

**America's Promise
Ministries
Newsletter**



PO Box 157

Sandpoint, ID 83864

November 2012

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Psalm 100:4

*Enter into his gates with
thanksgiving, and into his
courts with praise: be
thankful unto him, and
bless his name.*

**Conference in Dallas November 30 –
December 2. Speakers include: Dave
Barley, Martha Barley, Steve Jones, Ron
Oja, Thomas Rolland, and Harmon Taylor**

**Conference held at: First Covenant
Church
1424 E. Grauwlyer Road, Irving Texas
75061-5124**

America's Promise Ministries Newsletter



November 2012

Pastor Dave Barley
Emry

Founder: Pastor Sheldon

From the Pastor's Desk:

A THANKSGIVING TO REMEMBER

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. (Colossians 2:6-7)

If our hearts stay upon our Kingdom duty and we live in service to Jesus Christ our most precious Savior, we shall become ever so thankful, because we have planted seeds of righteousness. It was on the 22nd of December, 1620, the Puritans 102 in number, landed from the Mayflower, and planted their feet on the Plymouth Rock terrain and began a new era in the history of not only America, but the whole of Christendom. That blessed and yet most terrible day marked a crossroads event in which both the day and rock became canonized in American history, and emblemized unparalleled Christian ideas and nation-building of Kingdom direction. The first act of the Puritans, after landing, was to kneel down and offer their thanksgiving to the Lord Jesus Christ, and by a solemn act of prayer of Kingdom Covenant vision take possession of this New Jerusalem continent. With Christian consecration they dedicated this Kingdom New World to Christ and Christian civilization.

MACAULAY'S VIEW OF THE CHRISTIAN CHARACTER OF THE PILGRIMS

The spiritual seeds they planted bore an abundant harvest of Christian fruits which have blessed this nation and been a light to the nations. The Christian life and character of the Puritans have the following description from the pen of England's historian, **MACAULAY**:

"The Puritans were men whose minds derived a peculiar character from the daily contemplation of superior beings and eternal interests. Not content with acknowledging in general terms an overruling Providence, the habitually ascribed every event to that great Being for whose power nothing was too vast, for whose inspection nothing was too minute. To know him, to serve him, to enjoy him, was with them the great end of existence. They rejected with contempt the ceremonious homage which other sects substituted for the worship of the soul. Instead of catching occasional glimpses of the Deity through an obscuring veil, they aspired to gaze full on the intolerable brightness, and to commune with him face to face. Hence originated their contempt for terrestrial distinctions. The difference between the greatest and meanest of mankind seemed to vanish when compared with the boundless interval which separated the whole race from Him on whom their eyes were constantly fixed.

"They recognized no title to superiority by God's favor; and, confident of that favor, they despised all accomplishments and all the dignities of the world. If they were unacquainted with the works of philosophers poets, they were deeply read in the oracles of God. If their names were not found in the registers of heralds, they felt assured that they were recorded in the book of

life. Their palaces were houses not made with hands; their diadems, crowns of glory which should not fade away.”

THEIR OWN DECLARATIONS

This description, in substance, corresponds with what the New England Puritans say of themselves. “We give ourselves”, say they, “to the Lord Jesus Christ, and the word of His grace, for the teaching, ruling, and sanctifying of us, in matters of worship and conversation; resolving to cleave unto Him alone for life and glory, and to reject all contrary ways, canons, and constitutions of men in His worship.”

The Christian significance of the Puritan settlement consists in its Christian origin and aim. Their first act was to institute a form of civil government in conformity with the revealed will of God from the Bible and to subject everything to law, order, and Kingdom principles. Actually, this government came in the form of **COVENANT** in the cabin of the Mayflower, before they landed on Plymouth Rock and signed under the solemnity of prayer. This charter is of godly government for the advancement of the Christian faith. It is as follows:

THE CHARTER

In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c., having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony on the northern part of Virginia,

do, by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names, at Cape Cod, the 11th of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord, King James, of England, France, and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini 1620.”

“The compact of the Puritans,” said John Quincy Adams, *“is a full demonstration that the nature of civil governments, abstracted from the political institutions of their native country, had been an objection of their serious meditation.”*

Civil government on the basis of the Bible and the free principles of a pure Christianity was the main objective of the Puritans towards establishing the Kingdom of Christ and unleashing the blessed Gospel Christ with its profound Christian blessings. All Christians should be greatly thankful for the most blessed advancement in the Christian faith our Puritan ancestors provided for us through their “much tribulation.” The noble Christian character of their origin extends this Puritan influence to diffuse a blessed theology of a new era of time, liberty, and godly sincerity.

The discovery of America most assuredly was a fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant blessing, and all the colonies, educated under the genius of this Christian Covenant and indoctrinated into the knowledge of the principles of just civil governments, laid the basis of their civil systems on the Bible. Our Israelite fathers brought with them from England no mere vague spirit of liberty, but certain ideas of Christian liberty.

They prayed for the continuance of civil and religious liberties. *“Your servants are true men, fearing God and the king. We could not live without the public worship of God; and that we, therefore, might enjoy divine worship, without human mixtures, we, not without tears, departed from our country, kindred, and fathers’ houses. To enjoy our liberty, and to walk according to the faith and order of the gospel, was the cause of our transporting ourselves, our wives, our little ones, and our substance, choosing the pure Christian worship, with a good conscience, in this remote wilderness, rather than the pleasures of England with submission to the impositions of the hierarchy, to which we could not yield without an evil conscience.”*

Charles the II was outraged at the Puritan Christian willfulness. He demanded a surrender of their charter, and with it their independence as a free Christian commonwealth. In their address to Charles II., 1664, they declared that they were *“resolved to act for the glory of God, and for the felicities of this people;”* and that, *“having now above thirty years enjoyed the privilege of government within themselves, as their undoubted right in the sight of God and man, to be governed by rulers of our own choosing, and laws of our own, is fundamental privilege of our charter.”*

Their hope was is in King Jesus Christ alone. A day of fasting and humiliation was appointed, and the people prostrated themselves prayer before God and implored His interposition. The civil court was convened and a portion of each day was spent in prayer. Six Elders prayed, and a minister preached a sermon. *“Submission,”* they said, *“would be an offence against the Majesty of Heaven. Blind obedience to the pleasure of the king cannot be without great sin, and incurring the high displeasure of the KING of kings...The civil liberties of New England are part of the inheritance of their fathers; and shall we give that inheritance away? Better suffer than sin. It is better to trust the God of our fathers (clearly of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob/Israel) than to put confidence in princes. If we suffer because we dare not comply with the wills of men, against the will of God, we suffer in a good cause, and shall be accounted martyrs in the next generation and at the great day.”*

I shake within when I think of the Christian Biblical faith our Covenant Puritan Israelite forefather endured for us and our children. They dared to tap into the very soul of Kingdom Christ living and righteously affirm its blessed truth.

I pray all of you have been blessed by this special Thanksgiving study, and may all of you have a blessed Puritan Christ-centered transforming Thanksgiving.

Pastor Dave Barley

IS YOUR SPIRITUAL FILTER WORKING?

By Pastor Barley

1 Peter 2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness

into his marvellous light:

What a concept, to think of Israel (a chosen generation/race) called out of darkness into His (Jesus Christ) LIGHT. Add to this the fact that the Bible story evolved around God's blessed mystery of bringing Israel into **SONSHIP**, meaning, into **HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT** as stated in the above verse. True, many are called, few are chosen, but the fact remains that a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a chosen generation, a peculiar people know as the Covenant People are still called out of darkness into His marvelous **LIGHT**.

Most living things depend on photosynthesis to manufacture a source of energy. In a very real spiritual sense, we need and depend upon the energy, or life, from the Sun, but as the Sun is light, so is the Lord Jesus Christ who is the SON of Divine Light, our source, our beginning and end, or completeness. We require the constant flow of Christ's **LIGHT** into us (the Kingdom of God within you) so that we can extract **HIS KINGDOM** order out of it and use that order to maintain us.

Acts 17:28

For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Photosynthetic cells absorb light energy. Through **HIS LIGHT**, we become like "**CHARGED BATTERIES**," without **His Light**, we become lifeless uncharged batteries. Our old Adamic nature must absorb the **LIGHT** of Christ for power. The Scriptures tell us in **Acts 1:8**, "***But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you.***"

But did you know that darkness also has power? Jesus said in Luke 22:53 "***When I was daily with you in the***

temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness. This certainly does not mean that they had power over Jesus, for He also explained in John 19:11, ***"...Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin."*** The fact remains, that there is a ***"power of darkness,"*** and we are called out of darkness into **HIS marvelous LIGHT**.

In **John 1:1-5**, we read:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²The same was in the beginning with God.

³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

⁴In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

⁵And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Understand, the darkness of this world cannot comprehend the **LIGHT** of Christ. When man is in the **"darkness"** he cannot comprehend the **LIGHT**, he needs **LIGHT** to be able to comprehend Christ, and that **LIGHT** comes through receiving the Word of God. When man's old Adamic nature is transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit, it can then begin to comprehend the **LIGHT**.

Adamic man had to be brought into the darkness and germinate in that earth darkness before he could be transformed through the **LIGHT**. I do not see much in the way of "man's free will" being exercised in this process. What I do see is God's Sovereign Will being brought to bear in **CALLING MAN OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS**

MARVELOUS LIGHT. Clearly, Adam and Eve were set up in their rise and fall in the garden experience to set the stage for the fall of mankind and the Deliverer, Jesus Christ, the **Light of the world.**

Another way of stating this process is *"from death into life,"* or *"called out of death into His marvelous LIFE."* A death resurrection process. In the earth, seeds are planted (as we are when we are baptized, spiritually buried, where we in a sense are sprouted, or birthed as water (or spiritually, baptism) anoints us, drawing us to the **LIGHT**, where we mature (after many seasons) into mature sons of God. We quite literally come out of darkness, into **HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT.** If we remain in death darkness, we cannot comprehend the **LIGHT**, nor receive the blessings of the **LIGHT**, therefore, we must be water baptized which is a necessary seed of faith that attracts us towards the **LIGHT OF CHRIST.**

Ephesians 5:14

Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

When we pray, we are drawing from the **LIGHT** energy of Christ, and the **LIGHT** will grow in His people. **God inhabits the prayers of His people Israel,** as stated in **Psalms 22:3**, *"But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."* It is said, that **"darkness"** is the absence of light, could not **"darkness"** also be the absence of prayer, or praise?

By the way, as a side note, I believe that there is a principle of restitution involved in prayer, because Psalms 65:2 states: *"O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come."* I don't know about you, but that verse most certainly puts a smile on my face. – But moving on with our study... Let us consider the following verses:

2 Peter 1:19-21

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, **as unto a light that shineth in a dark place**, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Who, or what people were given "a more sure word of prophecy?" It is a Biblical fact that the Covenant seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob/Israel people are the people who are given "a more sure word of prophecy". That word of prophecy came from the LIGHT of the Holy Spirit as we are told in **2 Peter 1:21**, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Of course, we know that Jesus Christ is the Holy Ghost/Spirit, and as Jesus is the Holy Spirit, so is He the LIGHT of the world, and is therefore **THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY** as we are told in **Revelation 19:10**, "... worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

What have we learned? That the sons of God were given "a more sure word of prophecy." That Word of prophecy is the Bible, a most precious gift, the Word of God, and Jesus is the **WORD**, the **LIGHT**, the **Holy Spirit**, the **Spirit of Prophecy**, and when Christ is in you (the New Covenant, Hebrews 8:8-10) the sons of God will become the **LIGHTBEARERS** who will spread the **LIGHT OF CHRIST** that will remove the curse of darkness in its fullness.

Revelation 22:5

And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Proverbs 4:18-22

18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

Isaiah 60:19-22

19 The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

20 Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

21 Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

22 A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.

***Here's something extra to add to what I have shared with you in this study:**

Did God create everything that exists? Does evil exist? Did God create evil?

A University professor at a well known institution of higher learning challenged his students with this question. **"Did God create everything that exists?"**

A student bravely replied, **"Yes he did!"**

"God created everything?" The professor asked.

"Yes sir, he certainly did," the student replied.

The professor answered, "If God created everything; then God created evil. And, since evil exists, and according to the principle that our works define who we are, then we can assume God is evil."

The student became quiet and did not respond to the professor's hypothetical definition. The professor, quite pleased with himself, boasted to the students that he had proven once more that the Christian faith was a myth.

Another student raised his hand and said, **"May I ask you a question, professor?"**

"Of course," replied the professor.

The student stood up and asked, **"Professor, does cold exist?"**

"What kind of question is this? Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?"

The other students snickered at the young man's question.

The young man replied, **"In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is in reality the absence of heat. Everybody or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-460 F) is the total absence of heat; and all matter**

becomes inert and incapable of reaction at that temperature. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued, "**Professor, does darkness exist?**"

The professor responded, "**Of course it does.**"

The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir, darkness does not exist either. Darkness is in reality the absence of light. Light we can study, but not darkness. In fact, we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colors and study the various wavelengths of each color. You cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is? You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked the professor, "**Sir, does evil exist?**"

Now uncertain, the professor responded, "**Of course, as I have already said. We see it every day. It is in the daily examples of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil.**"

To this the student replied, **"Evil does not exist, sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat, or the darkness that comes when there is no light."**

The professor sat down.

Now I don't know if the above ever took place, but it does give you the tools to see that when our premises are wrong our answers are wrong.

Lastly, I will close this study with this thought, God has a special calling for Israel, He has called them **"OUT OF DARKNESS, INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT."** From darkness, we get NO POWER, NO ENERGY, NO LIFE. The world only has "darkness" to offer, **CHRIST IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**, but as the Scriptures tell us in John 1:5, *"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."* We have the **LIGHT** available to us, even a more sure Word of Prophecy that is **Holy Spirit** inspired and given, and Isaiah 9:8 states: *"The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel."* And this is the vital truth, Jesus Christ is calling Israel into the **LIGHT** through **His Word**, and through the **Light of His Word**, a ministry of restoration is being formed that will overcome the darkness with Divine God Knowledge (the Mind of Christ). God Almighty created "good and evil, light and darkness" because one is not possible without the other, meaning,

Light required darkness to become essential resurrection **LIFE**. Christ had to die for there to be a resurrection. He went into death/darkness to become the **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**. Adam man is going through this death experience because this is God's Divine way to bring us into **HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT**.

Pastor Barley

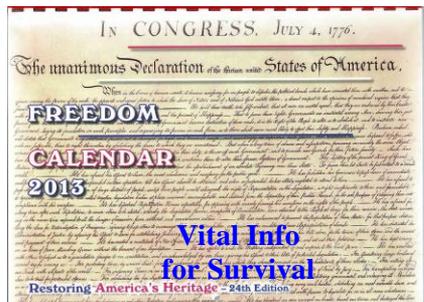
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