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Revelation of the Sons of God—P6

“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Colossians 1:13).

The great irony of man’s rebellion is that the god-like status he grasps at to attain will be given as a free gift to the Sons of God, while he will suffer eternal judgment for trying to “cast off” (Psalm 2:1-3) the Father’s bonds, Christ’s reign, and the Holy Spirit’s restraint.

Man labors to bring the “salvation” of the “*Son of Destruction*” (2 Thess. 2:3), but it will lead instead to the “*desolation*” (Matt. 24:15-22) of earth and “*eternal punishment*” from God (Matt. 25:46). It is only through Jesus Christ that man can achieve a salvation to eternal life through the power of His Resurrection, for “*those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead...cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection*” (Luke 20:35-36). Yet man rejects God’s gift of Life because it requires him to submit himself to God and surrender his sin nature to Christ’s work in him.

Man also loses the power God would freely give him in Jesus. In this life Believers “*have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come*” (Hebrews 6:4b-5). In Christ, they could speak any language (Acts 2:6), heal physical trauma (Acts 20:10), repair bodies broken from birth (Acts 3:8), heal sickness and disease (Luke 10:9), had power over spirits that manipulate/possess people (Acts 16:18), could perform great wonders (Acts 6:8), bring dead people back to life (Acts 9:40), see the future (Acts 11:28), punish the ungodly (Acts 13:11), suffer no harm from dangerous animals (Acts 28:3-6), etc.

This is all but a “taste” of the powers to come as these Believers were still mortal, suf-

fered, and died. In the resurrection, this taste of Jesus will become sustaining, for though not equal to Him, we will “*be like Him*” (1 John 3:2): He is glorious, could appear and disappear (Luke 24:31), had power over nature (John 21:6), could not die, and much more (all things man is grasping at with his technology).

Now, “*He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father*” (Revelation 2:26-27). Then will be “*the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time*” (Acts 3:21b). Believers will help restore creation, “*for the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God*” (Rom. 8:19-21).

Now, no true Believer grasps at these promises, nor “believes” in Christ to get at them, for Jesus told us that “*a slave is not greater than his master*” (John 13:16b), and our Master Jesus “*did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant...He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, God highly exalted Him*” (Phil. 2:6b-9).

“*Have this attitude in yourselves*” (Phil. 2:5). May we also empty ourselves, and “*walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God*” (Col. 1:10). May you “*walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory*” (1 Thess. 2:12). For He is worthy!

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