

## *SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS*

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

Jesus went to hell.

It wasn't what anyone thought about before He got there. He didn't show up wondering where He was. It didn't matter that the gates were closed. Lots of demons. Some used-to-be angels. And Satan. Jesus ripped the gates open, took the keys (I would like to have seen that exchange!), and shouted just one word: "**Freedom**." Short trip.

But Jesus didn't need long to change the history of the world... and the history of every human enslaved by sin. He didn't look like Michael who had thrown Satan out of heaven. He didn't look like an angel at all. He looked like a warrior just out of combat. Dirty, scarred, eyes ablaze. No PTSD. He won the war and He came to strip death and Satan. **They knew it.**

But they were and are stupid. Convinced that after all the centuries of weakness and corruption and evil and torture and death, they still had Earth locked down. Jesus walked into their domain, took the keys and left the gates irreparably broken when He left. **It was not their domain any longer, no matter what they thought.**

When Jesus left hell, Someone said, "**Wake up!**" So, He did. He went back to Israel and hung around for a few weeks, laying out plans for the rest of the world. Wouldn't be easy, but it would be absolutely worthwhile. Because Jesus went to hell. Ephesians 4:7-10; Revelation 1:17-18:

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it says, "When He ascended on high, He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

# Welcome!

July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025



*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."*

### **SERVICES**

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services

## SERMON NOTES

### HAMMERED

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Prayer** – every Sunday evening, from 6 – 7 here in the sanctuary. This is informal, come as you are for the time you are able. James 5:16 (ESV):

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

**Wednesday Bible Study** – we continue our study of the Book of Ephesians.

**30-Days of Prayer** – the month of July. All the Assemblies of God churches throughout the United States will be joining together for 30 days of prayer in July. The prayer guides are on the table in the foyer. These will aid in praying for our church, community, State, nation, and world. Please take one and join in prayer!

**Annual VBS** – August 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We need volunteers. If you would like to help, please see Leah or Lori. If you are willing to be God's instrument volunteering, please sign up on the table in the foyer. Thanks you!

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**TEXT:** Isaiah 44:12; Exodus 25:10-22

His strong arm is strength in a \_\_\_\_\_, focused on a \_\_\_\_\_.

1. **How It WAS** \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ = His \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ speaks of His \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **How It WAS** \_\_\_\_\_ – Hebrews 9:3-5

a. **A golden bowl with manna speaking of Jesus'**  
\_\_\_\_\_ in His presence.

b. **Aaron's \_\_\_\_\_ that budded, speaking of \_\_\_\_\_ in His presence.** Psalm 16:11; Numbers 17:8

c. **The** \_\_\_\_\_

The Word of God is \_\_\_\_\_ to the presence of God!

We cannot be more \_\_\_\_\_ than we are \_\_\_\_\_!

3. **How It WAS** \_\_\_\_\_ – Matthew 18:19-20

4. **How It FUNCTIONED** – \_\_\_\_\_ – 1 Samuel 6:19

*"We are going to create \_\_\_\_\_ objects made out of gold which will represent something \_\_\_\_\_ and living and active right now and throughout \_\_\_\_\_!"* Revelation 4:8; Isaiah 6:2-4; Ezequiel 47

*"Here is how we will do it Moses. You are going to \_\_\_\_\_ these angelic beings, but you will need a \_\_\_\_\_ to do it."*

\_\_\_\_\_ is necessary to get the end \_\_\_\_\_ that God wants.

*"With the \_\_\_\_\_ I am creating a place where I can \_\_\_\_\_ with you."* Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:19-21

*"I will get in the \_\_\_\_\_ of everything and I will bring about My greater glory and My greater \_\_\_\_\_ in your life!"* Isaiah 61:1-3, 10  
**God has dressed you in a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ this morning!**