

The Christian Training Center

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OUR FATHER
IN HEAVEN



BLESS FATHERS
BELOW,
GIVE WISDOM,
PATIENCE, AND
STRENGTH TO
SOW

THY LOVE

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE
Dr. Edith R. Grimes

What is the best news you ever heard? Could it be that someone said they loved you, just as you are, without any conditions attached?

Love began back in Eternity. God so loved us that He was willing to pay a great price for our love.

God's great love first showed in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve disobeyed Him and obeyed Satan. God took coats of skin to clothe them. This was a type of our Redeemer. Blood had to be shed to get those skins to cover man's sin.

Man was turned out of the garden and God placed an angel at the Gate to keep man from returning into the garden. Lest he should go back in and eat of the tree of Life, then he would live forever in his sin. God graciously kept him from doing that so he could provide Redemption for him.

God loved us first even while we were still sinners walking in disobedience to Him (Rom.5:8). ~~Actually we were dead to God and the things of God.~~ Yet His love and mercy were so great for us that He loved us even in that condition (Eph.2:4,5).

God wants our love and it is the first commandment. We are to love the Lord our God with all our heart, our soul and our might (Duet.6:5).

How many times Paul exhorts us to keep ourselves in the love of God (Jude 21). The love of God for man is eternal and unchangable. What greater love is there than when a man will lay down his life for his friends? (Jn.15:13).

It is a love that is inseperable (Rom.8:35) for nothing can separate us from it. It is also sacrificial in that it is manifested by His death for us (1Jn.3:16; Gal.2:20).

All want to be loved and like to hear the words "I love you" How wonderful to know God loves us with an endearing love, that will never change. Even though we may be disobedient as a son or daughter yet He still loves us and will deal with us accordingly.

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How do we show our love for Him? Do we tell Him everyday and often that we love Him? Are we willingly obedient?

Love shows and is contagious. As we love others they will love us back. Let's love God with all our hearts and show that love to others. Spread it wherever you go.

When a young man falls in love with a young lady they thoroughly enjoy one another's company. They want to be together as much as possible or talk to each other on the phone at length.

How do we respond to God's love? Do we read His Word - hearing what He has to say to us everyday? Do we love to talk to Him in Prayer and enjoy talking things over with Him, confiding in Him? Seeking His will and guidance for us is the very best as He has it all planned out for us.

Isn't it wonderful to have a Heavenly Father who loves us with Unconditional Love!

Love is the one and only antidote that can save a man from the many diseases produced by the emotions of our evil nature. Without Love - that thoughtfulness and keen consideration of others - man is likely to perish from a variety of diseases of mind and body.

THE REVELATION
By Dr. Albert Grimes
PART EIGHT

THE PLACE AND ATTITUDE OF CHRIST
AT THE END OF THE CHURCH AGE

While the true Church of the Philadelphia period will be ready for the coming of Christ, the Church of the Laodecean period will have put Christ outside of the Church as in Rev. 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me".

We should understand the true interpretation of this scripture. It relates to a church who has become Apostate, and Christ is outside. It does not relate to the sinner, who needs to come to Christ. There is something about Apostasy that we should understand. Apostasy first begins amongst those who are believers, as in 1Tim.4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils".

~~These believers depart from the principles of sound doctrine and give heed to the doctrines of devils.~~ It is the fruit of this kind of teaching that produces Apostasy or Apostates, or unsaved religious leaders and teachers. It is this kind of church that has put Christ outside.

The Church Age will end but it would seem as if even in the midst of Apostasy there are still Overcomers.

THE PROMISE

Rev.3:21,22 says "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with My Father in His throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches".

We must understand that towards the end of the Church Age, both the Philadelphia Church and the Laodicean Church will be on the earth until the Rapture of the true Church.

It is in the Philadelphia Church Age that all the doctrine, and practise, and government will be established, and the scripture of

Eph. 4:11-16 will take place. But while these things are taking place the Apostate Church will be rising to power in the world, and because of its co-operation with the world and its religions; it will be exalted to a high position in the world's political systems.

The true Church will not conform to these and will come under persecution. This will go on until it is raptured out of the world.

THE THINGS THAT SHALL BE THEREAFTER

Rev. 4: to 22:5. This third section deals with the events after the Church Age.

Now in this revelation we were told that there would be symbols, and that these symbols must be interpreted correctly. In Chapter 4:1-11 we have a representation of the Raptured Church given to us in the symbol of 24 elders.

THE DESCRIPTION OF HIM ON THE THRONE

In vision John is taken into Heaven. In Rev. 4:1,2 it says "After this" This term is mentioned a few times in the Revelations, and it relates to the seven messages which we have already dealt with.

"I looked and behold a door was opened in Heaven; and the first voice that I heard was as it were, of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up here, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the Spirit and behold a throne was set in Heaven, and one sat on the throne".

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE THRONE

Rev. 4:3 describes "And He that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald". The jasper is a green precious stone. The meaning of the word is "Lord of the treasure". The sardus stone was one of the precious stones set in the breastplate of the High Priest. Exod.28:19 speaks of a ruby which would be red, and the emerald is a bright green precious stone.

The One that sat on the throne was to look upon like a jasper, a green precious stone and a sardus which is a red stone. These two stones represent grace and redemption, so the one that sat on the

is a God of grace and redemption.

The rainbow, relating to the rainbow of Gen.9:13-15 which speaks of the covenant that God made with Noah. This rainbow around the throne is the covenant of grace for green is the colour representing grace that God has made with His people.

THE ENTHRONED ELDERS

In Rev. 4:4 it relates "And round about the throne were four and twenty thrones, and upon the thrones I saw four and twenty elders sitting clothed in white raiment and they had on their heads crowns of gold"

Elders are always the representative heads of the Churches, as in Acts 14:23 "And when they had ordained Elders in every Church"

The twenty four elders are taken to represent the one Church of Christ. Made up of the church of the Old and the New Covenant, figured by the twelve patriarchs and the twelve Apostles, both Jews and Gentiles, as is stated in Eph. 2:15,16 "Having abolished in His flesh the enmity even the law of commandments contained in ordinances to make in Himself of twain, one new man so making peace. And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby".

These Elders were clothed in white raiment. White raiment is spoken of in Rev. 3:5 "He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment" and again in Rev. 7:9 "And after this I beheld and lo a great multitude which no man could number of all the nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, stood before the throne and before the Lamb, clothes with white robes and palms in their hands".

Then in Rev. 7:14 we read "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest And he said to me, These are they who came out of great tribulation; and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb".

Then also in Rev. 19:8 "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints".

These twenty four Elders are clothed in the righteousness of

Christ, redeemed from the earth. The fact that they are also wearing crowns proves that they also had been before the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor.5:10) and already were rewarded,

In type these twenty four elders represent the Church, composed of both Jew and Gentile, clothed in His righteousness, crowned and rewarded, with the exalted Lord in Heaven.

The appearance of these Elders already clothed and crowned in heaven, before the opening of the seven sealed title deed is opened, that loosed judgment upon the earth. This reaffirms that the Church will not be subject to the tribulation predicted in Chapters 6-19.

THE LIVING CREATURES

There are two types of creatures which are different from angels. The Seraphim of Isa.6:2 describes it "Above it stood the seraphim: each one had six wings with two he covered his feet, and two he did fly". It would appear that these creatures never leave the presence of God.

The Cherubim of Ezekiel 1:4-24 have four wings. Verse 6 "And everyone had four wings". These creatures leave the throne and are seen on earth as in Gen.3:24 guarding the tree of life.

Each of these creatures had four faces as described in Rev.4:7. "And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle".

From Ezek. 1:6,8,10,11, each one had four faces. "As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side; and they four had the face of an ox on their left side; and they four also had the face of an eagle".

The interpretation of the symbols of the four living creatures are numerous and varied. We would suggest that the symbols lend themselves to this interpretation: Each of these faces man, lion, ox, and eagle, represent of all of God's created creatures. These angelic creatures are representative and responsible for them, as they relate to the plans and purposes of God. This is perhaps why we see them in Ezekiel 1:14-24 descending from heaven to the earth on missions relating to these created creatures.

Both the living creatures and the Elders in their worship of God agree that Christ is worthy of glory and honour.

In Rev.4:9-11 this is revealed. "And when those living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to him that is on the throne, who liveth forever and ever. The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created"

THE SEVEN SEALED SCROLL TAKEN BY CHRIST

The seven sealed scroll is the title deed of the whole earth as in Rev.5:1 "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals".

The deed was lost to the human race when Adam sinned. Now it is in the hands of the Father to be given to him who is worthy. This vision is identical with the vision given in Dan.7:13,14. "I saw in the night visions, and behold one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of Days and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed".

This Son of Man is Christ, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David predicted in Gen.49:9,10. "Judah is a lions whelp: from the prey, my son thou art gone up: he stooped down, he crouched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of his people be".

Then in Rev.5:5-7 it says "And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain". This relates to the fact that Christ will for all eternity bear the scars of the cross. "Having seven horns and seven eyes which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth".

The seven horns, the completeness of power. The seven spirits relate to the sevenfold power of the Holy Spirit in his operation upon all created things. "And he came and took the scroll out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne". (To be continued)

NEWSLETTER

Here is an excerpt from Les Rawlings letter that rejoices a persons heart: Approximately 11 years ago Dr. Grimes confirmed the ministry of an Engineer in our church, Tony Yim, to be called a Pastor. Tony laughed inside, that there was no way this would happen. However, he has been a Methodist Minister for approximately 6 years. Praise the Lord!

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