



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

Vol. 13, No. 7

P.O. Box 541, Cordele, GA 31010

July, 2022

The Wonder of the New Birth

John's gospel is the first to speak of man being born again, after his physical birth. By the Spirit of God, John introduces this reality when describing those to whom God gives power to become the sons of God: it is to as many as receive Christ (John 1:12), whether Jew (his own to whom he came in the flesh) or Gentile. In answer to how a man receives Christ, John writes: *even to them that believe on his name* (John 1:12b). These, the Bible declares, are they which were born of God (John 1:13).

John the Baptist pointed his disciples to Christ, saying, *Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world* (John 1:29). Redemption is the forgiveness of sins, made possible through the shedding of Christ's blood (Colossians 1:14). He shed his blood for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2); however, the Lord declared at the last supper that his blood was shed for many (Matthew 26:28). Why?

The term *all* cannot be applied once one is removed. The only term left is *many*. Christ died for all, thus sealing his justification in passing judgment at the White Throne. Paul tells us this by the Holy Ghost: *the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe* (Romans 3:22). God sent Christ forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God – to declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus (Roman 3:25-26).

Christ is just to judge the whole world, for he died for the whole world. Sadly, with Cain walking away from the grace of God (Genesis 4:7), our Lord must say *many*. If we are to have hope beyond this life, we must receive Christ in this life. That *certain rich man* had Moses and the prophets to hear in his lifetime; yet, he did not listen (Luke 16:25-31). All the prophets give witness to Christ, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins (Acts 10:43).

Time is of no relevance to God. He chose to save all that would believe in his Son, by his forbearance prior to Christ's propitiation (Romans 3:25) and by sealing us with his Holy Spirit since our Lord's sacrifice (Ephesians 1:13). By God's Spirit are we all baptized into one body, the body of Christ known as the Church (1 Corinthians 12:13). This is the baptism by which we are counted buried with Christ, wherein also we are risen with him (Colossians 2:12). How is that possible? With God, all things are possible (Luke 18:27). It is done through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Christ from the dead (Colossians 2:12b). Hear the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believe it!

E-mail rhughes@richardhughesministries.org or call 229-712-9790



Vickie Wilkerson Hughes

Pray Without Ceasing...

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end (Jeremiah 29:11).

God’s plan for my life is for my good, and I know that. When I lost my husband, Jerome, I truly was not sure of how I was going to pick up the pieces and go on. There is an emptiness there that never goes away. Like many others, I have endured times of adversity, but I know my hope is in the Lord and in his loving-

kindness toward me (Romans 8:28).

Prayer and daily talks with the Lord – they are a privilege. He wants to hear from us about the smallest concerns, as well as the most important things in our life. God is never wearied by our often coming.

A song that has meant so much to me is Ron Hamilton’s song: *Lord, I Need You*. It is so powerful! I started singing it about five years ago. The chorus contains these words: *Keep me always on my knees. Lord, I need you; Lord, I need you!*

On my hardest days, God would bring this song to my mind. It would give me comfort and peace, reminding me to pray and to stay on my knees. Even today, *My anxious voice cries upward with words You long to hear: Lord, I need You!*

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

It was my graduation year (1963), from the eighth grade. I was attending the Dakotah School for Boys, Dakotah, Illinois. My Headmaster was Mr. H. K. Baltzer.

The grounds consisted of two buildings, the Upper School building, where the 7th and 8th graders resided and the Lower School building, where the elementary students slept and where the cafeteria and classrooms were located.

Mr. Baltzer always walked at the head of our line between buildings. Something caused him to pause, turn and address us one evening.

I cannot recall why, exactly, other than to say that several of us were unhappy about being denied some liberty due to the misconduct of a few of our fellow students.

I do recall what he said: *You say you want your freedom when you have already exercised it. The word means, free to pick your own doom. And you picked it by your own actions. It is the consequences you do not like.*

We all stood perfectly silent. We had been given an opportunity; and, by our misconduct, we had forfeited our liberty.

July 4, 1776 – The United States Declaration of Independence

Preamble - We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Adopted by the Second Continental Congress, Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

We hold these truths...

1. That all men are created, which means that they did not evolve.
2. That all men have a Creator.
3. That all men have Rights.
4. That the Right to Life belongs to all individually.
5. That the Right to Liberty is equal to all men.
6. That the pursuit of Happiness is equal to all.