

GOODNEWS LETTER

Number 233 September 10, 2008

JESUS TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

Looking forward to something better is ingrained within man. For Christians, it's a must. But, what's out there? What better life can we expect? We should ask, **"Where are we headed?"**

Without a doubt, most look forward to something after we die and leave this life. Most Christians call it heaven.

However, what we will do then is not all that different from what we do now; if we're following Jesus, that is. We will still be in the PEOPLE business. We preach to men, now. Then, we'll see to it that men listen.

The intent of having glory come down and fill our soul, was to fit us for the work to be done on earth, today; as well as when the KINGDOM COMES and **"Thy will done on earth,"** Matthew 6:9.

JESUS TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN - a necessary accomplishment, if man is ever to have a vision of a better place to go and live.

ENTER JESUS. The **first act** of reversing man's position was the miraculous birth of Jesus entering the flesh of man. **"He was made so much better than the angels"** (Heb 1:4a). **"He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they"** (He 1:4b).

Right away, at the time of His birth, we understand that God intends for man to be placed in a more prominent and glorified position - much greater than even the angels, because **"He did not subject to angels the world to come,"** Hebrews 2:5.

Thus, the **first act** of **TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN** was from top to bottom. God condescended to earth and took upon flesh in the birth of Jesus. He became a son of man in order that man might inherit the earth.

Importantly, we have to understand His birth in the same way as we see our salvation. It is forever. And, what this means is, the change that came in the birth of Jesus is irrevocable. He will forever be man.

This is eternally huge; not only in terms of time, but also in our make-up. **"We know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him"** (1st Jn 3:2). In the resurrected Christ, we see the manifestation of what our new man shall be.

Again, we must understand that our salvation is complete, finished and settled in Jesus, the Christ. The only begotten Son of God will never return to the Sonship

that He, exclusively shared with the Heavenly Father. Therefore, since His act is permanent, we have to trust that our salvation is, as well.

The **second act of TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN** occurred when Christ "**redeemed them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons,**" (Gal 4:5). Redemption could not come until sin was paid by the life of a perfect person; which came only after Jesus died on the cross, offering His blood that cleanses us.

But, we have to go back and view redemption's beginning in the birth of Jesus. While, everyone knows of the birth in Bethlehem, the Bible demands that we see the scene once again with new eyes; ones that see us (mankind) included in His birth. Jesus is the Second Adam and all **spirit births** come from Him. Listen up! "**Ye must be born again,**" Jn 3:7.

To learn more about His second act, we go to Acts 13:33 and read, "**that God has fulfilled this promise** (good news, sure mercies of David, etc.) **to our children** (Jews, Gentiles, alike) **in that He raised up Jesus...**" When we see Jesus born, we must see a new creation come into being, at the same time. His resurrection guarantees the new creation to us.

At His **first advent**, Jesus brought down heaven's glory to man, in the flesh. Writing on this, John says, "**We beheld the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,**" John 1:14. John knew that, in beholding Jesus, the promises were for all who believe in the Savior.

Through Him, every believer receives Christ's imparted life by the power of the Holy Spirit. After this **second act** of redeeming mankind, we eagerly look for the third phase to occur - the time of the resurrection and the glorified body. Jesus overcame all spiritual power while on earth and, we shall then. Today, we have that power in the Holy Spirit.

After Jesus comes down and the third act of **TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN** starts, man is transferred back to God. **Let's recap: Act One** was His birth. **Act Two** was our redemption. And, **Act Three** of the **TURNING** was His resurrection. At His return, Jesus lifts us out first, and then we come to earth with Him. What once it belonged to Satan has been turned back over to God's original owner, man.

SO, WHERE ARE WE GOING? WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? At the resurrection is when the things change, completely. It is when heaven itself comes down to the earth. "**Thy kingdom has come,**" Mt 6:9 when God appears (in the Person of Jesus) and takes the place over - a time that the Spiritual heavenly enters the materialized terrestrial.

The Hebrew writer explains that man did not control the earth and bring it into subjection; not, Adam or any other man until Jesus was born and lived a perfect life. "But we see Jesus... made a little lower than angels...suffered death...crowned w/glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man," Heb 2:9.

Jesus answers the quote of Psalms 8:4-6 that Hebrews 2:8 cites. He will rule (a thousand years) until all things become subject to the Son (Father excepted); a time when "all things are put under him" 1st Cor. 15:27 and the world is turned upside down to God's glory and man's glorious benefit.