

The Gospel Herald

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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Parole or Pardon?

*“For thy name’s sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great”
(Psalm 25:1)*

I am aware of the gospel that is being proclaimed by many Christian assemblies around the world; a gospel of “opportunity,” a gospel merely made “available,” yet the creature must act by the WILL of choice to either accept the provision of God’s salvation or reject the same. Therefore, when one ACCEPTS this salvation offer, are they placed on PAROLE during their earthly pilgrimage as to whether or not they are blessed in the Christian walk?

Are we on “parole” and placed upon certain guidelines, duties and obligations in order to satisfy our “Parole” conditions to merit the blessings of God and deserve life eternal? If this be the case, I am without help and hope! I find myself as the apostle Paul, when he said, “For the things that I would, I do not, and that which I do, I would not, and how to PERFORM that which is good I find NOT within me.” The apostle could NEVER pass the “Parole requirements” and neither shall any of mankind. “For ALL are guilty, there is NONE righteous, no NOT ONE” (Romans 3:10-12).

The message of “Merit Blessings” was that of the Old Covenant which NONE were able to obtain due to the creatures’ depraved nature, prone to sin and wander from the Lord they claimed to love. Israel continued, time after time, rebelling against the Lord God Jehovah, and experienced, often, the judgment and wrath of God for their disobedience.

So, it remains the same for ALL who are convinced by some works of the creature that they can please the righteous demands of the Holy God of the scriptures. These are merely on “PAROLE;” throwing themselves under the law and the commandments in an attempt to appease and satisfy God by their “works of righteousness,” which the apostle wrote, “There shall be NO FLESH justified by the works of the law, for the law can ONLY CONDEMN the sinner continually.”

*I want to, at this time, insert a story which was told from the pulpit of a very gifted pastor of a supposedly true account which occurred in the early 1900s. The President of The United States at that time had visited a prison in the State of Ohio. In doing so he, requested that the warden of the prison pardon five prisoners upon their exceptionally good behavior while being incarcerated. The President said, "I do not want anyone to know about this pardoning." So, the warden summoned all his division captains and assembled the list of five inmates based upon their excellent behavior. The president held a general assembly meeting with all five inmates present; the warden proceeded to tell the inmates of his desire to pardon five inmates upon their good conduct. He called out the name of the first inmate and the inmate remained seated (he thought there must be another with the same name, it couldn't be me). So, again, the warden called out his name, at which time he stood not believing it was happening to him, and began weeping in unbelief, and was handed the pardon document. After the other four pardons were granted to the other inmates, they were all dismissed from the meeting. But, the first man pardoned just followed the rest out of the room. The warden said to him, "Mr. _____ where are you going? **YOU DO NOT BELONG IN THAT LINE ANY LONGER! YOU HAVE BEEN PARDONED! YOU ARE FREE!***

I don't want PAROLE, I need PARDON that sets me free from sin and death. I need PARDON that removes the cursed sentence which depravity has brought upon my depraved soul.

*"Who is a God likened unto thee, that **PARDONETH** iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, **BECAUSE HE DELIGHTETH IN MERCY.** He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt **CAST ALL THEIR SINS INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA**" (Micah 7:18-19). The sins of Gods elect shall be removed as far as the east is from the west, **NEVER TO BE REMEMBERED AGAIN.***

*The Good news gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ proclaims he has come to **make salvation SURE**; to purchase with his own blood, redemption for those who alone are unable to appease the perfect demands of God our Father. Oh! Dear folks blessed with hope in Christ's sacrificial atonement and everlasting mercy, we **HAVE BEEN PARDONED!** Past tense, once and for all time by Christ's **FINISHED** work accomplished on **HIS CROSS**, in our behalf.*

*Dear beloved of God, we are NOT blessed upon our duties, works and or obligations, **we are "blessed" to walk in ways of righteousness by grace and grace alone.** Grace has sought us, grace has called us, grace has caused us to believe, and grace shall be the means by which we walk worthy of our calling **"For he which hath begun a good work in you (Christ) SHALL (not try to) PERFORM IT until the day of Jesus Christ."***