

# Glorious Gospel Publication



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# PUTTING ON THAT IS NO PUT-ON



## ADORNED AND ARRAYED

“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.” Eph. 4:7,8. All that God has for us is available in our Lord Jesus Christ. However complete we shall be, is to be realized in the measure that we partake of Him. Oh, what wealth untold!

**“...*put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.*”**

**Rom. 13:14**

Let us be thankful for the privilege of *putting on the Lord*. He is ready to fill whatever capacity we give to Him. Room for Him increases as we lay aside, put off that which is not Christ. We are taught to know the time in which we live and to be prepared for the darkness of this day by being armed with the armor of light. Rom. 13:11-12. We are not only warned to take the whole armour of God, but to *put it on* that we may be able to stand. Eph. 6:11,13.

## HOW TIME RELATES TO ETERNITY

“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God...So teach us to number our days, that

we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Psalms 90:2,12. This is not just counting days but seeing to it that they count for the Lord. Time is of the essence.

As we come to know our beloved Lord more intimately and that He is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption, that we may exclusively glory in the Lord. 1 Cor. 1:30,31. For in Him dwelleth all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Col. 2:3.

## **CHOOSING WISELY** **Luke 12:15-27**

As Jesus taught of deliverance from materialism, He made some thought provoking statements that we will partially quote. “...a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.” It counts with God, as the saying goes, ‘It is not what a man has, but what has the man.’

The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater...And I will say to my soul; Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years;...But God said unto him, *Thou fool*, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. And he said unto his disciples,...Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall *put on*...” The *putting on* that counts first with the Lord is submission of our life wholeheartedly unto Him. He is so faithful and He promises to take care of us. Can we count on his loving care?

## CONSIDER THE RAVENS AND LILIES

Jesus said, “Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls.” He also said, “Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all of his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” Our beloved Lord would *adorn* us with Himself. Those He has *clothed* with His righteousness.

In this “*Putting on*” we are to experience the life characteristics of our Lord Jesus Christ (which is the fruit of the Spirit) being produced in us by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we yield.

We, beholding as in a glass (the looking glass of God’s Word) which discerns the very thoughts and intents of our heart, are being *changed* from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Cor. 3:18; Heb. 4:12. Let us enjoy Romans 12:1&2 in this blessed connection. “...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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.”

## FROM HIS BIRTH TO THE THRONE

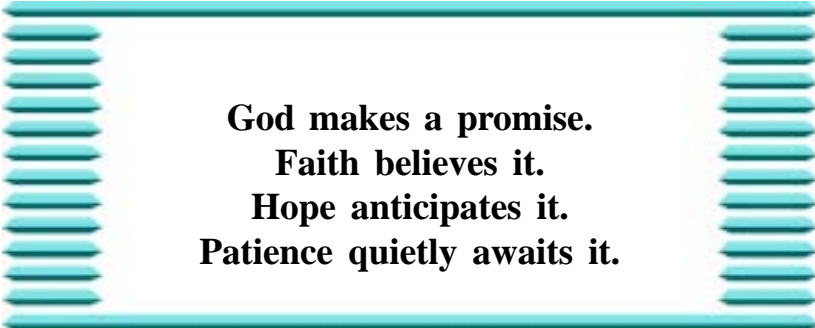
The birth of our Lord was indeed a very important event and most consider it with joy. One of the most glorious times on our God’s calendar is the wedding of the Lamb, God’s Son. A great amount of thought and preparation has gone into this most momentous occasion of the ages. The bride’s *adornment* in order to be ready is of utmost importance. The details for it’s fulfillment are wonderfully typified, and richly prophesied. Involving the *adornment* and *arrayment* which is amazingly

emphasized. In the Song of Solomon the Bridegroom is discovered and is said to be altogether lovely (5:16). In Psalm 45, the triumphant Bridegroom King, we are to realize His throne is forever. The bride is beautifully described (all glorious within). Her clothing is of wrought gold. She is brought unto the king in *raiment of needle-work*. The Lord has provided each important stitch.

Rev. 19:6-8, “And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad, and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be *arrayed* in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”

“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, *prepared* as a **bride adorned** for her husband..” Rev. 21:2. We are so exceedingly glad to realize that all the *preparation* and *adornment* will have served God’s purpose.

Oh, thank you heavenly Father for revealing to our hearts your glorious purposes and gracious privileges for us in your beloved Son!



**God makes a promise.  
Faith believes it.  
Hope anticipates it.  
Patience quietly awaits it.**

# THE LAST DAYS

Anita Clark



“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (creation); old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” ( 2 Corinthians 5:17).

The new year is upon us. As every new year begins, we think of how we did not anticipate still being here on planet earth. Our desire for the Lord Jesus Christ to come is so great; we cannot imagine that it is the beginning of another year - 2007. “Time marches on,” as they say. The signs of the coming of the Lord are so ripe before us. We expect Him to come at anytime. We long for Him to come and literally “make all things New.”

Ever since we have become believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, we have been experiencing “new things.” First, the “New Birth” by which as we believed and accepted Christ as our Savior, took place (John 3:1-17). Immediately, we became a “New Creation” in Him. The “New Life” of Christ came into our being. Old desires began to fall away, and new desires took the preeminent place in our thoughts and deeds. There was a new influence and motive in all the things that we did from the moment of this new birth. God did not just patch up the old life, but made a totally new life. Praise God!

Every day now, as we walk with our wonderful Lord, we experience new blessings. Lamentations 3:22, says “It is the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness.” He brings us new understanding of His holy Word. Even though we have read a portion many times, every time we read it, it is new to us and refreshing. Have you

noticed this? This great plan of God will culminate in His making a “new heaven and a new earth” (Rev. 21:1). Peter says, “Nevertheless, we, according to His promise, look for a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness”(2 Peter 3:13). Peter warned of “scoffers” in the last days, who would not believe the promises foretold by the Old Testament prophets and by the Lord Jesus while He was here on earth. Those unbelieving people are around today in a much greater way than in Peter’s day. Soon all the prophecies will be fulfilled. We have the privilege to believe the Holy Scriptures now.

Two Great Purposes of God Fulfilled in the World Today - The first purpose being fulfilled is the preparation of the Bride of the Lord Jesus Christ. Trials are getting tougher, and harder. Many are suffering in various ways greater than in past years. Why should we think that we should rest on flowery beds of ease. The Scripture plainly says that Christians will suffer. Paul says, “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Romans 8:18). It is the price of “joint heirship” with Christ. Isn’t that what we have asked God for? Don’t ever say, “I don’t know why I am suffering?” Have you ever asked God to make you a full overcomer? Have you ever ask God to work a complete work of submission to God’s will in your life? This is the answer. God knows what it will take to make us “holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight” (Colossians 1:22).

Jude exclaims, “Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy” (Jude 24). Notice it is Him who will do this. Our part is to yield and submit.

The second great work God is finishing is to draw as many as will come into the Body of Christ, also, called the Church before it is too late. We have said there will not be a great world wide revival before Jesus comes for His overcoming saints, but there is a great stirring going on. 1 Timothy 2:3-4 says, "...God our Savior, Who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth." It is God's will that all be saved, but not all will believe.

India has 68,000 new house churches in the past 5 years, made up of converted Hindus and Muslims. According to a report by Joel Rosenberg, a converted Jew, author of Epicenter, "More Muslims have converted to Jesus Christ over the past decade than at any other time in human history. A spiritual revolution is underway throughout North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia."

He reports that in Iraq there are more than 5,000 new Muslim converts to Christianity since the end of initial combat operations there. There are 14 new churches in Baghdad and dozens more in Kurdistan. Some of these churches have grown to 500 to 800 members. His article also states that there has been over 1 million Bibles shipped into the Iraq since 2003. The Iraqis are snatching them up so fast that they constantly need more Bibles.

In Egypt reports say that over 1 million Egyptians have trusted Christ over the past decade or so. The Egyptian Bible Society who used to sell about 3,000 copies of the JESUS film per year in the 1990s, this past year sold 600,000 copies of it, and 750,000 copies of the Bible on tape (in Arabic), plus a half a million copies of the New Testament. Believers of the largest Christian congregation in the Middle East, made of 10,000 converts, worship in a enormous cave on the outskirts of Cairo. Afghanistan had only 17 converts to Christianity before 9-11-

01. Now, there are more than 10,000 who have received Christ, with dozens being baptized every week.

Other nations where God is moving are Kazakstan where there are now 15,000 believers in Christ, Uzbekistan , where 30,000 now believe, and Sudan, where more than 1 million have converted to Christ, despite the terrible persecution and genocide that has killed 200,000. The numbers of believers are growing every day.

Even Iran has had revival among Shiites. It is estimated by evangelical leaders that there are now 1 million Iranian believers, mostly who meet in underground house churches. Many Muslims are being led supernaturally to the Lord by visions and dreams, converting to Christ before they contact pastors to ask for Bibles and instruction in the Lord. Despite the fact that persecution of Christians has increased in many places of the world, God is moving, filling up the body of Christ. Praise the Lord for His working! Each of these new believers have the opportunity to grow and learn the Word and prepare for the Bride of Christ. Revelation 5:9 says of the overcomers of the Church Age “...For Thou hast redeemed us...from every kindred, tongue, and people, and nation.” These are exciting times, even though the are trying, perilous times. Now, is the time to yield all to the Lord and be victors in the race. “Being confident of this very thing that He which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6). Press on - Press on.

**Let God have His way every day —  
He will guide you each step of the way.  
There'll be peace and sweet rest  
In each trial and each test  
When God has His way in your heart.  
—Beula Clark**

# ROMANS

W. J. Franklin



## Chapter 15:25-33

### THE OFFERING FOR THE POOR SAINTS

“But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints”—V. 25. Paul was near Rome at the time he wrote to them, but he had an offering, to take to the poor saints in the assembly in Jerusalem. No doubt, he also had in mind to establish better relationships between the Jewish and Gentile congregations.

The unsaved Jews were very resentful of Paul, and many of the saved ones felt that he had let them down, as he permitted the saved Gentiles to come in without observing the Mosaic law.

Much time and thought went into the receiving of this offering. See I Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. Chapters 8,9 which all have to do with the fund raised by the Gentile churches for the needy among God’s people among the Jewish Christians.

“For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem”—V. 26. Those churches had freely and willingly given and donated of their monetary possessions to meet the needs of the poor among God’s people. “He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord, and that which he giveth will He pay him again” said Solomon. This was given for the saints, not just the Jews as such.

“It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things”—V. 27. Those saints received the Gospel from Jewish

ministers, and also from the Jewish Scriptures. Their salvation and the blessings of Christ are the spiritual things of which they were made partakers. The “Carnal things” were things for the body, and things of the nature of the offering they were sending by Paul. They were their debtors and were repaying the debt.

We do not owe unconverted Jews a debt, anymore than we owe all men a debt, as Paul said, “I am debtor to all men,” and in that sense, we are their debtors. We owe them the debt of love. We owe it to them, along with other men to give them the Gospel.

“When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain”—V. 28. When he sealed to the saints the fruit, that is, when he had delivered it to the proper ones in Jerusalem, he planned to go immediately to Rome, and thus to Spain. He did not know that he would go to Rome as a prisoner.

“And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ”—V. 29. Note what he planned to bring when he came to them, the “Fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.” Oh, that this was the burden on ministers today!

### **A PRAYER REQUEST**

“Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me”—V.30. Paul felt that much depended on his visit to Jerusalem. Note, for the Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, and the love of the Spirit, two very strong leverages to enforce his request.

“Strive” means, to combat in company with any one; to exert one’s strength, to be earnest in aiding. “To Agonize with me” is what he asked them to do. Perhaps he had an intimation from the Spirit that things would not go as he expected.

“That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints”—V. 31. For three things he made

request. 1. “That I may be delivered from those who do not believe.” Since the conversion of Paul, the Jews had had the most harsh and murderous intent toward him. They never missed an opportunity to try to kill him. And some of those who believed were not as friendly toward him as they might have been. They knew that the delegation from James had not had much effect on him, and that he had rebuked Peter before the saints because of his Jewish religion leanings.

2. “That my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints.” They could so easily have thought that he was trying to bribe them, and would have refused his kindness and generosity. The Jews accepted his physical service but refused his spiritual service.

“That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed”—V. 32. The third request if found in this verse. We feel that he came differently than he expected, but I am sure that when he came and related how God gave him all those on the ship, and how many were healed on the island where they were shipwrecked, there was a time of great rejoicing and a time of refreshing. It was over two years from the time he wrote the letter until he finally arrived in Rome. relating of the conversions and the healings would have been refreshing or restful, as the word means.

“Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.”—V. 33. The God of peace is at peace. He wants His people to be at peace among themselves and have His peace reigning in their hearts.



***Still upward in this coming year,  
Thy path is all untried;  
Sill upward may'st thou journey on,  
Close by thy Savior's side.***

# A GOOD REPORT

by Lois (Fields) Mugler

This is what the Lord says: “Call unto Me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know.” (Jer. 33:3). Dave (my husband) is now at home after eight weeks of hospitalization.

On September 23rd, Dave experienced intense chest pains. Following a cat-scan in the Manhattan Emergency Room, they saw that his aorta had “torn.” The doctors told us that the aorta could burst at any time; and if it did, he could bleed to death in 30 seconds. They located an experienced heart surgeon in Wichita that would be prepared to do open-heart surgery. Dave was flown by helicopter and 30 minutes later he was being prepared for surgery that would last eight hours. Sons Mark and John drove Lois to Wichita immediately. Daughters Beth and Mary came and stayed with Lois and prayed with her through this crisis. Lois could not have made it without the wonderful support of their children. She stayed with Dave the entire eight weeks. Several days after his surgery, Dave was still unconscious. The surgeon explained that as he opened up the chest cavity the aorta “burst.” He quickly stopped the bleeding. But it was probably at this time the stroke occurred. For the next two weeks he was in a coma and on life support. We believe that the prayer chains, e-mails, phone calls, people coming and praying and singing hymns and beseeching God on Dave’s behalf was why God brought Dave out of the coma.

Sometimes it’s hard for us to understand why God allows us to go through certain situations. But it is a blessing

for us to know God is there with us and that others care and are keeping us in their prayers.

When the pain struck Dave, he knew that if he died right then, he would be at home with Jesus. Jesus says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all our sins." (I John 1:9) Many years ago Dave had to make a decision. He could repent of his sins, ask Christ to be his Savior and follow Him all his life; or he could have refused and gone his own way. "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 6:23)

Our family has certainly drawn closer to Jesus as a result of this and believe He has us in His hands in the future. In Phil. 1:20 we read, "For we earnestly expect and hope that we will in no way be ashamed but will have sufficient courage and with boldness that Jesus will be exalted in our bodies whether by life or death." We believe He died so that all people of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and ready to help all His Children. We trust you feel the same way. Thank you, again, for all your prayers and thoughtfulness. Now "May the God of hope fill you hearts with all joy and peace." (Rom. 15:13) Our best wishes for you in 2007.

Love and Prayers,  
Dave & Lois



*Should sevenfold storms of thunder roll,  
And shake this globe from pole to pole,  
No thunderbolt shall daunt my face,  
For JESUS is my Hiding place.*

# Moderation

## Part 7

Doug Delhay

Philippians 4:5 - *Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*

Even as **the fact of Christ in us changes everything about us**, the fact of Christ in us is intended to change everything that composes our lives. As was discussed in Part 1 of this series, the definition of the word “moderation” embraces the work of the Spirit in forming the person of Christ in us as we yield to the will of God to transform us. And we have just looked into Paul’s personal testimony and how he came to yield to this conclusion in his own life. So you might say that, as our study brings us to step into Philippians 3:10, we find ourselves standing with Paul before an open door at the threshold of a new, glorious life of unfettered spiritual opportunity. And like Paul (having now been freed from the encumbrances of both the attempt to accomplish his own righteousness through the law and the self-defeating pursuit of things that are considered gain to the old creation), we find ourselves in the place where it is possible to apprehend the very things for which we are apprehended by Jesus Christ, even the perfect will of God.

Paul took the steps that he did and abandoned his previous manner of life “*that I may know him*”. He could not otherwise have had access to such glorious first hand knowledge of Christ. One cannot discover the impressive, humbling power of an ocean if they do not allow the ropes that bind them to the dock to be released. Nor can one discover the depth of love in

a marital relationship if they do not fully commit themselves to the complete wellbeing of their spouse. *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”* John 15:13. By this definition, to love is to place oneself at risk of loss by putting another’s wellbeing first. Such is the love of Christ. Such must be our love for Christ. As Paul testifies in II Corinthians 5:14-15, *“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”*

If we are to know Christ according to the measure of Paul’s example, then we must embrace the mindset that nothing in our heart, mind, or soul can be valued more than God. And though we make such an initial commitment, surely our decision will be challenged and taken to ever increasing levels as we walk in the Spirit. Such growing love and dedication is the fulfilling of the desire of God toward us. He is the object of our pursuit.

When the lawyer asked how he might inherit eternal life (Luke 10:25-28), Jesus asked him what he thought the law said concerning the matter. His answer (*“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.”*), was exactly right. Though the burden of the law for righteousness has been fulfilled through the grace of God in Christ our Savior, the desire of the Lord that we love Him with all of our faculties and one another as we love ourselves remains unchanged. And not only does it remain unchanged, but it becomes entirely possible to achieve through the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Much is said on this topic in the 1<sup>st</sup> epistle of John. We cannot really know Him unless we really love. Thank God for His holy inspiration.

*“What things were gain to me . . . I counted loss . . . that I may win Christ, and be found in Him . . . that I may know him”* (excerpts from Philippians 3:7-10). The shackles that bind us to a fruitless, frustrating spiritual life can be broken as we adopt Paul’s approach to our new life in Christ. We are called to know Him in a relationship like that of a husband and a wife, but such a relationship requires that the couple cleave one unto the other. Former relationships must be esteemed as less, and kept in proper perspective that the new one might become the preeminent, all-fulfilling one. Otherwise, they will not become united in soul as they are in flesh. Their relationship will be racked with confusion and strife because of wrongly maintained allegiances to others outside of their home. Knowing Christ is the goal. Knowing His will for our life is the goal. Doing that which He has called us to do is the goal. Experiencing our earthly life with Him at the helm is the goal. We cannot serve two masters nor be truly married to more than one person simultaneously.

Next we read in Philippians 3:10, *“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, . . .”*. Not only did Paul seek to know Christ at all costs, but to also have a working knowledge of the power of His resurrection. We are familiar with the meaning of this word “power” (*dunamis* – force, miraculous power, might, strength) as it is used extensively in the New Testament to speak of the unsurpassed ability of God to do anything He wants. It also infers the authority to do even as it speaks of the ability to do. These two aspects of His power go hand in hand to provide us with the understanding that God has not only the ability, but the right to raise the dead. He has the ability as well as the right to perform supernatural works in our lives and circumstances to both bless us and glorify the Name of Jesus. This is one of the great changes that the **fact of Christ in us** brings into our lives. As the resurrected Christ

lives in us, we can only expect that this power would be at work in our hearts and minds changing the course of our thoughts and decisions, and overthrowing natural law.

The Spirit challenges us continually to consider just what this means to us. Interestingly, this word “power” is translated as “meaning” in most every Bible translation in I Corinthians 14:11 where Paul is teaching about the importance of imparting edification to others as the gift of tongues is exercised as a part of a group worship service. *“Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.”* If we do not know the meaning of the words, the content of what is spoken is without significance in our life. If we do not understand the words of someone who is warning us that our life is in danger, we don’t take the necessary action to protect ourselves. If we do not understand the practical meaning of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in our earthly lives, we do not take the actions we should in order to benefit from it. We remain ignorant of our spiritual wealth and boundless provisions that are given us in Christ. We are left longing for the depths.

Following this logic, we cannot experience the true, Spirit-wrought moderation of our lives according to God’s will unless we are willing to yield to the leading of our gracious Lord out of the ways of the world and into the new manner of living to which we have been called. Paul’s focus was to win what Christ’s redemption had purchased for him at any cost because he had come to see there was nothing to gain in this world. He stood at this threshold in awe at the glorious vision that beheld his spiritual eyes. Behold! New life; new meaning in God!

# ***Trip to Israel – 2006***

Continued

By Bonnie Richards

Crossing the border into *Jordan* our Israeli guides, bus driver and bus remained in Israel for their own protection. Jordan welcomed us as tourists in a friendly manner and our Jordanian guide professed to be “Christian,” but we experienced a somewhat different comfort level.

The city of *Petra* was lost for centuries until the late 1800’s. It was thought to be a city of tombs, built by the Nabateans, but further excavations reveal it to have been inhabited from antiquity. *Petra* needs to be seen first hand because neither words nor pictures can do it justice. It is approached through a gorge flanked by towering cliffs. You may walk the distance of about 3/4 mile or take a pony cart. Walking is easier than the pony cart!! Because of the stony pathway, the cart was very rough. It is a ravine of tombs and monuments carved out of the rocks. Hundreds of tombs line the walls, some ornate, some very plain depending on the wealth of the deceased. The total length of the valley containing *Petra* is miles long. We did not have time to go very deep into the valley. The people who built *Petra* believed in reincarnation, so the edifices were built for their use when they “came back.”

The colors in the rocks are awesome, ranging from deep reds, purples, blues, oranges, yellows and brown. The changing light of day makes every hour a new scene. Words cannot impart the awe of the area. Colors of the natural rock formations! Grandiose architectural wonders! Some Christians have conjectured that this could be the site of **Rev. 12:13-16** where the woman is protected from the Dragon. I’m sure God will provide her a safe refuge.

Then on to Solomon's mines, now no longer being worked. Then to a replica built to scale of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness, all on the Jordanian side. The Tabernacle was explained in detail by a gracious, reverential, loving believer who presented the **portrait of Jesus** as she showed the different parts of the Tabernacle with its altars, furniture, bread, coverings, the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies with the mercyseat, cherubim and the ark with its contents. Her gracious, loving spirit as she talked of Jesus' being the anti-type of it all, spoke of a real love for Him. (A high point of the entire trip to me.)

This desert area is extremely dry, barren, and hot. These very inhospitable places would have been familiar to Moses as he led the Children of Israel. **Ex. 12:37-39 . . . about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle. And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.**" From the extreme temperatures and lack of water and lack of provisions for nearly a million people, and the very much cattle, Moses had a monumental task. God had provision for them: manna, a cloud by day, a pillar of fire by night (it is cold in the desert at night), water from the rock and HIS PRESENCE! Could the cattle have also eaten manna? God's provision of water and manna were displays of His goodness to these people who complained and wearied Moses as they traversed these areas.

It was a privilege to see **some** of the land of the Old and New Testament. There is so much to see and learn, that to visit it all in view of past history would take many months, perhaps years. I will see it again where and when time is not a factor. And where ruins are not the focus of the people who come up to Jerusalem! And when rockets and bombings by madmen no

longer threaten. Their enemies will have been put down. The King will be reigning in Righteousness.

My purpose in visiting Israel was to see the earthly area God has marked for His future dealing with mankind - a place of judgment and a place of great blessing. I shall see it when I come back with Him in His glory. I recognize as a nation they are not calling on God yet and He is not in their midst as He will be; therefore the ground is not 'holy' **today**, as it will be when He is present. Today, the majority of people in the land do not fear God. Today, unbelief defiles the land for God's purpose. BUT all will be changed!

I have a greater respect for the passion the people have for the land, as well as for their great struggle for survival politically and nationally. They are very aware of their enemies that are within the land as well as surrounding and encroaching upon them. The only nation who truly befriends them today is the U.S. although England does minimally. Their precarious position in the world's view makes them totally dependant on God bringing His promises to pass. They are not looking to Him today, but He can and will reveal Himself as their deliverer. **“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” Zechariah 12:9,10.** Now as I read the Scripture since being there, I see details that I could not see before. Today I'm reading Zechariah, and I see such wonderful declarations about the future of that land. Even though I've read in betimes, it is an unexpected blessing to see scriptures more in-focus. He is a powerful God of love and GRACE that extends to all generations of those who will receive Him.

There was a sad note for the tour group due to the fact that Brother Zola Levitt was battling a recently diagnosed cancer of the lung and other organs. He was to have been the tour director. He informed those who were to be going on this tour about his condition the later part of February. The tour was March 19-April 2. The Lord took him home April 19. I personally feel a great loss in his homegoing, but God does what is absolutely best for His own. He has been used to bless many as he taught God's Word and God gives reward for faithful service. His parting words on TV were "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

There were individuals that have left an impression and have become subjects of prayer for me. My roommate, Frances, who is an unsaved, religious, church-going individual is one. A Jordanian beggar child about 10 years old, named Joseph. At the Petra site he **gave** me a rick (which he had earlier tried to sell to me) because he felt he had found a friendly American. He did find someone who will pray for him. The young woman Natalie, in the desert of Jordan presented the portrait of Jesus beautifully and with such love and grace as she led us into and through the replica of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness. Also, the man a JFK airport who gave me a "blanket" when he learned I was spending the night on a bench there. (I had missed my flight back to Kansas City because of the severe headwinds we encountered.) He was en route to West Africa to start a Bible School, as he felt the Lord was directing him to do. In return he asked that I pray for that endeavor and **ask prayer** from those I knew in the churches. You have now been included in this request to pray for this black man, Bernard Harvey. These were some of the special personal blessings.

At the end of the tour as we were leaving Jerusalem for the airport in Tel Aviv, the bus passengers sang together the song "The Holy City." How fitting! The words of the song were especially touching. "**And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were**

passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. **Rev. 21:1-5.** Reading these words I am awestruck with the love of God and the powerful answer to all of man's needs, as well as to all of the problems of the nations. And God's timetable is approaching the end of time. We are transitioning today from the Times of the Gentiles. Our call to "Come up hither" must surely come SOON.

The End



*A little girl taking an evening walk with her father  
looked up at the stars and exclaimed,  
"Oh, Daddy, if the wrong side of heaven is so  
beautiful what must the right side be!"*



*If God hath made this world so fair  
Where sin and death abound,  
How beautiful beyond compare  
Will paradise be found.*

# ENCOUNTERS

Continued

by Corina Medina

Another encounter is Luke 18:35-43 “And it came to pass, that as He was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging: And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by. And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace; but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto Him. And when he was come near He asked him Saying, what wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.”

This man, begging because he was blind and unable to work, knew Him as *the God who answers prayer*. He was also his **Savior and healer, who heard his cry for mercy**. God definitely hears when we cry out to Him. How did he respond? He responded by *praise and worship*.

The next is not exactly an encounter; I'm not sure if it was because of a natural encounter or a spiritual encounter with the Lord. Luke 21:1-5, “And He looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And He said, of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all. For all these have of their abundance cast in unto

the offering of God, but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.”

She knew God as her *all-sufficient provider*. Prov. 3:5,6, “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct they paths.” So she must have been *led by the Spirit of God and recognized Him as her provider*. She responded by *giving* and not giving some, but *giving all*. She like Paul had learned this: Phil. 4:11, “Not that I speak of respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” So she learned that God supplied her needs and she trusted God and honored Him in her giving. Proverbs 3:9, “Honour the Lord:.”

In Luke 19:1-10 is another encounter with the Lord. “And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans and he was rich. And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see Him; for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him and said unto him, Zacchaeus make haste, and come down for today I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said, unto him, this day is salvation come to this house,

forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Jesus called Zacchaeus by name. Zacchaeus had an encounter with the *all-knowing One*. His response-*joy*. He also was *repentant leading to restitution*.

to be continued

## LESSONS OF THE YEAR

For I learn as the years roll onward  
And leave the past behind,  
That much I have counted sorrow  
But proves that our God is kind;  
That many a flower I longed for  
Had a hidden thorn of pain,  
And many a rugged by-path  
Led to fields of golden grain.

So the heart from the hardest trial  
Gains the purest joy of all,  
And the lips that have tasted sadness  
The sweetest songs that fall.  
Then as joy comes after sorrow,  
And love's the reward of pain,  
So after earth is heaven,  
And out of our loss is gain.

—Anonymous