

The Gospel Herald

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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“Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy”

Psalm 107:2

Dear beloved of God, evidenced by a transformed heart, mind and soul by the operation of Gods divine free and sovereign grace: I (personally) have a difficult time with some apparent “Secret Agents” for Christ who I have been informed of over my years as a believer in the redemptive work and everlasting mercy of the God of the Holy scriptures.

I recall on one occasion when I was first informed of the Old Baptist and was meandering around about their meetings some thirty some years ago, when an individual which gave a profession of a hope in Christ so great salvation and I was speaking about various elders that were serving among a certain association of Old Baptist in central Florida, I had mentioned one recently “ordained” elder among the group, and the fellow replied, “you mean he’s a Primitive Baptist elder”?? I said, well yep, he was at an annual meeting I attended at such-and-such location and I heard the individual make an effort to speak in the meeting.” The dear brother replied, “You know I have been with him riding with some other guys going to a meeting which were work related and I never heard a word from him about the Lord or any comments about the church, but language sort of to the contrary!”

I was kind of shocked to hear such a response from the coworker and one that had known the supposed preacher man for some time. I was sort of taken aback by the comment as I meditated on it in the days which followed, especially when I heard the fellows name mentioned later as one that had been called to serve a church.

I thought to myself, I would have a difficult time being among a group of fellows very long without seeking an opening to “feel out” where some might stand with a church

affiliation or some question that would lead to a spiritual perspective..... I thought, well maybe I'm just an "over zealous" religious fanatic? Then I got to thinking about the scriptures and the testimonies of others that were blessed with the faith of Christ to believe their sins had been forgiven and life everlasting was theirs to behold by hopes sweet anchor. Doesn't this work of free and sovereign grace manifest itself by our priorities and main interest? I thought, "well it should!" How could one experience the supernatural quickening of Gods Spirit, be made to see ones absolute and total depravity, and Christ glorious vicarious and sacrificial atonement (personally) and not be motivated by the Spirit to share such wondrous experience with others?

I must admit in my "evangelical zeal" as a young believer in bygone days, I was trying to "**Save the world,**" to the point I ran off (most likely) more than I influenced (God only knows if anything I said fell on fertile ground). Nevertheless, that **Inward** desire to look for an occasion to share what Christ promised those blessed to believe, was ever present, even unto this very day. In my personal experience, something miraculous happened when I was **caused** to believe Christ died for me was a life changing, mind altering, heart transforming experience I pray I shall never forget.

Brethren, since I have been among the Old Baptist and come out of the "Neo-evangelical" soul saving efforts of man to get folks into the kingdom of God, it appears that many have "**ran the opposite direction**" so far that the thought of sharing their spiritual experience would be to "**missionary**" and bordering creature efforts to make disciples.

I have looked hard and long at the Black Rock Address which was the "**Big separation**" between the Old School Baptist and the New Schooler's that wanted the "**Missionary Machine**" to grow into the influential "soul winning, disciple making" effort which it had become in an attempt to fulfill the "Great Commission." The Old School Baptists "**Nowhere**" ever were opposed to **preaching the gospel** where God by His Spirit would direct His preachers, disciples, apostles, and evangelist to go.

How does one born of God, given the gift of the ministry exercise such gift unless they be **sent**? The New Testament, New Covenant believer and God-called ministers are exhorted to "**Do the work of an evangelist.**" What is this work? It is merely proclaiming the Good News of Christ gospel to whosoever would give a hearing ear, not run and **hide that which God has given us under a bushel!** For Christ had said, "a city upon a hill **cannot** be hid," and I am persuaded by the word of God that a born again, elect, chosen, called, appointed, ordained heir of free and sovereign grace cannot in time **keep their mouth shut** about the miracle that has occurred within the heart, mind and soul. I am also persuaded when Christ had said, "when the Holy Ghost shall come upon you, ye **shall be witnesses unto me**" (Acts 1:8).

A **witness** is one that has experienced, and or seen a certain occurrence happen, and can testify of this occurrence when called upon to do so. Yet at the same time, one who has NOT experienced a supernatural work of grace (likened unto those which have not

been given ears to hear the truth) have nothing to testify about. They haven't experienced nothing, they have not been made able to **see** the kingdom of God nor **enter** the kingdom of God, so therefore they have nothing to witness other than their own self-righteous wickedness.

I pray that God would raise up **HIS CHURCH** and cause them to declare "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth," not just in the meeting house! But at any occasion the Lord may lead us and tell any and all that God may direct our paths to that the **Gospel alone is GOOD NEWS to the poor and needy sinner!** And if one whom you may be led to share your **HOPE** be blessed to hear, praise be to God,
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

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