

# The Gospel Herald

---

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by  
Donald E. Martin, Sr.

## Helplessness

“Sir, I have NO MAN , when the water is troubled , to put me into the pool.”  
(John 5: 7)

Most are aware of the scriptural record of the impotent man who laid at the pool of Bethesda seeking HELP from another to assist him into the pool when the waters were stirred that he might experience deliverance from his physical infirmity. There is much speculation as to the validity of the water’s ability to do any good to the afflicted folks and the reason the water was stirred from time to time? Nevertheless, our Lord Jesus did not use the pool’s water to deliver the man from his crippling affliction. Christ merely spoke and said, “Rise, take up thy bed and walk” (Jn. 5:8).

Mankind often seek others to HELP them find forgiveness of sin and life everlasting to no avail. “ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord” (Jerem. 17:5).

The Psalmist made it clear that, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present HELP in the time of need” (Psa.46:1)...for the seeker of spiritual life is admonished to “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean NOT unto thy own understanding” (Prov. 3:5). Man is unable to assist himself or another in coming to an experience of saving grace. We are found by nature totally helpless, poor, deficit, needy and alienated from the things of God under depravities dread curse.

There is ONLY one who can help the depraved lost sinners from their dread condition, and it is only by the application of the vicarious, atoning and sin removing blood of our Lord Jesus Christ!!!! No man can cause nor assist in this work of atonement which must be applied to the elect heir of free and sovereign grace. It has been pre-determined before the foundation of the world by the decreed and determined will of our Almighty God and Father to whom shall be the recipients of Christ redeeming blood, for it has been predestined that Christ’s sacrificial atonement be PARTICULAR in its application for all those chosen in Christ by the Father before the earth even had a foundation (Eph. 1: 4,5,11). The proclamation of Christ’s particular atonement is an offence to the

intellect of the natural man and is hated by him. Those who fight against this scriptural teaching of Christ particular redemption and strive to make Christ Blood universally applied and deem themselves as Four-Point Calvinists are totally deceived as to the application of Christ's atonement. If in fact, Christ's blood was to be applied to all mankind, then ALL mankind has had their sin removed and heaven is their immortal home to claim; belief in the Lord Jesus Christ is NOT necessary! The scripture speaks, Jesus said, "He that BELIEVETH in me shall never perish but have everlasting life, he that believeth NOT is condemned already," "For as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48).

Is there some that Christ died for that shall not believe? Not according to the interpretation of the scriptures; for the divine design of God Bride Church on earth in time is to have a people which believe in Christ and are going to be witnesses of this so great salvation so rich and free.... Someone explain to me how an unbeliever can witness or testify of Christ glorious salvation? For it be like asking someone to be a witness to a vehicle wreck which they never saw occur? One MUST experience salvations glorious deliverance in order to be able to testify and witness to this sovereign operation of God's love toward undeserving sinners.

In my experience of attempting to preach the gospel of God's free and sovereign grace for over 36 years, I have encountered the following:

FIRST: When the gospel of our Almighty God is preached that man by nature is hopeless and helpless to accept or decide for Christ to cause forgiveness to be initiated, it MAKES MEN MAD!

Mad, because it strips man of any ability to believe upon Christ by an effort of the dead alien sinner! With spiritually blinded eyes, spiritually deaf ears, and spiritually dead within the heart, mind and soul, man is offended by his HELPLESSNESS! For most preach and teach that God has made salvation available to any and all , and all you have to do is decide and choose Christ as your personal Saviour and salvation is yours to claim.

This is the typical message from the majority of Baptist assemblies throughout the world in general, is it not? This freewill, decisional regeneration, God loves all mankind equally fable is as far from being true as the teaching that the world came about by a "big Bang" theory. The God of the Bible has a people, chosen, called, appointed, ordained, elect, predestinated, and determined before the world began to His glorious Bride church in time of whom Christ come to redeem by HIS precious blood, and NOT ONE more outside those that the Father has chosen for His Son to seek and save shall be in that divine flock of Gods choosing.

SECOND: When the true gospel of free and sovereign grace is proclaimed it makes mankind "SAD." After one is made MAD, after being revealed that man by nature is unable to assist nor decide for Christ to make salvation valid, Man is revealed that

depravity leaves the creature so plunged into sin and ungodliness that he becomes made aware of his helplessness, hopelessness, and inability to do anything about his lost condition !! Sadness sets in with such devastation that one is revealed “Unless the Lord look upon me, I shall utterly perish,” for I am unable to raise myself from my spiritually dead condition by any efforts of my own. “For ALL have sinned and come short of the glory (perfection) of God,” and the wages of sin is death, but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Oh! Is there any HELP for this poor and needy sinner?

THIRD: The sinful overwhelmed creature made aware of his wretched condition before a Holy God (as an elect heir of grace), is being drawn by the cords of divine love to be enabled to see oneself in such state and is evidenced by this awakening of their sinful state. Quickening and the regeneration of the New Birth brings its grand effect within the heart, mind and soul of this previously lost and aliened sinner. And when the glorious Good News of Christ gospel is proclaimed it becomes for the FIRST time a SWEET SOUND in the ears of the new born child of God and they become “GLAD” of what they have been made to endorse and caused to believe that the Truth is in Jesus!!!

For the true gospel DOES NOT bring life, but “brings life and immortality to light as recorded by the apostle Paul ( II Tim. 1:10).

This is a lovely sound to this one who has been translated into the kingdom of God’s dear Son. They love the message of an “Almighty and Unlimited God,” The God of the Holy Writ that alone without any assistance of the once alien creature has come to “seek and save sinners!” “For blessed are they who know the joyful sound,” the sound of the gospel of Gods free and ever-reigning grace. For ONLY these to whom has been revealed the “absolutes” and “Almighty” works of the God of the scriptures can truly be “GLAD” in what they hear from pulpits across this earthly round; for anything less shall not suffice the little child of God that has been revealed the absolute sovereignty of God the Almighty; for ONLY they shall be ultimately “GLAD,” blessed with peace past understanding and joy unspeakable.

Respectfully submitted,  
July 27, 2011