

# "He Who Regards The Clouds..." (Cont. from pg. 3)

thing to have a realistic understanding of the possible challenges of the future, excessive anxiety will keep us from "reaping" the fruit the future may bring.

By Kyle Pope

#### What God Hath Promised

Annie Johnson Flint

God hath not promised Skies always blue, Flower-strewn pathways, All our lives through; God hath not promised Sun without rain. Joy without sorrow. Peace without pain.

But God hath promised Strength for the day, Rest for the labor. Light for the way. Grace for the trials. Help from above, Unfailing sympathy, Undying love.

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# Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

10:20 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

### **Elders:**

Ken Ford Charles Kelley Pat Ledbetter

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Dean Bowers Eddie Cook Bill Davis Neil Ledbetter Jeff Nunn Fred Perez

# **Evangelist:**

Kyle Pope

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# "He Who Regards the Clouds..."

cclesiastes 11:14 ing storm clouds. The observes the wind will and reap with a quiet not sow, And he who determination. He must regards the clouds will keep his mind on his

not reap." (11:4). In a literal sense the wisdom of this is evident. The farmer who allows himself become to overly con-

strong winds will not be ing hindered by it. busy working to plant worried about impend- God.

reads - "He who wise farmer must sow

work, without allowing possible dangers to distract him. Such a worker is not ignorant of the possibility of disaster, he simply

cerned with the threat of keeps himself from be-

In a figurative sense his crops. Nor will he the same is true in a bring in a bountiful har- number of other areas in vest if he is constantly our life of service to (Cont. on pg 2)

# "He Who Regards The Clouds..." (Cont. from pg. 1)

## **OBEDIENCE TO** THE GOSPEL

Christ, having never been obedient to the gospel because they "regard the clouds." They know what the Bible calls upon them to do in obedience to to try and win the lost to Christ. Sadly the Lord, yet they are overly concerned many Christians never act upon opporwith what might lay ahead if they make tunities they have because they "regard the commitment.

Jesus does teach us about the importance of "counting the cost" in passages such as Luke 14:27-33 which uses the illustration of the king counting the cost of going to war or the



builder the cost of building a tower. structed to be prepared to give an an-These teachings do not, however, alter swer. I Peter 3:15 tells us - "But sancthe necessity of action. All who are obe- tify the Lord God in your hearts, and dient to the gospel will struggle with always be ready to give a defense to faithfulness. They will face periods of everyone who asks you a reason for strength and periods of weakness. We the hope that is in you, with meekcome into Christ as "babes." No one ness and fear." The responsibility of ever comes to Christ fullgrown. It is a the child of God is (by and large) to

process of maturity. Even so, one should never allow the fear of future struggles to keep them from coming to Christ initially. "...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day Many a soul has died outside of **of salvation.**" (II Corinthians 6:2).

#### EVANGELISM.

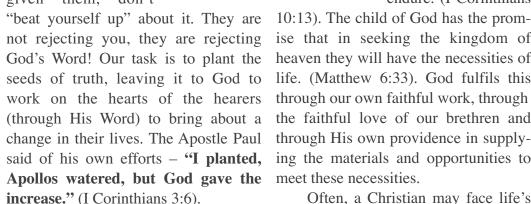
It is the duty of every child of God the clouds." They worry about being

> unable to answer certain questions. Or perhaps they fear that their answers may turn someone away.

The Bible does teach that few should be teachers (James 3:1). Yet, all are in-

simply offer the Word of God to others. certainties of life and the way the non-Not all will be touched by Scripture. Christian must view life hinges upon Some will be offended by it. While we the promises God has given to His peoshould do our best to present God's ple. The child of God can know that Word in a way that is gentle, honest God is always present with them

and simple; when we have done this we should not be overly burdened by the consequences. That is to say, if someone rejects the message of Scripture which you have given them, don't



#### LIFE'S UNCERTAINTIES

Changes in life are always unset-

through good times and bad. (Matthew 28:20). They can have the assurance that God will not allow them to face circumstances that are too harsh for their faith to endure. (I Corinthians

"beat yourself up" about it. They are 10:13). The child of God has the promnot rejecting you, they are rejecting ise that in seeking the kingdom of God's Word! Our task is to plant the heaven they will have the necessities of seeds of truth, leaving it to God to life. (Matthew 6:33). God fulfils this (through His Word) to bring about a the faithful love of our brethren and change in their lives. The Apostle Paul through His own providence in supplysaid of his own efforts - "I planted, ing the materials and opportunities to

Often, a Christian may face life's uncertainties as one who "regards the clouds." We worry and fret about what we will do when some hardship befalls tling. As Christians they are no less us. Or we become depressed and detraumatic. The difference between the spondent fearing some other remote way the child of God may view the undisaster. While it is one (Cont. on pg 4)

