INTRODUCTION TO

CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

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Before this book comes to a close, there is yet something else which must be examined. The Word of God proclaims that the heavens declare the glory of God. This chapter is an introduction to that important story which is declared in the heavens. When truly understood, it is a very beautiful and amazing story.

It appears that the heavens do indicate the greatness of God's glory in comparison to all other things. By this introductory discussion of the story in the heavens, may each Reader come to a better understanding of our Creator and God, and His glorious kingdom.

This chapter also presents a very basic examination of the glory of God. It is clearly shown in the Word of God that this glory is something which God can also give to His people. May each individual be properly prepared, that they may receive of this magnificent glory.

Chapter 32: THE HEAVENLY MESSAGE

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DAWN OF INSPIRATION

While the writer was preparing the chapter on the stars (Chapter 27), he began to ponder upon some passages of Holy Scripture. He began to wonder exactly how these passages of Scripture relate to those things which are now observed in the sky. The first passage proclaims: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." The major question is, what is meant by the proclamation: "the heavens declare the glory of God?" In what manner do the heavens declare the glory of God?

Let us examine this matter further by looking to another passage of Holy Scripture. The apostle Paul writes: "There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star different from another star in glory." Let us closely examine these words of the apostle Paul, that we may see how they relate to the first passage of Holy Scripture. May we all receive of the great truth which God has clearly written in the heavens above.

PLAIN TRUTH



There truly is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon. And there is yet another glory of the stars. Beyond this, it is readily observable that the stars certainly do differ in glory, one from another. The apostle Paul has spoken a great truth! He has spoken it with extreme simplicity and clarity. Each one of us (even if only a mere child) can readily verify his statements as we look up into the sky, either day or night.

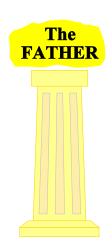
Indeed, the heavens declare the glory of God. Let us consider the sun, in all of its exceeding brightness and glory. What could this exceeding brightness and glory represent? Then there is the moon. When it is in its fullness, it truly reflects the light of the sun rather brightly. Then there are the stars. There is something interesting to note about stars. These stars can differ greatly in their degree of brightness between one another. The individual stars, in turn, may also vary to one degree or another in their overall brightness when observed at different times of the year.³

Friend, let us stop and strongly consider these matters for a moment. There appears to be a profound truth which the Word of God is attempting to make known to us. Let us closely examine these statements about the celestial objects (for as long as it may take), so that we do not miss the great magnitude of that very important truth which is clearly written in the heavens.

As the writer was pondering on the story in the heavens, the following analogies began to make themselves known. It became very clear that the heavens do indeed declare the immense glory of God, in relation to all other things. They also declare a great truth concerning the kingdom of God. They even speak many truths about the individual members within God's kingdom. Friend, may we learn the truth of the story in the heavens. May it draw us closer to our God and Creator.

FAITHFUL WITNESS

To find the truth of God Himself, and of His kingdom, let us begin by examining closely (without any bias in our minds) a few very important passages of Holy Scripture. The Word of God proclaims: "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." Friend, please note exactly what is being said. By the very words of the apostle Paul, plainly declared to all true children of God, there is but one God, and that one God is the Father. And then there is one Lord, who is (as the full Word of God makes known) the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ.⁵



To clarify this matter further, the words of the Lord Jesus Christ declare plainly: "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I." With these words, the Lord Jesus Christ made very clear that He would go away, and then come again. Yet, even in all of this, Jesus makes known that God the Father is greater than Christ! Should not Christ know the truth in these matters?

In another passage, the Lord Jesus proclaims: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." Once again, by this statement, the Lord Jesus Christ clearly makes known that God the Father is greater than all. Friend, the Father is truly greater than all beings in Heaven or on Earth.

In accordance with the foregoing truth, the Word of God declares: "For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself..." Let us examine all things, without any bias or unbelief. May the Word of God be allowed to speak for itself. To us there is only one God, and that is the Father. Because God the Father is greater than all, He could not find anything greater to swear by. Therefore, God the Father could only swear by Himself.

FURTHER DEFINITION

Let us consider this matter further by examining more passages from the Word of God. The apostle John makes the following proclamation in his vision about the New Jerusalem: "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it." God the Father is the Lord God Almighty. He is the Most High God. The Father is above all. And the Lamb (as the whole Word of God clearly makes known) is the Lord Jesus Christ. But we are not through with this discussion yet. There is much more to consider.

The true position of Jesus Christ must be considered. The Word of God declares the divinity of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, by calling Him "mighty God." But Christ is not the Lord God Almighty. It is further written: "But unto the Son he [God the Father] saith, 'Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." ¹²

THE INTERPRETATION



God the Father (according to the above passage of Holy Scripture) is clearly the God even of the Lord Jesus Christ.¹³ Furthermore, God the Father (again, according to the above passage of Holy Scripture) has proclaimed the divinity of Jesus Christ by declaring: "*Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever...*" By these words of the Father, the divinity of Christ is forever established.

As this matter is considered further, please note the following proclamation from the Word of God, concerning the times ahead: "Then cometh the end, when he [Jesus Christ] shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he [Christ] shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

"For he [Christ] must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he [the Father] saith all things are put under him [under Christ], it is manifest that he [the Father] is excepted, which did put all things under him [under Christ].

"And when all things shall be subdued unto him [unto Christ], then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him [Christ shall be subject unto the Father], that God [the Father] may be all in all." ¹⁴

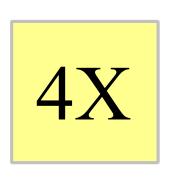
Please examine closely the above words of Holy Scripture. In the end, the Lord Jesus Christ shall deliver up His kingdom to God the Father. From that time forth, Jesus Christ shall be subject to God the Father. Why? Because God the Father is truly the God of the Lord Jesus Christ. Friend, let us not stop here with this discussion, but let us look further to the Scriptures for the truth of this important matter. The truth will allow us to understand more clearly the story in the heavens.

THE GOD OF JESUS CHRIST



What Scriptures make clear that Jesus Christ has a God? To begin this discussion, let us look to that time after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the garden, Jesus saw Mary and spoke to her. Of this occasion, it is written, "Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." These words of Jesus Christ are very clear. He had yet to ascend unto His Father and His God. With this in mind, let us look further into the Word of God, that it may guide us into all truth.

The apostle Peter writes so plainly: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..." Please note that this particular passage was originally written after Jesus Christ had already ascended up into heaven. Even at that particular time, the apostle Peter clearly understood that the Father was still the God of Jesus Christ.



Let us now look to the very words of the Lord Jesus Christ, as He spoke from Heaven in the vision of John: that vision which is called the Revelation. Jesus Christ proclaims: "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." 17

Please note, in the passage of Scripture above, that in just this one verse, Jesus speaks of "my God" four times. First, He speaks of "the temple of my God." Then He speaks about "the name of my God." And then it is "the city of my God...which cometh down out of heaven from my God."

From all that the Holy Scriptures show, it appears to be very clear that Jesus Christ has a God: a God which is above even Christ. Yes, they may be together as one, but the Father is the head God, for He is above all.

The writer believes that the truth of God the Father being greater than all, and above all, is made extremely clear throughout the Word of God. With this in mind, let us move forward to examine the glory of God declared in the heavens. Let us begin our examination of the heavenly story by looking at some of the simpler things, that we may understand the truth of God's kingdom.

FIRST COMPARISON



The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed: "No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

"If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light." ¹⁸

Jesus Christ is speaking above of the true disciples who are full of light, with no darkness in them. These individuals are those who are walking fully in the way which God has ordained. Even in such a state, these disciples of Christ are shown to be only as the bright shining of a candle.

Friend, in all reality, even the brightest of candles (by itself) does not appear to give out a great amount of light when placed outside in the dark of night. As this matter is considered further, could a true disciple of Christ therefore be compared to the light of a star (one of those tiny points of light) in the midst of the night sky?

Again the writer asks: Are the individual children of God somewhat like the various stars in the heavens above?¹⁹ Do some Christians reflect the light of God the Father more brightly than do others? Are some individuals very steady in the light which is manifest from them throughout the year, while others are constantly "flickering," as they are learning to let the Father be fully manifest through them? Can the radiance with which the light of the Father is reflected by each Christian change throughout the year, as they experience a multitude of various, possibly very challenging situations in life?²⁰

Let us carry this analogy further. Is the light of a candle of much brightness (in the midst of the night) when compared to the light of the moon, in most of its phases? To whom then shall we liken the moon?

SECOND COMPARISON

The Word of God proclaims: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." Who is this great light which is being spoken of? Who is this great light which shone out of the darkness? In answer, the Word of God proclaims: "Wherefore he [the Spirit] saith, 'Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Friend, let us compare the brightness of the moon to Christ.



As the various phases of the moon are examined, one thought comes to mind. Could these phases of the moon (to a certain extent) represent the brilliance with which the truth of Christ (His very life and power) appears to be manifest among the people who call themselves His disciples? Could the phases of the moon represent what has occurred throughout history in the body of Christ? Have we seen Christ manifest among them at greater and lesser degrees at different times in history? Have we seen the body of Christ operating with much more power at certain times in history, than at other times?

HISTORICAL FACTS

The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed: "The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it." Of another time, the Word of God records: "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." It appears that the true, manifest witness of Christ may go through phases upon this Earth amongst His church. This happens because various individuals have allowed themselves to become blinded by Satan, to one degree or another, in which case they lose power with God. But let us not stop here. Friend, as we come to the close of these comparisons, to Whom then shall we liken the brilliance and glory of the sun?

THE GREATEST OF ALL



The psalmist proclaims of God: "For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light."²⁵ The Lord Jesus Christ proclaims: "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself..."²⁶ Should not Jesus Christ know the truth in these matters? He has clearly proclaimed that the Father has life in Himself, and the Father was the One who gave to Christ the life that is within Him. These are all very plain words! They are so plain that even a mere child can understand them!

As we look into the heavens, could it be that the sun represents the immense brightness and glory of God the Father? Friend, did not Jesus Christ Himself clearly proclaim: "...My Father is greater than I?" Again, did not Christ proclaim: "My Father...is greater than all...?" See that I are the sun represents the immense brightness and glory of God the Father? Friend, did not Jesus Christ Himself clearly proclaim: "...My Father is greater than all...?"

Friend, look again at all of the above words. They are the true words of God. May we all fully believe the words delivered to us by God's dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is also the writer's prayer that none will chafe against the plain truths of the Word of God. Friend, God the Father is greater than all! As all things are examined in the sky above, it is indeed found that the heavens clearly declare the great glory of God the Father, in comparison to all other things!

BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY

The brilliance of the sun is magnitudes of brightness above all other features which can be observed in the sky, day or night. The immense brightness of the sun may truly indicate the greatness of the Father's glory above all other things in Heaven or on earth. Nothing else in Heaven or earth even begins to compare to the great glory and brightness of God the Father, Who is the Creator of all Heaven and earth.

As the sun lights up the day sky, it becomes so bright that almost all other heavenly features are blocked from sight. The moon almost fades into the background because of the sun's brightness. Furthermore, the stars are not readily visible: it is almost impossible to see them.

It is a truth that when our spiritual eyes are opened to the point where we can see God the Father and His exceeding brightness, and the glory of His kingdom, then all else pales in comparison. The carnal man (the old man) must die. Once that occurs, we are able to be born again with the new man (which is formed after Christ). As we see clearly the Father, our focus turns to Him. Our main focus is not on even the other Christians, ²⁹ but on the Father and what He desires for us to do. ³⁰

ONE MORE LOOK

Let us now consider one more very important part of the story which is shown in the heavens. It is time for us to examine the latter end of the story. The Word of God shows that there will be some very important changes which will be observed in the heavens. The implications of these changes are immense, and could fill many volumes. Truly, the fullness of these implications are beyond the scope of this relatively basic treatise.³¹ But there is one question which we believe should be answered. Friend, what great changes will be readily observed in the heavens in that day when the Lord God is once again fully joined to His people, and they to Him? What will be the heavenly story then?

IN FULL GLORY



In answer to the above question, the Word of God declares: "Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound."³²

Friend, think about this! In that day when the Lord God is fully joined to His people, the light of the moon shall increase, and appear as bright as the sun. The sun, also, shall increase its intensity seven-fold.³³ And what of the true children of God: that we may complete the story of the heavens?

IN THE END

The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed a great truth to His disciples in the following parable of the sower, and His interpretation of the parable. As He spoke, Christ declared how it shall be in the end of this world. It is written: "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear."³⁴



Friend, as this wicked world comes to an end, the Son of God shall deliver up the kingdom to the Father (as was noted earlier in this book). Then shall the righteous children of God indeed shine brightly as the sun, in the eternal kingdom of their Father. But what does all of this mean? What are the implications of it?

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

To more fully understand the meaning of the above passage of Holy Scripture (where the righteous shall shine forth as, or with the brightness of, the sun), there is another thought that must be considered. The Word of God declares: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God..." We have all sinned, and because of sin we have all come short of the very glory and brightness of God. But what is the true nature of this glory of God that we have come short of? Let us examine a few passages of Holy Scripture to find our answer.

ONE MANIFESTATION

me.'

Let us examine one example of the glory of God, and a manifestation of it. Jesus had a dear friend called Lazarus. This man Lazarus died, and Jesus went to visit the sisters of Lazarus. It is written: "Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. Then said Martha unto Jesus, 'Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.'"³⁷ How does this relate to the glory of God?

Of those things which transpired shortly after Jesus and the other people arrived at the grave of Lazarus, it is written: "Jesus said, 'Take ye away the stone.' Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, 'Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.' Jesus saith unto her, 'Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?' "Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, 'Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent

"And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth.' And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, 'Loose him, and let him go.' Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him." 38

ANOTHER LOOK

In the above passage of Holy Scripture, Martha declares to Jesus: "But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee." Later, Jesus declares to Martha: "Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" And what occurred when the glory of God was manifest, as Jesus Christ made His petition to the Father? Yes, the dead Lazarus was raised back to life again.



Let us examine the benevolence of God the Father toward His true people. The Scriptures proclaim of ancient Israel: "For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?"³⁹

It is also written: "And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." ⁴⁰

THE MEANING

God is greater than our heart, and knows all things which we have done. Nothing can be hidden from God. Our heart does not even have the ability to hide anything from God. As it is written: "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Friend, if there is sin on our heart, God will know it and will not hear us. 42 If there is sin on our heart, our own heart will condemn us before God.

But if there is no sin residing in our hearts (because it has been purged from us in the manner shown in the Scriptures), the following is true. Our heart will not condemn us, and in such a state, we have complete confidence toward God, that whatsoever we ask of Him, we will receive of Him. Why is this true? Because, as it is written above, we keep His commandments (all ten of them, through the power of Christ) and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. This all appears very simple, but unfortunately man, in his carnal nature, has fallen very short of these things which God has to give.

THE WORKS OF GOD

BELIEVE OBEDIENCE FAITH

The Lord Jesus Christ performed many mighty works as He walked upon this earth. Many people were amazed by those miracles which He did. It is written: "Then said they [the people] unto him, 'What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?' Jesus answered and said unto them, 'This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.'"⁴³ What is this speaking about?

HOPE OF THE GLORY

It is written: "And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he [Jesus Christ] reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his [God the Father's] sight: if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven... even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily."⁴⁴

What beautiful words: "Christ in you, the hope of glory..." With Christ in us (and by us abiding in Christ), we can now have a true hope of attaining that glory of God for ourselves, that glory which was lost through sin because of the fall of Adam. Again, it is written: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Indeed, we rejoice in hope of that glory of God which shall come.

A REWARD

THE PROMISE

It is written: "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry."⁴⁶ Please note the words: "after ye have done the will…"

The apostle Paul writes: "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." What is this power that is within our earthen vessels? Is there any indication of its nature in the Word of God?

CLEAR WORDS

The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed: "Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." Friend, this is a very powerful statement!⁴⁹

THE APOSTLE'S PRAYER

The apostle Paul writes: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." ⁵⁰

A QUESTION



The apostle writes about being "strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man..." He writes about being "filled with all the fulness of God." He speaks of Him "that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think..." Where is all of this leading? How do the preceding statements relate to the glory of God that shall be revealed in His people, and what is the form in which this glory appears?

GLORIFIED IN THE SON

Let us not lose the importance of the truths that are revealed through the Word of God. In an earlier passage of Holy Scripture, Jesus Christ makes known this following truth: "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."⁵¹

A CLOSER LOOK

Whatever we shall ask while we are in (or abiding in) the name of Christ, that will be done for us, "that the Father may be glorified in the Son." Friend, this is part of the glory of God which man has fallen short of because of sin, as the following passage of Holy Scripture indicates: "Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth." But the glory of God may once again be regained through the life of Christ, as we abide in Him and walk in the truth, and do those things which are pleasing to the Father.

Jesus Christ declared in His prayer to the Father: "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one..." Friend, this is a great honor which Christ has bestowed upon His true disciples: those who walk in willing obedience to Him.

The apostle Peter spoke of "the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." The Holy Ghost is given as a witness to us. The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me..." The Lord Jesus Christ indicates that this receiving of the Holy Ghost is "the promise of the Father."

The apostle Peter proclaimed to the people: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."⁵⁷



Friend, have you repented of all disobedience against God the Father, and been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, that you may receive the authentic gift of the Holy Ghost? The above promise is also unto you! May you, also, be filled with all the fulness of God.

CONTINUING ONWARD

It is written: "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if 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.

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." Yes, Friend: "...the glory which shall be revealed in us."

BASIC TRUTH

If the Spirit of God the Father is in our body, then the Spirit of God will also quicken our mortal body. If the Spirit of the Father is in our body, and we are walking in accordance to it, then we are prepared to be heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ. Friend, a very profound truth is being expressed here! It shows that the children of God shall be glorified together with Christ.⁵⁹ There is a glory which shall be revealed within the very body's of the true children of God.⁶⁰

The way has been made whereby those who turn to God with their full heart may no longer come short of the glory of God, for it shall exist within their very bodies, through the power of Christ. Indeed, we wait for the manifestation of the very sons of God, when the glory of God will be completely manifest through His people. But what is the true nature of this glory of God which will be manifest through the children of God, as this wicked world comes to its end?

A LOOK BACK

For a Scriptural example, let us look back to a people with whom was meant to abide the glory of God. These people were the children of Israel. When they came out of Egyptian bondage, "the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: he took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people." ⁶¹

But when the Egyptians were pursuing the children of Israel from behind, "the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: and it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night."⁶²

It is next written: "And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians, and took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.' Indeed, the LORD was present with His glory, and was fighting for His people Israel.

GLORY OF THE LORD

It is written: "And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud." "And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud. And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel." "65"

IN FULL VIEW

The LORD God proclaimed the Ten Commandments (the everlasting covenant, or the testimony) to the children of Israel. It is written, as Moses declared: "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

"And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders; and ye said, 'Behold, the LORD our God hath showed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.'"



It is also written: "And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses... And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend." Friend, it appears that Moses was a partaker of the glory of God, that glory which carnal man has come short of.

PRICE OF NEGLIGENCE

But what of the people of Israel, in general, whom the glory of God was openly being revealed amongst? The Word of God clearly proclaims: "Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me; there shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god. I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.

"But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me. So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.

"Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways! I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries. The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever. He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee." ⁶⁸

Friend, take careful note of the last part of the above passage of Holy Scripture. Once again, it declares: "Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways! I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries. The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever. He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee." Is there any more in the Scriptures concerning this general truth?

THE PROPHECY

In the Word of God is shown those ordeals which Israel had to go through, and will have to go through upon this earth. But there is an important prophecy which was declared just before Jesus was born. The prophecy is as follows: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he sware to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life." 69

ANOTHER QUESTION

The prophecy above appears to be very interesting, but does it relate at all to the children of God today? Does it, in any manner, relate to the glory of God which the children of God shall receive in the times ahead? Once again, the Word of God does not leave us without an answer.

PLAIN TRUTH

It is written: "Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; and to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."

The Lord shall come to be glorified in (yes, in⁷¹) His saints (and yes, saints are living people). At that time shall the Lord destroy all bondage in which the wicked have his people. At this time the wicked upon this earth shall be punished with an everlasting destruction.

THE LAST BEAST

The Holy Scriptures declare the fourth kingdom upon this earth, "which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces." This kingdom (or world government) is truly a very despotic kingdom in its operation. In the vision of Daniel, the head of this kingdom "made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom."

NATURE OF THE BEAST

In the above vision of Daniel, the head of the worldwide despotic kingdom "shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they [the saints] shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him."⁷⁴

The despotic government shall wear out the saint of the most High. The head of this wicked government shall think to change times and laws. What times, and whose laws, does this ruler think that he is changing? Through a study of the Word of God and history, it appears that this ruler will think that he can, at his whim, change the times which God has set up. He also thinks that he can alter, at his whim, the laws (the true Ten Commandments) which God has ordained.



The Word of God shows that the saints shall be under this beast (the worldwide government) for a certain period of time, but then the judgment of God shall sit. At this time they (the saints of God), by the mighty power of God being manifest through them, shall be instrumental in utterly destroying the beast's kingdom. Then the kingdom shall be given to the saints of God.

THE OVER-COMERS

Let us note an important truth proclaimed within the Holy Scriptures. In the Revelation of John, the Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." ⁷⁵

HONOR OF GOD

What more can be shown about that which God has given to His people? Let us next turn to the book of Psalms. Here, it is written: "Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand; to execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people; to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD." Please remember the true "sword of the Spirit."

HIGH PRAISES OF GOD

Let us stop for a moment and consider a very important point. What happens when the high praises of God are in the mouths of the saints? (And, indeed, the saints are living people.) Is the glory of God made present at these times? Let us look to the Word of God to see what examples it provides for us concerning this matter.

ONE EXAMPLE

When the powerful enemies of Judah came against them, it appeared that all hope was gone. But the inhabitants of Judah humbled themselves before the LORD, and sought Him out. The LORD, through His prophet, proclaimed: "Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, 'Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you." And what happened? What did the people do?

It is written: "And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, 'Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.'

"And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, 'Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.'

"And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

"And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped." ⁷⁹



Friend, was the LORD God working mightily for His people? Does it appear that His glory was present? Did God stop working for His people after that time in history, never for things to be the same again? What else can be shown through the Holy Scriptures concerning this matter? What can occur when God's people are in distress, and the high praises of God come into their mouths?

AT A LATER DATE



Paul and Silas were cast into prison for preaching the truth of Christ, and the kingdom of God. They were bound very securely in prison because of the magistrate's order. Then the Word of God records: "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed." 80

Friend, this is the God of the Bible. This is how the LORD God works for His obedient people. This is how His presence with His people is often made known. In another passage of Scripture, the apostle Peter is cast into prison and securely bound. The king was planning to kill him the next day. Of this, it is written: "But prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him." God then sent His angel to bring Peter out of the prison. Indeed, he was released from this sure death.

OF THE TRUTH

The writer could continue onward with many other examples from the Holy Scriptures, but instead, let us look to an important truth which is shown in the Word of God. It is shown what God does for His people, and what He also will continue to do at the end of this world, for those who walk in willing obedience to Him.

Again, it is written: "And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." 82

MENTIONED IN PRAYERS

The apostle Paul writes: "Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places..."83

THE NEARNESS OF GOD

Moses proclaimed of the chosen people of God: "For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?" Concerning the nation of Israel in the last times, it is written: "And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it." So

To those who walk in willing obedience to the Word of God, it is proclaimed: "Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, 'Here I am.'" "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." "87

CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS

It is written: "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

"Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." 88

IN CLOSING

Friend, may we consider these matters very seriously. May we all be fully and willingly drawn into that true way which is pleasing to God the Father, that none shall come short of that magnificent glory of God. May we receive that full promise which the Father has for His people.

Friend, so ends another Chapter in this FIRST EDITION of

Listen To The Earth, Volume One, THE CREATION, by David E. Sakrisson and Ariends
in 34 Chapters, plus README, Preview, Start, and End files
with References following each Chapter

REFERENCES

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- 1. The Holy Bible, Book of Psalms, chapter 19, verses 1-3.
- 2. The Holy Bible, Book of I Corinthians, chapter 15, verses 40-41.
- 3. The 1998 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia, "Variable Star."
- 4. The Holy Bible, Book of I Corinthians, chapter 8, verse 6.
- 5. Jesus Christ truly is the only begotten Son of God. In relation to this, the *Holy Bible* (in the Book of I John, chapter 4, verse 9) proclaims: "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him." Concerning Jesus Christ (in the Holy Bible, Book of Hebrews, chapter 1, verses 5-6), it is written: "For unto which of the angels said he [God] at any time, 'Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?' And again, 'I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?' And again, when he [God] bringeth in the firstbegotten [Christ] into the world, he saith, 'And let all the angels of God worship him.'" Again, the Scriptures declare (in the book of John, chapter 1, verse 18): "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him." Friend, the Scriptures leave no doubt on this matter. Jesus Christ is the only begotten (yes, Christ was begotten) Son of God. The Word of God cannot lie!
- 6. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 14, verse 28.
- 7. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 10, verse 27-29.
- 8. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Hebrews, chapter 6, verse 13.
- 9. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Revelation, chapter 21, verse 22.
- 10. See: *The Holy Bible*, Book of John, chapter 1, verses 29 and 36.
- 11. The Holy Bible, Book of Isaiah, chapter 9, verse 6.
- 12. The Holy Bible, Book of Hebrews, chapter 1, verses 8-9.
- 13. More will be noted on this matter later in the Chapter. It will soon be found that the Lord Jesus Christ calls God the Father "my God," over and over again in the Holy Scriptures. In return, the Father may call Jesus "God," because of the divinity of Christ, but the Father NEVER addresses Jesus as "my God." Friend, God the Father is the God of the Lord Jesus Christ, even today. God the Father, throughout all of Scripture, is held in esteem above the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is always in full submission to the Father. It is never shown the other way around anywhere in Scripture.
- 14. *The Holy Bible*, Book of I Corinthians, chapter 15, verses 24-28.
- 15. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 20, verse 17.
- 16. The Holy Bible, Book of I Peter, chapter 1, verse 3.
- 17. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Revelation, chapter 3, verse 12.
- 18. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Luke, chapter 11, verses 33 and 36.
- 19. Please note the following statement found in the *Holy Bible*, Book of Daniel, chapter 12, verse 3. It is written: "*And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.*" Yes, even the Word of God likens His people to stars.
- 20. It should be noted that there is a growing process for the Christian. The *Holy Bible*, Book of Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 11-16, proclaims: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors

(Reference note 20, continued on next page)

(Reference note 20, continued from previous page)

and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

- 21. The Holy Bible, Book of Isaiah, chapter 9, verse 2.
- 22. The Holy Bible, Book of Ephesians, chapter 5, verses 14-17.
- 23. The Holy Bible, Book of Luke, chapter 17, verse 22.
- 24. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Acts, chapter 4, verse 33.
- 25. The Holy Bible, Book of Psalms, chapter 36, verse 9.
- 26. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 5, verse 26.
- 27. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 14, verse 28.
- 28. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 10, verse 29.
- 29. It is true that our main focus is not on the other Christians (or those who may be calling themselves Christians, but are not walking in the true way), but our main focus is on God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. This is not to say that we do not look at the other Christians to see what they are doing. This does not mean the we ignore their actions when they are against the Word of God. Indeed, it is our duty to God to say something to someone who is obviously sinning.

Please note that God had His prophets speak boldly to the people, as these prophets observed the sins of the people. An example of God's instructions to one of His prophets is thus: "Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them. For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brazen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee." (Jeremiah 1:17-19)

It appears that the prophets may have been troubled, at times greatly, because they seemed to see the sins of the people so clearly, when possibly other people did not seem to notice these sins at all, or even recognize their actions as being sin. An example of this situation is this: "And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched. And he called the name of the place Taberah: because the fire of the LORD burnt among them. ----And the mixed multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic; but now our soul is dried away; there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes. And the manna was as coriander seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium. And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it: and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil. And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell upon it. ---- Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased. And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me? Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which

(Reference note 29, continued on next page)

(Reference note 29, continued from previous page)

thou swarest unto their fathers? Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat. I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me. And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness." (Numbers 11:1-15)

If a person were to do a diligent search of the Scriptures, other examples of God's prophets observing the sins of the people and speaking out against them, would become obvious. Indeed, there are quite a number of examples.

- 30. Please note, that in the Holy Bible, Book of Matthew, chapter 7, verse 21, the Lord Jesus Christ declares: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."
- 31. A few of the implications of a brightening sun are considered in the Reference notes of Chapter 21.
- 32. The Holy Bible, Book of Isaiah, chapter 30, verse 26.
- 33. What will happen when the sun increases its brightness seven-fold? Could this at all be related to the prophesy in the Holy Bible, Book of Revelation, chapter 16, verses 8-9? Here, it is written: "And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory."
- 34. The Holy Bible, Book of Matthew, chapter 13, verses 41-43.
- 35. The Holy Bible, Book of Romans, chapter 3, verse 23.
- 36. Please remember that when Moses spent time in the true presence of God, his very face shown in a manner which was obvious to all those around him. This situation is recorded in the Holy Bible, Book of Exodus, chapter 34, verses 29-35, which declares: "And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him. And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.

"And Moses called unto them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned unto him: and Moses talked with them. And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai. And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.

"But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded. And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the veil upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him."

- 37. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 11, verses 20-22.
- 38. *The Holy Bible*, Book of John, chapter 11, verses 39-45.
- 39. The Holy Bible, Book of Deuteronomy, chapter 4, verse 7.
- 40. *The Holy Bible*, Book of I John, chapter 3, verses 19-22.
- 41. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Hebrews, chapter 4, verse 13.
- 42. In the *Holy Bible*, Book of Psalms, chapter 66, verse 18, it is written: "*If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me...*" There is only one thing which God will hear from the wicked, and respond favorably toward it, and that is, He will hear the repentance of a sinner. God may appear as being hard at times, yet He is also very merciful and forgiving to the repentant sinner.
- 43. *The Holy* Bible, Book of John, chapter 6, verses 28-29.
- 44. The Holy Bible, Book of Colossians, chapter 1, verses 21-23 and 26-29.

- 45. The Holy Bible, Book of Romans, chapter 5, verses 1-2.
- 46. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Hebrews, chapter 10, verses 35-37.
- 47. *The Holy Bible*, Book of II Corinthians, chapter 4, verses 5-7.
- 48. *The Holy Bible*, Book of John, chapter 14, verses 10-14.
- 49. Please note the following truth from the *Holy Bible*, Book of John, chapter 1, verses 11-13, where it is written: "*He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." Those who truly receive Christ have been given the power to become the sons of God.*
- 50. The Holy Bible, Book of Ephesians, chapter 3, verses 14-21.
- 51. *The Holy Bible*, Book of John, chapter 14, verses 13-14.
- 52. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 9, verse 31.
- 53. The Holy Bible, Book of John, chapter 17, verse 22.
- 54. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Acts, chapter 5, verse 32.
- 55. The Holy Bible, Book of Acts, chapter 1, verse 8.
- 56. The Holy Bible, Book of Acts, chapter 1, verse 4.
- 57. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Acts, chapter 2, verses 38-39.
- 58. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Romans, chapter 8, verses 11-19.
- 59. Concerning being glorified with Christ, the *Holy Bible*, Book of Colossians, chapter 3, verses 1-4, declares: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."
- 60. Concerning the glory of God which shall be revealed within His children, let us turn to another passage of Scripture. In the Book of II Thessalonians, chapter 1, verses 7-10, it is written: "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."
- 61. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Exodus, chapter 13, verses 21-22.
- 62. The Holy Bible, Book of Exodus, chapter 14, verses 19-20.
- 63. The Holy Bible, Book of Exodus, chapter 14, verses 24-25.
- 64. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Exodus, chapter 16, verse 10.
- 65. The Holy Bible, Book of Exodus, chapter 24, verses 16-17.
- 66. The Holy Bible, Book of Deuteronomy, chapter 5, verses 22-24.
- 67. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Exodus, chapter 33, verses 9 and 11.
- 68. The Holy Bible, Book of Psalms, chapter 81, verses 8-16.
- 69. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Luke, chapter 1, verses 68-75.

- 70. The Holy Bible, Book of II Thessalonians, chapter 1, verses 6-10.
- 71. Please remember the passage of Holy Scripture which speaks of "Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Colossians 1:27)
- 72. The Holy Bible, Book of Daniel, chapter 7, verse 23.
- 73. The Holy Bible, Book of Daniel, chapter 7, verses 21-22.
- 74. The Holy Bible, Book of Daniel, chapter 7, verses 25-27.
- 75. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Revelation, chapter 2, verses 26-29.
- 76. The Holy Bible, Book of Psalms, chapter 149, verses 5-9.
- 77. It is recorded in the *Holy Bible*, Book of Ephesians, chapter 6, verse 17: "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God..."
- 78. *The Holy Bible*, Book of II Chronicles, chapter 20, verses 15-17.
- 79. *The Holy Bible*, Book of II Chronicles, chapter 20, verses 20-24.
- 80. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Acts, chapter 16, verses 25-26.
- 81. The Holy Bible, Book of Acts, chapter 12, verse 5.
- 82. The Holy Bible, Book of I John, chapter 3, verses 19-22.
- 83. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Ephesians, chapter 1, verses 15-20.
- 84. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Deuteronomy, chapter 4, verse 7.
- 85. The Holy Bible, Book of Jeremiah, chapter 33, verse 9.
- 86. *The Holy Bible*, Book of Isaiah, chapter 58, verse 9.
- 87. The Holy Bible, Book of Isaiah, chapter 65, verse 24.
- 88. *The Holy Bible*, Book of James, chapter 5, verses 13-20.