



A "Behold the Lamb" publication
Calvary Outreach Ministries

The GREAT and The TERRIBLE Day of the LORD

Message by: **Leroy Surface**

There is something most of us have not understood about **"The Great and The Terrible Day of the LORD."** Most have understood that it will bring the greatest slaughter of human life the world has ever seen, but few have understood that it will also bring the greatest harvest of souls to Jesus Christ the world has ever seen. While no one should desire it (the slaughter), there is no reason for the Spirit filled child of God to fear it. The apostle John tells us that even the great swarms of locusts that come out of the pit to torment men will have power to hurt **"...only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads."** The greatest outpouring of the Holy Ghost in history is coming. It is the promise of God to everyone who **"turns to the Lord with all their heart"** in that day. God will seal them with His own Spirit and presence, and hide them in **"the secret place of the Most High."**

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

Psalms 91:5-9

THE GREAT and THE TERRIBLE Day of the LORD



Message by: Leroy Surface

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call. For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Joel 2:31-3:2

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way.”

*Opening lines of “A Tale of Two Cities”
by Charles Dickens*

The greatest harvest of souls the world has ever known is just before us. The greatest slaughter of humanity the world has ever known is just before us. Both of these are embodied in “*The Great and The Terrible Day of the Lord.*” We can see the prophecies being fulfilled before our own eyes, chief among them being the gathering of the radical Muslim nations that

surround Israel. The horrible things that are prophesied in the scriptures concerning this last day will certainly come to pass. The entire world is going to be punished by God for its rejection of His Son, Jesus Christ. God Himself has been rejected by the nations of the world, and they will most certainly pay the price for that rejection.

The Great Slaughter

A war will break out very soon in Israel that will quickly spread around the globe. It may begin with a preemptive strike by Israel against Iran to prevent their production of nuclear weapons, or it may begin when the Muslim youth flood across the borders of Israel in waves to provoke an incident that will lead to war. We do not know exactly how it will begin, but we do know that it will begin. When it is all over, two thirds of the inhabitants of Israel will have been slain in war, but five sixths of the armies of the invading nations will have been destroyed. The scriptures tell us in **Revelation 9:15** that the “*locust army of God,*” which will be numbered at two hundred million, will slay one third of mankind. The deadliest military conflict in human history was World War II, which resulted in between sixty and eighty million people losing their lives. In the conflict that is coming, well over one billion people will perish. It is almost certain that such a massive loss of life will be caused by the breaking out of nuclear war. America will not escape, but will be drawn into the heat of the battle as the locust army of radical Islamists will attack our cities with every means at their disposal. The devastation will be so great that Jesus said of those days, “*...except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened*” (**Matthew 24:22**). Only the second coming of Jesus Christ will end the devastation before man would totally destroy himself. The conflict will end as the Lord Himself stands on the Mount of Olives to “*fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle*” (**Zechariah 14:3**). He will utterly destroy all the armies of the nations that fight against Israel. **Zechariah 14:12** says, “*...this shall be the plague*

wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.”

The Great Harvest in Israel

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS, THAT WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE DELIVERED: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call. For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage

Joel 2:31-3:2

Did you notice the words I capitalized in the text? *“It shall come to pass...”* even when the great and the terrible day of the LORD is here *“...that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered.”* It is in the midst of the greatest devastation in the history of mankind that great revival will break out in Israel. After two thirds of the inhabitants of the land are *“cut off and slain (Zechariah 13:8),”* the remaining one third will *“...turn to Jesus Christ with all their hearts.”*

“The great and the terrible day of the LORD” is not for the destruction of the Jews but for their salvation. Jesus told the Jews just before He died on the cross that they would see Him no more until they would say, *“Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” (Matthew 23:39)*. In the heat of the battle, just when it seems that all will be lost, the remnant of the Jews will call upon Jesus Christ. In **Zechariah 12:10** God says, *“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they*

shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” The remnant in Israel will be doing exactly what God told them to do in **Joel 2:12-13**; *“Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.”*

In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

Zechariah 12:11-14

At the time of this “*mourning*” throughout the land of Israel, two thirds of the inhabitants of the land have been slain in battle. You would think they would be mourning for those who perished in battle, but they are not. Instead, as God says in the **tenth verse**, *“...they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son.”* In every house across the land, every family with the husband and wife apart, every individual remaining in the land will be turning to Jesus Christ with all their hearts. They will be fulfilling the exhortation of **Joel 2:16-17** which says, *“Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen*

should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? They will be turning, with all their hearts, to Jesus Christ, "whom they pierced."

Zechariah 13:1 says, *"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness."* This is the same fountain that was opened to us in the day we first repented and turned with all of our hearts to Jesus Christ. It is the *"fountain"* of His precious blood that He shed for us on the cross of Calvary.

An old Jewish friend of mine told me many years ago, *"I long to live to see the day that God will fight for Israel again."* Bruce, that day is near! Zechariah tells us this, *"Then shall the LORD (Jesus Christ) go forth, and fight against those nations (every nation that fights against Israel), as when he fought in the day of battle."*

God tells us in **Zechariah 12:9**, *"...I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: **they shall call on my name** (Jesus Christ), and I will hear them: I will say, **It is my people:** and they shall say, *The LORD (Jesus Christ) is my God.*"* They will not only be saved; they will also be baptized with the Holy Spirit of God (the Holy Ghost) as on the Day of Pentecost. When the Holy Ghost came upon Jesus, His Father said from heaven, *"This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."* When God pours out His Spirit upon the inhabitants of Israel, He will be identifying them as His own; He will say *"It is my people."*

In that day, Israel will become a one hundred percent *"Christian nation."* The words of Isaiah will then be literally fulfilled which he prophesied in **Isaiah 60:18-21**, *"Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise. The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: **but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.** Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon*

withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.”

The Valley of Decision

Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

Joel 3:13-14

The entire world, whether “*Christian,*” “*Buddhist,*” “*Muslim,*” “*Jewish*” or even “*atheist,*” is soon to be brought into a place that is prophetically called “*The Valley of Decision (Joel 3:14).*” It is a “*dead end*” place where the people will be forced into a decision. They cannot continue as before. They must turn either to the right or to the left. The “*right*” turn will bring them to the Lord Jesus Christ and salvation; the wrong turn will take them to the “*...winepress of the wrath of God almighty (Revelation 14:19-20).*”

In the margin reference of most Bibles, the “*valley of decision*” is called “*the valley of threshing,*” and so it is. It is also the “*valley of judgment*” where God sits to judge among the heathen. The Hebrew word, translated “*decision,*” can be used correctly in all three ways. The “*valley of threshing*” speaks of a harvest that is gathered to the threshing floor. On an actual “*threshing floor,*” it is the “*pressure*” of the oxen’s hooves that separates the wheat from the chaff. In the “*valley of decision*” it is the “*pressure*” of the things that are coming upon the earth that will do the same. Jesus says in **Matthew 24:21**, “*For then shall be great tribulation....*” The word “**tribulation**” is translated from the Greek word “*thlipsis,*” which Strong’s Greek Dictionary defines simply as “*pressure (literally or figuratively).*” What Jesus actually says is this, “*For then shall*

be great pressure, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.” This is the “*valley of judgment*” where God will sit to judge the Gentile nations. It is the “*valley of threshing,*” where the “*pressure*” upon man will be greater than at any time since there was a man. It is also the “*valley of decision,*” where the pressure of the time and the pending judgment of God will force every person on this planet to make a decision. It is at this time that the promise goes out to every person, “*Whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD (Jesus Christ) shall be delivered.*”

A Harvest and a Vintage

And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without (outside) the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

Revelation 14:14-20

Revelation 14:14-20 tells of both a “*harvest*” and a “*vintage.*” The “*harvest*” represents fields, which Jesus says are “*...white unto harvest.*” It is the precious grain that must be gathered and brought into the garners. This will be the greatest harvest of

souls the world has ever seen, and it is immediately before us. The scripture tells us that one “...*like unto the Son of man*” will thrust in the sickle and reap. Jesus speaks of Himself as the “*son of man*,” ninety times during His earthly ministry. He tells us that we will see the “*son of man*” coming in the clouds with great glory. Stephen saw “*the Son of man* (Jesus)” standing at the Father’s right hand when the heavens were opened to him. On the other hand, there are ninety four times that God calls Ezekiel “*son of man*.” That is four more than Jesus calls himself by that same designation. In one place, God also calls Daniel “*son of man*”. The one with the sharp sickle also has a crown of gold on his head. If this figure does not represent Jesus, then it must represent His church, which is also “*His body* (**Ephesians 1:23**);” and also wears the “*crown*” of an overcomer. When the scripture speaks of one “*like unto the son of man*,” we should remember that the children of God are “*predestined to be conformed to the image of the Son of God*” (**Romans 8:29**). Some believe this “*harvest*” is the rapture of the church. If that were true, it would certainly be Jesus who thrusts in the sickle. This writer does not believe that the harvest represented here is the rapture, but that it is a great harvest of souls that will be gathered by the church of Jesus Christ when it comes into its fullness in the last day (**Ephesians 1:23**). Today, in the chaos of this present evil world, the greatest harvest of souls that has ever been is coming to its fullness. People even now are being crowded into the “*valley of decision*,” where the pressures of the things coming upon the earth will bring a multitude to the end of themselves. As the governments of earth continue to fail, the people will either be ready to turn to Jesus with all their heart or they will turn to fight against Him. They will turn, one way or the other, because they cannot continue as in the past. It is the greatest day for those Christians who have turned to Jesus with all their heart and have received the wonderful baptism with the Holy Ghost.

The “*vintage*” is a word that defines the gathering of the grapes. This particular vintage is the gathering of all those who have rejected Jesus and refuse to trust in Him. The “*winepress of the*

wrath of God almighty” represents the great slaughter where over a billion souls will perish. The scripture, speaking of the magnitude of the slaughter, says the “*blood*” from the “*winepress*” will flow to the horse’s bridles “...*by the space of a thousand, six hundred furlongs*” (**Revelation 14:20**); a distance of two hundred miles. All who are of the “*vine of the earth*” will be gathered and “...*cast into the winepress of the wrath of God almighty.*” Jesus Christ is “*the true vine (John 15:1).*” Any other god that man places his trust in is a “*false vine*” and a “*false hope.*” It is “*the vine of the earth*” that is cast into the winepress of the wrath of God along with everyone who trusts in that false hope. **Revelation 19:15-16** speaks symbolically of Jesus Christ in His second coming to earth: “...*out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword (the word of God; Ephesians 6:17), that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*”

Jesus speaks of that day in **Luke 21:25-26** saying, “...*there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations (war on three fronts at present), with perplexity (no way out); the sea and the waves roaring (tsunami in Japan); men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:*” Many today who find no way out of their problems and fears are turning to suicide. The suicide rate is rapidly rising worldwide. Recently our military has ruled that suicide is an honorable death for our soldiers to die. For the first time in America’s history, soldiers who have chosen suicide can be buried in the veteran’s cemetery with full military honors as one who “*gave his life for our country.*” This is not only ridiculous, it is also damning. The one who takes their own life has committed the most selfish act possible, leaving behind friends, family, wife or husband, father, mother, or their own children to suffer the pain and emotional distress, and even the guilty feelings of “...*what could we have done?*” When our military honors the decision to

commit suicide, many more of our young men and women will take that option and damn their own souls when they do so. Suicide is never a “*way out*” of your fears and torments; it only locks you into them for all eternity in your next existence.

Turn with All Your Heart to the Lord

Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Joel 2:12-13

If you are one whose heart is failing you for fear as you see those things that are coming on the earth, there is a “*way out*” for you that will give you “*life*” and not “*death*.” Call upon Jesus Christ. Turn to Him with all your heart. He will come to you. God’s only remedy is “*Turn ye even to me with all your heart*” (**Joel 2:12**). There is no one on this planet that is safe from the coming destruction if they have not turned to Jesus Christ with all their heart. He tells us to turn to Him “*...with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.*” He warns against pretence, saying, “*...rend your heart, and not your garments.*” God is not interested in a mere “*show*” of sorrow and repentance. He knows our heart and judges its content. Those who are willing to just “*go through the motions*” will never touch the heart of God. Everything they do will be in vain until they turn, with all their heart, to God through Jesus Christ. He is “*...gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness*” to all who call upon Him in repentance and godly sorrow.

We must understand that there is only one true God, and He is the Father of Jesus Christ. As the apostle Paul says, “*...there is but one God, the Father...and one Lord Jesus Christ.*” Jesus Christ is the “*Lord*” we must turn to with all our hearts. The world around us seeks to forbid us to speak or pray in the name of Jesus. They want us to pray to a “*generic god*” that will fit

every religion. Even some conservative leaders are persuading the people to “...return to your god, whoever he is.” This is a recipe for disaster. We must not become followers of those who seek a “commonality” between all the religions on earth. There is only “one God,” and “one Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Promise to Those Who Turn

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joel 2:28-29

Notice the word “*afterward.*” After men turn to the Lord Jesus Christ with all their heart, God has promised to “*pour out His Spirit upon all flesh.*” To understand what this means, we must go to the **second chapter of Acts** and see what God did for the hundred and twenty who turned to Jesus Christ “*with all their hearts.*” The scripture says they were “*all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance*” (**Acts 2:4**). In the **sixteenth verse**, Peter stood and told the multitude of Jews that had gathered, “*...this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel....*” What God did for those hundred and twenty Jews on the Day of Pentecost, He has promised to do for “*all flesh,*” if they will turn to Him with all their heart. In **Revelation 7:9** the apostle John says, “*...I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.*” These are those who are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. These are also those from every nation, kindred, people, and tongue that God has poured His Spirit upon.

The modern church is not ready for the things that are coming on the earth. Most have been deceived into trusting in a “*false hope.*” They believe they have a “*guarantee*” that they will “*go*

to heaven” when they die because they “*believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.*” They are deceived into believing that Jesus Christ died on the cross to “*take the penalty for our sins,*” yet has left us in bondage to sin. They believe He forgave our sins, whether they are in our “*past, present, or future,*” leaving us free to continue in sin without fear of retribution. Isaiah prophesied of such as these in his day; “*The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites*” (**Isaiah 33:14**). Are you one who has been deceived into believing that sin does not matter as long as you believe in Jesus? Abandon that thought. Repent of believing such a damning thing. Such a belief is not found in or even hinted at in the scriptures. A “*sin-laden*” church is certainly a “*vine of the earth,*” and will suffer the wrath of God just as severely as those who worship false gods. The only escape from such a religion is to “*turn to Jesus with all your heart.*”

Turning to Jesus

As I repeatedly write the words “*...turn to Jesus with all your heart,*” I have the “*heart sickening feeling*” that very few people have any comprehension of what I mean. The normal thought among most Christians today is that I “*turned to Jesus*” when I repeated the sinners prayer, was baptized in water, and submitted to the discipline of the local church. Let me use the Jew under the Law of Moses as an example. The Jew has been under the six hundred and thirteen commandments of the Law of Moses for over thirty five hundred years. Of those hundreds of commandments, there are only two that a natural man cannot obey. All the others the devout Jew could keep. Even Saul of Tarsus was “*blameless*” concerning all the righteousness that is in the Law of Moses (**Philippians 3:6**). The first commandment of the Law of Moses a natural man cannot obey is the first and great commandment which begins with the words “*Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart.*” Jesus goes on to say, “*...the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*” Moses gave the answer to this dilemma, which is man’s inability to love, in **Deuteronomy 30:19-20**, though there

were few who understood what he said. *“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: **therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life... .**”* Few if any people have ever learned the secret Moses sought to give his people that day. The death and cursing which Moses set before them was his own law, the Law of Moses. Let us not forget that Paul says in **Galatians 3:10**, *“For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse.”* And again in **II Corinthians 3:7**, Paul speaks of the Law as *“...the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones....”* Those who chose the law could neither obey the law, nor please God. To the contrary, those who chose the LORD were able to love, obey, and cleave to Him; for as Moses told the people, *“He is thy life.”* Likewise, Jesus Christ is our life. Those who turn to Him with all their heart will have no problem in loving, obeying, and cleaving to Him. They will also love their brother, their neighbor, and their enemy, just as Jesus says in **Matthew 5:43-45**.

A little over four months ago, as I write, the Lord spoke to me early one morning in my time of prayer and said, *“Prepare for a move of God.”* I told the congregation what God had spoken, and called for those who would to come to the church every night to seek His presence. The Lord also told me about some changes we must make. For eighteen years we had Sunday School at ten A.M., worship at eleven, followed by lunch every Sunday at one P.M., and a two thirty afternoon Bible study. The Lord convicted me that we had made *“too much provision for the flesh.”* Most of the people were eating lunch and going home, and it seemed impossible to get people to seek the Lord in sincerity. I announced that we would no longer have Sunday lunch or a two thirty service, but that we would begin, for the first time in eighteen years, to have a night service at six P.M. What has happened is nothing short of a miracle. A few people began gathering the next night to pray. This was the beginning of the miracle. I did not know it at the time, but this was when

the people of Calvary Outreach began to “*turn to the Lord with all their heart.*” Most of them had been saved for years. A few had been baptized with the Holy Ghost in years past, but most were living their lives “*after the flesh, and not after the Spirit.*” They were not sinners. They knew the truth of the gospel; that “*...our old man is crucified with Him (Christ) that the body of sin might be destroyed...*” (**Romans 6:6**). They enjoyed freedom from both sin and the Law, but they used their freedom to serve God according to the dictates of their own flesh (the human nature), and not of the Spirit (the Holy Ghost). Paul tells us that any child of God who does this is dying (**Romans 8:13**), and most of our people, while holding fiercely to a knowledge of the truth, were spiritually dead. I know of some who teach the need to “*die daily;*” but about a year ago I recognized the great need of the child of God to be “*renewed daily*” (**II Corinthians 4:16**). I immediately began preaching the necessity of **daily renewal in the Holy Ghost**.

Four months later, the people still gather nightly to pray, and the number is growing. Our Sunday night service is as large as the morning service, and the church is growing. We have seen a move of God among our children and teens. We have seen the presence of God fill the church to such an extent that lost people have literally run to the altar in repentance. We have seen the Holy Ghost fall upon some who have “*turned to Jesus*” with all their hearts. It is only a beginning at the present, but it is beginning.

A Beggar at the Threshold of God

David said, “*I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.*” Some have understood David to say, “*I would rather be a beggar laid at the threshold of the house of God than to own all the tents of the wicked.*” I certainly identify with the latter interpretation. If you have ever been in the presence of God almighty, how can you ever be satisfied without His presence? While seeking daily renewal, I have often found myself on my face pleading for entrance into His wonderful presence. Please do not

misunderstand what I say. When I have a “*need*” I can “*come boldly to the throne of grace, to obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need,*” just as Paul says in **Hebrews 4:16**. When my “*need,*” however, is more of His presence, and more of His fullness, I am reduced to a beggar. God says in **Joel 2:17**, “*Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, WHERE IS THEIR GOD?*”

We desperately need the manifested presence of God in our churches. Modern Christianity has become a byword and a laughingstock to the world around us. Nothing but the manifested presence of God can change that. A lady in our church raised two daughters and kept them in Sunday School and church all their lives. She raised them to be moral, decent, and modest: Girls who lived exemplary lives. The only problem was that neither of them wanted anything to do with Jesus, and most especially, they wanted nothing to do with the Holy Ghost. When God said “*Prepare for a move of God,*” their mother, who had been in church ministry for all her adult years, began to turn to the Lord with all her heart. The Holy Ghost began to move in her the way it had before either of her daughters were born. Within two months, both of her daughters were radically saved. One has been baptized with the Holy Ghost and has been a “*burning bush*” for Jesus ever since. It is the manifest presence of God that convinces the world that our God is real. Our arguments only serve to convince them that we have no God. When I understand this, I am willing to be a beggar in secret prayer that I might be able to stand in the presence of God in public worship.

Multitudes, Multitudes in the Valley of Decision

There are multitudes of people today that are feeling the great pressure of the times we live in. They understand that the governments of the world have no solution to the problems that have come upon mankind. They see the ancient prophecies

fulfilling before their eyes, as nation after nation fails. They are seeing the decline and fall of America, and understand that there is no political answer. They see that the “*hand of God*” is against our nation because the people (those who elect our government officials) have turned against God. They see the radical Islamic nations gathering around Israel, and they know that this is the great sign that the end of this present age is near. These multitudes are already in the “*valley of decision.*” The question is, “*What will they decide?*”

In recent visions from the Lord I have seen vast multitudes coming, trying to get to the places where the presence of God is. They are seeking for the answer that the modern church with its modern methods does not have. In one vision I saw a great multitude coming from as far away as the eye could see. While on the horizon the vastness of the multitude must have been several miles wide, they were funneling down to a narrow walk bridge that led to a pavilion where Keith and I were teaching “*The Foundation*” to about two dozen people. The service was over when I saw that many more were coming to the entrance. I was about to tell them they were too late, the service was over, when I lifted up my eyes and saw the multitude that was coming. It was far beyond anything Keith and I could handle alone; we needed help, desperately. I began to call aloud to other ministers, calling them by name, saying “*Where are you?*” The vision ended with that call to the ministers, but it was no longer me calling for the ministers of our church; it was God calling to those He has chosen; it was God, pleading, “*Where are you? ...where are you? ...WHERE ARE YOU?*” The pressure on those who are in the “*valley of decision*” will bring many who seek an answer, but we must be ready. A dear brother and pastor friend of mine told me of a dream God gave to him recently. In his dream he had been told to prepare, because a great multitude of people were coming. He said that (in the dream) he was trying to get the P.A. system set up; all the microphones working; and everything else checked out before the time for the service to start. But before he was ready, the multitude began to come in. They did not stay, however,

because he was not ready. Oh how heart wrenching it is to see people come into our services with needs and go out the same way because we are not ready. Preparing for a move of God is done in the altars of intercession. There is plenty of time to check the mikes and arrange the seating, but it is too late to seek God after the people are coming. We must seek Him daily **for daily renewal in the Holy Ghost.**

The “*daily bread*” of the children of Israel in the wilderness was the “*manna*” that fell from heaven on a daily basis. They were told to gather the manna every day, sufficient for that day. If they tried to gather enough manna for two days, the manna would breed worms and stink on the second day. In the **sixth chapter of John**, Jesus says, “*I am the bread from heaven.*” In the **eleventh chapter of Luke**, however, when Jesus taught the disciples to pray, He taught them that the bread from heaven is the Holy Ghost. Do you recall the man in Jesus’ parable who went to a friend at midnight seeking bread, because another friend had come to his house and he had “*nothing to set before him?*” It is in **Luke 11:13** that Jesus reveals what the “*daily bread*” of the children of God is. He says, “*...how much more shall your heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to them that ask him.*” Unless we are renewed in the Holy Ghost day by day, we have nothing to offer the people who come. If we think we can give them something we received even a week ago, we are giving them bread that has “*bred worms, and stinks.*” Sadly, not having a move of God in our churches, we have had a steady diet of “*worms*” and “*stinking bread*” for many years.

Reaching Those Who Worship Other gods

It is fairly common thinking today to believe that we all worship the same god. I have had several conversations with people of the Muslim faith here in America. Failing to come to any agreement, in every incident, the Muslim has always sought to end the conversation by saying, “*There is one thing we can agree on; we both worship the same God.*” I cannot agree with them, even on that statement, because we do not worship the same God. Any god that does not have a son is not a god, for

there is only **one God**, the creator of all things, and He has given Himself for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. The very heart of the gospel is **John 3:16** which every “*Christian*” knows; “*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.* If a Muslim, or a Buddhist, or someone of any other religion believes in Jesus Christ, and that He is the Son of God, that person is no longer a Muslim, or a Buddhist, or whatever; but a Christian. If that same person will “...*call upon the name of the Lord (Jesus Christ)*” in the day of their distress, He will answer them and come to them as quickly as He will to a Christian. Jesus Christ will reveal Himself to all who call upon Him with their whole heart. He will deliver them from their fears, and fill them with peace and love. The answer to reaching them, however, is to be filled and renewed day by day in the Holy Ghost.

In **John 16:7-9** Jesus tells His disciples (and us), “*It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me.*” Notice that Jesus speaks of the Holy Ghost (the Comforter) as coming “*unto you,*” the individual. He says this twice, and finally He says “*and when He is come (unto you), He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*” The Greek word “*elegcho,*” which is translated “*reprove*” means “*to confute, admonish,*” and was translated variously as “*convict, convince, tell a fault, rebuke, and reprove.*” Due to the fact that Jesus says the Holy Ghost will deal with both “*sin*” and “*righteousness,*” the better translation from the Greek would be to say, “*...and when He is come unto you, He will convince the world....*” Number **one**, the Holy Ghost will convince the world they are sinners, only because they do not believe on Jesus. Number **two**, He will convince the world of righteousness because as Jesus said, “*I go to the Father, and you see me no more.*” When the Holy Ghost is come “*unto you (an individual),*” the same Spirit of God that

was upon Jesus is seen upon the individual child of God; and the world is convinced of righteousness. God's answer to everything is to send the Holy Ghost unto, and into, the children of God. In the **second chapter of Acts**, the scripture says, "*...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.*" This is the pattern for every outpouring of the Spirit of God. We should remember that the hundred and twenty were there in the upper room continually from eight to ten days before the outpouring began on the Day of Pentecost. **Acts 1:14** tells us this: "*These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.*" **Acts 2:1-2** adds this, "*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind....*" This was the "*promise of the Father*" which Jesus had spoken of to them. In **Acts 2:39**, Peter tells the Jews who are "*pricked in their hearts*" by seeing and hearing the Holy Ghost on the hundred and twenty, "*the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*" It is a tragic mistake to believe that the outpouring of the Holy Ghost came only on that one day; the "*Day of Pentecost.*" Whatever the symbolic meaning the Day of Pentecost may have as being the day God began to pour out of His Spirit, it was only a beginning. The outpouring continued until the known world of that day was "*turned upside down*" by the working of the Holy Ghost in and through those believers.

Our Advocate with the Father

Editor's Note: *The following is my comment on I John 2:1 which I wrote in my commentary on the First Epistle of John that will be released early next year.*

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

I John 2:1

“...these things write I unto you, that ye sin not...” These words could be interpreted as a “*command*” to the believer not to sin, but they are much more than that. The key to understanding **this phrase** is in the word “*that,*” which is translated from the word “*hina,*” and means “*in order that.*” The tenor of John’s epistle is not a “*command*” not to sin; it is instead a relating of those things the eye witness apostle knew from the beginning, which he had received from Jesus Christ Himself; things that would deliver the believer from sin to serve God in truth, and not in pretence. Notice the similarity between **this phrase**, “*...these things write I unto you, that ye sin not...,*” and the **fourth verse of the first chapter**, “*...these things we write unto you, that your joy may be full.*” It is easy to see that this is not a “*command*” to have “*fullness of joy.*” In fact, if we were commanded to have fullness of joy, we would become “*pretenders,*” as so many have. They go through all the motions of joy; leaping and running, not because their joy is full, but trying to receive joy through their leaping and running. John tells all who read his epistle that if the light of what he writes shines into their heart, their joy will be full. In like manner, in **this first verse of the second chapter**, John tells the same people that if the light of the gospel he preaches would shine into their heart, they would not sin, because they would be “*made free from sin.*” John establishes, in the first sentence of this verse, that the church of Jesus Christ is not made up of sinners; neither do its members continue in sin.

“...and if any man sin...” Proper understanding of this first verse is crucial to understanding the entire epistle. This single verse can transform your thinking from sin consciousness into the fullness of joy that John promised to the believer. Notice that John did not give, as many believe, a command “*...that you sin not,*” only to continue with the words, “*...and if you sin.*” Jesus never gave a contingency plan for those who continued in sin. To the blind man who was healed in the temple (John 5:14), and to the woman caught in the act of adultery (John 8:11), He said “*...go, and sin no more.*” He did not add, “*...and if you sin....*”

John's words, "...if any man sin...", are not written for believers who "...have fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (**I John 1:3**). Those who "...walk in the light, as He is in the light..." (**I John 1:7**) do not continue in sin. So who is this "any man" John speaks of in this verse? He is exactly what the words indicate. John wrote his letter to both those who believed, and those who professed to believe. Could the words, "any man" be speaking of an unbeliever? That is exactly who his words are speaking to. "Any man" could be a **Jew**, a **Muslim**, a **Hindu**, a **Budhist**, or an **atheist**. "Any man" would include every "professing Christian" who continues in sin, along with drug addicts, pornographers, pedophiles, drunkards, thieves, murderers, etc. "Any man" must include every man, woman, boy, or girl that lives on earth at any given time. It is an all inclusive statement.

"...we have an advocate with the Father..." Did John say "...every man has an advocate with the Father?" No, he did not! Instead, he says "...we have an advocate with the Father." Consider again the words of **I John 1:3**: "*That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*" In **this verse**, John is speaking to "every man, woman, boy, or girl," offering fellowship to them, if and when they come into fellowship with "the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ." We are not to seek common ground for fellowship with unbelievers of any stripe. John did not say to the unbeliever, "we will fellowship in your religion, or the lack thereof, and find common ground." Instead, he says, "We have an advocate with the Father." Judaism, Islam, Hindu, Buddhism, atheism, and just plain sinners; none of these have an advocate with the Father, but "We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Jesus says, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me." No other religion has Jesus Christ. The church of Jesus Christ is not a weak and sinful pretender; it is not an organization by that name; it is the "...church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven" (**Hebrews 12:23**); we alone have what the entire world is dying

for the lack of; we have an “*advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*” We must take the gospel to them, because they must have **our advocate** if they are to be saved. People everywhere may come to God through Him, but they cannot bring their religions and heathen ways with them. (This is the end of the comments on **I John 2:1.**)

Conclusion

Regardless of what nation you may live in, the future on planet earth is very dim indeed. We are come to the end of this age, and what catastrophic things are in store. If you live in Israel, we know by the scriptures that two thirds of the population will perish before the remnant calls upon the Lord Jesus Christ, who immediately delivers them out of their distresses. If you live in one of the Muslim nations that will seek the destruction of Israel, we know by the scriptures in **Zechariah 12:9**, that God has said, “*...it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.*” This will not fail because it is what God almighty spoke through the holy prophet of God. You may be a Muslim who reads this; please remember that in the day your fear comes upon you (and it will), you can call upon Jesus Christ for mercy. He will come to you. The apostle Paul tells us, “*He is rich unto all that call upon Him*” (**Romans 10:12**). Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He died for the sins of the entire world; which includes Gentiles, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and just plain sinners. Even in the time of “*...the great and the terrible day of the LORD,*” He has promised that, “*Whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be delivered.*” I tell you this before it comes, so that you will know.

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Joel 2:32

Behold the Lamb" is a publication of Calvary Outreach Ministries. It is dedicated to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Messages by Leroy Surface, Keith Surface, and others will be printed for your edification. "Behold the Lamb" is sent without subscription charge to all those desiring to receive it. It will be published on a regular basis as funds permit.

"Behold the Lamb" is financed by the love gifts of those who love the truth. Your love gifts and offerings to this ministry are tax deductible and will be acknowledged. Make all checks payable to CALVARY OUTREACH, and address your correspondence to...

Leroy Surface
Calvary Outreach
P.O. Box 750
Porter, Texas, 77365

If you are not on our mailing list, and would like to receive "Behold the Lamb," OR if you have a friend who would appreciate "Behold the Lamb," simply fill out the coupon below and mail it to the address above.

Please send "Behold the Lamb" to...

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

7/11

Please send "Behold the Lamb" to...

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

7/11

Remember, "Behold the Lamb" is financed by the love gifts of those who appreciate the messages they receive. Help us do more. Thanks!