"Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Behold, a man whose name is Branch, for He will branch out from where He is; and He will build the temple of the LORD.' " -- Zechariah 6:12



Joe and Lydia Shanahan at the completion of their wedding ceremony Kirk Hinebauch, officiating Hinebauch Ranch, east of Glendive, MT

"But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation."

Hebrews 9:11





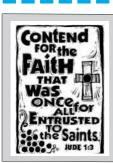
Question of the week:

According to the apostle Paul as stated in Romans chapter 9, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God. Who are the true descendants?

Last week's question: David failed in his first attempt to get the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem. Who consecrated themselves to carry the ark on their shoulders in the second attempt? *Answer: the priests and Levites (1 Chronicles 15:14).*

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 63Wednesday Night (7/17) – 59Morning Assembly – 98Butte Lord's Day – 14Evening Assembly – 49GF Lord's Day – 54,77 Wed. - 45



Jewels from Jude

A Great "Doxology"

A "doxology" is an expression of praise and glorification of the great God who revealed Himself through Jesus Christ. (The word "doxology" is derived from the Greek word *doxa*, which basically means "glory.") The book of Jude, amazingly, which has been full of concern and warnings about the church at large, closes with one of the greatest doxologies in all scripture. Consider what is packed in just a portion of this closing of Jude's appeal.

• Keep from stumbling – God's power is awesome. It was demonstrated in the Creation, it was repeatedly demonstrated in the inspiring deliverances of Israel from her enemies, but it was especially demonstrated in raising Jesus from the dead and seating

Him at the right hand of power. But here is another aspect of that power, brought forth in Jude's doxology: "Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling..."(Jude 1:24). The record of mankind's ability to rise above sin and live righteously before God on its own power is dismal; in fact, it is zero. Hence when the scripture, in glorifying God, says that He is able to keep the saints from stumbling, it is a recognition of the great power of the Almighty working on behalf of the cooperative saint. **Make you stand** – When the ark of the covenant was brought into the edge of Israel

in the days of Samuel, 50,070 men died at Beth-shemesh because they looked into the ark. Their response was, "Who is able to stand before the Lord, this holy God?" (1 Samuel 6:20). The lesson is clear that unholy man is not able to be in the presence of the high and holy Jehovah (or Yahweh). Yet Jude points out that, for the true and faithful Christian, He "is able to make you stand in the presence of His glory." The

whole plan of God as it pertains to man is to prepare a people of faith who desire to be with Him and able to see Him as He is. Jesus, praying just before His entrance into the Garden of Gethsemane, expressed His wish, "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, in order that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world" (John 17:24). For His own purposes,

The saint should be living in joy during his time on earth!

His great power is "able to make you stand in the presence of His glory."

 Blameless and with joy – The record of the scripture is that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Hence the individual who is not justified before God by the terms of the faith of Christ will end up in the fires of hell, separated from God forever. But for the blessed one who has been immersed into Christ and who has continued to walk in the light, Jude writes that he stands "in the presence of His glory, blameless with great joy."

How awesome it is for those who have been called out of darkness and into God's wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9) to be able to have God's working on their behalf to keep them from stumbling. The saint's faith coupled with God's power gives the saint the tremendous potential of walking in the footsteps of Christ. How awesome it will be for each child of faith to be able to be welcomed into the presence of the Almighty for all eternity, confident and accepted rather than trembling with fear. And how awesome it will be for each of the brethren to be blameless before the great King and Judge, with no twinges of guilt or shame.

With these blessings in place, heaven will be a place of great and perpetual joy! The prospect of perpetual joy should then translate into the saint's living in joy during the years of his earthly sojourn. As Jesus Himself said, "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full" (John 15:11). "And the ransomed of the Lord will return, and come with joyful shouting to Zion, with everlasting joy upon their heads" (Isaiah 35:10).

JAY WILSON