

- GOOD NEWS -

"This Gospel [good news] of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."

(Matthew 24:14)

*"How lovely on the mountains
Are the feet of him who brings good news,
Who announces peace
And brings good news of happiness..."*



*...Who announces salvation,
And says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
(Isaiah 52:7)*



Berean Lamp Ministries
For the Body of Christ

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The Seven Churches (Revelation 2-3)



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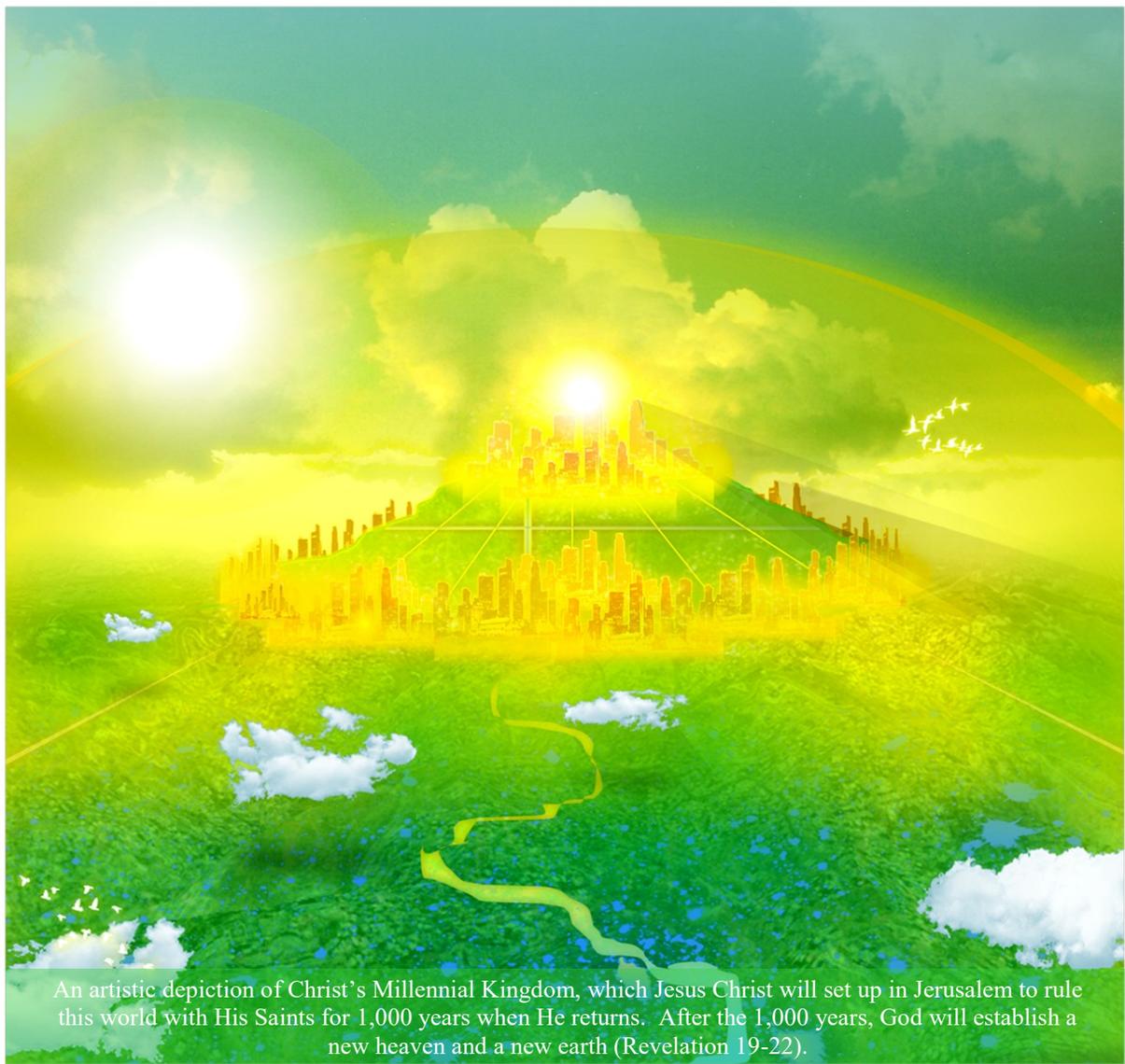
1. Encourage and strengthen the Body of Christ by providing the means for each of its members to share their spiritual gifts with one another, rooted in the Word of God, thereby growing into deeper union with one another and with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-31).
2. Minister to non-believers; be a witness for Christ and a testimony to His Body in the world.

We would appreciate your help in contributing to the content and in spreading the work of this ministry. Thank you, and God bless.

- Pastor Scott Moller



The Good News of the Kingdom!



An artistic depiction of Christ's Millennial Kingdom, which Jesus Christ will set up in Jerusalem to rule this world with His Saints for 1,000 years when He returns. After the 1,000 years, God will establish a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 19-22).

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn” (Isaiah 61:1-2).

“This Gospel [good news] of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).

The Good News of the Kingdom

By Nathan Warner

“Get yourself up on a high mountain, O Zion, bearer of good news, Lift up your voice mightily, O Jerusalem, bearer of good news; Lift it up, do not fear. Say to the cities of Judah, ‘Here is your God!’” (Isaiah 40:9 NASB)

News: “newly received or noteworthy information, especially about recent or important events.” (Google Dictionary)

Because we aren’t omnipresent and all-knowing creatures, we rely on news to help us decide what to do with our lives and the lives of those we know. We wait on news to make the best decisions for our present and future. And so, we see investors eagerly waiting on news about how their financial investments are performing – are they richer this morning or poorer? The news should directly affect their behavior. Medical patients pray for good news from their doctors. The news they receive

should directly affect the direction they go from that office. I say “should” because sometimes people continue on their course regardless of the news. A man who lost his fortune in a financial transaction may go about his business as if it never happened until the creditors catch up with him and he is forced to face reality. Similarly, a patient may ignore his doctor’s diagnosis and go about his life as if he had never heard he had a terminal illness. To deny bad news does not change reality, just as hoping for good news cannot make it so.

Regardless of reality, we all hope and pray for good news: *“Bright eyes gladden the heart; Good news puts fat on the bones” (Proverbs 15:30). “Like cold water to a weary soul, So is good news from a distant land” (Proverbs 25:25). And we fear bad news: “Concerning Damascus. ‘Hamath and Arpad are put to shame, for they have heard bad news; they are disheartened. There is anxiety by the sea, It cannot be calmed’” (Jeremiah 49:23). “And when they say to you, ‘Why do you groan?’ you shall say, ‘Because of the news that is coming; and every heart will melt, all hands*



“As far as the EAST is from the WEST, so far has He REMOVED our TRANSGRESSIONS from us.” (Psalm 103:12)

will be feeble, every spirit will faint and all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it comes and it will happen,' declares the Lord God" (Ezekiel 21:7).

News is a new revelation of the reality of a situation. When we face the reality of life, we cannot escape the “bad news” of that reality – futility, decay, and death. This is the reality of the sin nature. You can ignore it all you want, but this is the reality. This was Solomon’s assessment of life when he bent his unparalleled wisdom upon it:

“The wise man’s eyes are in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I know that one fate befalls them both. Then I said to myself, ‘As is the fate of the fool, it will also befall me. Why then have I been extremely wise?’ So I said to myself, ‘This too is vanity.’ For there is no lasting remembrance of the wise man as with the fool, inasmuch as in the coming days all will be forgotten. And how the wise man and the fool alike die!” (Ecclesiastes 2:14-16)

Despite all the pleasures and joys of this present life, it is all fleeting and frustrated, and it all comes to an end. Why is it this way?

This present futile reality is the effect of our rebellion against God. Man chose this reality over and above deathless life in Eden when we rebelled against the provision, protection, and sufficiency of God. We rejected His meaningful purpose for our lives in exchange for our own futile ambition. As a result, God allowed the consequences of our actions to take effect in the natural order. All the tragedy and futility of life is on us as the life-altering consequences of our rebellion.

This is really bad news. Yet, just like the investor or patient who ignores it, the world tries its hardest to ignore it too. They spend incredible resources dressing this bad news up with distractive “advertisements” – vain promises that life can be self-fulfilling in and of itself, if you only do x, y, or z. We are taught to enjoy it while we can regardless of the long-

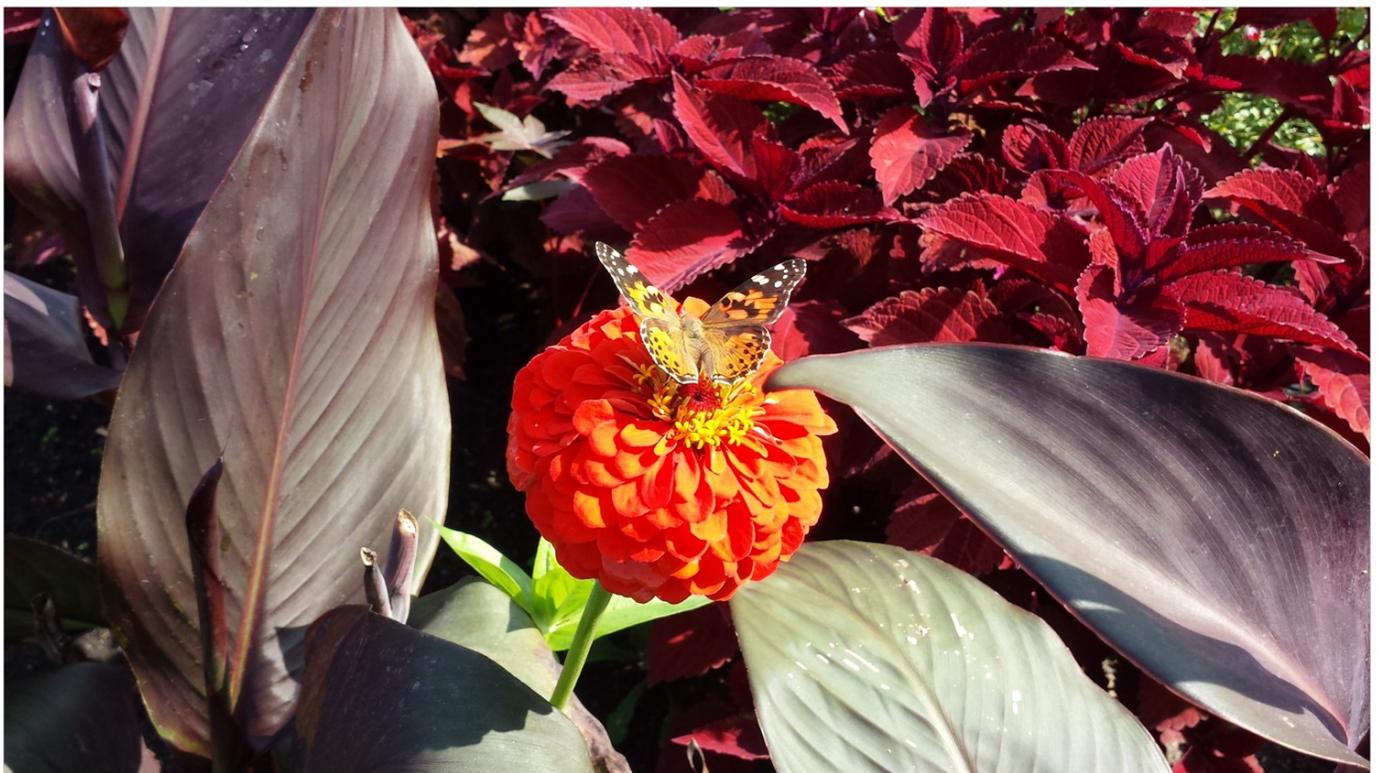


term consequences of a self-willed life. The “god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4a) uses these “advertisements” to get you to invest yourself in his own rebellion against God. He does this by appealing to your flesh – to sacrifice your eternal soul for a small blip of enjoyment in the world system he controls and profits from. We lose everything – the pleasures of this life (because they do come to an end) and the pleasures of Eternity (because we remain disinherited from them) – inheriting instead the natural destination of a life unreconciled to God—eternal separation from Him: *“For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Matthew 16:26)

The point is, even gaining “all the world” doesn’t change the reality of life. The futility is still there, even if you veneer it with short-lived fleshly happiness. Our “precious” lives and Satan’s “precious” world are doomed to come to an end and be supplanted with the eternal Kingdom of God and the glory of the Children of God. *“For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of*

Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God” (Romans 8:20-21).

Yes, out of the bad news, there is the good news. The investor is offered debt forgiveness! The patient is offered a treatment for his terminal illness. This good news doesn’t come from man – it comes from God. Through His prophets, God has given us the good news of His future restoration of the world and rule through His Son, Jesus Christ: *“How lovely on the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who announces peace And brings good news of happiness, Who announces salvation, And says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”* (Isaiah 52:7) *“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn”* (Isaiah 61:1-2).



This is God's good news about a future kingdom ruled and healed by His Son, Jesus Christ. But in order to inherit it, you must believe on the name of Jesus Christ – you must entrust your life to His Headship over you – His protection, provision, and sufficiency over your life. So, *“while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons”* (Galatians 4:3-5). *“He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will”* (Ephesians 1:9-11).

Jesus came to earth to proclaim the good news of the coming Kingdom: *“Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people”* (Matthew 4:23). He told us that *“this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come”* (Matthew 24:14).

This good news was delivered to mankind for a purpose—as the Apostle John said: *“These have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name”* (John 20:30-31).

But the world system goes about its business as if it never heard the good news, because that would mean they would have to acknowledge the bad news too (that they are not okay and they need saving), and they prefer to pretend it doesn't exist. They give up the solution of God, because they are unwilling to acknowledge the reality of the problem they are actually in! This is the self-willed, self-imposed blindness of man that closes his eyes

and plugs his ears to the cries of the onlookers as he runs into a delightful meadow toward a cliff edge, *“in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God”* (2 Corinthians 4:4).

As Believers, we are to be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves. We do not turn a blind eye to the bad news of our reality and our position in it – on the contrary, we confess it as the truth! And we preach and plead with those we meet to face reality and also confess this truth, which is so apparent in the quicksand of our own lives. Yes, any efforts or struggling to free yourself from your sin nature only sucks you down further—no effort on your own can keep you from being swallowed by the inevitable end of your rebellion. And no mortal man can rescue you either from the consequences.

Yes, our prospects on our own are hopeless, but we do not leave them stuck in this sinkhole of reality! There is a way out from this universal predicament! There is One who can rescue us! And here, we acknowledge the good news of God's promise of rescue at the hands of His Son! We share the good news of Salvation that God has promised to everyone who confesses the truth and entrusts themselves to His Jesus Christ. And we share the promise of His coming, eternal, righteous Kingdom, which he will rule by justice and truth and peace, for *“He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear; But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked”* (Isaiah 11:3b-4). Even so, Amen.

“And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘You are My Son; today I have begotten You.’” (Acts 13:32-33)

By Maria Madsen



*"I will TAKE the cup of SALVATION, and
CALL upon the NAME of the Lord."*

(Psalm 116:13)



*"O HOUSE of Jacob, COME let us walk in the
LIGHT of the Lord."*

(Isaiah 2:5)

By Betty Harstad

The Immeasurable Power That Works for Us

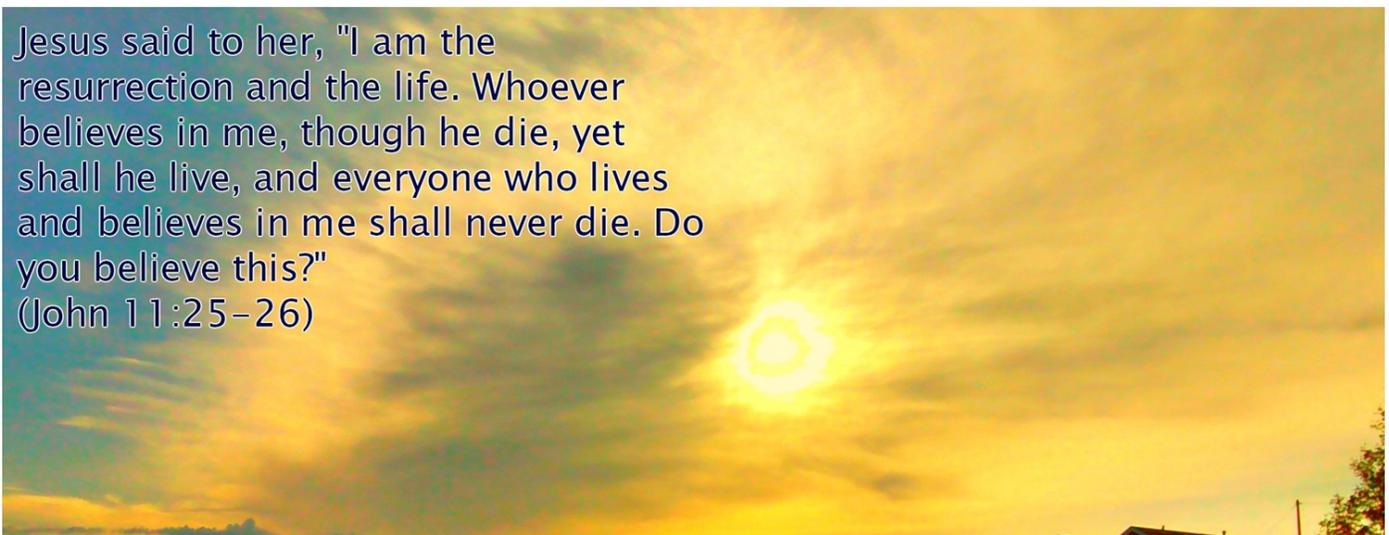
By Ginny Larsen

Reading: Ephesians 1-2:10

GOOD NEWS—it tends to bring joy to our hearts when we hear it. Good news cheers the heart and lifts the spirit: *“Anxiety in a man’s heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad”* (Proverbs 12:25 ESV). Yet sometimes, even good news can be tainted by doubts and fears and threats from outside – fears that it won’t last or that it can be changed. Yet there is the GOOD NEWS of the Gospel that is truly good and truly lasting, which nothing on earth can destroy – so much so that it is almost seemingly “too good to be true” and too hard for us to grasp. Yet the more we learn of it, the more it does grasp our hearts and bring true joy that will last. Why do we need the “Good News”? We only understand our need for it when we fully understand the very bad news. Without Christ we are lost forever. We are hopeless, helpless, and our own sinfulness will destroy us. We never can be free from it by ourselves. We cannot ever save ourselves. Only through faith alone in Christ alone can we be saved from our hopeless condition. How wonderful is the Good News when we are in despair from seeing the

bad news!

Have you ever just meditated on all that the Bible says we have and all that we are “in Christ”? This morning, as I do that, I find it’s more than this fleshly mind and body can even contain! The joy, the life, the love that we have in Him is unfathomable to our minds. Yes, we find it “immeasurable.” We cannot even contain it. We find it a *“joy unspeakable and full of glory”* (1 Peter 1:8b). Oh how much we need to lift ourselves, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds to those things, because they are every bit as tangible to our spirit as the darkness, the depression, the sicknesses, the problems and trials that we face here in this world. In fact they are more real, more lasting, and more certain than anything, IF we are in Christ Jesus. Are you “in Christ”? Can you say you have an assurance that you are, that He is in you? If not, I have good news for you. You can be sure. His Word gives us that assurance. We don’t have to hope for it, not knowing. We don’t have to look to ourselves and our goodness, hoping it somehow outweighs our sins on that day and we have enough to “make it.” We don’t have to try to overlook or excuse our sins away as though if we hide them from ourselves or others, God will not see them either. No, we can face our sins, our weaknesses, and our shortcomings head on, with humility, admitting them to this holy God, Who we know judges those sins.



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
(John 11:25–26)

In fear we face them; we come humbly before His cross. We see them in contrast to His pure holiness, love, and righteous demands, and we see that in no way can we measure up. In no way can we save ourselves. Our own works are as filthy rags. Then we look up to His cross. We see that He took all our sin, its ugliness and its penalty, on Himself (He Who knew no sin became sin for us), and then He imputed to us all His perfect righteousness and goodness and holiness that we might become the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21). Yes, it is “too good to be true,” except it IS TRUE! Don’t settle for a lesser “truth,” which is not truth at all. All that is required is that we humble ourselves before Him when we see our sin, confess it to Him (agree with God), taking His side, turning (changing our minds) from sin and self to Him – this is truly *believing* in Him—in faith, receiving in

our hearts what He has done for us, through His blood, forgiving our sins, and trusting Him to give us His Spirit to make us a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). It is His work. *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast”* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

When we once become His child, as soon as we believe on Him, we have entered into a whole new realm. Ephesians 1 and 2 tells us of this new realm, where we are seated with Him in the Heavens, and 2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us of this *new creation*, which we are made in Christ, as His own children now. It tells us of the assurance we have of that salvation. It tells us the power and completeness of it, in such detail that it cannot be denied. It tells us the eternity of it. It is a hope that is so wonderful that it “boggles the mind.” It



cannot be fully grasped, I don't think, by our finite minds, yet it can be believed and received. And as we walk this life below, He makes it more and more real and manifested in us and to us, as we abide in Him in faith. **He created it** (Ephesians 2:10), and He works it in us and finishes it. We find relief in knowing it is not up to us to save ourselves, and we find all our power for living is in this hope that is a sure hope, this certainty that He will fulfill all. Our hearts are filled with love and joy in Him then, which both give us the power to walk through anything He calls us to as we yield ourselves to that new life in us, to be conformed to His image, working out that which He worked in us, in our earthly pilgrimage.

Oh, how the enemy tries to rob us of this power and take away our hope, filling us with doubts and fears, getting our eyes on ourselves and away from Him and all He is to us and in us. He tries to get us ever doubting our salvation and looking inward, striving harder and harder but only producing a "self-righteousness," rather than living in and rejoicing in the perfect completed salvation He has given us with assurance of its full power – the same resurrection power that raised Christ from the dead.

If you are in Christ, a child of God, through faith in Him, take a look at Ephesians 1 and 2 and ponder all that He has given you and where the power for that salvation lies. Not a single part of it lies with you. You need only "believe" – trust in Him to do it and carry it out to its completion.

Paul goes on, after describing what we have in Christ – our blessings, our inheritance, our guarantee – to pray that we would be made to truly see, by revelation, and grasp the power of this life in us, as though he were at a loss for words to really describe it fully, knowing only God can truly give that revelation in the heart of those who love Him (Ephesians 1:17-23). That same power, that resurrection power, which raised Christ from the dead, now permanently lives in us (John 14:16) and raises us up also with Christ to actually be seated with Him in the Heavenlies (Eph. 2: 4-6). Yes, it is past tense...not future, although it is assured to be

our future. It is also present...we are even now, positionally, "*seated with Him in the Heavenly places in Christ Jesus.*" He has placed us there already. It is our position in Him. It is a done deal, once He has made us His child and given us His Spirit. **He, Who is outside of all time, sees us there in Christ already, and will never again see us outside of Christ.** He sees the imputed righteousness of His Son in us and us in His Son, and all is accomplished. We only now wait for our final redemption, the redemption of our bodies, when this "*corruption shall put on incorruption*" and our bodies will be made like His, and we will be with Him forever, freed from sin and evil forevermore.

This blessed assurance and guarantee is the power of our Christian life. It is the joy that we rejoice in always, even as we go through trials beyond what we think we can endure. It is our endurance, our strength, our life, our joy, and our hope that never fails. No wonder in Ephesians 6:10-18, he tells us to "*be strong in the strength of His might*" and to "*put on the whole armor of God,*" which truly is a visual of all that Ephesians 1 and 2 tells us...the assurance and hope of all we are and have in Christ—the Good News that keeps our hearts. In this alone can we stand, and walk, and overcome the enemy. In this alone can we quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. In this alone can we pray and intercede for others. In Him we live and in Him we stand. No wonder the enemy seeks to get our focus on ourselves—our own works, our faith, our ability or inability, etc.

What an immeasurably great salvation He has given to us! What immeasurable power! It is His power of resurrection! There is nothing in this world or in ourselves that can hold it down! Our humble thanks is not even enough, dear Heavenly Father! May our lives each day be pleasing to You as we look on this great love and salvation, yielding ourselves to You that Your glory may be manifested in us.

Shadows of Light

By Jacob Palicka

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” (Psalm 91:1 KJV)

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.” (Isaiah 9:2)

Unlike other scriptural metaphors, this one loses its force if understood merely by analogy. By empirical rendering, the night of earth is a period of quietness in which we are alleviated from direct contact of the sun by the gentle mitigation of the moon. While in this sense we are made aware of the beauty in the original creation, night has also acquired an aspect no longer solely serene since the fall of man. Instead of being sought for the solace of temporary isolation, it is fled to for fear of discovery (Joshua 10:12). Rather than inducing reflection over the undiscovered mysteries in the realm granted us, it entices our debauched souls into forbidden activities both necromantic and carnal. Whereas the darkness of earth is not entire, nor evil, that which is cast over the soul is absolute, horrifying, and loathsome.

Consequent to this discrepancy, it is best to conceive of this darkness in a simile more closely aligned to its literal meaning. Similar to Jesus' explanation as to what manner of involvement between men and the world constitutes culpability (Matthew 15:11), so can it be distinguished that what corrupts man is not the defects of the world but the depravity of his own soul. Although this world may have a suppressive effect upon the elect, the final responsibility always lies in the individual. Just as a babe recognizes from birth what is light and what is dark, even so, from the dawn of consciousness a child perceives what is permissible and what is not, though he have ever so weak a will to decide. Therefore, this darkness is to be regarded not as being imposed

from without but accepted from within.

If similarity is to be found between the darkness which meets the eyes and that which befalls the soul, one must view it from a spiritual outlook. However, before this approach is used, progress toward a unified understanding may result from considering yet one more empirical difference. Despite encountering dreary weather, one's temperament may be undeniably jaunty or unsusceptible to a climate's typically adverse influence. In these instances as in the incarnation of Christ, we find that there can exist a remarkable incongruity between the nature of a situation and the soul which is experiencing it. Regardless of the circumstance, we encounter evil when we find someone dull of perception and wanting in kindness (Ecclesiastes 11:7), attributes present in light, lacking in the soul. In this spiritual darkness there is no kinship with God. Furthermore, without our ever being capable of possessing consummate enlightenment, the daily guidance of the Holy Ghost ensures we remain in the way of spiritual light even when called to tread paths dark to our comprehension or cold to our heart (John 16:13).



"Get yourself up on a high MOUNTAIN, O Zion, BEARER of good news, LIFT up your voice MIGHTILY, O Jerusalem, bearer of GOOD news; Lift it up, do not FEAR. Say to the cities of Judah, 'HERE is your God!'"

(Isaiah 40:9)



By Pam Titrud

"How LOVELY on the MOUNTAINS Are the feet of HIM who brings GOOD news, Who announces PEACE And brings good NEWS of happiness, Who announces SALVATION, And says to Zion, 'Your GOD reigns!'"

(Isaiah 52:7)

The Good News Is Best Seen In Contrast

By Jane Titrud

“Moreover, they [the Levitical priests] shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.” (Ezekiel 44:23 NASB)

“You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.... Therefore I testify to you this day, that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.” (Acts 20:18b-21; 26-27)

*As light is best seen when contrasted with dark,
And contrast works best when the difference is stark,
So too is God's Gospel the best understood
When the evils of sin are contrasted with good.*

*For the teaching of death as the wages of sin
Gives meaning and depth to the trouble man's in.
And telling the truth about sin that enslaves
Highlights the need for a Gospel that saves.*

*If we only preach God as fulfiller of needs,
People won't fear Him as judge of their deeds.
But teaching both love and judgment contrasting
Yields faith in God's Word and life everlasting.*

Good News from a Far Country

By Lynn Warner

“As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.”
(Proverbs 25:25 KJV)

Jesus was described as being “*full of grace and truth*” (John 1:14b). The Gospel of Jesus Christ is full of grace and truth and is good news to each of us. If we have received Him, we have also received of His fullness of grace and truth, just as John 1:16 declares: “*And of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.*” The Father desired that all fullness should dwell in Jesus, as we read in Colossians 1:19: “*For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fulness dwell.*” The Father gave Jesus the Holy Spirit without measure. He was filled with the Spirit. We read this in John 3:34: “*For He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.*” In fact, all the fullness of the Godhead dwelled in Jesus: “*For in Him*

dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:9). This fullness of Jesus is good news for all who receive Him – He shares the fullness of the Holy Spirit, grace and truth, with all who receive Him. He came from a far country, Heaven, to share this good news with us.

If we have thirsted for God, He is lovingly willing to give us good news – the good news of salvation, that we might receive Him, receive of His fullness and grace for grace. Remember the woman at the well in John 4:10: “*Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water.*” He goes on to say in verse 14: “*But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*”

If we have thirsted for God, He is willing to give us the Holy Spirit of Truth, as He cries out in John 7:37-39: “*In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried,*

“From the RISING of the sun to its SETTING the name of the LORD is to be PRAISED.”

(Acts 13:32-33)



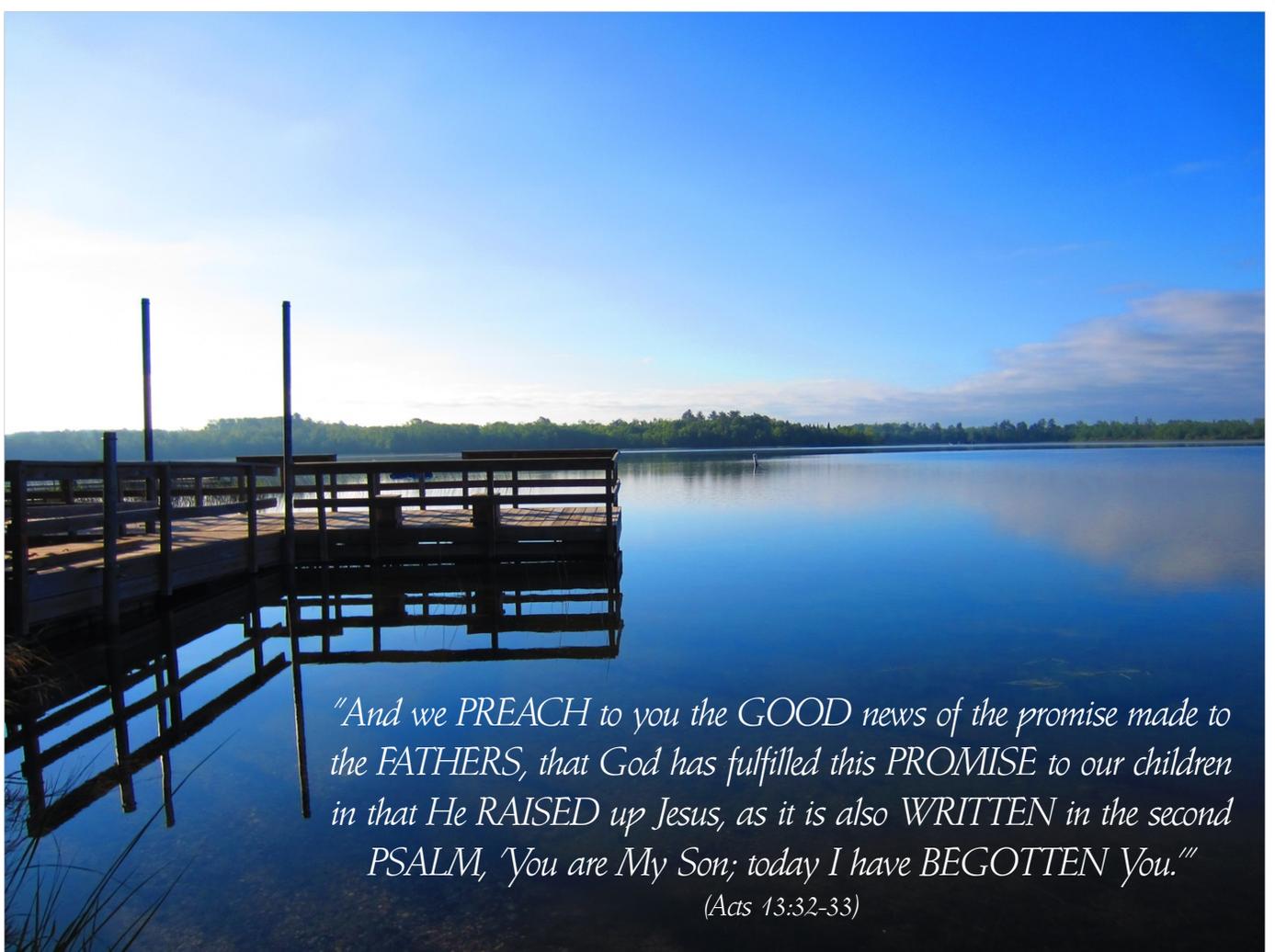
saying, *If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*"

If we have thirsted for God, He is lovingly willing that we should share this living water with other thirsty souls. In Matthew 10:42, we read: *"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."* He said this as a metaphor explaining the previous verse: *"He that receiveth you receiveth Me, and he that receiveth Me receiveth Him that sent Me"* (Matthew 10:40). The Psalmist says,

"I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD" (Psalm 116:13).

Every day, we can thirst for God and He will lovingly fill us. Ephesians 3:19 states that we should *"know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."* We can be as the hart in Psalm 42:1-2, which *"panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?"*

And we can pray that others recognize that they are thirsty – thirsty for the living God, and desiring good news from a far country. We can offer them that cup of cold water, that living water of Jesus Christ, the good news of Salvation.



"And we PREACH to you the GOOD news of the promise made to the FATHERS, that God has fulfilled this PROMISE to our children in that He RAISED up Jesus, as it is also WRITTEN in the second PSALM, 'You are My Son; today I have BEGOTTEN You.'"

(Acts 13:32-33)

**May/June Newsletter Theme—
SPIRITUALLY CLOTHED
Submission Deadline: May 27
Publish Date: June 5**

Spiritually Clothed...

- What does it mean to be clothed?
- Were we clothed in Eden?
- What is spiritual clothing?

Verses on Spiritual Clothing (NASB)

Genesis 2:25 — “And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”

Psalms 93:1 — “The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty; The Lord has clothed and girded Himself with strength; Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved.”

Psalms 109:18 — “But he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment, And it entered into his body like water And like oil into his bones.”

Psalms 132:16 — “Her priests also I will clothe with salvation, And her godly ones will sing aloud for joy.”

Psalms 104:1 — “Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.” (ESV)

Matthew 7:15 — “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.”

Luke 9:29 — “And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.”

2 Corinthians 5:1-3 — “For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked.”

Galatians 3:27 — “For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”

Revelation 3:5 — “He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”

Revelation 16:15 — “Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.”