

The Proclamation

Holding the Heavenly Message Sacred

And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city: and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face. And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east. So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house. And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me. And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcasses of their kings in their high places. In their setting of their threshold by my thresholds, and their post by my posts, and the wall between me and them, they have even defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed: wherefore I have consumed them in mine anger. Now let them put away their whoredom, and the carcasses of their kings, far from me, and I will dwell in the midst of them for ever. Thou son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern.

Ezekiel 43:3-10

Long before the stars flew like sparks from the anvil of omnipotence, God had contrived the way for the redemption of His own. In the covenant council chamber, the Divine Persons of the sacred Unity arranged the procedure of all-glorious Grace.

Charles Spurgeon (S#2094)

And the king commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, [and] hewed stones, to lay the foundation of the house.

1 Kings 5:17

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 Corinthians 3:10-17

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

Exodus 25:8-9

Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.

1 Timothy 6:1

Sound Doctrine

Didache – form of teaching, description of reality, definition of Truth, the uncorrupted undiluted Gospel message

And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

Mark 1:22

And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.

Luke 4:32

Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

John 7:16

But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Romans 6:17

Now I beseech you, brethren, **mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.**

Romans 16:17

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Ephesians 4:14

If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

1Timothy 4:6

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

1Timothy 4:16

Whosoever transgresses, and abides not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abides in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

2 John 1:9-10

False Doctrine

A twisted truth, one that sounds similar to the original but is minced with error in order to drain the power from its veins

In the Western world the enemy has forsworn violence. He comes against us no more with sword and fagot; he now comes smiling, bearing gifts. He raises his eyes to heaven and swears that he too believes in the faith of our fathers, but his real purpose is to destroy that faith, or at least to modify it to such an extent that it is no longer the supernatural thing it once was. He comes in the name of philosophy or psychology or anthropology, and with sweet reasonableness urges us to rethink our historic position, to be less rigid, more tolerant, more broadly understanding.

A.W. Tozer (171, GTMWC)

The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Jeremiah 14:14

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Matthew 7:15

And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:11

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Matthew 24:24

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 Peter 2:1

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

1John 4:1

What is the Gospel?

GOSPEL – euaggelion

The joyful proclamation of a Kingdom. The glad tidings of the grace of God manifest in Christ. The astounding news of Christ's victory over Sin and Death and the invitation to all to come and partake of His gracious feast, partake of His very Person. God has come to earth, performed the most amazing feat, and has wrought the most profound victory! He has made a way for each of us, and that way is Himself!

We were created for Jehovah's glory, for His pleasure. We were created to dwell with the Almighty, and reflect His Perfection. We were created to find our great fulfillment in Him. We were created to be ruled by Him and animated by His Presence. We were created to be enraptured in His love, to be mesmerized by His grace. We were created to be His Bride, to bear His holy name; to be His temple, to be His body, to partake of His joyful Life. We were created to abide, to draw our Life from Him; to bear the fruit of His Person, to show the Love of Heaven in human flesh. We were created for a sacred Garden, an Eden of the purest delight.

But the Serpent, Satan, slithers in every Garden with enticing words and twisted truths. His message is always the same though it is cloaked in a thousand different costumes - "This whole drama shouldn't be all about God," He whispers, "it should be all about *you!*" And over and over again throughout history, since the very first rebellion, Satan strokes Self with the idea of being a god, and we, like Adam and Eve, partake of the forbidden fruit - placing Self's agenda above God's command.

The great rebellion began nearly six millennia ago and still continues in each of our hearts to this day. The disease of Sin, Self's unlawful claim to the throne, has taken hold of each of our souls, and the spirit of man, once vibrant and alive in the Garden of Eden, is dead and withered up like a gnarled stick. But most disturbing, is that the soul's butler, the flesh, has clothed himself in royal splendor, placed a paper crown of power upon his lowly head, covenanted with Self's deceit, and gained control in each of our sickly bodies.

Therefore, Sin rules in the affairs of man's heart. What once was an Eden, a garden of the purest heavenly delights is now a mere wasteland of selfishness and fleshly cravings. And the human soul, now twisted into an unholy wreck, cannot dwell with a holy God. The human body, now reduced to a fleshly mess, cannot possibly please God. And the human life, now decomposed into a sinful heap, can certainly not bring glory to the Almighty. And such is the dilemma, such is the quandary, such is the miserable state of man. A great chasm stands between God and Man; a chasm impossible for man to bridge.

This is the greatest woe in the entire universe. Man is broken off from God without means of return. Man has rebelled and his just punishment is eternal hellfire. But then, why is there no weeping, no mourning, and no anguish over this terrible problem? Because man does not even know of his grave and miserable condition. He is numb to the pain of Sin. He is blind to this all-consuming disease that renders his life and body useless to God. A nuclear reactor leaks toxic waste within his soul; like a frog within a boiling stew of hell, a slow and subtle destruction is at hand, but man's reptilian soul feels nothing, save the gnawing emptiness of it all. Man dances with Death, yet the whole while believes he is prancing about with Life.

Who will tell us of our state? Who will awaken us from our stupor? Is there any voice that can break through the sinful fog about our soul and clear the wax from our fleshly ears?

The thunder and lightning of God must clap and blaze through every lost soul. It is only God who can awaken us, it is only God's holy arm that can expose within us the unholy embers of sin; it is only God who can remove the wax from our fleshly ears and speak unto our souls. He must prove us through His law. He must stand us next to His blazing white righteousness. He must introduce conviction to rescue us from condemnation. He must break us against the Stone Tablets of His Perfection. He must shine His holy light upon our unholy situation. He must cause us to mourn, cause us to smell the dung heap on which we sit. He must prove us naked, bloodied, and weak; inglorious, unholy, and profane; selfish, proud, and arrogant, hell-bent idolatrous

law breakers; condemned, cut-off, without means of righting what is wrong with us . . . *for He means to rescue us*. But before we can be rescued, we must recognize our doom. Before we can be helped, we must realize that we are helpless.

We were created for Jehovah's glory, for His pleasure. We were created to dwell with the Almighty, and reflect His Perfection. We were created to find our great fulfillment in Him. We were created to be ruled by Him and animated by His Presence. We were created to be enraptured in His love, to be mesmerized by His grace. We were created to be His Bride, to bear His holy name. To be His temple, to be His body, to partake of His joyful Life. We were created to abide, to draw our Life from Him; to bear the fruit of His Person, to show the Love of Heaven in human flesh. We were created for a sacred Garden, an Eden of the purest delight

Before the foundations of the earth, God had in mind His prize. His reward was a Bride, spotless and all glorious within; and nothing, nothing, nothing will stand in His way. Jehovah God is clothed with honor and majesty; He covers Himself with light as *with* a garment; He stretched out the heavens like a curtain; He laid the beams of His upper chambers in the waters; He makes the clouds His chariot; and walks on the wings of the wind. He laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever. And, in these foundations He laid the plan for the ultimate rescue. God rescuing His own; God stripping His possession right out of the slimy hands of the Serpent; God, the Almighty Holy King of the Universe, has come to earth in order to claim His reward; God, the All-powerful omnipotent Lord of All, has come to prepare a way; that man could once again house His glory; that man could once again bring His holy heart pleasure; that man could once again dwell with God and God could dwell with man; that man could once again find his complete fulfillment in the Person of Jehovah; that man could be His Bride, bear His Holy Name, be His temple, His body, and partake of His infinite Joy; that man could abide and find the living sap of the Great God of the Universe flowing through his veins; that man could once again bear the fruit of His Person, show the love of Heaven in human flesh and become an Eden within, for His satisfaction and delight.

God came to this earth as a baby, conceived of the Holy Spirit in a virgin girl. The All-powerful Creator of the Universe took on the humble skin of men; He condescended to walk this earth; He humbled Himself as a servant; He built the entire Universe and yet he willingly took up a chisel and a rasp and became a mere human carpenter; for He was building a new foundation, He was allowing His very life to be the great, costly, and hewn stone at the founding of a New Creation, a New Covenant, a New and Living Hope. He was God, in the flesh of man, the perfect picture of holiness, the spotless vision of Glory. He was God, worthy of all praise and worship, and yet He allowed Himself to be treated as a common criminal. He surrendered His life into the dirty hands of the wretched, and allowed Himself to be scourged and beaten. He was bruised for my iniquities, and the penalty due me He willingly took upon Himself. He was without spot or defect, and yet He was the one punished. He was the essence of love, the perfect picture of grace, mercy, joy, and holiness, and yet He gave Himself as the Passover Lamb, the Atoning Sacrifice for the sin of the world.

Jehovah God – the very One who stretched out the heavens like a curtain, laid the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, makes the clouds His chariot, and walks on the wings of the wind. Jehovah God – the very One who laid the foundations of the earth, so *that* it should not be moved forever. This very One, this very God, saw my need and came to rescue me.

He was carried outside the city, and offered as a sin offering for the people. A sign that read “King of the Jews” hung above him; a crown of wicked thorns pressed mercilessly into his head; nails were driven through his hands and feet; and he was pinned naked to two beams of wood and lifted up, a bloody pulp, for the crowds to mock and ridicule.

He allowed Himself to be treated as refuse. He allowed Himself to be grouped with the guilty. He defended Himself not. He didn't bargain for quarter but received the fullness of God's wrath. This, the very One who looks on the earth, and it trembles; the very One who touches the hills, and they smoke.

This very One who sends the springs into the valleys; gives drink to every beast of the field; and gives the birds of the heavens their home. This very One, This very God, came to earth, took on the form of man, became a servant and washed the feet of the lowly, and became obedient unto death, even death upon a cross.

Jehovah God has done it! For nothing, nothing, nothing would stand in his way. For God was moved by Love. And Jesus Christ, God incarnate, was born this Messiah, This Holy Rescuer. He was born a baby, lived a sinless life of faith, purity, and love, and died as the Lamb who takes away the Sin of the World. He makes all things New. He has broken down the wall of partition. He has removed what stood as obstacle. He has created a new and living way into His Presence.

And as He promised, He rebuilt the Holy Temple of Jehovah in three days. He conquered Sin and Death, and rose again to Life. The massive stone before His tomb has been rolled away, His burial garments lie empty, for He has risen! He has triumphed! At the earthquake of His death the way was prepared, and at the earthquake of His resurrection, the Great Gospel Solution was made manifest.

Great God Jehovah, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. Great God Jehovah, the Creator of Heaven and Earth, the Omnipotent Master of All, the consuming Fire of perfect Holiness has given us His Life. The Fire of Heaven has once again returned to earth to be born into a stable. But no longer is it a stable full of hay and bleating sheep, but the stable of humanity in which He has devised to be born. Great God Jehovah has done it! He has conquered sin and death, he has condemned sin in the flesh. He has created the most extraordinary, most profound, most breathtaking rescue strategy for His Bride. The same Spirit that raised up our Messiah from the dead, He desires to implant within the heart of His Bride, to raise us from our spiritual death and to transform our earthly existence.

He removed the barrier that stood between God and Man. He forgave us our sins and destroyed the power of Sin in order to

impart to His Bride . . . *Himself*. The Gift of God is Jesus Christ, in Spirit form, deposited within the bodies of those who believe. This is the inheritance, This is the Promised Land, This is the Kingdom, This is the Land flowing with Milk and Honey, This is the Garden Enclosed, This is the mystery Hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to the Set-apart, This is the purchase of Calvary. Jesus Christ died that man could once again house His glory; that man could once again bring His holy heart pleasure; that man could once again dwell with God and God could dwell with man; that man could once again find his complete fulfillment in the Person of Jehovah; that man could be His Bride, bear His Holy Name, be His temple, His body, and partake of His infinite Joy; that man could abide and find the living sap of the Great God of the Universe flowing through his veins; that man could once again bear the fruit of His Person, show the love of Heaven in human flesh and become an Eden within, for His satisfaction and delight.

This is the Gospel, the Good News of Christ's Kingdom. This is the message that has moved men to sell all they possess and lay it at the feet of the One with whom we have to do. This is the message that has transformed countless multitudes throughout the ages and has brought hardened men to tears, selfish men to serve, proud men to die naked before mocking crowds with transcendent joy upon their countenance. This is the Mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed. Man was ruined by Sin. God came to earth as a man and purchased (redeemed) His Bride with His Blood, set His Bride free from both the penalty and the bondage of Sin, and now regenerates and makes His Bride all glorious within, by making the Human Body His dwelling place, His very temple. This is the Message, This is Amazing News! He has established His Kingdom within the bodies of men, and soon His Kingdom will come to earth in all its glory, His Fire of Righteousness will blaze with all its consuming heat, and every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father.

So, let us not wait for that fateful day of Judgment when the King will come in blazing righteousness to set the earth before His bar of justice and bring wrath upon the rebellious. Let us make way for the King of kings. Let us make way for the Lord of

lords. We are no longer our own, we have been bought with a price. It can no longer be us who live, but Christ living His Life within us. We must take all that is precious within our hearts, break it open and pour it out upon the Worthy One. For our Jehovah God has come to earth and rescued us. We must yield. We must give up our throne, deny our flesh its voice, and allow a New Master, a Holy Master to take the reigns of our life. We must relinquish our way in exchange for His way, forfeit our life in exchange for His Life, and surrender our name, our glory, in order to share in His Name and His Glory.

How can one resist such an opportunity? A way has been made for us, undeserving paupers, to share in the life, the love, and the joy of God. Let us not hesitate to give ourselves to this Great and Loving God who has condescended to provide us a way, a life, and a hope. An eternity of thanksgiving is due the great Champion of Salvation! He has done it! And He will continue to do it!

Praise, Glory, and Honor is due His Holy Name!

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And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

1Timothy 3:16

On the third morning after His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead and appeared to His disciples. He instructed them for some forty days and then ascended to the Father. On the first day of Pentecost He returned, not this time to be with them externally – clothed with that sinless humanity that God had prepared for Him, being conceived of the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary – but now to be in them imparting to them His own divine nature, clothing Himself with their humanity, so that they each became “members in particular” of a new, corporate body through which Christ expressed Himself to the

world of their day. He spoke with their lips. He worked with their hands. This was the miracle of new birth, and this remains the very heart of the gospel! . . . To be in Christ – that is redemption; but for Christ to be in you – that is sanctification! To be in Christ – that make you fit for heaven; but for Christ to be in you – that makes you fit for earth! To be in Christ – that changes your destination; but for Christ to be in you – that changes your destiny! The one makes heaven your home – the other makes this world His workshop. . . Not just heaven one day, but Christ right now! Christ in you, on the grounds of redemption – this is the gospel!

Ian Thomas

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing

John 15:5

There is one thing we cannot imitate: we cannot imitate being full of the Holy Ghost. The mark of the Holy Spirit in a man's life is that he has gone to his own funeral and the thought of himself never enters.

Oswald, Complete, 392a

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Titus 3:5-6

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

Faithful is he that calls you, who also will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:24

In him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him

Colossians 2:9-10a

The old things have passed away, all things have become new

2 Corinthians 5:17

It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me, and the life I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God.

Galatians 2:20

Modern Teaching

Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise. They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the Lord.

Psalm 106

Anything Jesus Christ revealed may be missed. The disbelief of the human mind always wastes itself in the sentimental idea that God would never let us miss the greatest good. Jesus says He will, that is why we don't like Him, and that is why the teaching of to-day is not the teaching of the Jesus Christ of the New Testament. We are far removed from Jesus Christ's point of view to-day, we take the natural rationalistic line, and His teaching is no good whatever unless we believe the main gist of His gospel, viz. that we have to have something planted into us by supernatural grace.

Oswald Chambers

(p 545, Complete Works)

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers,

incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

The Modern Twists

- Scripture is no longer sacred
- Self remains king
- It's only about forgiveness
- A twisted grace
- The Bonus Version
- Redefinition of Canaan
- A pact with the Amalekites

Variant #1

SELF-RELIANCE

Sure, the Promised Land is real and God wants us to enter in. But I can do that in my own strength. I can ford the Jordan, I can take down the walls of Jericho. God said, "Go!" So I will go!

Variant #2

IT'S ONLY ABOUT FORGIVENESS

"Christian's aren't perfect they are Just Forgiven." It's only about getting out of Egypt and being freed from the punishment coming down upon the ungodly. There is nothing more, only desert living from here on out.

Variant #3

A Twisted Grace

Christianity is just one beggar giving another beggar bread. God knows that we are sinners and always will be sinners. And He loves us, embraces us, and desires to commune with us, even though we continue in our sin and remain in our selfishness.

Variant #4

The Bonus Version

There are only a few who God ever chooses to enter His Promised Land. Only a few will ever be allowed to cross the Jordan and discover a deeper life with Christ. The rest must remain in the Wilderness.

Variant #5

REDEMPTION OF CANAAN

God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and He wants me to be rich too. I am a child of the King and therefore God desires to give me material things in this life. Canaan is material prosperity. It is worldly riches.

Variant #6

Я РАСИ УЛХ ГХЕ АМАЛЕКТЕС

God certainly didn't intend for us to destroy all of the flesh. After all, there are so many things that the flesh could do in His Name. Let me keep the best of the sheep and the best of the oxen alive. Let me just keep the King of the Flesh alive. I see no harm in that. And I promise, I will sacrifice these sheep, these oxen, and this fleshly rule over my life unto God. I promise, it will be all for His glory.

Just like King Ahaz, the Modern Church has built a square altar and pushed the Ark of the Covenant out of the way. The World has been allowed into the Temple. The thought is, "we must imitate the world, to attract the world." So we imitate the world in our worship of our God. If it is true that we can increase attendance by improving God's design and having a more hip altar. Is anyone asking if this is really the attendance that God desires? Bringing the world into the temple, doesn't sanctify the world, it desecrates the temple. Remember, Oh church of God, Samuel "hewed the king of Amalek to pieces in the sight of the Lord!"

