

The Gospel Herald

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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“How shall we sing the Lord’s song in a strange land?”

Psalm 137:4

In our Lord’s divine providence and predestined purpose, the children of Israel have, upon occasion, become captives of their enemies. In an analogy of this experience among the Lord’s people, there has always been a remnant of Israel that were the elect according to the grace of God. “I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace” (Rom. 11:4-5).

“What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded” (Rom. 11:7). “For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel” (Rom. 9: 6). “For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward of the flesh: But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God” (Rom. 2:28-29).

Beloved of God, so as it was with Israel in the recorded history of the Holy Writ, so it is with the New Covenant Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. Not all that name the name of Christ are of the true Church of the first born. But TARES that is growing among the Lords wheat, GOATS that are meandering among the true sheep of God’s fold. The ultimate evidence of the SHEEP of God is that they KNOW the good shepherds voice, and they follow HIM. They shall not follow another. Their faith is that which is the gift of God, and their hope is that which founded and stayed upon Christ Jesus of whom we have to do. These of whom I describe shall be those who can SING THE LORD’S SONG WHEN IN THE CAPTIVITY OF A STRANGE LAND. Beloved, we are in a strange land, we are in this time world, but we are not of it. Our focus has been placed upon the things above, where Christ is seated beside the right hand of the Father. We seek a home whose builder and maker is God Almighty; we are Pilgrims, Strangers and mere Sojourners in this low ground of sin and sorrow.

We are those who await our glorious change, whereby we shall be clothed with immortality and incorruption shall eradicate the corruption of our sinful flesh as we take on the image of Christ Jesus in Spirit through the resurrection of these vile bodies.

Is this not reason to SING? Is this not that glorious hope that provokes God-initiated worship? Oh! Sing with me, beloved of God, for our redeemer LIVES; He ever lives to make intercession for his lovely church bride. He LIVES within these fleshly tabernacles made of dust and causes us to walk in this STRANGE LAND as witnesses of his loving kindness and sovereign, free, irresistible grace. Our God has determined to have a people for his name's sake; they shall be called the ISRAEL OF GOD, called from every nation, tongue and kindred of the inhabitants of this sin-cursed earth. Yea, they shall SING THE LORD'S SONG while captives in these bodies of sin and death. When you assemble with the Lord's people and you observe some who DO NOT sing in the assembly of the saints, do you often wonder why they do not utter a joyful sound? I often wonder why it is that one who names the name of Christ is hesitant to SING THE LORD'S SONG in the assembly of the saints? Why would one not desire to sing? It almost makes me want to elbow the one next to me who stands there with closed lips while the majority sing, and say, "is your tongue tied? Has not the Almighty given you an instrument of which to use in praising his matchless name? Then SING, dear brother, raise the voice of praise that the God of all grace may be glorified among the assembly of his gathered people." May ALL creatures here below, that of the human race, the cattle of the field, and all creation sing in sweet anthems the glories of God's Almighty mercies towards undeserving sinners. SING!! Oh creation, Sing wheat fields of the plains, SING Cedars of Lebanon , SING waves of the seas, SING all things of creations glory. For worthy of praise is our great and glorious Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord of host, Jehovah Jesus, Immanuel with us. Bless his HOLY NAME!

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