

THE ELECT RACE

Seeley D. Kinne

What man appears to be as seen in his earthly state is far from what the Creator designed he should be. And, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be."

Man, as created, was pronounced by his Creator "very good." He was innocent, pure and perfect, yet inexperienced and untaught, untrained and undeveloped. Teaching and character-building lay before him. The Infinite Jehovah sat and taught him in the cool of the day. The artful tempter insinuated a turn which necessitated great suffering, sacrifice, and prolonged efforts to recover man and bring him up to the Divine design. After centuries and even millenniums of planning and labor, the Great Creator is now bringing nearer to completion His plans by which He will bring forth a race of men after His original blueprint plans. Hallelujah!

Jehovah could have made man a highly perfected and glorious creature without the fall, though He has not told us how. Nor would there have been the exhibition of the "exceeding sinfulness of sin." Through the circumstances, vicissitudes and outcome of the fall has been exhibited various aspects of holiness and sin. So we need not to be concerned with what might have been without the fall. It is a fearful fact. But see what God will do for man through the fall. Get a picture of redeemed and perfected man and woman with His method to bring to pass.

The present seal of the Holy Spirit is but the earnest of our inheritance, "until the redemption of the purchased possession," the coming of the "Eternal inheritance" "of the saints in light." Eph. 1:13; Heb. 9:15; Col. 1:12.

Jehovah has been very dissatisfied that so few men have attained to His ideals, but some have approximated, at least. When it came to courage and integrity of conviction, they were ready to sacrifice all. They could say with Paul, "Neither count I my life dear." Or Luther: "Here I stand! God help me! I can do no other." Or the three Hebrews: "We are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so our God is able to deliver us... But if not, be it known unto thee, O King, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image." Acts 20:24; Dan. 3:16; 6:10.

As to obedience: How few to whom God could say as to Abraham, "Now I know that thou fearest God." Gen. 22:12). Strict and implicit obedience without variation or modification of the expressed will of God, is the Divine standard for the chosen men of His elect company. Jehovah sets a high premium on those who thus qualify.

Loyalty and no compromise is a trait highly prized by the Lord. Many of God's men have suffered death rather than compromise; as Stephen stoned, John Baptist beheaded. David became very angry at the man in Nathan's story; but Nathan said, "Thou art the man." And proceeded to recite to David what God had done for him, and his sin against God. Nathan risked his life to be faithful to God. 2 Sam. 12:7.

Paul and Silas in the stocks were valiant warriors for Jesus Christ and His Gospel. Paul braved seeming disaster and vanquished the enemy till he could say, "Thanks be unto God who always causeth us to triumph in Christ." 2 Cor. 2:14.

Prophetic men of revelation.—The Lord has always set great store by men of this class. He says, "Children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do." 1 Chr. 12:32.

Since the prophetic Word of God is the universal means by which the Lord makes known His will and purposes, and is the way by which He works out His plans, therefore it is clear that those who become coworkers with Him must receive and operate in that prophetic Word if they work in fellowship with Him. He also maintains a powerful providential care over this class. He says, "He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, He reproveth kings for their sakes: saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm." "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His eye." Ps. 105:14; Zech. 2:8.

In the gift realm the Lord holds a liberal attitude. "He giveth to all men liberally." "My God shall supply all your need." "In everything ye are enriched by Him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge." "So that ye come behind in no gift." And since there is so great Divine liberality, the Lord designs that each one be fully equipped to perform his appointed task. A supplying of every deficiency of nature, and plenty for the most extraordinary occasions. 1 Cor. 1:7.

Reasons for lack or being stinted must lie in the lack of sight of privilege, or else the exercise of faith to enter and appropriate is poor, or else misuse of that already given. God's design is to supply abundantly, enough and to spare.

In the realm of grace: "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love." "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one for another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing, but contrariwise blessing." Eph. 4:2; 1 Peter 3:8.

If it is to prayer one be called, then the gift of travail or intercession will be divinely imparted. If Gospel proclaiming be the call, then the gift of the prophetic Word of God should be implanted. If it be teaching, then the gift of wisdom should be conveyed. If it be some body ministry, then there may be granted some gift of character, insight or understanding of another's need, soulish, heart, or mental: healing gifts, or power to impart spiritual blessings through the spoken Word, or other ministering ability. There is abundance available for every occasion and emergency.

God's original plan requires men to be full grown sons of God, men fully developed and qualified. "Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man." (Jer. 5:1). A full grown man. A man of perfect stature, of manly physique, broad, well-poised soulish stature, and of large caliber of spirit; fully equipped and controlled by the Divine Spirit. Such men, obedient, loyal and led; courageous, valiant, brave; prophetic, gifted and graced; trustworthy, dependable and faithful; tried, tested and proven. The past makes evident just what they will do under the extremes of trying circumstances. This meets Jehovah's ideal and blue print and purposed result of creation and re-creation.

Just these prepared, perfected and glorious men and women God is bringing through step after step, to be the Consort of the Great King. Their course of training is here and now going on in the School of Christ, under the teachings of the Holy Spirit. The various grades of schooling and stages of development they are to pass through: in the Ecclesia, in Joel's Army, in Daniel's Stone Kingdom, and the various groups of sons of God—the elect, and overcomers.

Down through the ages, whenever God has found a man who would pay heed to His visitations, He sought to develop that individual to the extent that the person could comprehend the Divine dealings. Some were thus carried out experimentally Godward quite beyond the masses. A few attained far beyond their fellows. But now in the period of Bride preparation, the Lord is proposing to bring forth a company of men and women who fully attain to His standard, which He has long cherished in His heart.

This Divine ideal has been obscured, warped and degraded, by tradition, human interpretation, and man-made substitutes. But, now, once, "in the end of the age," God will have a company after His own pattern, which is not a fancy but God's ideal of perfection.

This writing was by the Spirit before the scribe while on the bus from Florida to New Jersey, and restored to memory as it was written. It is a divine attempt to break in upon the slow going and foolish restrictions imposed upon God's

the Holy Spirit as your Teacher, get into truth by men of human learning. Through the atonement of Jesus Christ, by a re-creation, supernatural and far-reaching, God will make some men and women just exactly like He wants them. If you wish to know what this is: take

the School of Christ, and become "one of them." There is now an opportunity. Don't let it slip from your grasp. The door will soon shut. You may be standing outside, crying: "Open to us." "Too late! Too late!" will be the answer.

—Seeley D. Kinne

Divine Love

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Commencement Thesis

In these days of strife and turmoil, when the world appears to be in an uproar and many seem to be looking out for their own personal interest, it becomes evident that love is needed more than ever before. However, this does not mean an earthly love, which fails in the time of testing, but divine love which God alone can give. The love which prevails in the world does not win the hearts of people, but that which we receive from Jesus Christ is divine and sacred and never fails in accomplishing its purpose.

The characteristics of love in the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians are: love suffereth long, is kind, envieth not, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in truth; love beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things, and never faileth. These are the characteristics which Christ manifested during His earthly mission, and which He is still manifesting through the hearts of men as they seek Him and yield to His Spirit. As we overcome the old creation in our lives, such as hatred, malice and other traits that are detrimental to our soul and to our spiritual progress we thereby become more receptive to the fruits of the Spirit.

From many standpoints the Word of God tests our spiritual life. At times it is a life of faith; and again, as a life of holiness, or in serving Him, but most of all it is a life of patience and victorious suffering. The highest and most divine view of it is the life of love which our Lord and Saviour all through His earthly mission manifested. Whatever we have received from God has been bestowed upon us because of His bountiful love. We are debtors to Him for every comfort of our life, and for every blessing we receive from Him.

James 1:17 reads, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." Let us consider the condition in which God found us. First, we were under the condemnation of divine law and, as far as we were con-

We had no merits with which to plead our exemption from the law's penalty. Human merit has no standing room in the court of the Divine, because we were sinners. By our sins we had so forfeited our claims upon God that we could receive nothing from Him. There was nothing lovable in us to move Him to mercy, or to attract, but everything was loathsome enough to reap His contempt. We were filthy, polluted, and utterly unworthy of even a taste of His compassionate love; yet while we were in absolute misery, and our souls subject to eternal wrath, the lovingkindness of God provided a way for our redemption.

When we were lost and ruined sinners and could do nothing to earn or obtain favor, God regarded us with kindness, and in His unbounded grace sent His Son from the throne of glory to a cross of woe. He was made a curse for us, that we might be redeemed from the curse of the law. It was His love and kindness that gave His only Son to die for us. It was His free, rich, and sovereign grace that influenced Him to make such a sacrifice.

In John 3:16 we read, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Who can estimate the greatness of a love such as this? God is looking for love in the hearts of His people; He wants us to be just like Him in loving the brethren. In 1 Peter 1:22 we read: "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." This is one fruit of the Spirit. Today, God is speaking to us about loving our brethren with a whole heart and we must obey His command.

In the days of the early Church it was clearly understood, after a sinner was converted, and confessed Christ as his own personal Saviour, he was to promise unfeigned love to the brethren. Peter wrote, "Continue in loving one another with a pure heart fervently." Unfeigned, fervent love through the Spirit should be one of the chief virtues of a true convert. Again we read in 1 Peter 2:17, "Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the King;" and in the third chapter and the eighth verse: "Finally, be ye all of like mind, having compassion one for another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous." These are all signs of life in the Spirit. When we

and sinking down to perdition and woe God's love rested upon us and in His infinite grace He sent His Son from heaven to give Himself a sacrifice for our salvation.

If you would know the lovingkindness of God, then look to the Cross of Calvary, and learn there the omnipotence and deity of Him who made Himself sacrifice for our sins. The more we meditate on this boundless theme, the more we are lost in His love and praise. Human tongue can never tell the greatness of His love, which has a height, depth, length and breadth that passeth all knowledge. Oh! Glory to God, when we look downward, we think of the lovingkindness of God which redeemed us from hell; when we look upward, we see how the lovingkindness of God raised us up to heaven; when we look outward, we see how His lovingkindness has removed our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west; and when we look inward, we see how it has restored our dead spirits to life and kept them alive unto life eternal. When we think of these things, let us by God's help and mercy rouse ourselves to bless His holy Name.

The whole book of Song of Solomon is His love song. Chapter one verse two reads: "Let Him kiss me with the kiss of His mouth." Here is a wonderful thought of Christ's love towards the Bride. When she is near her Lord, as longing to have greater communion with Him, she forgets to mention the name of the one for whom she is longing. This is a very significant fact that throughout the Song of Solomon, the bride never mentions the name of her bridegroom but describes Him as her Beloved, or the one whom her soul loveth; she speaks of Him as though there is none other on earth. When she has drawn near enough for Him to occupy her every thought and to be the only one to become her bridegroom, she speaks of Him very lovingly, maintaining that He is the first, last, and only one in her heart and thoughts. Thus we can see throughout the Song of Solomon Christ's ineffable love for His bride. He is seeking to take out a people for His Name.

God is trying to bring us to this place of heavenly love that we may show our appreciation and love for our fellowmen because it is through His anointing that the power of Christ's salvation is manifested upon earth. It is through them that this great salvation is put to the test and men see what it can do. It is through our lives, that its power to give speed, strength and victory is manifested. As we show our love to God and to one another, something will be accomplished within our hearts. Praise His Name! And we see how tenderly and graciously our Lord dresses us. He keeps us faithful and then He says: "Well done, thou good