**THE BURDEN BEARER**

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For the last several days the Lord has dealt with me about **Burdens**. I felt the Spirit speaking to my heart that there are many of Gods people under heavy loads, they are Burdened down. Cares, worries, fears, every day pressures, family problems, afflictions and trials are draining them. People are weary and tired. It has drained them mentally, physically and taking a toll on their Spiritual life. It seems they have no strength left to press on.

**WHAT IS A BURDEN?**

Let’s look now at the Word – **Burden!** As the Spirit of God gave me the definition, see if you fit into this category or know someone who does. A Burden is that which is borne or carried – a load. Have you ever carried a heavy load? All through your life, you are picking up things, you carry them, move them. God gave us arms and hands to lift and carry, and our shoulders to bear heavy loads. It takes physical strength in your legs to carry both you and your load. There is a strain on the old body. It groans under the Burden that is carried! If there’s much lifting and bearing loads, the whole body becomes so weary and tired at the end of the day. It takes something out of you. Our jobs drain us. God knows the sweat and labors and toils of life take a toll on the physical man. Just picking up our feet to walk was an effort and so to speak, we limp our way home and crash on the couch. My heart goes out to those who struggle, pressing their way along from life’s demands and responsibilities. Life often finds you with heaviness from the Burdens placed on you that you did not ask for. After a while it becomes oppressive and grievous. For our Scripture reading in this Newsletter:

**Ga 6:1** ¶ Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

**2** **Bear ye one another's Burdens**, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the Churches that were in Galatia. Just how many

Christians were in those churches I don’t know, but probably many of them. God knew His people

were under a strain at that time. The trials were many. The temptation to let up and turn back was great and he feared they would be entangled again with the yoke of bondage. He told them – “You did run well, you were doing good, what was it that got in your way and got you down? Who did Hinder you and caused you to Quit obeying the Truth?”

**DO YOU NEED HELP?**

I want to ask you dear reader – Do you ever get tired? Do you feel like sometimes you are carrying your load all alone? Have there been times that you tried to put your shoulder to the load or reached down to pick up something that was heavy and wished you had someone to help you move it? Oh, if you just had someone there to get a hold of the other end and help you carry it! You sigh within, “this Burden is just too much for me, I can’t bear it alone!” Listen children, if we ever needed one another, it is surely now. God never ever made His children completely self-sufficient and independent. You need the Church! You need your Brothers and Sisters. We need one another’s prayers and support in this oppressive hour of afflictions and trial. Many are quitting, they’re giving up and staying home because their Burdens have gotten them down. Precious souls always get weary and give up inside before they ever go missing. Jesus said in **Matt. 11:28** – Come unto me all ye that labour and are Heavy laden, and I will give you Rest! What better way than to bring your burdens to the Lord and lay them down at His feet at the Altar while the Saints gather around and help you pray till God lifts that heavy load!

**RESTORING THE FAULTY**

Let’s look now very close at our Scripture text and see what the Holy Ghost is saying to us! **Gal. 6:2** – says: Bear ye one another’s Burdens, and so fulfill the Law of Christ.

It sounds to me like that every one of us need each other. We just cannot physically or Spiritually do everything on our own! We need help and assistance, encouragement and strength. Why? Because the battles are becoming too hard for some and they are fainting, giving in and giving up. Problems will overwhelm even the strongest among us and we become weary in well doing. The devil plays with the mind saying – what’s the use, what good is it doing and they begin letting up! When this happens it becomes dangerous. It becomes easy to fall from your steadfastness, which could lead to sin and failure in your Christian life.

**BEING OVERTAKEN**

Look very close now at **Verse 1** and you will see what the Lord is saying in these scriptures. Brethren, if a man (or woman) be Overtaken in a Fault, ye which are Spiritual, restore such a one in the Spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

(**Fault** means a false step; a slip up that ends in Sin. Like a man on an icy path – whether he realizes the danger or not, he slips and falls and ends up in the ditch. He or she is out of commission. They have failed.) This lets me know that if a person is OVERTAKEN, it means they wasn’t strong enough to stand up in the trial. Whatever their problem was, it overcame them in their time of weakness. Now the Lord’s Child lies there on the ground and the devil is beating him or her up over it saying – “You’re no good, you’re unworthy, look at you – you let God down and you let everyone else down!” Then you say to yourself – “I wonder what people think about me now? They’ve lost all confidence in me. They won’t want me now, I’m no good, I’m a failure and I might as well just quit and give it up!”

Can I say No, No, NO! God loves you in spite of all your faults and flaws dear Child. He still forgives. He cleanses and makes whole again.

**IT’S TIME TO RESTORE**

Notice what the Holy Ghost said: Ye which are Spiritual, Restore such a one in the Spirit of meekness. Be gentle with them. Handle them with meekness. Show a loving Spirit and realize that it could be you that has a fault. It could be you that has a weakness and has fallen. Consider that you too have trials, you also have temptations and O but for the Grace of God you would slip and fall. Remember, God strengthens you so you can reach out to the weak and struggling and help them back on their feet! Many of God’s children, especially the young converts, have a heart for Him but they are weak. I’m not talking about out-right sin and willful disobedience, not those who have no fear of God and who are careless, but those who are feebleminded and struggle to hold on to the Lord. It’s a cold dark world we live in and Christians are hated and pushed aside by our Godless society! This is why we need each other! This is why we need a Loving, praying Church filled with Brothers and Sisters who care. We need Supporters and encouragers to wrap their arms around each other in these cold dark times and edify one another. Be an inspiration and let people know they can make it. God Loves you dear Brother, He loves you dear Sister –don’t give up! God forgives, He cleanses, He renews and restores. Come on weak one who is struggling – Jesus is your Saviour and Keeper!!

**STRUGGLING SOULS AND SLIPPERY TIMES**

O God, help us not to be so quick to judge and become critical of others. Listen, if you have not walked in the other persons shoes, you don’t realize what they’re up against! We live in a pressurized age. The stress level is at an all time high. There are family problems, peer pressure on the job and in the schools. Many have no family to help them, they’re loners in their own home, isolated in their schools and made fun of, shunned and laughed at in their places of employment. These are slippery times and it is easy to slip and fall. There is sin and evil all around us. It’s like a magnet that draws and pulls and wears down the resistance. Being the only one serving God in a sinners home is the hardest battle. People are struggling in this hour. They have personal problems, physical problems, they’re crunched financially and all this takes a toll on you mentally. So who do you turn to? Where do you run? Does anyone care? Do they understand? Yes, YES! God does! He sees the load you’re carrying dear child. It’s just about got you down. Your Burden is about more than you can bear and maybe it is now!

The Lord is crying out to His Church, to His people who are praying and saying to the strong among us – “Run to the side of that weak brother and sister and help them bear their burden.” Your words and arms of encouragement can lift them up and help carry their load!

**LET US TAKE HEED**

**Verse 3** – For if a man think himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Listen, every one of us no matter how long we’ve been in this thing and served God, we will have our times of need – and the devil is always there to fill you with doubt and unbelief in your battles to get you to let up. He will attack your resistance and steadfastness. He’ll come after your Faith right in the middle of the fiery trial to get you to slip into discouragement and back off from the Call of God. He wants you to walk away from the House of the Lord and those who care. His desire is to overtake you in a Fault. Faults lead to sin and it brings spiritual death in the end. Yes, we need each other! Strengthen us Lord. Draw us closer and fill our Hearts with your Love and Power. Build us as a Church. Make us a Lighthouse, a Shelter and Refuge for the tired, weary and oppressed. **Bear ye One Another’s Burdens** and so fulfill the Law of Christ. It’s no time to pull apart but be there at an arms reach for your Brother and Sister. Be their Shoulder to lean on. We are the Lord’s arms, hands and voice to our generation, to lift up the fallen, to raise souls up from the dust of defeat and say to them – “God loves you – you can make it, don’t give up!”

Can I tell you – nobody can lift your Burdens like God can? Each one of us knows what it’s like to be weighed down, to carry a heavy load mentally, physically and Spiritually. O to have someone to come along to help you, to take your load for you – to have them to carry it and be free. Not only does the Lord carry your Burden, but He carries you! You are not too heavy for Him!

**ATLAS**

Today, there is a big large metal figure of Atlas in New York city that weighs 7 tons (14,000 lbs). In Greek mythology (legend) Atlas was a god under Zeus. He is seen as a crouched figure with the world and universe upon his shoulders. He is ever straining to hold up the Universe. The great god Zeus cursed Atlas and he is doomed to hold up the world on his shoulders for eternity. O Mr. Atlas, if you were really real, which we know you’re not, then how heavy must the load of this earth be upon your shoulders with all its sin and sorrows!!

**HOW BIG IS OUR GOD?**

O how great our Lord is! He is Omnipotent, All power – Omniscient, All knowing and Omnipresent. He fills Heaven and earth. Heaven is His throne, earth is His footstool. He sitteth upon the circle of the earth. Just to know that this earth is 24,900 miles around the center of it. If I would take a globe of the earth and put my finger on the place where I live in West Virginia and run a line straight through the very center of it to the other side, it would come out below southwest of Australia in the middle of the ocean! 8,000 miles below your feet where you are standing right now is the other side of our big round earth. Just how much does our earth weigh? The soil and clay is a very very small part of it. But to combine every ore, metal and rock that is in this earth, it would average out at 300 lbs per square cubit foot. Wow! And to know that God holds the world and the waters right in the palm of His mighty hand!! With 318 million population in America alone and 7.4 billion people now living upon the earth and to think God holds every soul! You dear child are not too heavy for the Lord to carry. Can I tell you, God is stronger than Atlas. He’s mightier than all gods. He is the greatest weight lifter in all the universe. He has broken all records and holds the world title. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill to set them among princes. There’s not a pit too deep that He can’t reach to the bottom of and pick up a poor fallen wretched soul and save. He is saying to His children all over this world:

**Isa 41:10** ¶ Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

**13** For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

**Ps 145:14** The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

Jesus said in **Matthew 12** – “If a man have a sheep and if it fall into the pit on the Sabbath day, will He not Lay Hold on it and lift it out? How much more then is a man better than a sheep?

**Isaiah 40:11** – He gathers the Lambs with His arm and will carry them in His bosom.

**Psalms 71:5-6** – The Psalmist David said: For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth. By thee have I been holden up from the womb.

**JESUS – THE BURDEN BEARER**

**HE BORE IT ALL FOR YOU AND ME!**

Jesus knows you dear child. He knows where you’ve been and He knows where you are now! Your ways are not hid from Him. Before you ever came along, even while you were in your mother’s belly, He had you on His mind. He knew you would have problems. He knew you would slip and fall beneath the load. He saw you struggling under your Burdens. Jesus wants to remind you while you read this that He took your place. Before you were ever saved, Jesus saw you bowed down under the burden of sin. Your load of guilt and shame was too heavy to bear. You needed someone to lift the load and take it away.

Just look at your Saviour for a moment. In  **Matthew and John**  it is recorded that Pilate brought Jesus forth to the people and said – Behold your King! There stood Jesus, God’s only Son who took your place. He stood there bruised, bloodied and beaten wearing a crown of thorns upon His head and dressed in a scarlet robe. They mocked and jeered and cried out Hail king of the Jews. Away with Him, take Him and Crucify Him. **John 19** records: And Jesus bearing His Cross went forth into a place called Golgotha which is Calvary. The Saviour fell beneath the heavy load and they compelled Simon the Cyrene to help Him bear the Cross. Dear child, whoever you are, that is struggling right now under all the cares, weights or even the burden of sins – consider Jesus! He took your place.

**Isaiah 53:4** – Surely He carried our sorrows and borne our griefs. He’s already carried them for you. He took your place – He took your load. **Vs.5** – He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed. Jesus bore it all! Bless His Holy Name!

Do you see Jesus struggling up the Hill? We’ll never ever know the burden He carried for us! We could never know the load that He bore because He loved us so! O the depth of that Love He has for you and it is still just as fresh and real and true today. The Hoppers Gospel singers, sing a song today that goes like this:

The world saw a man with a tree on His back and they laughed. But God saw His Son who He loved, carry more than that.

Oh He didn’t just carry the Cross, He carried me. He didn’t just count the cost, He counted me.

Mercy held my broken heart, close against His shoulders as He wept. Love beyond a moment scarred the hands and feet of one I never met.

The world saw a man die a martyr between two thieves, but God saw a Lamb bridge the gap of eternity.

He didn’t just carry the Cross, He carried me; He didn’t just count the cost, He counted me.

I want to say again to you who are heavy laden, focus your eyes right now, bend forward and take a closer look. Can you see your Lord and Saviour bearing the Cross upon His shoulders up the rugged hill? If you will look real close, you will see that He is carrying you!! It’s not just the two wooden beams, but it’s you that He is carrying. Your every mistake, your every fault and failure, every fear, all your heavy load of guilt and shame and all the Burdens and cares of your eternal soul from the time you were born till you go to the grave – He’s already bore it! I’m here to tell you – you can make it! God loves you. So right now lift up your head and look up.

**Psalms 55:22** - Cast thy Burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee.

**I Pet. 5:7** – Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

Until next time: May God Bless my readers!