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GREAT EXPECTATIONS

“This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity” (Psalms 118:23-25).

This is the beginning of a new year (2010) and a new decade (2010-2020). I believe this will be one of the greatest decades for the United Pentecostal Church International ever. Our future is full of promise and potential. The Lord wants to do great things in us and through us. Let us rise to the occasion of becoming an ever greater church.

Let's see what “great” means: “large in size or number, being beyond the average, mighty, grand, long continued; markedly superior in character, quality or skill.”

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth” (3 John 2).

Much has been written about financial or economic prosperity. This lesson deals with ways that the Lord would like to prosper us spiritually—prosper our soul. The Lord wants to make His church spiritually prosperous by supplying great things.

GREAT POWER

“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:33).

GREAT GRACE

Read Acts 4:33; Genesis 6:8; Hebrews 13:25; 1 Peter 5:5; Revelation 22:21; Galatians 2:21; 2 Corinthians 9:14.

“Grace” is God's free gifts or actions taken to meet human needs. By grace we have salvation (Ephesians 2:7-8) The concept of grace expresses all that God chooses to do for us. We have free access to God's grace (Hebrews 4:14-16). Much has been said about “grace,” but the verse(s) above talks about “great grace.”

GREAT FEAR

“And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things” (Acts 5:5).

“Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied” (Acts 9:31).

Also read Proverbs 9:10; 10:27; 14:26; 14:27; 15:16; 15:33; 19:23; 22:4; 23:17.

GREAT WONDERS

“And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people” (Acts 6:8).

Also read Habakkuk 1:5; Acts 2:43; 4:30; 5:12; 14:3; Mark 16:17-18.

GREAT FAITH

“When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel” (Matthew 8:10).

Also read Mark 2:5; Romans 1:17; 10:17; Colossians 2:7; Hebrews 11:1; 11:6.

GREAT DOOR

“For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries” (1 Corinthians 16:9).

“I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name” (Revelation 3:8).

GREAT HARVEST

“Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38).

GREAT PEACE

“Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them” (Psalms 119:165).

Also read Proverbs 16:7; John 14:27; 16:33; Philippians 4:7; Colossians 3:15.

GREAT LOVE

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13).

Also read 1 John 4:7-12; Matthew 22:37-40; John 3:16.

GREAT WORKS

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father” (John 14:12).

GREAT JOY

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 4).

“For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. And there was great joy in that city” (Acts 8:7-8).



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