

TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

A Study in Philemon (5)

Gabriel Rodriguez

Inside This Issue:

How Israel Fell From Glory (43)

Shepherd's Corner:
In Order To Have Eternal Life We Must Walk In The Light

When a master went too far in disciplining a child “*servant*” under his care (as we learned last week), there were certain consequences to pay. In Ex. 21:20, we learn that if a master smote his servant, male or female, and they died, God said they would surely be punished. And we learned the punishment for killing someone was death (i.e., “*life for life*”, Ex. 21:23). But questions often arise in verse 21 where it says, “*Notwithstanding, if he continue a day or two, he shall not be punished: for he is his money.*” The key word here is *punished*. This word comes from the Hebrew *naqam* and is defined as to avenge, revenge, take vengeance, to entertain revengeful feelings. So understanding this word helps us to put this verse in better perspective. When a master choose to discipline a child under his care and no physical harm was done, then the blood guardians or relatives could not seek revenge on him. The phrase, “*for he is his money*” simply meant, the one disciplined was under his authority. But what if the master went too far and caused severe bodily injury to the one disciplined. This is where verses 23-27 come into play. Not only would the punisher be requited the same severe bodily injury, but also, the hurt servant would be permitted to be set free from the debt of their master.

So as we see, the master couldn’t do anything he wanted with those that served him, rather



he had an obligation of care and concern for them. This is quite different from modern horror stories of slavery, where the master did what he willed without any type of consequences to pay.

This is further established by the situation spoken of in Ex. 21:7-11, that if a man sold his daughter to be a maidservant, God said, she shall not go out as the menservants do (7). In other words, God protected the woman,

and here is how. If the master who purchased the woman (i.e., sold herself for work, Deut. 15:12) desired her as his wife and in time things didn’t work out, the master could not sell her to another nation (the punishment for this was death, Ex. 21:16), but he was to redeem her back into her family. Or, if the master gave this same woman to his son, God said that the master was to treat her “*after the manner of daughters*” (Ex. 21:9), and if the

son took another wife, the son was to continue to show her affection and not diminish the duty of marriage toward her (Ex. 21:10). If God’s commandments weren’t followed, she was to be set free back into her own family (Ex. 21:11).

So what we see in these cases is justice and fairness. God never permitted people to take advantage of others, rather God’s nation was a nation that respected all men, regardless of position and wealth. If God is not a respecter of persons, neither should his people be. May God be praised!

How Israel Fell From Glory (43)

A Study in the Book of Isaiah

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

The fellowship luncheon, hosted by the Dorries, will be next Sunday, June 11. The menu is healthy potluck.

A teachers' meeting will be on June 9th at 6:30 pm. No meal is planned.

The family home devotional, hosted by Carolyn Harris, will be at 11:00 am on June 24th at Raymond Rimkus Park in Leon Valley (6440 Evers Rd). A sign-up sheet for food is in the foyer.

Volunteers are needed in July to host young adult devotional. See one of the elders if you can serve in this capacity.

The Sunny Glen children's home will be here June 18-21 to pick up requested supplies: **Pastas/ Noodles and Floor Cleaners**. As before, you can either buy these items yourself and place them in the library or give a check to one of our elders so they can purchase these items in bulk. Thank you.

YOUTH

Our first area wide Youth Day will be this Saturday (June 10th) from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

There will be no June devotional because of our Youth Day.

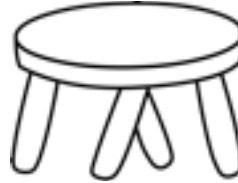
YOUNG ADULT

The next young adult devotional will be hosted the Hipps. More details to come later.

AREA NEWS

See the bulletin board in the foyer for events in our area.

Our final chapter (66) deals with an ominous warning. Verse 1 sets the tone: *"Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that you built me? and where is the place of my rest?"* God apprised Israel and the entire world that He



alone is Sovereign and that all those who inhabit the earth are at his disposal - *"For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord..."* (2a). Hence, what God desired and looked for, especially from among His people was *"him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembles at his word"* (2b). God desired a people who truly feared and revered Him, but sadly what He found from among His people were those that *"had chosen their own ways and who delighted in their abominations"* (3c). Therefore, based on their actions, God would punish and destroy them, and likened it to *"a voice from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord that renders recompense to his enemies"* (6).

From verses 7 until the end of the chapter, God prophesied (as He had done previously before) concerning the coming King and kingdom (*church*) that would replace defunct Israel, as she was rejected and destroyed. He begins by establishing an outstanding thing, that before Zion (Jerusalem) travailed in pain before birth, she brought forth a man child (7-8). In other words, before Israel's destiny

of rejection and destruction had come to full fruition, God's message concerning a coming king and kingdom was summoned. It would begin with a man child (*"king"*), who would eventually establish his kingdom, and this kingdom would *"extend peace"* to the entire world and would comfort all inhabitants (11-13). This no doubt referred to the nation of Israel during the days of the Romans (before their destruction in AD 70), who eventually gave way to the man child, Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ would then establish His kingdom (*church*) which all men were to be a part of in order to be saved (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:41,47; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 3:15; 1 Cor. 15:24).

All those outside of the purview of the new king and kingdom, the Lord would pour forth his wrath and indignation (14-17, cf. Rev. 14:1-14). God as supreme judge, knowing all men's thoughts and actions (18a, cf. Heb. 4:13), shall gather all men (all nations) in order that they might see His glory upon holy Jerusalem, meaning the king's new kingdom (the *church*) (18b-20, cf. Phil. 2:10-11).

In the end, God's new world and people (new kingdom) will serve and worship Him forever and ever (22-23), but all those that choose to transgress God's commandments shall be punished with everlasting fire and God's people will see them as an abhorrent unto God and His righteousness (24). May God be praised!

Bro. G. Rodriguez

What Must I Do?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21) and given the hope of eternal life (Acts 2:38).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

In Order To Have Eternal Life We Must Walk In The Light

Having fellowship with God is based on our "walking in the light." Notice what the inspired John wrote, "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:5-7). We are called out of the darkness of the world of sin and into God's light: "But ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pet 2:9).

To "walk in the light" means two things. First, it means that we no longer live in sin. Note that the Lord clearly states that if we "walk in darkness" (that is, in sin), we are not in fellowship with God. To walk in the light means that we have turned our backs on sin to live for Christ: "Having died to sin, might live unto righteousness" (1 Pet. 2:24). Second, to walk in the light means the continual cleansing of the blood of Christ. Even though we strive always to do right, we still sin, as John clearly shows: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). But if we are walking in the light, the sins we commit do not separate us from God, for the blood of Christ cleanses us from those sins. As Paul wrote, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1). Through the blood of Christ we remain in fellowship with God.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Bro. W. Holmes

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

DEACONS

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1 Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra

(210) 843-9730

Brother Bill Dorries

(210) 253-0173

GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez

(210) 315-4453



June 4

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *R. Baltierra*
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*
 Communion Leader: *E. Hipp*
 Lord's Supper Servers: *T. Mayces; N. Esenowo; S. Amos; E. Castillo*

Scripture: *Matt. 27:27-35*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *M. de la Garza*
 Song Leader: *G. Rodriguez*
 Lord's Supper: *J. Guillen; R. Trevino*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *S. Amos*

After Greeter: *E & K Hipp*
 Greeter/Usher: *D. Mathis*
 AV Duty: *M. de la Garza*
 In Charge of Invitation: *W. Holmes*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Joe Guillen
 Ina Dial
 David and Elijah Sudhoff
 Joshua White *(dealing with blood clots)*
 Caral O'Banon
 Sam Amos *(awaiting surgery)*
 Parents of David Lyssy
 Sandra Welch
 Lavender Nelson (PAM Hospital)
 Tita Cortez *(sister of Sam Ramirez)*
 Billie Dorries (health issues)

BATTLING CANCER:

Johna Dorries Abigail Reyes
 Graciola Anderson Sonny Cary
 Arturo Hernandez
 Renalto (brother-in-law of Joe Guillen)

SHUT-INS:

Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest
 Sarah Cannon

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Esenowo's (Nigeria); Janie and Maldonado's (NY); Lyssys'

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES JUNE

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
Dorries
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Open
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Open
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry room
Gonzalez
 Brother in charge of services:
J. Guillen

AM Theme:

The Hall of Fame:

Crown of Glory: The King of My Life

PM Theme:

God's Love For His Church:

A Study of the Song of Solomon

AM Sermon:

King Saul (2)

PM Sermon:

Fifth Song (4)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

June 7: B. Dorries

June 14: D. Mathis

June 21: W. Holmes

FOR THE RECORD

MAY 28/31

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 41
 Sunday AM Worship 72
 Sunday PM Worship 37
 Wednesday Bible Study 41
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$1,968.50**

Weekly Bible Readers: NA (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Fax: (210) 696-5181

Church email Address:

shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;
 Worship at 5:00 pm.

Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm