



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).

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The Baptism of Fire

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, *Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (Matthew 3:1-2). This is he that was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying, *The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight* (Matthew 3:3; Isaiah 40:3).

Jerusalem, all Judaea and all the region round about Jordan went out to hear John and were baptized, confessing their sins. Even the Pharisees and the Sadducees came to his baptism. But, when John saw them, he said to them, *O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father* (Matthew 3:7-9a).

John gives them this warning: *The axe is laid upon the root of the trees: therefore, every tree which brings not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that comes after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire* (Matthew 3:10-11).

He makes reference to the threshing floor: The Lord's fan is in his hand, and he will purge his floor and gather his wheat into the garner, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. That *unquenchable* fire is Hell and the Lake of Fire!

There is a baptism done by men. It imparts no saving grace. Baptists practice baptizing as a testimony of those who have realized their lost condition and have turned in repentance toward God. Repentance from dead, religious works and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21).

When any sinner hears the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation, and believes, he is sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise (Ephesians 1:13). He is also baptized by that Spirit into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13), of which Christ is the Head, the church (Colossians 1:18). This is Christ's baptizing with the Holy Ghost.

The baptism of fire is the baptism of eternal judgment (Hebrews 6:2). It was prepared for the Devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). Flee from the wrath to come!

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Vickie Wilkerson Hughes

Prayer Changes Lives

Looking at pictures of my grandchildren just two years ago, I am amazed at how much they have grown, and they will continue their changing. They are fearfully and wonderfully made!

They all have their different likes and dislikes. Each has his or her own specific needs at this precious time in their lives. They are watching and listening to those around them, and they are growing into the person that God would have them be.

My prayer for them is that God will protect them from this world and that each one of them will seek the Lord early.

Jesus took the opportunity to show us that he loved the little children when he used one to teach us a lesson on humility: *And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me* (Mark 9:36-37).

Our grandchildren are little lambs that we need to feed, as grandparents. We need to pray for each one of them, and give them quality time.

Evil thoughts

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, *God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.*

The publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, *God be merciful to me a sinner.*

The Lord Jesus said, *I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted* (Luke 18:10-14).

These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: (1) a proud look, (2) a lying tongue, (3) hands that shed innocent blood, (4) a heart that devises wicked imaginations, (5) feet swift in running to mischief, (6) a false witness that speaks lies, and (7) he that sows discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:16-19)

October Highlights:

October 16th – Homecoming at the Community Bible Church, Camden, SC. The morning service begins at 10 a.m. The evening service starts at 7 p.m.

October 16th-19th – Revival services, beginning at 7 p.m. nightly, will be held at the Community Bible Church in Camden, SC.

October 30th – Sunday services at The Carpenter’s Chapel, Simpsonville, SC. The morning service begins at 10. Evening, at 6.

A Merry Heart doeth Good...

The chemistry class was slightly more involved than normal. Compounds were reacting as expected, until that last one. A poof emanated from the vial and a thin, pink vapor appeared.

It floated toward the door and proceeded to travel down the hallway. Most of the class followed, as it skirted ever so slightly beneath the ceiling. Some raced to the front doors, pushing them open as the mist approached.

Then, it took a quick dive down beneath the lintel and slipped away. How strange was it? Well, it was my last day teaching chemistry!