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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).

VOL. 15, No. 3

MARCH, 2024

Making Much of Our FAITH

I seem to have had a touch of food poisoning over a four-day period in February and lost 10 pounds in three days; however, I do not recommend it for weight loss. Since I was housebound, I began re-reading Romans. When I reached chapter 5, I had to pause. “Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God” (Romans 5:1-2).

The first mention of *faith* in Romans is 1:5 – “by whom we have received grace and apostleship for the obedience to the faith among all nations for his name.” The last mention is 16:26, and is part of the benediction, which includes verses 25 and 27.

We find there that the mystery kept secret is now made manifest: by Paul’s gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ and by the scriptures of the prophets (a reference to the Old Testament). It is manifested according to the everlasting commandment of God and “made known to all nations for the obedience of faith” (Romans 16:26).

In Colossians, something specific is revealed to God’s saints: it is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:26-27). God wants every believer to understand that he is justified and has peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ and has access into God’s grace by his obedience to the faith (Romans 5:1-2). God also wants every believer in Christ to know that he has an indwelling of the Spirit of God (Colossians 1:27). We are the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwells in us (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Regarding obedience to the gospel, Isaiah said of Israel, *They have heard*. Their sound went into all the earth, their words unto the ends of the world (Romans 10:18). But, they have not all obeyed the gospel (Romans 10:16). This is the same gospel of the Apostle Paul, the “my gospel” of Romans 16:25. This is the gospel of God, which the Lord had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures (Romans 1:2; 16:26). It is the everlasting gospel (Revelation 14:6). This is the gospel of Christ. Though called by many names, it has only one message: the Lord Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:6-9).

The faith was once delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3). Older than Enoch (Jude 1:14), it has opened as a flower over time. Now, since Christ has risen, is manifested this glorious truth: “Christ in you!” God’s Spirit has been poured out on all flesh (Acts 2:14-21).



Vickie Wilkerson
Hughes

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart!

A verse that has always meant a lot to me is Psalm 139:23 – *Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

As a teenager, I went every summer to a Christian youth camp with my church. During those weeks, I really grew in the Lord. It helped me to grow closer to the Lord, which helped me face the many challenges that a teenager faces. After many of the messages that I heard at that camp, they would end with the song, *Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart Today*.

As I read that verse the other day, that song came to my mind. It reminded me of a time when a young teenager came to me and said, *I really want to know my Lord*.

Jesus died for me, and called me to him. And I pray that, as grandparents, we will encourage, and even help, our grandchildren attend a Christian camp or go on a Mission Trip. Prayerfully, the Lord will work in their hearts and draw them to Jesus. And they, too, can praise the Lord for cleansing us of sin.

Pray for ISRAEL

Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land and to his people
(Deuteronomy 32:43).

Beware the Thomas Complex

Thomas, who was absent the first time Jesus appeared in the Upper room following his resurrection, said unto his brethren, *Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe* (John 20:25).

Eight days later, the doors being shut, Jesus came and stood in their midst. He told Thomas, *Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing* (John 20:26-27).

Jesus then said unto him, *Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed* (John 20:29).

How shall they believe who have not seen Christ? They shall believe in Jesus through hearing the words “whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved” (Acts 11:14). They will believe the gospel of Jesus Christ!

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

Charlie was worried about his being late for school, so his mother wrote his teacher a note: “Please excuse Charlie for being late this morning. We had to wait for the hen to lay an egg for his breakfast.”

Much to do in March

(I recommend these meetings, even though I cannot attend them while I deal with my cataract surgeries)

4th-5th Alumni Days at Tabernacle Baptist College, Greenville, SC

11th-14th Sandhills Jubilee, Highland Baptist Church, Vass, NC

9th -15th WZYN 2024 Jubilee, Bemiss Road Baptist Church, Valdosta, GA

11th-14th Chattahoochee Valley Baptist Camp Meeting, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Valley, AL