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GOSPEL STANDARD BAPTISTS

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Prayer Meeting address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer" Clapham on  
Saturday evening, 20.4.74

Hymns: 680, 1086

Reading: Hebrews 9 from v.19

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Sacred words, bringing before us, under the types and shadows of the law, the only thing that will deliver us from the curse of a broken law and fit us for heaven. In beautiful words the Apostle carries us through the figure into the blessed reality of an exalted and ascended Saviour and that "Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us". Confirming and blessed words are these to those who look for Him to appear "the second time without sin unto salvation".

In verses 27 and 28 the Apostle refers to divine appointments, and these are three fold. First of all, "It is appointed unto men once to die". This is a divine appointment consequent upon man's sad fall and of this we have to be frequent witnesses, as some of us have been today, and yet connected with it was a sacredness, a very sacred feeling when the body of a departed friend and brother was laid to rest in the silent tomb until the grand and glorious day of the resurrection, for blessed are they that shall have part in the first resurrection.

Another divine appointment is the sacrifice of Christ, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many". Here the whole Gospel centres for the comfort of the Lord's living family, it is that Christ was once offered to bear the sins, of many, not every body but of many. O to be among the many.

A third appointment is that He "shall appear the second time without sin unto salvation". In this world of trouble and confusion the saints of God have this glorious and blessed prospect that the same blessed Saviour Who accomplished the work of redemption and ascended, not into the holy places made with hands, but into heaven itself, beautiful word, now to appear in the presence of God for us, that in the fulness of time He shall come again without sin unto salvation.

So as we see the graves of departed believers we may contemplate that day when all shall rise again without sin unto salvation and everlasting glory. The Lord give us a hope in the blessed Gospel and that will be a blessing more than earth itself can give. Amen

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