

Clothed in Righteousness

Scripture reading: Revelation 3:17-18

In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve were righteous; they were sinless, therefore, they were clothed. We can safely assume that they were clothed in white linen. When they sinned, they "*knew that they were naked.*" Immediately, their righteousness went. So, in a spiritual sense, righteousness is indeed a clothing. When Jesus Christ rose from the dead, Mary Magdalene saw Him clothed even though His natural clothes were left in the tomb. Being clothed is a part of righteousness.

Matthew 17 tells us of the transfiguration of Jesus Christ. Verse 2, "*And (He) was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.*" Matthew 13:42 and 43 speak of the righteous. "*And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*" God is saying that when we have attained righteousness, there will be a brightness, a shining forth, that comes from us. We could further assume that what is stopping the shining at the present time is the unrighteousness, or our flesh.

The angel in Matthew 28:3 had the same brightness in his countenance. "*His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.*" Revelation 3:5 speaks of the designation of righteousness that is given to the overcomers. "*He that OVERCOMETH, the same shall be CLOTHED IN WHITE RAIMENT; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.*" As we compare scripture with scripture, we understand that the BRIDE of Christ are those who will be called the OVERCOMERS. They "*shall be clothed in white raiment.*"

In Revelation 3, the Spirit of God speaks to the Laodicean church (the period of time in which we are in now). Verse 17, "*Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.*" This Word, then, is speaking directly to us. Verse 18, "*I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and WHITE RAIMENT, that thou mayest be CLOTHED, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.*" "*The church of the Laodiceans*" is the church of the last age. We are the people of the last age. Therefore, the last batch of people who will be selected for the class of the bride are those of our time and our generation.

(Excerpt from *The Book of Revelation, Volume 3*, pages 51-52)

Thought for today: What is stopping our shining at this present time is the unrighteousness, or our flesh.