



On Wings
LIKE A DOVE
A MINISTRY TO LOVED ONES
OF PRODIGALS & PRISONERS

A Newsletter from On Wings Like A Dove Ministry December 2021 Vol. 17 Issue 12

Grace — God's Gift To Us

With a hammer in one hand and a large scroll under his arm, Martin Luther approached the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. He took a couple of nails from his dark woolen habit and began pounding his 95 theses to the church's heavy wooden doors. The date was October 31, 1517 and the event changed the course of human history. Luther's protest was against the Catholic Church which was the supreme authority in the land: those who went against the Church did so at the peril of their lives. What prompted this act of courage and defiance on Luther's part? As Luther studied Scripture, his eyes were opened to a new concept: the concept of God's grace. Passion burned inside him as he read verses like Ephesians 2:8-9: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." (NIV)

The established Church in Luther's day misled people into thinking they could only be saved by their own works through pilgrimages, confessions and by purchasing indulgences, which were basically "get out of hell free" cards. It became clear to Luther that men could not purchase God's grace: it was freely given. This conviction led him to write out his "theses," which he nailed to the door of the church in Wittenberg.

Out of this "protest" came the Protestant Church which over the next three centuries revolutionized Western Civilization. Out of this came our freedom from believing we have to earn our salvation through works, pilgrimages and even "payments" to the church. Martin Luther paved the way for us all to receive God's free gift of salvation—not earned, lest any man boast. If salvation could be earned, Jesus would not have had to suffer and die on a cross. If we could work our way to heaven, he would not have shed His blood for us. But he knew we could never earn our salvation.

"Jesus told them, 'This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent'." John 6:29

God offers us a true gift, we can all receive it because nothing is required except to BELIEVE.

Receive and celebrate your gift of salvation this Christmas season. Share this gift with others who are feeling condemned, broken and who are suffering under the heavy weight of oppression. Jesus came to set the captives free. BE FREE and enjoy God's gift of salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Now that is something to celebrate!

Merry Christmas!



~ Sandra

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free.

~ Luke 4:18

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Prayer Support Groups

Prayer Support
Monday, December 6th
Prayer, Praise and
Fellowship

River Oaks Church
Clemmons, NC
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
at 6:30 pm
Room #4
Led by Jeff & Sherye Hall

Ladies Bible Study

Each Tuesday
at On Wings Office
from 12:30 - 2:00
December 7th
Movie "Before the Wrath"
December 14th
Fellowship Luncheon
Bring a dish and a \$10 gift
for gift exchange
No meetings Dec. 21 & 28



Prayer Thoughts

OUR TRUE IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Romans 3:24We are justified (declared "not guilty" of sin).
Romans 8:1No condemnation awaits us.
Romans 8:2We are set free from the law of sin and death.
1 Corin. 1:2We are sanctified and made acceptable in Jesus.
1 Corin. 1:30We are righteous and holy in Christ.
1 Corin. 15:22We will be made alive at the resurrection.
2 Corin. 5:17We are new creatures.
2 Corin. 5:21We receive God's righteousness.
Galatians 3:28We are one in Christ.
Ephesians 1:3We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
Ephesians 1:4We are holy, blameless and covered with God's love.
Ephesians 1:5-6We are adopted as God's children.
Ephesians 1:7Our sins are taken away, and we are forgiven.
Ephesians 1:10-11We will be brought under Christ's headship
Ephesians 1:13We are marked as belonging to God by the Holy Spirit.
Ephesians 2:6We have been raised up to sit with Christ in glory.
Ephesians 2:10We are God's work of art.
Ephesians 2:13We have been brought near to God.
Ephesians 3:6We share in the promise in Christ.
Ephesians 3:12We can come with confidence into God's presence.
Ephesians 5:29-30We are members of Christ's body, the church.
Colossians 2:10We have been given fullness in Christ.
Colossians 2:11We are set free from our sinful nature.
2 Timothy 2:10We will have eternal glory.



I've learned.... That being kind is more important than being right.

I've learned That just one person saying to me, 'You've made my day!' makes my day.

I've learned.... That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in any other way.

I've learned.... That sometimes all a person needs is a heart to understand.

I've learned... That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned.... That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned.... That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned.... That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned.... That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned... That when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned.... That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

I've learned... That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.



Mary's Dream

I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, not really, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our Son. I think that was what it was all about. The people had been preparing for it for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar, though because the presents weren't for our Son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph, right in their house. They'd decorated the tree also. The branches were full of glowing balls and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on top of the tree. It looked like an Angel might look. Oh it was beautiful. Everyone was laughing and happy. They were all excited about the gifts. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our Son. I don't think they even knew Him. They never mentioned His name. Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know Him? I had the strangest feeling that if our Son had gone to this celebration, He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful, Joseph, and everyone so full of cheer, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus not to be wanted at His own birthday celebration. I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!

~ Author Unknown