All Rights Reserved By HDM For This Digital Publication Copyright 1999 Holiness Data Ministry

Duplication of this CD by any means is forbidden, and copies of individual files must be made in accordance with the restrictions stated in the B4Ucopy.txt file on this CD.

THE END OF YOUR SEARCH By John F. White

Landisville, Pennsylvania January, 1969

No Printed Book Copyright

* * * * * * *

Digital Edition 05/06/99 By Holiness Data Ministry

* * * * * * *

CONTENTS

Dedicated Introduction About The Author

- 01 -- The Lost Image
- 02 -- Panting Hearts
- 03 -- Under Arrest
- 04 -- A Full Pardon
- 05 -- Liberty
- 06 -- The Finished Work

* * * * * * *

DEDICATED

To my faithful wife, Joyce, who has stood by me in love and prayers.

* * * * * * *

INTRODUCTION

As a pastor for some twenty years I have found that there is a great need for a short simple book on the subject of Holiness. Many times one is asked for written material which will clearly give the steps needed so that one can obtain this wonderful place in Gods plan for each born again believer. Being led by the Holy Spirit I have undertaken to write in the most simple way that which I feel are the steps to Holiness.

It is my prayer that many souls that feel a need for a deeper life might find this wonderful satisfaction. The answer to every heart's cry is HOLINESS. It will meet every need, fill every void, and keep every soul until Jesus returns for His Church.

* * * * * * *

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

[A picture of John F. White and the cover of the booklet is included with this publication as hdm0905.jpg]

John F. White was born November 4, 1931, in the coal mining town of Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania. He is the oldest son of Mrs. Mildred White and the late John M. White.

Reverend White began to preach at the age of sixteen years and pastored his first church while in the eleventh grade of high school. He was ordained by his twenty-first birthday. He has served in Home Missionary work and as a pastor for the past twenty years.

He married Miss Joyce Ann Smith in 1958, and to this union two sons were born; David John, now age ten years, and James Richard, age seven years.

Reverend White is at present pastoring the God's Missionary Church of Salunga, Pennsylvania.

* * * * * * *

01 -- THE LOST IMAGE

"So God created man in his own image." -- Gen. 1:27a

Have you ever wondered why you are what you are? Is there something missing in your life? Are you disappointed with yourself? Most people are. There must be some reason for the burdens, sorrows and dissatisfaction man finds in his daily life. Far too many people, when they have discovered this inner need, have turned to their fellow man, or to the things of this earth, to try and fill this longing. Disappointments have come to such seekers, and they still remain discontented and dissatisfied. Only when man comes face to face with Truth will he find the answer to this ageless quest. The answer to this inner longing must be met by God.

The sacred pages of God's Holy Word, the Bible, reveals to us the truth about man and his relationship with God. Let us start at the very beginning and study the true facts. God did not create

man with this empty void. In the book of Genesis, Chapter 1, Moses makes it very clear that God did all in His power to make life easy for mankind. Before God ever created the first man, Adam, He prepared this old world in every way so that it might be a blessing to man. Plenty of food was provided in the creation of trees, herbs, fish, fowls, and animals. Man need never go hungry. A perfect home was brought into existence when God planted a garden eastward in Eden. Man was to have complete dominion over all.

The Scriptures tell us in this wonderful chapter of Genesis that man was created in the image of God. This image placed Adam in a position where he was pure, holy, righteous, and eternal, even as God Himself. This high state gave man the privilege of daily walking and talking with God. In the cool of the day God would come and visit Adam in his lovely garden home.

Of all the creation God made, only man was given the power of choice. Man was made with a free will agency; yet what good was this special privilege if there were no opportunity to use it.

God in His wisdom made to grow, out of the ground, every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. He also planted the tree of life, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil, in the midst of the garden home of Adam. God in His mercy and faithfulness warned man not to eat of the fruit from the tree of knowledge. If man disobeyed, the punishment of death was to be placed on him.

Now Adam, being the only human being, soon became lonely. One day God commanded all the animals to pass before him and from among these Adam could find no one to be his companion. Then God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. While he slept, God opened his side and took out a rib and made Adam an helpmeet called woman. When Adam awoke from his sleep God brought unto him the woman and gave her to him for a wife; Adam called the woman Eve.

One day as Eve was walking through her garden home, she met the devil, who had disguised himself in the form of a serpent. Satan engaged Eve in conversation. During the course of this conversation the devil brought up the subject of the tree of knowledge. Through lies and slanderous half-truths the evil one seduced the woman and she ate of the forbidden fruit. Then in full knowledge of her sin, Eve gave to Adam to eat.

At once there came a change over our foreparents. Their eyes were opened and for the first time they saw that they were naked. It was here man lost this wonderful image of God. Purity and holiness left their souls and depravity took control. Their eternal, priceless souls passed under the punishment of death that God had promised if they should eat of the forbidden fruit. The Scriptures state that the soul that sinneth . . . it shall die.

Perhaps Adam and his wife were not fully conscious of the change until later that day. When the cool time came and they heard the coming of the Lord God, a great fear came over them; a sense of condemnation was felt for the first time in their hearts. Instead of going out to meet God with joy as they had so often done before, they hurried off and hid themselves among the trees. The daily pleasure of walking and talking with God was gone.

It was then that God clearly showed His love and mercy to mankind. He could have destroyed Adam and his wife in their sins and made a new man and woman; yet we read that God was not willing that any should perish but that all should come unto repentance; this had to include the fallen pair. We read in this third chapter of Genesis that God at once did three major things for fallen man: First, God provided skins for them to wear so that they would no longer see each other's nakedness. After this, before He pronounced any punishment for the sin they had done, He provided a Saviour and Deliverer. Thirdly, God in His mercy took them out of their garden home so that they would not also eat of the tree of life in their sinful condition and be eternally lost.

Even today in the depths of the heart of the most vile there is a longing to be good. There is a hidden void that cries out in every man to be filled. Nothing can take the place of the lost image; man can never be happy in his sinful state; the soul cries out for a communion with its Creator. That is why the pleasure of sin cannot satisfy; the things of this earth cannot bring real joy. Man has a hunger for that place of Holiness he was created in; the lost image must be regained to put man's soul at rest. Thank God we need not die with this longing unsatisfied -- God has made a way.

* * * * * * *

02 -- THE PANTING HEART

"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." -- Psalms 42:1

That was the cry of King David of old. This is the cry of all mankind since the fall. We may never know the ache of the heart of Adam after he left his garden home and no longer could walk and talk with God. We may never know how many times Adam and Eve went back to the gates of Eden and hoped to re-enter the garden to seek out God, only to be turned back by the flaming sword of the Cherubims.

Feeling this inner unrest, foolish mankind has turned to Satan and the evils of this present world to try and fill this hunger; the cesspools of this world cannot quench the thirst of the soul. Only the fountain of life, with its pure springs of living water, can meet this inner need of mankind.

Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, recorded in Matthew's gospel said, "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled." This hunger is not met in the religious customs of this world. Church membership cannot restore this lost joy. This filling will never be complete until the soul of man has been converted and filled with the Holy Spirit of God.

God has left a dryness in the heart of man. Sin has sapped away the moral strength of mankind; sin has brought sorrow, suffering, tears, pain and death, into the lives of mankind. The way of the transgressor is hard. Satan has brought man to believe if he drinks intoxicating drinks, or uses narcotics and drugs he can drown out this inner cry. The poor indulging soul is soon to find out that after the effects of these sins are past, the hunger of his heart is still there.

Since man was made in the image of God, only returning to this image will bring satisfaction to the soul. The substitutes that this world offers fall far short of meeting this inner

need. Moral reform may change one's dealings with his fellowman but within himself there is no difference. Going to church and belonging to it may bring relief to the aching breast but it cannot cure the ill found in the soul. When man is left alone with himself, he still feels that empty void.

God instructs us to seek His face; Christ taught that we should seek and we shall find. Jesus cried, "Come unto me and I will give you rest." This is the one and only way out; this is the answer to the heart cry of man; this is the beginning of real joy.

Man must desire that God remove the guilt, the condemnation of sin, and replace it with pureness and holiness. Paul taught us that God wants us to be partakers of His Holiness. Jesus said the pure in heart would see God.

After wasting many years drinking from the cesspools of sin, it is a real joy to drink out of the fountain of life. Yet it is a fact that man cannot do this of himself; the carnal nature of man is in rebellion to God; the carnal mind will not be subject to the laws of God. The needy soul now finds a struggle going on between its cry for holiness and the sinful lust of the flesh. The enemy, Satan, controls the mind and the desires of man; thus rages the battle within one's self between good and evil.

The cry of the soul is for good. Yet the flesh craves after sin. Man left alone will die in his sins and be lost in hell. God must step in and help the longing soul in its cry for deliverance. The panting heart must not die of thirst; not while the sparkling streams of life are freely flowing.

* * * * * * *

03 -- UNDER ARREST

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin . . . " -- John 16:8

No man cometh unto the Son unless the Father draw him." These are the words of Christ. How then will the Father draw man? Christ Himself was about to leave this world to return to heaven. His going away troubled the disciples; seeing their clouded faces and knowing their troubled hearts, the Lord promises them another Comforter. He said He would pray the Father and He would send the Holy Ghost. When the Spirit of Truth was come He would lead man into all Truth. He, the third person of The Trinity, was to go out among the sinful family of man and seek out a bride for The Lamb of God. He would reprove the world of sin, He came to judge the world.

The Spirit locates sinners by many means; the prayers of saints for their loved ones, the faithful sermons of true ministers of God, the singing of gospel songs and hymns; testimonies, books, papers, tracts, and many other means are used.

The work of the Spirit is divided into three major methods when he seeks the hearts of sinners:

First, the Spirit is faithful in showing man the dangerous condition in which he is living. The true side of sin is revealed to the poor soul. For the first time the other side of sinful habits

and sinful pleasures are exposed. The sinner is brought to the place where he sees the wrath of God hanging over his soul. A hot fiery hell is made real; the judgment of God is made clear. The fun of sin is taken away and the punishment for sin is brought into focus. A feeling of conviction takes over the soul and the sense of guilt grows heavy. Many have lost their hunger until they could not eat; sleep has been taken away. As the truth is made clear, the avenue of freedom is seen, for it is written, "The Truth shall set you free."

Secondly, the Holy Spirit reveals to man his helplessness. No good that he does can atone for his sin. Works of the flesh cannot avail for his salvation; the ordinances of the Church such as Communion, Baptism, Church Membership, will not save him; being good is not enough; a moral reform will not suffice. He is lost -- lost without God. When man gets to this place he will become desperate. Life loses its attraction; death and the coming of Christ is greatly feared. Like Paul of old the soul cries out, "Oh! wretched man that I am, who is able to deliver me . . . ?"

When the soul reaches this place, then the third major act of the Spirit takes place; the hopeless sinner is now made to see. There in the midst of his darkness a great light is seen -- a hill is seen and on it a Cross. On that Cross the Son of man dying for fallen man is made clear; from His side comes blood and water to wash the unclean soul. A voice cries out, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." Oh, the joy that comes to the longing soul. There is still hope; this is the fulfillment to the promise that God gave to Adam and Eve that a Saviour would come. There is a fountain filled with blood where sinners can be set free.

The Sheriff of Heaven has placed the sinful soul under arrest -- now judgment must be done. God has only provided two places to deal with sin. While life is in this world he can come to Calvary and have his sins forgiven -- In death he is taken to eternity and there, if his sins have not been forgiven at Calvary, he is brought unto the great Judgment where his sins will punish him. We read in the Word of God, "Some men's sins come to judgment before them and other men's sins follow after."

The Holy Spirit has exposed sin, shown man its dangers, revealed the hopelessness of self deliverance, then pointed man to "The Way, the Truth, and the Life," -- Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Conviction has come to the fallen life; the Spirit has placed man under Arrest.

* * * * * * *

04 -- A FULL PARDON

"Thy sins are forgiven thee " -- Luke 5:20

The faithfulness of the Holy Spirit brings every sinner to the place where he stands before Calvary's Cross. Here the Spirit urges the convicted one to seek God for forgiveness of his sins. This can only he done through a complete confession. Faithfully the Spirit brings to remembrance the acts done in the mind and flesh, every act that has displeased God from the time the individual has reached the age of accountability unto the present. Many things overlooked or even forgotten,

now become alive in the mind of the seeker. A strange hatred for the things that once brought pleasure comes over the soul. One by one the acts of the past come before the sinner. As he asks God to forgive him for these willful acts, God blots out the record.

A willingness to forsake this former life and its habits takes place. The chains that bind the sinner with these acts are now broken by the Son of God; a glorious freedom comes to the soul for "he whom the Son sets free is free indeed." The sinner not only asks God to forgive him for his sins, and freely forsakes the former life, but now there is a desire to correct as many of the wrongs as possible. A time of restitution is a must; the back life must be made right. The asking of forgiveness of those one has wronged, the paying of old debts, and the returning of articles borrowed or stolen, brings great peace to the heart of the new born believer. The soul is not satisfied until he is clear with both God and his fellow man.

Many precious terms can be used to describe this full pardon. Many call it conversion. This means to be turned about; the soul that was serving Satan, and headed for hell is now changed. This same soul now serves God and is on his way to heaven. Others simply call this experience being saved. The Scriptures call it the New Birth. One has a new beginning. The first birth is of the flesh; we are brought into existence of the earthly life; we become awakened to the world about us -- eyes see the physical sights about us; ears hear the sounds of natural life and so forth. The New Birth brings us into a new spiritual existence. Eyes blinded by sin are opened and one sees the spiritual sights; ears hear the voice of God and His Son. You may have often heard some unbeliever say, "I just can't see it that way," when you talked to them about spiritual things. Their eyes were blinded to the things of God. Man will place everything in the natural life before the opening of the spiritual understanding. In John 3, Nicodemus, the great religious leader of the Jews, did this very thing when he said, "How can a man be born when he is old; can he enter the second time into his mother's womb?" The woman at the well of Jacob also placed the spiritual into the natural when she said to Jesus in the fourth chapter of John, "Give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." He did not speak of a physical birth but a new spiritual existence; He did not speak of water that would satisfy the body, but that which would satisfy the soul.

God does not forgive men and then remember his deeds to hold them as a weight above his soul. God takes these confessed sins away, never to be remembered again against the confessor. They are separated from him as far as the east is from the west. Man has discovered the North and South Poles, but no one has ever found the East and the West. Another place it is stated that our sins are cast into the depths of the sea -- and when the old earth and heavens go out of existence, as John relates to us in the book of Revelation, God does away with the sea.

This glorious act is called Justification. Not just forgiven, but forgiven and forgotten to the place that God cannot find any evidence that they were ever committed. The full pardon is not given to the believer with a record placed somewhere to remind the Lord of the sinful yesterdays, but the soul stands before God without guilt.

The New Birth does not come through church membership, communion, or water baptism -- this is an act of God, made possible through the blood of Christ shed on Calvary. The only way one can come to this place is when the Spirit draweth him.

The heavy burden is gone; the fear of meeting the Lord is taken away; the sentence of death placed on those under the curse of the Fall in Genesis is lifted. The Son of God, Jesus Christ, has now provided complete deliverance through His blood for committed sins. Conviction is gone, the bondage is over. Man now can commune daily with God even as Adam did in the Garden of Eden. Through prayer and Bible reading and the singing of the hymns of the Church a new fellowship with God is found daily. The new found life exists in the things of heaven not in the things of this earth. For some time the new born soul will find everything is peace and joy. The new found life has a grace period; yet the faithful Spirit of God will soon awaken the believer to the need of a deeper work. The time period for this varies from person to person, depending on the light one receives. As long as no willful sin is committed condemnation will not come, yet beneath all this a spirit of unrest will come to light; a hunger for more of God will increase; a deeper satisfaction will be desired. The bloodwashed heart will now desire cleansing The fountains that spring up within the soul in regeneration will long to burst out into the rivers Christ spoke about concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Doubts will arise, temptation will increase and the inner foe will begin to stir. Heaviness and dark clouds will rob the soul of its new found joy. Signs will appear to the soul that will point out the danger of returning back to the things of sin; it is here the Spirit will reveal a deeper work to the believer. The pardoned soul will now seek a liberty from the inner struggle. God will not leave us or forsake us at a time like this; He has provided a complete victory for every soul. One may be forgiven of his sins by God, make his restitutions until he is not in bondage to man, but he is not at liberty until he is free from himself. The cry of the pardoned soul is now ON TO LIBERTY.

* * * * * * *

05 -- LIBERTY

"Knowing this that our old man is crucified." -- Romans 6:6

When the new born soul begins to feel a strange struggle within, when the way grows harder and the inner voice cries louder for peace, then it is time to seek a deeper walk with God. When the blessings are not as often and the enjoyment is lesser, then it is time to move on. Paul said, "Let us leave the principles of the doctrine and go on to perfection." This word perfection does in no way refer to physical perfectness. Many have struggled over this word "perfect." They have placed it in the realm of the flesh. Yet God has always demanded a perfect spiritual life. It is spoken of Noah, and Job, that they were perfect. Abraham was instructed to walk before God and be perfect. David in the Psalms tells us to watch or "mark the perfect man." God has made it possible for man to walk before Him in perfection.

The foe of the believer is not found in the world about him at this point, but is found within himself. Paul teaches us that there must be a killing, a death to this image. Through the fall of Adam, man lost the image of God and in its place took on the image of Satan. Just as it took the crucifixion of Christ on the Cross to remove the curse of sin from fallen man it now takes the crucifixion of the image of Satan within the heart of a believer to make the heart holy before God.

This is not a suppression, or a binding up of the nature of Satan, but a complete freedom through the death of this nature. Not until this act takes place can man retain the blessing and regain the lost image spoken of in chapter one of this book. The old man and his deeds are removed and there is a putting on of the new man.

Man's greatest enemy is self. When man fights against the will of God and it is no longer easy to follow the leading of the Spirit, it is time for a deeper work. The Scriptures tell us the "carnal mind is not subject to the law of God neither indeed can be." Paul stated the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. One will serve the flesh and give in to the body, until he is crucified with Christ in holiness.

Justification deals with the forgiveness of actual or willful sins; sanctification deals with the inbred nature or the carnal man. There are many workers and teachers who deny this work but we read in the Word of God, "This is the will of God even your sanctification" and we are instructed to be "partakers of His holiness."

Someone has said that we get it all, speaking of salvation, in the New Birth. It is true that we get God in regeneration but God does not get all of us until we are sanctified. Isaiah spoke of a Highway and a Way; the Highway is speaking of regeneration and the way is speaking of holiness.

Sanctification is two-fold in nature, First of all, it is a the of separation. This separation is not a setting aside of the soul from sin and its habits, for this is done in conversion. It is a setting apart of the believer from the carnal nature, the inbred sin, the image of the devil, received in the fall of Adam and passed through birth to all men of all generations. Self-life must die and we no longer live to please ourselves but to please God. The pride of life is removed; the root of bitterness taken out. Rebellion and all the traits of envy, strife, jealousy, spite, and hatred are removed from the heart. Anything that acts, looks, and behaves like the devil is gone from the believer's heart. God does not leave us an empty void. After the taking out of the old man the second work of sanctification takes place; this is the infilling of the soul with the Holy Spirit. God puts the rivers of life in the soul. In regeneration hate becomes love, in holiness love becomes perfect love. In regeneration, sorrow becomes joy; in holiness, joy becomes joy unspeakable. In regeneration, pain becomes peace; in holiness, peace becomes peace that is beyond understanding and full of glory.

It is in the act of holiness that the Image of God, which was lost in the fall, is placed back into the heart of man. The hungering soul is completely satisfied. The longing soul receives rest and the inner panting is ended.

The Holy Spirit takes our redeemed soul and seals it unto the day of redemption. We are preserved in purity unto the coming of Christ. We, at the coming of Christ, will be presented unto Himself a bride without spot of wrinkle. This sealing is two-fold; it seals the world and sin out of the heart of the believer, and it seals the purity of the Holy Spirit in so that the world cannot take it away.

In holiness, the soul becomes a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. A liberty is gained that witnesses to man that he is the son of God, joint-heir unto the Father, through Christ.

Where the Spirit of God is there is liberty; Paul said we are to stand fast in the liberty wherein Christ has set us free.

We are now able to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; in purity of heart, in perfect love, joy and peace. The worldly one uses the styles and fashions of this world to adorn themselves. We are made beautiful in holiness.

Holiness gives men a unity among themselves. In Acts 2 we read that the disciples were in one accord. They did not all think exactly alike or perhaps look just all alike but they believed the same things and lived the same holy life. We may never be in one accord to the place where we are all the same, but we can be in one accord.

Holiness fully satisfies the soul in Christ. The end of the search for deliverance, satisfaction, and blessings, has been gained; each longing of the soul is met.

The Holy Spirit gives each sanctified heart gifts, graces, and fruit, to make his life a blessing on earth. The gifts are not to be sought by the person but they are a bestowment of God. The fruit is a result of the working of the Spirit in every life. These come without seeking or asking, but when He, the Spirit of God, is present in the lire the fruit of the Spirit is there.

The cry of the Spirit-filled soul is "Holiness unto the Lord." This is the battle cry of the true Kingdom of God. This is the trademark for the future Kingdom of the Lord, for it shall be on the pots and pans, the horses' bridles, and on the vesture of the King of Kings. Holiness is the passport to the Heavenly Kingdom; without it one cannot enter into the new Holy City of God John saw coming down. Holiness makes man a holy soul, to live with a holy God, in a holy Heaven, among holy people.

In conclusion of the chapter, let us look at several passages of the Scripture which deal with this second work of grace called holiness.

Jesus, teaching His disciples to pray in Matthew, Chapter 6, said they should pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done IN earth as it is in heaven." Note, this is so often quoted, "ON earth," but it is written, "IN earth." Man being made from the dust of the earth, the will of God must be done in man. The Word tells us the will of God is that no one should perish but that all should come to repentance, II Peter 3:9, and Paul states in I Thess. 4:3, that the will of the Father is even your sanctification. If the carnal mind is not subject to the law of God, then God's will cannot be done in man until this carnal mind is removed; this is done in holiness. This prayer was taught to the disciples by Christ so that they might pray for holiness.

Jesus in giving the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25, again is showing forth the need of holiness. Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." Paul states in Hebrews that "without holiness no man shall see God." Christ speaks of the ten virgins receiving an invitation to the wedding; all had lamps given them; this speaks of the work of regeneration. We are the light of the world. Five of the virgins took extra oil. This is speaking of the Holy Spirit, for He is represented by oil throughout the entire Bible. The bridegroom tarried, or delayed; when the call came at midnight all ten virgins awake from sleep

but five found their lamps going out; they had no extra oil to keep them lighted. They tried to borrow from the wise who took extra oil but could not; they hurried off to buy some oil. While they were gone the bridegroom came and took the wise into the wedding feast with him. When the five foolish returned they went to the door and tried to get into the feast but it was closed. The voice from within bade them to depart. They never did see the Bridegroom who represents the Lord. They left before He came and returned after He had gone into the feast and the door was shut. The five wise having extra oil, or holiness, met Him when He came. The pure in heart saw the Lord; the five foolish without holiness did not see Him; thus bearing out the Scripture of Hebrews 12:14, that "without holiness no man shall see the Lord".

Some teach that you receive the holiness of God when you are saved. Yet in Acts we read, "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed?" It is not when you believe, but since; this means after. Others teach you receive the Holy Spirit when you die, yet the one hundred and twenty received the Holy Spirit in Acts, chapter two, and none of them died.

This work of the Spirit is a second definite work of grace. It is the setting of the soul of man at liberty The song writer put it this way: "I'm as happy as a bird and just as free." I have written some words as a second verse to the well known chorus: "Wonderful, wonderful, Jesus is to me":

Holiness, Holiness, Victory within. Blessed are the pure in heart, Free from Inbred sin. Perfect peace, perfect joy, In the Holy Ghost, Wonderful the benefits Of Pentecost.

* * * * * * *

06 -- THE FINISHED WORK

"When he shall appear we shall be like him." -- I John 3:2

Just as holiness makes the soul perfect there is a work of God for the perfection of the body. This is to take place in the second coming of Christ; the sainted dead shall rise and be changed in the first resurrection; the living saints shall be changed in the rapture. Paul stated we shall not all sleep (die) but we shall all be changed. Immortality shall replace mortality and incorruption shall replace corruption; this is a great mystery but we shall all be changed. I Cor. 15:51

The physical defects of the body shall not enter the kingdom of heaven. Blinded eyes shall see, lame legs shall walk, deaf ears shall hear and dumb tongues shall speak.

When He shall appear, He is coming in clouds of the sky with the trump of God and the voice of the archangel. I Thess. 4:16 This is the Bridegroom of Matthew, chapter 25, coming after His bride. This is that glorious Church without spot, blemish, or wrinkle of Ephesians 5, rising to meet Him in the air.

We shall be like Him, made perfect as He is in His resurrected body. Victor over death and the grave. Nevermore to die but to be with Him forever; the body will be eternal.

In Genesis, God took man out of the garden home so that he would not eat of the tree of life, but now this new perfect man shall be led by the Lord to the tree of life to eat of its fruit and be eternal.

Without conversion one cannot be sanctified; without holiness one cannot be made perfect; without perfection one cannot see God. You will never be a finished work without the Holy Spirit. You must live pure and holy in heart for your body to be the temple of the Holy Ghost. And we shall see Him as He is. Our opened eyes made perfect in Christ shall behold the beauty of the Lord. This will be the complete finish to a wonderful work; this is the finished work of Christ for His own.

Oh searching soul, with weary life, Come to Christ, He will end your strife. Your longing heart He will set free, And give you perfect liberty.

Pant no more, my loving friend, Your search can come to an end In Holiness you'll find true rest, The fulfillment of your soul's quest.

He'll pardon and forgive your sin, Give you peace and joy within, Fill your life with love and rest, Preserve your life in Holiness.

Then when life on earth is o'er You'll reach that golden shore, Finished, perfect in His will Because your soul was Spirit filled.

-- J. F. W.

* * * * * * *

THE END