

-THE NAME MANIFEST-

In John 17:6 the Lord said, I HAVE MANIFESTED THY NAME. This reminds us of Exodus 34:5; AND THE LORD DESCENDED IN THE CLOUD..... AND PROCLAIMED THE NAME OF THE LORD. Names not only point out and designate articles, but often are descriptive and give attributes of the article named. Here in Exodus the name is further explained in verses 6 and 7. THE LORD, THE LORD GOD, MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS, LONG-SUFFERING, AND ABUNDANT IN GOODNESS AND TRUTH, KEEPING MERCY FOR THOUSANDS, FORGIVING INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION AND SIN, AND THAT WILL BY NO MEANS CLEAR THE GUILTY; VISITING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON THE CHILDREN, AND UPON THE CHILDREN'S CHILDREN, UNTO THE THIRD AND TO THE FOURTH GENERATION.

The word LORD in this passage was originally JEHOVAH. He is making known to His people His character. The dominant traits are mercy and kindness. This kindness is so great that justice is tempered and instead of a man bearing the full penalty for his sin, (thereby having to die), the punishment is spread out over 3 or 4 generations and so lessened in its severity.

God desires to reveal Himself to His creatures so much, but they will not turn to Him nor do they wish to know Him. From the time that God sought Adam in the garden till now, He has been seeking man and trying to make Himself known.

God's supreme effort to make Himself known was by coming in flesh and dwelling among men. As the Son, He manifested the NAME, the attributes of the Father to them. He revealed the Father. He manifested His character. He displayed His perfections. This revelation was made to WHOM THOU GAVEST ME OUT OF THE WORLD. At one time there were over 500 of these, (1 Cor. 15:6). See Psa. 22:22.

Jehovah, manifest in flesh, said in John 14:9, HE THAT HATH SEEN ME HATH SEEN THE FATHER. The Word of God is a record of the Son. By it, we too can know both the Father and the Son.

-PRACTICE #7-

After putting on Christ (the whole armor of God, Eph. 6:11-17), comes the exhortation to prayer. The prayer is to be IN THE SPIRIT and with WATCHING. The subject is prayer for all saints. Believers should spend more time praying for each other. Then Paul ends by asking for prayer for himself. It is threefold, and has to do with his utterance or speaking in regard to the MYSTERY.

1. THAT I MAY OPEN MY MOUTH. In Col. 4:3 he prays for a door of utterance. Paul ever seeks opportunity to speak concerning his Lord and the message the risen Lord had committed to him. Paul not only asks for the opportunity, the opened door, but also for the very words with which to make known the secret or mystery which was entrusted to him. The word BOLDLY should be in connection with KNOWN and not with OPEN. In the midst of opposition and persecution there was need for boldness. It also takes boldness in this day of indifference and scoffing in which we now live. The Bible today is ridiculed and discounted by the very ones who have sworn to uphold it and proclaim its good news. To proclaim Paul's gospel today will most likely result in excommunication.

2. THAT THEREIN I MAY SPEAK BOLDLY. Therein, of course, refers to his bonds or chains. Most of us find it difficult to speak when free. What would we do if we were chained to a Roman soldier? Also Paul makes it known again that he is an ambassador. He is a spokesman for his beloved Lord. He must make known the will of his Lord regardless of his condition.

3. AS I OUGHT TO SPEAK. Too many of us think that we have no particular responsibility in making the gospel known. We are willing to leave it to those who claim a special calling to the ministry. But the good deposit has been handed down to us from Paul and we are responsible for it. The two appearances of BOLDLY in this passage should give us heart for our task.

-ENLIGHTENED EYES-

The most common form of blindness today is spiritual blindness. The god of this world has blinded the eyes of multitudes lest they should see the glorious things that God has in store for them. We all should pray for God to enlighten the eyes of our understanding in order that;

1. We might know WHAT IS THE HOPE OF HIS CALLING. It is HIS calling. But it may be our calling if so be that we are identified with Him. He is our hope. But where do we realize that hope and when? It is in the heavenlies that we expect to see Him, not here on the earth. Earth peoples will see Him coming in the clouds with great glory. But it is our hope to see Him manifested in His glory in the heavenlies before He begins His return to the earth.

2. We might know WHAT THE RICHES OF THE GLORY OF HIS INHERITANCE IN THE SAINTS. All whom the Father has given to the Son constitutes the Son's inheritance. We who belong to the Son are a part of His inheritance. Therefore all that belongs to Him belongs to us. There are riches of grace for the present and riches of glory for the future. God will supply all needs. It is glory to know the gospel of the dispensation of the MYSTERY. But connected with the hope (His manifestation in the heavenlies) is the fact that we are to be manifested there with Him in His glory.

3. We might know WHAT IS THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER. The experience of His great power is only to those who believe. It is the self-same power that raised our Lord from the dead. It is the power that has exalted Him far above all principality and power and might and dominion. It is the power that has placed His name far above every name in all the universe, and made Him to be Head over all things to the Church which is His Body. This power we have at our disposal, to keep us and to make us workmen that can do the good works which were before ordained for us.

-THE WILL OF THE FATHER-

The term FATHER suggests the idea of children. Such we are. As children we find some items of interest as to how, why and for what purpose we are children.

1. We are children by CHOICE. But it is by His choice, not ours. The choice is not according to our attainments, but in Christ. The choice is not based on what we do or have done, but was long before such things came to light. It is from before the OVERTHROW of the world. See Companion Bible note on Eph. 1:4.

2. The object of the Father in thus choosing us was that we should be HOLY. Before the overthrow, which was the result of Satan's fall, long before man appeared on the earth, long before we were born and had any activity, either for good or bad, we were chosen that we might be holy.

3. The motive, the thing that moved God to thus act, was LOVE. This we cannot comprehend or explain. We have just the bare fact. It was the same love which prompted the Father to give His only begotten Son for the world.

4. All in Christ have a PREDESTINATION. Predestination does not reach to any outside of Christ. The word PREDESTINATION means (pre) BEFORE, and (destination) GOAL. Those in a ship are predestined. They are carried to the goal. Those in Christ likewise are predestinated. In Him they have part in His glory and inheritance.

5. The object in doing all this is that He might place us as SONS in His family, that we might become a part of a household and thereby come under a dispensation or stewardship. What a glorious privilege it is to be those chosen and placed to come under the jurisdiction of such a loving and thoughtful Father!

6. We may search for a reason for all this. We may wonder why God does all this. It is briefly stated in Eph. 1:5, ACCORDING TO THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS WILL. May we walk worthy of such a calling.

-STUDIES IN JOHN- BML #9.

1. What two simple things are required for obtaining everlasting life? 5:24
2. Would you say that these 2 things could be classified as good works, or is everlasting life unconditional as far as works are concerned?
3. Is freedom from condemnation conditional for the believer?
4. Can one who has life ever come into condemnation? Compare 5:24 with Rom. 8:1.
5. Has verse 26 been fulfilled yet? See 11:43,44.
6. What two prerogatives has the Father given to the Son? 26,27
7. We have to be very careful as to how much we include in the term ALL when it occurs in the Word. Now here is an instance. Does verse 28 include both saved and unsaved?
8. If it does include both, then are people saved by works after all? 29
9. Can it be that ALL here means all who have life and the judging is in relation to rewards? Compare with 1 Cor. 3:10-15.
10. Why is the Lord's judgment just? 30
11. Why was the Lord's witness of Himself insufficient alone? Deut. 19:15.
12. What man was a witness?
13. What was a greater witness?
14. Why could not the Word of God abide in these Jews? 38
15. From the beginning to the end, what is the testimony of the Scriptures?
16. Can any person know God and reject this testimony?
17. To Whom must one come in order to have life?
18. Who is coming in his own name some day? 2 Thess. 2:3,4.
19. How does Moses accuse these Jews?
20. If folks will not believe the Word, can they believe in the Son?

Do not copy. Just write down the numbers and the answers. Leave room for comments and corrections. Write letters on separate paper so I can file them with carbons of replies.

DEAR YOUNG FOLKS; New members of the BML are: Anita Freed of Newaygo Mich., Mrs. Lucille Abbatooy of Bitely Mich., and La Mar Rummel of Nappanee, Ind.

Bert Riemersma of Holland Mich. is the only one so far who has sent in a correct answer for the brain teaser of last month. What is the matter with the rest of you?

You can still join the BML by sending me the answers to the questions in the first column on this page. Do it now.

The problems of the world today are entirely too complex for the young folks to solve alone and without Christ. Spare yourself all the grief and shame and disappointment that comes from failure. When one goes into partnership with the Lord, failure is impossible.

Because Christ was entirely submissive to the will of the Father, He was highly exalted. That is the only path to a high place yet today. Can you trust the will of the Father in your life? Can you take Christ on as pilot in your life?

Don't be a sissy. Have enough backbone to stand for right in any circumstances. Any dead fish can float downstream. It takes a little backbone to keep from drifting with the crowd. Do you dare to be different when it is the right thing?

The eyes are the windows of the soul, is an old saying. It gladdens my heart to look into the clear eyes of young folks who have nothing to hide. It is a sad day when they begin to draw the curtains and those brite eyes begin to be shaded and uncertain. Wrong thots which result in wrong deeds soon dull the eyes. They are no longer interesting. Such eyes would be afraid to behold the Lord.

You are going to find that it is impossible to be well-spoken of by both Christ and the world. You are compelled to make a choice. The Jews chose Barabbas. What is your choice going to be?

Thanks a lot for all the nice letters last month. Glad to make so many new acquaintances.

Yours in HIM, --Oscar M. Baker-

-THE EDITOR'S DESK-

NOTICE: Beginning with Feb. 5th the TRUTH FOR TODAY Bible Class will meet at the Hotel Hays in Warsaw each Tue. nite at 7:45. It will be easy to find as it is up town and on Road 30..

We sold Susiebel, Cookie, Stella, and Betty. That gives more room in the barn, and the hay will last a little longer too.

Brownie, son of Beauty, is about ready to take a one way trip to the city. It is not likely that we will meet him there as we cannot afford veal chops.

After so many delays, finally made it to visit Hobart Ind. on Jan. 13. Mr. Haberman of Bourbon went along and drove his car. Had lots of fog and some engine trouble but got there OK. Met the class in the afternoon and evening and drove home on Monday. It was still quite foggy. Milo Stump has a fine class there in Hobart.

Your editor is not a scholar or authority on the Bible. Once he did attend a seminary for a few weeks, but has not studied Hebrew or even Greek. He is a farmer, a dairy farmer and has to make a living as most of you do. He makes mistakes too. So you had better check with your Bible what he writes and says.

Some of these days we will be on AM too. Tune to 1400 and wait.

We are back to 4 pages for a while again. Have been neglecting our tent making too much.

BOOKS by C.H.WELCH for sale:

JUST AND JUSTIFIER.....	\$2.50
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BAGSTER PUBLICATIONS:

ENGLISHMAN'S GREEK CONCORDANCE	8.00
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All book prices are postpaid. Receipts for Dec., #383-406 with a total of \$118. Expenses were \$32.64. We are saving all the surplus for the new typewriter. Thanks a lot for the interest and help.

Four Vol. set, WORD STUDIES IN THE N T, by Vincent. Like new, \$16.

Send for your copy of the new publication, THE OPENED BOOK. The address is 501 Apple Ave., Muskegon Mich. Editor, Garret Hazekamp.

Recently we have made several new contacts with folks in Canada.

The TRUTH FOR TODAY monthly publication is free. Send us names and addresses of your friends.

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