

THE RIGHTEOUS PURSUES HOLINESS

Chapter 2 Lesson 8

Chapter's Subject: Created Anew in Righteousness and True Holiness

Main Point: Called Out (Part D)

Sub-Point: The Word in the Believer

Today's Study: "Additional Information"

Time is available only for a brief discussion of review questions from previous lesson.

As a reminder "Additional Information" includes information promised in the most recent lessons. Today's lesson covers:

"Adorning the Heart" 1 Peter 3:3-4

Practical Pointers ... based on 1 Peter 1:24-25 (Highlighted pointers)

Detailed Outline Col. 1:24-29 ... with a highlighted presentation on verses 26-27.

I have also included some hymns that were promised while covering some of the previous lessons.

A. ADORNING THE HEART 1 Peter 3:3-4

This brief study was developed while completing Lesson 7 (Chapter 2). The actual section from which this brief study gave birth is based on 1 Peter 1:22-25 and in particular verse 24, where we discussed "Perishable Reality."

Please read 1 Peter chapters 1, 2 and 3 for context. This presentation is a rather brief coverage of 1 Peter 3:3-4. As you read through the chapters recommended, you will observe that chapter 3 addresses the "Duty of Husbands and Wives" as well as other subjects, for example: "Unity and Kindness" (1 Peter 3:8-14). Why include marital matters in a holiness series? I am including a brief coverage on marriage because such union and eventually such an institution ("The Family") is important not only to the Christian's testimony but to a life of holiness! We (all married couples and those planning to get married) should remember that the marriage relationship need to be "**happy**" "**harmonious**" and "**HOLY.**"

It should be noted that we will not be able to discuss the relationship necessary between husbands and wives but the material presented, if adhere to, will enhance any marriage to the glory of God. When we were discussing Peters' exhortation for "Brotherly Love" (1 Peter 1:22-25), mention was made of the need to start learning and practicing the good habits including "Genuine Love for One Another," at home!! I used the phrase "Learn to Dance at Home First" which is still a fact many have to accept and apply practically. As it relates to marriages there are far too many that are mere show pieces only to the public's eyes, while

at home they live a completely different life!! If all of us couples maintain purity of heart, adorn the inner man which means that we are having a harmonious relationship with God, our marriages will be better, our families will be better, our churches will be better, our schools will be better, our communities will be better, etc. The marriage was divinely ordained for a purpose but we need God to make that divine objective become a reality and not a byproduct of Hollywood based in its immoral standards, which in reality is a sham and meaningless way to live. **Only God in our lives can make us, our marriages, our families, etc. and the world what it ought to be!!**

While 1 Peter 3:1-6 deals specifically with wives, I would like to apply these instructions to wives, husbands and ALL Believers, making the application of these truths to our lives as they are necessary. We will not be able to lift all applicable truths from the passage for this presentation but there will be much to be benefited if we apply the truths shared to our lives. Take one example: “the need for a meek and quiet spirit;” such is of great value to any true child of God!! I encourage you to read 1 Peter chapters 1-3 and carefully go through chapter 3. **My prayer is that you will be blessed as we study together!!**

In 1 Peter 3:3-4, I will note two things (1) Rules in Regards to Dress of Religious Women and (2) Real Beauty.

A. Rule in Regards to Dress of Religious Women (1 Peter 3:3)

Introductory Notes:

- (a) The apostle does not condemn true ornament, nor does he condemn the desire to appear well groomed and presentable.
- (b) God does not condemn real ornament. The earth is the Lord’s, which itself is enriched with natural beauty. God is a God of beauty!!
- (c) What we do need to guard against is sensuality, excessiveness, etc. which are inconsistent with a morally upright life.
- (d) Man has done his part by adding to the beauty of God’s creation, which in some situations, have produced negative results (however, this is not the topic of discussion at this time ... we must move on).

1. “Let it not be that outward adorning” (1 Peter 3:3 KJV)

- (a) Do not let outward adorning be the main practical thing, or your primary area of emphasis.
 - (1) Too many make all-out effort to be impressive but it is all external beauty and as seen in previous lessons “beauty is only skin deep.” For some their external attraction is a matter of extravagance which is temporal and lack real satisfaction.
 - (2) The apostle is saying in this verse (1 Peter 3:3) **“let not your heart be set ONLY on external adornment.”**
- (b) The apostle does not say ...

- (1) She (the wife addressed in this passage) should neglect her personal appearance.
 - (2) In fact she (the wife) has no right to be offensive to her husband by neglecting her personal appearance *(and too many have placed great emphasis on looking attractive in public but at home they are totally the opposite as their manner of appearance seems to be always dress in rags and burlap, maybe not literally but in essence of their appearance. In fact some men need much help in this area but again this is not our subject of discussion. **This I do emphasize that while a harmonious marital relationship is God's will, the emphasis at this time is the need for inner beauty which will definitely enhance a happy, harmonious and holy marriage!!**)*
 - (c) **It should not be forgotten that religion, Christianity and righteousness do promote neatness and cleanliness in all phases of life.**
 - (1) We do need to pay attention to our external appearance, not based on worldly immoral standards. The truth is, as it relates to physical appearance, in many areas the standards of the world are in opposition to that of genuine righteousness.
 - (2) Absolutely, we do need to pay proper attention to the internal virtue of the soul and as noted above this inner beauty will work itself out in all areas of our practical lives.
2. **Three Sorts of Ornaments Forbidden** *(As relates to our text 1 Peter 3:3-4)*
- (a) **Platting of Hair**

1 Peter 3:3a
KJV
"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of platting the hair ..."

Amplified Bible
"Let not yours be the [merely] external adorning with [elaborate] interweaving and knotting of the hair ..."

 - (1) Platting the hair refers to that which was commonly used in those days by lewd women.
 - For the Christian wives to practice the same hair style was to be identified with those lewd women.
 - Obviously, this was a call for distinction; the need to be different from worldly practices.
 - (2) There are several ideas as to how this platting was done which we will not get into.
 - (3) This, however, needs to be noted: we are not to assume that a mere braiding or platting of the hair is improper.
 - (4) I will repeat and keep on calling your attention to this very important fact, the caution here is not to be entangled with the immoral habits and practices

of an immoral environment as we saw happened in the Corinthian church and the Laodicea church. **We are still a “CALLED OUT PEOPLE” and to live as such!! The distinction must be maintained!!**

(b) **Wearing of Gold**

1 Peter 3:3b

KJV

“... and of the wearing of gold ...”

(1) Wearing of Gold or ornaments or jewelry made of gold

- Such was practiced by Rebecca, Esther and other religious women.
- However, afterward such practice became the attire chiefly of harlots and wicked people.
- Gold, as used in our text, referred to probably that which was interwoven in the hair, and was a common female ornament in those times.

(2) Gold itself is not evil

- **The caution here is to avoid adapting to the practices of the corrupt environment.**
- I must reemphasize and repeat this most urgent appeal: “There must be a distinction between the people of God and the world.”
 - I know that this is not a popular call today but the Word of God still calls for us to “come out and be separated.” (2 Cor. 6:17; etc.)
 - As noted in Chapter 1 (of this study), the call for holiness of life is not a welcomed one even among denominations that advocate holiness in their tenets.
 - Let us open our eyes, beloved, the Church (Universal) has gone too far away from the pathway of righteousness and true holiness!!
 - It is time to “Cry aloud and spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.” Isa. 58:1 KJV ...read the chapter for context).
 - Contrary to what some accusers will say, we do not advocate legalism, etc. and yes there is a need to summons the people of God to return to the ways of God!! **(See Jer. 6 ... NB v. 16)**
 - As I have noted so often, we do need church growth, yes we do!! We also need to be better “stewards of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (See **Jude 3**; also 1 Thess. 2:4; 1 Tim. 1:11; Titus 1:3)

(c) **Putting on of Apparel**

1 Peter 3:3c (KJV)

(1) In general “apparel” refers to cloke (“cloke” an old KJV usage, example Matt. 5:40; Luke 6:29; ... it is the same as “cloak”), referring to clothes, garment, raiment, robe, vesture.

(2) Wearing of apparel was not forbidden (absolutely not!!) but to avoid the extravagance, which have no concern for modesty and sobriety.

- (3) Avoid identifying yourself with the evil/corrupt environment in which you live!
- (4) It is important to remember that real beauty comes from within!!
- (5) **Avoid putting on of apparel for the gratification of pride and vanity; but place the emphasis on a wholesomeness of Christian character, which is not corruptible.**

NOTE

As you have observed these areas that were forbidden, at least two very important things should be obvious:

- (1) The believer (The saint) should not adapt and become integrated with the immoral environment.
- (2) Man's real beauty is the purity of the real you ... the hidden man ... the inner man ... the soul!!

3. Lessons to be Learnt

- (a) **"Walk the Walk"** *(A term used throughout this study but very important!!)*
 - (1) Believers should take care that all their external behavior is answerable to their professing Christianity.
 - (2) **They must be holy in all manner of conversation (their daily lifestyle ... their conduct).**
 - (3) Emphasis was made on the "Walk of the Believer" when we discussed Lesson 4 (Chapter 2).
 - There are too many who "talk the talk" but do not "walk the walk"!!
 - It is imperative to "walk the walk," which means living consistent lives with what we profess.
 - As noted in Lesson 4, "The true walk of the Believer is a **walk in Christ** that involves three actions: **(1) Remove/Renounce, (2) Renew and (3) Replace.**" *The "True Believer" is a "New Creation;" absolutely new; all things have become new!! We must maintain that distinction by the way we live!!*
- (b) **Avoid sensuality and excessiveness**

Introductory Notes:

- (1) This is an area of great need that many have stayed away from or have watered it down or criticize those who still declare its relevance and necessity; I am referring to; the importance for modesty and sobriety. There was a time when there were those who went to the extreme and we are seeing today that the Church has gone to another extreme where anything is accepted!! As I have noted several times, I am neither advocating for legalism nor placing emphasis on externalism and absolutely this is not "man made doctrine!" **The Church (or the Bride of Christ, the Called out Community, the people of God, etc.) has gone too far from the way of righteousness and true holiness and it's time to return home!!!**

(2) The following quotes in reference to our “Practical Commitments,” are taken from the Bishop’s Study Manual (Church of God). You will also find these statements in our booklet “Our Statements of Faith;” and have been quoted in our previous lesson.

- “We will demonstrate the Scriptural principle of modesty by appearing and dressing in a manner that will enhance our Christian testimony and will avoid pride, elaborateness and sensuality.”
- **In regards to modesty it states:**
 “According to the biblical idea **modesty is an inner grace** that recoils from anything unseemly and impure, is chaste in thought and conduct, and is free of crudeness and indecency in dress and behavior (Eph. 4:25, 29, 31; 5:1-8; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10). **Therefore modesty includes our appearance, dress, speech, and conduct and can be applied to all situations. The essential issue is, does our style of living please or displeases God?”**
- **Appearance and Dress**
 “Our life, character, and self-image are reflected by our apparel and mode of dress. The admonition of Scripture, ‘Be not conformed to this world,’ reminds us that our manner of dress must be modest and decent (Rom. 12:2); 1 Thess. 5:22, 23). **It is not displeasing to God for us to dress well and be well-groomed. However, above all we must seek beauty which does not come from outward adornment with jewelry, expensive clothes, or cosmetics, but from good works, chaste conversation, and a meek quiet spirit (Phil. 4:8; 1 Peter 3:5).”**

(c) **As we continue to focus on 1 Peter 3:3, observe:**

(1) **Outward adorning of the body is sensual and excessive . . .:**

- **When it is immoderate.** As I have noted above we have gone from one extreme to the other; this is seen in so many ways of practical living among believers, for example modesty. In today’s world it seems as if the more skin that one can show in public is the more popular one becomes and the Church (Universal) has been trapped in this downward spiral!!!
- **When it makes you someone else, someone who is inconsistent with who you ought to be as a believer (saint).** Christians ought to take care of themselves but it is time to stop acting like Hollywood movie stars, or those famous secular music personalities and other celebrities who have, no sense of morals. It is very difficult to see why Christians adapt to these people’s way of life and with such passion which eventually drains them spiritually!! Oh, to be like Jesus!!
- **When it makes you puffed up with pride, self-esteem, self-glory, etc.** Pride is a serious sin; the Word says that it goes before destruction (Prov.

16:18). This reality was displayed in the example of King Herod (See Acts 12:20-25). He was well dressed and maybe one of the motivating factors why he accepted the title of deity for which he experienced the wrath of God.

- **When you dress with the design to allure and tempt others.** Details not possible and this is one area in which we could present so many examples. To publicly dress in a seductive manner is the work of Satan and the display of sensuality. I am not sure that many realize what messages are conveyed by such improper dressing, may God help us and give us the desire to be distinctive, living as His chosen people!!
- **When the apparel is too rich, curious (elaborate), or superfluous.** See quote from our Practical Commitments above. Remember also that external beauty in any form or fashion, etc. is only temporal which will definitely fade and perish like the green refreshing grass or the most beautiful flower it will fade (Isa. 40:6-8).
- **When your fashions are fanatical, imitating the levity and vanity of the worst people.** Here is another situation that we do not have time to elaborate although there is so much to be said. I spoke with a young man who has a certain position in his denomination in regards to his “rag-like” jeans. To summarize, his reply was “Well everybody is doing it!!” That is where the Church (Universal) is today. No matter who introduces the fashion or its derogatory standards that Church craves for it as Israel when delivered from the tyranny of their bondage, craved for the things of their Egyptian bondage. The call still comes today; **“who is on the Lord’s side?” Ex. 32:26;** See also Deut. 30:19; 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21. **The distinction MUST be maintained!!**

(2) **The attire of a harlot can never become that of a “Chaste Christian Woman!” The Believers must not adapt to the evil that exist around them!! The light must extinguish the darkness and not the darkness extinguishing the light!!! We are the light of the world!! (Matt. 5:14)**

(3) In relation to our text (1 Peter 3:3), I will make another quote from our Bishop’s Study Manual (Church of God).

“As godly people we are to abstain from all lust of the flesh and avoid dressing in a manner that encourages immoral thoughts, attitudes, and lifestyles (Gal. 5:13-21; 1 Peter 2:11; 2 Peter 1:4). **Our beauty does not depend on elaborate, showy dress, extravagant, costly attire, or the use of jewelry or on the use of jewelry or cosmetics but on our relationship with Christ. External adornment, whether clothing, jewelry, as an outward display of personal worth, is contrary to a spiritual attitude (James 2:1-4).”**

B. Real Beauty

Introductory Notes

- (a) Observe Peter's direction (advice, etc.): instead of the outward adorning of the body, he directs Christian wives to put on much more excellent and beautiful ornaments.
- (b) I would encourage you to review what was stated above in the quotes from the Bishop's Study Manual. I will repeat two sentences from one of those quotes: **"Our life, character, and self-image are reflected by our apparel and mode of dress.** The admonition of Scripture, 'Be not conformed to this world,' reminds us that our manner of dress must be modest and decent (Rom. 12:2; 1 Thess. 5:22, 23)"

1 Peter 3:4

KJV

"But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God a great price."

Amplified Bible

"But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which [is not anxious or wrought up, but] is precious in the sight of God."

1. Let the Inner Man Glow!!

1 Peter 3:3a (KJV)

"But let it be the hidden man of the heart ..."

- (a) The "hidden man..." refers to the soul; the hidden inner man, the new creature in Jesus Christ.
- (b) **Take care, great care to adorn and beautify your souls rather than your bodies!!**
- (c) Someone rightly stated, "Heart holiness is the remedy for love of outward adornment."

2. Prescribed Ornament

1 Peter 3:4b (KJV)

"... in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit ..."

- (a) In general the apostle is saying, what beautifies the soul "is not corruptible."
 - (1) Not the corruptible but in essence, the grace and virtues (virtue: integrity, morality, nobility, etc) of God's Holy Spirit.
 - (2) **The ornaments of the body are destroyed by moth, and perish in the using; but the grace of God, the longer we wear it, the brighter and brighter it gets.**
 - (3) Oh! May we all draw from the well that never runs dry!!
- (b) True beauty is not in jewelry, clothes, etc. but instead resides in outward modesty (1 Tim. 2:9) and the inner loveliness and enduring charm of a "meek and quiet spirit" (1 Peter 3:4).

- (1) The adjective “**meek**” describes a gentle and unassuming disposition that expresses itself in gracious submissive and loving concern for others (compare with Matt. 5:5; 2 Cor. 10:1; Gal. 5:23).
 - (2) The adjective “**quiet**” refers to a disposition that is not boisterous and does not create disturbance.
 - (3) **In other words, God declares that true beauty is a matter of character and not a matter of decoration.**
 - (4) Christian wives must remain loyal to Christ, God’s Word, their husband and their family in a world govern by:
 - Materialism
 - Manipulative fashion
 - Self-assertion
 - Sexy appearance
 - Contempt for the values of home and family
- (c) **One of the most important ornaments, the finest ornament of a Christian woman is a meek and quiet spirit.**
- (1) This person has an easily managed temper of mind.
 - (2) It is a mind void of ungodly passion, pride and immodest anger.
 - (3) This person manifests a quiet obliging behavior towards their husband and families.
 - (4) If the husband is harsh and have distaste for religion . . .
 - As it was the situation with these good wives that Peter addressed.
 - The most effective way to win him is through a prudent meek behavior ... see 1 Peter 3:1-2.

3. The Excellence of Such Ornament

What ornament? See 1 Peter 3:3 ... “a meek and quiet spirit.”

1 Peter 3:4c (KJV)

“... which is in the sight of God a great price.”

(a) **“In the sight of God a great price.”**

(1) Or “of great value” ... in fact there are promises to the meek:

- **Psa. 37:11 Amplified Bible**

“But the meek [in the end] shall inherit the earth and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace [Ps. 37:29; Matt. 5:5]”

- See also Psa. 22:26; 147:6; 149:4; Isa. 11:4

(2) Such is indeed of **great value** for which a **great price was paid** (Isa. 53:7; also Matt. 11:29; 26:52; 2 Cor. 10:1; 1 Peter 2:23)

(b) **God showed His sense of its value**

(1) By commanding it so often in His Word

- **Meekness**

- To be sought (Zeph. 2:3)

- Non resistance, a mark of meekness (Luke 6:29)

- One aspect of the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22)

- Essential in teaching (James 1:21)
- Precious in the sight of God (1 Peter 3:4)
- **Quietness**
 - *A quiet spirit* means a quiet and peaceful spirit, a spirit that is at peace with God and with itself and that builds peace with its husband. A quiet spirit spreads peace all throughout its home and around to everyone who enters its home; as well as to everyone.
 - The meek and quiet spirit is of great value to God.
 - God has His eyes upon the Christian woman who has a meek and quiet spirit: “in the sight of God of great price” (1 Peter 3:4 KJV)
 - See also Psa. 4:4; 17:1111; Ecc. 4:6; 1 Thess. 4:11

(2) By making religion (**Pure Religion**) to consist of it

- Not in high intellectual endowments
- Not in much learning
- Not in skills in the arts and valor

This meek and quiet spirit, this inner beauty was revealed by the character of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom this was so prominent a character (Isa. 53:7; Matt. 11:29; 21:5; 26:52; 2 Cor. 10:1; 1 Peter 2:2)

(c) I will close by noting two important lessons learnt, based on 1 Peter 3:4.

- (1) A true Christian’s chief cares lie in the right ordering and commending of his own spirit.
- (2) The endowments of the inner man are the chief ornaments of a Christian; but especially a composed, calm, and quiet spirit, renders either man or woman beautiful and lovely!!

Psa. 149:4 (KJV)

“For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people; He will beautify the meek with salvation.”

2 Peter 1:5-8 (KJV)

“And besides this, giving all diligence, add to faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge. And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. “

1 Peter 3:3-4 (Amplified Bible)

“Let not yours be the [merely] external adorning with [elaborate] interweaving and knotting of the hair, the wearing of jewelry, or changes of clothes. But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which [is not anxious or wrought up, but] is very precious in the sight of God.”

Closing Thought

Quoted from *Life in the Spirit Study Bible*; comments made on 1 Tim.2:9 “Women ... in modest apparel with shamefacedness” (KJV). **NB. The translation used for this quote uses “shamefastness” instead of “shamefacedness” as in other KJV.**

1 Tim. 2:9 “Women ...in modest apparel with shamefastness” (Life in the Spirit Study Bible ... KJV)

“It is the will of God that Christian women dress modestly and discreetly, i.e., properly covering rather than sensually exposing the body.

1. Modesty involves dressing in such a way as not to draw attention to the body or to cross boundaries of proper reserve. **The source of modesty is one’s heart or inner character; i.e. , modesty is the outward manifestation of an inner purity.**
2. Dressing in such a way as to stimulate impure thoughts or desires in others is as wrong as the lust it provokes. **No activity or circumstance justifies the wearing of immodest attire that would expose the body in such a way as to stimulate lust in someone else** (Gal. 5:13; Eph. 4:27; Titus 2:11-12; note also Matt. 5:28).
3. The fashion industry design clothing deliberately to accentuate (“*accentuate: emphasize, highlight, stress, etc.*”) the body sensually and sexually. It is a sad commentary on the church that ignores the Biblical standard for modest dress and embraces the fashion fads of the world though they are sensually designed. **In a day of sexual permissiveness, the church should act and dress differently from a corrupt society that throws aside and ridicules the Spirit’s desire for modesty , purity and godly restraint (Rom. 12:1-2).”**

PRACTICAL POINTERS (To Consider) 1 Peter 1:24-25

This is a follow-up, briefly highlighting some points of interest from our previous lesson (Lesson 7). As a reminder we are currently studying the second main point of chapter 2: “Called Out.” We are also closing the second sub-point in this division (“Called Out”), which is “The Word in the Believer” noting Peter’s Exhortation for Sincere Hospitality as seen in 1 Peter 1:22-25. **If you remember, we noted when discussing verses 24 and 25 (1 Peter 1): V. 24 Perishable Reality and v. 25 Permanence and Preservation.**

1. In view of the truths revealed in these verses (1 Peter 1:24-25), we should learn to habitually reflect on our feebleness and frailty. We are here today and not tomorrow, we need to live with the objective of spending eternity in God’s presence!
2. We all do fade as leaf, note:
Isa. 64:6 (Amplified Bible)
 “For we have all become like one who is unclean [ceremonially, like a leper], and all our righteousness (our best of righteousness and justice) is like filthy rags or a polluted garment; **we all fade like a leaf**, and our iniquities, like wind, take us away [far from God’s favor, hurrying us toward destruction]. [Lev. 13:45, 46.]”
 (a) Our glory is like flower of the field, despite its beauty, etc. it is temporal.

- (b) Our beauty fades, and our strength disappears, as easily as the beauty and vigor of the flower that grows up in morning and in the evening is cut down.

Psa. 90:6 (KJV)

“In the morning it flourisheth, and growteth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth.”

3. The rose that blossoms on the cheek of youth may wither as soon as any other rose.
- (a) The brightness of the eye may become dim, as readily as the beauty of a field covered with flowers.
- (b) The darkness of death may come over the brow of manliness and intelligence as readily as night settles down on the landscape.
- (c) Our robes of adorning may be laid aside, as soon as beauty fades in a meadow full of flowers before the scythe of the mower cuts them down (**“scythe”** pronounce **“sith”**: *tool with a long single blade, curve handle to cut long grass, grain, etc. by hand*).
4. **All Earthly Treasures Fades!!**
- (a) There is not an object of natural beauty on which we pride ourselves that will not decay; and soon all our pride will be laid low in the tomb.
- (b) It is sad to look at a beautiful lily, a rose, a magnolia, and to think how soon all that beauty will disappear.
- (c) It is even sadder to look on a rosy cheek, a bright eye, a lovely form, an expressive brow; an open, serene intelligent countenance, and to think how soon all that beauty and brilliance will fade away.
5. **Amidst it all there is Light!! There is hope because of the Light!!**
- (a) Amidst the changes which are experienced and the desolations which diseases and death spread over the world, it is uplifting to think that all is not so; all is not hopeless; it all doesn't fade away and all is lost!!
- (1) There is that which does not change, which never loses its beauty.
- (2) The Word of God abides!
- (3) **His cheering promises, His assurances that there is a brighter and better world that remains amidst all these changes, God and His promises remain the same!!**
- (b) The traits which are drawn on the character by the religion of Christ are lovelier by far than the most delicate coloring of the lily and such remains forever.
- 1 Peter 1:4 (ESV)**
- “...to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”
- (c) These distinguishing qualities of the Christian religion abide; augmenting (or becoming greater) in attractiveness, assurance, and awesomeness!
- 1 Cor. 2:9 (Amplified Bible)**

“But, on the contrary, as the Scripture says, What eye has not seen and ears not heard and has not entered into the heart of man, [all that] God has prepared (made and keeps ready) for those who love Him [who hold Him in affectionate reverence, promptly obeying Him and gratefully recognizing the benefits He has bestowed]. [Isa. 64:4; 65:17.]”

(1) These benefits will continue to radiate, to glow, etc. even when . . .

- ... the rose fade from the cheek ...
- ... the brilliance departs from the eye ...
- ... the body moulders in the grave (“**moulder**” also spelt “**molder**” ... meaning slow decay)

(2) Oh! Beloved, let’s hold unto His unchanging hand because we will reap if we faint not (Gal. 6:9).

(d) The beauty of religion (righteousness in Jesus Christ) is the ONLY permanent beauty on earth!!

(1) There is an old saying: “Only salvation lasts forever!” Something I heard from my mom a million times even before she became a born again believer. Beloved! Nothing! Absolutely, nothing outshines God!! Let us focus on the eternal and not the temporal!!

(2) He that is without this hope in Jesus Christ is indeed in an awful situation!

- The mortal frame that charms the eyes shall fade away like the flowers of the field.
- There is life for a look at the crucified one!! Oh! Come and taste and see that the Lord is good!! (See John 3:1-21, NB Vv.14-17; Psa. 34:8; etc.).

6. God is NOT slack concerning His promises; you can rely on His Word!!! (1 Peter 3:8; etc.)

The Hymn: Standing on the Promises

I will quote the first two verses and the refrain

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages let His praises ring,
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.

REFRAIN

Standing, standing

Standing on the promises of God my Savior

Standing, standing
I'm standing on the promises of God.

7. My Plea Continues! I appeal to you: "BUILD YOUR HOPE ON THAT WHICH ENDURES!!

(a) Psa. 119:89 (Amplified Bible)

"Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven [stands firm as the heavens.] [Psa. 89:2; Matt. 24: 34, 35; 1 Peter 1:25]."

(b) Isa. 40:8 (NASB)

"The grass withers, the flower fades. But the word of God stands forever."

(c) Matt. 24:35 (Amplified Bible)

"Sky and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away."

(d) 1 Peter 1:25 (KJV)

"But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

The Word of God is sure!! You can stand on His promises!! (Ezek. 12:25; Matt. 5:8; Luke 21:33; 2 Peter 1:14; 3:9.

DETAILED OUTLINE Col. 1:24-29

This brief presentation came while completing our study on 1 Peter 1:22-25. The Holy Spirit laid on my heart "Jesus in You the Hope of Glory." It is my prayer that this brief presentation will be of great blessings! To God be the glory!!

*You are encouraged to prayerfully read Colossians chapter 1 for context. **In essence Col. 1:24-27 discusses:"The Needs of the Church."***

*It will also be beneficial to read Col. 2 and note carefully **Col. 1:24-2:7**. In these fourteen verses two things are evidently clear: (a) in **Col. 1:24-29** we have: "The Minister Who will Tirelessly Labor for the Church" and (b) **Col. 2:1-7** we have: "The Distinguishing Marks of a Mature Church."*

*I will present a detailed outline on **Col. 1:24-29** and a highlighted presentation on **Col. 1:26-27**.*

THE OUTLINE Col. 1:24-29

The Minister Who will Tirelessly Labor for the Church

A. Suffers Willingly for the Cause of Christ (Col. 1:24)

1. Suffers for the Church ... the Body of Christ

v. 24a (KJV): "Who now rejoices in my suffering ..."

2. Serving is Not Easy

v. 24b (NKJV): "... and fill up what is lacking in the affliction of Christ ..."

v. 24b (Amplified Bible): "... and in my own person I am making up whatever is still lacking and remaining to be completed [on your behalf]."

3. **Servants Earnest Desire ... for the Cause of Christ**

v. 24c (NKJV): "... for the sake of His body, which is the Church."

B. Separated to Proclaim the Word of God (Col. 1:25)

1. **Stewardship of the Gospel**

v. 25a (Amplified Bible): "In it I became a minister in accordance with the divine stewardship which was entrusted to me for you [as its object and for your benefit]."

2. **Share the Word**

v. 25b (Amplified Bible): "... to make the Word of God fully known [among you]."

C. Share the Mystery of God (Col. 1:26-27) (These verses will be briefly discussed below).

1. **Secret Thing**

v. 26a (KJV): "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations ..."

2. **Special Privileged**

v. 26b (KJV): "... but now is made manifest to His saints."

v. 26b (Amplified Bible): "... but is now revealed to His holy people (the saints)."

3. **Sent to Relate**

v. 27a (NKJV): "... To them God willed to make what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles ..."

4. **Savior Related**

v. 27b (KJV): "... which is Christ in you the hope of glory."

v. 27b (Amplified Bible): "... which is Christ within and among you, the hope of [realizing] glory."

D. Settled to Accomplish the God Given Goal

(Savior Declared; caution given, no exemption) (Col. 1:28)

1. **Preaching Christ**

v. 28a (KJV): "... whom we preach ..."

v. 28a (Amplified Bible): "... Him we preach ..."

2. **Presenters of the Truth**

v. 28b (NKJV): "... warning everyman and teaching everyman ..."

3. **Published Universally**

v. 28b (NKJV): "... warning everyman and teaching everyman..."

4. **Perfection**

v. 28c (NKJV): "...that we may present everyman perfect in Christ Jesus."

E. Strive Laboriously Depending Upon Christ for Energy (Col. 2:29)

1. **Engaged**

v. 29a (NKJV): "To this end I also labor ..."

2. Eagerness

v. 29b (NKJV): "... striving ..." ("**Eagerness**": *enthusiasms to do or to have something*)

3. Energized

v. 29c (NKJV): "... striving according to His works in me mightily."

v. 29c (Amplified Bible): "... striving with all the superhuman energy which He so mightily enkindles and work within me."

As promised, I will briefly discuss Col. 1:26-27. In regards to the outline for Col. 1:24-29, you can easily add to what has been presented. I encourage you to prayerfully read the passage several times in various translations, and as you read note anything of significance. We are all aware of the fact that the Holy Spirit's guidance is a fact of paramount importance.

Col. 1:24-29 (ESV)

"Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to the saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching with wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me."

SHARE THE MYSTERY OF GOD Col. 1:26-27

This is the third main point in the outline shared above for Vv. 24-29.

A. Secret Thing Col. 1:26a

KJV: "Even the mystery which hath been hid ..."

Amplified Bible: "The mystery of which was hid for ages and generations [from angels and men] ..."

1. "The mystery ..."

(a) "**Mystery**" or the **purpose of God, unknown to human except by revelation.**

(b) The term "mystery" was a common factor used in pagan religion.

(1) This was a term used referring to secret information available only to an exclusive group of people.

(2) Paul changes that meaning radically by always combining it (mystery) with "made know," "make all men see" and "revelation."

- **Eph. 1:9 (KJV)**

Having **made known** to us the mystery of his will ..."

- **Eph. 3:9 (KJV)**

"And **make all men see** what is the fellowship of the mystery ..."

- **Rom. 16:25 (KJV)**
 “Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, **according to the revelation** of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began.”
2. The mystery of the gospel had been long hidden
 - (a) This fact has been made clear in the quotes above.
 - (b) Another definition that can be used for **“mystery”** is **“secret.”**
 - (1) The “Gospel of Jesus Christ” was a secret not revealed to many generations.
 - (2) **It was a mystery that God was not able to reveal to the world until man had been prepared for it!!**
 - (c) Study carefully and prayerfully 2 Corinthians chapters 2 and 3. You will observe, Paul draws two references from what he had said about examples in the Old Testament.
 - (1) For example, Moses covered his face to darken, obscure those things which should have been made plain (2 Cor. 3:12-13).
 - Moses wearing the **veil** (Ex. 34:29-35) symbolized the inability of the Israelites to perceive the full truths of God’s revelation.
 - In fact, the people were afraid of having direct communication with God, (see Ex. 20:19; Deut. 5:5, 27). Great lessons to be learnt here, unfortunately we do not have the time; this however, should be obvious, the people (Israelites) were not ready for such revelation.
 - (2) Those that lived under the legal dispensation had their minds blinded (2 Cor. 3:14); there was a veil over their hearts (2 Cor. 3:15).
 - (3) They saw neither the temporary nature of the Mosaic Law, nor its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.
 - (d) Allow me to make mention of another important factor (briefly noted)
 - (1) Ironically, Israel’s religious and political rulers didn’t seek, or look forward to the birth of Jesus Christ, despite the many Messianic prophesies recorded in their literature and of which they should be fully aware as educated people who had the Law and Prophets and should be looking for the promised Savior.
 - (2) The revelation of Jesus’ birth made by the angels was revealed to shepherds who were regarded as the lowest of the low. The shepherds may not have studied God’s law as thoroughly as the religious leaders, but they probably believed God’s promises and looked forward to the Messiah’s coming.
 3. **Mystery indeed!!**
 - (a) **Col. 1:26a**
 - (1) **L.A.S.B.:** “This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past ...”
 - (2) **Amplified Bible:** “The mystery of which was hidden for ages and generations [from angels and men] ...”
 - (b) **While Israel had a veil over their hearts and remained blinded, Paul wore no veil and proclaimed the full glory of Jesus Christ!!** (*The essence of this statement*

has been made before and will be repeated throughout this brief presentation (maybe word differently).

B. Special Privilege

v. 26b KJV: "... but now is made manifest to his saints."

Amplified Bible: "... but is now revealed to His holy people the saints."

1. This mystery now in the fullness of time made manifest to the saints, or clearly revealed or made apparent.
 - (a) The veil which was over Moses face is now done away in Jesus Christ **2 Cor. 3:14;** also Isa. 9:2; John 1:4, 9; 2 Cor. 4:6; etc.)
 - (b) Some religious and non-religious sects continue to operate in an atmosphere of secrecy but note: **The Christian mystery is not a secret knowledge for a selected few. It is a revelation of divine truths – hidden but now openly proclaimed.**

2. **But what is the mystery?**
From the information stated above this question has already been answered, however note:
 - (a) The "mystery" referred to in this passage (Col. 1:26-27 ... for context read Vv. 21-29) **is the revelation of God's plan for the salvation of man, which was not fully revealed until Jesus Christ came** (Heb. 1:1-4; Gal. 4:1-6, NB Vv. 4-5; also Mark 1:15; Eph. 1:10; 1 Tim. 2:6; Titus 1:3)
 - (b) The peculiar (*peculiar: unusual, strange, unfamiliar, etc*) doctrine of the gospel was a mystery which was before hidden and is now made manifest and made known.

3. **The "mystery" briefly expanded ...**
 - (a) It is the breaking down of the partition wall between the Jew and Gentile.
 - (b) It is the preaching of the gospel to the Gentile world.
 - (c) It is making those who lived in ignorance and idolatry, partakers of the privileges of the gospel.
 - (d) It is making it possible that the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs of the same body and partakers of His promise in Christ by the gospel (Eph. 3:6).
 - (e) Throughout history many walls have crumbled; walls made of brick and mortar or other building materials. Here is one wall that came down that has life changing significance to man in general. Note the following reference Gal. 3:23-29; I will lift out verse 28.
Gal. 3:28 (Amplified Bible)
 "There is [now no distinction] neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave or free, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."
 - (f) See the prophetic utterances regarding Jesus Christ, who came that those who walked in darkness will have the opportunity to see the light (Isa. 9:2; Luke 2:29-35, NB v. 32). **The long awaited Messiah (*the expected or promised King and Deliverer ... the Anointed of the Lord*) has come, come to seek those who are lost; come to save man from sin!!**

C. Sent to Relate

Col. 1:27a NKJV: “To them God willed what are the riches of the glory of this mystery ...”

NIV: “To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery ...”

1. “To whom God would make known ...” v. 27a

(a) This phrase is literally saying: “To whom God willed to make known” or “To whom He was pleased to make known.”

(1) It was concealed in His bosom until He chose to reveal it to the apostles.

(2) It was a doctrine which the Jewish people did not understand (Eph. 3:5, 6)

(b) God not only decided when to make the mystery known, but to whom.

(1) The secret is revealed only to those who obey Christ; it is not clear to the world, which is still blinded (2 Cor. 3:14; 4:4; Eph. 4:18)

(2) **The crucial point here is the difference between the possession of the fact and the comprehension of the significance of the fact.**

- There are still so many who know of God but do not know God; at least to them the Gospel doesn’t make much sense (1 Cor. 1:18)
- The natural man cannot understand the things of God (1 Cor. 2:14) and as a result a transformation is necessary (clearly made know to Nicodemus (John 3:1-21).
 - There are far too many who profess God but do not really know God intimately and personally!! See for example the account of Simeon, see Acts 8:5-25, NB Vv.13-24; as well as so many other examples in Scriptures.
 - Throughout this study, I have emphasized the need for more than “mental assent” in regards to our salvation. Beloved, the devils also believe and tremble (James 2:19); we all need to go beyond and have a personal encounter with God!!! (Paul is an example, see who he was before and after his encounter (Acts 9; etc. 1 Cor. 15:19; etc.).
 - In Matt. 16:13-20, Jesus asked His disciple what was the public’s opinion as to who He was, then He asked His disciples, “But who do **you** say that I am?” (v. 15 NKJV). Observe here, that a testimony is (a) **Public** (b) **Positive** and (c) **Personal**.
 - “Do you know Him today?” these words have been used in several songs by different artists and the message is essential to our eternal destiny: “Do You Know Him Today?”
I have strayed a little but those thoughts were strongly enforced by the Holy Spirit! Beloved we need not only to possess the facts but to comprehend and practically apply!! When we comprehend we will do what is necessary (See Acts 8:26-40). Bless His holy name!! Redemption cometh! Praise the Lord!!! Now let’s return to where we left off!! Oh! I hope you are being blessed!! Glory to His holy name!!!

- (c) God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery.
- (1) **Jesus Christ was given to relate, to share, to bring into effect the “Good News.” Jesus Christ is the “Good News!!”**
 - (2) The “Good News” or the “Gospel” proclaims the redemptive work of Jesus Christ; it is ALL about Him because He is the “Good News!!” (1 Cor. 15:1-4; etc.).
 - (3) As noted before, the reality of this revealed mystery was made known by the angels when they announced the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds:

Luke 2:10-11 (KJV)

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, **I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.**” (Read Luke 2:8-15).

- (d) This revelation has been made known to us because of God’s mercy and grace.
- (1) He has made known this glorious gospel not because of any good that we have done, or any holiness within us, etc. but because of His love demonstrated by His mercy and His grace (Rom. 5:8; Eph. 2:4; 1 John 3:1; etc.).
 - (2) This life changing, eternally valued experience has been made known to us by the pure sovereign goodness of God (Matt. 11:25-26; Eph. 1:9).

2. **“... what is the riches of the glory of this mystery.” (KJV) (Col. 1:27a)**

Amplified Bible and ESV: “... the riches of the glory of this mystery ...”

LASB: “... the riches and glory of Christ ...”

NIV: “... the glorious riches of this mystery ...”

- (a) Barns renders this phrase (Col. 1:27a) as: **“The rich glory of this great, long-concealed truth.**
- (b) The meaning here is that the truth, the gospel was to be preached to all mankind, was a truth abounding in glory.
 - (1) The word “glory” based on the Greek carries the meaning: “to vaunt” either in a good or bad sense.
 - Obviously in this situation it relates to that which is good. **The gospel produces all the reason for “joy”, “rejoicing”, etc.**
 - This we saw in Luke 2:10-14
 - There is rejoicing in heaven when one sinner repents (Luke 15:7). The three parables in Luke 15 carry the theme of rejoicing as it relates to restoration.
 - This joy we witness when miracles were experienced (Acts 3:8, 9; etc) or the witnessing of the mighty works of God (Luke 19:37) or the multitudes joyfully following Christ (Matt. 4:25; etc.).
 - Etc.
 - **“Glory”** also carries the message of **“moral purity”** see Rom. 3:23.

- Time wouldn't allow but see for example Chapter 1 Lesson 3 the presentation on "Created in the Image of God."
 - At this time note:
 - Man by sinning, falls short of that glory. **The work of the indwelling Christ is its restoration.**
 - Remember the quote: "Salvation re-creates the moral image of God in people and opens the door to God's work of sanctification and growth in holiness."
 - Note: "While "**in Christ**" speaks primarily of our justified relation to God, "**Christ in you**" speaks primarily of our sanctified condition."
 - **The deeper life of sanctification is simply Christ within. The sanctified life is experienced before we are baptized in the Holy Spirit!!**
- (2) The "glory" (joy, the rejoicing factor) of the revealed Christ is an open invitation to ALL FREELY!!
- Its appeal, benefits, etc are all universally possible Isa. 55; etc.
 - It is for the whosoever will (Isa. 45:22; John 7:37; **Rev. 22:17**; etc.)
- (3) The "glorious riches of this mystery" (NIV). If we combine all the riches of this world, not only what exist now but combining all the riches (gold, silver, etc.) throughout history and compare them to what is involved in the revelation of this mystery they would value nothing!!
- Jesus said no wealth in this world is as valuable as one soul (Luke 9:25).
 - Peter said, our redemption is not obtained by earthly riches which are corruptible, perishable, etc. (1 Peter 1:18-19)
- (c) **The revelation of this mystery is not for some privileged few, but for everyone.** As noted above, beloved, God's redemptive plan is extended to the entire world!! (Isa. 55:1-7; John 3:16; etc.). **Oh! That man would taste and see that God is good (Psa. 4:8)!! Abundant life is possible because of this revelation in Jesus Christ (John 10:10; 2 Cor. 9:8; etc.)**
- (1) There is ONLY ONE GOD!! Not a God for each nation, ethnic group, etc but ONE GOD!! **The treasure of the indwelling Christ must be shared!! The "Good News" is for everybody!! NO EXEMPTION!!**
- Jews and Gentiles
 - Black and White (All Ethnic Groups)
 - Rich and Poor
 - Educated and Ignorant
 - Good and Bad
 - The Despised and The Loved
 - No Limitation in Regards to Country of Origin
 - Etc
- OH YES!! THE RICH GLORY OF THIS REVEALED MYSTERY!! IT IS NO LONGER A MYSTERY!! NO LONGER CONCEALD!!!**

(2) Paul, therefore from day 1 of his commission by Christ, was trudging the highways of the world preaching “among the Gentiles the unsearchable; riches of Christ.” (Eph. 3:8 compare with Rom. 9:23-24).

D. Savior Related

Col. 1:27b NKJV: “... which is Christ in you the hope of glory.”

Amplified Bible: “... which is Christ within and among you, the hope of [realizing] glory.”
I will admit that there is more to this verse than we have time remaining; I do promise to be as brief as possible.

1. This revealed Savior can be personally known.
 - (a) He is not an obscure God to be acknowledged based on superstition (Acts 17, NB Vv. 22-34)
 - (b) He can be personally known, experienced and personally related to (1 John 1:1-3)
2. The phrase: “**Christ in you the hope of glory;**” I am noting at least three blessings as a result of this hope ... (*briefly note*):
 - (a) **The divine, indwelling presence in this life.**
 - (1) Christ actually lives within the hearts and lives of believers and His presence is the believer’s guarantee of living forever in glory (John 14:16-18; 17:23; Gal. 2:20; etc.).
 - (2) This is an actual experience made possible with no partiality, because God is not the respecter of persons (Isa.55:1-7; Rev. 22:17; etc.).
 - (3) The divine presence of God is guaranteed!! (Ex. 33:14; Lev. 26:12; Deut. 20:1; Isa. 43:2; Zech. 2:10; Matt. 18:20; 28:20; etc.)
 - (b) **The destiny planned for the saints.**
 - (1) We are still limited in our physical understanding and at this time will not know all that God has in store for His children (1 Cor. 2:9); however, we are not left in darkness (1 Cor. 2:10)
 - (2) I will once more refer you to Chapter 1 Lesson 3 (of this study) see the presentation on “Created in the Image of God.” A brief but definitely an enlightened study
 - (c) **The means of attaining that holy end.**
 - (1) Christ living in us is our assurance of future glory and eternal life.
 - (2) **Only His indwelling and our continual intimate communion with Him can dispel any doubt about heaven. TO HAVE CHRIST IS TO HAVE LIFE!! (Rom. 8:11; Eph. 1:1-14; 1 John 5:11-13).**
3. I will close with some thoughts that will summarize what else can be said:
 - (a) Can you imagine Christ in all His glorious riches actually dwelling through His Spirit in our lives right now? **God’s goal is to make us all like Christ.** He is sovereign. He is changing lives and the way He does it is a mystery.

- (b) Every believer has stamped in him, **“Made of Christ.”** That means there are no cheap imitations of Christians. The crowning work of redemption is conforming believers into the image of Christ.
- (c) **“Christ in you the hope of glory.”** The grandest mystery of all, Paul tells us is Christ in you the hope of glory. Christ in me creates the hope of glory.
- (d) Eph. 3:17 tells us Christ dwells in your hearts. The central fact of an intimate personal relationship with Jesus Christ is this great truth of Christ in you. This indwelling constitutes the hope of eternal glory for every believer. Jesus is the Shekinah glory of God in the face of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:6; 1 John 3:2-3).
- (e) **Anything short of Jesus Christ will leave you short of salvation. You have to reach Christ and touch Christ and nothing short of this will save you!!!**

Christ in You the Hope of Glory!!

1. The ground of our hope is Jesus Christ in the word, or the gospel of revelation, declaring the nature and method of obtaining this blessing.
2. The evidence of our hope is Christ in the heart, or the sanctification of the soul, and its preparation for the heavenly glory.

Col. 1:26-27 NKJV

“The mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

2 Tim. 2:15

KJV:

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Amplified Bible

“Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trials), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.”

“PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS” (SELECTED HYMNS)

1. **Where the Soul of Man Never Dies**
The Blue Grass Version

To Canaan’s land I’m on my way
Where the soul of man never dies
My darkest night will turn to day
Where the soul of man never dies

(Lead)

No sad farewells
 No tear dimmed eyes
 Where all is love
 And the soul of man never dies

(Tenor)

Dear friends there'll be no sad farewells
 There'll be no tear-dimmed eyes
 Where all is peace and joy and love
 And the soul of man never dies
 The rose is blooming there for me
 Where the soul (of man) never dies
 And I will spend eternity
 Where the soul (of man) never dies

The love light beams across the foam
 Where the soul (of man never dies)
 It shines and lights the way to home
 Where the soul of man never dies

My life will end in deathless sleep
 Where the soul (of man) never dies
 And everlasting joys I'll reap
 Where the soul of man never dies

I'm on my way to that fair land
 Where the soul (of man) never dies
 Where there will be no parting hand
 Where the soul (of man) never dies

2. **O To Be Like Thee**

By Thomas Chishlom

Oh to be like Thee! Blessed Redeemer,
 This is my constant longing and prayer.
 Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures,
 Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.

Oh, to be like Thee! Full of compassion,
 Loving, forgiving, tender and kind,
 Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting,

Seeking the wandering sinner to find!

Oh to be like Thee! Lowly in spirit,
Holy and harmless, patient and brave;
Meekly enduring cruel reproaches,
Willing to suffer others to save

Oh to be like Thee! Lord I am coming,
Now to receive th' anointing divine;
All that I am and have I am bringing.
Lord, from this moment all shall be Thine.

Oh, to be like Thee! While I am pleading.
Pour out Thy Spirit, fill with Thy love.
Make me a temple meet for Thy dwelling;
Fit me for life and heaven above

REFRAIN

Oh to be like Thee! Oh to be like Thee,
Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!
Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness;
Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

3. **The Church Triumphant**

By The Gaither Vocal Band

Chorus

Let the Church be the Church
Let the people rejoice
For we've settled the question
We've made our choice
Let the anthems ring out, songs of victory swell
For the Church triumphant is alive and well

Verse 1

You know, this ship been through battles before
The storm and tempest and all the rocks on the shore
Though the hull may be battered
Inside is safe and dry
It's gonna carry its cargo to the port in the sky

[Interlude]

God has had a people. Many a foolish conqueror had made the mistake of thinking that because he had forced the Church of Jesus Christ out of site, he had stilled its voice and snuffed out its life, but God has always had a people.

The powerful current of a rushing river is not diminished because it's forced to flow underground. Now the purest water is the stream that burst and crystal clear into the sunlight after it has forced its way through the solid rock. There have been [?] like Simeon the Magician sought to barter on the open market that power which cannot be bought or sold but God has always had a people.

There have been times of affluence and prosperity when the Church's message has been nearly deluded into oblivion by those who sought to make it socially attractive, neatly organized, financially profitable, but God has always had a people. Yes it's been platted, draped in purple and encrusted with jewels. It has been misrepresented, ridiculed, lauded and scorned but God has always had a people. And these followers of Jesus Christ have been, accorded to the whim of times, elevated sacred leaders and modern heretics. Yet through it all, their march is on that powerful army of the meek. God's chosen people who cannot be bought, blabbered, murdered or stilled. On through the ages they march, the Church! God's Church triumphant!

Chorus

Let the Church be the Church
 Let the people rejoice
 For we've settled the question
 We've made our choice
 Let the anthems ring out, songs of victory swell
 For the Church triumphant is alive and well

Interlude

Listen child of God, it's alive. Discouraged pastor, its His Church and it is still alive. Lonely missionary, sow that seed with confidence. The Church is still alive. Old saint, you are not alone or forgotten. The Church is still alive. It is alive my broken-hearted friend, it is still alive. And faithful fathers, there is rest in the Lord. God's Church is still alive. So family of God lifts your hands and praises the Lord. The Church, God' Church triumphant is alive, it's alive my friends. Alive and well!

Chapter 2 Lesson 8 Review Questions

1. Who are the persons addressed by Peter in 1 Peter 3:1-6?

2. Explain what Peter meant by “Let it not be that outward adorning” (1 Peter 3:3 KJV).

3. In what way our internal virtue of the soul relates to our practical lives?

4. What ornaments were forbidden to the wives addressed in 1 Peter 3:1-6, NB Vv. 3-4?

5. In regards to the three sorts of ornaments forbidden in 1 Peter 3:3-4, in essence, what practical lesson is to be learnt and applied?

6. In general, what does the word “apparel” refers to; used for example in 1 Peter 3:3-4. Give references with answer.

7. What is meant by the phrase “Walk the Walk,” as relates to the Christian believer?

8. Complete the following:

Avoid putting on apparel for the (a) _____ of pride and (b) _____; but place the (c) _____ on a (d) _____ of Christian (e) _____, which is not corruptible.

9. Complete the following:

“It is not displeasing to God for us to dress well and be well-groomed. However, above all we must seek (a) _____ which does not come from (b) _____ (c) _____ with jewelry expensive (d) _____, or cosmetics, but from (e) _____ works, (f) _____ (g) _____ and a meek quiet spirit (Phil 4:8: 1 Peter 3:5).”

10. Briefly explain when is outward adorning of the body is sensual and excessive. *(You may give the main thought for each of the six pointers given in our lesson).*

11. What is recommended as the remedy for the love of outward adornment?

12. Complete the following:

The ornaments of the (a) _____ are (b) _____
by moth, and (c) _____ in the using; but the (d) _____
of God, the (e) _____ we wear it, the (f) _____
and brighter it is.

13. Define (a) "meek" (b) "quiet" as used in 1 Peter 3:4.

14. Based on 1 Peter 3:4, what was noted about God's declaration of what is "true beauty?"

15. What are the things that govern the world in which the Christian woman is expected to remain loyal to Christ, God's Word, their husband and their family?

16. Complete the following:

The source of (a) _____ is one's heart or inner character, i.e.
modesty is the (b) _____ manifestation of an
(c) _____ (d) _____.

17. In what way does the fashion industry function in opposition to genuine modesty (b) how should the Church function in regards to this fact?

18. Answer True or False (b) Explain your answer: All earthly treasures fades.

19. It is a reality that everything in this world fades, decays and dies. However, what hope is there for mankind?

20. What mystery is referred to in Col. 1:26 and why it was concealed to many generations?

21. Complete the following:

In reference to the mystery (Col. 1: 26-27), we noted: While Israel had a (a) _____ over their (b) _____ and remained (c) _____, Paul (d) _____ no veil and proclaims the full (e) _____ of (f) _____ (g) _____.

22. The “mystery” mentioned in Col. 1:26, 27, when was it revealed? Give references.

23. Complete the following:

The Christian (a) _____ is not a (b) _____ knowledge for a (c) _____. It is a (d) _____ of divine truths hidden but now (e) _____ proclaimed.

24. Briefly explain “... the riches of the glory of this mystery.” (Col. 1:27 KJV)

25. **“Christ in you the hope of glory”** (Col. 1:27 KJV). I noted that there are at least three blessings associated with this phrase; briefly list these with references.

We will discuss the answers to as many questions as possible in our next class.