

GOD'S ROLES IN SALVATION'S PLAN

Joe Wright Griggs

*Because He loved the sin-cursed man
The Father God conceived a Plan -
Each Godhead Member had a Role -
(There must not be an empty hole!)*

*Jesus, God's Son, was Sacrifice ...
This Role's essential - but not nice!
For only He was free from sin -
(Since all the rest were sinful men!)*

*Of sin, mankind was unaware -
No guilt for sin - he had no care -
Thus The Holy Spirit's main task:
Help all mankind to drop this mask!*

*The Spirit brought strong conviction ...
Which led many to contrition!
God's Plan urged them: "Repent of sin -
Trust in Jesus, Be Born Again !"*

*God's Perfect Plan is now revealed -
From sin, mankind can now be healed!
Jesus commissioned all: "Go Tell-
Help save man from eternal hell!"*

Following His resurrection from the grave, Jesus met with His disciples and commissioned them: "Go you into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned." Mark 16:15 from The King James Bible

GOD'S THOUGHTS! GOD'S WAYS!

Joe Wright Griggs

If we *invert the way we spell-*
L- I- V- E: E- V- I- L-
There's little Hope that we can give
If we invert the way we Live!

When God made us - He made us good -
Throughout the age His Laws have stood -
As rules to guide us to His Light
And help to keep our lives upright!

We've all rebelled against God's Call -
We're all a part of "Adam's Fall" -
We fail to trust, fail to obey -
And sing: "I'll do it all my way!"

Our thoughts are where it all begins -
We nourish thoughts which lead to sins.
Lust, greed and thoughts of fame and pow'r-
(Soon we've rebuilt Ol' Babel's Tow'r)!

"My Thoughts are not your thoughts," said God -
(He sees us through our false facade) -
And "Neither are your ways My Way!"
(We're like lost sheep who've gone astray)!

But God has always had His Plan -
The Only Way for sinful man -
He sent His Son as Sacrifice -
For all our sin, He paid full price!

Israel's Best Known Prophet, Isaiah wrote:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says The Lord!" Isaiah 55:8 from The King James Bible

Jesus told Nicodemus who had visited Him one night:

"For God so loved the world that He Gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever Believes ... " John 3:16 from The King James Bible

GOD'S TIMING - GOD'S SPACE

Joe Wright Griggs

In God's Own Time within His Grace
We'll learn His Will within His Space!
*We're not our own, Christ paid "the bill" -
We live our lives to do His Will!*

Each believer has now been gripped
By God's Spirit -Who has equipped
Us each to live as God expects ..
Using the Gifts which He Perfects!

Some have the Gift of discernment -
Some heal, some teach, while some are sent
As missionaries to foreign lands -
Thus all fulfill the Lord's Commands!

Our purpose in this life is clear -
God gifted us and placed us here -
*To find and do His Perfect Will-
(It's His Kingdom we help instill!)*

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth:
"... You are not your own ... *For you are Bought with a Price*"
I Corinthians 6:19-20 from The King James Bible

Jesus taught in His Sermon on the Mount:
"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter
into the Kingdom of Heaven but he; *that doeth The Will of My
Father which is in Heaven. "*
Matthew 7:21 from The King James Bible

GRACE

Joe Wright Griggs

Grace: "God's Riches at Christ's Expense"»

What a Word and Definition!

No Greater Price before or since -
Christ paid All for our Contrition!

Christ left Glory to come to earth .
(He was part of the Great "I AM") -
*Exchanged Godhead for human birth
To die as Sacrificial Lamb!*

The sad, sad story of mankind
Is its refusal of God's Grace -
Thus all the spiritually blind
Use human thought to make their case.

Man's religions are based on works -
(Mankind is thus placed on the throne
Trusting "karma" to raise their perks)-
God's Grace is moot, and thus unknown.

None of man's systems can erase
The penalty for mankind's sin.
*But God has Sent His Gift of Grace -
In Jesus' name we're welcomed in!*

*Each human must accept God's Gift -
Repent his sin, trust in The Son!
Must recognize none else can lift
Save The Completely Guiltless One!*

The Writer of the Book of Hebrews asks this most penetrating question:
*"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation ... God also
bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers
miracles and Gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His Will?"*
Hebrews 2:3-4 from The King James Bible

THE GRASSHOPPER COMPLEX

Joe Wright Griggs

There were 12 men from Israel
Sent out to spy The Promised Land!
Who, on return, were asked to tell -
Was it a "waste," or was it "grand?"

They showed fine fruits - melons and all -
"That Land flows with milk and honey -
But we saw Giants, 9 feet tall -
We were grasshoppers in their eye!

The Israelites screamed in terror
On hearing giants ruled the land!
Caleb tried to show their error:
"Let's let God lead, He's in Command!"

For 40 years Israel trod
Through the desert - all faithless died -
A new generation led by God -
Conquered the Land which had been denied!

What lesson does their plight teach us
When we hear tales that cause great fear?
As grasshoppers do we whine and fuss-
Or do we believe our God is Near?

Some of the 12 spys brought an evil report of the land:
"... All the people that we saw in it are men of great stature ... "
Numbers 13:32 from The King James Bible
On the Mount of Ascension, Jesus told His Disciples:
" ... Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the
world!" Matthew 28:20 from The King James Bible

HIS NAME SHALL BE

Joe Wright Griggs

His name shall be called *Wonderful*
This One of lowly birth,
An angel choir shall sing the news
Of Wonder on the earth.

His name shall be called *Counselor*;
And through the coming years,
All men will go to Him in prayer
For respite from their fears.

The *Mighty God*, a name for Him
Who works Salvation's Plan
By rising Victor from the grave
To offer Grace to man.

The *Everlasting Father* name
Shall mean to everyone
That if they will trust in the Lord
God loves each as His son.

Christ will return as *Prince of Peace*,
Then can all nature sing:
"Joy to the World the Lord has come
Let earth receive her King!"

In approximately 750 B.C., the Prophet Isaiah wrote as follows:
" ... His name shall be called *Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God,*
The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. "

Isaiah 9:6 from The King James Version of the Bible

HOW LONG - OH, LORD?

Joe Wright Griggs

The cry of the *"Expectant Jew"* -
"How long, oh, Lord - How long?
Messiah is way over-due -
(Why the delay? Have we done wrong?)"

In God's own time, as prophesied -
(Yeshua) Jesus was born -
Here He is - now you Jews decide!
Accept Him, or treat Him with scorn!

Scriptures tell the true story -
How they treated their Messiah!
The very worst defamatory -
He was treated as pariah!

One of Jesus' twelve apostles wrote:
Jesus answered the high priest as follows:
"Hereafter shall you see the Son of Man
sitting on the right hand of Power, and coming in
the clouds of heaven .. " Then the high priest
Saying "He has spoken blasphemy"
They answered "He is guilty of death!" Matt. 26:64-66

THE HYPOCRITE'S LAMENT

Joe Wright Griggs

Ask not for water from her, Lord -
(That woman at the well.)
For all know that she lives in sin,
She must be bound for hell!

Ignore that man there in the tree,
Dear Lord; for it is said:
"Zacchaeus is a common thief,"
I wish that he were dead!

And please, don't hold the children, Lord,
They're dirty, they all stink,
Their manners are so bad, they need
More discipline, I think!

You've got to be more careful, Lord,
Your choices are too free -
You should only associate
With persons just like me.

Too many undesirables
Now populate the earth.
I would like to warn you, Lord,
To give them all wide berth.

With priests and preachers in the world
And all us pious folk:
What is your mission here on earth?
Dear Lord, was this God's joke?

Jesus cried: "Woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, *hypocrites* ... "
Matthew 23:13 from The King James Version of the Bible

I AM

Joe Wright Griggs

Jesus is part of the "I AM"

Eternally present in time.(John 8:58)

He is God's Sacrificial Lamb -(Isaiah 53:7)

And for us *Perfect Paradigm!* (John 13:15)

"I Am The Light of the World" -

My followers will have This Light!(John 8:12)

"I Am The Living Vine" unfurled -

Abide in Me to stay upright! (John 15:1-5)

"I Am The Living Water" - If you

Drink of Me, you will never thirst!(John 4:14)

"I Am The Bread of Life" -It's true,

Eat of This Bread, you'll not be cursed!(John 6:48)

"I Am the longed for Messiah."(John 4:26)

And "I Am The King of the Jews."(Luke 23:3)

(But for the next, *we stand in awe*) -

"I Am God's Son!" (*Reject or choose!*)(Luke 22:69-70)

And then *He* said: "I Am The Way?

I Am the Truth, I Am The Life!" (John 14:6)

God can accept no other pay

As penalty for our sin strife!

The Apostle Peter spoke boldly to the Jewish rulers, elders
and scribes including An 'nas, the high priest and his
attendants gathered to hear the defense of Peter and John:

" Neither is there salvation in any other: *For there is
none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we
must be saved!*" Acts 4:12 from The King James Bible

I AM WHO GOD SAYS I AM

Joe Wright Griggs

Don't let the world define our worth -
The critics love to "put us down!"
We'd best ignore and give them berth -
Not dignify them with a frown!

I am who God says that I am -
I'll be what He wants me to be!
I am a Star in God's Program -
He's my Promise - my Guarantee!

We do not need the world's acclaim -
(We're far better off without it)!
*All those who live in Jesus' Name
Are led by Him! Never doubt it!*

At the Last Supper, Jesus taught:
"Abide in Me, and I in you!"
If we obey, live as we ought -
We'll show the world what God can do!

Jesus instructed His Disciples at The Last Supper:

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine: no more can you, except you abide in Me. I am The Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in Me and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: *For without Me you can do nothing!*"

John 15:4-5 from The King James Bible