

GRACE GAZETTE

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Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees. And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Hebrews 12:12-13

OUR REVELATOR

All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him. Luke 10:22

The preeminence of CHRIST is the underlying narrative of all that is recorded in the GOD breathed scriptures which we call the Bible. It pleased the LORD to hide HIMSELF in types and shadows in the Old Testament. Even though HE plainly manifested HIS sovereignty over all of creation in the abundant testimony of HIS mighty works, most especially as HE watched over and kept the Nation of Israel. HE left no doubt as to HIS omnipotence in such displays as that on Mount Carmel in the days of Elijah or the humbling of Nebuchadnezzar and his subsequent declaration: *"I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"* (Dan 4:34-35)

Many of the prophets testified of HIM who was to come, yet they did so under a cloud of darkness and hidden mystery. "Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." (1Pet 1:10-12) They could only see HIM by types and foreshadows, for HIS identity and the manner in which HE would accomplish HIS purpose, was hidden from them. *"Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints."* (Col 1:26)

That which had been hidden from the beginning is now made clear and there is no longer any mystery concerning HIS person and purpose, for HE has revealed HIMSELF as JESUS CHRIST, the REDEEMER KING, who has accomplished the very purpose for which HE created the world. *"Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith."* (Rom 16:25-26)

We see the most concise proof of this in the opening verses of the epistle to the Hebrews: *"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."* (Heb 1:1-3) We no longer wait for prophets to tell us HIS TRUTH, for HE who is THE PROPHET has come and testified of HIMSELF. There is nothing left to prophesy, for HE is the REVELATION of the ONE, TRUE and LIVING GOD besides whom there is none else, and before whom every knee shall bow.

There is no shortage of “end time” prophets who regale us with interpretations of what they consider as obscure prophecies which they “discover” through their arduous study of the books of Daniel and The Revelation. There is an endless supply of “explainers” of the previously “unexplained” and “predictors” of what shall occur in the future. Every new development in the sky or in the East brings out breathless commentators who find fulfillment of various prophecies which they are eager to share and hopefully “profit” from in their new books.

All “prophecy” has its ultimate fulfillment in JESUS CHRIST as the KING of Kings and Sovereign REDEEMER of HIS elect bride. All “roads” lead to HIM. Many look at the last book in the Bible (which is the last for a reason, “*For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*” (Rev 22:18-19) as a list of revelations when the very first sentence of the book points out the singularity of its message, “*The Revelation of Jesus Christ.*” (Rev 1:1).

We are not awaiting future earthly events, but rather are awaiting HIM. “*Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.*” (Titus 2:13-15) “*The testimony (i.e.; record) of Jesus is the spirit (i.e.; vital principle) of prophecy.*” (Rev 19:10) “*Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*” (John 5:39)

Man in his natural state is totally unable to spiritually determine the TRUTH of GOD, (“*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*” (1Cor 2:14); much less to become acquainted with HIM who dwells in the LIGHT to which no man can approach. (see I Tim.6:16) Therefore he is in dire need of ONE to reveal HIMSELF and HIS TRUTH, lest he perish. Thankfully, HE has condescended to not only give sinners eyes to see HIS GLORY but to rejoice in the Gospel of HIS redemptive work and the testimony of HIS preeminence in all things.

HE reveals HIMSELF, by NAME, as the REDEEMER of HIS elect bride. HE sent HIS messenger (i.e.; angel) to Joseph with this message, “*Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*” (Mat 1:21) Isaiah had described HIM many years before, but it is this NAME which is above all names that HE would now make known to those whom HE gives ear to hear.

HE reveals HIMSELF as the only SAVIOR of sinners. “*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” (John 14:6) “*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*” (Acts 4:12)

HE reveals HIMSELF as the RIGHTEOUSNESS of HIS people. “*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*” (2Cor 5:21)

HE reveals HIMSELF as the SANCTIFICATION of HIS people. The term “sanctify” as it is most often used in the scriptures refers to a positional condition rather than a practical one. It means to “set apart”. “*Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*” (Heb 13:12) “*But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.*” (1Cor 1:30) HIS elect are “set apart” in HIM, sanctified and fit for the MASTER’s use.

HE reveals HIS purpose and work for and in the people of GOD. “*But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.*” (1Cor 2:9-10) Every one of GOD’s elect is given the measure of FAITH which pleases the LORD. Yet all of GOD’s children are acquainted with the “*deep things of GOD.*” “*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*” (Rom 11:33)

HE reveals HIMSELF to be the perfect fulfillment of the law of GOD and the absolute satisfaction of its every jot and tittle. “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*” (Rom 8:1-2)