

# THERE IS A REASON

I've seen hard times, and I've been told
There isn't any wonder that I fall
Why do we suffer, crossing off the years?
There must be a reason for it all

I've trusted in you Jesus,

To save me from my sin

Heaven is the place I call my home

But I keep on getting caught up

In this world I'm living in

And Your voice it sometimes fades before I know

### THERE IS A REASON

Hurtin' brings my heart to You
Crying with my need
Depending on Your love to carry me
The love that shed His blood
For all the world to see
This must be the reason for it all

Hurtin' brings my heart to You
A fortress in the storm
When what I wrap my heart around is gone
I give my heart so easily to the ruler of this world
When the One who loves me most
Will give me all

# THERE IS A REASON

In all the things that cause me pain
You give me eyes to see
I do believe but help my unbelief
I've seen hard times, and I've been told
There is a reason for it all

# The Judgment Seat of Christ (Pt. 3)

Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:6-15; 4:1-5

# THE TRANSITION PERIOD (CIRCA 35 TO 64 AD) (Also called Acts Period)

Peter And The

God's Prophetic Program With the Nation of Israel: DIMINISHING

God's Mystery Program
With the Body of Christ:
INCREASING

Paul Wrote Romans 60 AD



Night of Israel's
Prophecy under
Gentile Darkness is
Far Spent. Rom. 13

**Salvation** 

Is nearer.

Day is at

**Rom. 13** 

Hand.

Body of
Christ
Salvation
And Day
Are here

Transition
Period
Over by Col. 1
Circa 64 AD



Israel's Prophetic Program Set Aside

A

- 1. At the Judgment Seat, the whole Body of Christ will stand because God is holding them up. There we will come into a full understanding of our participation in what God is accomplishing through us as members of the Body of Christ in His Mystery Program, equipped to display His Glory especially in the Heavenly Realm.
  - a. There, we all will have God-given like-mindedness that will cause us to praise God with one mind and one mouth (Rom. 15:5-6) as those who are the direct beneficiaries of what God is doing today through the apostleship of Paul ...
  - b. There, we will give account of ourselves not by glorying in our own person and work but in the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ as revealed in Pauline Grace Mystery Truth.

- c. Glorying in being the recipients of all that the Triune Godhead accomplished through the distinct apostleship of Paul in opening a way to bless the Gentiles apart from Israel, apart from the Law and without its works(Rom. 15:15-17).
- d. Glorying in being the instruments through which the Triune Godhead worked in and through us to proclaim, advance and defend the Gospel in an evil age on enemy territory (15:18 -19).
- 2. The important thing to note, however, is that Paul is already glorying in all this right now! You don't have to wait until you get to Heaven. God has brought us into His family as adult children and given all the resources and information we need to fully participate in His business, proclaiming it to a lost world—RIGHT NOW.

- 3. The only "things" that will follow us into life eternal are things of infinite and eternal value. And the only things that are of infinite and eternal value are the things produced by the infinite and eternal God.
  - a. The issue isn't the works but the work process that produced the works. It is either from God's factory, running on His power, cleansed by the blood of Christ and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, characterized by righteousness and life—automatically accepted of God forevermore, for all time and eternity.
  - b. Or, the factory of the flesh and Satan, running on the power of sin and contaminated with death, consigned unto destruction forevermore.

- 4. Whatever we say or do, in work or play, in all our relationships with fellow humans and God, in all that we do ... whenever it is the result of Faith in God and His Word (rightly-divided, ie., to us) and hearts overflowing with Love through the Spirit, serving God by serving others selflessly unto their edification: THIS IS ALWAYS ACCEPTED BY GOD BECAUSE HE IS THE ONE DOING IT IN AND THROUGH US. THEREFORE, IT IS OF INFINITE AND ETERNAL VALUE AND LASTS FOREVER.
  - --To throw away PGMT is to throw away God working in and through us.
  - --To operate according to the flesh instead of the Spirit, throws away opportunities for God to work in and through us.

- 5. An unbeliever and a believer can "do" the exact same work but the unbeliever must do it from the power of his own selfish flesh, and that is always rejected by God. The believer at least has the option of responding from the power of the Spirit in selfless Love, which is always accepted by God. Ex. Providing meals for the hungry.
  - a. An unbelieving co-worker fed the poor to show that she is really a good person and should, therefore, be good enough for God. God rejects this.
  - A believing friend feeds the poor using it to gain an opportunity to share Christ and His Word and Work with others unto their spiritual edification—this is accepted by God.

- 6. In short, the only things that will follow us beyond the grave are the things that God did in and through us. This is primarily carried out in and through an assembly of believers, together advancing God's Mystery Program for the Body of Christ.
  - a. Of course, the corollary of this is that if we rebel against God and reject His Word by replacing it with man-made traditions and by wrongly-dividing it, we prevent God from working in and through us.
  - b. Anytime we respond through the power of our flesh instead of the power of the Spirit, we miss out on an opportunity for God to work in and through us.

- c. This is called redeeming the time—every minute spent responding positively to God and His Word is a minute rescued from Satan's temporal plan for THE EVIL and is brought into God's eternal plan for THE GOOD (Eph. 5:15-17)—it becomes ours FOREVER!
- d. Every minute we follow Paul glorying before the Triune Godhead in the things summarized in Rom. 15:15-19 is a minute moved from time to eternity.

- 7. This is Satan's double-pronged strategy:
  - a. First, he tries to keep sinners from getting saved by getting them to reject all of Paul's distinct apostleship, including the Good News of the Death and Resurrection of Christ for sinners, replacing it with man's wisdom.
  - b. If that fails, and sinners believe Paul's Gospel and are saved, he next try to minimize them as reflectors of God's Glory by getting them to reject the rest of Paul's distinct apostleship, ushering in confusion and error, causing them to walk in ways not according to God's will for today, spiritually powerless and unproductive during their time down here on earth.

8. In Romans, Paul is bold but in a gentle way (Rom. 15:14-15), giving them the benefit-of-the-doubt that they are operating based on their sonship position and once they had this Letter they would use it to renew their minds, recreate their hearts and solve this problem in the assembly so that God could give them likemindedness that produced true unity (Rom. 15:5-6).

- 9. In Corinth, however, Paul was bold in a forceful way. 2 Cor. 4:14; 5:10: Manifested before the Judgment Seat of Christ
  - a. 4:1-6—Like Rom. 15:15-19, Paul glories in what God is accomplishing through his apostleship.
  - b. 4:7-5:9—Now we live by faith, proclaiming, advancing and defending God's Plan as revealed through Paul's distinct apostleship under adverse conditions on enemy territory. And this gives opportunities for God to POWERFULLY work in and through us in the midst of our weakness, giving life, establishing and edifying others, which manifest the glory of God (4:15, 17; 5:5).
  - c. Every incident of adversity gave Paul (and us!) an opportunity for God to work in and through him, producing things of infinite and eternal value.

### WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus
Sing His mercy and His Grace
In the heavens bright and blessed
He's prepared for us a place

When we all get to heaven
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the victory

### WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN

Let us then be true and faithful Trusting, serving every day Just one glimpse of Him in glory Will the toils of life repay

When we all get to heaven
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the victory
(Repeat Chorus)