

THE LORD IS COMING
1 Corinthians 16:22



A translated version of the International Christian periodical
MARANATHA

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GO YE UNTO
ALL THE WORD

.....Page 11

WHAT MUST I DO
TO BE SAVED?

.....Page 15

WE CONTINUE
WAITING FOR HIM!

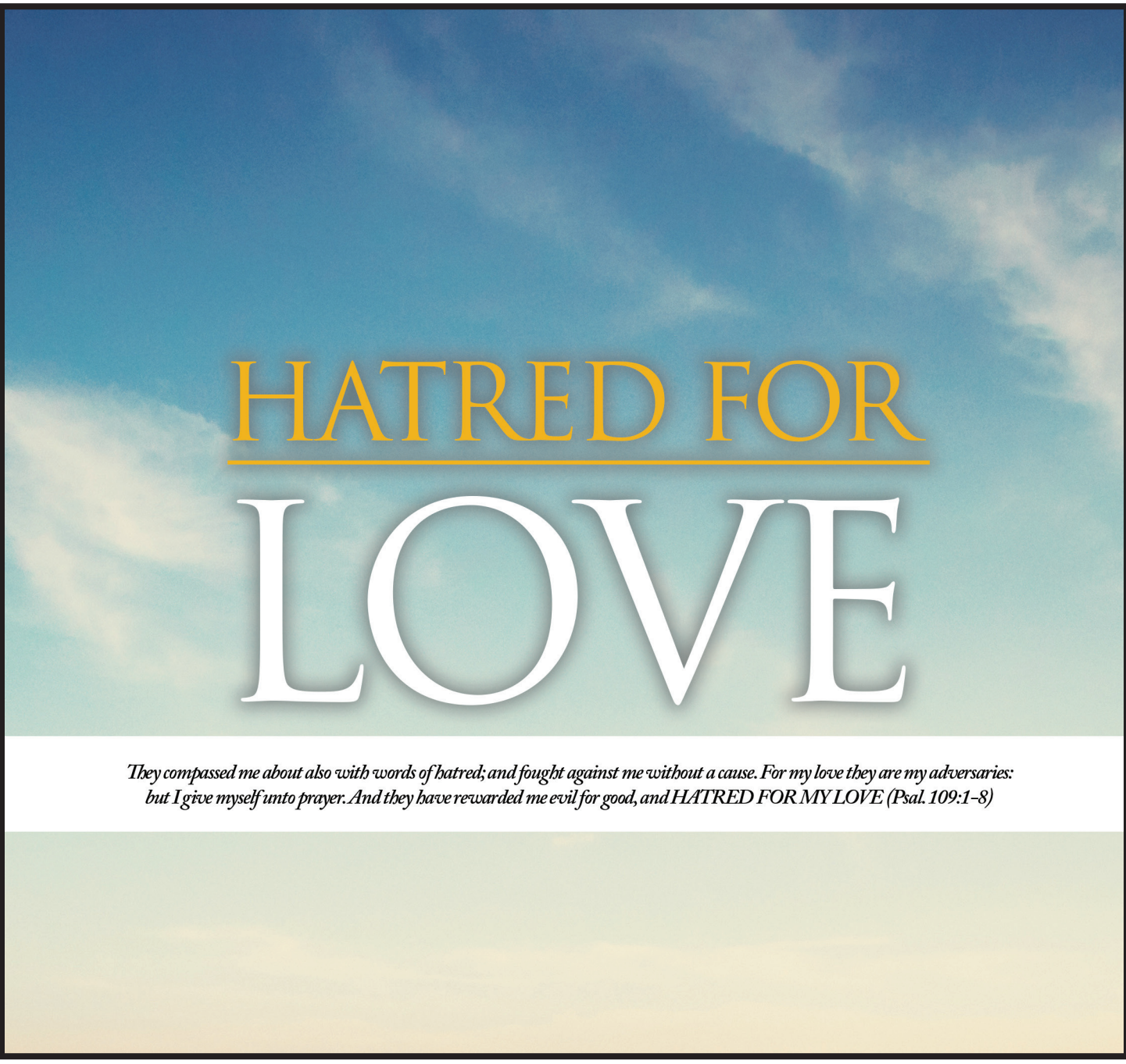
.....Page 08

BAPTISM IN THE NAME
OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST

.....Page 14

GOD'S
PROPHETIC
Clock

.....Page 03



*They compassed me about also with words of hatred, and fought against me without a cause. For my love they are my adversaries:
but I give myself unto prayer. And they have rewarded me evil for good, and HATRED FOR MY LOVE (Psal. 109:1-8)*

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EDITORIAL

Dear Lectors, it is with much encouragement and expectation that I greet you in the marvelous name of Jesus Christ. With the understanding that soon we will see Him and we will be as He is, to rein and be with Him forever (**I John 3:2, Rev. 20:6, I Thes. 4:13-17**). What in this passing world can compare or be better than this? Absolutely nothing! Come Lord Jesus!

It's has been two years that all the world, us included have experienced seen and experimented global changes that we had never seen or had ever occurred in the history of the world. Now, with the most recent happenings, the situation with Russia and Ukraine, we see how God is accelerating the prophetic times of the last part of the last days.

The Lord tells us in His Word: *"ye shall bear wars* (Russia and Ukraine) *and rumors of wars* (China with Taiwan, Iran with Israel): *see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences* (what we have been experiencing and what still remains to be fulfilled), *there shall be famines*" (besides what already exists in the world. On the 24th of March the president of the United States said that scarcity of food is coming to North America, what then will happen to Latin America?) *"... and earthquakes in divers places"* (**Mathew 24:6, 7**). Could it be that the Russian and Ukrainian war is only a regional war? Could this be what will lead to the Third World War? O has the Third World War just begun? Only God knows what He is doing and what He will do.

Meanwhile, God is using this crisis to continue and to accelerate the fulfillment of His word concerning the accomplishment of (the) *scatter* (of) *the power of the holy people...*" (**Dan.12:7**), God already that His people would be scattered throughout the world: *"and shall be led away captive into all nations."* (**Luke 21:24**) *"And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days."*

(The period of Grace, last days extended unto the Gentiles) (**Rev.12:6**) *"The woman"* (the Jewish people) continue to return from the scattering. The return of the Jewish people is announcing and warning us that "the time of the gentiles is fulfilled" (**Romans 11:25**), the time of Grace, the second half of the 70th week of Daniel, *"time, times and the dividing of time"* (**Daniel 7:25**), -same as forty two months and a thousand two hundred and threescore days- is about to be concluded, and that will be with the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ!

How will the scattering of the Jewish people end? With the returning of the people to their land, Israel. At this time we are witnessing that the war between Russia and Ukraine has contributed in great part to the returning of Jewish people to the land in this prophetic hour. It is God who scattered His people because of their rebellion and it is God Himself who also, because of His love to His Name and His people, has been returning His people to their land for the last 130 in different waves until now. The time of their returning of the Jewish people is almost fulfilled for all those who God has determined that are to return.

In recent days Israel has declared that there are 200,000 eligible Ukrainian Jews eligible to return under the "Law of Return". In just one month 8,000 Ukrainian Jews have arrived in Israel. Tens of thousands have solicited to make Aliya (return to Israel). In Russia there are more than 500,000 that are eligible by the "Law of Return". There are more than 14,000 Russian Jews at this moment that have interest in returning to Israel and those numbers continue to grow daily. Praise the Lord!

"And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee, and shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee. If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the Lord thy God gather

thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: And the Lord thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers." (**Deuteronomy 30:1-5**)

"And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." (**Isaiah 11:12**)

"Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth" (**Isaiah 43:5,6**).

The Lord God, which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him. (**Isaiah 56:8**)

"Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows? Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee." (**Isaiah 60:4, 8, 9**)

"Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers." (**Jeremiah 16:14-15**)

"And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that they shall no more say, The Lord liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their

own land." (**Jeremiah 23:3, 7, 8**)

"And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive." (**Jeremiah 29:14**)

"And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive." (**Ezequiel 11:14**)

"And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive." (**Ezequiel 20:34**)

Glory be to our God, He has thus declared it! And, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."* (**Luke 21:33**) Now, how many amongst the people of God, the Church, who are scattered because of their rebellion will the Lord return? We need to keep praying for them. We all know some amongst the scattered who the Lord called and they walked close to Him but only for a season. Maybe you who is reading this writing is one of them and maybe the Lord is awakening your heart to feel the need and yearning to return to God with all your heart.

It is the Lord who is tugging at your heart to return to Him, just as He is doing with our older brother, the Jewish people. Right there where you are, reading these words, you can begin to return to God. With your eyes closed and with your heart and mouth open, seek Him with all your heart, like you did at one time in the past. Time is running out., it's time to return to Him who gave more than a promised land, to Him who gave His life for you and me by shedding His precious blood and has promised us who remain faithful to Him until the end, an eternal life with Him.

God bless you
Pastor Efraim Valverde III. ■



GOD'S PROPHETIC CLOCK

Pastor Efraim Valverde III

“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people (Jewish people) and upon thy holy city (The old city of Jerusalem).” (Daniel 9:24)

I bless the Lord for my grandfather, of blessed memory, Pastor Efraim Valverde Sr., who God used to and continues to use (his work continues **Rev. 14:3**) powerfully with revelation in the teaching about, “Who God Is”, “Who Israel is”, “Who the Church is” and many more truths in the word of God. God used him and gave a powerful word of revelation and awakening for those near and afar. We can say because of what the Lord gave my grandfather to teach and especially in these times that we are living in, that God’s Clock most certainly not stopped! The God of Israel is active with His firstborn, working His marvelous works. What a privilege to be eye witnesses of it, understand it and walk as wise in these times.

We bring here some of the outstanding news that have occurred during the last three months in Israel, Jerusalem, the Jewish people and that which pertains to the same.

January 5, 2022 “*Ynet News*” reported that the municipal committee of Jerusalem approved on Wednesday, plans for the construction of 3,500 housing units for Israelis in “East” Jerusalem, almost half of a controversial area, according to the anti-settlement monitoring group Peace Now.

January 18, 2022 “*Israel National News*” announced: Approximately 30% of all the reported anti-Semitic incidents in the world happened in United States, according to public data by the Israel Hayom newspaper, from new information of the Jewish agency and the world Zionist Organization.

January 20, 2022 “*The Jerusalem Post*” informed the following: “the denial of the Holocaust has been extended like a cancer” the ambassador of Israel Gilad Erdan said to the United Nations.

February 1, 2022 “*The Jerusalem Post*” published the following: The United States is compromised with a Two State resolution for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, said the Secretary of State Anthony Blinken to the Palestinian Authority Mahmud Abas.

February 1, 2022 “*Israel National News*” informs that an official of the Islamic Movement said: “All the Jews will be evicted from Israel”. “If the biggest religious war will be triggered because of Jerusalem and the Al-Aqsa Mosque, it will be worse than anyone can imagine and it will end with the expulsion of all the Jews from Israel, from all Israel.”

February 1, 2022 *Israel National News* announces that the Foreign Minister of Israel, Yair Lapid said that Iran’s nuclear accord that is being negotiated in Vienna is worse than the defective accord of 2015. “Israel will defend itself”, he concluded.

February 23, 2022 “*NPR News*” informed that the authorities are conducting an investigation of the distribution of ant-Semitic and racist flyers in Colleyville, Texas where an armed man took the faithful of a synagogue hostage last month. Colleyville is one of the

dozens of cities of the United States that formed similar flyers en last weeks.

March 1, 2022 “*Israel National News*” announced that Israel’s Prime Minister, Naftali Bennett told the young Ukrainian Jews: “You have a home here, Israel is your home, the home of your families and of all the Jews of the world, today and always.”

***March 9, 2022** “*Bloomberg*” Miles Weiss Reported that Russians with Jewish ascendancy are considering moving to Israel due to the Ukraine invasion from the Russian President Vladamir Putin, an influence that could turn into a mayor one since the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

March 9, 2022 “*France 24*” This news agency published: Devoted Jews in Ukraine will stay to pray and wait for the “apocalypse”.

March 15, 2022 “*The Jerusalem Post*” informed the following: “Iran has more than 3,000 ballistic missiles, many of which could reach the State of Israel” The Central Commando of United States, General Kenneth McKenzie.

March 15, 2022 “*Israel National News*” announced that 4,000 Jewish Ukrainian immigrants have been absorbed in Israel since the beginning of the war.

March 16, 2022 “*Israel National News*” Reported that the United States ambassador criticized the

Israeli construction in Judea and Samaria, categorizing it as “stupid” and “exasperating”, and furthermore, he emphasized his support for a Palestinian state as part of the two state solution.

March 20, 2022 “*Israel National News*” Reported Poll: Likud 34, Yesh Atid 17, Yamina 6, 55% of Israelis prefer Netanyahu as Prime Minister.

March 21, 2022 “*Reuters*” Published that Ukrainian President Volodimir Zelenski said Sunday that Israel is making a lot of efforts to organize high level peace talks between their country and Russia and suggested they be held in Jerusalem, the Russian President is considering it.

March 22, 2022 “*France 24*” Reported that four Jews were assassinated in an act of violence, mixed with assault and stabbings in Beersheba, Israel. Doris Yahbas 49 years and mother of three children; Rabbi Moshe Kravitzky, father of four children, Laura Itshak 43 years and mother of three children, Menachem Yehezkel Menuhin 67 left four brothers. The terrorist was known by the Israel security forces as part of de terrorist group ISIS.

March 24, 2022 “*The Israel National News*” informs that the Iranian Minister of Foreign Relations, Hossein Amir Abdollahian said Wednesday, that the Islamic Republic is closer than ever to receiving the Nuclear Accord of 2015.

March 24, 2022 “*The Jerusalem Report*” informs that the United States State Department is offering I million dollars for projects that include the denouncements of

Continues on page...7



HATRED FOR LOVE

Pastor Efraim Valverde, Sr.

“Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise; For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause. For my love they are my adversaries: but I give myself unto prayer. And they have rewarded me evil for good, and HATRED FOR MY LOVE. Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand. When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few; and let another take his office” (Ps. 109:1-8).

In this Psalm the Spirit of Christ which was in David foretold the act that was going to be perpetrated by Judas Iscariot, who betrayed the Lord, showing Him “HATRED FOR LOVE.” I am using this passage of Scripture as the basis to discuss an intimate and delicate subject that affects the life of every human being. *“For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either LOVE OR HATRED by all that is before them” (Eccl. 9:1).*

At first glance it appears that LOVE AND HATRED are on extreme opposites of the spectrum of human emotions. However, the truth declared by the Word of the Eternal One, and which inexorably has been fulfilled, is that sometimes it is possible to confuse them. That is why the Lord states in the prayer which I cited at the beginning: *“And they have rewarded me evil for good, and HATRED FOR MY*

LOVE” (Ps. 109:5). The same group that cried out “Hosanna” at the beginning of the week later shouted “Crucify Him” at the end of the week. The same person who LOVED HIM to the degree that he followed Him, later HATED Him to the degree that he betrayed Him. This is reality of life when it comes to these fundamental aspects of human emotions. And, Christians are not exempt from these emotions. What is correct and pleasing to God is that we give LOVE FOR HATRED, but we all run the risk of being confused by the deceiver so that we give “HATRED FOR LOVE.”

Among all the divine virtues and spiritual values, love is first and foremost of all of them. God Himself is the source of love for the simple reason that He not only shows love, but *“GOD IS LOVE” (1 Jn. 4:8).* On the other hand, Satan is not only the symbol of hatred, but he is also the personification of hatred. This is why it is written that *“he that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love” (1 Jn. 4:8).* *“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin (does not hate), for His seed (God’s seed) remaineth in him” (1 Jn. 3:9).* On the other hand, Satan does not have the capacity to love. He cannot love. He can only hate. He induces the minds and emotions of those under his control to hate. That is why the Holy Spirit warns that *“whosoever hateth his brother*

is a murderer...as Cain who was of that wicked one and slew (hated) his brother...because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous.” (1 Jn. 3:12-15) This is why it is established that *“in this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.” (1 Jn. 3:10)*

What I have said certainly applies to all of humanity, but it applies more specifically to those who profess to be the people of God. The reason I say this is simple: God does not direct His words to those who ignore Him or to those who do not want to hear His voice. I repeat, He speaks to the people who profess to know Him and to those to whom He has given His Word.

Speaking once again about the *“god of this world (Satan)” (2 Cor. 4:4)* I must mention that he knows very well who his children are, but he also knows who the true children of God are. And if he hates his own children (just observe how he treats those who serve him), with all the more reason he hates the children of God. This is why his greatest anger has always (and more so in these last days) been directed against the saints of the Almighty God.

Beginning with the story of Cain of Abel we can see the satanic

operation which has been evident throughout all the ages in which Satan uses his children to hate, persecute and kill the children of God. To this day this operation continues and will continue until the day of the Second Coming of the Lord in glory.

But beloved! *“We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth; So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: power; When.” (2 Thess. 1:3-10)*

The apostle Paul uses the “label” that has marked the people of God throughout the ages and applies it to the Church: *“For Thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” (Rom. 8:36)* However, this Scripture did not originate with the Church, but it is taken from what God declared to Israel from antiquity in **Psalm 44:22**. The world (the children of the devil) has always HATED the people who worship the GOD WHO IS LOVE. Beginning with its time in the land of Egypt



the people of God began to be hated, mistreated and persecuted by different nations whose minds were controlled by the god of HATRED: Satan. During the millennia that have passed, and to this present day, the history of the people of God, Israel, has been stained with the blood of millions of Jews who have been victims of THE HATRED of the world. Even in the twentieth century the world bore witness to the most horrendous and macabre crime that has been perpetrated in all the history of mankind: THE HOLOCAUST. During the HOLOCAUST more than six million human beings became victims of HATRED and were systematically exterminated in a way that had never been done throughout the history of mankind. There only "crime" for being singled out for extermination was that they were members of the people who belonged to the GOD OF LOVE whom HE has chosen to bring the message of His love to the world: *"For salvation is of the Jews."* (Jn. 4:22)

The most incredible part of this unique happening known as "the Holocaust" is not that it occurred during the intellectual century in which many miracles of science were discovered, the 20th century. What is most incredible is to see how easily people and nations who professed to be "Christian" could give HATRED FOR LOVE to the Jewish people. Incredibly, this occurred during the century in which the prophesy about the *"latter rain"* (Jl. 2:23) began to be fulfilled. It occurred during a century in which the knowledge of the Word of God is widespread in the world and in which the

Holy Spirit began to be poured out worldwide in the movement referred to as "Charismatic." After all, the blame for the horrendous crime of the Holocaust does not only belong to Nazi Germany, although it was the special instrument used by the antichrist to try to wipe the chosen people of God off the face of the earth. It is certainly true that Nazi Germany tried to eliminate the people of the Book based on erroneous interpretations of the Bible (what terrible irony!) and on anti-Semitic interpretations made by the famous Protestant Reformer, Martin Luther. However, the Almighty God's finger of judgment is also pointed toward other nations who did not directly participate in the process of killing Jews, but who are accomplices of this crime due to two types of behaviors that history does not allow them to deny: They looked the other way voluntarily in a macabre display of indifference and allowed the Nazi assassins to carry out their horrendous crime. They also closed the doors of their countries and did not receive the multitudes of miserable refugees who had managed to escape the hell of the Holocaust and sent them back to Hitler's ovens.

Among the nations who acted in this manner are included the great majority who are considered to be "Christian," beginning with the United States and England. These are nations that not only claim to know God, but who also have in their hands and in their minds the knowledge of the Holy Word of God, the Bible, God's Book, the Message of Love, which should be the principal distinctive of

Christianity. This is how we can see the terrible fulfillment of the Sacred Scriptures which state: *"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools."* (Rom. 1:21-22)

How easily it is for Satan to confuse a person who knows God in order to induce him so that when he least realizes it, he is giving HATRED FOR LOVE. I insist once again that it is nothing strange for someone who does not know anything the love of God to hate the people that God has chosen. But the sad, undeniable truth is the fact that the Christianity of which the Church is supposedly a part of (which is the chosen people of God among the Gentile nations, who itself is a partaker of the love of God and is called to show and to announce this marvelous love) has given HATRED FOR LOVE to the same people from which comes its salvation. There is no doubt that the dragon (Satan) has a terrible power and he has given this power to the beast (the present civilization) so that it might fight against the people of the Almighty God and to overcome them. Some he overcomes physically as martyrs and others spiritually, giving HATRED FOR LOVE. For some it is for glory, but for others it is for judgment and condemnation.

The deviated operation of giving HATRED FOR LOVE to the chosen people of God has not ceased among professing

Christianity and much less has it ceased among those who are ignorant of the Word of GOD. Israel as a nation and the Jewish people of the Diaspora continue to be a special target of the world's hatred. This chosen people of God, for the past four millennia (especially during the last two thousand years), has suffered through the most ironic and strange experience ever seen among the history of mankind. It has received HATRED FOR LOVE and for the most part this has been from those who profess to know the LOVE OF GOD.

To this day Israel is starving for love. It seeks companionship among the nations of the Earth, offering them its friendship and service to them. But only a few nations have been moved to give Israel the corresponding love that it offers. Those who do show Israel love know that they are exposing themselves to being hated by other nations because they display love to Israel. What a difficult existence for the Jewish people! They live always desiring acceptance and love. They give love but always receive HATRED FOR LOVE. How precisely the words of the lament expressed in the following Psalm have their fulfillment among the people of Israel! *"...And they have rewarded me evil for good, and HATRED FOR MY LOVE."* (Ps. 109:5)

But just as we mentioned in the beginning, this distinctive applies automatically to the people among the people of the Gentiles who have been called by God to also be partakers of the promises made to Israel: the faithful Church of the Lord Jesus



Christ. In Israel the distinction of receiving HATRED FOR LOVE is applied to the nation as a whole. In the Church this distinctive is applied individually to each faithful believer who is determined to *“live godly in Christ Jesus.”* (2 Tim. 3:12) Just as Israel has suffered the difficult irony of receiving HATRED FOR LOVE, particularly from among the “Christian” nations, the faithful Christian invariably has to live this bitter experience of receiving HATRED FOR LOVE from among those who are supposedly their brothers in Christ.

There are many believers whose own love for others has ended precisely because they have been victims of the experience described previously. Having escaped the environment of falsehood, betrayal and hatred that is prevalent in the world, they have believed in the Lord and have entered into the environment of the Church with the great illusion of receiving the love they desire. Once they are in the environment of the people who know the love of God they have encountered the most tremendous surprise of their lives. Once inside the Church environment they have received *“evil for good, and HATRED FOR LOVE.”* (Ps. 109:5) Among those who have lived through this difficult experience there are three types of persons: those who have become bitter and disappointed and have returned to the worldly life. Others have remained in the Church but have become the same or worse than those who gave them HATRED FOR LOVE. The third group is comprised of those who have

suffered this difficult experience, but who have not allowed their love to grow cold and who have not stopped serving the Lord. Above all, they have learned to not give HATRED FOR LOVE, but to give LOVE FOR LOVE. And in an even greater accomplishment, they have learned to give LOVE FOR HATRED, thereby imitating the example given to them by their Master.

“These are they which were not defiled with women (politico-religious organizations); for they are virgins (their souls have not been violated by hatred).” (Rev. 14:4-5) Because *“he who is born of God, doth not sin (does not hate)”* (1 Jn. 5:18). *“These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.”* (Rev. 14:4-5) Those of us who know the Word of God know very well that He declared: *“If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be.”* (Jn. 12:26) It is not in heaven where the chosen people will begin to FOLLOW the Lamb. Those who FOLLOW Him up there are those who learned how to follow Him when they were here on Earth. What does it really mean to follow Him? The Lord Himself declared: *“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”* (Mt. 16:24)

In fact, the only way one can give LOVE FOR HATRED is by DENYING ONESELF, and this is only done by the true children of God. These children were *“redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb.”* (Rev. 14:4-5) These are the true members of

the Church of the Lord. these are the persons who stand out among men and among the multitudes of Christians who honor with *“their lips”* (Mt. 15:8), because they are have the mark of God which is love, compassion, sincerity and the other fruits of the Holy Spirit (Ez. 9:4, 1 Jn. 3:10, Gal. 5:22-23). Throughout the ages and to the present day, these persons who have been chosen by God have received *“evil for good, and HATRED FOR LOVE”* (Ps. 109:5). These are those who accept and literally obey the command given by the Holy Spirit: *“Bless them who persecute you (with all the more reason they should bless their brothers): bless and curse not.”* (Rom. 12:14)

The number 144,000 is not literal, it is symbolic. It describes the perfection which in due time the chosen People of God, Israel and the Church, will reach. Much less does it refer to a certain religious group designated by men. Today, as it has always been, these vessels stand out among other humans to such a degree that it is impossible to ignore their existence or their “strange” behavior. Even those who hate or despise them acknowledge that there is something special and marvelous in their lives. The god of hate, Satan, who operates in the minds of those who despise and hate, envies the divine privilege that the CHILDREN OF LOVE possess.

The apostle Paul, guided by the Holy Spirit, clearly defines the difference between what is fake and what is real when he states: *“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding*

brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.” (1 Cor. 13:1-3) Is it possible, then, to be living a lie, believing that one is serving God and that this not be true? This is extremely possible. For this reason the Holy Spirit, after telling the about their positive qualities and virtues, warns the Church at Ephesus: *“Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”* (Rev. 2:4-5)

“Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.” (1 Jn. 3:13-15) The devil knows very well who his children are. He also knows who the children of God are, as I previously mentioned. He knows who very well who *“dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.”* (1 Jn. 4:16)

The vessel that is full of the love of God even stands out of his own family. In many homes it is a Christian wife who, desiring to serve Her Savior, stirs up the wrath of her unconverted,



tyrant husband, who gives his wife HATRED FOR LOVE. In other homes this same situation operates inversely: A man of God who receives HATRED FOR LOVE from his wife. In other homes it is a Christian son or daughter who receives HATRED FOR LOVE from their parents. It has also been painful to see a father or mother who serve the Lord receive HATRED FOR LOVE from their own children. This same satanic operation repeats itself among other family members, friends, neighbors and others as the vessel who truly has the love of Christ in them receives HATRED FOR LOVE from them.

This same operation can be found in the Church environment. Among the group of believers there are always two types of Christians who exist: Those who give their brother *“evil for good, and HATRED FOR LOVE”* (Ps. 109:5) and those who always give their brothers LOVE FOR LOVE. They even give GOOD FOR EVIL and LOVE FOR HATRED to those who despise them (Rom. 12:20).

In a world whose minds are controlled by the god of hatred (2 Cor. 4:4) the Eternal God, the God who *“IS LOVE”* (1 Jn. 4:8), desires that His love should be reflected and manifested in His true people. His glory lies in His children who, even if it caused them pain, are willing to follow the example that He set forth. After all, He, even when He was enduring Calvary and feeling the intense pain in His battered body, blessed His executioners, saying: *“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”* (Lk. 23:34) We

can say that it is incredible to know that there people who call themselves followers of the Lord Jesus whose spiritual eyes are blinded to this example given by the Lord. The sad reality is that there are multitudes of professing Christians who have always forgotten this basic, fundamental example, and who, in the Name of Christ, give *“evil for good, and HATRED FOR LOVE.”* (Ps. 109:5)

As we stated at the beginning, the distance between love and hate can be deceiving. It is not in vain that the Scripture states: *“no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them.”* (Eccl. 9:1) How easy it is for humans, even if they are Christians, to fall into the diabolic snare which might change their LOVE INTO HATE when they least expect it. How many Christians have boasted, saying that they are free from this operation, but later, although they might not accept or believe it, become ensnared by this operation from hell. There is only one sure way to escape this snare and that is to live in a true humility before He who made us. He is the only one that can deliver us from ourselves and from our enemy.

“O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Rom. 7:24-25) Only He can help us so that we can give GOOD FOR EVIL AND LOVE FOR HATE, even to those who might give us *“evil for good, and HATE FOR LOVE.”* (Ps. 109:5)

God bless you. ■

Comes from page...3

Israeli violations of human rights; this is worrisome due to the possibility of potential abuse of organizations who seek to boycott, sanctions and tribunals of international rights against Israel.

March 24, 2022 *“The Jerusalem Post”* reported the following: The Russian Ambassador in Syria, Alexander Efimov warned Thursday that Israeli attacks in Syria are provoking a very strong condemning reaction from Russia to the Israeli operations in Syria.

Directing himself to the monthly UN Security Council about the Middle East Wednesday the 24th of February, the Russian emissary before the United Nations, Dmitry Polyanskiy, declared: *“The immutable Russian position is that we do not recognize the Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights which are an inalienable part of Syria. Polyanskiy also said: We are worried about the plans announced by Tel Aviv to expand the activity of the occupied Golan Heights settlements, which directly contradict the depositions of the Geneva Convention 1949. Russia does not recognize Israel’s sovereignty over the Golan Heights, which are part of Syria”.* He declared this before launching the invasion of Ukraine.

These were the first Russian commentaries about Israel hours after the Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Relations emitted a declaration about their support for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Ever since Israel in defense captured the strategical Golan Heights from Syria in the Six Day

War in 1967, Russia, Italy, Iran and Turkey who are occupying Syria have been in opposition of Israel having control and sovereignty over the Golan Heights, ever since they captured the strategical land of Syria in the Six Day War, in 1967. And with much more reason ever since the leader of the free world, Donald Trump, on the 21st of March 2019, declared officially affirming Israel’s sovereignty over the Golan Heights and confirming it when he signed a decree, when he said that Israel had taken possession of Golan Heights during the war to defend their country. This action was a measure that challenges that defies the international law which at that time pointed to a significant change in the United States policy during his presidency. Biden’s present Administration does not recognize Israel’s sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

As we can see, God’s Clock is pointing more than ever to the much anticipated Second Coming of our beloved Lord Jesus Christ. The present generation of Christians has less reason to “not believe” and “not be prepared” because of these great signs which are already taking place. How much more so those of us that have come to know these truths. *“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself”.* (Revelation 19:7) Let us be prepared, be encouraged!

Pastor Efraim Valderde, III. ■



THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS

Pastor Efraim Valverde, Sr.

The reason why many Christians have not received revelation of the aforementioned truths is because, they have heard them through those who do not have the anointing of God, and they have not been able to accept the truths, the Scriptures cannot fail, For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work (James 3:16).

believe in the Oneness of God and in the baptism in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ (to this I am a witness) Almost always among these groups there is the aforementioned failure of only teaching the truth, but not living it. The reason I say this is because the Biblical Text says that the early Christians, *continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine*, and they continued in the fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42, 43)

For more than half a century it has been easy for many among the Jesus

Name movement "Apostolics" (of ALL races and colors) to preach "The Oneness" and "The Name." At the same time, it has been difficult and sometimes impossible for the majority of them, to live in communion with their brothers, pray, etc. For those who read this commentary and take offense at what I write, even though they are offended, it does not change the reality of the truth that I point out. We must not waiver in our convictions of the truths of God that we have received and at the same time we must continue to obey the *new commandment* given by the Lord Jesus: That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. (John 13:34)

Wherever love truly prevails, the result will be communion amongst brethren. In the place where there is communion amongst the brethren the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. (Psalm 133.3) In this environment the messenger in whom the Divine Anointing resides is able to effectively preach the Oneness of God and of the baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ the Lord, and those that hear are able to receive the message with a sincere heart. On the other hand, when the messages of the Oneness and of the Name are preached in the midst of an environment where there isn't sincerity nor communion, but *bitter envying and strife* is that which prevails, the environment where *This wisdom* is operating descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. (James 3:14-15) Instead of the message being a blessing, the truth being preached becomes

hollow, empty and even a curse.

The reason why many Christians have not received revelation of the aforementioned truths is because, they have heard them through those who do not have the anointing of God, and they have not been able to accept the truths, the Scriptures cannot fail, For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. (James 3:16)

The Apostle Paul clearly states: *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. (1 Cor. 13:1-3)*

The charity that the apostle Paul speaks of is not just something, but is Someone. And that Someone is our Glorious Lord Jesus Christ. If Lord does not dwell in the person being baptized even though His Name is invoked over the person, this baptism is vain.

"The apostles doctrine" (Acts 2:42-43) includes the truths that I have mentioned and many others that I have not mentioned are counted amongst *the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. (Jude 3)* Thank God for His truths revealed in the Holy Bible, Thank God for those who proclaim His truths by revelation. I have clarified that this doctrine does not consist only in ceremonies, but Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:5)

God Bless You. ■

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. (Acts 2:42-43)

"The Apostles Doctrine". Is a phrase that Christianity has adopted as a religious insignia throughout the age of the Church: This expression has been deduced to the popular terminology "Apostles Doctrine" which innumerable religious organizations use to this day.

Certainly, this type of terminology is not found in the Holy Scriptures, for the simple reason that "the doctrine (the messages and truths that the apostles preached)" (Acts 2:42) did not belong to them. This message of salvation was, and continues to be today, that which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him. (Hebrews 2:3)

Having explained the above, my point in this commentary, is to state and establish the fact that the use of the term "apostolic doctrine" is not what counts, but to have the true revelation of *the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. (Jude 3)* this is what is important in order to live and teach this faith to others. This is something that is not common among many "Apostolics".

I want to clarify when I say, "the Apostolics", I am not only referring to the well-known Hispanic groups who call themselves Apostolics, but to a host of religious organizations of other races (here and in other parts of the world) that use the same terminology to distinguish themselves. And among these, not only Jesus' Name groups, but also Trinitarian movements.

This term is also used by Trinitarian organizations (I know this to be true), but for the most part it is used by groups in every continent who



REPORT OF FELLOWSHIP SERVICE IN JUXTLAHUACA, OAXACA

Brother Nestor Quintanar



On Sunday we celebrated the baptisms and we were dismissed with great joy desiring to gather again soon. I want to emphasize that Pastor Efraim Valverde III, since Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday morning took time with the pastors to give instructions, saying that it is more important to deal with us first, being that if every pastor understands these truths then he will be able to help the congregation where the Lord has placed him. Among other things that he spoke to us, he mentioned that God hates divorce (Malachi), therefore we must take care of our marriage and instruct the congregation and hold the young people in the church accountable to being faithful unto the Lord before marriage. For many youth are concerned about having an honorable ceremony. However they are not concerned about honoring God before marriage.

May the Lord have mercy on us and not faint, but to the contrary, may we be strengthened and seek the Lord with all our heart. God bless you

Brother Nestor Quintanar

REPORT OF FELLOWSHIP SERVICE IN HONDURAS

Pastor, Orlando Fernandez

of their conversation.” (Hebrews 13:7). The fraternal gathering was a great blessing to us, we are very grateful to our God for it, God’s presence was very strong in our midst. This coming June we will be having a fellowship meeting in El Octal, Santa Cruz de Yojoa, Honduras, to which you are all invited.

Many greetings and we ask for your prayers.

Pastor, Orlando Fernandez. ■

care of our family.” He also exhorted us not take for granted the writings of our elder Pastor Efraim Valverde, Sr. but rather to continue to make known those mysteries hidden for many and revealed to few. During the activity, we made memory of

beloved brother Efraim Arreola, who was with us in many occasions comforting and provoking us to walk in the Way. *“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end*

May the Lord bless you my brothers. This last January of this year it was a great joy and blessing to have gathered in Juxtlahuaca to seek the Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in one accord.

We began Friday afternoon, with the council of brother our Daniel Ybarra, who also encouraged us to seek the Lord like never before, seeing the signs of the Lord’s soon return. Saturday morning Pastor Alfredo Corcoles shared God’s word based on the verse of II Chronicles 7:14, he exhorted us to humble ourselves before the Lord and so He can heal our land; beginning with our own selves and our families. In the afternoon Pastor Efraim Valverde, III gave ample council concerning the marriage, focusing on the honor of the marriage: *“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.”* (Hebrews 13:4) He exhorted every marriage and the young people who are on their way to marriage. Afterwards we had a marvelous moment of special prayer within each marriage partner that was present.

God bless all my brothers, readers of the “Maranatha” publication. It is with joy that I communicate to you that this last 25th of February of 2022, we initiated one more general gathering in Sabá, Colon, Honduras.

We truly missed the presence of Pastor Efraim Valverde, III, as he was unable to be with us, he sent Pastor Rudy Madera (thank God for His laborers), who was a great blessing to us. He shared with us the “importance of take



YOUTH SECTION

Sister Flora Vargas

those means that the Lord worked things out so that my mother, my brother and I would come to know the things of God. After some time of attending church services a situation arose after which my mother lost the desire to attend church, she decided not go that particular church. But in spite of the disappointment, the Lord put in her the desire to look for another church group; that is how we arrived to the place where are currently attending, and don't cease to thank God for placing us here, even though at first I didn't understand, I now see the uniqueness of this ministry.

After sometime, my mother was baptized, along with my brother and a year after them I was also baptized at twelve years of age. But after time my mother stopped congregating, leaving my brother and myself as the only ones from our family to congregate. We all know that the time of our youth is a very difficult time and

having no strong back-up at home to guide us, my brother also stopped congregating. But by that time the Lord had placed His fear in me and he had healed a big wound in my life, the loss of my father. And even though I was relatively young, I begin to serve the Lord as best as I could: I would speak to my fellow students, I would visit members that lived close by, I would visit the young people that had distanced themselves from God, among other church activities that would come up in the congregation.

When the time came to attend university, it was a very difficult decision for me because I knew that I wasn't going to be able to attend church services like before, and that's the way it was for a year in which I only attended church on Sundays, because of this I would feel bad, until one day, via Pastor Efraim Valverde III, in a fellowship meeting, the Lord gave me understanding and strength

to make changes in respect to that situation. During that span of time I continued to go to church by myself. An in the school, after making the changes, the Lord removed those school influences little by little after making changes in my life.

After some time of attending church by myself the Lord worked in my brother's heart, causing him to return to His ways and to this date we continue to walk with the Lord by His mercy. I also thank the Lord for my pastor, Jose Covarrubias and his wife, they have been a great help to us. I ask your prayers for my mother, that the Lord may bring back to His ways, for my other siblings that have yet to draw close to the Lord and also for the congregation in Tijuana, Mexico.

Young man, young lady, I don't know the situation that you may be going through, but one thing I do know is that the Lord is with us, we are not alone, we are His children. God is coming soon!

God bless you and keep you.

Your sister in the Lord,
Flora Vargas. ■

REPORT OF FELLOWSHIP SERVICE IN VILLA JUARES, SINALOA

Brother Elias Cruz


and used them as a rod to correct His people, as an example he used the Assyrians and the Babylonians. Brother Alfred Tienda continued with brother Nestor's teaching then he exhorted us to be awake to the spiritual battle and to take up the weapons of our warfare which are powerful in God to the destruction of strongholds (**II Corinthians 10:4-6**). In

the afternoon our brother Timoteo Cervantes exhorted us to be willing to suffer for the Lord, sharing his experiences and testimony. Later that same evening our Moises Quintanar, continued to encourage us to continue following the Lord and not faint (**II Corinthians 5:1**). After that bro. Alfredo Tienda provoked us to seek the Lord in prayer. After that

we received the blessing from the Lord and closed with weeping and dancing. Sunday, our brother Alfredo Tienda and bro. Nestor Quintanar continued to minister God's word to us. We concluded our activity in that manner, blessed and enriched with God's word.

I ask for your prayers for us, that the Lord will continue to keep us until the day of His glorious manifestation.

God Bless you
Brother Elias Cruz. ■



God bless everyone. I want to first thank God for allowing me to share some brief words in this Christian journal that has been and continues to be a blessing for me and for many of my friends.

I had the privilege to grow up in a Christian home, nevertheless at my very early age without having done good or bad (**Romans 9:11**), the Lord gave the privilege of knowing Him. When I was seven years of age someone spoke to my mother about the Word of the Lord and she was invited to visit a church. It was by

May the Lord Jesus bless you my brothers. We thank the Lord because He allowed us to celebrate another activity which was a great blessing.

We begin on Friday the 4th of March, our brother Nestor Quintanar shared the Word of the Lord with us on the need to hear in order to learn and to put into practice God's word and to have patience until the Lord's return. Saturday we received teaching by brother Nestor about the fact that all things are in God's hands, explaining how God moved the heart of the kings of this world



GO YE UNTO ALL THE WORD

Pastor Efraim Valverde, Sr.

We know that God's work is broad and abundant. And it is not reduced to a certain race or language, but rather, this work is worldwide. The Lord says: "... *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature...*" (Mark 16:15). We support our brethren, the Lord has moved us to do so, being that time is running out. May the Lord, God, Jesus Christ our Savior bless you. *(The above is an excerpt from a supporter of this Ministry).*

I initiate this article, translating the words that we recently received from a beloved married couple, who, just as they have been doing so for quite some time, sent their strong economic support for the worldwide ministry that God has entrusted us with. Like this couple, others who have in occasions sent us offerings of considerable amounts to help us. Others among our beloved brethren who with great love, and from *"their deep poverty"* (2 Corinthians 8:2) support us with all their heart in smaller amounts. God is using you to fulfil the spiritual vision who our brothers point out in the onset of this article.

It is not possible to do this work if the vision of spreading the gospel and the priceless truths is not clear in the mind. It is an undeniable fact that no one will give all their strength in doing the work or cooperate in something that they don't believe is worthwhile. It is natural for us to have the desire to give our all, our love, time, effort, money, etc. to

that which we believe in. We have all understood that what God has given us and what God has entrusted us and what He has entrusted us to do is the greatest value in this life, therefore we are willing to give our all for it and this ministry.

The described reasoning is not new. The history of mankind is filled with stories of lives of men and women, in their respective time gave it all for causes they considered of great value. They were willing to give even their own lives for them. What can we say of the heroes of faith (Hebrews 11) pointed out in the pages of the Holy Book of God, the Bible? Men and women who took and continue to take with all seriousness that which correspond to the words of the LORD, who said: *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."* (Matthews 6:33)

As we measure ourselves with that Divine measure, let us consider what the Lord commanded His apostles to do, and through them to us as well. The cited bible verse at the beginning of this article says: "... *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature...*" (Mark 16:15) In the moments before ascending unto

"It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"

heaven, in the brief conversation that the Lord had with His disciples (Acts 1:4-8), He responded to the question they asked concerning the restoration of the kingdom of Israel, saying: *"It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses*

unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth". The disciples understood, accepted and obeyed, in due time what the Lord had commanded them. They didn't stay in Jerusalem (although it was from Jerusalem that the source came from), neither did they stop or stay in Judea, Samaria or Galilee. The message that the Lord commanded His apostles and the disciples that He then called, they took charge of spreading the message. During the subsequent years, throughout the nations of the Empire in due time, through the testimony of them and through the writings of the apostles, was that message spread out until this day "throughout the world". (Hebrews 2:3)

During all the ages, the Church has always been moved to obey the commandment given by the Lord. It is fitting for me to mention that the Lord's commandment it has not always been obeyed in the right spirit that the Lord requires. There are many disturbing stories during the centuries that have transpired since the commandment was given, that describe the form in which "Christianity" has committed innumerable injustices, justifying themselves with cited commandment. But now, we, being aware of the aforementioned, we are considering this important need (that prevails until today) that we must comply with the commandment given by the Master prevails in a positive manner. The value of the commandment has not diminished



and we must fulfill it with the spirit that the Lord demands.

It is no secret that the majority of the religious organizations that called themselves Christians, consider “missionary work” an indispensable part of their structure. For many of them the missionary work is precisely their theme and pride. Since this is their most effective means of growing their group or organization, many use this “missionary work” at its maximum capacity, and the results of many of those organizations are to this day admirable. But it is precisely here where the Lord through His Word has revealed to comes into play, and it is that His true Church should not be moved merely by the ambition to make their group or group numbers greater. Something much more sublime than those desires and delusions of clear human origin should move the true Church and that is the sorrow and compassion for a miserable world that needs to know the Lord Jesus Christ our God and His marvelous salvation.

That is the mind and heart that moved the apostles and the primitive Church to fulfill the commandment given by the Lord. We do not find a sole indication in the Word of the Lord that servants and sons of God performed the missionary work to aggrandize “their organization”. The truth of the matter is that in the beginning the Church was not established by the Lord and His apostles as a political religious organization, as is commonly recognized in Christianity. The

Church was and continues to be “*a body*” (I Cor. 12:12-27; Col. 1:18), a living organism whose living cells are all and every follower of the Lord Jesus in whom there has been and is “*the mind that is in Christ Jesus*” (Fil. 2:5), which is a love and a profound a compassion, genuine and true for a the humanity that is miserable and prisoner of pride and of sin (read Ezekiel 9:4).

The Church should continue to GO TO ALL THE WORLD. No one is justified to remain in “*Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria*”. We have all been committed to do our part so the message that God has entrusted with may reach “*unto the uttermost part of the world*” (Acts 1:8). Now on the other hand, no one Christian will be able to go by himself “*UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE WORLD*”. The work, according to the plan implemented by the Lord, is a collective work, it must be done by ALL, because of the simple fact that it is too big, it is worldwide. And in this case who are the “all”? It certainly isn’t “the worshippers of the Image of the Beast” (Revelation 13:15), or those who worship their religious organizations. Neither is it the Christians and ministers who are seeking their own benefit, honor, credit and recognition. It is not the pastors who strive only to build their “little kingdom.” Nor are the Christians who live as prisoners by the aforementioned deviations and others that can’t be counted among the ALL that together should and must do the work of going to the UTTERMOST PART OF THE

“If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 2:1-5).

WORLD.

These ALL, should be men of virtue, God fearing, men of truth, THAT HATE GREED (Exodus 18:21). Men and women whose lives are measured not by their own measure but by God’s measure which points out the Divine Mold when it says: “*If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 2:1-5).

This publication arrives at the hands of thousands of sons of God across many groups and borders, therefore this message is not directed or reduced group, but to all my brethren who will read it, without exception. Those who are familiar with the messages that we have published for quite some time, know that the writer of this article as well as our brethren who collaborate with ministry, from all the world, we not seeking to form another political religious organization. There are more than enough in the world to confuse the multitude of unwary Christians who are imprisoned in their webs. What God has called us to do, rather, is not look for people for ourselves, but rather to look for our brethren



and once located we all can announce to other Christians who don't know, the fundamental truths that God has desired to revealed to us in His Word. To begin with and of most importance: God is One and His Name given for salvation is Jesus the Lord (**Dt. 6:4; Acts 4:12**). Israel is the chosen people of God from whom salvation for the gentiles came (**Romans 9:4, John 4:12**). The Church of the living God is One. It is not a political organization, neither is it reduced to a certain organization (**Matthew 16:18, I Corinthians 12:12-27; Col. 1:18**). The Christians that God is waking up to these profound truths, together with the rest of the messages in the Holy Bible will be uniting with ALL their brothers, together we can let the world know the marvelous things that the God of heaven through His Holy Spirit offers.

Today we are already GOING TO ALL THE WORLD. We are not only dreamers, but for many years now, we have had upon us a tremendous obligation for many of our brethren and the multitudes that surround us throughout all the continents of the world to serve and help in many ways. The work that is before us is monumental and we are insignificant and so limited. Nevertheless we are aware that this work is not ours, it is God's work. We have only been privileged to be called by the Lord to be helpers with Him and in this way we are doing our small part by trusting that our Omnipotent God will do the

greater part, and all that is impossible for us to do. He knows that our desire is pure and sincere and that only interest and benefit that moves us is that the marvelous promise that says: *And when the chief Shepherd (our God and Savior Jesus Christ) shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.* (**I Peter 5:4**) will be fulfilled in us. *"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit"* that our words are faithful and true.

I end my words begging (because I cannot demand, much less obligate no one): once again my brother and my sister help us so that together we can GO TO ALL THE WORLD. If the Lord Jesus has spoken to you through these written words, please do not close your ears to the invitation of God's Holy Spirit. Unite with your brothers that are already in the battle, the Lord knows that we need your help. My beloved brother, companion in the Lord's ministry don't reduce yourself to *"Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria."* Don't reduce yourself only to your local congregation to your region or your country. Most certainly it is necessary for you to attend to those areas, it is the first part where you have to be working in. But seek the way that you can do your part uniting with your brothers so that we can all together GO TO ALL THE EARTH. Remember that this not only our idea, but it is an imperative commandment given by the Lord Himself and we better fulfill it. I do not want to do

my own will, seeking my own personal benefit. I want to be counted among those who are willing to suffer, wear themselves out, and even lose to realize all that is necessary to do the will of our Father. Because GOING TO ALL THE WORLD and truly doing God's work is not easy or cheap. It has been said *"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed"*, but it ends saying *shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.* (**Psalms 126:6**). This "battle of battles," "is bigger than our capacity" but at the end there is the greatest reward that is not be compared to anything. But it also says: *"And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully."* (**II Timothy 2:5**) And one part of "lawful" "striving" is that we do our part together with the ALL so we can fulfill the commandment given by the Lord to: *"GO TO ALL THE WORLD"* (**Mark 16:15**).

Today we are going TO ALL THE WORLD, by means of this "Maranatha" Publication, by Bible studies, evangelistic tracts and books. By radio programs, television programs, audio and video preaching through our website, social media and the Internet. All these means and materials, are distributed without charge, especially if we know that some who solicit the material have limited economical resources. We are also traveling to different parts of the world where the Lord allows us to go. We try to supply Bibles or New Testaments to all our brothers and

friends that ask. We are also helping, though in a limited way, some of our partners in the ministry in various parts of the world. Besides this, we feel the obligation to maintain a connection with our brothers within our possibilities, whether by letter as well as via telephone and through all the means possible, and all this implies a monetary cost.

Our God (as He had told me several years ago) has been opening great doors, working to extend the work to different parts of the world. But this implies greater labor, greater effort and greater expenses. However, we trust that our Great God will provide the necessary means, as He has done to this day. Even though we have been limited, we haven't stopped moving forward and advancing.

I have the certainty that just as the Lord has moved some of our brothers who are currently helping us to do the work, He will also move many others to added themselves to the present number and that way we can ALL more and more fulfill the sacred and imperative commandment of our God and Savior Jesus Christ who continues to command us: *"GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE"* (**Mark 16:15**).

God bless you. ■



BAPTISM IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Pastor Efraim Valverde, Sr.

must clarify here, that I am not discussing the subject of water baptism with the purpose of obtaining members for a certain religious denomination or organization. Rather, my goal is that the obedient Christian, whoever and wherever he is, will receive from God the fullness of His salvation. Now that we are aware of these basic truths, let us now continue in our discussion by considering the following questions.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF WATER BAPTISM?

The Lord stated that *“he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”* (Mark 16:16). On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, through Peter’s lips, declared: *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you...for the remission of your sins...”* (Acts 2:38). Paul, referring to the Lord’s sacrifice, declares that the Lord gave Himself for His Church *“that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water (baptism) by the Word”* (Eph. 5:26). Peter, referencing the fact that Noah was saved by water in the ark, states: *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us...”* (1 Peter 3:21).

HOW SHOULD WATER BAPTISM BE ADMINISTERED?

Paul explains to us that baptism is a symbol of the burial of one who has died. For this reason he poses the following question: *“Know ye*

not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death” (Rom. 6:3). On another occasion he explains to us that we are *“BURIED with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him”* (Col. 2:12). According to these Scriptures, baptism is a symbolic burial through which the believer, now dead to the world (repented) is buried in the waters of baptism and emerges from them, ready to live a new life in Christ. For this reason, baptism should be administered through immersion, submerging the body of the penitent completely in water, according to the example given by the Lord Himself when He entered into the Jordan River to be baptized: *“And Jesus, when he was baptized, WENT UP STRAIGHTWAY OUT OF THE WATER”* (Matt. 3:16). Likewise, when Phillip baptized the Ethiopian eunuch, the Scriptures tell us that *“THEY WENT DOWN BOTH into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when THEY WERE COME UP OUT OF THE WATER...”* (Acts 8:38-39).

WHAT NAME SHOULD BE INVOKED DURING BAPTISM?

The Lord commanded His disciples to baptize the Gentiles *“in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”* (Matt. 28:19), and when the apostles carried out the Master’s

commandment, they baptized thousands upon thousands of believers in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. They did not disobey the Lord, as some have had the audacity to say. On the contrary, they faithfully executed His commandment, because they had understood that the “Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” is JESUS the Lord, and that He is ONE. They understood when the Lord told them: *“He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father”* (John 14:9). They understood that *“God was manifest in the flesh”* (1 Tim. 3:16). They understood that the Lord Jesus was Israel’s Messiah, and that He could be none other than God Himself, because there is only one God (Deut. 6:4, Isa. 44:6). They understood that only the God, YHWH, can save, and they were given revelation to understand that the Lord Jesus is that same God, because the Name of God given to men that they might be saved is JESUS the Lord (Acts 4:12). This is the Name *“which is above every other name”* that Joel mentioned when he prophesied: *“That whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered (saved)”* (Phil. 2:9, Joel 2:32). The following Scripture verses bear witness that the original believers in the Church were all baptized calling upon the Name of Jesus Christ, and never with the titles Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Acts 2:38, Acts 8:16, Acts 10:48, Acts 19:5, Acts 22:16, Rom. 6:3, Gal. 3:27, 1 Pet. 3:21. The baptism invoking the titles of Father, Son and Holy Spirit was not utilized in the apostolic era or in the first centuries of the Church. It was an interpretation which came later as part of the package of many other false doctrines, fruit of the apostasy, which were accepted

The doctrine of baptism is a subject of supreme importance, and has been considered to be so throughout the centuries which have passed since the Church was founded by our Lord Jesus Christ. He himself demonstrated the prominence of this sacrament when he issued the following command: *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”* (Mark 16:16). He also commanded His apostles to: *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”* (Matthew 28:19). He also emphasized the importance of being baptized, when He traveled to the Jordan River where John was baptizing, and asked John to be baptized Him, saying: *“Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness”* (Matthew 3:15).

Many present-day religious leaders teach that baptism is not truly important; thereby contradicting the same Lord they claim to obey and serve. They are following the example of the Pharisees and lawyers who *“rejected the counsel of God against themselves”* by refusing to be baptized by John (Luke 7:30). Nevertheless, this tract is not directed to those who oppose the Word of God, but to the sincere Christians, who, having a pure and sincere heart, want to obey the Word of God. These Christians are willing to obey God’s commandments, whether they come directly from the Lord or through His apostles, since the Lord bestowed upon them His authority when He declared: *“He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me”* (Matthew 10:40). I



and confirmed by the Council of Nicea in the year 325 A.D.

TO WHOM DOES THE BAPTISM BY IMMERSION, INVOKING THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS, APPLY?

You, the reader, can find the answer in the Word of God. It is for the Jews (**Acts 2:36-38**). It is for the Samaritans (**Acts 8:14-16**). It is for the Gentiles (**Acts 10:45-48**). It is for believers who have already been baptized with other baptisms (**Acts 19:1-5**). *“For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, EVEN AS MANY AS THE LORD OUR GOD SHALL CALL”* (**Acts 2:39**).

In conclusion: My beloved brethren and friends, if you love the Lord and are one of those who are interested in being sure of the salvation of your soul, we sincerely invite you in the love of Christ to meditate on this important doctrinal subject. The message contained within this tract is not merely a denominational point of view, but is a very specific commandment given by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, who declared: *“He who believeth and is baptized shall be saved.”*

Note: If you were enlightened by reading this brief tract or if it awakened an interest in you to know more about this fundamental doctrine in the process of salvation, we invite you to visit your brethren at the address listed on this tract or write to the editor of Publicaciones “Maranatha.” ■

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

PASTOR EFRAIM VALVERDE, SR.

“Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house” (**Acts 16:29-31**).

I must inform you that this message is not for everyone. It is only for those who are convinced of the fact that none of the many things that this world has to offer can give the peace that their soul desires.

Neither is it written with the intent of obtaining followers by attempting to convince someone to leave their religion to accept a different one. On the contrary, it is for those who have already experienced the fact that no religion can change their lives. This message is intended to help those who, because of the miserable circumstances in which they presently live, whether it is a sickness, marital or family problems, addictions, traumas, prisons or similar situations, have arrived at the conclusion that only God can deliver them.

It is for those who have come to the point in their lives in which they are compelled to ask the same question that the jailer at Philippi asked Paul and Silas: *“What must I do to be saved?”* If you find yourself in this category, through the love of Christ the Lord, I will explain to you God’s plan of salvation precisely as it is described in the Holy Bible.

FIRST STEP: You must acknowledge and confess your misery and need before God, and you must sincerely repent from your sins. Without this fundamental step, everything else you do will be in vain (**Acts 3:19**).

SECOND STEP: You must now accept the Lord Jesus as the Savior of your soul. You must believe that by His Grace and His Blood that He shed on the cross, He is able to cleanse all your sins, no matter how filthy they might be (Isaias 1:18).

THIRD STEP: You must believe that by doing the previous step, this is proof that you have become a partaker of the miracle of having been *“born again”* (John 3:3), which is the same miracle as having been *“born of God”* or *“begotten of God”* (**1 John 5:18**).

FOURTH STEP: It is now imperative for you to be immersed in the waters of baptism just as the Lord was, making certain that when you do so, the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ is invoked upon you (**Acts 2:28 and 4:12**).

FIFTH STEP: Being now a *“child of God”* (**1 John 1:12**), a *“new creature in Christ”* (**2 Corinthians 5:17**), allow the Lord—who now lives within you—to direct you in how you must live, what you must do and what things are not beneficial to you.

SIXTH STEP: The Lord has promised to give each of His

children the power of His Holy Spirit to help us to overcome and to give forth the *“fruit of the Spirit”* (**Galatians 5:22**). Ask the Lord to give you this gift together with the evidence of *“speaking with other tongues”* (**Acts 2:4**).

SEVENTH STEP: Exercise yourself in reading the Word of God so that you might grow spiritually and become grounded in your faith. Occupy yourself as much as possible in serving others, thereby doing God’s work.

FINAL STEP: now try to live the rest of your life in peace and in holiness, loving everyone, and being in communion with those who love the Lord as you love Him now. Seek out as much as you can the fellowship of those who live *“looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ”* (**Titus 2:13**).

CONCLUSION: Even though we may not know you, the Lord knows who you are, and our prayer is that He will bless you. We also ask our Lord Jesus that He will work in your life, praying that the plan described in this tract will bring the change in your life that you greatly desire. If the Lord places in your heart the desire to receive help from us in any way that we can, please contact us. We are here to serve you ■

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The LORD our God is one
LORD (Dt.6:4)

God is not a Trinity
(John 1:1, Col. 1:15)

The Supreme Name of our
God
Is the LORD Jesus Christ
(Phil. 2:9)

Baptism is by immersion
(Rom. 6:4)
In the name of the LORD
Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38)

The Holy Spirit of God
manifests itself by means of
the fruits (Gal. 5:22-26)
The gift of the Holy Ghost by
the evidence of speaking in
tongues.

Seeking to live a sanctified life
is an imperative requirement
(Heb. 12:14)

The Church is ONE and it
belongs to the LORD
(Matthew 16:18, Acts 20:28)

The Church of the LORD is
not a religious organization,
It is the body of Christ
(1 Cor. 12:27, 2 Tim. 2:19)

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