

Gospel Tract Society, Inc.

September 2014 Newsletter

Greetings Dear Christian Family:

Something happened to me last week while watching the early morning news that has lay upon my heart and thoughts ever since. We are not a “gloom and doom” ministry. There are plenty of people and preachers out there that shout, “The world is coming to an end,” and, either dwell upon the sin judgment of the Old Testament or the pending sin judgment during the Great Tribulation.

While there was judgment of sin in the Old Testament, and there certainly will be the judgment for sins during the Great Tribulation, both for nations and people, there is Hope for the children of the Lord who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. For living in sin against God’s Law WILL bring judgment. It is the GREAT HOPE of salvation that we want to share and spread across the world.

People have told me that they couldn’t follow in the steps of Christianity because it was such a ‘**bloody**’ religion. It is because Jesus shed His **blood** that we have been forgiven of our sins and can become His followers, Christians, the children of God.

It’s because Jesus bore the **bloody** stripes on His back that we can be HEALED.

It’s because His **bloodless** body was raised from the dead that we have an advocate sitting at the right hand of our Heavenly Father.

Regardless of what has come over the earth and what will come over the earth, God has always made and will always make, a way of redemption for His children, His covenant Friends, His loved ones. Yes, even for the entire world, for God is *not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

We read in Revelation 16, (1) *And I heard a great voice out of the temple (of God) saying to the seven angels. Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath (judgment) of God upon the earth.*

(3) *And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the **blood** of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.*

(4) *And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they*

*became **blood.***

There have been countless letters written, and sermons preached on both sides of the verses. Either, yes, God will turn water into blood, or, no, it won’t really be blood. Can God turn water into blood? Well, we know that Jesus turned water into wine with just His word. John 2:6-9, *And there were set there (before Jesus) six waterpots of stone . . . Jesus said unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And the servants filled them up to the brim. And Jesus said to the servants, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast . . . the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not where it came from.* This is one of the first miracles of Jesus that we learn as children.

The miracles that were performed by Jesus were for the blessing of the people, either directly, i.e., healing, feeding, and deliverance, or for the teaching of the people, i.e., the withering of the fig tree.

But water into **blood** that kills? Where does that fall into the blessing or teaching of the nation of Israel?

Exodus 7:15 *Go you unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goes out unto the water; and you shall stand by the river’s bank across from him;*

(16) *And you shall say unto him, The Lord God of the Hebrews has sent me unto you, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness: and, behold, . . .*

(17) *Thus says the Lord, In this you shall know that I am the Lord: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.*

(18) *And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall loathe to drink of the water of the river.*

There it is:

#1 - The nation of Israel was in bondage;

#2 – They had been in bondage for only about fifty years;

#3 – Having lived in Egypt for about 400 years, the Israelites had folded into the Egyptian society and religion, which didn’t include our Heavenly Father;

#4 – The Israelites needed to get out of Egypt to re-establish their relationship with the one true God;

#5 –Up to this point in time. God had not really shown Himself, His Power, or His Love for His Children, the Israelites as a nation. But, only in limited Blessing to a few people that followed God’s teaching and leading, i.e., Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, etc.

(19) And the Lord spoke unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take your rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.

(20) And Moses and Aaron did so, as the Lord commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

(21) And the fish that was in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

(24) And all the Egyptians dug round about the river for water to drink; for they could not drink of the water of the river.

It is noteworthy to see that God left a way out for the Egyptians to live, and that was to dig new wells, getting down to the ‘water table’ for fresh, drinkable water. The Blood water, and the other plagues, were to show Pharaoh and the Israelites His Might and Power, and the newly dug fresh water wells were God’s mercy for the Egyptians. Perhaps, because Egypt had been the redemption of the Israelites from the seven years of famine some four hundred years earlier.

So, one might ask himself, is this just an Old Testament curse against Egypt and the judgment of the Great Tribulation?

This following photograph made the news last week as a red algae suddenly (overnight) took over this body of water. “It’s a new issue. It’s literally something we hadn’t seen before,” EPA spokeswoman Dina Pierce said. But it is not a new issue.



As the old saying goes, there is nothing new in the world, it’s just new to me.

The following is from a few years ago, “The Chinese city of Wenzhou woke up this morning to find its river running blood red... and no-one knows why. Locals say at 4 AM the water flow was normal but by 6 AM it had turned a frightening shade of crimson. An elderly resident who has lived by the river all his life says it has never happened before.”



There are several reports of this ‘blood water’ occurring all over the earth where it has never been seen before. The reality that this water turned a toxic blood red in a matter of just a few hours affirms that even though the scientific world may know that it is an algae, they don’t know why or when it will happen again, or, how to stop it.

Is this the blood of the third angel’s vile spoken of in Revelation 16? We can only guess and speculate about the events and timing of times yet to come. As accurate as the Word has been in the past, it must be assumed that its accuracy will hold true for the time to come, we just don’t know where or when, no man knows.

There is a feeling in the hearts and spirits of most Christians that the end is near. If you look at the Scripture’s prophecy that the generation of the rebirth of Israel will see Jesus’ return, then you must know that His returning is near. Are we ready for His return? In many parts of the world, they believe that the Great Tribulation has already begun because of their great suffering. But, we have yet to see lasting peace in the Middle East orchestrated by any nation, much less by one man, the anti-Christ.

But the stage is set. Israel is so tired of war that they have said that they would support any nation, or man, that would bring lasting peace to their nation.

Again, the stage is set.

Revelation 22:3-4 states that ***there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him; And they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.***

And again in Revelation 14:1 John wrote, ***And I looked, and, behold, a Lamb stood on the Mount Zion, and with Him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads.***

It is interesting to note that this group of people have the Father’s name written in their foreheads. The name of God! There are several names of God, and Jesus in the Bible. But what is the name, or seal, written in their foreheads? Some say that it is simply “I AM”, some say that it is a name known only to God himself, again, people can only guess. Even though in the last days, Satan will require everyone to take the mark of the beast on their hand or forehead to buy or sell, imitating God’s sealing His own with His name, those that have God’s seal in their forehead will be saved.

When reading about the sealed ones in the end times they are typically referenced to the 144,000, and those refusing to take the mark of the beast, maybe even the church in general.

However, the **GOOD NEWS** is that we, as born again Christians, have been sealed already. Paul wrote in Ephesians 1:13, ***In whom (Jesus) you also trusted, after that you heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in whom (Jesus) also after that you believed, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.*** And again in 2 Corinthians 1:21-23, ***Now He (God) which established us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, is God. Who has also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.***

Because of your decision to ask God for forgiveness of your sins, you have been sealed by God the Father. That is why you are different. People see it in you and they feel it when they are around you.

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. I John 3:2.

Fear Thou Not, For I Am With Thee: Be Not Dismayed; For I Am Thy God: I Will Strengthen Thee; Yea, I Will Help thee; Yea, I Will Uphold Thee With The Right Hand Of My Righteousness. Isaiah 41:10

Can you do anything but Praise the Lord? NO. Yes, times may be hard for you. You may be in the deepest valley you have ever been through. You may feel bad and even depressed. But look up, for your redemption draws near. Our Heavenly Father knows right where you are. Jesus has already paid the price for you to walk in victory. He has shed His **blood** so that you can be saved and healed. He has given us power over the enemy. He knows, hears, and cares about you. Jesus is that Friend during the long dark hours of the night. God has made a way for you through Jesus Christ.

YOU HAVE BEEN SEALED BY AND FOR GOD!!!

In 2 Timothy 4:7, Paul says *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

Stand fast in the Word of the Lord. Read and study His Word, allowing it to come out of your mouth. Hold on to the Faith that was given to you by God Himself. Be steadfast in the Lord, and He will stand with you!

Now is not the time to be timid, weak, or shy about sharing your faith in Jesus Christ. You don't know how your words can help someone in their own life struggles, only Heaven will tell.

Let's Pray;

Dear Heavenly Father, You are the One who brought the Israelites out of Egypt and across the Red Sea and then later, across the Jordon River on dry ground. It was You who sent your only Son to the Earth to die on the Cross to pay the price for OUR sins. And it is You Father, Who loved us before the beginning of time and made a way for us to spend all of eternity with you in Heaven.

Father, I ask you now to reveal to me the truth and power of your written Word. Help me to change every area of my life to be pleasing to You. Help me to study and meditate in your Word. Show me how to use the power that you have put within me through the Holy Spirit.

Father, let me be found looking to the East for the soon returning of your son Jesus Christ. Lord let people see YOU in everything I do and say.

In the Priceless Name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Let me encourage you to read more of His Word, and really take the time to study and meditate on what our Father has to tell us.

Sincerely Yours, because of Jesus, my covenant Friend, and Savior;

Phillip Buttram



Does Your Church or Business have a 'Tract Rack'?

If not they can

Just write us and ask for your Tract Rack and we will send one to you already stocked with Tracts!

Good News - Thank You Father

As you know, we send out hundreds of Bibles free to prisoners all over the United States. What you don't know is that every time we go to order Bibles, the vendor's are out of stock, out of print, or the price has increased 40% to 50%. We are praising and thanking the Lord. For it looks like we will be able to purchase Bibles for a savings of almost 30%. That will help pay for the postage required to send these Bibles into the prisons.

Thank You For Your Patience

Our Web page is back up and working, thanks to a wonderful Christian brother in the business. We have been working since the middle of March to get some things corrected. Now that it's back on line, we have plans to make more improvements to it.

www.gospeltractsociety.org

Thank you for your continuing support.

Gospel Tract Society, Inc.

PO Box 1118 Independence, MO. 64051

This ministry maintained by the gifts of God's people.