation ushers in a time of global peace, evil will abound in terrific proportion. The peace will be short lived as war will break out. Let us be on guard - guarding His Word, holding fast our crown.

Economic Disaster – Are you troubled about the economy? Many have lost a lot of money. Jesus spoke of these times in Matt. 6:19-34. He plainly says, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.” We have certainly seen the devastation that greedy evil men have caused. The Old Creation has not changed! It is deceitful and full of greed and stealth. Jesus says, “Lay up treasure for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal.” So many Christians get caught up in storing away money for old age or hard times. Jesus warns that “corruption and thieves” will break through and take the riches, which we trust in.

We all need to look up and invest our lives in spiritual things, and for the furtherance of the work of the Lord until He comes. Apostle Paul warns, “Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, Who giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (I Tim. 6:17). And in Romans 8:32, he says, “He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

We may suffer loss in greater measure in days ahead, but God will be with us. He will lead us and take care of us, as He has before. We will learn to lean upon Him in a greater measure than ever before. Apostle Peter says, “Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God” (I Peter 4:1,2). Satan will certainly try to attack our minds with doubts and fear about the future and the loss of our earthly assets, but God will still be faithful to us. He will take care of His own dear sheep. “Arm” your mind with the Scripture, the positive promises of God. Let’s not allow Satan to get a foothold of doubt in our minds. “What have I to fear, What have I to dread, Leaning on the every lasting arms. I have blessed peace with My Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.”

Ravages of Hurricane Ike – This storm was a very devastating one, which has left many homeless and still without resources. Many homeless, not able to return to their devastated homes. Many have come to Christ in this horrible time, when their earthly possession are all gone. God bless the volunteers, who have dedicated time and energy to aide these poor people. Christian disaster workers have been witnessing and bringing souls to Christ, as they willingly help those who are without any physical aide and comfort.

Firestorms in California – These storms are ravaging Southern California, and making many homeless. These disasters are so great, some are feeling that it is divine judgment on the United States. How can our nation keep standing in these tough economic times and yet pay for all the aide needed in these storm areas. We are very near to the tribulation of seven years. Let us realize this anew and dedicate our life and energy to running this race, while encouraging others around us to be ready for the soon return of Jesus Christ. “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God...” (II Peter 3:11-12).

.....

Thanksgiving

*I cannot see what life will bring today;
How bountiful or barren it may be,
Nor how the course of life in one swift stroke
Can redirect and change its plan for me;
But this I know, in all my daily living
I turn to Thee, O God, with my thanksgiving.*

*In years gone by, how surely thou hast led
And given much where little was my due.
Thou hast in all Thy goodness known and cared,
Replenished faith, my courage to renew.
Today I look to Thee in prayer and praise,
And voice thanksgiving for Thy gracious ways.*

*Without Thy car, our days would empty be
And fearful as the burning desert sands.
Who else, but by Thy great and mighty hand?
So frail and weak we are — O make us see
That Thou art good, and raise our thanks to Thee.*

— K S. S.

“Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever.”

Enhanced Vision 2008

Part 2

By Bonnie Richards

Job knew his Redeemer **lived and would stand** at the latter day on the earth - Job 19:25. He had faithfully offered burnt offerings for his ten children in case they had sinned and cursed God in their hearts. Job knew the ransom must be paid by another. In the face of overwhelming appearances that God had abandoned him and did not hear his cry, he tenaciously held to his faith in a righteous God who understood all. He appealed for God to show him his sin so he could confess it and be made right. Job did not, and could not, understand that his spiritual battle came as a result of a heavenly audience between God and Satan. Neither could his “friends” know this. But God gave a victory because of Job’s unwavering faith that God would do no wrong. (*understanding* is not what God seeks, but *faith* in every test of life.) Satan had desired to destroy this man that God called like none on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and shuns evil. What a commendation from the Almighty God of Heaven! But the god of this world targets the righteous. He wanted to show his power to destroy faith when circumstances become too difficult to understand. James 5:11 mentions the patience of Job, but what speaks to me is the *faith of Job* even when he was impatient for answers from God. He endured and knew the reward of God’s blessing once more in this life - but especially in the eternal one.

It is often said of **Abraham** “The Lord appeared unto him” or “the Lord spoke to Abraham” and “the friend of God.” Rom. 4:12 speaks of our walking “in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had.” Abraham’s spiritual experience with the Lord is so clearly set forth by Paul, the Apostle, in Romans 4:1-3 & 9-25 and Hebrews 11:8-19. A lifetime of obedience, testing and faith summed up well “Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness” (Gal. 3:6) and “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God” (Rom. 4:20). God’s promise to Abraham in Gen. 12:2-3 was surely the foundation for his life of faith, “I will make you a great nation, I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” One of the ways Abraham’s response to this promise was expressed was in the altars he built where he pitched his tent. Altars were for Sacrifices! Worship! When God gave Abraham the ram caught in the thicket to offer instead of Isaac, what strengthening of faith in the coming substitute, **the Perfect Sacrifice**.

Isaac, promised son to Abraham, typifies in so many ways the Promised One who has, does and will always, bless “all families of the earth” as the promised seed, the Redeemer. Isaac was totally submissive to his father, even to being willing to be offered as a burnt offering. He was “received as being raised from the dead.” Furthermore, he was willing for his father to send for, and present to him, Rebecca his bride. “And he loved her.”

In Isaac’s story we read about wells of water. We have “joy...draw(ing) water out of the wells of salvation.” Jesus Christ’s one offering has brought eternal life to every child of Adam and Eve who will receive it. And the nation, Israel, will

have their waters of blessings as promised when their Redeemer-King sits on His throne.

Jacob was focused on the birthright and the blessings of promise which included the covenant blessing of Jehovah. He *purchased* the birthright from Esau who esteemed it of little value. The blessing of Isaac, which carried the testamentary bequest, was rightly Jacob's, as it had been purchased from one who did not hold God's blessing of great value. God Himself gave His evaluation of the two men in Malachi 1:2 & 3: "Jacob have I loved and Esau have I hated." God's impartial evaluation of these men should be the only one we accept. It is important to note that Jacob was an altar builder. It is not recorded that Esau ever built an altar to the God of his father. Esau did embrace the idolatry of his wives and fathered the people, the Edomites. Gen. 28:11-19 & 35:7 - **At Bethel, Jacob built an altar.** Here is where God changed Jacob's name to Israel. Vs. 10-15 records the confirming to Jacob (Israel) the covenant with Abraham and Isaac. This is the word spoken to him by "God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply... A nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; and the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land. And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him. And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon." Only by virtue of the new birth does God accept us to have fellowship with Him. And then how He blesses us!

Moses, the man who talked with God, *heard Him* speak in the burning bush, and became God's mouthpiece to Pharaoh leading to the children of Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. At God's bidding he initiated the blood of the Passover Lamb on the doorpost, which thus assured God's

acceptance and God's *deliverance* from the judgment of the death angel. Moses heard God on Sinai *speaking the words* dictating the commandments, laws, precepts, sacrifices, offerings, feasts, details concerning every aspect of the worship of a righteous God. Moses walked up that mountain, Sinai, and **heard God's voice**. He came down with a heavy burden, the law, but even in its rigorous demands, faith was ever the key to pleasing God. What a fellowship Moses had with God during those 40 very difficult years in the wilderness. What an understanding of the importance of the Redeemer as he clearly defined the perfection and purpose of the sacrifice God demanded.

to be continued



Worship

*True worship is not lip service
but life service.*

—o—

*We become like that which we worship —
God, self, or anything else.*

—o—

*Worship refreshes the soul
as sleep refreshes the body.*

—o—

*True worship doesn't depend on
preacher or place,
but on the attitude of the heart.*

—o—

*God can use people to teach this art,
and one of them is you.*

Beloved, let us love. . .

Part 9

1 John 4:7

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.”

A topic as vast as the love of God requires that God himself provide the instruction. He had to reveal it to us and only He can reveal it through us. As Paul labored among the Corinthians, he taught the doctrines of the love of God in Christ to them, he lived the servant life of Christ among them, he manifested the love of God in Christ in pouring out his personal life energy in their behalf, and fulfilled the role of one in authority correcting their errors in love.

Paul’s life was in every aspect the evidence of the love of God in Christ toward them. He, by calling and by obedience, yielded himself appropriately to God to become a vessel into which the love of God could be placed, and an instrument to be wielded by the Holy Spirit to execute the love of God in whatever manner circumstances dictated. *“Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”* (2 Corinthians 4:1-7)

Paul declared that the same God that gave commandment for there to be light shine forth from the darkness had shined another type of light in his heart. This was the light of the glory of God's love and purpose given in Jesus Christ. And this love was intentionally placed in fragile, common, earthly vessels so all of the glory, honor and power would clearly be God's and not man's. *"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence."* (1 Corinthians 1:27-29)

When John instructs us in our subject text to **"love one another"**, it requires us to reach down into this earthen vessel in which we dwell, bypassing mere human emotion, appeal, and natural inclinations, and reaching into that which God has placed within our new creation intelligence to apply it to the situation at hand. We must be toward others as Christ is toward us. The Spirit must be our guide and enabler as we walk through what could be compared to spiritual mine fields.

In reading through Paul's epistles to the churches and certain disciples, he could not have made it more plain that he was, naturally speaking, the anti-type of the cloth from which an apostle would be cut. He was an insidious persecutor of the church of Christ. He offered his former contrariness to the love of God in Christ as evidence of his radical change of behavior as he defended his present laboring as a disciple of Christ before King Agrippa in Acts 26:9-11. The ninth verse reads, *"I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth."* He shared these personal meditations to reveal the depth to which he was opposed to the doctrines of the early disciples and to illustrate the incredible transformation that had taken place in his life after he was confronted by the resurrected Christ as he journeyed to Damascus.

If the love of God could so permeate the heart of one like Paul and work such an impossible feat in his life, certainly then he qualifies to serve as an irrefutable pattern of the power of God to all who come to believe in Christ as their Lord and Saviour. The power of the resurrection doesn't just infuse us with the ability to live again or live eternally, it ushers us into a realm where God is willing and *"able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,"* (Ephesians 3:20).

So the Lord took this Saul of Tarsus and loved him to death, and then loved him to life, transforming the thoughts and intents of his heart to such an extent that he offered himself to God as a vessel to be utilized for righteousness' sake. Paul then yielded himself to love these Corinthian saints with his very life that they, too, might know and experience the very love of God.

Let us take these examples from the first epistle to the Corinthians into consideration as true acts of love taught by God as He exhibited them through Paul.

-1:5-7 - In love he expounded Christ to them that they might learn of Christ and become established in the abundant gift of God's grace, coming *"behind in no gift;"*.

- 1:13 - In love he pointed to the error of their divisions caused by exalting men and not Christ. *"Is Christ divided?"* he challenges them. Divisions are always indicative of the fruit of the flesh. See also 3:1-4, and 21-23.

- 2:1-5 - In love he took the path of lowliness that their faith would not *"stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."*

- 4:1-14 - In love he reprimanded them for not acknowledging his honorable place as an apostle, but rather just another teacher or opinion. *"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God."*

- 5:1-6 - In love he exercised a strict discernment, *"For I verily, . . . have judged already, . . . your glorying is not good."* and overruled the ignorance of their misappropriation of "gracious" tolerance.

- 5:9-13 - In love he instructed them to separate “*that wicked person*” from themselves. In doing so he was actively loving both the separated and the separators. Repentance eventually came to all parties involved (II Corinthians 2:6-8), but they had to be loved into separation and loved again back into unity. Hebrews 12:6-7 echoes Proverbs 3:11-12 in saying that those that are loved of the Lord are of necessity chastened by Him even to the point where we may no longer be willing to endure such love. God, in love, expands our understanding of His love by taking us places that only His love can provide us with purpose and hope to continue.

- 6:7 - In love he pinpoints a fraud, a fault, a shame found among them admonishing them that it is better to suffer wrong at the hand of their brethren than to go before unbelievers with charges against one another. “*Why do ye not rather take wrong?*” Is this not what Jesus did in our behalf that we might comprehend His love?

Many more examples of Paul’s love can be found throughout his epistles to the Corinthians, but they are rarely expressed in just words. They are, however, put on bold display in his actions, his doings, his mannerisms, and the nature of his ministry on their behalf. This did not come easy for Paul. The Lord had to encourage him in his ministry to the Corinthians, saying, “*Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.*” (Acts 18:9-10) Paul was evidently overwhelmed or made fearful by the task set before him, but there were many of God’s people to be found amongst the strife of divisions, confusion of doctrine, and mixture of carnality and spirituality. And they all needed, above all, to know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord.

How this sounds like our world today. And the solution remains the same. To love in word and in deed, in the many varied manners in which we must be led and enabled by the Spirit of God.

The Book of Daniel



Chapter 8:12-27

V. 12 - The Revised Version reads - *the host was given over for the transgression against the daily sacrifice*. They will be wholly given over into the hands of this godless little horn (the false prophet) for a specified time. Everything in this chapter 8 stamps it as of a religious character. While the little horn of chapter 7 was a Gentile king, the last great world emperor.

The little horn of chapter 8 could be a Jew, a religious man, but not necessarily from Israel. The Jews have been scattered all over the world. It is interesting that chapter 8 and the rest of this book of Daniel was written in Hebrew. That alone shows it is peculiarly significant of the Jews and their land. The first part of this book including chapter 7 was written in the Chaldean language. One day soon when the Jews are so persecuted, they will remember their prophet Daniel whom they have ignored for the most part. They will remember that he wrote of the last days and they will turn to his writings and search them out. They will want to understand what he has written.

Vs. 13-14 - How long will the desecration continue? How long shall be the judgment of God upon His people? How long until the sanctuary is cleansed? The answer is 2300 days or 6 years. 4 months and 20 days.

Vs. 15-19 - It pleased the Lord that Daniel should be so interested and seek to know all the truth concerning the matter. We cannot be too earnest or zealous in desiring a knowledge of the purposes of God. He delights in this form of curiosity and He gives the needed enlightenment. The angel draws near and speaks, **“understand, O son of man”** (V. 17). Daniel is given

an open ear and an understanding heart. Praise God! Daniel's attention is directed to the last days by 3 references: "the time of the end" - V. 17; and in V. 19 - "the last, end" and "at the time appointed the end shall be." Notice V. 26 says the vision is yet for "many days."

Vs. 20-22 - The vision Daniel had seen which is recorded earlier in the chapter is now interpreted.

Vs. 23-25 - The little horn is called, "a king of fierce countenance" which becomes powerful in the south, the east, and in the pleasant land - V. 9. The northern and western portions are not mentioned, so he must come from one of these sections of the Grecian Empire (Greece or Asia Minor). Antiochus Epiphanes came from Syria, one of the countries of Asia Minor. He was a fore runner, a picture of the false prophet of the last days. This portion of Scripture has complete fulfillment in the false prophet yet to be manifested. Verse 24 say his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power - Satan empowers him. We read of the false prophet in Rev. 13:11-17 (the little horn of ch. 7, the Antichrist is seen in the first part of Rev. 13). They will work hand in glove together and both are energized and filled by Satan. They are both Antichrist (anti-king and anti-prophet). It takes 2 men to counterfeit Christ in these 2 offices. In Christ's first advent He was Messiah, the Prophet. In His second advent, He will be Messiah, the King.

John saw in vision these two men the 2 horns of Daniel 7 & 8. In Rev. 13:1 the horn of Dan. 7, the Antichrist as king comes up out of the sea (the Gentile nations) the restless, troubled masses of people (the wind and seas roaring - Lk. 21:25). The beast (Rev. 13:2) has all the characteristics of the beast of Daniel 7. At the first this beast is as a confederacy of nations, but later is seen as a man. Vs. 3-8 - This is the Antichrist as king, probably a Gentile, because he is from the nations. He is

a political man. He gains power and will put him-self up as God, because he will be raised from the dead by Satan. He will be known as the greatest conqueror.

The little horn of Dan. 8 is seen in Rev. 13:11-18. He come from the quiet, steady, established religions element. He comes up out of the earth, this seems to stamp him as Jewish, but is cosmopolitan in character, as if for all men Jews and Gentiles. He has 2 horns like a lamb. In Daniel this one came from a goat, an animal of sacrifice like a lamb. He will look like a lamb, dressed in lambs clothing (modest and meek), but he isn't, he is deceptive for he spoke as a dragon. He will be known as the greatest prophet. See how these 2 will work together. The second beast will work for the first and in harmony with him. Together they will influence the world nationally and religiously. The world will obey one and worship the other. They will be giants in intellect and might. Their coming is after the working of Satan.

Satan gives the first beast, the Antichrist as king, his power and place of authority - II Thess. 2:3-4. Satan gives the second beast the power to do signs and lying wonders - II Thess. 2:8-10. Verse 7 tells us that the mystery of iniquity doth already work, that is the spirit of Antichrist. I Jn. 4:1-4 - The force of evil at work in the world, all this time. It is the world system of rebellion against God. II Thessalonians tells us there is some force that hinders the spirit of iniquity, it is the mystery of Godliness - II Thess. 2:6-7. The spirit of Godliness is in opposition to the mystery of iniquity. God's people are of the mystery of Godliness. We form a part of that which hinders. We hinder this mystery of iniquity that is trying to take over the world. When the mystery of Godliness is taken out of the way (the rapture of the full overcomers) the mystery of iniquity will have its day. People who reject Christ (the truth), will radially accept what the false prophet says. II Thess. 2:11-12

Vs. 26 - The vision is true. The first and partial fulfillment was in Antiochus, but there is the final and perfect fulfillment of the vision. Shut it up, preserve it, for it has to do with a time far into the future of Daniel's time. Antiochus was just a type of the false prophet who is to appear "in the last end of the indignation" - 8:19. "He shall stand up against the Prince of princes, but he shall be broken without hand" (V. 25) by none other than our Lord Jesus Christ. The world awaits His return to the earth and when He comes the Wicked False Prophet "shall be broken without hand" that is, without the aid of a human hand. II Thess. 2:8 - "Whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming." Also read Rev. 19:11-13,15-16,19-20.

V. 27 - Daniel fainted and was sick. It was a strain on the aging prophet to have these visions of the future and see empires crumbling but most of all it was hard on Daniel to know of the sufferings of his own people. Daniel faithfully fulfilled his daily duties in the corrupt Babylonian court. He was astonished at the vision, and none understood why he was so deeply affected, but as we read in ch. 7:28 he kept the matter in his heart.

E. J. D.



Praise

Praising and blessing God is work that is never out of season. Nothing better prepares the mind for receiving the Holy Ghost than holy joy and praise. Fears are silenced, sorrows sweetened, and hopes kept up. — Matthew Henry

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart! Thanksgiving Convention at *Grace Christian Assembly* 2309 Blue Ridge Blvd, Kansas City MO 64129 Meetings will be held: Wednesday evening (11/26/08) 7:00 pm, Thursday (11/27/08) 10:00 am and 1:30 pm We hope that you will be able to join us! For more information or lodging information contact the church at (816) 254-3620

Pastor Arthur Eggers passed on to glory and to his reward. He faithfully ministered the Word of God for 50 years at Grace Christian Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri and opened a Bible School there in 1982. Soon these classes will be online. Our prayers are with his family and the saints.

Scriptures given at the graveside:

Several generations of the Lord's people could and would say - "Thank you for giving to the Lord" of brother Art. Thank God he did and I'll tell you that I have been blessed that he did.

I know others were especially richly blessed with the good lessons he gave at camp for several years.

I know he did appreciate our dear brother W. J. Franklin and his faithful ministry over the years and would have wanted to go down to his burial service in Oklahoma, but Art was faithful to stay and take care of his class at Camp Joy Haven. I was touched and impressed by that.

Hear these words of encouragement and glorious comfort - I Cor. 15:49-58, "...as we have borne the image of the earthy, we

shall also bear the image of the heavenly...Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye...for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible...then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?...But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

II Cor. 5:1-8, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens...Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:...We are confident, I say, and *willing rather* to be absent from the body, and to be *present with the Lord*."

I Thess. 4:13-16, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent (or precede) them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ *shall rise first*:"

I Thess. 5:5-11, "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...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, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves *together*, and *edify* one another, even as also ye do.”

Paul knew - and us, Art knows - it is *far better* to depart and be with Christ.

Rewards are promised: Rev. 14:13, “... Blessed (happy, fortunate) are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their **works do follow them.**” We are glad that God promises such - Rev. 2:10, “...be thou *faithful unto death*, and I will give thee a *crown of life.*”

We understand now why brother Art *gave his living to the Lord*. We do well to let that attitude be contagious in us. We each need the Word daily, we need each other and are to be an encouragement to one another. After 40 plus years, I appreciate faithfulness more. An elder brother once said - “I know I might miss something *I need* if I miss meeting,” that touched by heart.

Faithfulness: Our Father enjoyed that in His Son, Jesus, and delights to reproduce that quality in our hearts as we yield. Then He *rewards such!* (Christ the *prize* - the best reward - Phil. 3:7-15.) Life here on earth will soon be past and only what is done in us *through Christ will last*.

