



## **Glorious Gospel Publication**

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## Hallelujah to the Lamb

Death has no terrors for the blood-bought one, The boasted victory of the grave is gone, Our souls die daily to the world and sin, By the Spirit's power as He dwells with-in, O glory hallelujah to the Lamb!

We seek a city far beyond this vale, Where joy's celestial never, never fail, We'll then press forward to the heavenly land, Nor mind the troubles met on every hand, O glory hallelujah to the Lamb!

Jesus rose from the dead,
Rose triumphant as He said,
Snatched the victory from the grave
Rose again our souls to save,
O glory hallelujah to the Lamb!

We'll rise some day just as our Savior rose, Till then shall death be but a calm repose O death, where is thy sting? God gives the victory through Jesus Christ. O glory Hallelujah to the Lamb!

- P. Jones



## "O LOVE THE LORD!"

#### Jack Davis

Some blessed benefits in loving the Lord!

#### **PRESERVED**

"O love the LORD, all ye His saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer" Psalm 31:23. This verse gives us a reason for loving, and tells us who to love, for He "preserveth the faithful," His saints. Contrast this with "the proud doer." The "proud doer" is one who does his own thing, or walks in his own will, or seeks to please by his own effort. The "faithful" speaks of those who rest in the finished work of the Cross; and of those who are true to the Lord, walking in His will. Faithfulness is love in action. Faithful ones are those whose lives prove the sincerity of their love.

Many are the dangers that the Lord preserves us from and in. Oh, it is so good to be among the Lord's "preserves." He is a very present help in trouble." But how could we know that or say that unless we had gotten in some kind of trouble? So, For us to know of the Lord's preserving power in experience, He must let us get ourselves into some form of jam. Oh Boy, are we good at doing that! Leave them alone and they will come. Rather they will either get lost, or fall into a ditch. He says He will "hide" and "keep" those that trust Him. Psalm 31:20, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee." So we best stay close to the Lord in times of danger - "Under His wings." Near his heart. He always intends the fiery trial to move us closer to Himself.

"Oh, how great is Thy goodness, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee: which Thou hast wrought for them that trust in Thee before the sons of men!" Psa. 31:19. Oh, He has such rich preserves for those He preserves. Col. 1:5, speaks of "the hope" laid up." II Tim. 4:8 speaks of "a crown" laid up. Praise God for those who do love the Lord enough to want Him to return more than anything else. Paul says in II Tim. 4:16-18, "The Lord stood with me, and strengthened me...and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." Paul also said, "The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly Kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever." In I Pet, 1:5,4 we read for those "who are kept by the power of God through faith," having an inheritance "reserved in Heaven." O LOVE THE LORD!

#### **PROMISED**

"Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which He hath promised to them that love Him?" James 2:5. He has, with "exceeding great and precious promises," promised to enrich His true lovers. God who is love has begotten sons of love, in His well beloved Son. He sheds abroad His love in our hearts. Yet how in these "perilous times?" Iniquity abounds, and the love of many waxes cold. Many are leaving off loving Him preeminently. Among Christians many are lovers of self, pleasure, and the world more than God. Many today think they are rich. They are esteemed highly in their attainments and attributes. But God's promises go to the "poor." The poor speak of those who have a deep sense of need - humble, dependent, and lacking in self-confidence enough to refuse to "trust in uncertain riches" (all natural wealth). Yet these are fully assured with a wealth of expectation from God,

simply persuaded that whatever God has promised, He is "able also to perform:" also He is ready and willing. The "rich in faith," like Sarah, simply count Him faithful who has promised. O LOVE THE LORD!

#### **PREPARATION**

Divine preparation is invisible to the natural eye, unintelligible to the ear, incomprehensible to the human heart, and inexpressible by the natural man. In I Cor. 2:7-12, Paul said he "heard unspeakable words," and yet he was given to "preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ" - Eph. 3:8. GOD HATH REVEALED THEM UNTO US BY HIS **SPIRIT.** Those who really love Him are looking, listening, and believing: and are being initiated into the mystery of Divine preparation. The Holy Spirit is given to His holy ones to enable us to perceive all that has been provided and prepared. We are given eyes to see, ears to hear, hearts to understand the full measure of such wonderful complete preparation. We may grasp in full measure all that has been promised, purposed, and purchased by Jesus' precious life blood. This is to the intent that we praise Him, that we be eternally "to the praise of the glory of His grace' – Eph. 1:6.

To mention a few of the preparations He has made, and that we should love Him for: We indeed love Him first for Himself. But these things should call forth a sincere manifestation of our love. In Hebrews 11:16 God is said to have prepared a city for those believing Him. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." David said, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies." In the prophetic parable of Matthew 22, the king made a marriage feast for his

son and said, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner," Oh what a feast that will be!

When the mother of Zebedee's children came to Him and asked that her two sons sit with Him on His throne when He would come into His Kingdom, He told her, "To sit on My right hand, and on My left, is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them to whom it is prepared of My Father "He is also preparing for us. We are told in II Tim. 2:21, that those who are being purged, made "Meet for the Master's use." Are "prepared unto every good work." In Romans 9:23 we read of "vessels of mercy" being "prepared unto glory." John saw the Holy City, descending "from God out of Heaven, prepared as a Bride adorned for her Husband." So the Lord would have us "know the things that are freely given to us of God." And that their redemption cost our dear Jesus His life. O LOVE THE LORD!

#### **PURPOSE**

When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we begin to partake of the calling "according to His **purpose**" Rom. 8:27-29. "Oh, how great is Thy goodness, which Thou has laid up for them that fear Thee; which Thou has wrought (worked) for them that trust in Thee before the sons of men!" Psa. 31:19. So it is One that has "begun a good work" in us, that works in us "both to will and to do of His good pleasure," who will perform, perfect, complete it, as we love Him enough to let Him. He has purposed for those that love Him to be completely "conformed to the image" of His dear Son. Those who are preserved, prove they love Him by a faithful life. If you really love Him, you will want to check out all that He has <u>promised</u> you in His precious Word. Desiring earnestly to perceive and partake of all

that He has <u>prepared</u>. Looking to the Lord to make us like Himself. We will request, even require Him to fulfill His <u>purpose</u>. "Christ in you, the hope of glory" Col. 1:27. He is being formed us, transformed inwardly first, and changed into His glorious likeness eternally. To know Him is to love Him, as He is revealed to our hearts. In our lives, we are taking on inwardly more and more of His likeness. "O love the Lord, all ye His saints," and you will <u>profit</u> from it for ever and ever!

#### The LARGER PRAYER

At first I prayed for Light:

Could I but see the way,

How gladly, swiftly would I walk

To everlasting day!

And next I prayed for Strength
That I might tread the road
With firm, unfaltering feet, and win
The heaven's serene abode.

And then I asked for Faith:

Could I but trust my God,
I'd live enfolded in His peace,
Though foes were all abroad.

But now I pray for Love:

Deep love to God and man,
A living love that will not fail,
However dark His plan.

And Light and Strength and Faith
Are opening everywhere.

God waited for me till
I prayed the larger prayer. – E. D. C.

## God's Word Is Sufficient

Gordon Crook, Pastor Grace Assembly, Wichita, Kansas

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able (to be capable, strong and powerful) to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:15

From Martin Luther's four maxims, we get "sola scriptura," which means "scripture alone." He was proposing that scripture alone was sufficient for salvation and for the life of the believer. It seems that Paul had already taught this, and it was only a matter of time before someone like Martin would realize how contrary the teaching of his time was. The Catholic church of that time was teaching that we needed tradition with scripture to know God's will.

As I study this topic, I realize just how important it is to understand that God's Word is sufficient in itself and needs nothing from men. I am sure that many men/women across the ages have wanted to be the authority to define what was true and what was needed from them to complete the life of the believer. God does not need our input or anything we might add to His Word. Neither does His Word need to be "modernized."

In **Acts 17:2**, we find Paul reasoning with anyone who will listen using the scriptures. It is true that he was using the Old Testament, because that is all he had, but it was sufficient to bring them to Jesus. Paul understood that

the purpose of the inspired scriptures was to bring fallen man to Jesus where he would find salvation. Even Jesus says that the scriptures are they which speak of Him.

In Romans 15:4, we read, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." So, the Old Testament is written for our benefit. Some wish to discard it entirely, but it is very important to our spiritual life. In case we are not sure how it applies, Paul was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write scripture that ties us in and helps us understand it.

So, how important is God's Word to the believer? Well, Job says this: "I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food." Job 23:12. I'm not sure what your thinking is about the necessity of food, but I find it most necessary to continue a healthy life. Spiritually, God's Word is more that the necessary natural food. God's Word is the spiritual nutrition that we need to lead a healthy and growing spiritual life. If only we would give it this level of importance.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Psalms 1:1-3. This is a picture of the person that puts priority on the Word of God. The Word is sustenance and ensures that they are fruitful and well

established. Even in the difficult times of life, they will have renewing supply for their spiritual life.

Paul encourages us to be renewed daily. "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:2. This is necessary as we are accosted daily by the world and our enemy who seeks to get us to think like the world. We are God's children, and should not be caught up in the thinking of the world.

There are two things that God's children need in this world: prayer and studying God's Word. We need to pray for understanding before we read our Bible. Then, when we read and study, we need to do that with desire to understand and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us and to work in our lives.

God's Word (Scriptures) is sufficient (able) for all that you need in your Christian walk. "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" Ephesians 5:8. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalms 119:105.



# STAND STILL AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

Anita Clark – Pastor Grace Chapel, Carbondale, Kansas

In Exodus 14, we read the story of the people of God being delivered from Egypt and traveling in the desert to go to their ancient place back to Israel. In verse 2 God said to Moses, who was leading the mass of Israelites who had just left Egypt. "Speak unto the Children of Israel, that they turn and encamp before Pihahiroth between Migdol and the sea over against Baal-zephon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea."

Note that God told them exactly where to go. Note he said, "turn and encamp before Pihahiroth." The meaning of this place is "a place of liberty." They were to be "between Migdol and the sea." Migdol was a "tower or fortress." Baal-zephon when interpreted means "Lord of the North." The road north lead to their homeland, Israel, away from the bondage of Egypt.

Verse 3 tells of Pharaoh's human reasoning. He said, "The children of Israel are entangled in the land and the wilderness hath shut them in." Psalms 48:1-2 gives us understanding of what our God declares, "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of His holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

Verse 9 tells of the Egyptians pursuing after Israel with horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, overtook them encamping by the sea..." Vs. 10 tells us that the Israelites "were sore afraid.". Vs.4 tells us why God allowed this problem of the Egyptians following Israel, God speaking says, "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart that he shall follow after them, and I will be honored upon Pharaoh and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD."

Verses 9 &10 tells us that Israel was sore afraid, and they "cried out to the Lord." Moses said unto the people, (Vs. 13) ""Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will shew to you to day, for the Egyptians ye have seen today; ye shall see them again no more for ever."

These words "fear not" are repeated many times in the Gen.15:1 Abraham was told by God, "Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield and thy exceeding great reward." Joshua was fearful and God spoke to him in Joshua 8:1, ""Fear not neither be thou dismayed: I have given into thy hand the king of AI and his people and his city, and his land." King David spoke to his son Solomon and said in I Chronicles 28:20, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it, fear not, nor be dismayed; for the LORD, even my God, will be with thee; He will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work of the house of the LORD. Isaiah 35:4 says, "Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; He will come and save you." In the book of Luke, Jesus spoke to His disciples, "Fear not little

flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Unbelief magnifies or creates difficulties and then sets about to remove them by our own bustling, fruitless actions. Faith on the contrary raises the soul above difficulty, straight to God Himself and enables us to stand still! We don't gain anything by our restless anxious efforts. Israel's murmurings of unbelief could never change their situation. 1. Couldn't dry the Red Sea up. 2. Couldn't level the mountains. 3. Couldn't annihilate the armies of Egypt. We learn the words of Psalms 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God."

Come and see "The Salvation of the Lord." Hebrews 11:29 "By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land; which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned." Faith is spiritual sight not physical sight. 2 Corinthians 4:18 says, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Salvation brings "deliverance" all the way from the new birth to our bodily deliverance, where we will be translated up to heaven. Romans 8:23 says, "...waiting for the adoption to wit, the redemption of our bodies." This will bring our eternal deliverance to us forever with the Lord..

Believe and press forward. He is coming very soon.

## The Two Creations

#### Part 4

### Pastor Vicky Moots Kingman, Kansas

At this time, I would like to discuss the verses in Ephesians and Colossians in which Paul uses the terms "old man" and "new man" to refer to the two creations. As stated previously, the "old man" is our old, sinful nature which we inherited at birth through Adam. Paul plainly declares that the "old man" is corrupt and acts according to the lusts of the flesh. God does not patch up the "old man" and try to make him better or to reform him. The "old man" is corrupt and had to be put to death, as we were told by Paul in Rom. 6:6.

Paul commands us in Eph. 4:22 that, as Christians, we are to "...put off concerning the former conversation [manner of life] the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts." In this verse he illustrates the "old man" by using the example of an old filthy, contaminated garment that must be removed and destroyed.

This filthy garment represents the outward manifestations of the "old man" in our lives. The inner lust of the flesh will manifest itself outwardly through sinful deeds of the body. This is the outer garment of the flesh. We must choose to remove the filthy garment of the "old man" in order to be clothed with our new clean garment.

Next, in v.23, we are instructed, "...be renewed in the spirit of your mind." We can only be renewed in the spirit of our mind by yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit,

as Paul tells us in Gal. 5:16: "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

Since we are a new creation in Christ, God has provided us with a new garment to replace the old, contaminated garment which we have removed. Paul calls this new garment the "new man" and commands us in v.24 of Ephesians 4 to "...put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

This same illustration is expressed further by Paul in Col. 3:8-10: "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy...; Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him."

The new man is created in God's image, not Adam's image. When we are born in the natural, we bear the image of our earthly father, and that of Adam. When we are born again, as a new creation, we bear the image of our heavenly Father.

Since we have put off the old man with his deeds and put on the new man, what are the deeds that should now be on display in our lives? What does our new garment look like? Paul gives us the answer to this question in the last two verses of Eph. 4: "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice [these are the deeds of the old man]: And be ye kind one to another, ... even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." These deeds are only possible as we yield to the new creation life, the life of Christ in us. So, let us put off the "old man" and put on "the new," and glorify Christ.

## **Amazing Love, Grace & Hope**

#### Vicky Moots

Amazing love, how can it be?
That He would die for you and me.
He suffered pain and agony
To set the vilest sinner free.

Amazing grace He gave to me; My sins He cast into the sea, Remembered never more to be, That I may live eternally.

He rose triumphant from the grave; Amazing hope to us He gave. He raised us up to bear His name, A spotless bride with Him to reign.



## Song of Solomon 2:7

Greg Gilliam Pastor, Grace Christian Assembly, Kansas City, Missouri

"I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please."

This book is the song of songs, which is Solomon's (1:1). To help us understand our text we need to realize that the King addresses the woman as "love." The woman addresses him as "my beloved." In the first verse of this chapter we see what she says about herself, "I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys." The Lord wants us to see who we are in Him. In verse three she sees him as a mature fruitful tree. She finds him as a refuge from the heat and she finds enjoyment in him. In verse four we find that every act that He does towards her is because of His love. As believers we find this to be true in our lives as well. Yes, even the pruning that we find in John 15 is because of his love. He desires that this be a productive relationship with her. That fruit may abound to her account. In verse five we read, "I am sick of love." Let's back up from the way this phrase is used today - I am sick of something or I am tired of it. Here she is saying she enjoys his love and is ravished by it. Then verse six we find that she knows his embrace. Dear one, have you felt the embrace of the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you know His hand is under your head and his right hand doth embrace you?

Now let us consider our text. She has been learning his ways. She is not perfect and nor are we saints. She has

learned something about him and is instructing others. The instruction, "stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please." We must realize who He is. He is God - deity. The 139th Psalm says He searches us and knows us, He knows when we sit down and He knows when we stand up. He knows what I am thinking about and is acquainted with all my ways. He knows every word in my tongue. Saints He knows all about us.

Cella E. Stanton writes in a song titled, "He Knows" that He knows earth's deepest sorrow, our highest joy, the deepest darkest sins of years, He's able to destroy. He knows the deep heart longings, the hidden tears that flow; nothing over takes us but what our Lord doth know. He knows about our trials and knows the way we take. In His own way He leads us, because He loves us so. He even knows when we grow weary. He knows the heart that trusts Him.

We must come to the same conclusion that the Psalmist did (Psalm 139:6), "such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it."

The Lord is a man who lives in rest and peace. Let's look at an example in <u>Mark 4:38</u> they had entered into a ship and a big storm came up. Where did they find Jesus and what was He doing? He was **asleep on a pillow**. The wind is in subjection to Him. He arose and rebuked the wind and said unto the sea, "**Peace be still**." Then He went back to the people and said, "Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?"

Sometimes God's people try to provoke Him to action. If that has been you in the past, go to the Lord and ask for His forgiveness. Ask Him to help you live in His rest and His peace. Remember what we said earlier, we are not perfect. Sometimes things overtake us and we react rather than respond. Hebrews 4:9-11 There remaineth therefore **a rest to the people of God**. For he that is entered into his rest he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. Philippians 4:6,7 Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the **peace of God**, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Dear ones let us go back to our text, "stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please." The Lord knows all about you. He knows what you are going through. Acknowledge His headship in your life. Submit to His will. Continue to wait upon Him. Psalm 27:14...wait, I say, upon the Lord. He will make everything beautiful in His time. Ecclesiastes 3:11.





## Look To The Lamb of God

If you from sin are longing to be free, Look to the Lamb of God He, to redeem you, died on Calvary, Look to the Lamb of God.

When Satran tempts, and doubts and fears assail, Look to the Lamb of God; You in His strength shall over all prevail, Look to the Lamb of God.

Are you aweary, does the way seem long?

Look to the Lamb of God;

His love will cheer and fill your heart with song,

Look to the Lamb of God.

Fear not when shadows on your pathway fall, Look to the Lamb of God; In joy or sorrow Christ is All in all, Look to the Lamb of God.

Look to the Lamb of God,
Look to ther Lamb of God,
For He alone is able to save you,
Look to the Lamb of God.

- H. G. Jackson



## Adorning The Gospel

#### Earlene Davis

In Titus chapter 2, Apostle Paul gives spiritual advice to different ages of believers and to workers. V. 10 gives the reason for this instruction — "...that they may **adorn** the doctrine of God our Saviour in <u>all things</u>." Webster's dictionary gives this meaning for the word "adorn" — 'adding beauty to something by gracing it with its own beauty, to render attractive, to enhance or heighten the beauty of. It is God's will that we adorn the Gospel by the way we live our life. So let us read these instructions.

"But speak thou the things which become **sound doctrine**" - V. 1. If we speak the truth, it will benefit others. It will build up believers, so they will be scripturally and spiritually healthy, which enhances the Gospel.

- V. 2, "That the aged men be sober (or vigilant), grave, temperate, **sound in faith**, in charity (love), in patience." All these things are evident in spiritual mature men, they are sound in faith, having <u>heeded sound doctrine</u> mentioned in V. 1. Such a living testimony renders the Gospel attractive.
- V. 3, "The aged women **likewise** (what was said for the aged men applies also to the aged women), that they be in behavior as <u>becometh holiness</u>, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things." By their behavior, which speaks louder than words, proving their <u>speech to be sound</u>, they are teachers of good things to the younger women.

- V. 4, "That they may <u>teach</u> the young women to be sober (or wise), to love their husbands, to love their children." That sound teaching is passed on to following generations, from the aged to the younger and the younger to their children. What do the younger ones learn?
- V. 5, "To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed." May our children never be able to say, 'My parents are not what they seem.' We don't want to be a reproach, especially to our own children. Our lives should outwardly manifest that God is doing a work in us by the Holy Spirit. That puts God's Word on display as it were, giving substance to the message, that it works in us.
- Vs. 6-8, "Young men **likewise** (as the young women) exhort to be sober minded (or discreet). In all things shewing thyself a <u>pattern of good works</u> (an example): in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you." Good works (are works of faith), they can be a powerful testimony to unbelievers.

We can clearly see a progression here, sound doctrine makes sound faith, sound faith makes sound speech and sound speech makes good works and God is glorified. God has ordained good works for His people and He gives us power to walk in them by the Holy Spirit.

V. 9-10, "Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again. Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our

Saviour in all things." This exhortation to servants applies to workers, to employees. Bad conduct on our jobs could make the Gospel appear repulsive. But If we do our duties as unto the Lord, we can be an adornment that draws others to the Lord. In Mt. 5:16, Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." And in Phil. 1:27 we read, "...let your conversation (which means manner of life) be as it becometh the gospel of Christ."

Vs. 11-15, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." It is truly awesome and marvelous, that God takes such hopeless material and makes a people for Himself, purchasing us at such a great cost; a people over and above man's expectations. Does this not make the gospel appealing? Oh, yes.

God does an inward work, as ye yield to His Word and let the Holy Spirit work that Word in us, then it becomes outwardly manifest in our lives. Paul's life is an example to us, his life adorned the Gospel He preached. I Thess. 1:5, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake." II Thess. 3:7, "For yourselves

know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you."

Paul said in Phil. 4:1, that those Philippian saints were his joy and crown, they received his teaching and were running the race with him for the Prize of the high calling. They were an adornment to Paul. He admonished them to "stand fast," not in their own wisdom and strength but "in the Lord." They were the fruit of his labor in the Gospel. Paul also said of the Thessalonian saints that they will be his joy and crown when the Lord comes - I Thess. 2:19-20. We may also add to Paul's rejoicing in that day by adorning the gospel he preached.

Consider these verses: Proverbs 12:4 says "a virtuous woman is a crown to her husband." If we adorn the gospel, we shall adorn Christ as His bride. Rev. 10:1, describes Christ descending our of heaven in grandeur and power to assume control of things on earth. He is seen clothed with a cloud and a rainbow is upon His head. It is the saints, associated with Him (His adornment). Also in Rev. 21:2, the holy city, the new Jerusalem comes down from God out of heaven, prepared a bride adorned for her husband. The Greek means 'marshaled, decked, embellished, honored, ornamented." we read in Rev. 19;7, the Lamb's wife hath made herself ready. She hearkened to the voice of the Father, inclining her ears to His Word, putting Christ first in her devotion. The 45<sup>th</sup> Psalm tells us her clothing is of wrought gold. She will be adorned by a company of saints, just as she is a company of saints (a bride adorned).



## The Encouraging Word

"Every Scripture is God-breathed – given by His inspiration – and profitable for instruction, for reproof and conviction of sin, for correction of error and discipline in obedience and for training in righteousness." II Timothy 3:16 Amp.

"For ever, O Lord your word stands firm as the heavens, and is settled in Heaven." Psalm 119:89

"Glory in His holy name: let the heart of those rejoice who seek the Lord." I Chronicles 16:10

"For you are my lamp, O Lord; and the Lord illumines my darkness." II Samuel 22:29

"Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who wait and hope for and expect the Lord." Psalm 31:24

"But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God and made Him my refuge, that I may tell of all your works." Psalm 73:28

"Keep and guard me as the pupil of the eye, hid me in the shadow of your wings," Psalm 17:8 The wings of God calm our ruffled feathers.

"Sing to the Lord, O you saints of His and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name," Psalm 30:4

Martha Wainright



## Jesus Rode Into Jerusalem

He rode into Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey It was the Father's will for Him to ride. Jesus knew the hour had come; our sins to pay. His Father's will must be obeyed.

He rode and the people strew palm leaves in the way.

They cried blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

Yet, did they understand what His entry meant that day?

Some did not know the depth of love he showed.

It was important, the Scriptures, He must fulfill.

Jesus knew his mission was almost done.

He told His disciples His death was His Father's will.

And on the third day rise again, the victory won.

In Zechariah nine, nine, said years ago The Messiah, Israel's King would enter in this manner. So they were to rejoice and shout aloud too. Their King would die but live forever.

Jesus had a purpose in coming to Jerusalem A Cross of shame was waiting on a hill. He came to fulfill prophecy told of Him To bear all our sin was indeed the Father's will.

- Phyllis M. Nesbitt

