

# *The Gospel Herald*

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

Donald E. Martin, Sr.

## *“Whom God has raised up, having loosed the pains of death”*

*Acts 2: 23-24*

*“Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain; Whom God hath raised up, HAVING LOOSED THE PAINS OF DEATH” (Acts 2:23-24).*

*Oh! the blessed revelation of the “determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God”. The “Determinate counsel” is the expression of Gods decreed and determined purpose, and Gods “foreknowledge” is the fact that God did not only decree His beloved Son to be crucified, but “foreknew” it in fulfilling the predestined purpose that the ultimate payment for the sins of God’s elect heritage would be atoned for once and for all.*

*As scripture records, could not have Christ called twelve legions of angels to deliver him from the cross? Yet, he knew himself that his crucifixion must be accomplished to satisfy once and for all the ultimate payment for the sins of all those chosen in Christ as heirs of free and sovereign grace throughout the ages of time.*

*Dear one’s that have been blessed with the hope of Christ so great salvation, we have that same promise as was given Christ that “the pains of death shall be loosed from us upon the time God calls us away to himself by the means of death”. What is the PAINS OF DEATH?”*

*For Christ is was the fact that he had nails driven through his hands and his feet, and a crown of thorns pressed upon his head, but most of all he took upon himself ALL THE SINS of God’s appointed elect heirs of grace upon his body and bear them in our behalf. Yes, Christ was taken and was made accursed for moment in time bearing about on HIS BODY ALL OUR SINS, not just some of our sins and transgressions, but ALL OF THEM!*

*As we read the account of Christ prophesied sufferings in Isaiah chapter 53 we see where ALL that He was to suffer is PAST TENSE in it's record, meaning that in the divine determined purpose of God the Father his Son's suffering and atonement HAD ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED even before the foundation of the world in the sovereign predestined purposed of the Father. Yet it was carried out literally over 750 years after Isaiah's revelation.*

*And just as God the Father "LOOSED THE PAINS OF CHRIST DEATH" in our behalf so shall our PAINS (sufferings) OF DEATH BE LOOSED from us when we are called to lay down these tabernacles of clay once and for all to be awakened with an immortal and incorruptible body likened unto that which our Saviour was granted when he was raised from the dead on that third day.*

*As the apostle penned, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8: 18). Dearly beloved this is our blessed HOPE, is it not? Oh! for the temporal sufferings many often experience in these mortal bodies, Diseases, Cancer, crippled bones, pain beyond description, weaknesses, blindness, deafness, victims of Strokes and Heart attacks, sufferings of mind with depression, sorrow and sadness and on and on. Yet in all these things it cannot be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us by the divine call from death's cold grave. Oh! to be LIKE HIM in a glorified body FREE from all of life's pain and sufferings is such a delightful thought of which hope brings to our feeble minds, hearts and souls. We shall be LOOSED forever from sin's dread curse of suffering in this flesh of sin.*

*Oh! God cause us to look beyond this temporal life by faith's eye and see our Saviour with outstretched arms awaiting our arrival in that great and wondrous Day of the Lord when he shall call us unto himself with the voice of an archangel and the trump of God! Come quickly Lord Jesus! Is my humble prayer and receive us unto thyself.*

*May our heavenly Father be pleased to bless you with faith and hope looking for and expecting the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

*By Christ's merits and divine promises, I remain your servant in the gospel,*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*September 6, 2015 (Lord's Day)*