

-NOAH'S FAITH-

"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, being wary, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he CONDEMNED THE WORLD, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." Heb. 11:7.

Notice the central thot of this verse in the outline;

By faith...prepared...saving.
CONDEMNED THE WORLD

By faith.....became heir.....
righteousness.

Faith is active. Faith is the process of believing what God has said and acting on that belief. Because of his faith, Noah was occupied. The thing he was occupied with saved his house. But the same thing which was the means of the saving of his house also condemned the world.

In this dispensation we are exhorted to walk worthy of our calling. Our walk is our occupation. It must be by faith. But that very walk will condemn the world.

Why will it condemn the world? In the first place it will be contrary to the wisdom of the world. The things we do will seem as foolish to those around us as was the occupation of Noah in building a boat up on dry land in a world that had never seen a rain. Certainly, neighbors will wag their heads and comment on our sanity, or lack of it.

Our walk will condemn the world because we have made provision to escape the wrath to come. They are not prepared.

Our walk will condemn the world because we lay up in store the invisible things which abide. They lay up treasures which are subject to corruption and which cannot be taken from this age.

Finally our walk will condemn the world because we lean upon and put our trust in a mighty power, a power that was able to raise our Lord from the dead and seat Him at the right hand of the Father in Glory as Head of the church which is His Body. They trust in their own strength and wisdom.

-RISEN AND ASCENDED-

If professing Christians talk of the Lord at all, it usually is in terms of His life. We hear quite a bit concerning His life and example to us. The usual expression is "The Jesus Way."

Some few will go so far as to speak of a crucified Lord. But if they go only that far, they have a dead Lord. Our hope does not lie in His life, nor does it lie in His death. There is no future in worship of a dead body on a cross.

Once in a while we hear some one speak of the "risen" Lord. This is usually around Easter time. It is only in a risen Lord that there is life eternal. He only has immortality. The King of kings and Lord of lords is the one who has risen from the dead. He it is who will rule over the earth. He is the One who is the great expectation of the nation Israel. He will be the ruler of their nation in the promised land. He will yet occupy the throne of His father, David.

It is rare that we hear of an ascended Lord. Stephen saw Him at the right hand of God, standing and waiting for His people to receive Him as their King. He was in this attitude of expectation all during the Acts period. But the nation rejected Him and was finally set aside, (Acts 28:28). But some day He will come to meet His people Israel, in the air. This will be at the last trumpet.

But we of the present dispensation of the MYSTERY have a Lord and Savior who lived, died, rose again, ascended on high, and is seated at the right hand of Majesty as Head of the Church which is His Body. Our hope is not to be in His kingdom here on earth. Our hope is not to meet Him in the air and inhabit the New Jerusalem. Our hope is a higher hope than any of these. It is to ascend to that high place where He is and be manifested with Him there to the principalities and powers of the super-heavenlies (Col. 3:4). This position is received only by faith. Do you accept it? Make sure of your hope and calling.

-THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT-

Several years ago a Methodist district superintendent told me that he believed the greatest of all miracles in the Bible was that one in Acts 2:1, "They were all with one accord in one place." To the carnal man-made organization of today which is called a church that would seem a great miracle. It just does not happen.

But in Eph. 4, we of this dispensation have a charge to keep. It is to keep the unity of the Spirit. This unity is seven fold.

ONE LORD

One hope - One faith
One Spirit - One Baptism
One Body - One God and Father

Notice that the central item is the One Lord. He is the mediator between the first item, the One Body, and the last item, the One God and Father.

In this unity is One Spirit. It is linked in the structure with the One Baptism. That means that the One Baptism is not a water baptism, but a Spirit baptism. It is our identification with the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of the Lord. This is a reality and has no need of any types or shadows such as water baptism.

In this unity is One Hope. In the epistle to the Colossians this hope is expressed, "When Christ, our life, shall be manifested, then shall ye also with Him be manifested in glory." Col. 3:4 RV. It is a vital truth which most people overlook, that this hope is linked with One Faith. This hope can only be realized by faith. If you do not know about it and receive it on the basis of faith, it is not possible for you to enter into it. In fact, your position in the One Body must be received by faith. Salvation, or the possession of eternal life does not give one a position. Position is a further step which can only be taken by faith. The hope belongs to the position.

This unity must be kept in the bond of peace. Eph. 4:1-7.

-CAN YOU ANSWER?-

1. What is man? Gen. 2:7.
2. Can a soul die? Ezek. 18:4.
3. What is death? Gen. 3:19.
4. Can a dead person know anything? Eccl. 9:5.
5. Are there any functions of life after death? Eccl. 9:10.
6. Is there any difference between the death of a man and the death of a beast? Eccl. 3:19,20.
7. Where does a man go when he dies? Eccl. 12:7.
8. What hope does a man have that a beast has not? Psa. 17:15.
9. When will all the nations be resurrected who are outside of special promises? Job 14:12.
10. What is the condition of all the dead? Job 14:12.
11. How will they be awakened? Job 14:15.
12. When will the nation Israel be raised? Jno. 6:39,40,44,54.
13. Did the apostles have any hope of ever going to heaven? Jno. 13:33.
14. Did David ever go to heaven? Acts 2:29,34.
15. Will the apostles' thrones of glory be in heaven or on the earth? Matt. 24:30; 25:31; 19:28.
16. When will the church of God be raised? 1 Cor. 15:52, Rev. 11:15.
17. When Paul belonged to the church of God, what was his hope? 1 Thess. 4:17.
18. When Paul later became a member of the Body, what then was his hope? Phil. 3:11.
19. Who are to be cast into the lake of fire? Rev. 20:15.
20. What awful thing did they do? Rev. 13:4-8.
21. What should be the hope of every member of the Body today? Col. 3:4.

WHAT IS YOUR HOPE?

The foregoing questions are only teasers. They are to make you study and think. They are not by any means exhaustive enough to lead to conclusions. I trust that you will look up every reference on the subjects introduced and then abide by what God says.

-SOME OF OUR RADIO HIGHLIGHTS-

Preaching of the truth brings persecution and hatred.

My purpose is not to explain the Bible, but to let the Bible explain what God wants us to know.

The place where evil began is the place where restoration will begin.

It is a wonderful thing to be in the will of God.

Any saved person is a saint.

Very little can be found in all the Bible that is addressed to the unbeliever.

Grace and peace describe the attitude of God toward men. Let us be thankful.

When God pardons sin, He also takes away the guilt.

There is nothing whatsoever of predestination for the unbeliever.

Some day, amid the principalities and powers of the super-heavenlies, the church which is the Body of Christ will stand and praise God for His wonderful grace.

Included in redemption is the forgiveness of sins.

Absolutely without a cause the grace of God justifies the ungodly.

Sin can delay, but it cannot stop the execution of God's plans and purposes.

For any one member of the Body of Christ to claim even one thing that belonged to the Jews, even to the observance of one Jewish ritual, is to deny his calling and his place in the Body of Christ.

Any opposition to the will of God can end only in destruction.

We can work better with God if we know something of his plan or counsel.

There is absolutely no milk in Paul's epistles after Acts.

It is a great temptation to a minister of the gospel to speak of carnal things in carnal terms, for these things are understood by the most of their audiences.

Knowledge, without knowing how to use it, is useless.

Sinful man does not like to retain God in his knowledge.

It is much easier to pray after reading a portion of the Word

-SOME PROBLEMS-

The question has often come up as to the time and place of the various books of the latter part of the Bible. There is no exact time that can be given to each, but we can give most of them some approximate time, especially in relation to each other.

The 4 gospels, Matt., Mark, Luke, and John really belong to the Old Testament. The New Testament did not really begin until it was ratified by the blood of Christ on Calvary.

Acts, and the epistles written during the Acts period, was to a remnant of Israel and a small group of Gentiles who were grafted into Israel to receive their blessings.

Outside of the one instance of Peter preaching in the house of Cornelius, none of the 12 apostles ever preached to or wrote to the Gentiles. Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles, but up to the end of Acts, his ministry was always to the Jew first.

After Acts Paul wrote;

Ephesians	about 62
Philippians	about 62
Colossians	about 62
Philemon	about 62
1 Timothy	about 67
Titus	about 67
2 Timothy	about 68

These were the only books of the Bible that were written in the present dispensation of the MYSTERY, with the possible exception of the Revelation. It was not an epistle written to a church of that time, but is entirely prophecy and all of it deals with the future. None of it has come to pass yet. It is concerning Israel and will be a source of instruction and comfort to them when the last days come.

It was given to Paul to finish the Scriptures for us Gentiles, but John could have written the Revelation after the beginning of the present dispensation since it is entirely prophetic.

So all the other books of the N T except the gospels, Rev., and the above named epistles of Paul, are to Israel and concern them.

-TRUTH FOR TODAY-

This issue completes a year for the paper, TRUTH FOR TODAY. Tho it is only a mimeographed paper, we have enjoyed putting it out. It has taken some time and expense, but the response to our crude beginning has been very good. It will be necessary to continue using the mimeograph for some time as that reduces the printing and mailing expense to about 2¢ a copy when putting out the two sheets as I have been doing. I hope to increase that to three sheets. Both the expense and the time I have to put in on it must be considered. I would like to get a better quality of paper and ink later so you can read it more easily.

There is no charge for the paper and am glad to send it to you and any friends you may wish to get it. If this copy is marked SAMPLE, it may be the only one you will get unless you request it to be continued. Just send a card if you want it.

At this writing I have put on 38 radio programs over WRSW. That makes a total of close to 96,000 words. I do not believe that the response to the radio program has been as good as that to the paper. However a lot of folks are listening and we pray that they may be benefitted by the messages.

We are still working on Gene-

sis and Acts in the classes held at my home on Sunday afternoons. We also deal with questions that different ones ask. If you live in this community, you are invited to come to these Sunday afternoon classes. They are quite informal.

I have some alfalfa hay cut down, but it has rained on it now about 5 days, so I have time to work on this paper. I imagine plenty of you are having the same experience with the hay.

In the last few weeks three nice calves have come to our herd. Two of them are bright little Guernsey heifers which we intend to keep for cows. They may be able to help with the TRUTH FOR TODAY ministry. The other one is a Holstein male. He is running with his mother in the pasture now, but will soon sell him for veal.

Also I want to give credit to Mrs. Baker and our daughter, Ruth, for help in addressing, folding, and stamping the papers. It takes several hours of work and it seems that the farm keeps us all busy.

I have several unanswered letters here that I must get at next. Just be patient, I will get them done eventually. I enjoy the correspondence and the questions that many of you ask. Just keep it up.

Our home is 4 miles south of Atwood and 6 miles west of Warsaw on the Harrison Center road.

TRUTH FOR TODAY
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Sec. 562, P.L. & R.

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