

# GREAT THINGS

By Keith Greer

Let's review some facts concerning " **great things**" in the Scriptures:

**Great Love.** "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ..." {Ephesians 2:4,5}

Mankind has received no greater expression of love than that shown by Christ when He gave His life on Calvary's tree. He loved us while we were still sinners {Romans 5:6-8}. God loved the whole world, and He sent His only Son to pay the ransom price for our sin (John 3:16). Sadly, such love cannot, by itself, save us. In order to receive the benefit of the full measure of divine love, we must be willing to accept God's terms.

**Great Salvation.** "For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him." {Hebrews 2:2,3}

Why is this salvation referred to as great? First, because of what it provides-forgiveness of sins, redemption, and eternal life (John 3:36; Ephesians 1:7). Second, because of the One who is making the offer. God freely offers His creation. It is a wonderful blessing that we neither deserve or earn. He is more than able to fulfill all of His promises {Hebrews 6:18}.

**Great Gulf.** "And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us." {Luke 16:26}

This is the saddest of the " great things" in Scripture. It is the doom of the sinner who learns of his eternal separation from God's presence. Yet, remember this is not just for the alien sinner but for those who failed to "obey the gospel of Christ," 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9. Sadly, those who would rather be with God and His faithful saints cannot cross this great gulf. Surely this is a grim picture that every child of God should seek to avoid.

If we take advantage of the benefits of the first two great things, we can escape the third. How will you be affected by these " great things?" \*\*\*