

Providence III

X	B	R	A	S	S	H	C	R	U	H	C	F
T	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	N	P	O	A
E	Q	B	R	W	C	Z	D	B	F	R	S	S
F	Y	R	D	R	O	W	I	S	E	O	U	T
F	H	E	Z	I	R	P	S	T	I	V	F	I
U	E	T	P	M	T	R	H	U	G	I	F	N
B	S	H	R	H	X	O	O	M	N	D	E	G
G	I	R	E	O	U	P	N	U	E	E	R	L
N	M	E	M	G	W	H	O	L	D	N	I	O
I	O	N	H	E	B	E	R	T	Q	C	N	R
G	R	T	C	I	S	T	E	S	P	E	G	Y
N	P	R	O	V	I	S	I	O	N	R	U	B
A	S	R	O	T	A	T	I	M	I	Y	N	U
L	D	Y	I	N	G	M	L	A	B	M	Y	C
C	W	K	U	O	E	G	R	A	H	C	P	Q

CHURCH	BRETHREN	CYMBAL	BRASS
CLANGING	BURN	BUFFET	PRIZE
WORD	PROVIDENCE	FORETHOUGHT	THEE
PROVISION	PROPHETS	MESSIAH	PROMISE
CHARGE	BLESSING	IMITATORS	WORTH
SUFFERING	TUMULTS	FASTING	UNFEIGNED
POWER	GLORY	DISHONOR	DYING

Notes

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Welcome

It is a pleasure to have you with us this hour. Our endeavor is to worship God in Spirit and in Truth by adhering to the scriptures in all that we do and teach.

If you desire to have a private Bible Study at your convenience, let us know.

Website

Meeting Location

ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY:

A.M. _____

P.M. _____

Bible Study: _____

Phone

Volume III

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You Will Suffer

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the churches or individual brethren, he did so with great love. He identified the importance of love, when he said, "If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

Knowing as the Apostle Paul affirmed, concerning himself, saying, "I do all things for the gospel's sake, that I may be a joint partaker thereof. Know ye not that they that run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? Even so run; that ye may attain. And every man that striveth in the games exerciseth self-control in all things. Now they do it to receive a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, as not uncertainly; so fight I, as not beating the air: but I buffet my body, and bring it into bondage: lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected" (1 Corinthians 9:23-27), we can readily see that what Paul (Continued, pg. 2)

You Will Suffer, continued

wrote to the brethren was for their physical, as well as their spiritual well-being. Paul, as well as Peter, encouraged brethren to rise above the world they lived in, and as the Apostle Paul affirmed, "If then ye were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth" (Colossians 3:1-2). We can rest assured that what Paul encouraged, he also did.

The Apostle Paul encouraged the brethren, saying, "Be ye imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1), as an example to be followed. The things Paul endured should give us, not only hope, but also a sober look at what Paul meant when he said, "Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12).

Paul described the lives of the apostles "as ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in watchings, in fastings; in pureness, in knowledge, in long-suffering, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in love unfeigned, in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things" (2 Corinthians 6:4-10).

The Apostle Paul, as all men, suffered and rejoiced in his life. No matter what took place, he kept his focus on the things above. Therefore, he was able to say, "I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

If you have the same desire to serve the Lord, that which is required is that which was set forth by the Apostle Paul to the brethren in Thessalonica, saying, "For verily, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we are to suffer affliction; even as it came to pass, and ye know" (1 Thessalonians 3:4).

Remember the words written to the church of Smyrna, saying, "Fear not the things which thou art about to suffer: behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). ret

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Eph. 3:8-12

I. Defined:

- A. The word "Provide" means "to foresee."
- B. Providence: "What it Is and What it is Not"

II. Providence in the Scriptures:

- A. Acts 24:2 – The term "providence" is used, not in reference to God, "but to the forethought and work of man."
- B. Rom. 13:14 – "make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof"
- C. The Law and the Prophets consists of the moral training and providential preparation of the world, for the coming of the Messiah:
 - 1. Gen. 12:1-3 – Promise and charge to Abram: "be thou a blessing"
 - 2. Gen. 18:16-19 – "to the end that Jehovah may bring"
 - 3. Deut. 6:7 – "Thou shalt teach them"
 - 4. Neh. 9:20 – Of Israel, "Thou gavest also thy good Spirit to instruct them"

III. Knowing the Purpose of God:

- A. How many times have you heard the question: "Why did God create man, knowing man would sin?"
- B. Inspired writers put the question into perspective:
 - 1. Psa. 50:21 – "...such a one as thyself"
 - 2. 1 Cor. 2:11 – "the things of God"
 - 3. Isa. 55:6-11 – "my thoughts"

Solomon Says

If thou sayest, Behold, we knew not this; Doth not he that weigheth the hearts consider it? And he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? And shall not he render to every man according to his work?

Prov. 24:12