

Biography Of

Paul N. Smith

Paul Nathaniel Smith, son of the late Joe and Lucille (Nolting) Smith, was born on April 29, 1924 in Kansas City, Missouri. He went home to be with The Lord on February 12, 2010 at the age of 85 years, 9 months and 13 days.

Bro. Smith was raised in the Kansas City area and moved to Topeka, Kansas where he graduated from high school in 1941. He attended Grace and Glory Bible College in 1943 and 1944 and was Pastor of a Church in Belen, New Mexico from 1945 to 1947. He was united in marriage to Ruth Ellen Riddle on November 30, 1954 in Kansas City, Missouri, where they raised three children. By this time he had moved back to the Kansas City area where he had assumed oversight of the Grace and Glory Print Shop; this after he attended the Topeka Camp Meeting and was informed by Bro. Albert Astle that Sis. Bodie wished to see him. He did not want to see her, for he knew what she wanted, but reluctantly agreed to abide by her wishes. Bro. Smith became Pastor of The Christian Assembly Tabernacle in Kansas City in 1959, and was at the same time director of Grace and Glory Bible College. It was also at this time that he became editor of the Grace and Glory Magazine, thus during its 100 year history of publication, he has been responsible and faithful for over 50 of them, surely a record that will never be broken.

He moved both the Grace and Glory Print Shop and Bible School to Mountain Grove, Missouri in 1980 and continued to spread the glorious message of Divine Grace as he made the classes available and also founded a Church in that community. The Lord did indeed prosper the Smiths, and Grace and Glory not only expanded, but became virtually debt free. Both he, and Sis. Smith, were also actively involved in civic matters, hosting a foreign exchange student from Germany in the process. He assured

them before he left that he had indeed accepted Christ as Savior.

During the late 80's Sis. Smith organized the Tri County Literacy Program in Mountain Grove, and received a Missouri Community Betterment Award from the Governor of Missouri. Bro. Smith served as a member of the Mountain Grove Chamber, Wright County Crisis Center Board, Ministerial Alliance, and was a City Alderman. Presently, he had made the Grace and Glory Bible School available to hold classes for AA and a spousal abuse program entitled "Hit No More."

When he was past 60, he learned to paint and had a number of them hanging on the walls of a restaurant in Mountain Grove. He also painted a mural which graces the Church here in Grandview, and expressed to a number of us that he thought he was "anointed" as he created the images on that canvas. Others, including myself, are persuaded that this was his crowning work.

This dear brother in The Lord never met a stranger and was known as a kind and compassionate friend and neighbor. He will be truly missed by his family, friends, and neighbors, and we mourn the fact that a great deal of light, faith, and wisdom, has been taken out of this world.

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**Sleep On**

"Sleep on, beloved, sleep and take thy rest.  
Lay down thy head upon the Saviour's breast.  
We loved thee well, but Jesus loved thee best.  
Good-night, good-night, good-night.  
"Until the Easter glory lights the skies;  
Until the dead in Jesus shall arise,  
And He shall come, but not in lowly guise,  
"Good-night, good-night, good-night."

Anon



Gene Hawkins

“The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,....and, lo, they were very dry. ....Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, .... O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD..... And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.....So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.” Ezek. 37:1-10

Speaking on the recent 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz in Poland, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu proclaimed the fulfillment of the above prophecy, as he said: "Armed with the Jewish spirit, the justice of man, and the vision of the prophets, we sprouted new branches and grew deep roots. Dry bones became covered with flesh, a spirit filled them, and they lived and stood on their own feet."

Jan Markell, founder and director of Olive Tree Ministries, comments that Netanyahu's statement “helps debunk the idea that modern Israel is just a secular country with no connection to ancient biblical prophecy. There is a degree of spirituality in Israel, recently with this Benjamin Netanyahu saying that Ezekiel 37 is now fulfilled," she notes. "So I'm encouraged when the top leader in the nation of Israel comes out and stands up for the Bible. This is absolutely tremendously good news."

While we too applaud Mr. Netanyahu’s claiming scripture in behalf of Israel, we can in no wise agree that Ezekiel 37 has been fulfilled, the reason being V.6. “And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.” This is a reference to the spiritual new birth of Israel, which will

happen only when she, as a nation, accepts Jesus as The Messiah. Prime Minister Netanyahu's comments seem to point more attention to their own ingenuity and efforts, rather than to this exclusive supernatural work of The Lord. Note also the results The LORD would achieve: "ye shall know that I am the LORD." This is not happening in Israel today. They are still very much self sufficient, depending mostly on the nations, rather than the LORD, to supply their arms and negotiate settlements with their enemies. They have made one compromise after another trying to placate the nations and achieve a peaceful coexistence with their Arab neighbors.

The outcome of Vice President Joseph Biden's recent trip to the Middle East underscores this fact. Following Israel's announcement that it would build new housing units in East Jerusalem, an area it captured in the Six Day War in 1967, he reportedly told Netanyahu: "What you're doing here undermines the security of our troops who are fighting in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan." President Obama tried to defuse the situation and stated that there "was no crisis," but added, "There is a disagreement in terms of how we can move this peace process forward." Secretary of State Hillary Clinton also "delivered a stinging rebuke to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his government's announcement this week of new Jewish housing in east Jerusalem, calling it 'a deeply negative signal' for the Mideast peace process and ties with the U.S."

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC, the powerful lobbying group, most assuredly disagreed with President Obama's assessment, and said "The Obama Administration's recent statements regarding the U.S. relationship with Israel are a matter of serious concern. AIPAC calls on the Administration to take immediate steps to defuse the tension with the Jewish State." The group added that "The Administration should make a conscious effort to move away from public demands and unilateral deadlines directed at Israel."

We do not know whether or not Israel will ultimately be pressured into surrendering part of this city, God's city, to establish the two state capital demanded by the Palestinians and the present American administration. What we do know is that the army of "dry bones" to which the Prime Minister alluded, will not be assembled until Israel puts their confidence in The LORD rather than the nations, as they are now prone to do.

This month's Grace and Glory is dedicated to the memory of Bro. Smith and for that reason we are reprinting the "Definite Sign Posts Of The End" published in July 1967, a record of the three-day war between Israel and Egypt in June of that year, wherein Israel captured the land now in question. Men like Nasser, Hussein, and Eshkol, have given way to those such as Netanyahu, Ahmadinejad, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Arab League chief Amr Moussa and the foreign ministers of Egypt, Jordan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, but both the Israeli and Arab attitudes remain the same, as they were at that time. Israel's enemies are determined to annihilate her, and Israel is confident that, given enough support from the nations, they will prevail and achieve their goals.

"BUT OF THE TIMES AND THE SEASONS, BRETHREN, YE HAVE NO NEED THAT I WRITE UNTO YOU. FOR YOURSELVES KNOW PERFECTLY THAT THE DAY OF THE LORD SO COMETH AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT. BUT YE, BRETHREN, ARE NOT IN DARKNESS, THAT THAT DAY SHOULD OVERTAKE YOU AS A THIEF. YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF LIGHT, AND THE CHILDREN OF THE DAY: WE ARE NOT OF THE NIGHT, NOR OF DARKNESS" - I Thessalonians 5:1,2,4,5.

#### VICTORY FOR ISRAEL

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| Israel jubilantly declared victory over its Arab enemies, only sixty hours after the first shots were fired in the Mideast war. Israel's forces set a new record in their sweep to the | Suez Canal. The last time, it took them just four days to rout the Arabian forces. This time, and on their own, it took them only three days to utterly humiliate Nasser's forces. It |
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was reported that even the most confident never expected such a quick and clear-cut victory!

At the start of this brief war, Israel was very confident of victory. Prime Minister Levi Eshkol declared, "We shall repulse the enemy and defeat his army." Although Tel Aviv underwent three air alerts, the population remained calm. They gathered around radios, in front of supermarkets, parked taxis, busses, and on doorsteps, listening to news bulletins.

Prime Minister Eshkol further declared over the state radio: "Throughout the years since he assumed power, the ruler of Egypt has been announcing his plans and his preparation to attack Israel in order to destroy her. In the last three weeks he has not concealed from the world the fact that the time has come to carry out his scheme.

"Arrogantly and braggingly Nasser has made a mockery of international law, has scrapped the charter of the United Nations, and brought to naught mankind's aspirations to peace.

"Our forces are strong enough to frustrate the scheme of the aggressor."

NASSER'S BIG BOASTS AND PLANS. HAVE BEEN SWEEPED AWAY WITH DEFEAT. It was only four days prior to June eighth, that Egypt's president was riding high. Today, his dream of ruling a United Arab world has been blasted by Israel's guns. His boastful attitude, for the three weeks before the outbreak of war, gave strength to his undisputed claim of ruler of the Arabs. He seemed to have forged a new unity among the Arab nations. He was the exalted monarch, and the Egyptian people were whipped into a fanatical patriotism behind their leader. Their hatred of the Jews was apparent, and they wanted the total destruction of Israel.

Today, as they look around at the ruins brought about by their little enemy, we wonder what their thoughts are. Surely they know by now, after three decisive defeats since 1948, that they are no match for these ancient people of God. However, like the Pharaoh of old, Nasser's

heart will not be softened toward Israel. Though ten such defeats would come to him, the devil has entered his heart and there is no repentance. He is Satan's tool at this moment; but again we see that God's hand is still ruling His world.

The ancient enemy of Israel, Edom and his descendants, will never live peaceably with the Jews. The nations will strive to bring an accord among them, but the hatred is too deeply seated. The hostility goes back thousands of years. Only God's intervention can bring peace to the hearts of the Israelites. These Arab countries, with the possible exception of Jordan, will stubbornly persist in their aggression of Israel's territory. They may draw back for awhile and nurse their wounds, but their hearts still flame with hatred for the Jews.

ISRAEL WINS OBJECTIVES IN WAR WITH THE ARAB STATES. The Israel air force dealt a fatal blow to the air forces of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq. Their superior tank forces

swept through the Sinai desert to the Suez Canal. Thus, a nation 'of around two and one-half million population gained a monumental victory over the combined nations of one hundred million people! They achieved this victory without any outside help. No other nation came to their aid; and, though fighting from a hemmed-in position, they battled for their lives and the existence of their nation.

Their objectives were to lift the blockade of Aqaba by capturing Sharm El Sheikh, the Egyptian outpost overlooking the Strait of Tiran. To do this, the Israeli's covered nearly one hundred and fifty miles in less than three days!

Another objective was the securing of Israeli borders from Arab infiltration attacks, by the drive into Jordan and strike against the Syrian troops. This should end the border attacks against Israel. The greatest objective and most joyous was: ISRAEL'S TRIUMPHANT MARCH INTO OLD JERUSALEM. General Moshe Dayan, the one-eyed warrior, joyously declared,

"We have returned to Jerusalem never to part from her again." It was a thrill to hear and to see the Jews entering the city they love, and giving thanks to God for the privilege of worshiping at the wailing wall. For the first time in 1897 years, a Jew could go to the holiest place of his religion without asking permission of some foreign ruler.

In this brief war, the Israeli armies destroyed the air forces of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq. They chewed up a large portion of the Egyptian army in the desert. They seized every important military position in the Sinai Peninsula. They occupy most of Jordan west of the Jordan River. Yet the greatest joy to them was that now Jerusalem was theirs! It will take an overwhelming force to get Israel to give up the old city. They have not had this feeling of possession since the Babylon conquest of 606 B.C.

As the chief rabbi blew the ram's horn, thousands of Jews swarmed across the former dividing line between the two halves of

Jerusalem and rushed to the wailing wall - the only thing left from Solomon's temple. Their cry is, "We will never give it back." They will probably agree to withdraw from some of the ground which they gained; but nothing short of massive warfare will ever take the city of Jerusalem away from the Jews.

Many Christians have likened this battle to that of David and Goliath. We agree to a certain extent - that of their respective sizes. When David went out against Goliath and the Philistine armies, it was because the armies of the living God were under attack. David did not go in his own strength either. He declared, "I come to thee in the Name of the Lord of hosts." That meant that God had sent him. He had declared, "Is there not a cause?" I Samuel 17:45,29.

David did not ask for any military aid. Saul's armor was too cumbersome for him. He used the weapons of faith, and went forth in the will of God. There was no way that David could have been defeated. Also, David was

to be the next king of Israel, and God was training him for that place. He was "a man after His (God's) own heart" - I Samuel 13:14.

This modern victory is quite another story. We must admire Israel's bravery, determination, and warring prowess; but they did not go in the strength of the Lord. Many of the Jews who rushed into the old city of Jerusalem were atheists. Some were teenagers, who know very little of God's promises to Israel. There were some Orthodox Jews, who are looking for their Messiah to appear. It was a mixed group. There is a spirit of national pride among these people, rather than a religious zeal.

Another point of contrast is that these people went with the armor of man. They were equipped to a great extent by the United States. (It is also true that Egypt received more military aid from the United States than did Israel). But, they did not go with their slingshot of faith and the stones of grace. They used "Saul's armor," and this dependence is

going to bring them into greater trouble.

GOD WILL GIVE ISRAEL ALL THE LAND THAT BELONGS TO THEM. They will not need to fight for it, as they are doing today. This shows that these people are not trusting God as they will later. They seek the approval and help of the nations in their quest for the land. This dependence will lead to the covenant which their leaders will make with the nations. Daniel 9:27.

A seven-headed, ten-crowned beast will arise from the sea (or, the nations), and stand upon the sand of the shore - Revelation 13:1. We have noted the progress of this prophesied event before. The sandy shore speaks of the changing conditions among the nations of the world. We are standing where John stood in vision many years ago. This beast sticks his heads out of the waters occasionally; but, as yet, he has not emerged into full view from the waters.

It is with this confederacy of nations that Israel will make a covenant. It will be a treaty to end all

strife with the Arabs for all time. Israel is seeking such treaties even today. One official said, "We don't want to fight them every ten years. Perhaps this time they learned that they cannot overthrow this country and drive the Jews into the sea." Even now, the United Nations organization is deliberating on the future of Israel. Russia wants to save face and gain a little solace from the Arab's defeat. The Kremlin wants Israel to give back all the ground they gained. This would be ridiculous; and, of course, Israel will refuse. These problems will need solving; and the nations will sit at the conference table until something is settled.

In turning to the nations for help, Israel is showing their rejection of Jehovah. This victory will bolster their self confidence, and blind them to realities. They will not be able to trust Arab observance of these treaties, but yet they will enter into agreement with their enemies. If they trusted in God, they could boldly declare that God is their Helper, and no one

could drive them out of their land.

WHAT DOES THIS VICTORY OF ISRAEL MEAN REGARDING THE CHURCH? The promises to Israel have nothing to do with the Church, except that it brings closer the hope of the Christian. We know that we are not appointed to obtain wrath. In other words, God never intended for the Church to enter the seven years of tribulation. This will be judgment upon the nations and upon all Christ-rejecters. Our destiny is to reach Heaven, and the time of our departure is at hand. The one who keeps the Word of His patience and looks for Him, will be kept out of the hour of tribulation - Rev. 3: 10. The "peace and safety" cry will soon be heard, but it will be short-lived. Sudden destruction will come upon the world. The Jews will suffer the most, because the great battle will be waged in Palestine.

THE CAPTURING OF OLD JERUSALEM MEANS THAT ISRAEL CAN COMMENCE THEIR SACRIFICES. This will be done before they make a covenant with the nations. Whether they will

have their temple, we do not know. We will say though, that they do not need their temple in order to offer sacrifices. They could build altars, as Abraham and their fathers did. They have the site upon which their temple will stand; but they most assuredly will not worship in the Mosque of Omar.

The Jews have plans made for their temple, but this present victory seems to be a surprise even to them. They went to war, to open the Gulf of Aqaba and the Suez Canal. They had no intention of invading Jordan. Their officials say that King Hussein of Jordan blundered disastrously by entering the war on Egypt's side. Israelis insist that they would not have invaded Jordan, if it had not entered the war with Egypt. Isn't that something! God is pushing things ahead. He has not turned His back on world affairs. When it is time for Him to act, it happens suddenly.

God takes one step at a time; but, when it becomes necessary, He increases the tempo of His steps. We hear the tramping of His

feet. He knows what He is doing, and He knows exactly what it will take to bring about the fulfillment of prophecy. We may wonder why U Thant pulled out the U.N. troops at the first threat from Nasser. We can speculate why the United States did not call Nasser's bluff. If the U.N. forces had remained along the border and if the United States had demanded a clear channel at Aqaba, Israel would have gained nothing. When these two powers decided to leave hands off, it gave God a chance to fight for Israel. Nothing that happens to these people is accidental. It all has a purpose. Glory to God!

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST COULD COME AT ANY TIME FOR THE OVERCOMERS. We are not told the day nor the hour. We will continue to walk by faith until the trumpet sounds. "By faith Enoch was translated." That means that he did not know the exact day when God would take him. He knew that he would be translated and he believed God for it.

We, too, are walking on, almost breathless, waiting for our day of translation.

World conditions are in perfect condition for His coming. Christendom has apostatized. The fig tree is leafing. All this speaks to us that Jesus is coming soon. That is why Paul says to us, "Watch and be sober." We know the times - we are in the last days. We know the seasons - that is, the very nearness of His coming - by looking at the signs which signal the very last of the last days. We are

to look for Him - not for everything else. He should fill our vision. Our hearts throb with anticipation and joy. It won't be long. We feel that each issue of "Grace and Glory" will be the last. This may be the one. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Written June 12, 1967

Paul N. Smith



Man's discontent would search the stellar spaces,  
Urgent he wants 'midst other worlds to *roam*.  
Perchance forgetting nothing good replaces,  
The world which God to man, gave as his home.

Yet e'en while man explores the outer spaces,  
Seeking his burning thirst to gratify.  
We who are Christ's, with eager upturned faces  
Wait the glad sight our hearts will satisfy.

J.DANSON SMITH

### Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine, O what a foretaste of  
glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His  
Spirit, washed in His blood.

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture  
now burst on my sight; Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am  
happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled  
with His goodness, lost in His love.

### Chorus:

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all  
the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my  
Savior all the day long.

### Blessed Assurance

*Author-Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Composer-Phoebe P.  
Knapp, 1839-1908 Meter-9 10. 9 10. with Chorus*

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of  
faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and  
our bodies washed with pure water.” Hebrews 10:22

Gospel music as an important form of Christian  
hymnody had its beginning in the latter half of the nineteenth  
century and is associated with such well-known names as  
Moody, Sankey, Bliss and Frances Jane Crosby. Crosby,  
perhaps more than any other writer, however, truly captured  
the spirit of the American gospel song movement. As one  
author has written, “Gospel hymnody has the distinction of  
being America's most typical contribution to Christian song.  
Gospel hymnody has been a plough digging up hardened  
surfaces of paved minds. Its very obviousness has been  
its strength. It is the music of the people.”

Robert M. *Stevenson-Patterns of Protestant Church Music*

It is estimated that Fanny Crosby wrote more than  
8,000 gospel song texts in her lifetime. Her hymns have been  
and are still being sung more frequently than those of any other

gospel hymn writer. Her many favorites have been an important part of evangelical worship for the past century.

It is truly amazing that anyone, and especially a blind person, could write on this variety of spiritual truths and experiences with such proliferation. For a considerable period during her life, while under contract to a music publisher, she wrote three new hymns each week. She used over 200 pen names besides her own. Many of her original texts are still being uncovered and no doubt will be published in the near future. Often the themes for her hymns were suggested by visiting ministers wishing to have a new song on a particular subject. At other times musician friends would first compose the music and then ask Fanny Crosby for the words,

Such was the case for the hymn, "Blessed Assurance." The music for the hymn was composed by Mrs. Joseph Knapp, an amateur musician, wife of the founder of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and a close personal friend of Fanny Crosby. One day Mrs. Knapp played this melody for the blind poetess and asked, "What does this tune say?" Fanny responded immediately, "Why, that says: 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine.'

Mrs. Knapp published more than 500 gospel songs herself, including the popular gospel classic, "Open the Gates of the Temple."

Fanny Crosby died at the age of ninety-five. Only eternity will disclose the host of individuals who have been won to a saving faith in Jesus Christ or those whose lives have been spiritually enriched through the texts of her many hymns. Engraved on Fanny J. Crosby's tombstone at Bridgeport, Connecticut, are these significant words taken from our Lord's remarks to Mary, the sister of Lazarus, after she had anointed Him with costly perfume.

"She hath done what she could."

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## Editorial April 2010

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:” Eccl. 3:1

A season marks change, and some of those changes can be rather drastic and acute as they occur, “under the heaven.” “Under the sun,” or “under the heaven,” is a key phrase in this book, and describes the futility Solomon found in this world despite his wealth and wisdom. These following verses of this chapter explain the multitude of times wherein one condition gives way to another bringing about seasons, which are in fact contradictory to one another.

Paul also used this term of seasons, as he wrote to the saints in Thessalonica, to describe the ever-changing climate of these last days. “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” I Thess. 5:1-3 Today our world is fast approaching the darkest night season it has ever known, yet there are those announcing it as being alive and enlightened in peace and safety. That counterfeit season will give way to one of severe destruction, but note here that Paul commends these saints for already knowing of such seasons. Those looking for Jesus will in no wise be fooled by the contradictory messages purported today which often result in times or “seasons” of confusion, nor will they miss the season of deliverance wherein He will come as a thief, even to much of the unsuspecting Church.

Peter likewise applies changing seasons to the lives of God’s people. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,..... which ...hath begotten us again unto a lively (living) hope..... Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:” I Pet. 1:1-6 He, as Paul, exhorts

us to live in expectation and hope of the coming of Jesus, and while we greatly rejoice in such a hope, we must also be aware that our Heavenly Father may deem that we have need of a season of heaviness, a time of manifold temptations. That particular season seems to be afflicting a great number of God's people today. Some are experiencing tests that I, in my wildest dreams, never envisioned God's people facing. However, Peter is quick to inform us that such seasons are for the trying of our faith, to ensure that we "might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." The good news is that such heaviness is ONLY for a season and will one day give way to an eternal season of glory.  
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### **Announcements:**

Bro. Smith's memorial service is now available both on CD and DVD. You may order, either or both, by mail at P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030 or by e-mail at [genehawkins60@msn.com](mailto:genehawkins60@msn.com) The slideshow DVD is also ready for distribution.

The Labor Day Fellowship Meeting will be held in Grandview Missouri September 4-6, 2010. Since this will also be a time wherein we will celebrate 100 years of the continuous ministry of Grace and Glory, we are asking for your memories as to how this little magazine may have affected your own life, or perhaps the circumstance by which you were introduced to it. Please send testimonies and pictures (if available) to Grace & Glory, P.O. Box 831, Grandview, Missouri 64030. We will then try to display them in somewhat of a scrapbook to be viewed at the Fellowship Meeting.

# Farewell To An Era...

(An Eyewitness Account)

It was shortly before noon on a sunny and mild Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, that a steady stream of visitors began to fill the Craig-Hurt Funeral Home for the visitation of Paul Nathaniel Smith.

Mourners had come from near and far, and soon the hallway and foyer became filled with the sounds of an emotional reunion. There was an abundance of hugs, laughter mixed with tears, and introductions aplenty. This scene would be repeated over the next hour as everyone made their way into the chapel to find a seat and if possible, greet the family of Brother Smith.

His earthen vessel lay peacefully in an open silver casket as a montage of photo's, spanning most of his 85 years, was projected on a dropdown screen behind him. A comforting piano arrangement accompanied the looping slideshow that began with a sepia tone image of a young child in a suit. Next was a teenage Paul standing behind his mother, possibly the earliest recording of Brother Smith's sense of humor, as only his head is visible protruding from her left shoulder. We next enter a portrait picture of a handsome young man with a full head of hair. The pictures would eventually turn to color and weave a path through the family life and ministry of Brother Smith.

As the hour drew to a close, the room became silent and all were seated. Brother Smith's large immediate family looked on from the vestibule to his left, and the chapel overflowed with his extended family of Bible School students, congregations, community friends, and fellow laborers in Christ. At exactly 1 pm, the slideshow and music stopped, and Brother Gene Hawkins stepped up to the podium to begin the unenviable task of honoring a dear friend, mentor, and luminary of our beloved Grace Message.

He began by reading from Brother Smith's obituary that was printed inside the funeral program. With an occasional added detail, he covered the particulars in a strong and steady voice. Born in Kansas City in 1924. Attended Grace and

Glory Bible College in '43 and '44. Married to Ruth Ellen Riddle in 1954. In 1959 becomes pastor of the Christian Assembly Tabernacle, editor of Grace and Glory Magazine and Principal of the Grace and Glory Bible School. Moved to Mountain Grove, Missouri in 1980 where he continued his work and ministry. Brother Hawkins concluded this opening by mentioning those who preceded and still survive, including his three children, thirteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

We are confident that the rest of the funeral was exactly what Brother Smith would have desired. When pressed earlier that day regarding the service, Brother Hawkins commented that he had developed his own style of leading a funeral, based on the example he had observed during so many funerals officiated by Brother Smith. Simply stated, the attention and focus would be on the Word of God, our source of comfort.

He then opened his Bible and began reading from the scriptures. Choosing not to expound or cite any verses, he simply let several snippets from the Word of God fill the room and the hearts of the listeners. *' He is my refuge and fortress. . . For I know my redeemer liveth. . . Let not your heart be troubled, . . . I go to prepare a place for you. . . . Many are the afflictions of the righteous . . . He giveth his beloved sleep. . . sorrow not even as others who have no hope . . . comfort one another with these words'*. Upon completion, he segued into a wonderful heartfelt prayer to the Lord, of Thanksgiving and strength for the family and friends of Brother Paul Smith.

A powerful moment and reminder came next in music. *"It Will be Worth It All"* was the chosen song, and who better to help sing it than Brother Smith himself. It was a previous recording of him and two of his children, Tim and Paulette. As the last chorus began, many in the chapel had been touched by the message and hearing his voice, and were already singing along softly. As if on cue for the rest of us, Brother Smith's voice rose above the music and you could almost see that beaming smile and long arm waving through the air, as he beckoned, "EVERYBODY!"

And so we all did:

***“IT WILL BE WORTH IT ALL . . . . . WHEN WE SEE JESUS . . .  
TRIALS WILL SEEM SO SMALL. . . WHEN WE SEE CHRIST. . .  
ONE GLIMPSE OF HIS DEAR FACE. . . ALL SORROW WILL ERASE  
SO BRAVELY RUN THE RACE. . . TILL . . . WE. . . SEE. . . CHRIST.”***

Like most in the congregation, Brother Hawkins was visibly touched by that transcending moment of song. He had several short pauses as he gathered himself. His first sentence would succinctly put the day's events into perspective: Brother Hawkins never thought this day would come.

He so firmly believed that statement because of his own personal history that started in 1959 when he arrived in Kansas City to attend Bible School. He recalled first encountering Brother Smith and a group of people so 'obsessed' with the coming of the Lord that it would become infectious. It wasn't long before Brother Hawkins also began to fervently believe that the trumpet was going to sound at any day. Although that hope and reality would never wane, nevertheless, the years went by.

Next came the roll call: Brother Astle, Brother Eggers, Sister Smith, Brother Hill - fellow ministers who had gone by way of the grave and joined the Smyrna Assembly. And now, suddenly, we had come to Brother Smith. It was at this point that Brother Hawkins returned to the Scriptures and to the message that can sustain us the same as it has every overcoming believer throughout history: We are confident in hope.

For this glorious example in scripture, he would read the first three verses of 1 John 3 wherein is written that Hope purifies and Hope comforts. It comforts because we know that, *'NOW are we the son's of God.'* It purifies because we know that, *'when He shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.'* What a glorious truth! No debate. No myth. Paul writes in Hebrews that the Word of God is the full assurance of Hope, and this Hope is also what purifies us, even as Christ is pure. And as we are purified, our lives take on those details and changes that can only be attached to one who believes Jesus is coming FOR ME in MY lifetime.

Brother Hawkins spoke of how hope comforts us. For this he would go to 2 Corinthians 5 and the comfort we have in

knowing that if our earthly house were dissolved, we know, without a shadow of a doubt, that we have a *'house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.'* Paul's writings tell us that we 'groan' and are burdened, and that it is God who hath wrought us for this self same thing, to have that glorified body. Once again, Brother Gene would expound on a tremendous insight. Of course time catches up to all of us, and we do become weary and burdened, but it is God who conceived our eternal body, and it is for that body that we do groan, *to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven.*

They had spoke often over the years Brother Gene would say. Most always it was about the Coming of the Lord and their shared earnest desire to be translated. It was only recently in a conversation two weeks before his death, Brother Smith had made it known that he 'just wanted to go home.' Like the Apostle Paul, Brother Smith was ready to be offered.

The funeral service would conclude with a visual message inside a story. A little girl has pushed a chair up to the kitchen counter and had climbed up, removed the lid from the cookie jar, and had her eye on the prize. While reaching in, she was startled by a presence over her shoulder. It was her mother standing in the doorway. The little girl would later sum up the situation this way. "Now, . . . I love my mother very much, but at that point, I did not LOVE her appearing."

The service thus ended and we were dismissed by rows, starting from the rear, for the traditional procession past the casket of Brother Smith. Many of us would than follow in our cars as his motorcade made it's way out to Brother Smith's final earthly resting spot.

If you have not visited Mountain Grove you might not know that the funeral home, Brother Smith's Grace Chapel and Bible School, the former home he shared with Sister Smith, and the gravesite, were all located on the same stretch of highway. On this particular journey we were given ample time to reflect.

The normally busy traffic flow on that road had more than slowed down. Car's were off the road on both sides of that mile and half stretch and since I was practically bringing up the rear, they had stayed off for the duration. It was



*Confident In Hope*  
(Memorial Message)

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: ....Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” I John 3:1-3

We have come today unto a place wherein I, in my wildest dreams, never thought we would arrive. Upon coming to Kansas City in 1959, I found a people who were absolutely obsessed with the coming of The Lord, and their spirit was so contagious, I soon felt certain we would all be very much alive, to step through the door of translation into the waiting Arms of Jesus. Time marched on however, and many whom we called “the older saints” were called to glory and became a part of the Church of Smyrna, rather than Philadelphia. Because of their advanced ages, we well understood and accepted such departures, from the Hand of a Loving, and All Wise Heavenly Father. Then came the day when Sis. Smith, a younger woman, whom I greatly loved and admired, one who had greatly impacted my life, was also transported through the portals of glory. I was later a bit shaken because Bro. Albert Astle, an icon of the grace message, whom I was certain would be here to hear the “first trumpet sound,” had suddenly gone home. Other stalwart worthies of faith, such as Bros. Duluth Hill, and Arthur Eggers, soon followed. Now we bid farewell to Bro. Smith, and would today enlarge on two glorious results of hope: purity and comfort.

Paul refers to all the Word of God as “the full assurance of hope,” (Heb. 6:11) but John specifically singles out the cleansing effect of possessing the hope of Jesus coming declaring that “...every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” Such is the result I saw in the lives of the aforementioned saints when I came to Bible School. Their lives literally revolved around the coming of The Lord and reflected the characteristics of a separated and

consecrated walk with Him. It is imperative to realize that we too must experience the effects of this same hope if we are to be perfected to the uttermost. I discovered some years ago that it matters not one whit whether Jesus comes in my lifetime or not. What does matter, is that I am totally persuaded in my own heart that He will appear while I am yet alive. The writings of the apostle Paul make it strikingly clear that he was convinced Jesus would appear “the second time without sin unto salvation,” during his lifetime, and he maintained that hope until he knew he would go by way of the grave. His hope, however, remained alive and well as we shall see later, and it was that hope that purified him even as Christ is pure.

The second major result of hope is comfort, and it is given to both the one who goes home to be with The Lord, and the one who remains in this body. John tells us here in our text that “now are we sons of God,” and II Cor. 5 gives us some glorious instruction and encouragement for that “now” life. “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” V. 1 This statement was neither a myth of fantasy nor guesswork on the part of Paul, but rather “we know....” Bro. Smith’s earthly house has been dissolved, but as a son of the Living God, he already knew that a new one awaits him. He knew also what it meant to “.....groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven.” v. 2 I spoke with Bro. Smith just about two weeks prior to this memorial service, and as was so often the case, we spoke of the hope of translation. However, this time, he said he did not mind missing that event, for he really wanted to go now. I had that same conversation with Sis. Smith just about a month before she too went to glory, and she told me “ ‘boy,’ it doesn’t make one bit of difference in the world whether I go now or then.” We surely do know what it is to groan in pain, but note here that there is a groaning of desire, just to be with Jesus. Paul further tells us that we do “....groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.” V. 4.

The next verse is most comforting because it tells us that such a hope was not an afterthought with God. “Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God,…” V. 5 It means that God specifically planned a glorified creation even before He created Adam, let alone before he fell, and He “also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit,” right now as a proof of that fact. A spirit filled life is just a little foretaste of heavenly glories that will be ours for eternity.

“Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:” V. 6 Once again note the assurance of Paul’s words. We are confident, we know, to be “home in the body” of flesh and blood, is to abide separated from the glories awaiting us in being with The Lord. While on this earth we “walk by faith, not by sight:” (V. 7) but the knowledge of being absent from the Lord while in this mortal body gives rise to glorious hope, and we are both “...confident, ...and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Bro. Smith, and so many more who have gone on before, are experiencing glories we can only dream about, but such a hope must indeed comfort those of us who are still walking this path of faith.

We noted earlier that Paul reached a point in his life when he knew he would not live to the coming of Jesus. That however, in no way dampened his spirit, and certainly did not alter his hope. He speaks with great assurance announcing: “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” II Tim. 4:6-8 There is not even a hint of doubt, disappointment or remorse in this statement. Likewise many, since Paul, have experienced this same confidence and hope. Over the years we have seen some Christians who seemed to cling to life in this body with every breath they could muster. Others, like Paul, can almost be seen running with all their might into the very presence of Jesus. Such an attitude reflects a heart that is purified and

longing to be with Him above all else, the heart that must be in us, if we are to be caught away when the first trumpet sounds.

The story is told of a woman who, as a young girl, climbed up on a forbidden stool, and reached her hand into a cookie jar she was not supposed to touch. At that moment, her mother unexpectedly appeared. She declared, "I loved my mother dearly, but I did not love her appearing at that moment." The qualification for winning the crown of which Paul speaks is to "love His appearing," and we can only wonder, and take warning, as to how many well meaning Christians may have their "hands in the world's cookie jar," be it the religious or secular world, when Jesus appears. It is absolutely imperative we be totally consumed with the glorious hope of Jesus coming, in order that we too may be found among "them also that love his appearing," for only he that "hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

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On the Wings of Prayer

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." 1 Peter 5:7

Just close your eyes, and open your heart,  
And feel your worries and cares depart.  
Just yield yourself, to the Father above,  
And let him hold you, secure in his love.  
For life on earth, grows more involved,  
With endless problems, that can't be solved.  
But God only asks us to do our best,  
Then he will take over, and finish the rest.  
So when you are tired, discouraged and blue,  
There is always one door that is open to you;  
And that is the door to the House of Prayer,  
And you'll find God waiting, to meet you there.  
And the House of Prayer, is no further away,  
Than the quiet spot, where you kneel and pray.  
For the heart is a temple, when Jesus is there;  
As we place ourselves, in his loving care.  
And he hears every prayer, and answers each one,  
When we pray in his name - "Thy will be done."  
The burdens that seemed, too heavy to bear,  
Are lifted away, on the wings of a prayer.

Anon

## Our Benefit's In Christ Jesus

Ty Robinson

*“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.” 2 Cor. 11:3*

Seventy-four of seventy-seven Bible verses, containing the phrase "in Christ," are found in Paul's gospel! "In the Lord" is used forty-six times, and Paul records forty-two of them. The apostle writes "in Jesus" six of the seven times this statement is found in the New Testament. Many of these verses are associated with the benefits we have in Jesus Christ.

“The key to begin our journey, and thus enjoy these benefits in Christ Jesus, is to first understand the importance of the little word "in." Pastor D. E. Hill noted this in his Bible, writing: *“...the most vital word of all is "in," expressing the absolute impossibility of ever being, or ever doing anything in the light of eternity until we are in Him, and He in us, the Bible declaring: “..if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:...” 2 Cor. 5:17.* Thus, to have any benefits at all in Christ Jesus, we first must accept Him into our hearts, as our own personal Saviour. The Philippian’ jailor asked Paul and Silas: “Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house” Acts 16:30,31. Gaining salvation is just that simple, and is a part of *“...the simplicity that is in Christ..”* Peter, speaking before the Sanhedrin council in Acts 4, told of miracles done in the name of Jesus Christ, stating: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” V. 12. Paul likewise wrote in Romans 9:9 *“...if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”* The apostle for this Church Age further instructs us: “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, ...To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.” Rom. 3:25-26

The experience of being born again, accepting Jesus Christ into our own individual hearts, is the beginning of a “benefit package” that really has no end! We discover initially that we “...are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus...” (Gal. 3:26) Rom.8:1,2 shouts loudly, “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,...” because “.... the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death...”, while II Cor. 5:17 asserts: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” Additionally, the very moment we are saved, we should begin to realize that our benefit package contains some specific gifts of God. Rom. 6:23 notes that ...the wages of sin is death; but the Gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Thus eternal life is a free gift to those who are in Christ, bought, and fully paid for, by the precious shed blood of Jesus on the cross.

Eph. 2 further defines God’s gifts. “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” V. 2-10 Verse 6 and 8 plainly express the fact that even the faith we need to believe in Christ Jesus, is also a gift of God. I Tim. 1:14 also unfolds God’s Gifts as “....the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus, and Paul’s declaration in

Romans 8 concludes that nothing "...shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:35-39

Rom. 8:31-32 describe additional gifts, stating: "If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" In other words, since God is for us, He gave us the greatest gift of all, His only begotten Son, and in Christ Jesus He also has freely given us ALL THINGS! Paul expresses the same glorious truth in Eph. 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who bath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:....". Sheer glory awaits us as we wrap our minds around these benefits!

There are many other options in God's benefit package in Christ, should we choose to receive them. These choices require different degrees of commitment unto our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The purpose of all these gifts is to enable us to "...grow up into him in all things..". Eph. 4.15. This text, among many others, reveals several levels of growth of the sons of God, who are in Christ Jesus. Newborn believers are infants, "...babes in Christ". 1 Cor. 3:1 Rom. 8:16,17 outlines precise differences in the development of the children of God, as Paul makes reference to ".....children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Joint-heirs with Christ describe full grown mature sons of God who take full advantage of all things freely given them by God because of their faith in Christ, as noted in Rom. 8:32 above. We might not consider "suffering" a gift, but it is most assuredly a requirement of reigning with Him as a joint-heir, as His Bride. This is explained further in II Tim. 2:12 . "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him:...."

Achieving the "joint-heirship" level of growth in Christ Jesus, requires super natural help, and power, which can only come from receiving the Gift of the Holy Ghost. He is the All-important optional gift of God in Christ Jesus, that all full overcomers must receive. Jesus' promise to the disciples

in Acts 1:8, is also for us. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:...” . He was speaking of spiritual power, the kind of power that makes one strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might, (Eph. 6.10) the power that takes “...the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, to make them inherit the throne of glory:...” . 1 Sam. 2:8. Simply stated, it takes the help, and power of the Holy Ghost to take a believer in Christ, from immaturity, to the full grown level of overcoming necessary, to be a joint-heir, and part of the Bride of Christ!

Additionally, Jesus told His disciples several other benefits (if you will), of why it was important to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. First, He noted that the Holy Ghost was indeed a gift. John 14:16 “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever,....”. He further instructs them that The Holy Ghost is “a comforter,” a fact which is repeated in John 14:26. “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” This marvelous statement includes two more glorious benefits for us. (1) The Holy Ghost will teach you all things, and (2) will bring all things to your remembrance, meaning whatsoever things were said in the Word of God. An interesting study shows that more than two hundred scriptures use the phrase "all things," and many of them are specifically found in Christ Jesus. Rom. 11:36 makes this summation. “For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” Jesus also describes the Holy Ghost as The Comforter two more times, here in John. “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me ...” John 15:26. “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away. for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you, but if I depart, I will send him unto you.” John 16:7 Both of these citations emphasize truth. Ephesians 4:2 adds: “...the truth is in Jesus.” John 15:26 is only the first of three verses,

wherein Jesus Himself called The Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth. John 14:17 plainly informs us that He is the Comforter, "Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive,..." John 16:3 introduces Him as The Spirit of truth Who "...will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come." What a benefit the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth is, whose duties include guiding us into *all* truth, that we may fully know The Word of God, in the deepest and most intimate way; in order to apprehend Jesus! We can understand for ourselves, "...the simplicity that is in Christ;..." (2 Cor. 11:3); "...the grace that is in Christ Jesus,..." (2 Tim. 2:1); "...the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..." (Rom. 3:24) and indeed, all our benefits in Jesus Christ.

Another great benefit of receiving the Holy Ghost is found in Rom. 8:26-27. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought:....And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit,....". "He that searcheth the hearts..." is, none other than our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Jer. 17:10 and Rev. 2:23.

I Cor. 12-14 enumerate nine gifts of the Holy Ghost, given as additional benefits to the Spirit filled believer, and give instruction concerning them. The nine-fold fruit of the Spirit is found in Gal. 5:22, 23.

The above scriptures allude to one more function of the Holy Ghost, which is His most important mission during this Church Age, as He must identify those in Christ, possessing the greatest desire to achieve God's best. These are willing to follow Him through "thick and thin" as He leads them "... into all truth." They have said in their hearts, like Rebekah of old, "I will go," and are willing by faith to trust God for everything, anything, and all things; especially those things which seem impossible. These race course runners rely on the power of the Holy Ghost to enable them to "...press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus..." Phil. 3:14.

Such Saints will be "...the joint-heirs with Christ...," mentioned previously, (Rom. 8:17) who are known also as the Bride of Christ, the one's who "...*hath made herself ready..*". as noted in Rev. 19:7. How did she get ready to be the Bride of Christ? By availing herself of all things, all the benefits found in Christ!

The benefit package, we have in Christ Jesus, would not be complete without mentioning His retirement program, which is literally, out of this world! We are fully vested in it the very second we ask Jesus into our heart. Such a program has already been mentioned in Eph. 2-6, where all believers are seen, provisionally seated in the heavens in Christ. Rev. 4:6-8 describes one group "and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne.." These, known as the Bride of Christ, will reign con-jointly with Him, as noted in II Tim. 2:12 Rev. 7:9-17 describes another group of Saints in Christ before the throne, and this assembly is innumerable, called a great multitude in verse 9. This vast collection of Saints consists of those from this Church Age who have not taken full advantage of all of the benefits found in Christ Jesus as the full overcomers have done.

Now if any of this sounds too complicated, let us read again 2 Cor. 11:2, where Paul writes: "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. **But** I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." All the benefits in Christ, discussed above, are part of **...the simplicity that is in Christ**, but they must be claimed. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:... ." Col. 2:6

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- * When you do what pleases God, God is pleased with you.
- * The power of love can turn an enemy into a friend.
- * The trials of life are intended to make us better, not bitter.

