



God is in Control—part 3

Elder Charles Moore

God, confess Jesus and accept his sacrifice for their sins will face eternal death. "...

All who have raged

against him will come to him and be put to shame. But in the Lord all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult." (Isaiah 45:24-25)

Shame, judgment and separation from God doesn't have to happen to you. Those who accept his mercy will find joy. It is not His will that any should perish. **"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."** (2 Peter 3:9). And why does He do this? He loves you and has given all so that you can be with him and escape the torment that belonging to Satan will bring. Jesus came to this world, died on the cross, and gave his life in place of yours as the price to redeem you from the powers of hell and death. Your price of salvation has been paid in full but God does not force anyone to accept him. You must accept His offer of salvation willingly. Jesus has done everything necessary to save you from the wrath to

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At times, the world seems out of control and we ourselves seem lost and helpless. At such times, there is little to depend on but remember that God is in control and we can trust Him. Isaiah 45: 21-25 has a lot to say when we need that assurance.

Declare what is to be, present it— let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other." (Isaiah 45: 21-22)

We can thank God that He is the one and only, there is no other God, He knows exactly what is going to happen and will use everything that happens to accomplish His purpose. Knowing what will happen, we can hear the voice of a loving and perfect God as He begs those that he has created and loves so much to turn to Him and be saved.

"By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all

integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. They will say of me, 'In the Lord alone are righteousness and strength...." (Isaiah 45: 23-24) We hear here that there will surely come a day when every knee will bow to him as King of Kings, every tongue shall confess that he is Lord of Lords. "... **For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: " 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' " So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God...." (Romans 14:10-12)**

Were it not for his mercy, no one would be worthy to stand before that day of accounting for all his or her sins that were done, deliberately or unknowingly. No one with sin that is not covered by the blood of Jesus will be able to look upon Jesus and say He has no right to judge. Judgment will come. Anyone who does not know

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come; and the only condition you must meet is to trust Him by faith.

Those who serve themselves, or serve the world, or serve the devil, are locked in a prison from which there is no escape. But Jesus paid the ransom to rescue every person. The doors to your prison have been opened wide. Jesus stands at the last door to freedom with His hands stretched out to you in love, begging you to come to him. Will you come?

Glory is waiting for those who hear and respond to God's call upon their lives! For endless ages, in a wonderfully remade world without end, we will dwell in perfect peace, in the riches of Heaven's wonders and in the presence of pure love. What a long, perfect, glorious day that will be! Everything we might have missed out on while here, everything that we might have suffered here, won't compare to even one moment in that wonderful place called Heaven. There we will be with Christ forever! Come home to Jesus today. **"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."** (Philippians 2: 9-11) Amen!

Edited, adapted and expanded from a sermon called God's Ultimate Plan by Pastor Jim May



Did you know there are 427 references to blood in the Bible? Without it there is no everlasting life. Forensically, the properties of the blood of Christ are these: perfect, precious pure, perpetual, powerful, pervasive, and protective.

Cyberspace News

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Here we are at Fall Retreat month again. We had beautiful weather leading up to the retreat and then on through. Probably the most beautiful weekend I remember for that. It was an extended summer time.

Sonya Pease from New York and Laura Eckles' family from Bloomfield Hills Michigan were here with us and we really appreciate their efforts to be here. The theme for the weekend was the roots of our faith revisited. We all had a wonderful time watching a video of old times put together by Tim. He gets the treasures from Dick Lane's old videos. They are sure precious. Most of you were present with us, even if you could not attend. Along the same line Kathy Smeltzer gave us poster board lessons that we still remember Elder Wilkinson giving during his camp times. It was truly a walk down memory lane. Jamie Carothers, Erin Gill and Chelsey Connor added a cute skit to our enjoyment.

The Layton family had a reunion at Walter and Pam Layton's farm. I am sure Dorothy enjoyed herself with all the little ones running around and playing. Two of those little ones are Walter's grandchildren twins.

Sue Trueman came down to her sister Sandy's this month to spend some time with her. Sandy is still dealing with health problems. Sue also dropped by her Aunt Ruth and Uncle David Charles' in Howell while here. All visits were appreciated.

Jim Ohle was diagnosed with the dreaded C word a little while back. His wife writes that he is through the second stage of Chemo and has had a rough time. Please pray for both of them. We also had news that Michael Moss has a brain tumor that is currently being treated. His surgery is over and he is recuperating well. Leah Sottile is waiting for a surgical date for the brain tumor she has. Recently we have been in contact with Terri Trueman Powers who had a tumor removed from her colon. So many problems out there. We care about you all.

I got a lovely catch-up letter from Leslie Arquette Miller from BelAire Kansas. She and Tom are doing well with their family. She misses Charlie's sermons and the love from her church here. We miss Leslie so much and are glad that someday miles won't separate all of us from getting together for church. Heaven is a wonderful place to unite us all again.

Marie Tedrow from Toledo, Ohio celebrated her 90th birthday this summer. Congratulations on that milestone, Marie.

On the last Sabbath of the month we were so happy to have David and Ruth Charles come in. We had lunch afterward and much laughter.

Ellen Momberger still loves Phoenix and enjoys her families' visits. She writes that she still has some vertigo problems. We will keep you in our prayers, Ellen.

Time to wrap up October and head into Thanksgiving November. Count your many blessings!

Michigan Report

Aurine Moore



October 31 is important for many things that stand in contrast to the increasingly popular secular holiday of Halloween. Among them are these two events. In 1517, Martin Luther posted the 95 theses on the Wittenberg church walls which began the reformation of the Christian church. It created a greater stir than the detonation of the first thermonuclear bomb in the Marshall Islands in 1952.

As we prepared for the Fall United Church business meeting and retreat, we were happy that Dave Fedor found us a local contractor who could give us a pristine ceiling in the sanctuary and lobby. We members dreaded the task of getting up there and doing the work ourselves. Between the beautiful ceiling and freshly shampooed rug - along with the beautiful decorations on the downstairs tables - the physical environment for our retreat was beautiful. Geneva's article will detail many of the wonderful highlights of the events of the retreat so please check it out. Later that night, we greatly enjoyed a wonderfully relaxing get-together at Jeff and Melinda Begeman's house. There was a little ball game watching, a bit of snacking, and a whole lot of laughing and sharing of memories. By night's end, we all had all had a chance to travel throughout the various living areas of the house to visit with everyone else, including Vicki Velasco, Sonya Pease, Kay and Jim Nevil, and David and Ruth Charles. Our business meeting resulted in the glad news that missionary-support recipients, Tim and Kim Trouten, had both found permanent jobs teaching and providing Christian counseling in Florida. K.D. Nasir of the Pioneers Mission has been added to our list of people whom we support to spread God's word. K.D. is waiting for permission to enter Kazakhstan, where he will teach and have opportunities to talk about Jesus. In addition, we were blessed to be able to provide one time gifts to Faith in Action and the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries.

We began our movable feast Bible study series on Wednesday nights, using the book of Daniel as taught by Richard Bewes, Paul Blackham and Stephen Nichols. The series is a telescopic look at some of the faith filled events and themes in the lives of Daniel and his friends who lived in exile under proud pagan kings and played a part in helping those kings to acknowledge God's power.

Charlie and I have become licensed foster parents. In order to fulfill the requirements, we had to miss church one week to attend mandatory training. Faithful Tim Begeman filled the pulpit and spoke on "Sin Happens". To find out what to do when sin happens and why it happens (or the source of his many thought provoking quotes that appear in the weekly pre-church Power Point show, contact Tim at veggie@charter.net

A number of our members and friends experienced health issues this past month. Jeff Begeman's is struggling with diabetes, Stephanie Fasbender has been diagnosed with a back injury, Joel DeHaan had pneumonia, Violet Chapman has been very ill, and Terrie Fedor's health prevented her from enjoying a family vacation in Florida. Her husband Dave and the Branden and Jamie Carothers family made it to Disney World and as Terrie hoped, they had a wonderful family time together while she rested her back. Please pray for the recovery, health, and strength of all our members to do what God has for them to do. Until next month and beyond, go with God.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

This hymn certainly ranks as one of the most familiar numbers in our hymnals. It is one of the songs that many of us first sang with gusto during our early Church School days, yet one that we still enjoy singing in our gospel type of services.

Perhaps no American hymn was ever received with such enthusiasm in Great Britain as this hymn. *The London Daily*,

in giving an account of a meeting presided over by Gypsy Smith, reported, Mr. Smith announced the hymn 'Count Your Blessings.' Said he, 'In South London the men sing it, the boys whistle it, and the women rock their babies to sleep on

this hymn.' "During the great revival in Wales it was one of the hymns sung at every service.

The composer of the music, E. O. Excell, is a well-known name in early gospel hymnody.

Fall Retreat



Jason, Nick, Joel, Caleb, Carrie, Chelsey, Brittanie, Jordan



Michael, Autumn, Sorros, Hannah, Alex



Mary and Kaitlyn



Chaise and Alyson



Seth & Abby Begeman

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W
I
N
S



Klohie & Zohlie