

The Word of Life Messenger

“Holding forth the word of life” Phil. 2:16

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No. 12

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR BURDENS

“Cast your burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee.” (Psalm 55:22)

The most difficult burdens that we often face are mental burdens and there is only one place that true help can be found. The Psalmist tells us of three things that we need to remember about our burdens.

First, there is the inescapableness of burdens. The Psalmist was David the King. He was wealthy; he was godly and he was aged. Here we are reminded that burdens come to the rich as well as the poor, to the saints as well as the sinners, to the high as well as to the low, and to the old as well as the young. Sometimes we think our burdens are heavier than other people's burdens and that somehow we would escape them if we were in someone else's shoes. However, burdens are our common lot in this world and we can not escape them. We live in a fallen world.

Second, burdens bring temptations. Sometimes the temptations that accompany burdens are more trouble than the burdens themselves. First, there is the temptation to think that God does not care, that He is not concerned with our burdens. In verse one of Psalms 55 David prays “Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not Thyself.” Sometimes when God's answer to our prayers seems long in coming we can be tempted to think

that God does not really care. But the Scripture says we as believers are “His dear children” and that which concerns you concerns me. Second, there is the temptation to try to escape from life. David said “Oh that I had wings like a dove! For then would I fly away and be at rest.” Many try to escape their burdens by pleasure, by alcohol, by drugs, and by immorality to no avail. Even Christians sometimes seek to draw back and withdraw from the world and the challenges facing them. Third, there is the temptation to become increasingly self-occupied. In verses 12, 14, and 21 of this Psalm, David seems deeply hurt by the actions of some who were close to him. He keeps returning to those who had wronged him. But, let us remember our dear Lord was wronged more than anyone who walked this earth, and yet He said “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” Our Lord was totally sinless and perfectly did the will of His Father. And yet, they cried “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!” He willingly purchased the salvation of many who were in that crowd that day. Remember also, what the Scriptures said of suffering and tried Job after he had been falsely accused of sin by his friends, “The Lord turned

again the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends.” Fourth, there is the temptation to become bitter toward life, people, and if we are not careful, even God. In verse 15 David says, “Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick to hell.”

Yet, David sees something much greater than his burdens. What is David's remedy for all his burdens? He says “Cast thy burden upon the Lord!” Do not try to stand alone! Do not give up! Do not quit! Do not become bitter! Roll your burden onto the Lord and He will sustain YOU! He will sustain you — not just your burden without you. You can't just pass your burden on and walk away; no, you hand yourself by faith over to the Lord, and He will sustain you and your burden. The burden may still be there, but the weight and the weariness of the burden will be gone. Isn't it encouraging to you that the Lord cares for his people? That He stands ready to help them in their burdens. What is your burden today? Or should I say what are your many pressing burdens today? The same promise that was true for David can be true for you also. Perhaps I am writing to someone who is still under the burden of sin. Here is a burden you
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THE PRICE OF REDEMPTION: THE BLOOD

One of the great fundamental doctrines of the word of God is the blood of Jesus Christ. The blood of Christ is the price that God demanded to purchase our salvation. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot; Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you" (1 Peter 1:18-20). "Manifest in these last times" is explained for us in 1 John 3:5: "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin." Jesus took away our sins when He was lifted up on the cross. "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). After He suffered the hell penalty of our sins on the cross, He was taken down and buried and then raised from the grave. "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it" (Acts 2:24).

The blood has a seven-fold virtue. The blood procures redemption for the slave (Eph. 1:7). It secures justification for the guilty (Rom. 5:9). It ensures cleansing for the unclean (1 John 1:7). It assures peace for the troubled (Col. 1:20). It effects sanctification for the unholy (Heb. 13:12). It gives nearness for the alien (Eph. 2:13). It brings victory for the accused (Rev. 12:11).

The blood of Christ redeems us from the curse of the law. "Christ

hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Gal. 3:13). The blood redeems us from all iniquity. "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). The blood redeems us to God (Rev. 5:9). The blood is a once-for-all payment for our sins. "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Heb. 9:12).

The blood of Christ justifies us and saves us from wrath. "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him" (Rom. 5:9). The blood justifies us freely by His grace. "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 3:24). The blood justifies us from all things. "And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" (Acts 13:39). The blood justifies the ungodly. "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." (Rom. 4:5).

The blood of the Lord Jesus Christ gives us relationship with God. We become His children when we believe in His death, burial and resurrection. "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God" (1 John 3:1a).

The blood of Jesus speaks of better things. When Cain killed his

brother Abel, God said unto him: "what hast thou done? The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground" (Gen. 4:10). Cain was angry with Abel because God had accepted Abel's sacrifice, which was a teaching of blood redemption and rejected Cain's which was the works of his hands. "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh" (Heb. 11:4). "And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel" (Heb. 12:24).

— Gladwin Carpenter

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR BURDENS

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will never be able to bear. But God has put our sin upon one who is mighty, his own dear Son. He had no sin, but He bore our sins there on the cross. He bore the guilt and the penalty of all who by faith believe the gospel of Christ. He died the innocent in the place of the guilty that He might bring us to Christ. God raised Him up as the assurance that He has accepted His sacrifice for us. Have you believed the gospel of "how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, was buried, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures." "Again, cast thy burdens upon the Lord and He will sustain thee."

— Larry Windham

A MOMENT WITH THE WORD

Bro. Jack Maroon

2 Corinthians 3:5 tells us “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; **BUT OUR SUFFICIENCY IS OF GOD.**”

One of the first facts the lost man needs to know is that we cannot do anything to save ourselves. Our Saviour did everything necessary for our Salvation on the Cross of Calvary. It is then given to the sinner without any strings attached freely by His Grace.

We need Salvation and Christ saves completely and eternally all

those who trust Him. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.”

Christ is sufficient to keep us saved. John writing in 1 John 5:13 “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God: That ye may **KNOW** that you **HAVE ETERNAL LIFE**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

Christ is Sufficient in every day experiences. In this life we experience sickness, accidents, sorrow, and death. But we are not on our

own. God is in control. “Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.” Psalm 34:19. 1 Peter 5:7 “casting all our care upon Him, for he careth for you;” and Romans 8:38 “nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

We can say with the hymn writer:


*All that I need he will always be.
All that I need 'til His face I see;
All that I need through eternity.
Jesus is all I need.*

—Rowe


ETERNAL LIFE

Eternal life is a gift. Hear what Jesus says: “My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow Me, and I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:26-28). Hear Paul’s testimony: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23). Righteousness is a gift. Some may say, “Eternal life is a gift; it must be, no one can produce life. But a man can produce righteousness, and he must if he is to be righteous before God.” But God’s answer to that is “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” It is true, God demands righteousness. No one has ever lived so well that he had righteousness before God. “No man liveth and sinneth not.” Let us look at Romans 5:17 and learn the precious truth that the righteous-

ness God demands: He bestows it as a gift. “For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one: much more they which receive abundance of grace and the GIFT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS shall reign in life, by One Jesus Chris.” Salvation is free,


“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

(John 3:16)


it is without cost to the sinner, but it is not without cost to God. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, that

whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, that God sent His only Begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:9, 10). Christ suffering hell for us on the cross is the cost, the price God paid for our salvation.

Paul sums it us thus: “He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things” (Rom. 8:32). Nothing will work in the believer obedience and devotion to Christ Jesus like a knowledge of this gracious fact that Jesus purchased our salvation by His own blood, and hence makes it free to us.

— E. R. Henderson

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Notice

The Northeast MS Baptist
Bible Conference will meet
with Pleasant Grove Baptist
Church, located on Hwy. 41,
south of Pontotoc, MS on Fri-
day, January 11, 2008.

7:00 p.m. - The Church:
Gladwin Carpenter
Alt. - Bobby Adams

7:30 p.m. - The Ministry of
the Church: Larry
Windham
Alt. - Billy Little

8:00 p.m. - The Message
of the Church:
Jack Maroon
Alt. - Bobby Poss

The North Central MS Bap-
tist Bible Conference will meet
with Pleasant Grove Baptist
Church on Monday, January
21, 2008.

The conference begins at
10:00 a.m. Meals will be
served at both conferences.

Bro. Fred Hartley and the
church invite you.

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