

ful to, to me, a poor sinner! For that is this soul's sincere desire unuttered or expressed; the emotions of the hidden fire and the trembling in the heart. But here let us wait patiently on the Lord, for he will appear at his own appointed time, at the end of the law, for righteousness, for he hath said again, "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted," and "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled," and here they shall all be filled, for here sorrow and sighing flee away for a little season, and I believe that here they are filled with the presence of the Lord so that they are made to enjoy a little foretaste of heaven, and feel to be in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ—whom to know is life and peace—and where he says "is the way, the truth, and the life," and to know this truth, which is Jesus will make us free, and if he makes you free ye shall be free indeed. Here I believe we lose our old fetters and shackles of sin and condemnation and Jesus appears among us the "chiefest among ten thousand and altogether lovely," and wipes all tears from our eyes, and gives us the kingdom and gives us light.

I remain your unworthy brother, if one at all, in hope.

W. E. GREEN.

AFTON, BERKLEN COUNTY, GA.,  
August 26, 1874.

The little church, (Salem), near where I live, has realized in the last few months, some of the refreshing showers of grace from the presence of the Lord, being blessed with some additions, and among them, a dear daughter, who, after much tribulation, was enabled by the grace of God to enter his kingdom on earth, and whose soul for a while seemed to be waded above earthly things, and who indeed seemed to be risen with Christ and her affections set on things above. I asked her to write her experience (although I knew so well her incapability to write, so far as literary knowledge is concerned,) which she did as she says "in much weakness." And, believing it will be interesting to at least some of the readers of the LANDMARKS, (Elder Rowe of Georgia, among them, as he saw and conversed with her, as is expressed in her communication,) and especially to some of her relatives and friends who have some personal acquaintance with her, I forward the same for publication.

Brother Gold, I do not hesitate to say that none but those who have realized the like and similar circumstances, can imagine the joy, the comfort and consolation, realized by a father, when he has all confidence that it is a work of grace. Oh yes! to hear them say in the language of the prophet (even in their youth,) "O, Lord, I will praise thee; thou wast angry with me: thine anger is turned away and thou comfort-

est me."

Brother Gold, prospects seem to brighten among the churches in this section. The poor way-worn watchman upon the walls of Zion manifests a zeal according to knowledge, preaches with power and great earnestness the unsearchable riches of Christ; and, there seems to be much life, light and zeal with ingatherings among the churches.

Oh, that God may keep us humble, help us to praise his great and holy name for the benefits of his sovereign grace, and lead his children in the way everlasting.

Your brother in tribulation,  
E. J. WILLIAMS.

## Zion's Landmarks,

P. D. GOLD, EDITOR.

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## Editorial.

{ "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." }

### THE END OF THE YEAR.

The year 1874 is rapidly closing its days. It has been remarkable in North Carolina and perhaps elsewhere for its healthfulness and the dryness of the Summer, Autumn and Winter, thus far, without its being hurtful to crops. Our Creator has wonderfully dispensed the mercies of the bow of promise this season. The farmer has cultivated and housed his bountiful crop with great ease. Rains have descended enough to make harvests abundant. Surely if kind and genial seed-time and harvest could stop the mouths of murmurers, and tune them to thanksgiving, such a delightful scene would be displayed now.

Yet times, they say, are hard!—Well, the extravagance and other improper conduct of ourselves, and the oppression of many who have the opportunity have made them so.

Another remarkable event is the ingathering of members into the churches of the saints, and the unusual number that has been severed from the churches for improper conduct, in some sections. Discipline is needful to keep the house of God in order and shows faithfulness in that house.

As we all bid farewell to this year may it be to welcome a still nearer approach to the truth as it is in him who is without beginning of days or end of time.

### REMARKS ON REV. 5: 8.

"And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty Elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints."

A friend, Ardon Wiggins, sends a request for my views of this scripture.

I will briefly express such impressions as I have on this wonderful portion of the divine word and its context.

The occasion on which these divine scenes were displayed was the opening of a door in heaven, and the sounding of a voice to John to "come up hither" and see things which should come to pass hereafter. John was immediately in the Spirit; for what he saw and heard could be so witnessed only in the Spirit.

He saw one on a throne before whom were the seven Spirits of God, also four beasts, and four and twenty Elders, all worshipping God.

There was in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book, written within and on the back side, and sealed with seven seals. Here was a great mystery. Books contain mysterious knowledge. This book thus written and thus sealed contained such sublime and closely concealed mysteries that none was able to open the book. John wept much because none was found worthy to open the book, or loose the seals.

Seals shut up and render incomprehensible that which is so enclosed. What God seals up it is impossible for man or angel to unloose and interpret, unless power or wisdom is given them. Neither the ignorant nor the learned can read what is sealed. Job 29: 11, 13.

seals, showing the infinite mystery as well as its infinite importance.

But one of the Elders tells him to weep not, for that the Lion of the tribe of Juda had prevailed! Then John beheld the Lamb in the midst of the throne, and in the midst of the beasts, and in the midst of the Elders as it had been slain.

The true character here brought forth in this vision of the throne and glory of heaven is Jesus, the Lamb God provided; for in the mount of the Lord it shall be seen, Jesus in the midst of the throne of God. The blessed mediator is in God and God is in him, for he is God manifest in the flesh. He is also in the beasts, and in the midst of the Elders, and in the midst of every christian; in the midst and on either side of the river of the water of life; before time, in time, and after time: the center, source and sum of every christian joy; the Alpha and Omega; the beginning and the end; and thus stands, appears and is as he had been slain, not as if he had been slain, but as he actually was slain, the glorious sacrifice that reconciles man to God, washes away his sin, atones for him and makes him one with God and fits him to dwell forever in heaven.

He prevailed to take the book. Jesus has all power in heaven and earth. Had the scenes here described already transpired? My impression is that what John saw came to pass after the resurrection and ascension of

Jesus. The reason for it is given specially in the 9th verse of Rev. 5th chapter, where the beasts and Elders say, "thou art worthy, &c for thou wast slain." Here they declare he had already been slain at that time; also John is told, these things shall come to pass hereafter.

But this evidently was a time of investing the Lamb with divine honor and majesty. When was it? We elsewhere in scripture are taught that upon the ascension of Jesus into heaven he should be enthroned with great glory.

When God brings in the first begotten in the world he commands all the angels of God to worship him. Jesus, being the brightness of God's glory and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high. Here upon his glorious exaltation, after the resurrection, he is crowned with glory and receives all power, while all the angels worship him, and the text is fulfilled, that all things are put under man's feet, that is under the feet of Jesus, the Son of man. The Saviour says, "verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me the works that I shall do also; and greater than these shall he do: because I go unto my Father, and he will send me more Spirit, and he shall testify of me: here he is speaking of the

had finished it: he enters heaven and receives all power; hence he sends his disciples in his name, and they do the works that he did, and greater than these also. How? Not in any strength of theirs. But then was the glorious application and effect of his finished redemption realized, or the ingathering of the fruit and travail of his soul. While on earth he went forth weeping bearing precious seed, but after his ascension comes the harvest time, the time of joy. Hence many more are gathered into the Churches under the preaching of the Apostles than believed under the teaching of Jesus. Christ's sermon on the mount seems not to have gathered many followers, while Peter's sermon was so blessed that three thousand souls were gathered in one day. Up to that time the whole number seems to have been but a few hundred, but now in one day witness what a number is added. The honor is not to the disciples, the power is not theirs, it is what Jesus is doing because he has gone to the Father and there been glorified.

The scenes here described of his taking the book, loosing the seals, and exercising this great power manifest in heaven that he was thus exalted, and that every one bowed the knee to him.

The book contained what is described in Revelation and was the hidden wisdom or purpose of God in ruling;