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# The Remnant of Christ's Ecclesia

in opposition to the Dogmas of  
Papal and Protestant Christendom

A WITNESS TO THE TRUTH

and a warning against the deception in the last days  
foretold by Christ

"Take heed that ye be not deceived"

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AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

“WHEREUNTO I MAY CONTINUALLY RESORT”

As we read the Psalms, we are shown David’s mind as a man after God’s own heart. David was king over Israel for 40 years, under God’s hands. He was chosen by the Almighty to be king over His people, being anointed by Samuel. It was 15 years after his anointing that he became king over all Israel, following the death of Saul. It took patience as well as trust in God to wait for God’s promise to come about. He knew hard times during those years, to the point where he cried out:

“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? ...”  
Psalm 42:5.

To be “disquieted” is to make a loud noise, to complain, to clamor, to be in an uproar. David questioned: Why am I so disturbed? What was his response to himself?

“... hope (trust) thou in God. for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.”  
Psalm 42:5.

Even in distress, David’s mind was to praise God for His help, for His strength, for His deliverance from his enemies who questioned: “... Where is thy God?” (Verse 3).

The Psalms are David’s song of praise to God in response to His help, expressing his heartfelt gratitude. In the 71st Psalm, which we have recently read, his mind is clearly expressed:

“In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust (hope): let me never be put to confusion. Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.  
Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.”  
Psalm 71:1-3.

David sought help lest he be put to confusion - or, be put to shame, be confounded. Because of his trust in God, he was helped to know what to do, where to go, as he spoke of God as his “strong habitation” (dwelling place), whereunto (he) may continually resort” for guidance and help. To “resort” is to be able to call, to come, to

run to that strong habitation, that rock and fortress, that strong place of the Almighty. For example, the cities of refuge in Israel were a place of safety for the innocent slayer. David knew God's mercy and deliverance, and would remember it in times of trouble as he continually resorted to God. What was his need?

"Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

For thou art my hope. O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.

... my praise shall be continually of thee." Psalm 71:4-6.

David often was delivered, from the lion and the bear, from Goliath, and Saul; from his own sons, Absalom and Adonijah, and most importantly, he was delivered from "self" - seen in the matter of Bath-sheba and in his numbering of Israel. David's trust in God is revealed for us as he spoke to Saul concerning Goliath:

"... The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee." 1 Samuel 17:37.

David went forth against Goliath, after refusing the armor offered by Saul. He spoke as he approached the fearsome giant:

"... Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands." 1 Samuel 17:45-47.

We know the result: David did conquer the giant with his sling. There was no sword in the hand of David - it was the sword of the Lord that was with him. Here was an example of David's continually resorting unto the Lord, as we remember his words of praise:

"For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.

By thee have I been holden up from the womb: ... my praise shall be continually of thee.

I am as a wonder unto many; but thou art my strong refuge."

Psalm 71-5-7.

Truly God was his "refuge" - this word is also used as hope, shelter, trust. David was a "wonder" or miracle, a sign to many; they wondered at his source of strength, but he continually resorted unto God, his strong refuge, habitation; his rock and his fortress.

David's enemies often spoke against him, and laid wait for his soul:

"Saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him, for there is none to deliver him." Psalm 71:11.

David was undaunted, as he prayed.

"O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.

Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries (Satan) to my soul; let them be covered with reproach and dishonour, that seek my hurt.

But I will hope (trust) continually, and will yet praise thee more and more." Psalm 71:12-14.

David had many adversaries, but perhaps "self" was the biggest adversary; all flesh is so well described by John:

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

And the world passeth away; and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

I John 2:16-17.

Even David succumbed to the lust of the flesh. At times he felt alone, and he cried out:

"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?" Psalm 22:1.

We know that Jesus, as he hung upon the cross:

"... cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why, hast thou forsaken me? ..." Matthew 27:46.

God did not forsake David, nor the Lord Jesus, but rather, left them for a time to test them - even as He left Hezekiah:

"Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to enquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left (same word as "forsake") him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart."

II Chronicles 32:31.

Hezekiah failed when boasting of his possessions, forgetting that they came from God, when he continually resorted unto Him. David failed as he sinned in the matter of Bath-sheba; so was his heart tested. Jesus never failed, but submitted to His Father, resorting unto Him at all times, and dying to justify Him, that all men must die. His last words as He died were: "... It is finished."

His struggle to overcome his fleshly nature was complete. God was glorified as Jesus continually resorted to Him, so He could cry out in victory: "... It is finished" (John 19:30).

Going back to Psalm 71, we read further of David's determination to "continually resort" unto God:

"I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.  
O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared (certified) thy wondrous works."

Psalm 71:16-17.

David's trust in God is further revealed:

"Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side."

Psalm 71:20-21.

God did comfort the Lord Jesus Christ; God did comfort David, God did increase their greatness! What mercy, what help, what grace, what love the Almighty shines upon those who continually resort unto Him!

As David contemplated God's grace, he expressed his mind:

"I will also praise thee with the psaltery, even thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.

My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee, and my soul, which thou hast redeemed." Psalm 71:22-23.

David had in mind God's purpose, when the 144,000 will be assembled on Mount Zion, having His Father's name written in their foreheads:

"... I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder; and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

... These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb." Revelation 14:2-4.

This is the "strong habitation" whereunto David continually resorted - the habitation of which Jesus spoke to His apostles:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions (habitations): if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:1-2.

J.A.DeF.

## PRAISE

Since April we have begun reading from our daily reading schedule in the Psalms and learning of David's relationship with God. His search for spiritual understanding is best summed up when we read his words:

"O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise." Psalm 51:15.

To "praise" is to extol, and this same word is used in the title as well as the subject of our psalm read this morning, entitled, "David's Psalm of praise":

"I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable." Psalm 145:1-3.

David was king of Israel, yet he recognized the Almighty as the greater King and Ruler - the only One worthy of praise.

Throughout the scriptures the word "praise" is used 302 times and 179 are in the psalms, which shows David's great desire to offer praise and thanksgiving to his Creator. David speaks of God's word being passed from one generation to another:

"One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness." Psalm 145:4,6.

The generation that David was speaking of, are those throughout the ages who have perceived God as Lord of all and who have been given a knowledge of His purpose. These faithful seek to praise His works through their living - exhibiting through obedience and humility, His love. David explains how one can best praise Him:

"They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.

The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.

They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;

To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations." Psalm 145:7-13.

To speak of God's Truth and to reflect His goodness in one's living is the only true way to praise Him. Those enduring to do so

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also recognize that only through God's mercy is there any hope established for mankind at the end of His purpose with this earth.

David speaks of God's purpose when he wrote of His "everlasting kingdom" and of His saints, evidence of his belief in the hope of Israel, which God has extended to both natural and spiritual Israelites - those who endeavor to walk after righteousness. Those privileged to know the hope of Israel, know that He has promised a covenant relationship to those that fear and love Him. He will be an anchor and a means of help to those who call upon Him.

"The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy." Psalm 145:18-20.

We know that no flesh can please God and David recognized that through a denial of the flesh in one's living, there is a revealing of praise to God. Its destruction rises as a sweet smell to Him, in type as did the smoke from the sacrifices.

David was king of Israel for part of his lifetime, yet was not overcome by the power of his position, but for the most part, retained the simple faith and belief in God from his days as a shepherd caring for his father's flocks, He looked in faith to the kingdom of God to be established and ruled by his descendant -the Greater Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ, when all privileged to enter into that peaceful realm will shout with joy and praise singing:

"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God:

The LORD shall reign for ever, even thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the LORD." Psalm 146:5,10.

M.C.S.

## INTO THE ARK

Recently geneticists have been propagating their scientific findings on the origins of chickens. Eggs, they declare were around before the first chicken arrived. They may not have had the appearance as eggs now appear, but still they were eggs. These prehistoric chickens behaved similarly to how modern birds act, but they had a different genetic make-up; nevertheless they laid eggs to produce offspring. Then one of these ancient birds laid an egg containing an embryo with a completely new DNA genetic code. The living organism inside the shell was that which is seen in the present day chicken. It was better adapted to its environment, so it thrived, laying more and more eggs, which hatched successfully. This new breed usurped its predecessors, therefore, as Charles Darwin explained, the fittest survived. So this scientific philosophy declares that when it comes to the question, "What came first, the chicken or the egg?" the simple answer is "the egg came first"; for our hens come from an egg, which proves there were chicken eggs before chickens.

But there is another explanation, and this is in God's holy word:-

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. - - -

And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and THE FOWLS - - -."

(Genesis 6:5-7)

But there was one family which was granted mercy. Noah its head, was told to build an ark of gopher wood, and seal this boat with pitch. At an appointed time Noah was told to enter this vessel with his family and ;—

"- - - of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

Of FOWLS after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind - - - to keep them alive. - - -"

(Genesis 6:19-20)

Then came the Flood, and "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life of all that was in the dry land, died." (Genesis 7:22) That prevailing flood ultimately abated, and Noah and those creatures in the Ark came forth, and there was a fresh start. Does today's hen then, come from the egg or from the bird? Do we believe science, or do we believe simple Bible witness? Christ had no doubts about Noah:-

"He said unto the disciples - - - as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man."

(Luke 17:22 & 26)

## A BIBLE CLASS

### "A WOMAN SHALL COMPASS A MAN"

Jeremiah 31:22

As our mind considers the relationship between a man and a woman, our thoughts go back to the Creation. God created Adam from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and he became a living creature. God also provided a helpmeet by taking a rib from Adam:

"And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh"

Genesis 2:22-24.

Eve was seduced by the serpent's lie, and as a consequence, she was sentenced by God.

"... thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

Genesis 3:16.

To "rule" is to reign, to have power or authority. Man had rule

over the woman, as Paul wrote:

"... the head of the woman is the man. ..."

I Corinthians 11:3.

With this in mind, let us look at our subject; "... A woman shall compass a man" - taken from Jeremiah 31:22. At the time of this statement, the two tribes and Jerusalem were at the beginning of the Babylonian captivity because of their rebellion against God. By 588 B.C. the two tribes were taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar - whereby the nation of Israel came to an end. Jeremiah was a prophet sent by God to the two tribes to warn them of their coming captivity, but it was in vain; for Israel would not heed God's word. God did not forsake them, but encouraged His people through Jeremiah by revealing His purpose:

"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me (Jeremiah), saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.

Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, ... for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, ... for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border"

Jeremiah 31:3-4,13,16-17.

The Almighty promised a return to the land covenanted to Abraham, Noah, Moses, David, Israel, as a kingdom to come, ruled over by the Lord Jesus. This is the hope for those who return to the Lord, for all those who believe in His promise of a new heaven and a new earth.

Jeremiah asked:

"How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth. A woman shall compass a man."

Jeremiah 31:22.

The apostle John, in exile on the isle of Patmos, "... for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 1:9), saw a vision:

"... I saw a new heaven, and a new earth: for the first heaven

and the first earth were passed away: and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And there came unto me one of the seven angels ... and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's (Christ's) wife.

And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal."

Revelation 21:1-2,9-11.

How does this new heaven and new earth - "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" - have to do with our subject: "A woman shall compass a man"? The word "compass" means to surround, to revolve, to be about on every side, circuit, to fetch a compass, environ. The bride, the Lamb's wife, will be closely surrounding the Lord Jesus as His people - those who have been judged to be worthy - as a bride clings closely to her husband. We also read in Revelation 5, of Jesus surrounded by the four and twenty elders and the four beasts (living ones) - symbols of those who are the bride of Christ, as in the parable of the ten virgins. There were five wise and five foolish. The five wise virgins had oil for their lamps, and when the cry was heard, they went out to meet the bridegroom. Because they were ready "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" - "they ... went in with him (the bridegroom) to the marriage: and the door was shut" (Matt. 25:10)

The door will be shut, the opportunity to be the bride of Christ will be denied. For those who are prepared, the door will be open, and they will be allowed to go in to the promised marriage, to surround the bridegroom, giving honor to Him, rejoicing, crying out: "Alleluia" - (praise ye the Lord), and saying:

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready (prepared).

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

Revelation 19:7-8.

J.A.DeF.

## THE MONETARY SYSTEM

"The brass, the silver and the gold,  
broken to pieces. - - -" (Daniel 2:35)

In these modern days description of the monetary system, which is so powerful in all the world, has various reference terms, such as "brass", "silver", or "gold". Its influence will continue having influence over all nations, while ever man holds among his fellows predominate rule. But the ancient prophecy maintains a change will eventually come. So the scripture declares:-

"- - - a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image (mans' system) - - -  
Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver and the gold, broken to pieces. - - -" (Daniel 2:34-35)

The stone which is to be special, in being "cut out without hands" is very descriptive. The Apostle Peter declares that in responding to Christ it is a:-

"- - - coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious." (1 Peter 2:4)

Daniel promises His, (this stones') coming, to bring about an amazing change; so great that "the stone (will become) a great mountain, and (fill) the whole earth." (verse 35)

Recently there has been a very clever development which reveals that for all the power of the world's Treasuries and Banks, there are individuals and societies prepared to use their artistic talents to gain dishonest advantage, for all that there are monetary system safeguards. It has been said that a careful look at a fake bank note is all it needs to identify it. But a change has come about recently. Fakes known as super-notes are appearing in the Far East. The report is that a factory in North Korea is producing, for example, U.S. 100 dollar bills that are very real looking when compared with the American produced notes. The only way to detect the counterfeit is to view it 400 times enlarged in a magnifier. International criminal gangs are passing these forgeries into the banking system up and down the world. There is a suspicion that governments in the Far East would like to undermine the U.S. economy, and when it is noted

that these high value dollar bills are printed upon paper that contains security features such as special fibres, threads and watermarks which are also a feature of the U.S. Bureau of Engraving, the threat to the dollar, to a degree, is seen as a real one.

The U.S. Secret Service has declared it has been making a great effort to investigate this development, and has said it has seized 50 million fake notes. One Far East country has countered the U.S. complaint by claiming the U.S. CIA is speaking "sheer lies" and is faking the dollar notes itself. It is an unhappy situation in this present world which, nevertheless, is still dominated by various world economies. But an end and a change will eventually see a deliverance from mans' faulty system. Christ will come and:-

"--- thou shalt swear, The Lord liveth, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory."

(Jeremiah 4:2)

## TO WALK WORTHY

“Walk Worthy Of The Vocation Wherewith Ye Are Called”  
Ephesians 4:1

Our subject under consideration was written by Paul to his Ephesian brethren, while he was a prisoner at Rome:

“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,”  
Ephesians 4:1.

The word “vocation” as used here, comes from the Greek word “klesis”, from which “ecclesia”, or these called out, is taken. God is the One who calls some out from the world, giving them a knowledge of the Truth, that they may walk in a different path serving Him, as Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

“For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are;

That no flesh should glory in his presence.”

I Corinthians 1:26-29.

He calls out those whom He knows can become subject to Him. There is a grace inherent in this calling - a great gift offered that we as failing creatures may be joined to God through the blood of Jesus Christ, our Mediator.

Paul was himself “called” as he traveled on the road to Damascus, on a misguided errand to persecute the followers of Christ. He was blinded by the light and was then convinced by the voice of Christ to turn from the path he was walking, unto one of godliness as a servant and minister of Christ. He was chosen - called out and baptized and began his journey, endeavoring to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith he had been called. He then used the remainder of his life, spending himself in the work of ministering to the gospel of Christ. There has only been One who has ever been

worthy of the vocation given Him - the Lord Jesus Christ, who submitted perfectly to His Father's will, completing without sin, the work given Him to do.

When the Lord Jesus began His ministry, He came first to the Jordan to be baptized of John. John, being a humble spirit felt himself unworthy to baptize the Lord Jesus, knowing the role He would fulfil as the Savior. He was encouraged by Jesus to do so in order that both might, "fulfil all righteousness":

"Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:13-17.

Paul in his letter to those at Ephesus, was reminding them of the privilege they had experienced in being called to the hope of Israel through Christ. The covenant made first between the Jews, was now extended to the Gentiles through belief in God's Son. Their duty as Christ's brethren was to walk blameless before God. Yet no flesh can do so because of its inherent frailty. However, through the mediatorship of Christ, forgiveness after failure is possible, for He sits on the right hand of God to mediate for His brethren, taking their prayers to the Father and interceding on their behalf, during their times of weakness. What grace is seen in this gift, given by a loving Father to His children:

"But unto every one of us in given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

Ephesians 4:7-8.

Paul knew the danger of taking one's eye off the prize - to slip into complacency and lose the race and the hope promised of

entrance into the kingdom of God. Therefore he urged those at Ephesus to, "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called".

Their walk was not to be as when they were Gentiles before their knowledge of the Truth, but with a newness of mind focused on attaining the inheritance promised, to those that endure.

"This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

But ye have not so learned Christ;" Ephesians 4:17-20.

Paul in preaching the gospel of Christ to those at Ephesus, brought the understanding of life and now was reminding them to walk, or be occupied, with only those things that are appropriate to godliness. It was one thing to know the Truth but another to live it in order to walk in the spirit of Christ.

As Paul's letter to the Ephesians encourages us in the way, we may ask. How can we walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we have been called? Paul gives the answer as he continues his letter:

"With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Ephesians 4:2-3.

Jacob was known as one who walked haltingly - leaning on his staff. An example of one who looked to the Almighty as the source of all his strength, in order that his walk be pleasing. This gentleness of spirit, coupled with love for God and others, rather than self, can guide us to walk in a manner that is worthy of the calling to which we have been called.

Let us take heed to Paul's words of wisdom Brethren and Sisters, and endeavor to walk in the same spirit that he encouraged in his Ephesian brethren and walk worthy of the Vocation to which we have been called.

M.C.S.

## SIGNS OF HIS COMING

### The failing world

“And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease - - -.” (Isaiah 13:11)

“The earth mourneth and fadeth - - - they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance - - -.” (Isaiah 24:4—5)

“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us; this is the LORD - - -.” (Isaiah 25:9)

Earlier this year the leader of the Church of Rome visited Auschwitz, the compound where one and a half million Jews were killed, during the time of the Nazi power in various parts of Europe. The papal leader was born in Bavaria in 1927, and during the Second World War was taken into the Nazi Youth Movement. On visiting Auschwitz and Birkenau he met survivors and relatives of those who died at the extermination sites. He visited the reconstruction of a wall where thousands were shot, meeting some survivors, and conducting church observances. To a degree the Roman Church Leader reminded the world of what happened; but the world has already largely forgotten the details, and anti-Jewish thought still exists, and the Arabs remain greatly hostile to the Jews. So the world fails the Jews to quite an extent, and this situation brings to remembrance what the ancient prophet forecast on Jewish thought about a final heavenly intervention, when from the heart they will cry out:—

“- - - It shall be said - - - Lo, this is our God - - - he will save us - - -.” (Isaiah 25:9)

Shortly after the Papal visit to Auschwitz, a respected Jewish religious leader made an appeal for “unity, understanding and respect among all faiths”. He was speaking at a ceremony celebrating the 350th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Jewish community in Britain. Amongst the five hundred people listening to the Rabbi’s speech was the British Prime Minister. This was described as a service of thanksgiving for the 350 years the Jews

have been content in Britain; previously they were banished by King Edward the First in 1290 only being permitted to resettle by Oliver Cromwell in 1656. The British Prime Minister, wearing a Jewish skullcap, said at the time, "As the oldest minority faith community in this country, you show how identity through faith can be combined with a deep loyalty to our nation." The Jewish leader commenting said, "The Jews were perhaps the first minority faith community that gained tacit acceptance in this country. Since then, England has maintained a firm tradition of tolerance and respect for different faiths."

This situation of support for the Jews is an important sign. Israel and the Jews are favoured by the leaders in Britain. As the situation in the Middle-east becomes more difficult, with continuing care by Britain for Jew and Israel, obviously Britain who has supported the United States in Iraq, will have United States support as it upholds Israel. But what a failing world it is, with eastern nations not disposed toward Israel, with no real sympathetic remembrance of the great suffering of Jews at the time of Nazi dominance. But Isaiah warns that things will have to greatly change:-

"The arrogancy of the proud (will be caused) to cease - - -"  
(Isaiah 13:11)

The world is now arrogant more than ever. Science has a kind of advancement, at the very time that human moral behaviour deteriorates! But the call for science to advance into space reveals a very unbecoming ambition. It is being said by certain people of educational degree, who are called astrophysicists:-

"- - - humans must spread out into space for the survival of the species."

Then the words of scripture, with condemnation of pride become very meaningful:-

"I - - - will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible - - -"  
(Isaiah 13:11)

One Professor has recently said:

"We need to set up bases on the Moon and Mars within the next fifty years - - - so that we can escape from our dying planet."

What absurd cogitations are these! They do not give any thought for the Divine Creator and Preserver of all things. He has given a declaration and a promise:-

“The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORDS: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.”  
(Psalm 115:16)

At a time of failure to appreciate God’s word, and of a realisation of mans’ limits and weaknesses, there will appear the Deliverer, spoken of by Isaiah:-

“I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.  
Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.” (Isaiah 13:12—13)

**NEWS FROM THE ECCLESIAS FOR SEPTEMBER 2006**

Hamburg, NEW YORK, Corner Southwestern Blvd. & Pleasant Avenue.

Sunday: Breaking of Bread 11:30am

Sunday Afternoon Class: 1:45pm

Midweek Bible Class: Forestville, Hamburg & Fredonia

Every Third Week: Revelation Study

Our monthly invitations to the general public for literature resumes this month, after being suspended for the summer months.

Improvement in the health of several members continues in response to the supplication of all.

Our elderly sister has settled in an assisted living home where she is well cared for.

J.A.DeF.

**MANCHESTER**

Sundays: Breaking of Bread 11.00 a.m.

Thursdays: Bible Class 2.00 p.m.

Contacts that bring enquiries and or assertions to both Ecclesias, give cause for counselling together which is a comforting and assuring provision to us, especially when we desire greatly to act wisely. We are indeed blessed with the care of one another.