

GROW IN GRACE

NEWSLETTER

A GROW IN GRACE NEWSLETTER, EXTRA! Volume 45, No. 50a, December 11, 2018 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. *"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Savior JESUS CHRIST. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen."*

[This special edition is only being emailed... This edition has no News Notes are church announcements]

Handel's Oratorio "Messiah"...The Gospel in Song

FOR a very special and sacred time of FOCUS ON CHRIST I encourage the following, *IN YOUR HOME:**

- 1. Cut off your phone and all other electronic devices;** and get into a quiet place; and place the entire Handel's Messiah on CDs on your CD player.
- 2. Have the following SCRIPT in front of you and follow...** song by song... reading and PRAYERFULLY meditating upon the Word of God as it is being sung—

Thus, your mind and heart are focused upon 'listening' to the Word of God **through both the 'eye' gate and 'ear' gate!**

- 3.** If you do not personally have Handel's Messiah on CD's— the following YouTube link will connect you to the singing of Handel's Messiah. NOTE: IF you go the 'YouTube' route....

4. CONSIDER: Do not LOOK at the screen. Simply turn up the volume and *sit where you will ONLY FOCUS on the Words of Scripture being sung!*

WHY? *Your one goal is to WORSHIP the true and living triune GOD. Watching all the ‘musicians’ will tend to distract and dilute your worship!*

5. There are some slight variations in various renditions of Handel's Messiah... Thus, the following script, on a few occasions may have or not have a particular piece that is being sung— but for the most part, whatever COMPLETE rendition you have will follow the following script.

6. Here is the LINK to a fine rendition of Handel’s Messiah:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuGSOkYWfDQ>

GRACE TO ONE AND ALL! James Bell

Handel’s Oratorio “Messiah”...The Gospel in Song

And without controversy, great is the mystery of Godliness: God was manifested in the Flesh, justified by the Spirit, seen of Angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory. In Whom are hid all the Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge.

(Preface to the original workbook, selected by Handel's librettist, Charles Jennens, from 1 Timothy 3:16, Colossians 2:3)

PART I

Old Testament Promises of the Coming Messiah

OVERTURE

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. **(Isaiah 40:1-3)**

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain. **(Isaiah 40:4)**

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. **(Isaiah 40:5)**

Thus saith the Lord of hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come.

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. **(Haggai 2:6-7; Malachi 3:1)**

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. **(Malachi 3:2)**

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. **(Malachi 3:3)**

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Emmanuel, God with us. **(Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)**

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. **(Isaiah 40:9; 60:1)**

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. **(Isaiah 60:2-3)**

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. **(Isaiah 9:2)**

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. **(Isaiah 9:6)**

The Birth of Messiah

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. **(Luke 2:8)**

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. **(Luke 2:9)**

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. **(Luke 2:10-11)**

And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the

heavenly host, praising God, and saying: **(Luke 2:13)**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will toward men. **(Luke 2:14)**

Messiah's Invitation to the Hurting, Burdened Masses of People

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

(Zechariah 9:9-10)

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. **(Isaiah 35:5-6)**

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. **(Isaiah 40:11)**

Come unto Him, all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

(Matthew 11:28-29)

His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. **(Matthew 11:30)**

Handel's Oratorio "Messiah"...The Gospel in Song *PART II*

The Sacrificial Mission of The Messiah

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.

(John 1:29)

He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He gave His back to the smiters, and His cheeks to them that plucked off the hair. He hid not His face from shame and spitting. **(Isaiah 53:3; 50:6)**

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows! He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him. **(Isaiah 53:4-5)**

And with His stripes we are healed. **(Isaiah 53:5)**

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. **(Isaiah 53:6)**

The Rejection of the Messiah

All they that see Him laugh Him to scorn; they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads, saying: **(Psalm 27:7)**

He trusted in God that He would deliver Him; let Him deliver Him, if He delights in Him. **(Psalm 22:8)**

The Crucifixion of the Messiah

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart: He is full of heaviness, He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any to comfort Him. **(Psalm 69:20)**

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow. **(Lamentations 1:12)**

He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression

of Thy people was He stricken. **(Isaiah 53:8)**

The Resurrection of the Messiah

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell, nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption. **(Psalm 16:9)**

Lift up your heads, O Ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle, the Lord of Hosts. He is the King of Glory. **(Psalm 24:7-10)**

The Ascension of the Messiah to Glory

Unto which of the angels said He at any time, "Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee?" **(Hebrews 1:5)**

Let all the angels of God worship Him. **(Hebrews 1:6)**

Thou art gone up on high; Thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men; yea even for Thine enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them. **(Psalm 68:18; Ephesians 4:8)**

The Proclamation of the Gospel by All Disciples of Jesus

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of the preachers. **(Psalm 68:11)**

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings, glad tidings of good things! **(Romans 10:15)**

Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words to the ends of the world. **(Romans 10:18)**

The Messiah Rules from Heaven and His Second Advent Approaches

Why do the nations so furiously rage together? Why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord, and His anointed.

(Psalm 2:1-2)

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us. **(Psalm 2:3)**

He that dwelleth in Heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision. **(Psalm 2:4)**

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. **(Psalm 2:9)**

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, **Hallelujah!** **(Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16)**

Handel's Oratorio "Messiah" ...The Gospel in Song

PART III

The Hope of the Redeemed, Living in a Fallen World

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body yet, in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep. **(Job 19:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20)**

Since by man came death, By man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, Even so in Christ shall all be made alive. **(1 Corinthians 15:21-22)**

Behold, I tell you a mystery; We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. **(1 Corinthians 15:21-22)**

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. **(1 Corinthians 15:52-53)**

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written; Death is swallowed up in victory! **(1 Corinthians 15:54)**

O death, where is thy sting? O grave! where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. **(1 Corinthians 15:55-56)**

But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. **(1 Corinthians 15:57)**

The Confidence of the Redeemed in God and in God's Love

If God be for us, who can be against us? who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us. **(Romans 8:31, 33-34)**

Heaven's Song of Messiah's Triumph— Let it be Sung on Earth Even Now

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory and blessing.

Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

(Revelation 5:12, 9, 13)

Amen! (Revelation 5:13)