

*In  
search  
of*

# Truth and Right

*Tim Henderson, Editor*

**Vol. 01  
No. 44  
06/03/  
2007**

*"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things."* Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

**A publication  
of the  
Wellsburg  
church of  
Christ**

*Translated ...  
Transformed...  
Transported*

*By: Larry Ray Hafley*

Via Guardian of Truth XXXV: 3, pp. 78-79, February 7, 1991

The terms of our topic and title are scriptural ones (Col. 1:13; Rom. 12:2; Lk. 16:22). Unfortunately, they do not occupy the minds and hearts of men and women as they ought to. Very few people give much thought to biblical translation, transformation and transportation. However, these words and the importance of the concepts they convey cannot be exaggerated. All things earthly, carnal and mundane are not to be compared to the themes of these ideas which the Holy Spirit has written.

**1. Translated:** *"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son"* (Col. 1:13). The Colossians, having been buried with Christ in baptism (Col. 2:12), had been delivered from the power or kingdom of darkness and had been translated into the kingdom or power of God's dear Son. In ancient times, when one kingdom captivated and subjugated another, it often would "translate" or carry the conquered kingdom from one place to another. Booty, spoil and plunder belonged to the visitors. Hence, they carried their captives away, along with all their goods and gold. This process was called "translation."

Hence, when the sinner has been delivered from the power of Satan, when he has been called out of darkness into the Lord's light and life, he may be described as *"translated into*

## **Today's Sermon:** *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ*

*"and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless...<sup>19</sup> If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied."*  
1 Corinthians 15:17, 19

### **TIMES OF SERVICES**

#### **SUNDAY**

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Bible Classes*</b> | <b>10:00 AM</b> |
| <b>AM Worship</b>     | <b>10:45 AM</b> |
| <b>PM Worship</b>     | <b>6:30 PM</b>  |

#### **WEDNESDAY**

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Bible Classes*</b> | <b>7:00 PM</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------|

This Bulletin is published by the:

**Wellsburg  
church of Christ**  
which meets at:

**112 Sunset Ave.  
Wellsburg, WV 26070**

*the kingdom of God's dear Son."* A war takes place on the battlefield of the mind. It is the arsenal and artillery of the devil's deceitful lusts versus the love, grace and goodness of God as expressed in the power of God, the gospel (2 Cor. 4:3,4; 10:3-5; Rom. 1:16; 2:4).

When one with an honest and good heart obeys the truth given by the Spirit, he is mustered out of allegiance to the devil and is translated into the kingdom of light and love (Lk. 8:15; 1 Pet. 1:22). His citizenship is removed and changed (Eph. 2:19-3:6). He is subtracted from the number of the lost and added to the roll of the redeemed, the church (Heb. 12:23; Acts 2:47). While men seek the privileges of freedom and move from one nation to another to acquire life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, they remain oblivious to their plight in the kingdom of the devil and to the horrors of the judgment to come. Have you been translated, or are you yet following the course of bondage, death and eternal misery?

**2. Transformed:** *"And be not conformed to the world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"* (Rom. 12:2).

*"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness"* (Eph. 4:22-24).

With translation into the kingdom there should come transformation of one's character and conduct. Some are translated who are never perfectly transformed (Lk. 8:13,14; 1 Cor. 3:14). Being conformed and transformed into the image of God's Son is a daily struggle. It is fraught with frustration, but unto those who are exercised thereby, it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness. In a sense, perhaps, translation is easier than transformation, as much as being born is easier than the proper development of one's faculties and functions.

Apart from transformation, however, there can be no salvation. *"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord"* (Heb. 12:14). Christians fervently, and rightly so, stress the process of translation while lightly touching the quest for transformation. As a new born baby dies if he does not grow and develop, so the babe in Christ will expire if he does not go on unto perfection, if he does not transform his conduct in harmony with the guidelines of truth.

**3. Transported:** *"And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom"* (Luke 16:22). *"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth"* (Matt. 13:41,42,47-50; 22:11-13).

You may not be translated into the kingdom. You may not be transformed in heart and life, but you will be transported when you die. There can be no doubt about that. All that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God and all shall come forth. It is an undeniable summons. You may turn a deaf ear to the call for translation. You may reject the appeal for transformation, but you will be given eternal transportation.

When the Lord Jesus shall descend from heaven with a shout, accompanied by ten thousands times ten thousands of his saints and angels, when he shall employ the keys of death, hell and the grave, when the voice of the archangel shall sound with the trump of God, every one of us will receive divine transportation. We shall be transported to meet him in the clouds or cast away from the glory of his power forever and ever.

It is the ultimate end of our transportation that makes our present translation and transformation so vitally important. Imagine being carried by the angels to meet the Lord in comfort or to be cast away unto tribulation and anguish, indignation and wrath! Such awesome reflections ought to cause us to contemplate the current state of our souls, for it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb. 10:31).

# *The God Who Waits for Our Return*

By: Gary Henry

Via—[www.wordpoints.com](http://www.wordpoints.com)

*"Thus says the Lord: "Will they fall and not rise?  
Will one turn away and not return?" - Jeremiah 8:4*

One of the wondrous aspects of God's character is the love with which He waits for us to turn back to Him. Only He could have made it possible for us to return, of course, but since He has done so, a failure to return is contrary to all wisdom, and even to common sense. Listen to the words with

which God implored Judah in Jeremiah's day: *"People of Jerusalem, when you stumble and fall, you get back up, and if you take a wrong road, you turn around and go back. So why do you refuse to come back to me? Why do you hold so tightly to your false gods?"* (Jeremiah 8:4,5 Contemporary English Version).

The God who waits for our return is a God who has promised us *forgiveness*. We can't fathom the value of what He had to sacrifice to make this forgiveness available, but we can stand in awe of the sacrifice and its underlying love. More than that, we can determine that our gratitude will be shown in our deeds. We can turn back to God, grounding all our hopes in the goodness of His character and living out the balance of our days in commitment to His truth. However foolishly we have forsaken Him, God remains the God He has always been. Long ago He revealed Himself to Moses as *"the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin . . ."* (**Exodus 34:6,7**). *"To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him"* (**Daniel 9:9**).

But the God who waits for our return is also a God who has promised us *rest*, and rest is surely what we need. Although we were designed for joy, most of us have worn ourselves out in counterfeit pleasures and substitute satisfactions. Hardly even knowing what we were looking for, we've been looking for joy in all the wrong places, and with truly tragic results. Our foolishness has worn us out. But God has made possible our return to Him, and it's only in such a return that the prospect of real joy can spring to life. Here is where our homesick hearts should come to rest. Here, at last, is where we find a perfect Friend.

## *News N Notes*

### **Traveling:**

- Terry and Lora Smith are in Iowa
- The Henderson's will be leaving for Alabama Thursday
- The Isinghood's and Dorothy Lancaster will be leaving for Iowa Saturday

### **Sick:**

- Dorothy Sams, Linda Marshall's mother
- Susan and Scott Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's daughter, and their baby.
- Hazel Carroll was admitted to Weirton Medical Center last weekend.
- **Continue to remember**—Blake Headen, Alberta's husband; Amanda Dowdy; Vicki Renshaw; Terry Smith's brother George; Faith Kress, Linda Marshall's niece; Ed Roberts father; Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother; Marie Roberts; Terry Smith; Cindy North; Grace Lancaster

### **Nursing Home:**

- Hazel Carroll; Pauline Sellers

### **Shut-ins:**

- Rhea Henthorn; Ethel Mahan; Josephine Clow; Mabel Fleming; Pauline Midcap