

Richard Hughes, Editor

An outreach of Richard Hughes Ministries, Inc.

The Pen of a Ready Writer

...I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: My tongue is the Pen of a Ready Writer (Psalm 45:1).

www.richardhughesministries.org

P.O. Box 541, Cordele, GA 31010

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HELL Hath ENLARGED HERSELF!

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Not everything is our fault! You and I did not cause this to happen. The house of Israel did (Isaiah 5:7). They were the vineyard of the Lord of hosts which brought forth wild grapes when God looked for grapes (Isaiah 5:2). Hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure (Isaiah 5:14) because they had cast away the law of the Lord of hosts and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 5:24).

How does God contrast "grapes" to "wild grapes"? What were the signs of their rejection of God's Word? When the Lord looked for judgment, he beheld oppression. When he sought to see righteousness, he beheld a cry (Isaiah 5:7).

Men turned themselves to their music (the harp, the viol, the tabret and pipe). They looked to feast on wine, without regard for the work of the Lord, nor consideration of the operation of his hands (Isaiah 5:12). Because of their lack of knowledge from God's Word, his people, Isaiah says, "are gone into captivity, their honourable men are famished and their multitude dried up with thirst" (Isaiah 5:13).

"Wild grapes" call evil good and good evil. They put darkness for light and light for darkness (as in their confusion over gender or their fear regarding climate change). They put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter (Isaiah 5:20). They are mighty to drink wine and to mingle strong drink (Isaiah 5:22). They justify the wicked for reward and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him (Isaiah 5:23). They are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight (Isaiah 5:21).

The anger of the Lord is kindled against his people, Israel, who draw iniquity with cords of vanity and sin as it were with a cart rope (Isaiah 5:18). They mock his second coming by saying, "Let him make speed, and hasten his work, that we may see it: and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know it" (Isaiah 5:19). Yet, their glory and their multitude, their pomp and he that rejoiceth in their sin shall descend into Hell (Isaiah 5:14b).

Although Hell hath enlarged itself before our generation arrived, know this: all who cast away God's law and despise the Word of God are "wild grapes." The wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the nations that forget God (Psalm 9:17).

Bits 'n Pieces...

The Jerusalem Post, June 29, 2021/00:13 - Headline: Pro-Iranian forces claim they shelled Americans in Syria (by Seth J. Frantzman) - "US Forces in Syria, while under multiple rocket attack, acted in self-defense and conducted counter-battery artillery fire at rocket launching positions," wrote Col. Wayne Marotto, the spokesperswon for the US-led Coalition to defeat ISIS."

The Jerusalem Post, June 30, 2021/15:28 - Headline: Rivlin: Peace won't be achieved through anti-Israel decisions (by Jerusalem Post Staff) – Israeli president Reuven Rivlin told UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that peace with the Palestinians would not be achieved through anti-Israel decisions or commissions of inquiry, during his visit to the UN as part of his US mission on Tuesday.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: They shall prosper that love thee (Psalm 122:6).

Wonderful Sunday In Marietta, GA!

God gave us a gracious day at the Bible Baptist Church in Marietta, GA, on the last Sunday of June. My thanks to Pastor David Cooper for the open door.

An Old Fashion Sunday at Wayside Baptist Tabernacle!

Pastor Grover Williams and Wayside Baptist Tabernacle in Pelion, SC, is having an "Old Fashion Sunday" this Sunday, July 4th.

Of Man? Of David? or Of CHRIST?

What do you see, when you read Scripture? For example, when King David prophesied, "I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: for thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption" (Psalm 16:8-10). Do you see David? Or, do you see Christ?

The New Testament clarifies our sight. Peter declares that this prophecy was of the Lord Jesus Christ himself. Let us also speak freely, as Peter did at Pentecost. The patriarch David is both dead and buried. He, knowing that God would raise up Christ of the fruit of his loins to sit on his throne and seeing this beforehand, spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thy foes thy footstool" (Acts 2:25-36). David spoke of Christ's death; why deny that David spoke of Christ's birth, his body?

The 22nd Psalm gives us the Lord's own testimony from the cross. David opens the psalm with Christ's plea, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1; Matthew 27:46). The 139th Psalm pictures Christ's birth. David is not speaking of himself; neither is he speaking of man in general, as in attributing this psalm to Adam as the topic. You see, if it applies to the first man Adam, it applies to us. Yet, we were shaped in iniquity and conceived in sin, just as David declared of himself (Psalm 51:5). Men would rather see Adam, than to see Christ, because of our pride.

Consider these words: For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them (Psalm 139:13-16; Psalm 40:7; Hebrews 10:7).