

GLIMPSES

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The saved of earth appear in Heaven in various groups, ranked according to attainment here below by gaining victories and masteries over tests, trials and temptations. Also by exercise and use of gifts and powers and talents committed to them, and by perfecting the graces under adverse circumstances. "My reward is with Me, to give every man, according as his work shall be." Rev. 22:12.

There is the Old Testament group, resurrected and ascended with Jesus. They are the active angels of Revelation and guests at the Marriage Supper. The early martyrs, present day martyrs, tribulation martyrs, reformers, and several other companies. Rev. 19: 10; Matt. 8:11.

But the most beautiful of all is the entrancing sight of a charming

Royal Bride Company

On several occasions this rare Consort is photographed by Divine camera in preparation processes, from the first ecclesia, up through successive stages, till she appears at the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb."

In the earlier steps of development, those who finally compose this elect group, may not be easily distinguished from the others. Some may run well for a season, and then grow careless. Others may be slow in starting, but earnestly persevere and forge ahead. Those who have been very poor specimens, by repeated "washing of water by the Word" become beautiful and blemishes disappear. Passing through various out-selection, they become notable by a constant walk in the Spirit. They are soon promoted to be sons of God, and enter a ministry of lifting the curse from groaning creation. Rom. 8:23.

Another picture of this group is their appearance as the prophetic army of the Lord. They are also called "My sanctified ones," "My mighty ones," "His camp is very great," "The Stone," "A kingdom," "Saints of the Most High." This is the active army by whom the Lord utters His prophetic word, bringing destructive judgments on the Gentile nations. Isa. 13-1-11; Joel 2:1-11; Dan. 2:34, 35, 44, 45; 7:18.

Again she is seen sunburned and toiling—unselfish keeper of vineyards, the while neglecting her own. This is the spirit of the true laborers in the Harvest fields. Sol. Song 1:6.

As Overcomers we see them getting the

victory in all walks of life, and over every trait of character, all of self, facing the cross. Remarkable and various are the processes they pass through. They are a separated people—"Forget also thine own people, and thy father's house." Psa. 45:10.

They are chastened souls, blown upon by the north winds of adversity, and the south winds of warm attractions. Blasts from the winnowing fan drive away the chaff. Refining fire removes dross of gold. Severe and searching are the scourgings and the processes she passes through, but they procure for her

The **Bride's Attire** which is beyond compare, elaborate, gorgeous and beautiful is she and "all glorious within." "Her clothing is of wrought gold." "Raiment of needle work." "To her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linnen, clean and white." She is clothed without and within. Ps. 45. Rev. 19:8.

In character, she is of royal blood, a chaste virgin, not defiled with women; that is uncontaminated with man made church orders, that do not come under Christ's government. "In their mouths was found no guile, for they are without fault." "Not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing." Ps. 45:13; Eph. 5:27.

Of her beauty we read, "Behold, thou art fair, my love." "Thou art all fair, My love; there is no spot in thee." Sol. Song 4:1 & 7.

Of her grace it is said, "Sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely." Her humility and sacrifice, is comparable to Noah who shared the ark with all creation's kind. Her attitude is that of Moses who offered his eternal interests as a sacrifice for Israel, saying, "Blot my name out." She has the spirit of Paul who could wish himself accursed for his kinsmen, and the courage of Esther who offered herself for her people; saying, "If I perish, I perish."

Her affection and attachment for the King seems boundless, as it is written, "Thou hast ravished (taken away) my heart." "She is the only one of her mother. She is the choice one of her that bear her." Sol. Song. 4:9; 6:9.

History of this first fruits cluster easily divides into three periods. Preparation, Presentation, and the Reign with the King. In preparation during first stages, she may hardly be distinguishable from the rest of the Lord's people. But as she passes one and another selective stage, her preparations make her appear different.

The experiences of purging, refining, trans-

firmation and recreation bring deliverance from old attitudes of selfishness, earthiness, and flesh. This is by the blood, the cross, sufferings, glory, and various processes of the Spirit.

She ministers in the ecclesia. As sons of God they minister to groaning creation. In the prophetic army they speak the Word of God in judgment. Under the sovereign Intervention, they become full overcomers and thus attain to the manchild company, the elect, who are gathered from one end of heaven to the other, and in a whirlwind caught up to the throne of God. Matt. 24:31; Rev. 12:5; 2 Kings 2:1.

Secret relations of espousal are between individuals of the group and the King, and lead up to the **Presentation**. "She shall be brought unto the King." "The virgins, her companions that follow her, shall be brought unto thee. With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought. They shall enter into the King's palace." There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and virgins without number." Ps. 45:12,14; Sol. Song 6:8.

It will be a rare and exalted privilege to be at "the Marriage Supper of the Lamb," whether among the illustrious guests, prophets, sages, kings and noble saints of the ancients, or among the maids or gentlemen-in-waiting-servants to the Bride. Matt. 8:11; 27:52,53.

After the Marriage Supper and after the battle in the heavenlies that wreck Satan's kingdom, (Rev. 12:7-9) the Lamb's wife sits down with Him in His throne, to govern the kingdom of earth.

PRESENT DAY MINISTRY

(Message by Thomas R. Griffith at the Young People's Rally, Myrtle, Pa.)

"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they be sent?" Rom. 10:15.

We see at a glance in the beginning of the above portion of Scripture the vast over-ripe Harvest Field. "How shall they (those in the regions beyond and in the homeland) call on Him, and believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without some one answering the call of God to go and preach the Gospel of Life? "How beautiful are the feet of them who preach the Gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things."

A fresh stir is on among the young folk today. God is seeking out those who are willing to consecrate their lives to Him, willing to seek for and accept His Divine call and anointings, and a holy compassion for the souls of lost humanity. He does not ask us to go forth empty handed or in our own strength. Thank God, where He doth guide He will provide.

Our present day ministries are not sufficient for the great need that is facing the world and the Church of Jesus Christ today. We must have a supernatural ministry to be effective against the power and forces of the enemy of our souls. A supernatural call and ministry awaits every young person today who will yield all to God.

Paul had a call of God, and more than that he had vision and revelation, and a Holy Ghost equipment to meet the need of his day. God intends that every worker should have the same today. Paul received this not from man but direct from God. The "woe is me if I preach not the Gospel" also mightily gripped his heart as he received a glimpse of the terror of the Lord upon those outside of Christ. His own words were, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord we persuade men." 2 Cor. 5:10, 11.

This brings us to the ministry in question which might be termed a ministry of Persuasion. It is not a natural earthly ministry operating on a natural plane, but a heavenly supernatural ministry whereby we are able, "According to the power working in us" to persuade men and women to accept and be partakers of this glorious Gospel of Salvation. We as workers together in the cause of Christ must not only see the need of such a ministry, but we should have it working in our lives.

This ministry was not foreign to the New Testament characters, such as Paul, Barnabas, Peter and others. We see an outstanding manifestation of it at the beginning of Pentecost and it should be in greater manifestation today. Let us read concerning Peter after he had preached that marvelous sermon under the mighty anointing of the Spirit of God in defense of the supernatural. "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye crucified both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard

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