

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

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Divine Restitution

“And HE shall send Jesus Christ, which was before preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of RESTITUTION of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his Holy prophets since the world began” (Acts 3: 20-21).

RESTITUTION: A legal action serving to cause restoration to a previous state; A making good of or giving an equivalent for some injury.

Oh! how great the disobedience of Adam, that plunged the totality of the human race into a state of sinful and total depravity. Mankind did not merely become partially depraved with a taint of goodness within but was TOTALLY and COMPLETELY depraved, without any hope of being reconciled to God by the efforts of the creature.

God, the Almighty sovereign, the creator and ruler of all things that be in heaven and in the earth, determined that mankind be cast into this desolate state in fulfilling ALL his predestined decreed work of RESTITUTION. By Gods determined will, He provided Moses with the Law and Commandments to herald before the children of Israel this perfect and grand standard to obey and live by. Knowing that NO man could obey it to every jot and tittle, but that through it ALL would become condemned by it, and it become a curse to all that attempted to keep it. “For ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory (perfection) of God” (Rom. 3:23).

Mankind has become Spiritually INJURED and KILLED, the proof is in the teaching by the schoolmaster, the Law.....for we are ALL dead in trespasses and sin by natural birth being inheritors of this curse of depravity. The sinner cries out, “oh! where can I go, Oh! where can I go seeking a refuge for my soul”? The Almighty hath not left his Elect, chosen, called, ordained, appointed and predestined heirs of grace without a RESTORER. Yea, He had ordained and predestined His only begotten Son to be the means of RESTITUTION for all that would be blessed to believe upon him.

Yes, dear brethren, Jesus Christ, our Advocate, Intercessor, Mediator, and Propitiation has been ordained to restore and redeem a people who were not a people, from every tongue, kindred and nation God has chosen before the foundation of the world. Jew, Greek and gentile alike that had their names written in the Lambs book of life before the planets knew their round, and before the earth had its foundation. Oh! to those who would question the absolute predestination of ALL things, is there an event which could occur that would alter the Elect heir of grace from keeping that divine appointment of new birth and being CAUSED to lay hold on faith, the fruit of the Spirit, whose Author and Finisher is Christ Jesus?

Divine RESTITUTION by God's absolute free and sovereign grace places we that are granted the grace and mercy to believe in Christ, into a state of INNOCENCE from sin as Jesus Christ has become the JUSTIFIER of the unjust. We are reckoned in the eyes of the Almighty as sinless and innocent even as Adam was in his initial state, yet we have the understanding of sin's curse and the power by which we WERE kept under it before grace came. Oh! how we can worship and praise our redeemer far exceeding that which Adam was able. For Adam knew God and conversed with Him yet COULD NOT identify with the sweet and glorious deliverance that the heirs of grace have experienced in this dispensation of the gospel of the grace of God. Beloved do we have a message? Oh! do we ever have a grand and glorious message: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life;" "I am the way, the truth, and the life, NO man cometh unto the Father, but by ME."

The law IS NOT of faith (Gala.3:12), yet Truth and Grace came by Jesus Christ and "Ye hath He quickened who were DEAD in trespasses and sins." Thanks be unto our sovereign Head that has RECONCILED and RESTORED us unto our Father God of eternal glory. Oh! how precious was that flow from Calvary's tree that bought our redemption and is at NO charge to you and me. For we have been bought with a price, the precious RICH, RED, ROYAL BLOOD of the God man Christ Jesus.

As the song writer penned it, "What can wash me white as snow? NOTHING but the blood of Jesus." Oh! to be made sinless, innocent, righteous and acceptable before our God through Christ Divine Restitution causes my heart to sing praise to the worthy Saviour of sinners, Yea, even Christ Jesus, God with us: Immanuel.

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