

-ALL TRUTH-

"howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you in to ALL TRUTH:...." (Jno. 16:13).

The speaker in this passage is the Lord. It is the night before His death. He is speaking to the disciples, the 12. These are the ones to whom THE GREAT COMMISSION was given. This task was not given to the 70, the 120, nor to the 500. It was given to the 12 only. This work they were to do was to preach the kingdom. It was begun at Pentecost when Peter opened the DOORS OF THE KINGDOM to the Jews. It would not be completed until they had gone thru the whole world offering the kingdom and the New Covenant to all the 12 tribes.

These disciples, who were made into apostles, had the promise of sharing in the kingdom. They were to have 12 thrones and help rule over the 12 tribes of Israel. They were never given any hope of going to heaven and sharing in any blessings there. They were only to occupy until the Lord should come. There was no provision made for any successors to them. For they fully expected the kingdom to be set up in their lifetime. If it had not been for the complete rejection of the King and the kingdom and the New Covenant by Israel, all this could have come about in that generation. But the coming of the King and the setting up of the kingdom were postponed at Acts 28:28. The few remaining weeks of Daniel are still to be fulfilled.

The ALL TRUTH promised to these entrusted with the Great Commission was all the truth they would need for a kingdom ministry. It did not include THE MYSTERY which was entrusted to Paul, for they had no revelation of it or any part in it. The Lord kept His word and did reveal all the truth these 12 needed for their ministry. We dare not say that the special revelation given to Paul was included in this promise, for we have no record that it was ever revealed to them. There was no reason why it should be. Let us rightly divide the Word.

-DOORS OPEN--DOORS SHUT-

"And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven:..."

These are the words the Lord said unto Peter in Matt. 16:19. The kingdom of heaven was a kingdom from heaven which would be set up on the earth. It was a kingdom of the Jews, the 12 tribes. Christ was to rule over this kingdom, sitting on the throne of His father David. Entrance into this kingdom was restricted. According to the parables, this kingdom was at first entered by invitation. It required faith. It required the new heart which could only be gotten by coming under the New Covenant. No one could enter until the one who held the keys gave the invitation or opened the door.

1. The door was opened to the Jews on the day of Pentecost after the resurrection of the Lord. None but Jews entered that day. But they were Jews from 12 different countries or nations. This kingdom was primarily a kingdom of the Jews, not Gentiles. Up until the 10th chapter of Acts, not a single Gentile was ever given an invitation to enter the kingdom. His only chance would be to become a Jew first, observing all the ceremonial law of the Jews.

2. The door of the kingdom was first opened to Gentiles at Acts 10 in the house of Cornelius, the centurion. Again Peter was the one who did the opening. In response to a vision and a special message from heaven, he did this. It was against the law. He had to defend himself before the council for this strange action. But his testimony and the evidence of the Holy Spirit convinced the council that it was the will of God. From then on, as natural branches were cut out, wild olive branches were grafted in. This was the practice up to Acts 28:28. But the Jew was still first. He was subject to the law; the Gentile was not.

3. The door of the kingdom was SHUT to both Jew and Gentile at Acts 28:28 by the apostle Paul. It will not be opened again until????

-RAISED, SEATED, MANIFESTED-

It was known in other dispensations that Christ should be raised, seated, and some day be manifested in His glory. But it was never revealed that a believer could be identified with Him in these three respects. In the dispensation of THE MYSTERY or the dispensation of GRACE it is revealed for the first time that a believer can be raised, seated, and manifested with Christ.

I. RAISED. In Rom. 6 Paul says that like as Christ was raised from the dead, the believer should walk in newness of life. But Eph. 2:6 declares that now the believer is raised with Him. During Acts it had been revealed that the believer could be identified with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. But there the identification had to cease, for those believers hoped to be on the earth during the kingdom time. They were not to be raised to the heavenly sphere. They will be glorified here on the earth.

II. SEATED. Since all other dispensations were earthly, the idea of being seated with Christ on His Father's throne would have been a foolish one, to say the least. It was absolutely inconceivable that such a thing could be. It would have been a distinct shock to have mentioned such a thing to the 12 apostles. Their hope was to be seated on 12 thrones here on the earth, judging the 12 tribes of Israel. They had no idea that believers would ever go to heaven.

III. MANIFESTED. It was known that Christ would be manifested to the earth in the clouds of the air. It was known that Christ would be manifested here on the earth in His glory. It was even revealed to John in the Rev. that Christ would be manifested in His glory in the heavens. But that a group of believers should be manifested with Him in His glory in the heavenlies was a new revelation when the SECRET or MYSTERY was revealed to the apostle Paul.

Those who are members of His Body have a close relationship to the HEAD. There can be no separation. Where the HEAD is the BODY must be. Let us walk worthy.

-THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD-

"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the PRINCE OF THIS WORLD be cast out." Jno. 12:31.

All this was soon fulfilled. It was when the world pronounced judgment upon Christ and His claims. Then they cast or thrust Him out. They would not have Him to rule over them as Prince. They murdered the Prince of peace.

"for the PRINCE OF THIS WORLD cometh, and hath nothing in me." Jno. 14:30.

In reading various translations and looking up the words, I believe this should read, "for the PRINCE OF THIS WORLD comes, and it (the world) has no power over Me." The Lord could lay down His life and take it up again. The world could judge Him and cast Him out, but only as allowed. Not one thing could have been done against Him had He resisted.

"And when He (the Comforter) is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on Me; Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye shall see Me no more; Of judgment, because the PRINCE OF THIS WORLD is judged."

There are three things the Holy Spirit will do. First He will convict the world in respect of sin, (see the R V). This is the sin of unbelief. Second He will convict the world in respect of righteousness. This is because Christ rose from the dead and ascended to the Father, thus proving that He was righteous. Third He will convict the world of their judgment of Christ Who came as PRINCE OF THIS WORLD and they thrust Him out.

Never for a moment would the Holy Spirit concede that Satan was prince of this world. The First-born or Prince of Creation is the Lord Jesus Christ. Satan may be prince of demons (Matt. 9:34; 12:24 and Mark 3:22), and prince of the powers of the air (Eph. 2:2), but the PRINCE OF THIS WORLD is the One Who eventually will subdue all things to Himself. Satan has aspired to this position.

-THE REIGN OF DEATH-

In Rom. 5:14 the statement is made that death reigned from Adam to Moses. There is absolutely no warrant to say that death ceased its reign after Moses. That cannot be implied from this statement. At this present writing death still reigns, and will continue to reign until it is destroyed.

By one man sin entered the world and by sin came death. This death comes upon all. All have to die for the sin of Adam. Even the sin was not imputed where there was no law, yet death takes all. There was no law from Adam to Moses and consequently no imputation of sin, yet death reigned during that time. The law added to condemnation and after Moses death had even a greater reign. In the present day of grace, where the enlightenment is greatest, condemnation will also be the greatest and death will reign all the more.

In all ages children have died in infancy. They knew no sin. But death reigned. They died for the sin of Adam. Multitudes have lived and died as idiots or insane. But death reigned over them as well. They also died for the sin of Adam.

There are two instances of where men have so far escaped death. In each instance they were taken up. It is quite likely that these are the two witnesses of Rev. 11. Yet they too will come under the reign of death and die for the sin of Adam.

Adam was the head of the race. He was the first head of the race.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the second Adam. There is no comparison between the two. By one offense of Adam death came upon all. But after many, many offenses, the righteousness of One Who was obedient unto death was sufficient to bring justification of life to all. This is a great comfort. It settles the question as to the destiny of the infants who died, the idiots and insane who died, and all who died outside of the knowledge of God and His law.

The ONE THING that can bar a person from LIFE is the WILFUL rejection of light, truth, and God.

-BY LIFE OR BY DEATH-

There was one great dominant purpose in the life of the apostle Paul. That purpose was to magnify Christ.

With such a purpose in view, it made little difference if he was persecuted by his enemies or neglected and betrayed by his friends.

The basic form of idolatry is selfishness. This starts when a man says, "I will." This form of idolatry is so widespread that one does not wonder that the apostle said, "All men seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's."

When Paul was in chains and seemingly deserted by his friends in Rome, he still was able to say, "With all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life or by death." Paul was living in uncertainty from day to day. His life depended upon the caprice of Caesar. Every time a guard would approach, he knew it might be with the news that he was to go forth to execution. But Paul had so dedicated himself to the ministry of the gospel that even if he died the death of a martyr, he knew it would be to Christ's gain. His boldness in preaching the gospel in bonds had already had effect on other workers and they took courage.

In the midst of such danger, Paul had peace. He trusted the Lord. He had committed everything into His care. He knew that if the Lord had more use for him as a living witness, then his life would be preserved. Paul did not have any business connections or property to worry about. All had been given in the service of the Lord. This was necessary for walking worthy of the calling wherewith he was called. This was necessary for the race he was running with a prize in view. He was able to take the suffering, for he knew that without it there would be no crown.

Not only was Paul faithful to his trust, but to us he still says, "Brethren, be followers together of me." Can we take up the challenge? For him, either to live or to die was Christ's gain.

-THE EDITOR'S DESK-

Radio Bible Class, TRUTH FOR TODAY, each Tuesday nite at 7. The station is WRSW in Warsaw. Tune to 107.3 on the FM dial.

TRUTH FOR TODAY fellowship meets at my home each Tuesday nite at 7:45 for Bible Study. We are working in Romans and Philipians now. You are welcome to attend at any time. Bring your Bible.

TRUTH FOR TODAY is the name of this little paper. We try to get it out each month. There is no subscription price. We would like for it to go into the homes of all who would like a true "mystery" magazine, as it is dedicated to the exposition of the MYSTERY. Send in names and addresses of persons who might be interested.

I have a complete stock of the publications of C. H. Welch that are now in print. A set of 10 of his pamphlets, \$1.37. Books; JUST AND THE JUSTIFIER, \$1.90. DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, \$1.25. THE TESTIMONY OF THE LORD'S PRISONER, \$1.25. MIRACLE, PARABLE, AND SIGN, \$1.40. THE FORCE OF SOUND WORDS, 75¢. Add about 10% to cover postage.

We sold Goldie's calf. It was 7 weeks old and weighed 255#. Susibel had a male calf July 29. Gene of Ternes Farms had a male calf July 30. It is a purebred Brown Swiss sired by Wahalla Dutch Master. Would like to sell him.

The goats are for sale. There are 6 does and a fine buck named

Pegasus of Sunnyslope. If you can help us to dispose of these animals it will be appreciated.

The Sudan grass is ready for the cows to pasture. Part of the field is being reserved for hay. It is only a fair stand this year.

I have about 12 acres of alfalfa cut down and well watered by the rains. May rake it tomorrow, (8-2).

We have a fine crop of chiggers this year. (Scratch, scratch)

Mrs. Baker and I plan to be in Muskegon Aug. 6 and 27 where I will be speaker at the Gospel Fellowship.

Plans are not yet complete for me to be in Washington, Ill. in Sept. Watch for announcements.

Receipts for June; A55 \$1., A56 \$2., A57 \$1., A58 (Australia) \$11., A59 (Australia) \$2.75, A60 \$2., A61 \$5., A62 \$1., A63 \$25., A64 \$10. Total expense \$54.56. Thanks a lot for the lift. We kept out of the red this time.

I have received a number of letters recently which are very encouraging and which I appreciate very much. I will not give the names of the writers, so that I will not in any way embarrass them or seem to appear to be boasting. Just keep on writing. I would like to hear from all of you.

My home is on the Harrison Center road, 6 miles west and a little south of Warsaw, or 4 miles south of Atwood. Come over and see us sometime.

OSCAR M. BAKER, R 2, Warsaw, Ind.

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