I AM GLAD I KNOW WHO JESUS IS

Text: Philippians

Intro: I love the song, I AM GLAD I KNOW WHO JESUS IS. Isn't it true. I am glad I know who Jesus is. Jesus is going to tell a lot of people, I never knew you. Matt. 7:21-23 These are workers of iniquity. They said they knew the Lord, but they were never personally introduced. They were never acquainted with Him. It will be a glorious day when we see the Lord because we know Him. Because we know Him, we have an inheritance. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27

I. I KNOW JESUS IS THE REDEEMER.

A. The Son
1. Jesus is the Son of Almighty God. Study carefully Matthew 1:21-25.
2. God, the Father, revealed Jesus was His Son at the baptism of Jesus. Matt. 3:16,17 He announced from heaven that Jesus was His beloved Son.
3. The writer of Hebrews tells us Jesus is the pressed out image of God. Hebrews 1:3 Jesus was God robed in human flesh. John 1:14
4. It is vital to recognize that Jesus Christ was more than a mere man. He was God and He was man.

B. The sacrifice
1. John the Baptist called Jesus, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29
2. Jesus bore our sins in His own body on the tree. I Peter 2:24 He died for the just for the unjust that He might bring us to God. I Peter 3:18
3. Jesus is our advocate and propitiation for the sins of the whole world. I John 2:1,2
4. Jesus is the only One that was able to pay our sin debt. He had no sin of His own. He died for our sins.

C. The Saviour
1. He is the only Saviour of all the world. Acts 4:12
Paul referred to Him as the one Mediator between God and man. I Tim. 2:5
2. Jesus can represent God to man because He is God. John 1:14 Jesus can represent man to God because He is human.
3. The golden text of the Bible teaches us that Jesus is the One and only One that can save from sin.
4. John the Baptist said of Him, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29

II. I KNOW JESUS IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

A. His words
1. Remember the man that said, "Never man spake like this man." The one that said it was sent to arrest Jesus.
2. Jesus spoke with authority and not as a scribe. Matt. 7:29 Why shouldn't He? He was God's only begotten Son speaking for His Father.
3. No man could convince Jesus of sin. Many tried to prove Him guilty of breaking the law of God, but He didn't. Matt. 5:17
4. He amazed people with His speech. The way He talked and the depth of the content of His words astonished those who heard Him.

B. His ways
1. Jesus lived a perfect life. He fulfilled the law of God. Matthew 5:17 He came not to destroy the law or the prophets, but to fulfill them.
2. His ways were very loving and forgiving. He would rather forgive the woman caught in the act of adultery than to have her stoned to death.
3. His ways are holy, peaceful, loving, patient, gentle, and compassionate. His ways revealed Him to be God in human form.
4. Even the soldier at the foot of the cross when Jesus died testified, "Truly this was the Son of God."

C. His works
1. Jesus came to do the will of the Father and to finish His work. John 4:24
2. Jesus called on the Jews to believe Him for the works that He did for the Father. John 10:36,37
3. Jesus raised the dead. He turned water into wine. He
healed the sick. He fed the multitudes.
4. No one has ever done what Jesus did in His brief life upon the earth. His deeds or works gave evidence of His being God's only begotten Son.

III. I KNOW JESUS IS THE RANSOM FOR SINNERS.

A. His divinity
1. Jesus is the divine Son of God. Matt. 1:21-25 The Bible teaches the virgin birth of the Lord.
2. In order for Jesus to die for our sins, He had to have no sin of His own. I John 3:5
3. Peter tells us that Jesus died the just for the unjust. I Peter 3:18
4. As we have already noticed, the works, words, and ways of Jesus prove Him to be divine.

B. His death
2. Eternal God can die when He takes on a human body like Jesus did. John 1:14
3. We die because of our sins. Jesus died not for His own sin, but for our sins. I Peter 2:24
4. The Romans crucified offenders because it was the best way to get the most suffering out of a person before death occurred.

C. His deliverance
1. He is the great and glorious Saviour, Redeemer, and Deliverer. Read II Corinthians 1:10.
2. Jesus saves. Romans 10:13 This is a completed transaction that is realized completely in the future.
3. Jesus has delivered from the penalty of sin. He is delivering from the power of sin. He shall deliver from the presence of sin. Rev. 21:27
4. He can redeem the vilest offender. He can redeem the most self-righteous person.

IV. I KNOW JESUS IS THE REJOICING OF THE SAVED.

A. Our possession
1. We have an inheritance reserved for us in heaven. I Peter 1:3,4 It is undefiled and doesn't fade away.
2. We are heirs of God and joint heirs of Jesus Christ. Romans 8:17 What a great and wonderful blessing.
3. We will inherit the whole world with Jesus Christ. We will inherit everything God has and Has it all.
4. The best is yet to come for the saved and redeemed of the Lord. It just gets sweeter all the time.

B. Our position
1. We are the children of God. Gal. 3:26 We can now say that we are the sons of God. I John 3:1,2
2. We are no longer enemies and aliens to God. We have made our peace with Him and we can experience the peace of God. Rom. 5:1; Col. 3:15,16
3. We stand as though we have not sinned against God at all. Jesus is the answer to the sin problem.
4. We are saved from the penalty of sin. We are being saved from the power of sin. One day we will be saved from the very presence of sin.

C. Our provision
1. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Phil. 4:13 The Lord is our strength.
2. God will supply all of our need according to His riches in glory. Phil. 4:19 We are to pray for the daily needs that we have. Matt. 6:9-11

3. "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." Psa. 23:1 We will not lack anything as His sheep.
4. Jesus satisfies the longing soul and fills the hungry soul with goodness. Psa. 107:9

V. I KNOW JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION OF LIFE.

A. The villain
1. When Eve and Adam ate of the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden, they plunged the whole human race into death.
2. Study what Paul wrote in Romans 5:12. We all die because of sin.
3. When you follow the path of the Devil, it will always cause death and dying. James 1:14,15
4. The Devil will be defeated and cast into the lake of fire forever and he wants a lot of company. Rev. 20

B. The victims
1. Every human being must think and realize that death is sure and certain.
2. All ages die. People die in different ways. The horrible diseases in the body frighten us and cause us to be afraid.
3. We are all sinners. Romans 3:23 We must die because we are sinners. There is victory in Jesus. I Cor. 15:57
4. As we grow older, we realize the body is dying even while we live. The older you get the more ground you lose.
5. We will die physically, but you do not have to die spiritually or separated from God.

C. The victory
1. Paul talks about the resurrection and the kind of body we will have in it as believers. I Cor. 15
2. Job lost everything of earthly value: His children, possessions, and his health.
3. He had a great hope that gave him courage to go on. Job 19:25,26
4. Believers look for a new body that will be like unto His glorious body. Phil. 3:21 We are going to get a body lift.

BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN Copied

1982 Bible Conference Outlines
1989 Bible Conference Outlines
1990 Bible Conference Outlines
Going All the Way by Glen Tropp
John Chapters 1-3 by Glen Tropp
Right Sermons by Wright by D.B. Wright
Scanning the Scriptures I by Glen Tropp
Scanning the Scriptures II by Glen Tropp
Scanning Out the Word I
Scanning Out the Word II
Scanning Out the Word III
Scanning Out the Word IV
Word Studies by Glen Tropp
Reflections of the Heart by Dovie Brown
The Great Conflict by Glen Tropp
Outlines of Ephesians by Ray O. Brooks
Sermons by Luther Crawford
What I have in Christ by Charles Swilling
The Salvation of the Lord by Charles Swilling
Outlines by Kenneth Bazar
Scanning the Scriptures (NT) by Glen Tropp
THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER

Text: Proverbs 22:2

I. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN SAMENESS OF THEIR ORIGIN.
   A. Genesis 1:26a, 27

II. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE FALL OF MAN.
   A. Romans 5:12
   B. Romans 3:23
   C. I John 1:10

III. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN THE INFERMITIES AND SUFFERINGS OF THE FLESHLY MAN.
   A. II Cor. 4:8
   B. These things are common both for the rich and poor.

IV. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN THE DISAPPOINTMENTS AND SORROWS OF LIFE.
   A. Genesis 3:16-19
   B. II Cor. 1:2-4
   C. God's grace is sufficient. II Cor. 12:7-9

V. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER ON COMMON GROUND IN THAT WE ARE EXPOSED TO DEATH.
   A. Notice what Genesis 5:1-20 says.
   B. Romans 5:12
   C. Hebrews 9:27

VI. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN THE SENSE ALL MUST BE JUDGED.
   A. One thing for sure, all must be judged.
   B. Saved at the Judgment Seat of Christ II Cor. 5:10
   C. Unsaved at the Great White Throne Judgment Rev. 20:11-15
   D. Just judgment will be for all.

   A. All saved rich or poor meet together in heaven.
   B. All lost rich or poor meet together in hell.
   C. A person doesn't go to hell because he is rich, nor does a person go to heaven because he is poor.

VIII. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN GOD'S ARRANGEMENT OF HIS REDEEMING GRACE.
   A. John 3:16-18
   B. Hebrews 2:9

IX. THE RICH AND POOR MEET TOGETHER IN THAT THEY ALIKE ARE RESPONSIBLE.
   A. Romans 14:7,8
   B. Each of us answers for ourselves. You may blame others for not being saved, for not going to church, for not serving God, but you will answer for yourself.

X. THERE IS NO PARTIALITY OR RESPECT OF PERSON WITH GOD.

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NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE

OUTLINES OF MALACHI by O.H. Griffith is ready. This 32 page book has 8 outlines on the book of Malachi.


WORKERS FOR THE LORD

Text: Matthew 21:28-32; II Corinthians 6:1,2.

Introduction:
   A. Because of the harvest, the Lord issues a call for workers.
   B. There are many blessings which are connected with the Lord's work.
   C. To be allowed to work for the Lord is one of man's greatest privileges.
   D. There are some essentials for the ones, who would be His workers. WORKERS FOR THE LORD:

   A. This right relationship (i.e., father and son/daughter) is a must, Vs 28; Cf. II Corinthians 6:17,18.

B. A right relationship with the Father is possible.
   1. It is dependent upon the new birth, John 1:11-13.

C. A right relationship results in manifold blessings.
   1. Not the least of which is the forgiveness of sins, Ephesians 1:7.
   2. Life eternal, which is a gift from God, Romans 6:23; John 10:28-30.
   3. No more condemnation, which is possible through the work of Christ, John 3:18; Romans 8:1.

D. Being placed in a position to hear the Lord's call to work, Vs 28; Matthew 11:28-30; Could this be the reason why some have never heard or responded to His call?

II. MUST HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE WORK, WHICH IS TO BE DONE, "go work", Vs 28.
   A. All, that man calls the Lord's work, may not be the Lord's work and have His approval.
   1. Paul thought that he was doing the Lord's work, but he was not, I Timothy 1:12-16.
   2. For it to be the Lord's work, it must follow His plan, II Timothy 2:1-6.

B. The work of the Lord is three-fold in nature, Matthew 28:18-20.
   1. First, the work of preaching, teaching and witnessing, Acts 1:8.
   2. The work of baptizing the saved, scripturally, Acts 2:41.
3. The work of training the saved, who have been baptized, Acts 2:42; Matthew 28:20.

III. MUST SEE THE URGENCY OF THE WORK, "today", Vs 28; Cf. II Corinthians 6:1,2.
   A. The harvest is in danger of ruining, John 4:34-38.
   B. Many are going, daily, beyond the realm of help, Ecclesiastes 11:3.
   C. The earlier in life that souls are saved, the earlier their work for the Lord may begin, Ecclesiastes 12:1.

IV. MUST KNOW WHERE THE WORK IS TO BE DONE, "in my vineyard", Vs 28.
   A. Jesus established His church to represent Him in His bodily absence from the world, II Corinthians 5:18-20.
   B. He desires that the Father be honored through His church and her work, Ephesians 3:31.

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WHEN JESUS COMES FOR HIS OWN
Text: John 14:1-6

Intro:
A. Jesus left heaven and came to earth to DO HIS FATHER'S WILL, which included SAVING those who received Him and PREPARING them for His return for them.

B. He left the earth and went back to the Father's house and is seated at the Father's right hand. Acts 1:11; Romans 8:34

C. Jesus did not leave His own alone in this world! He lives IN them. John 14:18
   1. Paul's testimony. Gal. 2:20
   2. John's assurance. I John 4:4

D. Jesus is coming back for His own to take us to our eternal home and present us to the Father Himself WITH EXCEEDING JOY. V3, Rev. 22:12; Jude 24

I. IT WILL BE A TIME OF REDEMPTION.
A. Provided: Purchased.
   1. When we received Jesus by faith, we were SEALED unto this day. Eph. 1:13,14; 4:30
   2. When we received Jesus our spirit was saved and WE WERE ACCEPTED IN JESUS. Eph. 1:6,7
   3. Paul taught that the inner man groans within longing for the redemption of the body. Romans 8:23

B. Promised!
   1. The resurrection of the sleeping. John 11:25,26; I Cor. 15:51,52
   2. The rapture: Caught up. I Thess. 4:16; I Cor. 15:51,52; Phil. 3:20

C. Portrayal:
   1. The calling of Lazarus back to life: John 11:43,44
   2. The translation of Enoch: Hebrews 11:5

II. A TIME OF RECEPTION
A. Saints PERCEIVED it. David: Psalm 23:6; Paul desired it. Phil. 1:23
B. Jesus and Apostle John PRAYED FOR IT. John 17:24; Rev. 22
C. Jesus PROMISED it. John 14:3

III. A TIME OF GREAT REVELATION (Revel: Apokalupsis (Gk) "Uncover, Unveil"
A. Revealing of the Saviour's glory to us. John 17:24
   1. Job's perception. Job:19:26,27 What glory that will be,
   2. Peter speaks of being "...a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed." I Peter 5:1
   3. A time of GLADNESS AND EXCEEDING JOY. I Peter 4:13
   4. A reason for soberness and hope. I Peter 1:13
B. The Revealing of our complete salvation. I Peter 1:3-5
C. The revealing of the saved. John 3:17; Hebrew 7:25; Jude 24

IV. A TIME OF REVIEW AND REWARDING
A. Just to be there will be reward enough. That is God's gift of grace.
B. To see others there which we have helped to get there will be a great reward. Paul considered so. I Thess. 2:19: Psalm 126:5,6; Daniel 12:3
C. There is more.
   1. God remembers our work and labour of love which we have done on earth. Hebrews 10:6
   2. We will appear before Jesus to be judged for our WORKS since we were saved. II Cor. 5:10
   3. There will be REWARDS AND CROWNS for our works that are pleasing to the Lord...even to the giving of a cup of water to least who belong to Jesus. I Cor. 3:14
      a. Jesus promised it. Rev. 22:12
      b. Crowns mentioned in the Scriptures: Crown of life to the faithful. Rev. 2:10; Paul anticipated the crown of righteousness. I Tim. 4:8; Peter told Pastors who faithfully fulfill their ministry of a crown of glory that faileth not away. I Peter 5:4
   4. The faithful servants will hear the Lord HIGHLY COMMEND them. Matt. 25:21,23

V. A TIME OF REUNION
A. King David anticipated it. V23c
C. Personal Acknowledgment.
   1. I MISS many who have preceded me in death who are now with the Lord. a) Earthly Family; b) Spiritual Family of God; c) Special Friends whose Counsel, Comfort, Companionship, Comradeship (Friendship), and Fellowship I Needed in my Christian journey.
   2. Allow me to join David in anticipating BEING WITH THEM AND ENJOYING THE SAME THINGS THEY WILL.
   3. Edger M. Pace expressed my hope in the hymn, THAT GLAD REUNION DAY.

VI. A TIME OF REJOICING TO PERFECTION
A. Down here:
   1. Philippians 3:1
   2. Philippians 4:4
   3. "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, YET BELIEVING, YE REJOICE WITH JOY UNSPEAKABLE AND
FULL OF GLORY.

4. When the Ethiopian eunuch was saved and baptized, "...he went on his way rejoicing," Acts 8:39

5. When Philip went down to Samaria and "preached Christ unto them...the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake...And there as great joy in that city," Acts 8:5-8

B. Up There:
1. "So shall we EVER BE WITH THE LORD," I Thess. 4:17
2. "We shall be like Him; for we shall SEE HIM AS HE IS," I John 3:2
3. "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall FEED THEM, and shall LEAD THEM unto living fountains of waters: and GOD SHALL WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS FROM THEIR EYES," Rev. 7:17
4. Paul anticipated REJOICING UP THERE. Phil. 2:16
5. ADD Rev. 21:3, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, and they shall be his people, and GOD HIMSELF SHALL BE WITH THEM, and be their God."

Our hearts are saddened: Bro. D.B. Wright went into the very presence of the Lord on April 26th. His ministry will live on in the lives of those he influenced and the many sermons that he shared with preachers and the Sounding Out the Word ministry. Our loss is heaven's gain.

THE BEST CIRCULATION EVER: We are mailing out over 4,600 papers now. This is greatest amount of papers that we have mailed out. These papers are going into 49 states and 61 countries. We are also sending them to several Book Stores that put them out for people to pick up.

Series: BUILDING FOR GOD!
Subject: HIS PROCEDURE
Focus: Exposition of Nehemiah 2:11-20

Introduction:
A. The SERIOUS reality that needs to be realized!
1. God must do a work IN you before He can effectively and efficiently work THROUGH you.

B. The SUMMARY
1. His PASSION and PRAYER - Neh. 1
2. His PREPARATION - Neh. 2:1-10
3. His PROCEDURE - Neh. 2:11-20 - This deals with how he went about doing the work God wanted done.

C. The SCOPE of this message
1. Embraces some very important lessons - or spiritual principles.
2. Reveals 3 basic principles that Nehemiah did as he proceeded to get the job done.

I. INVESTIGATION! Vs. 11-16
A. Investigate your own heart. V11
1. Caution - be careful. Its very easy for Christians to confuse activity with ministry.
2. Just being busy doesn't necessarily mean we are involved in His ministry and serving God.
3. Before we can adequately minister there's got to be---
   a. A waiting - tarrying - sitting time.
   b. Illus. Acts 2
   c. Isa. 40:31

B. Investigate the task.
1. The TIME - V12 Everyone else was asleep.
2. The TOUR V13-15
   a. Notice the two times He viewed us. 13, 15
      1. V13 this was close at hand.
      2. V15 this was a far off vantage point.
   b. Extremely important - surveying the situation as it really is. (Wisdom is needed here.)
   c. Illus. - a teacher.
      1. Study your lesson - heart and mental preparation.
      2. Survey the situation - see the needs of the people.
      3. Understand the strengths and weaknesses.

II. CO-OPERATION Vs. 17,18
A. The CONDITION V17a
1. Note the term "we" - He identifies himself with the people.
   a. He didn't approach them like a "Pharisee" or "know it all."
   b. He identifies with the situation.
2. They knew the condition.
   a. They had become accustomed to it.
   c. They needed a LEADER!

B. The CHALLENGE Vs 16b-18a
1. Notice - "Come, let US."
2. We can't expect others to do what we are not willing to do.
3. We are to shoulder the responsibility together.
4. God's work is not a one man show.

C. The CO-OPERATION V18b
1. Co-operation - participation - organization.
2. There is nothing that God's people can't do if God wants them to do it if they/join hands together.
3. Illus. - Mk. 2 - the 4 men bringing the palsied man.

III. DETERMINATION Vs 19,20
A. The DIABOLICAL opposition v19
1. These are the devil's three musketeers.
2. These are those that stand on the side lines talking and criticizing.
3. Have you ever noticed that right after a mountain top experience Satan comes?

B. The DECLARATION that reveals determination v20

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THE CHARIOT STORY
Text: Acts 8:27-40

Introduction: In these verses, we see evangelism at its best. Here we have a soul winner doing what the Spirit led him to do. We all are to be soul winners. There are so many in this world just like the Ethiopian eunuch, lost without Christ. This man was ready to accept Christ as his Savior and there are many today ready to accept Christ. They are waiting on a witness. In this story we see:

I. A WAYWARD SINNER Acts 8:30,31
   A. A man that read.
   B. A man that was religious.
   C. A man of reputation.
   D. A man who had not repented.

II. A WITNESSING SAINT Acts 8:35
   A. He found the sinner.
   B. He read the Scripture.
   C. He presented the Savior.
   D. He witnessed the salvation.

III. A WORTHY SAVIOR Acts 8:35
   A. A Savior that will guide us.
   B. A Savior that will guard us.
   C. A Savior that will guard us.
   D. A Savior that will gather us.

IV. A WONDERFUL SALVATION Acts 8:37
   A. Salvation that will anoint us.
   B. Salvation that will assure us.
   C. Salvation that will arm us.
   D. Salvation that will accompany us.

V. A WONDROUS STORY Acts 8:27-40
   This story has:
   A. A lost sinner
   B. A loving saint
   C. A lifted Savior
   D. A lasting salvation

Conclusion: When God's people will do what they should do, the sinner will be saved and God will be honored.

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A SINK FULL OF DIRTY DISHES
Text: II Kings 21:10-16

Introduction:
A. Visualize the housewife having been away for several days.
   1. She prepared plenty of good food before leaving.
   2. Husband ate the food, but never bothered to wash a dish.
   3. Someone said, "You can tell when the wife has been gone several days: The house plants are dying, and something green is growing in the refrigerator."
B. The wife returns to find a sink full of dirty dishes.
   1. Dried bits and scraps of food on the plates.
   2. Perhaps growing a green mold, and emitting a foul odor.
   C. The wife has to use drastic measures to clean up the mess.

I. MANASSEH BECOMES KING OF JUDAH
   A. He started with a clean house and many advantages.
      1. Was the son of good King Hezekiah.
      2. His mother was Hephzibah (delightful), verse 1; Isa. 62:4
      3. Inherited a nation spiritually revived.
   B. He was young (12 years old).

II. WHAT WENT WRONG?
   A. He probably thought his father's ways.
      1. Puritanical, restrictive, inhibiting freedom of expression.
      2. Unsuited for a modern, liberated, enlightened age.
   B. He received a godly heritage from his father.
      1. But wasted it in prodigal living, but
      2. Unlike prodigal of Luke 15, he never "came to himself."

III. THE DIRTY DISHES PILED HIGHER AND HIGHER.
   A. Dirty dish 1, "He did evil in the sight of the Lord," Verse 2.
   B. Dish 2, Erected altars to Baal, worshipped host of heaven, V3.
   C. Dish 3, placed idol altars in the Temple itself, verses 4,7
      Even wicked Athaliah never so desecrated the Temple.
   D. Dish 4, Sacrificed his son to idols. (Read verses 6 and 11.)
   E. Dish 5, shed innocent blood in Jerusalem, verse 16; suggests
      1. He slew the prophets of God and all who opposed him.
      2. Note: He could kill the prophets, but could not not destroy their message of divine judgment.

IV. GOD'S WARNING THAT HE WILL Wipe THE DISHES.
   A. Conditions were so terribly filthy that God would employ drastic measures to clean them up.
   B. The judgments will "make both his ears tingle," V12
      1. As an unexpected loud blast makes the ears hurt.
      2. Such as never before experienced in Judah.
      3. Compare judgment on house of Eli, I Sam. 3:11; Jer. 19:3
   C. "Stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria," V13
      1. The "line" is used by builders. As Samaria had been built to exact standards, God would as methodically destroy it.
      2. Samaria no longer a nation: people killed or captives.
      3. As God had judged Samaria, Jerusalem would be judged.
   D. "And the plummet of the house of Ahab," Verse 13
      This is another builder's tool.
      1. Family of Ahab was destroyed by divine decree. II Kings 10:17
      2. So God would destroy the kings of Judah.
   E. "As a man wipeth a dish," V13 "Turning it upside down."
      1. All the filthy contents removed. A complete cleansing.
      2. Preparing the way for ultimate reign of Messiah.

V. WHAT SHOULD WE LEARN FROM THIS?
   A. God's laws of morality and justice never change.
      1. It is still wrong to worship other gods, and murder.
      2. It is just as abominable in the eyes of God for Americans to abort fetuses as it was for Manasseh to sacrifice his son.
   B. Adultery and homosexuality are just as despicable to God as when He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.
   C. Gay rights advocates quote John 3:16, claiming God's love.
      1. God does love all, but He hates all sin, and He has
demonstrated special hatred of so-called "gay life-style" in the complete destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
2. Like Manasseh, these perverts rebel against God and flaunt His amazing grace and love.
3. God has always hated sin, though loving the sinner.
D. America, be warned: God will "stretch the line" of Sodom and the "plummet" of Gomorrah over this nation.
E. America must repent or perish. Our God is same as Israel's.
1. I entertain no illusion that America will repent.
2. But there is hope for individuals: "Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved," Rom. 10:13
O.H. Griffith  Laneville, Texas

STRANGE DAYS
Text: Jeremiah 16:1,2

Introduction: Jeremiah is known as the "weeping prophet."
A. God's people embraced idolatry.
B. Their society became more and more corrupt.
C. Willingly they allowed their consciences to numb.
D. God and his prophets became unimportant ornaments.
E. False prophets of prosperity and peace flourished.
F. The people were content in their sinful society.
G. God had no option, but to punish. "I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the Lord."
Jer. 21:14
H. Jeremiah was a messenger of wrath.
1. He lived in strange days.
2. The people were happy in their pretense of godliness.
3. God, fed up with their hypocrisy, commands Jeremiah:

I. DON'T MARRY OR HAVE CHILDREN. Vs. 1,3
A. This is strange because God normally encourages marriage and children. "Be fruitful, and multiply..." Gen. 1:28
B. Look at the strange days they were to live. Vss 3,4
1. Days of death.
2. Days of cold blooded indifference. (They were the chosen people...they had the temple...they had the blessings of God.)
3. Days of valueless life.
5. Days of hunger.
C. Could this ever happen to us? Romans 11:13-22

II. DON'T JOIN THOSE WHO MOURN. Vs 5-7
A. This is strange because God normally encourages sympathetic support for those who grieve.
B. God does something very strange to these people. V5b
1. He takes away His peace.
2. He takes away His lovingkindness.
3. He takes away His mercies.
C. Could this ever happen to us?

III. DON'T JOIN THOSE WHO ARE LIVING IT UP. Vs 8,9
A. This is strange because God normally doesn't mind His children enjoying themselves.
B. God was going to put an end to the joyful living of His people.
C. The majority of preachers contradicted these teachings.
1. They were "good times and prosperity for all" preachers.

IV. DON'T KEEP THE REASONS FROM THE PEOPLE. Vs. 10-12
A. It's strange that the people had no idea that something was wrong.
B. Their fathers had forsaken the Lord. V.11
1. Their fathers became indifferent about God.
   a. They established a national trend.
   b. They defined faithfulness down.
2. God was exceedingly longsuffering.
C. The current generation followed the trend of their fathers. Vs 12
1. They lived as they wanted.
2. They refused to listen to God. Jer. 17:21-23
3. They took the blessings of God for granted.
4. They felt perfectly righteous and secure.
D. Are we immune from such things?
1. Does it matter how we live?
2. Does it matter what we do?
3. Are we above reproach?
4. Are we following a national trend away from true godliness? I think so.

Conclusion: We will reap what we sow. Gal. 6:7-9

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GOD WANTS FATHERS by Charles Swilling
Text: Titus 2:1,2,6-8

I. GOD WANTS SAVED MEN.
A. Men blood bought. I Peter 1:18,19
B. Men born again. John 1:13,14
C. Men battling the Devil I Peter 5:8
D. Men busy in the Lord's service. Titus 2:12

II. GOD WANTS SPIRITUAL FATHERS.
A. The Bible is valuable. II Timothy 3:16,17
B. Our church is vital. Eph. 3:21
C. God's will is virtue. Luke 22:42
D. God's Son is victory. I Cor. 15:57
E. God's Spirit gives visions. John 16:13

III. GOD WANTS SEPARATED FATHERS.
A. They are sober. II Cor. 6:17
B. They are grave and temperate. Eph. 5:18
C. They are sound.
D. They are patterns of good works.
E. They are doctrinally sound.
F. They are sound in speech. Eph. 4:29

IV. GOD WANTS SAMPLE FATHERS.
A. They are examples of holiness. I Pete 1:15,16
B. They are examples of love. Rom. 5:5
C. They are examples of forgiveness. Eph. 1:7
D. They are examples of His grace. Hebs. 4:16

THE BELIEVER'S ASSURANCE OF FUTURE VICTORY
Text: Romans 8:31-39

Introduction:
A. Have you ever heard of the "thrill of victory?"
1. Victory is thrilling...for a while anyway.
2. But the thrill soon passes and is forgotten.
3. The thrill comes as a result of a fact and an
II. BECAUSE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TO CHRIST...V34
   A. Christ won't Condemn us.
      1. Who will doom us?
      2. Who then will condemn us?
      3. No one can condemn us.
      4. Men are condemned because they don't believe.
   B. Christ Died.
      1. By His death all ground for condemnation is removed.
      2. His death satisfied the demands of justice.
      3. His death was a satisfaction.
   C. Christ was Raised.
      1. Our faith should rest on His death, but also on His Resurrection.
      2. He was raised for our justification.
      3. In a very real sense His death and resurrection are integral parts.
   D. Christ Makes Intercession.
      1. He is sitting at the place of the highest honor next to God.
      2. There He makes intercession for us.
      3. He is pleading on our behalf, pleads our case, represents us.
      4. In view of these facts, we should be assured of our future Victory.

III. BECAUSE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TO CIRCUMSTANCES OF EVIL. V.35-39
   A. The inability of Evils of this World to Separate from Christ. VV35-37
      1. We can never be separated from the love of Christ. V35
         a. To put apart, asunder.
         b. Not trouble or difficulty, anguish or calamity, trouble or misfortune.
      2. We will suffer, but never be separated: V36
         a. We face death at every moment, but not separation.
         b. We are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.
      3. In spite of all this, we are conquerors: V37
         a. Yet amidst all these things we more than conquer.
         b. "Conquer" to win a victory: we are winning a most glorious victory.
         c. This verse of Scripture is like a "bridge over troubled waters."
   B. The inability of Evils from the invisible World to Separate from Christ. Vs38,39
      1. Paul's persuasion: V36
         a. "Persuaded" convinced, have full assurance.
      b. There was NO doubt in Paul's mind as to this truth.
      2. Nothing can Separate us:
         a. Nothing in death or life,
         b. Nothing in the realm of spirits or super-human powers.
         c. Nothing that happens today or nothing that may happen tomorrow.
         d. Not the height above us or the depth below us.
         e. Nothing in the whole creation.
      3. The Love of God is Permanent: V39

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