

"Go into the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow... and be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down..." (Exodus 19:10-11)

In the Third Day

by Ray Prinzing

"Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for He hath torn, and He will heal us; He hath smitten, and He will bind us up. After two days will He revive us: in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight. Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning..." Hosea 6:1-3

As a point of beginning we might refresh our mind with the word, as Peter gave it, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day." (2 Peter 3:8). Our God is the Author of time, He is not bound by time, but He has given it to the sons of men as a part of our present travail. But, using this comparison of a thousand years as a day, and realizing that two thousand years have almost slipped by since Jesus Christ walked the shores of Galilee, we know have used up two days, and are facing the dawn of the THIRD DAY, when the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings. There are some tremendous things which happen in the third day, and comparable at least, we want them to happen in our lives in THIS DAY wherein we live.

After Two Days, Life More Abundant

"AFTER TWO DAYS WILL HE REVIVE US..." This word REVIVE comes from the Hebrew "chayah", meaning, to keep or to make alive, to quicken. and it is also translated many times as LIVE. That He should preserve, keep alive is good, but He shall also cause us to LIVE, not to just exist, but to really live. It seems that far too many of these days we have just been existing, barely getting by, not backsliding, but neither has there been all the advance which we have desired. Our desire now is for that MORE ABUNDANT LIFE promised us in our Lord Jesus Christ. So the thought here is that while there has been a preserving through the years, we are to now receive such a renewing, a quickening, that we blossom out into HIS full life and begin TO LIVE IN HIS SIGHT. While we have had the earnest of our inheritance, and have been kept alive by it, now we desire the impartation of His fulness wherein the Spirit moves unlimited and unrestrained through us at all times.

"O Lord, revive (QUICKEN ANEW) Thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy." (Habakkuk 3:2). What a precious prayer coming from the lips of the prophet, and how it expresses our own heart cry today. Under the numerical thought, seven is the number of completion, or the fulness of the cycle, but here the prayer is IN THE MIDST OF THE YEARS MAKE KNOWN, in the midst of the years let Thy Spirit bring forth a divine quickening. Amen.

Traced through the beautiful accounts of the Old Testament were those situations when the children of Israel under the law were as unclean for a whole week, but if they wanted to enjoy the full liberties to be theirs at the end of the week, it was necessary for them to purify themselves on the third day. At the end of the third day they were not brought into the fulness of all which was to be theirs, there were four more days to be considered, but still the seventh day was contingent upon the work of the third day - this is very interesting. "He shall purify himself with it on the third day, and on the seventh day he shall be clean: but if he purify not himself on the third day, then the seventh day he shall not be clean." (Numbers 19:12).

He Will Raise Us Up, a Three-Fold Process

IN THE THIRD DAY HE WILL RAISE US UP. The Hebrew word used here for "raise" is "qum", meaning, to cause to rise up, make firm, and also includes the thought of establishing. In the third day He will cause us to rise up, to advance into Him, and to be established in Him. God is FOUNDING HIS PEOPLE, thoroughly establishing in His purpose, and no man shall uproot what HE makes firm.

God often works in triples. In fact we find a number of triples in the Word relative to the outworking of His plan of the ages. One of these is very important right here, and we shall use it under the thought of a "day". On the first day, by faith, God's victory is imputed to our account. This is the day of beginning as we start to believe, faith going into action upon the revelation which we have just received, whatever that revelation might be. All the glory and victory of the future is IMPUTED TO US BY FAITH ON THE FIRST DAY, not experienced, but imputed, reckoned to our account.

The second day - and two is the number of witness, the second day we go on from revelation to revelation, to confirm and strengthen our witness, i.e. our confession of that which we began by faith on the first day. But on the third day comes the time of victory when "love" makes fully manifest that which was started the first day, and steadfastly upheld the second day, anchored to the foundation of divine revelation.

Let us go over that again: the first day the plan is begun, the start is made. The second day, perhaps in many ways the hardest day, is that time when you have to just hold steady, bear witness and confirm all that which was begun on the first day. There's very little glory in the second day, even though there might have been a little excitement as the race began, but now it settles down to a more grueling, consistent running as one maintains the vision, but not yet arriving. There is a mute witness to the fact that we have begun and are pressing toward the goal, by the very action of our continuing.

We have a fine illustration in the book of Esther 4:15 to 5:1 - concerning the time when Haman had persuaded the king to send out an edict against all the Jews, for their destruction. Mordecai gathered together all the Jews in Shushan and proposed a plan - Ester was to go in before the king to plead for the life of her people. Esther said they needed three days for the execution of the plan, during which time all the Jews in Shushan were to fast, and on the third day she would go in and see if she found favour in the sight of the king. So they fasted a THREE DAY fast. The first day the fast was begun, and they laid out their petition before the Lord that there might be divine intervention to bring deliverance. Now, it isn't too hard to fast the first day, it is the second day when one has to maintain the pace and hold their confession before the Lord for His help. The Word declares that we are made partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast to the end. (Hebrews 3:14). It is the maintaining of our stand, even when it means a consistent plodding on, bearing a witness of our profession, whether it is easy or hard. But on the third day comes the victory, with the INCREASED EXPECTATION that this is the time for hope's consummation. Then Esther went in before the king, found favour in his sight, the answer to her petition, and the events were set in motion which ultimately ended with full victory for her people. Thus the threefold process-- begun, maintained, fulfilled.

When the revelation is first known our hearts are so filled to overflowing with the joy and anticipation of that which is to be realized, but it's inevitable that the second-day-period must follow, while through every operation of the cross, bearing the load ever onward, the message and the messenger become one. (Haggai 1:13). We cannot come into the triumph of the third day without the second day experience, regardless of how hard its travail might be on our flesh. But how blessed and glorious shall be the result of the process when it reaches its climax in God's appointed hour, and the new day shall dawn, and resurrection life be our portion.

These past years have brought forth much in our second day experience, while we were given various confirmations, sealing in our testimony of things to come. The revelation has been TRUE, faith has found its foundation, but now it is the REALIZATION OF THE REVELATION THAT WE DESIRE. Through the years the truth has truly enlarged and crystallized, but now we believe the time has come in which it becomes personified in our STATE OF BEING, to the glory and praise of God. amen.

God is doing a specific work in these days, and if our heart is reaching out to come into the fulness of that glory reserved for the age of the ages, when God shall be ALL IN ALL, then we must remember that in the THIRD DAY we must experience all that is thereto appointed.

Yes, the prophet says, in the midst of the years there needs to be a reviving and a MAKING KNOWN - unfolding the glorious truths needed to set us free, and lead on into that which is prepared for coming days. Then the prophet adds a little phrase, IN WRATH REMEMBER MERCY. We are, to be sure, expecting a mighty spiritual move, a quickening of the Lord to resound around the world - but we also know that situations around the world - but we also know that situations around us are so very corrupt they demand the outpouring of the wrath of God against all unrighteousness. Surely these will be days of mixed judgment and grace, for with the manifestation of God's power and grace and light, will also come the exposing of iniquity and a just dealing with it. Thus the timely prayer, IN WRATH REMEMBER MERCY.

"Though I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou wilt revive me: Thou shalt stretch forth Thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and Thy right hand shall save me. The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of Thine own hands." (Psalm 138:7-8).

O, hallelujah. Thou wilt perfect that which concerneth me. My God shall revive me in the midst of the years. Restoration is in the schedule of God for this hour, and if the casting away of Israel be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, BUT LIFE FROM THE DEAD. (Romans 11:15).

Abraham's Great Test Involved These Three Days

"And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and saith unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And He said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah: and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. and Abraham rose up early in the morning, saddles his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. (Genesis 22:1-3).

What a test-- as God asked Abraham to now offer up his son which faith had finally brought into existence, a son of promise which took years to receive. But faith must needs be tested and found approved. Abraham rose early in the morning, made all the needed preparations and began his journey - the initial part of his consecration. This was the first day action upon that which God had requested, and he proceeded to obey his God.

There isn't anything recorded concerning the second day. All that could be accomplished would be a plodding on and on, every step forward a mute testimony or witness that the purpose and consecration were being carried out. We don't know how Abraham felt, but sure enough, "he was a man of like passions as we are:, and I suppose there were many thoughts going through his

mind as they journeyed onward. In his heart he keenly felt the purpose of his journey, and thus every step forward, even though nothing was said of it, would be a mute confirmation that he was going to offer his son unto the Lord.

"Then on the THIRD DAY Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off." (Genesis 22:4). From then on it was a faster pace, activity increased, beginning with a separation from his two servants, as he said to them, "Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder." Yes, the third day began with a separation of company, as he went on a little father. It reminds us of that hour when Jesus was in Gethsemane, and it says that He left His disciples and went a little father. If we are going to take the way of God marked out thru our Lord Jesus Christ, following in His steps, we will find there comes a time when we must go on a little father then many of our brethren, while we press on to make our FULL CONSECRATION with God, that we might receive of His fulness.

Abraham went a little father, built his altar, bound his son upon it, steadily advanced without wavering to carry out that which God had asked of him - and then, just at the right moment GOD SOVEREIGNLY SPOKE TO HIM, IN THAT THIRD DAY, and the blessing was given.

You cannot stay on the starting line and still wear the victor's crown. It takes that GOING ON TO PERFECTION, until we reach the third day, and the manifestation of that which was begun in faith. OBEDIENCE is what God is after, it is worked out within us as we carry out, do those things which God commands. God told Abraham, "Because thou hast obeyed My voice," the promises once given to him were reaffirmed, and in the due course of time were, and are yet being gloriously fulfilled. If ye be willing and obedient - may God work this in us.

We need to watch upon which kind of foundation we are building, lest we suddenly find that it is all "sand", something which can be swept away by a severe storm. Faith presupposes a divine revelation, that which more "flesh and blood hath not revealed unto thee, BUT MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN... and upon this rock I will build... and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:17-18).

We need more divine revelation that our faith might be established, and have a solid foundation upon which to build. Though his test was sever, Abraham was able to build on his faith in his God, as the first revelation he received became that foundation upon which he could act in confidence, then proceed to build up his faith until it was made perfect, i.e. complete. Because he believed God, he went ahead and LIVED his belief, this living was called OBEDIENCE, and his obedience was rewarded with the rich blessing of the Lord.

The Type of a Voluntary Offering

"But if the sacrifice of his offering be a vow, or a voluntary offering, it shall be eaten the same day that he offereth his sacrifice: and on the morrow also the remainder of it shall be eaten: but the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice ON THE THIRD DAY shall be burnt with fire. And if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings be eaten at all on the third day, it shall not be accepted; neither shall it be imputed unto him that offereth it: it shall be an abomination, and the soul that eateth of it shall bear his iniquity." (Leviticus 7:16-18).

How plain is the picture, observe it closely: first a sacrifice is made, a willing, voluntary offering, as a freewill offering--and might we say that for our part, the remnant, elect company is a VOLUNTARY COMPANY. God has ordained it that way. We recognize the truth that we are predestinated, marked out by God for this purpose, by His great foreknowledge, and all of our paths are directed to bring us to this hour as He hath planned, but even so, when the call of God comes to us, it is a voluntary surrender on our part. We do read, "Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and your fruit should

remain." (John 15:16). Also, "we love Him, because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19). Yes, we love HIM, and have willingly offered ourselves to Him because we have come to understand that HE has first chosen us, and loved us, hence we desire to yield to such love, to follow Him however He would lead. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of Thy Power." (Psalm 111:3).

There are many people, who, even though they hear the call of God, will not choose His way. It may be so that it will take the severest fiery testings to the end of the "judgment ages", before they will learn the extent of the LOVE OF GOD that is in His call to them. Ultimately every man shall choose God's way. Love is never coercive, but it will bring them to the desired place in God, for LOVE NEVER FAILETH.

So we are, in a limited sense, now making a VOLUNTARY OFFERING UNTO GOD. Down through the years the little flock has always been a voluntary movement. Because of LOVE, not because of natural gains derived. The little flock has not gained prestige or fame, but rather there was persecution and misunderstanding. It was in spite of all this that the Church desired to make a sacrifice to God, because they responded to HIS love, and would return that love as best they knew how - in their service to Him. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1).

Then again we would notice - Leviticus 7, the priests were allowed to take of those voluntary, freewill peace offerings and eat the flesh thereof, on the first day, and also on the second day. Might we say, that thou we have given our voluntary offerings unto the Lord for the past two thousand years, we have been eating plenty of flesh with them. We certainly do not belittle these offerings, that isn't our thought. People, serving as Sunday School teachers, Jail workers, Street-corners or house to house, etc. as the list might be named, all of these have willingly offered their services to help as best they could, under the economy of the day, with the light and understanding they possessed at that time... but nevertheless, there was plenty of flesh mixed up with their service, as human fancies and carnal ideas mixed in with the GOOD NEWS. We have no condemnation for any of this, rather WE THANK THE LORD FOR ALL THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED. But, if there was any flesh remaining on the third day, it must be burnt with fire.

Fire on the Third Day Completes the Sacrifice

Is it any wonder, as we approach this THIRD DAY AGE, a new day, the incoming dispensation, the transition into a new era of God's dealings with His creation, that the Spirit is now giving such strong emphasis on FIRE? Because on the THIRD DAY any flesh remaining from the sacrifice was to be burnt (purged out) with fire. If any man was to eat of that flesh on the third day he would suffer dire consequences, for it would revoke all that which was imputed to his account on the first day. Whosoever ate of the flesh on the third day, it was to him an abomination, and he would have to bear the iniquity. This makes for a strong application.

We must come to the place where we FULFILL that consecration which we made somewhere way back yonder during our first-day experience. On the first day we started out, and said, "I believe you, Lord." And all of God's promised glory and righteousness was imputed, reckoned to our account BY FAITH. Then down through the years, even though there was plenty of flesh mixed up with it, nevertheless we endeavored to maintain our confession and hold it fast. But in due time there comes for us that "third day experience" when the completeness must be dealt with. Any flesh remaining must be dealt with by fire, thoroughly purged out. THIS IS THE FRUITION, THE MAKING FULL OF THE SACRIFICE. The sacrifice, even though it was begun on the first day, was not completed until the third day, when it was utterly consumed by fire. And if not completed the third day, it could not be accepted, neither shall it be imputed unto him that offered it.

Remember, the events of the third day will either fulfill and complete your faith, or else revoke even that which was imputed to your account previously. O, may our consecration be found acceptable before our Lord. These are important days, God is working in His saints to bring them to perfection. Every little test, trial and circumstance that comes our way is of vital consequence, since it becomes part of the purging process whereby all remaining flesh might be dealt with, yes, and removed. That which began, when we responded unto the call of God, must now be made strong in Him, until we are rooted and grounded in LOVE, and built up into the fulness of His stature as HE hath decreed. Every fiery test is not directed to this end. Praise God.

What a change of attitude it works in us as we realize that this is purification time. Everything allowed by God to come upon our pathway is allowed for a specific purpose, and nothing can come our way unless it is now permitted by God, hence to be used by Him to "work together" into good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28).

THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HATH MADE

Even though we readily agree that the greater moves of victory are yet to be manifested, we believe that GOD IS NOW MIGHTILY MOVING IN THE EARTH. Only the trouble with so many folk is that they had pre-conceived ideas of how God would move, and hence they haven't recognized HIM in what is being wrought out right now.

When faith begins to comprehend that "THIS IS THE DAY that the Lord hath made." (Psalm 118:24) then we will begin to see the hand of God in everything that comes upon us, knowing that it has been so pre-determined by God, in order that ALL FLESH might be dealt with, that all self-life, all of our contrary "I" spirit might be brought into conformity to His death, then to witness the reality of His glorious advancing out from among the dead, to stand in the congregation of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Yes, entering into this new-day-experience we suddenly find that the "personality parades", and the flesh being served, has become most distasteful, while we cry out for the pure move of the Spirit, untainted, unspotted by the works of the flesh. And such an heart cry is actually prompted in us by God Himself, for by HIS schedule it is time to consummate the sacrifice. Perhaps you, too, have turned away in disgust at what you saw, only to weep in your closet for the pure fulness of the Spirit Himself. then suddenly you find yourself in another fiery test - so think it not some strange thing come upon you, recognize it as THE ANSWER TO THE CRY OF YOUR HEART, God is purging YOU that His beauty and perfection might be seen.

Today and Tomorrow, the Time of Cures

"The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto Him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee. And He said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected. Nevertheless I must walk today, and tomorrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem." (Luke 13:31-33).

It is evident that Christ wasn't speaking of just some three day period of twenty-four hours each day, for He pointed out that He would be walking on and on toward Jerusalem, and it would require both that day, the next, and the day following. The meaning and emphasis is far deeper, and at a thousand years for a day, we are coming now to the third day since His first advent.

Notice that Christ was speaking of Himself, both as to His ministry, and as to His perfection, i.e. completeness. We are interested in much more than just cures, as He said, "I do cures today

and tomorrow." We yearn for a release of His divine life and immortality, yea, to come into that STATE OF INCORRUPTIBILITY where we won't need to be constantly cured of something.

Right now we are seeking God for that mighty reviving, and the quickening, until we are made partakers, raised up and established in the fulness of HIS life. Why hasn't the world seen this up till now? Because the day of perfection, i.e. completeness has not yet come. As the Head, HE is now in heaven waiting, "Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration" (Acts 3:21) He is now our Mediator, the High Priest of our confession (Hebrews 3:1), helping us maintain the confession of our faith, as the anchor of our hope, until the hour of "fulfillment" has arrived. When the SONS are brought forth according to the purpose of God, when they have been raised up and made to LIVE in His sight, then His LIFE flowing through them - we shall have, not just the limited realm of cures, but that abundance of His life to restore creation, fully reconciling them to God.

What is the vision which you hold in this hour? For an abundance of cures to be wrought, patching up the body of the old creation? Or for the dawning of that day of perfection? We rejoice with those who rejoice, and we are grateful for every physical healing, for whatever can be done to help people during the time of travail and sorrow that engulfs the world. But sitting in the deliverance meetings, as they are called, we have wept while this prayer slipped from our lips, "O God, we desire much more than this. Beyond the cures and healings of this day, Lord, we yearn for that mighty flow of Thy divine life to fill our very beings."

What was the result of such a prayer? The unfolding of the vision as given in 1 Corinthians 13:9-10, "For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." Yes, God began to reveal how He will swallow up all the "in part" into His fulness, as the little bucket of water is swallowed up when poured into the ocean, so also all the partialness of the IN PART shall be swallowed up in His blessed completeness.

In the Third Day, To Manifest His Resurrection

Christ declared that after doing cures for two days, on the third day He would be perfected. "For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. and ye are complete in Him, which is the HEAD of all principality and power." (Colossians 2:9-10). Just as soon as there is the manifestation of the entire anointed company of which HE is the HEAD, we shall see the great outflowing of resurrection life to creation. IN THE THIRD DAY we shall see the uniting of the Christ within us to the Christ without, the fulness resident in our HEAD, then in this combined anointed host lies the hope of every creature, as they, in His stead, reconcile the world.

As yet we are quite divided, with our house still retained in the heavens until the time appointed. We are still under that partialness of the second day, with cures, and with casting out of devils. It might even be pointed out that though we have power to cast devils out, we don't seem to be able to KEEP them out. So if those once delivered do not fill up their lives with Christ, the devils are apt to come back and finding a house empty, move in again bringing other devils along until the later state is worse than the first. How we thank God for the vision of that day when God's anointed company will not only cast out the enemy, but there shall be a removal of all the armour wherein he trusted, and they shall divide the spoils, yes, TO PUT AWAY ALL SIN FOR EVER.

Now let us connect the foregoing thoughts with Matthew 16:21, "From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto His disciples, how that He must go into Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, AND BE RAISED AGAIN THE THIRD DAY."

Notice something very significant. CHRIST IS TO BE RAISED THE THIRD DAY. While Hosea 6:2 reads that "He will raise US up and we shall live in His sight." Then Paul wrote the Ephesians that He "hath raised US up together, and made us sit together in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus."

(Ephesians 2:6). Now, in a limited sense, a beautiful type, Jesus was crucified the first day. The second day He maintained His confession of being a LAMB slain for the people, and stayed in the grave, but on the third day HE AROSE, according to the scripture. He arose, I say, in a limited sense, for though He did appear unto His own, as many as five hundred saw Him at one time, yet the world in general saw Him not. From the time that they took Him off the cross and laid Him in the tomb, the general public has not beheld Christ. BUT ON THE THIRD DAY, when the rest of the christed-body, of which HE is the HEAD, has also tasted of the fellowship of His sufferings, made conformable unto His death, and are ready to come forth in the likeness of His resurrection, then shall THE CHRIST, and His many-membered-brethren-company be raised up and be REVEALED TOGETHER before the waiting world, to begin the times of restoration of all things spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

"Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet believed" (John 20:29), for "Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now we see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. (1 Peter 1:8). This company now in preparation has not seen Him with the natural eye, it is a walk by faith, but we shall behold Him, and the reward of our faith is that we shall be glorified together.

Now, when HE died, HE ABIDETH NOT ALONE, but shall be manifested as many. He said, "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified... except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." (John 12:23-24). Yes, HE IS NOT COMING UP ALONE, BUT HE SHALL BE MANIFESTED AS MANY, for "lo, the Lord cometh in hold myriads of Himself." (Jude 14, literal translation). He shall be manifested with a body, a body that God hath given Him. This is dual in its meaning, for He has His own personal resurrected by, and He also has a glorious composite body, His anointed company where joined unto Him, that they all might be ONE.

Christ also stated, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all unto Me,." (John 12:32). There is A THIRD DAY wherein He shall be raised up, revealed to all men for Who He truly is, THE SAVIOUR OF ALL MEN. Then shall He begin to draw ALL men into Himself. We have not lifted Him up as yet, even though we have held church services a thousand times over. In fact so much of our doctrine and theology has been a caricature and gross distortion of His true character, love and grace. Because we have not seen Him AS HE IS, we have surmised and imagined all kinds of things about Him, so far from the truth. But praise the Lord for ever, we shall KNOW HIM even also as we are know, and we shall give to the world A TRUE ACCOUNT of Him in the third day.

A Three Days' Journey Climaxed By HIS Return

"And they departed from the mount of the Lord THREE DAYS' journey: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord went before them in the three day's journey, to search out a resting place for them. And the cloud of the Lord was upon them by day, when they went out of the camp. And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, Rise up, O Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; let them that hate thee flee before thee. And when it rested, he said, RETURN, O LORD, UNTO THE MANY THOUSANDS OF ISRAEL." (Numbers 10:33-36).

Jesus Christ is declared unto us, "THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE." (John 14:6) He has gone before us to seek out a resting place, and though we have not passed this way before, we have a Guide Who knows the way, for HE has marked it out, "leaving us an example, that ye should follow in His steps." (1 Peter 2:21).

While the cloud of the Lord overshadowed Israel, in New Testament terminology we have it even better, for now, "Christ IN YOU, the hope of glory." (Colossians 1:27). With us day by day, to give victory for every situation, as we cry out, "Rise up, O Lord, and let Thine enemies be scattered."

And HE is scattering them, subduing every part of the self-life that hinders the "hidden man of the heart" from growing up into His fulness. While HE also uses every outward circumstance to bring forth His divine purpose. Glory to His name.

And now as we near the end of our journey, we cry out, "Return, O Lord, unto the many thousands of Israel." "And unto them that look for Him shall HE APPEAR the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:28).

Yes, the journey has been long; having begun this race we dare not look back, but would press on toward the mark of the prize set before us. It has been a grueling second day experience, smitten, torn, bruised, but by His grace we have maintained our confession, bringing us right down to the finishing point - even while the FIRE consumes that flesh which remains. Now there shall be a rising up, the outworking of the power of HIS resurrection, and WE SHALL LIVE IN HIS SIGHT. The time of "cures" shall be swallowed up into perfection, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all. Then will The Christ be lifted up in a true manifestation of His life in His people and the world be drawn unto Him.

In The Third Day

by Ray Prinzing

The times and seasons in His hand
Fulfill the depth of His command,
Negation's score to ere withstand.

Till glory fills the earth withal,
Releasing thee from evil's thrall,
In full submission to His call.

Till thou shalt bow in worship true,
And quickened by His Spirit's dew--
Henceforeth to live in "All things new".

Once torn and bruised by chast'ning's rod,
Its discipline to break thy clod
Till thou hast yielded all to God.

Then He returns to build again
A Work unknown by mortal pen,
His sovereign grace in chosen men.

Till thou shalt live within His sight,
Healed of past corruption's plight,
Become the glory of His light.

Once cures the order of the day--
Yet now they fade and pass away,
And in their stead, "the things that stay".

Perfection which thy spirit sought,
That sphere which hell so long has fought,
Yet now fulfills what prophets taught.

His day-- the third from Calvary's hour,
Shall dawn and bloom as Eden's bower,
To manifest God's hidden power.

Ah, yes, to know as we are known,
A harvest of God's seed once sown,
The world shall see His sons, His own.

As it is always written in Ray's publications:

NOT TO BE SOLD - this book is given free, as a ministry of love. That which is contained therein cannot be valued in terms of material goods, but is shared with others because it has become life and light to us. May it be received in the same spirit of love in which it is shared. If there be any thoughts expressed that seem to be the result of only natural thinking, we trust that a little breath of kindness will blow the chaff away, that the kernel of truth might remain to bless.