

The Gospel Herald

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

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

Donald E. Martin, Sr.

“Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God”

I Thess. 1:4

Dear beloved of God blessed with hope as evidenced by faith, the substance of things hoped for: In the natural realm of the legal system there are most likely two major items which prove a situation or experience to be true. One is a WITNESS and the other is EVIDENCE. Upon these two items one can usually make a sound and informed decision of a matter, whether a testimony and/or a behavior. Can one KNOW their ELECTION of God?

I can ONLY speak of my own experience and the testimony of others which have experienced a very similar transformation of heart, mind and soul. May God cause us to look at a few aspects of The Election of God: First, we must examine what our beloved Saviour said regarding those who are the Elect of God and given to Christ to seek and to save. Jesus said, “ye must be Born again to SEE the kingdom of God,” then He also said, “Ye must be born again to ENTER the kingdom of God” (John 3: 3 & 5).

We see quite clearly that in order to see the kingdom of God one must be “Born Again”. This new birth which our Lord expressed to Nicodemus (a renowned teacher among Judaism) is a SPIRITUAL experience which must occur before one can SEE the kingdom of God. What is it to see the kingdom of God? Does one see angelic creatures meandering around in a mystical way, or able to see the realm of our Fathers heavenly throne? No, but to SEE the kingdom of God is to be brought to the spiritual revelation that God has a kingdom and is the Most High King of that kingdom.

It further reveals that the one “Born Again” is given the divine ability to SEE certain revelation of the spiritual realm of Gods Son and our Saviour and the redemptive operation of grace which has been accomplished for all the ELECT’S sake. With this supernatural work of God’s grace within the heart, mind and soul of those chosen of God, is the God-granted ENTRANCE into this divine kingdom of our God and Father. This ENTRANCE brings one into the awareness that something supernatural and powerful has occurred within the creature. “Therefore, if any man be IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATURE: old things are passed away; behold ALL things are become NEW” (II Corin. 5:17).

Now as I began, I stated that I can *ONLY* speak of my own personal experience, and the testimony of others that give witness and evidence of a life-changing result after being “Born Again” of the Spirit of God. I can testify that this wretched sinner man was transformed by the power of Gods Spirit in 1971 as Godly sorrow granted me repentance of my sinful actions of twenty-seven (27) years as a unregenerate depraved sinner which had no interest nor respect for the blessed name of my Saviour God.

God broke this poor man’s heart and God brought repentance caused me to fall upon my knees in humble contrition with mine eyes weeping, as a child would cry for it’s mother’s help. I called out to GOD (the best that I knew how) to reveal that Christ is who He says He is, and that I wanted my sins forgiven and a home in heaven. I felt as if a rock of unbearable weight was lifted off my weary back. I prayed that God would make me the man he would have me to be, the husband I should be and the father to my children that would be proper and honorable: For I was given over to strong drink during the years prior to and after my marriage,

There is one thing (among many) that God did in this sinful heart of this man, in this experience of which I just expressed, and that was he *TOOK A FOUL TONGUE* out of my mouth which I used commonly to blaspheme the name of Jesus Christ in sinful ignorance. And, He removed the vulgarity of this sinful mouth which I had possessed. This, dear friend, was an instantaneous miracle that God alone performed. I arose from my knees that night with the experience of a *NEW CREATURE*. The following day I could not wait to go to a Bible book store and buy myself a Bible to read and learn more of this God and His Son, Jesus Christ! Dear friends, this was “forty-four years ago and I *NEVER* get tired of hearing that precious and glorious good news gospel of Jesus Christ.

Have I doubted that I have become one of Gods elect over the years? Occasionally, but when I recall how God transformed my heart, mind and soul in that experience of being made a *NEW CREATURE* in Christ, a sweet renewed breeze of grace visits my soul, causing me to *KNOW* what occurred was *NOT* of this creature’s making: It was a *BIRTH* from above that I cannot deny nor escape.

Dear ones, I know every one of God’s elect heirs of grace, chosen in Christ even before the foundation of the world, will be “Born Again,” whether in the womb (as John the baptizer), in early years of life, or as an aged hoary-headed sinner near death’s brink, God will *QUICKEN* and make them to know their sinful state and cause them to *BELIEVE* upon the God/man Jesus Christ, the *ONLY* Saviour of sinners!

This little rambling of my pondering thoughts of the miracle of being made a *NEW CREATURE* in Christ is *MY* testimony and experience, knowing that *ALL* are uniquely called in God’s determined and divine providence to a supernatural *BIRTH*, being made able to not only *SEE* but to *ENTER* into the kingdom of God’s dear Son. Please *DO NOT* think that you must have this identical call and experience as I, for *NONE* are

BORN of the Spirit with an “identical experience and testimony; for we are called into this experience by free and sovereign grace at a time determined by the Lord God Almighty to fulfill His predestined purpose and decreed will. Many may not know of a determined time of such “New Birth,” yet have been blessed with the transformation of being a NEW CREATURE in time, as EVIDENCED by the FRUIT of the SPIRIT of which the worldling knows NOTHING! And neither can they know of it: “For without FAITH it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God” (Heb. 11:6). If God has granted you FAITH to believe upon Christ as your ONLY help and hope of sins forgiven and life everlasting, rejoice dear ones; for FAITH is that SUBSTANCE which is the WITNESS of the Spirit identifying us as the children of God.

I must warn the reader of such composition, O vain man, that FAITH without works is dead” (James 2:20). “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your selves” (James 1:22).

The proof, evidence and true testimony of “New Born” children of God will be their walk in gospel obedience as Christ’s works in them, by His Spirit causing them not only to “WILL” but to also “DO” of His good pleasure (Phil. 2:13). “For unto you it is GIVEN in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on HIM, but also to suffer for His sake” (Phil. 1:29). “Being confident of this very thing, that HE which has begun a good work in you will PERFORM IT until the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6). “Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which ARE BY JESUS CHRIST, unto the glory and praise of God” (Phil.1:11).

Beloved of God, these things shall accompany genuine and divine salvation granted to the heirs of free and sovereign grace. Oh! Yes, we meander about still plagued by the FLESH and its natural sinful influence, yet sin shall NOT HAVE DOMINION OVER YOU! (Rom. 6:14). “But God be thanked, that ye WERE the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart (transformed heart) that form of doctrine which was delivered you” (Rom. 6:17).

Oh! For GRACE how great a debtor this poor and needy sinner is made to be. For apart from the Lord God Almighty’s election of grace and His divine calling, I would have continued down the broad road to destruction, living the life of the natural born depraved sinner and loving it continually. Yet, God in His divine purpose, has been pleased to have an appointed people, who were not a people in time past, but chosen, ordained, called and predestined; whom the Father gave His Son before the world was even formed, nor had a foundation to seek and to save (Eph.1:4-5).

May you be blessed with the fruit of God’s Holy Spirit as evidence of your redemption by Christ Jesus and made to walk in the newness of life as a witness of being a NEW CREATURE by supernatural spiritual birth.

*Respectfully submitted,
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