

The Gospel Herald

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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His Responsibility

(Excerpt from a sermon by Joseph Irons, 1842)

*“Oh! Blessed fact for the Church of the living God, that her glorious and exalted Head represents her in His own righteousness, represents her in His own merit, represents her in His own likeness, represents her in His own authority, represents her as His own charge, being (mark this) invested with **responsibility** for her sake and safety.”*

*You know, I am very fond of that word, **responsibility**, being vested with **responsibility** for her salvation. Oh! The blessedness of the **responsibility** of our representative. Were it not for this, I should lie down in despair. I pray, you, poor proud freewiller, do not forestall me with supposition that I am denying human **responsibility**, it is the very knowledge of that, that makes me love this. My **responsibility** which lies upon me as a creature of God, would ruin me eternally, if I had no other, but **His responsibility** saves me forever and ever. My **responsibility** is but a solemn trumpet, blowing its appalling blast from top of Mount Sinai, “**Cursed, cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the Book of the Law, to do them.**”*

*His (Christ’s) **responsibility**, like the silver trumpet under the mosaic economy, all of one piece (no addition to it from the creature). is everlastingly sounding the joyful news around the throne, and within the should and experiences of the Lord’s family, “Men shall be blessed in Him” and while the curse is attached to **human responsibility**, the blessing is infallible in **Christ’s responsibility**, and I rejoice in having been enabled to flee to that. My **responsibility** directly it was opened to my view, directly it was felt in my conscience, directly it stared me in the face, smelt sulphurously, and as I gazed upon its dare, black letters, all I could read in **human responsibility** was **DAMNATION!** “**He that believeth shall not be damned,**” But when I turned to **The responsibility of my Lord**, the covenant undertaking of my precious, glorious **covenant Head and Husband**, I saw the **Law fulfilled, justice satisfied, and all my iniquities laid***

upon His person, and His “Lo, I come” laying Him under **responsibility** , emblazoned as with sunbeams, and shining with the meridian glory of celestial light, **SALVATION**, Salvation appeared to the eye of faith, was claimed by the hand of faith, and has been enjoyed by the soul ever since. **It is His responsibility, which is our security on earth in all spiritual things, and before God in eternity.** (End of Joseph Irons’ quote)

Note by this editor: The word “Responsibility” is not within the pages of the Holy Writ, although the term in the English language is defined as follows. **Responsibility:** The quality of being responsible, legal accountability, reliability, trustworthiness. **Responsible:** able to answer for one’s conduct and obligations: liable to be called upon to answer as the primary cause, motive.

As a spiritual **Predestinarian**, and having been revealed the character and attributes of the sovereign God of the Holy Bible, I am convinced that Jesus Christ, our divine Advocate, Intercessor, and Justifier I,s in fact, the responsible head of his elect bride church made up of the chosen, ordained, predestined, elect and adopted heirs of free and sovereign grace. Therefore, my hope is laid upon the responsibility of our Lord Jesus Christ, who not only begun a good work within his elect children, but shall in all cases work in them to both will and to do those things of His divine will, fulfilling His good pleasure (Phil. 1:6).

Respectfully submitted, trusting only in Christ’s merits and righteousness.

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